# The Grapevine



## Tradioned Innovation

**Reverend Edward Dunn**

It is a great blessing for me to be engaged in continuing education at Duke University. The coursework provides opportunities to read scholars of the current generation and to hear the voices and experiences of those who have been in ministry a long time. One of the scholars I've recently read is L. Gregory Jones who is the President of Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee and a former dean of the Divinity School at Duke. His book, Navigating the Future, explores the notion of traditioned innovation which is a way of thinking and living that holds the past and future together in creative tension. That is, to recognize that our feet are firmly on the ground with our hands open to the future.

This has been, and continues to be the guiding light of our Project Regeneration work. Our team and congregation have been engaged in reflecting on where we have come from and acknowledging where God is doing a new (and innovative) thing among us. It has taken some time, rightfully so, because the tension between past and future needs to be navigated.

Drs. Jones and Hogue cite a poem attributed to the navigator Sir Francis Drake in 1577.

*Disturb us, Lord, when*
*We are too well pleased with ourselves,*
*Because we have dreamed too little,*
*When we arrive safely*
*Because we sailed too close to the shore.*

*Disturb us, Lord, when*
*With the abundance of things we possess*
*We have lost our thirst*
*For the waters of life;*
*Having failed in love with life,*
*We have ceased to dream of eternity*
*And in our efforts to build a new earth,*
*We have allowed our vision*
*Of the new Heaven to dime.*

*Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly*
*To venture on wilder seas*
*Where storms will show your mastery;*
*Where losing sight of land,*
*We shall find the stars.*

*We ask You to push back*
*The horizons of our hopes*
*And to push into the future*
*In strength, courage, hope, and love.*

In the end, we will come to know what God is calling us to do, and it will be a traditioned innovation that acknowledges what God has blessed us with from the past and where God is leading us to be a blessing and to recognize new blessings in the future.

**Blessings,**
**Edward**

# October Session Highlights

- Completed its annual review of the church Registry.
- Noted with appreciation that the Second-Floor Office Space is fully rented.
- The fire suppression system in the vent over the kitchen range did not pass inspection and must be brought up to date. Session approved an expenditure to complete this work.
- Called a Congregational Meeting for November 22nd after worship for the purpose of electing Officers and the Church Nominating Committee.
- Endorsed a review of the 'temporary' signage for our property which is showing the impact of weathering.
- Heard the Report from Commissioners to the Fall Presbytery Meeting.

# Let's Unite & Celebrate The Season

## *Between Sundays*

Classes start **December 2, 9, 16** at **10:30a** with a lite lunch to follow.

## *Christmas Luncheon*

**December 6 |** Church will provide Ham.
Signup sheet for sides & desserts will be in the Narthex.

## *Sock Wrapping Party*

**December 12 |** Sock wrapping for Turning Points.

## *Cookie Walk*

**December 13** | $5.00 for cookie box proceeds to go to Turning Points.

## *Creative Arts Academy Christmas Program*

**December 19**

## *Choir Christmas Music*

**December 20**

## *Longest Night Service*

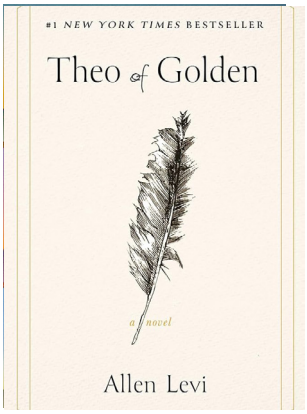
**December 21** | Service begins at 6pm at Botanical Gardens.

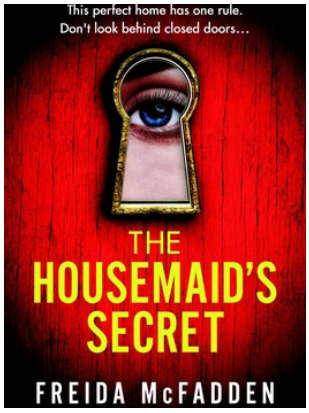
## *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

**December 24** | Service begins at 7pm.

FELLOWSHIP & WORSHIP COMMITTEE

## United Book Club




**NOV 9 | 1 - 2:30PM  DEC 14 | 1 - 2:30PM**

Join in any second Monday at 1pm in the Media Center & Zoom for fun conversation.

**2026 READING LIST**

For more information, call
Vicki Schooley at (941) 518-2315.

## Men's Group




You're invited to attend the Morning Men's Group. Get to know the men you see in church. Share your story. Enjoy fellowship.

