



From the Pastor's Desk

By Rev. Freddy Fritz

Fake News?

Over the last six years or so, the expression “fake news” become common in our culture. Dictionary.com defines fake news as “false news stories, often of a sensational nature, created to be widely shared or distributed for the purpose of generating revenue, or promoting or discrediting a public figure, political movement, company, etc.” It seems to me that if someone did not like some news, they called it “fake news.”

Although one does not hear “fake news” applied to Jesus, his teaching, miracles, power over sin, and resurrection, it seems to me that increasing number of contemporary people believe that story about Jesus is just “fake news.” After all, the story of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection is of “sensational nature.” Many people believe that the story “was created to be widely shared or distributed for the purpose of generating revenue.” Some tell the news about Jesus in order to discredit him.

The fact is that the news about Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection is really “good news”! In Old Testament times, good news usually concerned victory in a battle. Or, in the Proverbs, good news often referred to news that had a refreshing effect on the hearer.

By the time one gets to the New Testament, towns and villages often had a person who served as the town “crier.” And when there was good news to share with the town or village, he would shout, “Good news! Good news!” And then when the crowd gathered, he shared the good news with them.

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The New Testament writers adopted this term in relation to Jesus. The good news had to do with his life, death, and resurrection that provided salvation for sinners. While some in our modern culture may think it is fake news, it is in fact the best news that anyone can ever hear.

So, if you are a Christian, share the good news with family, friends, and neighbors.

Freddy



ESL Program by Karen Cross

Three of the 5 Beginner Level 2 students who live locally attended the celebration picnic on May 14. It was a joyful celebration with lots of hugs, delicious food, and the opportunity to meet and get reacquainted with our fellow volunteers and students from other classes. The students and volunteers enjoyed the “get acquainted” game. The picnic provided the leadership of our church the opportunity to meet our students. The ESL program is not only a community service but also is a mission opportunity. Instead of traveling to a foreign country, the students come to us. It has been a blessing to build bonds with our students and to share Jesus with them through Bible readings, Christian music and devotions.

Please consider joining the ESL Program next year. As we continue to grow, we need more volunteers to help. We have volunteer opportunities at all levels of English, from Beginner to Advanced. We have opportunities for in-person classes and classes on Zoom. We also have Administrative volunteer task responsibilities. If you would like more information about how you can join us, contact Karen Cross: karencross38@hotmail.com or 813-714-9921.



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Hospitality by Joan Kosanovich

“Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality”

(Romans 12:13).

Welcome and thanks to Ruth Shannon and her husband, Bob! Ruth and Bob are new members, who have graciously offered to serve in the Café on the third Sunday morning of each month. Thanks are also offered to Andrea Proctor, who sets up the Café early on Sundays even during the ABF summer hiatus. Many other TBPC members give their time to serve our church family, including Pete and Laura Rotolo, Betty Pothoven, and Janice and Rich Thompson. Let us give thanks and praise for their service to us and, more important, to the Lord! There is no pressure to join this ministry, ever. But, anyone interested in serving, or anyone who would like more information, please contact Joan Kosanovich or LeeAnn DeStefano.



July Anniversaries



<i>Wu, Peter & Ling</i>	<i>July 02, 1977</i>
<i>Otto, John & Marsha</i>	<i>July 05, 1969</i>
<i>Lear, Phil & Chris</i>	<i>July 12, 1969</i>
<i>Mojica, Rosa</i>	<i>July 14, 1990</i>
<i>Palacio, Rene & Lilli</i>	<i>July 18, 1975</i>
<i>Sauls, Toney & Anna</i>	<i>July 21, 2001</i>
<i>Hunter, Roy & Gertrude</i>	<i>July 23, 1966</i>
<i>Vincent, Nathaniel & Abigail</i>	<i>July 24, 2020</i>
<i>Carrier, Brian & Alisa</i>	<i>July 25, 1987</i>
<i>McNulty, Jack & Joyce</i>	<i>July 29, 1969</i>

Sister-to-Sister Gathering

May 28

Once again the ladies had a wonderful time of prayer, learning/teaching, fellowship, and “breaking bread” together at the May Sister-to-Sister potluck held at the church.

