

HARVEST TIMES

Harvest United Methodist Church | Volume 18, Issue 10 | November, 2015

Only One Came Back

I've been thinking recently about the lepers: ten men we meet in the 17th chapter of the gospel of Luke, who all have an infectious skin disease. Their condition makes them outcasts: unwelcome in the temple, banned from the town square, and certainly not permitted to share a meal with those who are "clean." Jesus has mercy on them, just as they request. In a miraculous turn of events, as they walk away from their encounter with him, all of them are suddenly cleansed of their condition. Yet only one of them immediately turns and heads back to express his gratitude to Jesus.

Which made me curious...I wonder how the same story would play out today. Jesus encounters ten people who need healing. He provides a miracle for all ten, yet only one comes back to thank him. The question then becomes the same one Jesus asked about the lepers, "Where are the other nine?" I think I've come up with some possibilities.

One had a child playing a soccer tournament and ran off, promising himself he would return to thank Jesus when the season was done.

Another immediately went home and planned an elaborate trip to celebrate with his wife. By the time they got home, he had forgotten all about his healing.

Still another thought his healing was a random stroke of fate and went out to spend his whole paycheck on lottery tickets, convinced that this must be his lucky day.

And so on...

Many things can distract us from remembering to say, "Thank you, God." This month, I invite you into a daily exercise of gratitude. You might even keep a journal for November, jotting down your thanksgivings. Then, on Thanksgiving Day, sit down and remind yourself where God has been good to you. Remembering God's faithfulness in the past fosters confidence in God's trustworthiness in the future.



Happy Thanksgiving!



Rev. Steve Price
Co-Pastor

WORSHIP AT HARVEST

LAKEWOOD RANCH CAMPUS

14305 Covenant Way, Lakewood Ranch

Thursday 6:48 PM
sixtyeight Worship

Sunday 9 AM
Traditional Worship

Sunday 10:30 AM
Contemporary Worship

Sunday 5 PM
Harvest Youth HY5

BAYSHORE CAMPUS

Worshipping at Lee Middle School
4000 53rd Avenue West, Bradenton

Sunday 10:30 AM

WANT MORE?

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 welcometoharvest.org

 info@welcometoharvest.org

HARVEST TEAM

Catherine Fluck Price
Steve M. Price
Co-Pastors

Jennifer Potter
Bayshore Campus Pastor

Brad Baten
Interim Youth Ministry Associate

Connie Campbell
Children's Minister

Terry Cox
Executive Assistant to the Pastors

Janet Davis and Teresa O'Connell
Accompanists at 9 AM

Carin Doddroe
Operations Administrative Assistant

Dan Funk
Comptroller

Stacey Gaden
Discipleship Assistant

Alan Hensley
Facilities Manager

Mike Kennedy
Director of Discipleship
Interim Director of Operations

Dave Lewis
Choral Music Director

Callie McLeod
Sprouts CDC Director

Allison Merriot
Director of Worship Arts

Robert (Bob) Migliore
Custodian

Sarah Mitchell
Communications Associate

M.E. Reich
Accompanist at 10:30 AM

Catherine Sykes
Youth and Children's Ministry
Administrative Assistant

Michelle Weger
Director of Communications
Bayshore Campus Worship Leader

Dan Whissell
Associate Worship Leader

Brenda Wilson
Nursery Ministry Coordinator

Staff can be reached via email at
firstinitiallastname@welcometoharvest.org
(ex. jdoe@welcometoharvest.org)

BAYSHORE CAMPUS UPDATE



Harvest Bayshore Launch Sunday at Lee Middle School

What a month! In the final weeks and days of preparing for the public launch of Harvest Bayshore, dozens of people gave their time and gifts. In late September, we spent a Saturday morning at local laundromats - with plenty of quarters, hot coffee, and smiles. We had a great time getting to know our neighbors, hearing stories, and sharing laughs. We can't wait to be back in laundromats in the months ahead.

The first weekend of October brought us to the Community Picnic hosted at our 26th Street property. Over 30 volunteer servants came to serve food, host games, and engage in conversation. During the course of the day, over 200 people came by for BBQ, conversation, and live music from our very own worship band. Several of our friends we met in laundromats the weekend before came to join us for lunch - it was wonderful to see them.

