



## From the Pastor's Desk

By Rev. Freddy Fritz

### The Ascension of Jesus

Forty days after Jesus' resurrection, he ascended into heaven. The commemoration of Jesus' ascension into heaven always falls on a Thursday, and this year it will be on May 26, 2022.

The ascension of Jesus is described for us in Luke 24:50-53: **"Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God."**

We don't often think of Jesus' ascension. And we don't often realize the implications of Jesus' ascension. In his commentary on Luke's Gospel, John MacArthur mentions a number of implications that flow from the ascension of Jesus. Let me briefly mention a few of them.

First, the ascension of Jesus marked the completion of the work of salvation. Jesus had come to earth as a baby, lived until he was about thirty-three years old, died on a cross at Golgotha, was buried in a tomb, and was resurrected back to life again. Jesus' words on the cross signified that he had completed the work of salvation when he said, "It is finished!" (John 19:30). There is nothing to be added to what Jesus has done to save sinners. And his ascension is proof of that.

Second, the ascension of Jesus marked the end of his limitations. During his incarnation, Jesus "emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:7-8). After Jesus completed his work of salvation on earth, he ascended to heaven to be with his Father again, and to return to the glory he had before he left heaven. Nevertheless, as John Blanchard said, "When Jesus came to earth he did not cease to be God; when he returned to heaven he did not cease to be man." He returned to heaven as the God-Man, whom he will remain forever.

Third, the ascension of Jesus marked his exaltation and coronation. Jesus' ascension to heaven was the beginning of his post-incarnation reign. In fact, John Calvin put it this way, "Christ's ascension into heaven was the real commencement of his reign."

Fourth, the ascension of Jesus signaled the sending of the Holy Spirit. Earlier in his ministry, Jesus taught his disciples that "the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified" (John 7:39). On the night before his death, Jesus told his disciples, "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you" (John 16:7). Of course, the Holy Spirit was sent ten days after the ascension of Jesus, on the Day of Pentecost.

Fifth, the ascension of Jesus marked the start of his preparing believers' heavenly home. On the night on which Jesus was betrayed, Jesus had the last divinely-sanctioned Pass-over meal with his disciples and also instituted the first divinely-sanctioned Lord's supper with his disciples. After the meal, Jesus had an extensive time of teaching with his disciples. Among the many things he said to his disciples, he said, "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also" (John 14:1-3).

And sixth, the ascension of Jesus marked the passing of the work of evangelism to his followers. Jesus' work is both finished and unfinished. It is finished in the sense that he has done everything necessary for our salvation, and nothing can be added to his finished work (cf. John 17:4; 19:30). But the work of evangelism is unfinished. Luke's second volume, *The Acts of the Apostles*, describes Jesus' work that was continued through his apostles, and the rest of the New Testament describes how Jesus' Church is to continue the work of evangelism until he returns.

There are many other implications that flow from Jesus' ascension, but these will suffice for now. Let us be encouraged by the ascension of Jesus.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Freddy".

## Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Freddy Fritz,  
*Senior Pastor*

Melissa Bayley,  
*Office Administrator*

Abigail Vincent,  
*Nursery*

LeeAnn DeStefano,  
*Office Assistant*

Yanet Bermudez Ortiz,  
*Music Director / Pianist*

Bob Morrison,  
*Bookkeeper*

Vacant,  
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*NTCA Director*

Holly Mickler,  
*Custodian*

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*Adult Bible Fellowship*  
Ed Jordan

*Nursery*  
Abigail Vincent

*Children*  
Ashleigh Kemp

*Outreach*  
Bert Barber

*Brunch Bunch*  
Alisa Carrier

*Pastoral Care*  
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*Greeters & Welcome Table*  
Brian Carrier

*Ushers*  
Jennifer Schumm

*Hospitality*  
Joan M. Kosanovich

*Women's Bible Study*  
Eileen Fritz &  
Debbie Jordan

*Men's Bible Study*  
Vacant

*Women's Ministry*  
Suzanne Swenson

*Men's Ministry*  
Brian Carrier

*Workshop Ministry*  
Melissa Bayley &  
Stephanie Smoot

*Missions*  
Scott Simmons

*Youth*  
Bert Barber

*NTCA*  
Ashleigh Kemp

Dear Natacha,



Thanks so much for sharing with our kids on Saturday night for Global Kidz and on Sunday morning in our “Show Me Jesus!” Small Groups during our recent Missions Weekend! It was great to have you and Easie here to share your ministry, compassion, and vision in person. Besides, we love you!