*Many praises for and thanks go out to Eileen Fritz for beautifully coordinating the event, decorating the tables, and leading us in prayer; Barb Hess for picking up food at Publix; Marsha Otto for her teaching from *Apples of Gold* by Betty Huizenga on kindness; and Joan Kosanovich’s willingness to share a deeply moving message regarding people and experiences that were important in her life.*



Suzanne Swenson was honored with a plumeria lei





John and Karen Stodghill

MTW – Belize – Central America

<https://mtw.org/missionaries/details/john-and-karen-stodghill>

Welcome to our newest missionaries. John and Karen met at Covenant College on Lookout Mtn, GA. John holds a master's degree in Human Resources Management, and undergraduate degrees as a registered nurse and a paramedic. Karen's degree is in elementary education. The Stodghills have served MTW disaster relief since 2003. They became full time missionaries in 2015 as church planters in the Bahamas. In 2019, God called them to Belize, Central America. John serves as MTW team leader for the country and preaches in a church in western Belize. The focus of ministry is church revitalization as well as church planting. They both work



countrywide with the Presbyterian Church in Belize leadership development, the Presbyterian schools, and the Presbyterian Medical Clinic. God has opened doors allowing community development through health care, emergency services, and assisting in schools. This summer, their ministry, in conjunction with MTW, is hosting 2 small, weeklong, short-term missions teams and one Vision Trip. You can sign up for their newsletters at MTW.org and also learn more from videos of past updates to their supporters on Facebook.

John and Karen have been married for 36 years, and have 3 grown and married children: twin sons, John III and Joshua, and a daughter, Sarah. On May 1, 2022, they were blessed with the birth of their 10th grandchild—7 boys and 3 girls.

Challenges:

- There are 16 Presbyterian churches that have been established, with only 4 national pastors, one missionary pastor, and John and 9 other ruling elders in the whole denomination.
- Covid has interrupted school for 2 years. Currently in person learning ranges 2- 4 days per week depending on class sizes.
- Education of leaders as proficient reading and writing is low.

Goals for 2022:

- Continued training and ordination of more leaders.
- More members to become Sunday School leaders.
- A church plant in the capital city of Belmopan, where there are no reformed and covenantal churches.

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Praises:

- For the health of our church members.
- We have had addition of new members, and new believers to join the church at which we serve, as well as at other churches in the country.
- The development of Emergency Medical Response services with Cayo district as the test district to see if they want to continue throughout the country.

Prayer:

- For continued spiritual growth through discipleship for our church people.
- For our youngest granddaughter as she is undergoing tests for an enlarged kidney.
- How to effectively assist in education.

July Birthdays

<i>Cale Barber</i>	<i>July 02</i>	<i>Emma Grace Yu</i>	<i>July 22</i>
<i>Andrew Otero</i>	<i>July 03</i>	<i>Pat Smith</i>	<i>July 23</i>
<i>Carla Stevens</i>	<i>July 03</i>	<i>Joshua Barber</i>	<i>July 27</i>
<i>Earl Myers</i>	<i>July 14</i>	<i>Joan Kosanovich</i>	<i>July 29</i>
<i>Barbara Hess</i>	<i>July 16</i>		
<i>Debbie Jordan</i>	<i>July 17</i>		
<i>Eileen Fritz</i>	<i>July 21</i>		
<i>Kristine Wyss</i>	<i>July 21</i>		
<i>Gertrude Hunter</i>	<i>July 22</i>		



Trumpet Staff

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

Melissa McNulty, *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 dr.melissamcnulty@gmail.com by the 20th of the month preceding publication.

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