The week of launch, dozens of Harvest members served by baking cookies and delivering them with Harvest mugs to local businesses. There were incredible stories of store owners and employees who had been looking for a church and felt like God was present in our volunteers.

On 10.11.15, we gathered for worship with approximately 150 worshippers in attendance. It was an incredible, Spirit-filled morning. We were thrilled to see so many new faces and so many familiar Harvest Lakewood Ranch faces too.

Thank you to all of Harvest for helping to make this such an incredible month and successful launch. We're so excited to see what God will do in the days and months and years ahead!

Jennifer Potter | Harvest Bayshore Campus Pastor
jpotter@welcometoharvest.org



November Message Series

Several years ago, Harvard Business School professor Clayton Christenson delivered an address in class offering his thoughts on what constitutes a fulfilling life. The positive response to that address spawned an article in the Harvard Business Review and ultimately led to the publishing of his book, *How Will You Measure Your Life*, in 2012.

There is a yearning in each of us to live lives that are meaningful. Sadly, we often choose the wrong tools for measuring such a life. Join us for worship in November as we listen to the words of Jesus from the gospel of Matthew, pointing us in the right direction when it comes to measuring what really matters.

Have to miss a message? Watch live online or view the message you missed!

welcometoharvest.org

HARVESTERS

Christmas Cruise

Join the Harvesters on [Wednesday, December 9](#), for an evening cruise to view Christmas lights along the canals bordering Charlotte Harbor.

We will leave the Lakewood Ranch campus parking lot at 1 PM and head to Fishermen's Village in Punta Gorda. Dinner reservations have been made at Harpoon Harry's, one of the Village restaurants, overlooking the harbor. Cost of dinner will be on your own.

Before 6 PM, we will board the cruise boat for a one-hour trip along the Charlotte Harbor canals. The residents living along the canals decorate their yards with brightly colored arrays of Christmas decorations for the enjoyment of the boaters. We will arrive back at the Lakewood Ranch campus around 8:30 PM.

The cost for the Christmas cruise is \$35 a person. Seating on the bus is limited to 55 persons. To reserve your seat, you can register online. Registration deadline is Tuesday, November 24. Be sure to register early!

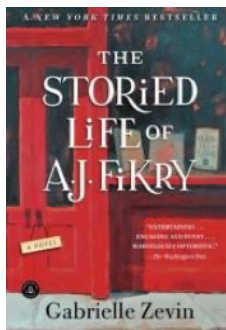
Looking forward to Christmas cruising with you!

More Info:

Bob Stark | 231.564.0677

harvesters@welcometoharvest.org
welcometoharvest.org/harvesters

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB



The book selection for November is *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. The discussion for this book will be [Monday, November 16](#) at 7 PM, at the home of Nancy Reed (11210 River's Bluff Circle, Lakewood Ranch), or 11 AM at the Harvest Lakewood Ranch campus.

More Info:

Nancy Reed | 941.752.7434 | nar11210@aol.com

GIRLFRIENDS GATHERING

Girlfriends Gathering is intentional fellowship events designed to help women connect and make new friendships. Events are open to all women, so invite your girlfriends and join in the fun. Check out the Girlfriends Gathering calendar online and the events page for what's coming up next!

More Info:

girlfriends@welcometoharvest.org
 941.681.8466
welcometoharvest.org/girlfriends

HARVEST KIDS

LAKEWOOD RANCH CAMPUS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Baby's First Christmas

Sunday, December 13 we will have a Baby's First Christmas celebration at our Lakewood Ranch campus for all babies born in 2015...and they get to bring their parents and siblings! 10 AM brunch will be provided at the Garden Hub and a special gift will be given to all the babies. Come and meet your baby's peers and get to know the other parents who aren't sleeping through the night either! Please email Connie Campbell by November 15 if your family will be attending.

Christmas Caroling

On Sunday, December 13 everyone is invited to go Christmas Caroling at Lifecare of Sarasota. We will meet at Lifecare at 12 PM, sing to the residents, and then go to lunch afterwards.

Christmas Craft Day

On Saturday December 5 from 9 AM – 2 PM we will have a Christmas Craft Day for children birth – 5th grade. Cost is \$15. You can register online. There are spots available for 50 children.

