

Senior Pastor's Report

May 2026

Following Jesus – Loving All

In the last month the congregation has lived into this vision through the following:

- a. Worship – Holy Week and Easter went well

Jesus calls us to be a community, embracing all; nourishing mind, body and spirit.

Over the last month the I have offered:

- a. Immerse Bible Study.
- b. Prayer Class – 5 people signed up...at max 4 in a session.

Commissions

Reverent Worship

1. Lector training – 4 new lectors have been trained
2. Healing Prayer training will be taking place in June.
3. Worship Assistant training will be next after that.
4. Crucifer training is needed – but new crucifers need to be identified... this as well as acolyting can be done by adults.

Spiritual Growth

1. Pastoral care issues have included hospitalizations, counseling sessions and preparations for marriage.

Community

1. The Church picnic was so so this year... attendance was not great there seemed to be less planning in advance for it.
2. Meals at ACCT, Gulf Breeze and Galveston Housing 1st
3. The Men's Club hosted a Mother's Day Coffee hour and people stayed.
4. Doryn Glenn offered a session on Scam Prevention – this was relatively well attended.

Welcome

1. The Welcome Team's first recommendations are tabled.
2. The Church Council will discuss RIC.

Celebration

1. Crossing the \$96,000 line toward the \$100,000 challenge.

And More:

1. How shall we address the short term and long term financial needs of the parish? The Stewardship Team has developed a strategy for part of

that... their presence at this meeting indicates their interest and willingness to engage so as to help. I remind us that we did not get into this position overnight and we will not get out overnight. This is actually a longer term issue spanning decades. BUT trusting in God and daring to lean into the faith we can move forward.

2. Church website. Krista has updated the website and it looks good.
3. FEMA – hopefully we will be hearing before too long...
 - a. Exploration of a major Moody Foundation grant. I submitted an inquiry online. No response yet. Responses can take 6 to 12 months.—no word as of yet.
4. Office Help. I have lined up three volunteers who will be helping in the office. (Monday – Corinne Rhoades, Tuesday- Diane Denson, Wednesday – Jo Bremer plus we already have Louise Miller serving on Thursday mornings.) There are some areas needing more help:

- a. Password organization – there are over 150 passwords tied to the main computer and all are also tied to Deacon Brandt's name. All of these need to be changed and structured under the church's information. It is projected to take 20 hours of office work to do this. (John Marchesini has recommended how to do this ... he is a computer security specialist.)
- b. Reorganization of the actual office. When one walks into the space it is a jumbled mess of wires. I would like to get help in reorganizing the space to reduce fire risk and to clean it up.

5. New Financial Protocols were adopted via email by the Church Council. These should be very helpful.

- a. *** WHEN will the council offer an informational session for the congregation on finances?***
- b. The deadline for the Council Corner in the Newsletter is

The COMMISSIONS for 2026-27 will remain the same (per the February meeting). We will be working on the path forward with RIC.

Membership Review. Jo Bremer has begun calling households to up date their records. She has had folks returning calls and she is gleaning information.

Personal Nothing to share.