



The ECC Messenger

Everglades Community Church, Everglades City, FL
Quarterly Publication, Fall Edition, 2010
VISIT US ONLINE AT www.evergladescommunitychurch.com

First Worship Service Held October 17, 2010

The first worship service in the newly renovated sanctuary was held on Sunday, October 17, 2010 with 42 people in attendance. Members of the congregation gathered in Fellowship Hall prior to the service where Pastor Bob noted the end of our time of worship there. He then led the congregation from Fellowship Hall to the front door in a procession that included church elders carrying the Holy Bible, Altar Candle Sticks, and Offering Plates. As members took their places inside the new sanctuary amidst the many ooh's and aah's, Pastor Bob saw our holy items replaced on the altar. [see photos below]

The Old Testament Lesson, read by Jim Tankersley, was Jeremiah 31: 27-34; the New Testament Lesson, read by Ron Slutter, was 2 Timothy 3: 14-4:5. Mitch Peters offered a heartfelt rendition of *How Great Thou Art* as the morning's Special Music selection. Hymns sung during the service included *O Worship the King*, *In the Garden*, and *Sweet Hour of Prayer*. Pastor Bob's Gospel Lesson entitled, *Persistence Pays off* was based on the words contained in Luke 18: 1-8. And finally, the lovely altar flowers were presented "To the Glory of God and His Righteousness" by Richard and Myrna Baier.



Church Elders Walter & Sunny Burke carry the altar candles back into the sanctuary.



Chairman of the Church Elders, Richard Baier, received the Keys to the Church from Pastor Bob and thus began the first worship service in the new sanctuary.



The 42 members present close the service with the final hymn, *Sweet Hour of Prayer*.

CHURCH RENOVATIONS UPDATE

Between the completion of our Phase II outside work program and the progression of our Sanctuary Expansion Project, we've been very busy these last few months. Listed below are current highlights of discussions held and decisions made:

- The new carpet runner is scheduled for installation the first week in November.
- Board of Governors has voted to pursue the cost to expand the current Fellowship Hall; structural engineers are reviewing the task at this time.
- As required by the Fire Inspector, the unisex bathroom was installed in Fellowship Hall; it meets all current building & handicapped access codes.

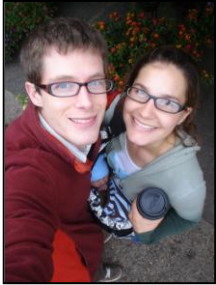


Review the entire Renovation Process in photos on our web site

www.evergladescommunitychurch.com

Follow the Big Red Ball to the Renovation Pages

MISSIONS NEWS



**Andy
& Sarah**

**Middle East
Ministry**

Greetings from the other side of our little planet. We just finished watching President Obama's speech in response to the midterm elections. Of course there are always politics happening here as well that have great impacts on our world, laying the course at times for war, at times for peace, at times for prosperity, at times for poverty. Why do I ramble about all this? Just to point out that the efforts you put forth to share Jesus with your neighbors, to love one another, to worship God with your all, and to partner with us to spread the gospel here are of infinitely greater importance. The effects of these labors, empowered by the Spirit of God will have impact for eternity! This is the ultimate purpose of the One who created everything and holds everything together by the word of his power. Be encouraged our friends, and let us press on together for the glory of the Name!

In Jesus,
Andy & Sarah
& the two little ones

Cup & Cross Bulgaria Ministries International

Celebrating 20 years in the Ministry 1990 – 2010

Keep tabs on Dony & Kathryn [Barton] Donev thru the website

Cupandcross.com

*** Missions * Media * Video**



Adopt-a- Chaplain Program

The Guardians: of the 601st ASB [Aviation Support Battalion] Combat Aviation Brigade 1st Infantry Division, are currently deployed in Iraq. The unit's home base is Ft Riley, Kansas, and will be in country for an unspecified period of time. As a church, we send 3 care packages each week to this unit; feel free to mail a personal note of thanks or send a holiday or gift package at any time throughout the coming year.