**MEETINGS START AT 8:30A**

**NOV 5** - Fellowship and breakfast | Poppi's Place restaurant

**NOV 19 -** Fellowship & a discussion about Christian Living | Fellowship Hall

Please contact Ron Dickerson
rondickersonupc@gmail.com




## *Third Quarter Financials*

INCOME*: $290,142

EXPENSES: $278,793

***includes investment income of $ 118,004**

# Hope Seeds Packing Event

## November 7th | 10am - 12pm

Pack a seed, fill a need! Please join us for a Hope Seeds packing event on Saturday, November 7th from 10 am-noon in Fellowship Hall. Join with other volunteers to assemble seed packets to be distributed all over the world. Hope Seeds is a Christian, charitable organization that seeks to improve the nutrition of the poorest in the world by providing quality garden seed and agricultural education through Christian missionaries and organizations. All supplies are provided, and work is done sitting at tables. Come for an hour or stay the whole time. Friends, family, and children are welcome!




## Salvation Army Angel Tree Collection

**Every child deserves to experience joy on Christmas morning. The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of children around the county each year. Our church will once again be supporting the Salvation Army Angel Tree. On Sunday, November 15th, we will be accepting monetary donations so that the Salvation Army can provide gifts to those Manatee County "angels" whose tags don't get chosen from a tree. This year we are pleased to announce that donations will be matched up to a $318 total. To donate, use the envelopes in the pews or mail a check to the church office with "Angel Tree" in the memo line.**

# November Outreach Updates

In this season of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for YOU and all you do. We could not do OUTREACH without a church community that reaches out. As we proceed into the new year of HOPE, I hope that you will continue to be generous in your time, talents and contributions and be open to new ideas to serve others.

## September Outreach Highlights:

- Thanks to your DOES IT contributions, we can continue restocking our blessing box.
- You donated $405 in September to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program. The Outreach Offering collection continued through October. A total is not available at this writing.
- 57 Pen Pal letters were received and returned to the 2nd graders at Palma Sola Elementary School.
- A check for $194 was sent to FELT (Feeding Empty Little Tummies) for the 3rd quarter.
- Holy Strollers resumed their Friday walks on October 16th at 9 AM at the north entrance to Robinson's Preserve.
- The Falls Prevention Presentation was held on October 24, 2026.
- We continue to make 100 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches every week after service.
- Members served at Our Daily Bread every Friday from 9:30-11:30 AM.

## October Outreach Opportunities:

- Hope Seeds packing event will be held Saturday November 7, 2026 from 10 AM until noon. $500 was sent to purchase the seeds.
- A special collection will be held on November 15th for the Salvation Army Angel Tree. Collections will be matched up to $318 from the Marshall fund.
- We are donating $500 from the local and international missions account to Agape Flights for Thanksgiving meals in the Caribbean.
- The next 3 cents a meal collection will be Sunday, November 29th with a suggested amount of $8.19. The last collection was in July.
- A $500 donation from our budget to the Christmas Joy Gift for Mision Peniel will be made.

# November Outreach Opportunties

• Our DOES It (Done On Every Sunday) project for November is collecting stuffed shoe boxes to give to clients served by Meals on Wheels PLUS this Christmas. Pick up a Christmas wrapped shoe box and wish list in the Narthex, fill it up and return it to the church. Items can include lotion, lip balm, books, slipper socks, holiday themed items, and more. Full instructions are included in each box. Filled boxes will be delivered to seniors throughout the holidays and are sometimes the only gift a senior will receive. Drop your filled boxes in the bins in the Narthex or bring them to the church office by Sunday, December 6th.

**Ongoing Opportunities:**

• Servers for Our Daily Bread on Fridays are always needed. Contact Dorothy Simes if you would like to volunteer.

• We continue to collect non-perishable food items in the cart in the Narthex to donate to Our Daily Bread of Bradenton. They are always in need of shelf stable items to stock the Loaves & Fishes food pantry.

• Contributions of loose change, soft money, and checks for FELT (Feeding Empty Little Tummies) are always welcome. To donate, use the envelopes in the pews or mail a check to the church office with "FELT" in the memo line.

• Join your church family in Fellowship Hall after worship each week to make PB & J sandwiches to share with the clients of Our Daily Bread. Thank you to all who have been bringing in supplies, making sandwiches, and helping SPREAD the love of Christ to your neighbors in need!

## November Outreach Offering

Our Outreach Offering for November will go to Bible Mission USA. Founded by Dr. Paul Eckel, this ministry is dedicated to spring God's Word by providing free Bibles and religious materials to all who are in need. We include these free Bibles in the library we maintain at Turning Points, and Bible Mission USA provides these books to UPC at no charge.

