



## Kanapaha Times

### Monthly Newsletter of Kanapaha Presbyterian Church

#### Join Us...

Sunday Morning Worship 10am in Sanctuary

#### Note from Pastor...

##### Remember

The month of May is filled with special days of remembrance that range from history (Cinco de Mayo -5), to honoring those who still impact our lives (National Teachers Day -6). There is even a day to remember the possibility of an out of this world future from our imagination. "May the force be with you" of the Star Wars series is a play on words for May the fourth. May 4th is also international firefighters day. I'm sure we are thankful for all our first responders. Since 1949 the month itself carries a theme of Mental Health Awareness to promote mental health as a critical part of overall wellness. It is also National Bike Month encouraging us to look out for our physical health.


Of course, the two most celebrated holidays fall this month, that is Mothers' Day and Memorial Day. Both of these are heart-felt celebrations. Mother's Day is a day of celebration, but for some it's also a day of longing and grief. Some women are yearning to have their first child. Some mothers still grieve a child lost in the birth process or soon after. Some women had bad mothers. A quick look at our culture shows that our fairy tale ideas of motherhood are inaccurate, and Scripture reveals the same. Ruth was left childless and widowed at a young age. Rachel, Hannah, and Sarah were infertile. Eve and Mary lost sons under terrible circumstances. Several mothers in the Bible are considered examples of poor parenting, including Herodias, who used her daughter to manipulate her husband into killing John the Baptist. Rebekah was criticised for choosing one son over the other. Scripture tells stories like those and in our churches: women face diverse life circumstances, sometimes thriving, sometimes coping, and sometimes going under. Mothers aren't always given perfect circumstances and children are not always easy to raise properly with all life has to say about it. Honor your mother for your life. Memorial Day closes out the month. It seems appropriate. For every soldier who makes the ultimate sacrifice there is a mother who has lost a child. Gold Star mothers are reminded every Memorial Day, every veteran's remembrance of the sacrifice their son or daughter made for the life and safety of another. We begin the month with the sacrifice of the Messiah and remember his mother standing beneath his cross. She was also there in his victory over the grave. We close the month with remembering the sacrifice of the

fallen soldiers and those they left behind. There is no greater love than one who lays his life down for a friend. Honor your mothers as is right according to scripture. Show them your love even if you don't always agree with their choices. God gave them a place in your life. Then honor the fallen who died to give you freedom and safety in this world.

**Above all** - Accept and believe what Jesus has said. Honor him and you can share God's forever home with the one who made the ultimate sacrifice for your place in eternity.

See you in church! *Pastor Michael*

May the fourth be with you! Sorry, I couldn't resist! 🤖 If you're a George Lucas fan, then this is the ultimate day to celebrate all things Star Wars. Enjoy the word search - for the child in all of us!




# STAR WARS Word Search

(Horizontal + vertical word searches)

**Words to find:**

- SKYWALKER
- JEDI
- FORCE
- YODA
- LIGHTSABER
- CHEWBACCA
- SITH
- STORMTROOPER
- DROID
- REBELLION
- EMPIRE
- FINN
- SENATE
- REY
- NABOO
- REBELS
- RESISTANCE
- GALAXY
- REPUBLIC
- PADAWAN



## Mission Committee News

**On Saturday, May 17th, we are excited to announce our partnership with Bartley Temple for a Habitat for Humanity build day.**

Habitat for Humanity, founded in the 1970s, has a local presence in Alachua County since 1986. Their vision is “a world where everyone has a safe and affordable place to live.” Habitat’s mission is to empower low-income families to become homeowners through affordable mortgages. However, before moving into their homes, partner families must complete significant "sweat equity" by contributing hands-on labor. Specifically, they are required to put in 50 hours helping to build another Habitat homeowner’s house and then 200 hours working on their own home. Additionally, each family must complete 12 educational workshops and an 8-hour Home Buyer’s Education session to ensure they are prepared for successful homeownership.

This sweat equity requirement is more than a program rule; it fosters partnership, pride of ownership, and practical skills, as families



work alongside volunteers and staff to build their homes and community. It embodies Habitat’s motto of “building dreams, changing lives.”

**Will you join us on May 17th to help build hope and homes in our community?**

### Christian Education

The Lenten Bible study has ended. Bible study will resume after the summer.

### Worship and Nurture

Thanks to all who helped with Lenten and Easter activities from providing food, moving chairs to the cemetery, setting up the sanctuary, and attending services and the Easter Breakfast. The breakfast items were delicious, and the fellowship was warm and wonderful. Thank you also to all who enhance our worship every week. All are appreciated,

I will ask again for liturgists for the end of May (5/18 and 5/25) and for June and July. If you can even be our reader for one Sunday, it will be appreciated. Many of our regular liturgists are traveling or unavailable at these times.

## Buildings and Grounds

“On April 5th, members of KPC participated in a church workday to help keep the church property looking its best. One of the highlights of the

day was Climber Steve; who was hired to replace some siding on the church’s steeple that was damaged during the 2024 hurricane season. We also purchased some additional siding that Buildings and Grounds will use to repair and replace along the southern side of the Sanctuary soon. Thanks to all who participated!”

Buildings and Grounds Elder Kaley Behl



Special Day is coming Mother's Day  
May 11 2025

## Nominating Committee.

Jack McCleery has graciously agreed to serve on the nominating committee.





Wayne Carr	May 11
Mike Jamerson	May 12
Nathalie Thoma	May 12
Beverly Lewis	May 24
Josie Thomas	May 29
Bill Bahlke	May 29





## Calendar Of Events May 2025

May 5	Monday	Cinco De Mayo
May 11	Sunday	Mother's Day
May 13	Tuesday	Stated Presbytery MTG Ocala, FL
May 17	Saturday	Habitat for Humanity Build
May 21	Wednesday	Session MTG 6pm
May 25	Sunday	Magic Penny
May 26	Monday	Memorial Day Office Closed
May 27	Tuesday	Newsletter Deadline
May 31	Saturday	Buliding use Graduation

Easter morning service at cemetery April 20, 2025



Sunrise 2025