Thanks for the picture of you and Esaie that you recently sent so they now have a mini-prayer poster in each of their SMJ! classrooms. There’s one for their Global Kidz bulletin Board. Soon they will also have a laminated wallet-size, kid-size picture prayer card. I am praying that every one of our TBPC kids bonds with you as they pray for you, your ministry in Haïti, and the staff and 550+ kids at Christian Academy of Dociné.

I’m in the reminiscing phase of my life, so our efforts to help them bond with you reminds me of how my parents had us pray for the missionaries who were supported that our small church in South Jersey.

Our prayers were simple like, “Please bless the Oxleys in Japan.” Little did I expect to meet one of their sons and his wife in my Young Adult Bible study group in Chicago in my early 30’s. He had a degree in International Business Law from Wheaton College, and, as I remember, planned to head back to Japan.

We also prayed, “Please bless the DDH family in Pakistan.” Little did I expect to meet one of their sons and his wife in Dallas three years ago when Sammy Dishman was baptized in Peter’s home church there. Phil, one of the DDHs’ sons, and his wife are serving with MTW in a different and undisclosed location that is closed to the Gospel and so risky that I can’t even write their names.

We also prayed, “Please bless the Matlacks in Germany.” Little did I expect to find their youngest son “Kenny” and his wife listed in the TBPC Directory when Freddy and I came to Tampa to candidate almost 20 years ago... Meanwhile, Ken and Tammie planted a PCA Church in Palm Harbor, and ministered in Germany with MTW where Ken became a Regional Director. For many years, they have served in an extremely significant role in training and encouraging MTW missionaries around the world in intercessory prayer. They are still supported by our prayers and financial contributions by you all as TBPC members!

I chuckle when I think that we were praying for MTW missionaries before they were even adults and 25 years before the PCA and MTW even existed. I would love for our TBPC kids to have the blessings of knowing that their prayers for our missionaries also keep getting answered for many years after they have prayed. I would also love for them to be extra excited to see the results in eternity. I’d love to be watching when they meet some from every tribe and tongue and nation, and discover waves of results in the believers they will meet because they prayed for teachers and children of Christian Academy of Dociné.

May God bless you and your family, and all brothers and sisters in Christ in Haiti!

*Sharon*





# EVENTS SCHEDULE

**JUNE 10-12, 2022**

## June 10

**6:45 PM**

### Fellowship and Hymn Sing

Please submit your favorite Hymn to include in the Hymn Sing.

## June 11

**9:15 AM**

### Golf at Lexington Oaks

\$40 per person Men and Women

**10:00 AM—11:30 AM**

### Tea and Testimonies

Marianne Cali and others will speak

Ladies and young ladies 5 years and older are welcome.

Nursery provided.

**5:30 PM**

### Meal—Catered by Aussie Grill

**6:30 PM**

## June 12

**10:45 AM**

### Sunday Worship Service

James Saxon will preach.

The instructions to pay are as follows:

Go to [www.tbpc.org](http://www.tbpc.org) and select the "GIVING" tab, choose "GENERAL FUND", enter the amount, then go to the comments section and enter "FOR 40TH ANNIVERSARY" OR send a check to the church office with this form and indicate that it is for the 40th Anniversary.

## MENU

**\$20 per person**

Children Under 12

Eat Free!

### Chicken Sandwich

w/ Kettle Chips or Coleslaw

### Aussie Salad

w/ Chicken

### Cheeseburger

w/ Kettle Chips or Coleslaw

### Chicken Fingers

for the children

### Dessert—Brownies

### Drinks Provided

Please indicate which sandwich and how many.  
Indicate the number of children's meals needed.  
Scholarships available—Contact an Elder

**Please RSVP with your choices and payment by  
May 10**

Name

Email



## From the Session



The Session of TBPC thanks Ashleigh Kemp for her faithful service as Director of Children's Ministry as she steps down from that position. Ashleigh has been serving two roles—in both Children's Ministry and as Director of NTCA. We are grateful that Ashleigh will continue as Director of NTCA and we are eager to see what God has in store for that ministry.