As always, please keep all of our military members in your hearts and in your prayers.

Email to Everglades Community Church, Received October 20, 2010

Dear Family and Friends,

I hope you all are doing great wherever you maybe. I am staying busy traveling all over Iraq visiting our Soldiers working hard to support Operation New Dawn. The past month has been a great month of ministry providing and performing many worship services and spiritual resiliency training. Our worship services have been going well as we go through a series going through temptations. Praise God for how He is using this series to touch many lives. I am attaching our unit newsletter that I made for our Soldiers to stay spiritually fit. Please continue to keep us in prayer as we continue our year long deployment to Iraq. Please pray especially for the marriages in our Battalion. I have seen an increased number of broken marriages. Please pray for me as I will continue to provide some great training the next couple months (Financial Peace University, 3 Marriage Seminars, Suicide Intervention Training, Thanksgiving Service, Christmas Services, Premarital Training, Divorce Recovery). Thanks for your support. Grace and Peace!

Chaplain (CPT) Al Rivera
601st ASB, 1CAB, 1ID



The Dresden Bell

The History of The Dresden Bell has now been installed on its own page on our website; the page includes other photos and the history of the bell so lovingly donated to the church by Mimi Bruckert, seen in the photo above.

Following the church renovation project, the bell has been returned to its place on the wall in the Narthex. The bell is rung three times every Sunday morning to call the congregation to worship.

On All Saints Day each year, the bell tolls once for every member lost the previous year. And, vets as far back as the Civil War are honored each year on Veteran's Sunday when the bell tolls once for each service member who has 'fought the good fight' and has since gone home to be with the Lord.

Visit
evergladescommunitychurch.com
 to see
 the history of the Dresden Bell.

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Everglades Community Church
 MUSIC COMMITTEE
 HYMNAL MEMORIAL DEDICATION
 PLAQUE PROGRAM
 Hymnal Memorial Dedication Plaques
 are still available.
 The cost per dedication is \$20.00.
 Please contact Virginia for details



Cpl Mike Vernon, pictured here with his mom, Lisa Marteeny, was seriously injured in a roll-over accident in his gun truck on a mission in Iraq on September 2, 2010.

Miracles Abound

Super-human effort could not save Mike's right arm or most of his left hand, but after only two months, Mike's two broken legs are healed sufficiently that he's begun therapy to walk again. Memory loss seems to be ongoing at this time due to TBI (traumatic brain injury) as the result of multiple skull fractures, but Mike's lucid moments increase with time.

Now receiving the best of care at the VA Polytrauma Care Center in Tampa, Florida, please continue to keep Mike and his family in your prayers.

Cards & kind thoughts can be sent to Mike via their home address:

Melinda Vernon
 45 Allison Ct
 Stockbridge, GA 30281

Renovation Gifting Opportunity

I'd like to participate in the church renovation project as follows:

- Purchase renovation of one pew \$600 \$ _____
- Purchase share of Audio/Video System \$ _____
- Other: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Please send donation or pledge information to our Church Office at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your gracious support.



Thank you
for your
continued
prayers for
the following
people:

Chris Ammerman
Janet Babinec
Terry Berry
Jim Bryan
Juli Calderone
Virginia Carlton
Wade Causey
Nathan Cox
Craig Daniels
Madison Daniels
Grandfather of Denton Fogle
Pam Goddard
Walter Gorecki
Pan Greener
David Hack
Audrey Hancock
Virgil Hand
Richard Hemeey
Tony Hickman
Jessica
Ledford's 4 grandsons
Joel Lee
Ralph Martin
Lt. Mark Milligan family
Dana Mitchell
Tiffany Moya
Family of Jim Mudd
Betty Nye
Linnie Poltrock
Sherri Poltrock
Family of Mrs. Rech
Faith Reed
Pat Schmidt
Dorothy Shea
Ed Smith's grandbaby
Matt Sprinkle
Tamara Sprinkle
Penny & Matthew St.Clair
Michael Vernon
Jane Wallace
Bobby Weeks