Harvest Kids Christmas Play

The Not So Silent Night Christmas play will be presented at the Lakewood Ranch campus on December 11 at 6 PM. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this humorous and touching story of the shepherds being put on trial for disturbing the peace on the night that Jesus was born. We will be singing lots of your favorite carols, so come and join the fun.

New Harvest Kids Discipleship Class

SPLASH is moving to Sundays! On Sunday nights from 5 - 7 PM we will offer a new kids class for K - 5th graders called Super Sunday Nights. Kids bring a sack supper and after eating we will have Bible stories, activities, games, and Bible memory challenges. We will meet in room E110. Everyone is invited to participate. This Sunday evening discipleship class will take the place of SPLASH, which was meeting on Thursdays. We will still offer childcare on Thursdays and offer children's worship bulletins for kids attending the sixfortyeight service.

More Info:

Connie Campbell | 941.907.7333

ccampbell@welcometoharvest.org

welcometoharvest.com/harvestkids

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HARVEST KIDS SPOTLIGHT



Kara
Nickens

During our last family worship weekend, where kids in K-5th grade joined in worship, Tracey Nickens sat with her granddaughter Kara, a kindergartner. There was some wiggling and giggling, some quiet questions and some "I'm ready to go" whispers. However, there was also singing, sharing, shaking hands and listening. Tracey shared this after the service: "She was coloring, dropping crayons, wiggling, and asking 'how much longer.' However, toward the end of the sermon Kara tapped my leg and I bent down to listen as she said 'Nee Nee, I like you just the way you are' – (a powerful point from the sermon that day)." Tracey said, "She wasn't misbehaving but I couldn't tell she was paying attention. Kids are aware of more than we realize. Kara took her prayer concern to the offering box during the last song and was singing it as we walked out the door."



HARVEST YOUTH

11.15.15 Harvest Youth Family Thanksgiving Dinner

Families, you are invited to join your sons and daughters and the rest of the Harvest Youth for a Thanksgiving celebration on Sunday, November 15 from 5 - 7:30 PM. We will enjoy a Thanksgiving feast together and share in a family worship time led by our youth. This is a great chance for you to witness the fellowship and worship that our youth experience each week at HY5. We encourage your family to bring a side dish or dessert to share. You can sign up to bring something delicious under the events page online.

1.22-24.16 Winter Retreat

Harvest Youth will be returning to Camp Wingmann for our annual winter retreat from January 22-24. We look forward to campfires and smores, kayaking, delicious food, worship, small groups, and a glow party. This promises to be a weekend of deepening friendships and spiritual growth. Stay tuned for more info but you can go ahead and sign up now online.

12.20.15 Christmas Campfire

Join us for a bonfire as we celebrate the birth of Christ HY5 style! Meet us from 5-7:30 PM at the Harvest Lakewood Ranch campus. Stay tuned for more details to come.

More Info:

welcometoharvest.org/youth

Steve Price | sprice@welcometoharvest.org

Brad Baten | bbaten@welcometoharvest.org

HARVEST YOUTH
HY5
MEETS AT THE
LAKEWOOD RANCH CAMPUS
SUNDAYS AT 5 PM

SPROUTS UPDATE

We've had a busy fall at Sprouts! In October, the "Pumpkin Fairy" (who bears a striking resemblance to Connie Campbell!) brought magic pumpkin seeds to all of the Sprouts students. Our students threw them out on the courtyard lawn and lo and behold! The very next day the seeds grew into a pumpkin patch and each child got to choose one to take home. Sprouts Trunk-or-Treat also happened in October. This is a favorite family event where parents decorate the trunks of their cars and children dress up in costume to trick-or-treat from car to car.

Coming up in November, Sprouts' families will celebrate Thanksgiving feasts. They'll learn about the first Thanksgiving, some of the special foods prepared for the celebration and then share a potluck meal with their

families. In December, the students of Sprouts will offer a Christmas Program for their families. The whole school will sing songs in English led by our Music teacher and in Spanish led by our Spanish teacher. The VPK students will play hand bells and each individual class will sing a Christmas song. The event will end with a meal shared by the students, teachers and families of Sprouts.

We offer tours of Sprouts Child Development Center to prospective families. If you would like to come visit our school, please call the Sprouts office to schedule a tour. We offer tours on Tuesdays and Fridays by appointment only. We'd love to meet you!