At the same time, we are also eager to welcome the next leader of the Children's Ministry at TBPC. Could that be you? If you may be interested, please speak to Ashleigh about what is involved and let Pastor Freddy Fritz know of your interest as well.



The Session of TBPC thanks Suzanne Swenson for her faithful service as Coordinator of the Women's Ministry for seven years. Suzanne has decided to step down, a decision that she writes "did not come lightly. During my seven years as Coordinator, I have not only grown spiritually; but have had the wonderful opportunity to develop many personal as well as church-wide relationships with the women of TBPC. I look forward to seeing what God has in store for me now. Thank you for the opportunity to serve."

We thank God for Suzanne's leadership, which included planning and completing many projects that enriched the lives of church members and many outside the church.

If you are a woman at TBPC, would you consider taking on the important and fulfilling role of TBPC Women's Ministry Coordinator? You can get more information about what the role requires by speaking to Suzanne and others who are involved in the ministry.



## *Hospitality Ministry*

*Joan Kosanovich*

*The Hospitality Ministry is happy to welcome anyone who wishes to contribute a few minutes each week to assisting with Cafe setup or cleanup, or who can help with linen laundering. Sign-up sheets are on the kitchen door, and I am always glad to receive emails ([jmkosanovich@gmail.com](mailto:jmkosanovich@gmail.com)) or texts (352-206-7887) from folks who may have questions or want more information.*

*Currently, the Cafe consists of coffee and hot water; we are hoping to re-implement light food items at a future date, but for now that is on hold.*

*Your Hospitality Ministry also provides a meal for new members' classes. If you are interested in helping with this service opportunity, please let me know. We will, of course, give plenty of time for volunteers to have the relevant dates, a head count, and any specific food sensitivities/preferences.*

*Let us pray that we continue serving each other and our Lord through the Summer, and set our sights on the next big event at Thanksgiving!*

*Thank you!*

***"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23-24).***



Your Nursery Needs

**YOU!**

Please Join the Team by Contacting  
**Abigail Vincent**

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• At 425-757-2774 •

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# Ways You Can Help

Join the nursery team and care for our covenant children one Sunday per month.

Pray that we would have a full roster of volunteers.

Encourage your friends to join the nursery team with you.

Ask to be put on the substitute list.

# Why It Matters

We are caring for God's covenant children.

We are relieving tired parents and giving them the opportunity to sit through the church service.

The nursery needs the support of the church and volunteers to continue functioning.



# SEEK OUT THE LORD OF THE UNIVERSE

## VBS

## Registration

Monday June 27 – Friday July 1

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Registration is open to children who are at least 4 years old (by June 1st) through fifth grade completed (rising 6th graders).

There is a suggested donation of \$20 per child. You may register children to attend or volunteer to help by visiting: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/tbpc2022>.

Registration questions: Contact Debbie Jordan ([vbs@tampabaypresbyterian.org](mailto:vbs@tampabaypresbyterian.org)). Volunteer questions: Contact Rachel Contrata (813) 838-1258.

Space is limited so please ensure  
to register early.



## VBS Needs

### Assistance needed during the weekdays for VBS

6 – 8 Teachers (adults)

#### **Teachers and Assistants**

*“But I am not a good teacher!”*

The teacher role is more like a Group Leader. The teachers and assistants are not actually teaching our main lessons at all! Bible Study Lessons, Crafts, Games, and Snacks are all done in different locations, and you are not responsible for set up or clean up! Mainly our teacher role hands out stickers and helps keep our schedule by moving your group to each location in a timely manner.

3- 5 Assistant Teachers (adults/youth)

1 – 2 Actor/Actress (adults/youth)

2 – 5 Singers (youth/children)

~~1 Assistant Craft Leader (adult)~~

### Assistance Needed

#### **Craft Parties (prepping crafts and decorations):**

*5/5/22 at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.*

*5/19/22 at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.*

If you know how to use scissors, we can use your help! We are prepping some of the crafting items needed for the week of VBS.