Missionaries

Dony & Kathryn, Bulgaria
Andy & Sarah, Middle East



Ryan Alhgrun,
Iraq
LCPL W. Ryan Collins,
North Carolina
LCPL Joel Lee,
Bethesda Medical Center
Col. Vince Mancuso,
Afghanistan
2 Lt. Mark Milligan, Jr.,
Ft. Collins, CO
A1C Thomas O'Donnell,
Afghanistan
Sgt. Cody Partridge,
Okinawa
Col. David Pond,
Washington, DC
Lt. Mark Reid,
Millington, TN
Sgt. David Sage,
Special Forces, KY
Spc.E4 Christopher Schmitt,
Afghanistan
Sgt. Bryan Sevensma,
Iraq
CW4 Ted Snyder,
Afghanistan
Spc. Joshua Tuttle,
Afghanistan
Sgt. Robert Tuttle,
Afghanistan
SrA Jereme VanGundy,
Biloxi, Miss.
Spc. Michael Vernon,
Polytrauma Center, Tampa

Adopt-A-Chaplain

CH Alvaro Rivera
& the "Guardians," Iraq

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
GREETINGS!**



OCTOBER:

Oct 2 – Arlene Gates
Oct 4 – Tom Lafferty
Oct 7 – Leigh Richardson
Oct 7 – Ed Adams
Oct 8 – Walter Gorecki
Oct 10 – Virginia Kanning
Oct 22 – Mark Simms
Oct 27 – Peyton Beebe
Oct 28 – Darrell Hicks

NOVEMBER:

Nov 10 – Rachel McBeath
Nov 12 – Bonnie Wallace
Nov 15 – Andy Hubert
Nov 18 – David Snell
Nov 18 – Darlene Hicks
Nov 22 – David Curry
Nov 29 – Wanda Collins

DECEMBER:

Dec 3 – Bill Baxter
Dec 7 – Pat Jankowski
Dec 8 – Jim Tankersley
Dec 19 – Louis Drudi
Dec 28 – Gwen Baxter
Dec 29 – Glennis Murray
Dec 31 – Lisa Marteeny

Be sure to list your birthday on
our wall calendar so we can send
you birthday greetings from our
church family.

**NEWSLETTER
AVAILABLE BY EMAIL**

Copies of our newsletter are
available by email. Help us
save the cost of printing &
mailing by signing up today.
Provide your email address &
we'll be sure to add you to our
distribution list in time for the
next edition!

AS I SEE IT

By The Rev. Dr.
Bob N. Wallace



Where do I begin? As a congregation, we have been blessed abundantly in this year of our Lord 2010. It should bring all of us to our knees with prayers of thankfulness for God's outpouring of his grace and gifts upon us. I am humbled to be Pastor of such an awesome group of God's people called Everglades Community Church. I am constantly reminded of how little we do to deserve what He is doing to us, for us and in us. We have become a group of loving, sharing Christians who see nothing but opportunities and possibilities before us. We have become what Jesus called, a lighthouse set on the hill for all to see. *"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden."* (Matthew 5:14) We have had a ministry in this community for 84 years and have been strategically located on this circle in Everglades City since 1940. So many people stop and take a picture of the church, and then our picture is taken all over the world for people who have never been here to see us. As we begin our 85th year of witnessing here, and around the world, as your Pastor, I would encourage you to become even more involved in our ministry by your faithful attendance at our Worship Service every Sunday, your attendance at Bible Study weekly, have an active prayer life, invite others to come to church with you, and increase your personal stewardship through your gifts to the church. It is by your dedicated stewardship that this little church on the circle will be here another 84 years. God bless each and every one of you.

Pastor Bob+