

**May we always stay young at heart, to the glory of God,
Amen.**



July 2020

Senior Adult Ministry of First Baptist Port Charlotte

Introducing “Forever Young”

First Baptist Port Charlotte is providing a platform for sharing news, information and fun facts tailored to the senior members of the congregation.

Because we love hearing all about the amazing adventures and achievements our youth have to share (they are this world's future after all), but we realize our seniors have different interests, cares, and concerns.

So, we are testing the waters with a new newsletter – “*Forever Young*” – a means of sharing ‘age suitable’ material with our older generation.

Now, this is not to say that members of every age group cannot enjoy *Forever Young*, for we aim to reach all those who are “young at heart.”

Our seniors as well as our wannabe seniors have so much to share with the youth in and around our congregation and we hope that our “*Forever Young*” activities and newsletter will provide a path for mixing and matching the multi-generations within the church in such a way that they can each learn from one another.

The “*Forever Young*” newsletter is a work in progress. If you have helpful suggestions to make it better, please contact Toby Sharp, Pastor for the Senior Adult Ministry.

Senior Member Highlight – Lives Worth Sharing With Others

We attend church with so many people who have a variety of life experiences that have been shelved away. Perhaps some of their real-life events often paved the way to the fulfillment of a lifelong dream or even changed a direction in a way that they never could have imagined. They may have met someone or participated in some event that changed their life so dramatically that they were called to serve others; or, they may have walked through life alone and landed on our First Baptist Port Charlotte doorstep.



Whatever their story is, it is a story that if shared, may in some way impress another person's life or even forge a new friendship.

This section of *Forever Young* is reserved to highlight various FBPC members willing to share their life story.

If you are interested in sharing your story or if you have suggestions of other members who have touched your heart in some way, please forward contact information to Toby Sharp or Sandi Cornwell at one of the email addresses provided on Page 4

Celebrating Independence Day

Celebrating American independence is truly an honor that should never be taken lightly.

And here in the great United States of America, patriots across each of our 50 states and five territories traditionally celebrate our country's Independence with backyard barbeques, gatherings with family and friends, and of course FIREWORKS!

Fireworks signify national pride and patriotism and have been a steadfast symbol of Independence Day in the U.S. since its first celebration in 1777. They had been used in China since at least the 12th century, and in the 15th century they became popular with European monarchs as a way to celebrate national triumphs, the restoration of peace, and the monarchs' birthdays.

Though many of us cover our ears in anticipation of the big BOOM, we love the excitement and anticipation of the burst of colors and sparkles that fireworks display against the backdrop of God's expansive universe.

May God continue to bless this great country – the United States of America.



Service Opportunities

The Preschool and Children's Ministry has a number of opportunities to serve as a member of the Welcome Team or as a small group leader/helper. Please contact Pastor Kaleb via email at kaleb@fbcportcharlotte.com or by phone at (941) 629-0444 if you are interested in serving.

The Praises Corner

PRAISE THE LORD, MY SOUL; ALL MY INMOST BEING, PRAISE HIS HOLY NAME. PRAISE THE LORD, MY SOUL, AND FORGET NOT ALL HIS BENEFITS—WHO FORGIVES ALL YOUR SINS AND HEALS ALL YOUR DISEASES, WHO REDEEMS YOUR LIFE FROM THE PIT AND CROWNS YOU WITH LOVE AND COMPASSION, WHO SATISFIES YOUR DESIRES WITH GOOD THINGS SO THAT YOUR YOUTH IS RENEWED LIKE THE EAGLE'S.

--PSALM 103:1-5

In the "Praises Corner" we will share individual praises to our Lord and Savior.

1. We praise you Lord for blessing us with our sister in Christ, Phyllis H., who is now at rest with you in her heavenly home.

Please forward your praises to Toby and/or Sandi (email addresses at the bottom of page 3).



Senior Outreach Program

The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) is initiating an outreach program aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of the county's senior citizens (over 60 years of age) who may be lonely and in need of assistance. Weekly phone calls by trained volunteers will be made to those enrolled in the program.

For more information on how to apply or to enroll your loved one, contact Community Affairs (941) 575-5345 or (941) 639-2101.



Forever Young Activities and Events

The last several months have really put a strain on our Forever Young extra-curricular activities with the COVID outbreak forcing restrictions on almost all social interactions. For everyone's safety all previously scheduled activities have been delayed or cancelled until further notice. We are praying that we will be able to get back to a regular calendar of events and activities very soon, so stay tuned for upcoming announcements!

United States Flag Code

I remember the days of watching with anticipation as the flag was raised at the beginning of the school day. I remember how the students, faculty, cafeteria workers, maintenance personnel and anyone within view of this event would place their right hand over their heart and recite the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, of the United States of America.*

I still remember how terrified I was when I made my first solo attempt at reciting that Pledge for my father who had been helping me to memorize the words. I didn't realize why it was so important to him at the time, but over the years as I came to understand his and others' sacrifices as veterans of World War II, it was clear that the American Flag served as a constant reminder that home – America – was worthy of their sacrifice.

So, given the everlasting symbolism of freedom that the American Flag represents, the Flag Code (a set of flag etiquette guidelines) was written in 1923 by the American Legion and other organizations. The Code was adopted into law by Congress in 1942 as Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1.

A full description of The Flag Code can be found at: www.legend.org/flag/code.

Written by: Sandi Cornwell

"There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humor." – Charles Dickens, Jr

U.S. Law Inspired by Eagles

The bald eagle is part of a conservation success story, for our national bird was once headed toward extinction. A rapid decline in bald eagle populations was one of the motivating factors in establishing the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The chemical pesticide DDT, previously thought to be safe, was causing high mortality rates for bald eagle chicks, as well as many other birds exposed to the chemical. DDT was banned, and the eagles' numbers began to rise again.



Today, the bald eagle is no longer considered threatened, partly due to the continued impact of the Endangered Species Act in protecting habitat. And the act has broad influence over wildlife management and regulations, beyond what it achieved for eagles and raptors. By classifying the relative health of different species—from endangered to 'least concern' status—the Endangered Species Act helps various agencies understand how to respond to the factors that threaten healthy ecosystems. [This article was featured on Bing on December 28, 2018]



The following two items are used with permission of The Old Farmer's Almanac/ Almanac.com

July – Named In Honor of...

... Roman dictator Julius Caesar (100 BC – 44 BC), who in 46 BC, with the help of Sosigenes, developed the Julian calendar which was the precursor to the Gregorian calendar that we use today.

Riddle of the Month:

What is the longest word in the English language?

[Answer found page 4.]

To our adult seniors at First Baptist of Port Charlotte, we welcome your input, assistance, and comments regarding the Forever Young newsletter.

It is our goal to release a new edition of the newsletter on a bi-monthly basis (that's every other month) and your ideas for interesting subject matter would be appreciated.

Right now, we will be sending a PDF version of the newsletter to those members with whom we have verified e-mail addresses.

In addition a downloadable version of the newsletter will also be posted on-line at <https://www.fbcportcharlotte.com/forever-young/>.



"I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken." -- Psalm 16:8

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had." – Romans 15:5



NEWSLETTER STAFF:

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Answer to Riddle of the Month (page 3):

Smiles

Because there is a mile between the first and last letters.