Please let us know if need childcare.

#### **Decorating Party (prepping the church for VBS):**

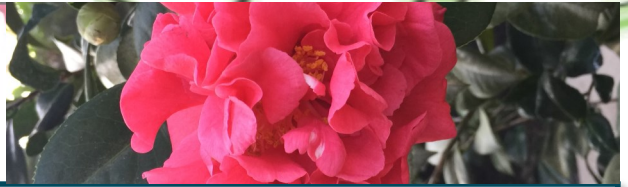
*Sunday 6/26/22 time TBD (after service)*

Clean Up Party (tearing down and setting church back up):

*Saturday 7/2/22 time TBD*

**To volunteer please contact Rachel Contrata (813) 838-1258**

# TBPRES WOMEN



*Suzanne Swenson*

## *Sister-to-Sister*

*Saturday, July 30, 2022*

*11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.*

*TBPC Sanctuary*

*Spiritual Mentoring*

*Potluck Lunch*

*Our first meeting on Spiritual Mentoring was so well received that we are continuing our discussion on this topic.*

*This will be a time of fellowship in which true friendships are further developed.*

*We will start with a potluck lunch so please bring your favorite dish.*



For further information please contact:

Andrea Proctor at [andreaproctor@tcforce.com](mailto:andreaproctor@tcforce.com) or 727-453-1510, or  
Ashley Powe at [acpowe@gmail.com](mailto:acpowe@gmail.com) or 813-410-7053

## Sister-to-Sister Schedule of Events

May

TBD—Open to Suggestions

June 11, 2022

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Joining the 40th Reunion Ladies' Tea  
TBPC Sanctuary

July 30, 2022

11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Spiritual Mentoring Continued  
Potluck Lunch  
TBPC Sanctuary

August

TBD—Open to Suggestions



For further information please contact:

Andrea Proctor at [andreaproctor@tcforce.com](mailto:andreaproctor@tcforce.com) or 727-453-1510, or  
Ashley Powe at [acpowe@gmail.com](mailto:acpowe@gmail.com) or 813-410-7053





# ESL

## **English as a Second Language (ESL) Update** **Karen Cross, Coordinator**

From an ESL Beginner Level 2 Teacher:

Even though Zoom teaching is far from ideal if it weren't for this medium three of our beginner level-2 students would not be able to participate. One of our students joins us from Poland, one from Brazil, and another from London and Houston. A fourth student lives locally but is unable to attend in person because of her health.

Another benefit of Zoom is when our class met in person, many students did not stay for the Bible Study portion of class. It is a blessing that attendance for the Bible Study is nearly 100 percent using Zoom.

From an ESL Intermediate Teacher:

Currently, we have two intermediate classes. Both classes have been on Zoom this year. The evening class will remain on Zoom next year as most students in that class work and would not have time to commute to class after work. The intermediate morning class will try to move to an in-person class next year. Both intermediate classes have a total of thirteen enrolled students. Our ideal class size is twelve students. The more students that are added to a class, the less time there is for individual student participation. It will be very difficult to admit more students to intermediate classes in the future. If there is an increased demand from new students asking to join intermediate level classes, we will need to start a new class, or add students to a waiting list.

There are a wide variety of home countries for our intermediate students: South Korea, Thailand, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Ecuador, Morocco, China, India, Syria, Haiti, Bolivia, Egypt, Mexico, Poland, and Columbia. The student from Egypt is a family member of a local student that attends the Beginner Level 1 and 2 Classes. She attends class in the evening from Egypt. Our class meets from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. In Egypt, she is attending the class from 11:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.! Even though it is late for her, she remains in class for the Bible Study at the end of class.

Our intermediate students have such a wonderful rapport with each other. Recently, one of our students missed several weeks of class due to illness. I received text messages from fellow students and was able to pass along their messages to the student who was ill. He told me it meant a great deal to him that both the teachers and the students had been praying for him. We have almost 100 percent participation in our Bible Study in both intermediate classes.

