



“FLOWING IN THE SPIRIT”

Quarterly Newsletter Summer 2024...Volume 12

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR
MEMBERS WHO ARE SICK
AND SHUT-IN**



*Don't be afraid, for I am with you.
Don't be discouraged, for I am your
God. I will strengthen you and help
you. I will hold you up with my
victorious right hand
(Isiah 41:10 NLT)*

QUARTERLY SCRIPTURE

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” - John 8:31-32

Newsletter Administrators

**Theresa Johnson
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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR — Rev. GILLARD S. GLOVER

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.— John 8:32

This month Americans celebrate a political freedom wrested from an English despot against the backdrop of a recent supreme court ruling that make possible an American despot. So we ask what does it mean to be free? Can real freedom be taken from you? How does one attain real freedom? Freedom that can't be taken away by legislation, judicial fiat or executive order.

Jesus told the Jews in this text that real freedom comes from neither lineage, nor legalistic interpretations of scripture. Jesus said if you want to be free you must abide in my teachings and become my disciple, then you will know the truth and the truth shall set you free. That's a lesson we must learn.

In this text, Jesus speaks of a profound spiritual freedom that comes from understanding the truth of his teachings. His teachings liberate you from the bondage of sin. His teachings provide freedom from false hoods. His teachings provide freedom from deception and propaganda.

Now more than ever it's important that we are able to distinguish between falsehood and deceptions, otherwise we will choose servitude over freedom.

If we are unable to decipher the truth, we will lose the very freedoms we celebrate this month and find ourselves on a path to authoritarian enslavement but if we know the Word of God and make choices based upon His revealed word then we can cut through the paralysis that come from the ingestion of propaganda and make choices that will set us free. Do you want to be free?

Yours in Community Transformation,
Rev. Gillard S. Glover

CELEBRATING US!

Our History, Our Heritage, Our Culture - Memories of Spring

Men's Ministry Fish Fry – March 23, 2024



Shirley Chisholm Movie Premiere Poster Presentation



Gospel Café – April 27, 2024



Daniel "Saxman" Fuqua

Shirley Chisholm's goddaughter presented the Shirley Movie premiere poster to Pastor Glover and the First Church Family during the 11 am worship service Sunday, March 17, 2024

Community & Fellowship

We are a fellowship of believers! As members of our First Church family, we rely on, and depend upon one another. God gave us each other to walk alongside, encourage and spur one another in love. We carry each other's burdens, we care for each other's practical needs, we warn each other of sin, and we rejoice with one another.

1 Corinthians 1:9: "God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

Ephesians 4:3: "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

Galatians 6:2: "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ."

1 John 1:3: "That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ."

Proverbs 27:17: "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Why you should vote in the General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024

Voting rights are under threat, and voting can help protect them

Even after years of positive change, voting rights are still under threat. Things like [gerrymandering](#), which is the redrawing of district lines to favor one party over the other, and stricter eligibility requirements are undemocratic. According to a piece from Human Rights Watch, [voting rights](#) are also threatened by misinformation, election interference and the intimidation of election officials. In 2023, at least 14 states passed laws making voting harder. Everyone eligible should take advantage of their right to vote and make it clear they want their representatives to protect voting rights. The right to vote is something everyone, regardless of their other beliefs, should fight for.

Many believe the future of democracy is at stake

Democracy is never a guarantee, but it's become a central issue for the United States in recent years. According to The Brookings Institution, "[democratic erosion](#)" has two main sources: election manipulation and executive overreach. The attempt to undermine the results of the 2020 election is the clearest example, but state legislatures have been making it harder to vote for years. When polled, Americans are concerned about the future of democracy. According to one survey, [62% of adults](#) believed democracy will be threatened based on who wins the 2024 presidential elections. With the stakes so high, voting is more important than ever.

Voting impacts the future

It may feel like your vote doesn't matter. You may ask what can one person do to change the future? Voting for things you believe in does matter. When people organize around an issue and all make their voices heard, society changes. The other reason is that while your vote can feel meaningless in federal elections, it has a huge impact on smaller, local races.

General Election Dates to Remember

August 8, 2024 – Last day to sign up for Mail in Ballot

August 10-17, 2024 – Early Voting for the August Primary Election

August 20, 2024 – Primary Election Day

General Election Voter Registration Deadline - October 7, 2024

Vote-by-Mail Deadline – Can be requested up to 12 days prior to election

Early General Election Voting Period – October 26 – November 2, 2024

General Election – November 5, 2024



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Church School	Every Friday at 2:00 pm **
Steward Board Meeting	Thursday after 1 st Sunday at 1:00 pm
Trustee Board Meeting	Thursday after 1 st Sunday at 2:00 pm
Christian Education Youth Leadership Congress	July 15 – 18, 2024
Quarterly Conferences	July 12, 2024 & September 27, 2024
General Conference	August 21 – 28, 2024
<i>*via Conference Call **via Zoom *** online</i>	



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The Teaching Ministry of Rev. Gillard S. Glover

You can access prior service videos
through Facebook or YouTube.

Sunday Services:

<https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchpalmcoast>

Sermons:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOWG0AkbZso1b_WoxTZcbDA

Online Giving: Please Choose PayPal or Givelify

<https://www.firstchurchofpalmcoast.org/contribution>

If you would like to send your contribution by mail (check/money order) please send to address above.