**You may donate to Bible Mission USA:**

**• during the worship service, in your offering envelope,**

**• by mailing a check to the church office with "Bible Mission USA" in the memo line, or**

**• or contribute through online giving**

# November Photo Book
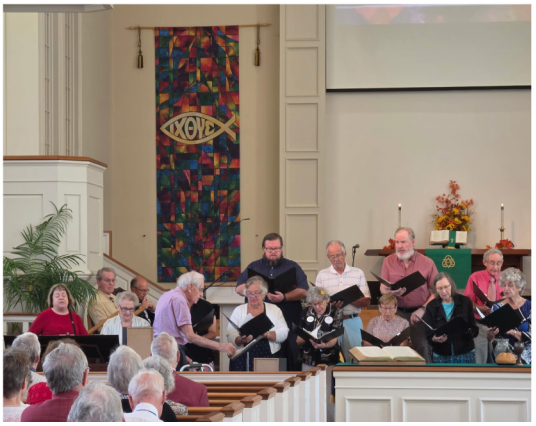




















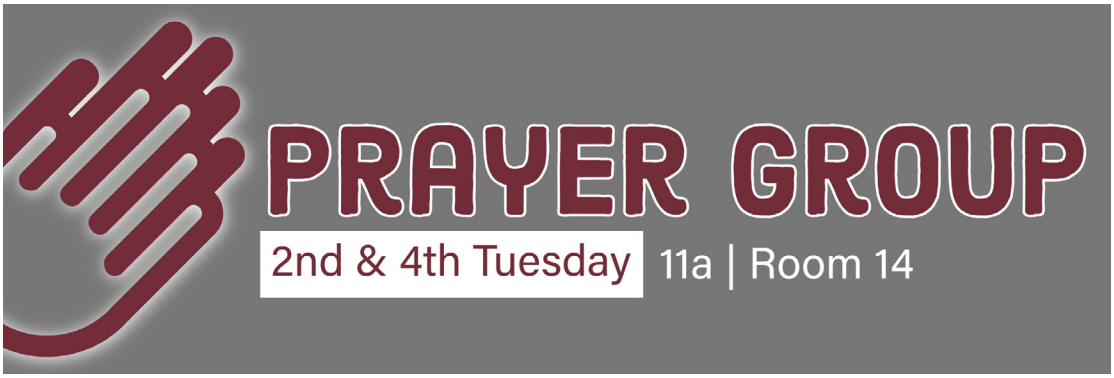






# Novmeber Birthdays & Anniversaries

**NOV 3** Susan Lance
**NOV 6** Jay Richardson
**NOV 7** Kathleen Craig, Chris Lance
**NOV 8** Alan Jenkins
**NOV 13** Mark & Chris Wolf
**NOV 16** Janice Fritzmeier
**NOV 17** Georgina Townsend
**NOV 19** Victoria Tran
Tina Tran
**NOV 21** Roberta Maloney
Patrick Nannery
**NOV 22** Mary Jane Handlin
**NOV 25** Walt Kovalick
**NOV 30** Faraja Keyes








6510 3rd Ave W.
Bradenton, FL 34209
941-792-3141
Church Website: upchurchbradenton.org

# November 2026

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1<br>*Daylight Savings Ends*<br>**All Saints Day**<br>Present Word 8:45a<br>Worship Service w/ Communion 10a \| Fellowship | 2 | 3<br>ELECTION DAY<br>**Outreach \| 3p**<br>**RENEWAL \| 6P** | 4<br>**Bell Choir \| 6p**<br>**Chancel Choir \| 7p** | 5<br>**MEN'S GROUP 8:30a \| Poppi's** | 6<br>HOLY STROLLERS \| 9a<br>Our Daily Bread 9:30a | 7<br>*Hope Seeds 10a* |
| 8<br>**Commitment Sunday**<br>Present Word 8:45a<br>Worship Service 10a \| Fellowship | 9<br>*United Book Club 1p* | 10<br>**PRAYER GROUP \| 11A**<br>*Deacons \| 6:30p* | 11<br>VETERANS DAY<br>**Bell Choir \| 6p**<br>**Chancel Choir \| 7p** | 12 | 13<br>HOLY STROLLERS \| 9a<br>Our Daily Bread 9:30a | 14<br>**Grounds Spruce Up \| 8a** |
| 15<br>Present Word 8:45a<br>Worship Service 10a \| Fellowship | 16 | 17<br>UPC SESSION \| 3:15p | 18<br>**Bell Choir \| 6p**<br>**Chancel Choir \| 7p** | 19<br>**MEN'S GROUP 8:30a** | 20<br>HOLY STROLLERS \| 9a<br>Our Daily Bread 9:30a<br>GRAPEVINE INPUTS DEADLINE | 21 |
| 22<br>Present Word 8:45a<br>Worship Service 10a<br>Congregational Mtg \| 11a<br>Fellowship | 23 | 24 | 25<br>**Bell Choir \| 6p**<br>**Chancel Choir \| 7p** | 26<br>*Thanksgiving*<br>Office Closed | 27<br>Office Closed<br>HOLY STROLLERS \| 9a<br>Our Daily Bread 9:30a | 28 |
| 29<br>Present Word 8:45a<br>Worship Service 10a \| Fellowship<br>**3 Cents A Meal Collection** | 30 | | | | | |

## Church Office Hours Monday - Thursday | 9am - 1pm

View the online church Calendar for latest information about Sunday worship services, Bible study, outreach and other events. Livestreamed and recorded worship services may be viewed at Online Worship.