More Info:

Callie MacLeod | 941.907.7333

cmacleod@welcometoharvest.org

ADVENT SERIES

Beginning November 29

Advent: a time of waiting and anticipation. In the church, it is the time when we prepare our hearts and lives for the celebration of Christmas. This year, our Advent worship experiences will invite us to learn how to get ourselves ready for Christ's coming from Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men, and John the Baptist.



HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 29 | 6 PM

Don't miss this year's Hanging of the Greens service on Sunday, November 29 at 6 PM. Always a favorite event here, we will once again fill the air with songs of the season while adorning the Harvest Centre at the Lakewood Ranch campus for the coming of Christmas. Invite friends and neighbors to join you for this special night that is great for all ages!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

A Christmas poinsettia is a wonderful way to express honor or remembrance of a loved one, while supporting youth missions and decorating the Harvest facilities for the Christmas season. Sale proceeds will help support summer 2016 mission trips for Harvest Youth. The cost for each poinsettia is \$10.

Your name and the name of your honored or remembered one will be included in the Hanging of the Greens bulletin. Order forms are available at Hospitality Hub 1 at the Lakewood Ranch campus beginning Sunday, November 2. Please include your payment with the order form in an envelope and mark it "Poinsettia." You may place the envelope in an offering box on Thursday or Sunday, or drop it off at the church office during the week. The last day to order is Sunday, November 16.

Poinsettias may be picked up any time following the final service on Christmas Eve.

STAR
ADVENT 2015

FOLLOW THE

HARVEST HUSTLE 5K

The 17th Annual Harvest Hustle 5K is quickly approaching! The race will be held Saturday, November 21, beginning at 8 AM. Register online and secure your spot today! If you're interested in serving please contact Stacey Gadeken. Proceeds will benefit All Faiths Food Bank and The Food Bank of Manatee.

More Info:

Stacey Gadeken | sgadeken@welcometoharvest.org
harvesthustle5k.net



Harvest Hustle 5k 2014

HARVEST ENDOWMENT

The Harvest Endowment Fund has been established to provide long term support for the church in key areas of need such as facilities, scholarships for students in early childhood, college, and seminary, support for hunger ministries, support for disaster outreach, and the Memorial Garden. Endowment income provides the church a source of stability for ministries that are ongoing and key to serving less fortunate populations. The fund is permanently invested and provides annual support through church governance structure. Endowment support does not replace the annual giving program and other operational needs of the church. Contact your pastors or the Chair of the Endowment team, Jim Davis for more information or to express interest in contributing to the Harvest Endowment.

More Info:

Jim Davis | 540.539.9415
jdavis8@su.edu

SEPTEMBER VITAL SIGNS


**WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE**
2015: 679
2014: 646

**SMALL
GROUPS**
2015: 279
2014: 306


**TITHES AND
OFFERINGS**
2015: \$22,066
2014: \$20,078

**IMAGINE
THE FUTURE**
2015: \$3,501
2014: \$4,178

Numbers reflect weekly averages.

GOD, WE GIVE YOU PRAISE

Adam and Sumalee Lewis and the birth of their child,
Azrael Sumalee.

Jim and Liz Johnson and the birth of their child,
Charlie Elizabeth.

Jim and Silvi Bennett and the birth of their child,
Caitlyn Trinity.

GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS

We invite you to lift in prayer the following
Harvest families:

Bob Harrison and Karen Sivia - Karen's dad passed
away in September.

Les and Laurie Smith - Les's mom passed away in
September.

Evie Carswell - Jim Carswell passed away in October.

Wanda Piper - Wanda passed away in October.

NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD DRIVE

On 10.11.15
our Harvest family donated

2,855 lbs

of food to local food banks
to fight hunger in our community!

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!



14305 Covenant Way
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
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HOW DO YOU MEASURE A LIFE?

11.5 | 11.8

"By Who and How You Love"
Matthew 22:34-40
Rev. Catherine Fluck Price

11.12 | 11.15

"By How and What You Give"
Matthew 25:14-29
Rev. Jennifer Potter

11.19 | 11.22

"By Who and How You Serve"
Matthew 5:14-16; 6:1-4
Rev. Steve Price



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