## WATCH TBPC WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE

Each Sunday after the Worship service concludes, the video recording of the service will be available to watch on the church's YouTube channel.

Visit the TBPC website (<https://tampabaypresbyterian.org/worship-service-videos>) for the link to watch.

## Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church needs your help!

### Membership Vow #4:

"Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?"

In practice, this means:

"I promise to be a faithful member of Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church, supporting it through prayer, Bible study, regular attendance upon worship, **unselfish Christian service**, and stewardship of my life and possessions"

*God has provided us all with a spiritual gift, let us help you find yours.*

### Some ministries that need help now:

#### Work from Home!

– AV team needs someone familiar with PowerPoint to learn how to create our weekly slides. We use a program called Proclaim which is similar to PowerPoint. Since we have been using Proclaim for a few years, songs and other slides will already exist, so it is just a matter of pulling them in.

No experience is necessary, but you do need a Window 10 computer or Mac with latest OS.

This position would require approx. 20 minutes per week. Training will be provided.

– Assistant Webmaster needed for new TBPC website going live in January. We have simplified our website, making it easier to update and manage. The website is complete, but we are looking for someone to help maintain it. This would involve weekly/monthly document uploads and new or updated pages as needed. No experience necessary.

The position would require approx. 20 minutes per week. Training will be provided.

#### Help Needed on Sundays!

– **AV TEAM** needs soundboard operators and someone to run the Worship Service slides one Sunday per Month. No experience needed we will train you. If you can run PowerPoint slides, you can run the Sunday Service slides!

– **Nursery attendants** needed one Sunday per month. Childcare training will be provided if not already completed.

– **For Inquiries and Additional Information: contact Leeann Destefano (813)991-8385 or [desleea@tampabaypresbyterian.org](mailto:desleea@tampabaypresbyterian.org)**

## *May Birthdays*

<i>Jane Tyler</i>	<i>May 02</i>	<i>Bob Morrison</i>	<i>May 13</i>
<i>Jax Skopp</i>	<i>May 03</i>	<i>Aldo Mondin</i>	<i>May 14</i>
<i>Roy Hunter</i>	<i>May 05</i>	<i>Mike Cacioppo</i>	<i>May 15</i>
<i>Zoe Almonte</i>	<i>May 06</i>	<i>Judy Weir</i>	<i>May 15</i>
<i>Richard Hunter</i>	<i>May 07</i>	<i>Daniel Kemp</i>	<i>May 16</i>
<i>Larry Hess</i>	<i>May 10</i>	<i>Christy Almonte</i>	<i>May 23</i>
<i>Mindy DeJesus</i>	<i>May 11</i>	<i>Samuel Busby</i>	<i>May 25</i>
<i>Nancy Morrison</i>	<i>May 11</i>	<i>Toni Cacioppo</i>	<i>May 29</i>
<i>Cathy Turpen</i>	<i>May 11</i>	<i>Carol Bridges</i>	<i>May 31</i>
<i>Hunter Contrata</i>	<i>May 13</i>	<i>James Turpen</i>	<i>May 31</i>

## *May Anniversaries*

<i>Kirkpatrick, Joe &amp; Nancy</i>	<i>May 08, 1953</i>
<i>Powe, Christopher &amp; Ashley</i>	<i>May 19, 2012</i>
<i>Mickler, David &amp; Holly</i>	<i>May 21, 2006</i>
<i>Diaz, Jack &amp; Cathi</i>	<i>May 22, 1988</i>
<i>Hunter, Richard &amp; Michelle</i>	<i>May 25, 1991</i>
<i>Tigley, Thom &amp; Violet</i>	<i>May 26, 2007</i>



## Trumpet Staff

Rev. Freddy Fritz, *Editor-in-Chief*

Andrea L. Proctor, *Co-editor*

It is the goal of the *Trumpet* staff to provide articles for learning and growing, news for connecting with our church family, and information on opportunities for service and participation. The views and opinions expressed in the *Trumpet* have not been reviewed or endorsed by the Session.

Please forward articles, pictures, ministry reports, and calendar items for the next edition of the *Trumpet* to [andreaproctor@tcforce.com](mailto:andreaproctor@tcforce.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication.

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