

Sunday Worship 8:30am & 10am
Sunday School 9:55am - Altar Bldg.

JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

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A Letter From The Senior Pastor BY REV. BOB KEMP-BAIRD

Dear Friends,

Happy Summer! As we celebrate Father's Day this weekend, I want to take a moment to wish a happy Father's Day to all the fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, and father figures among us. We give thanks for the many ways you have shared your love, wisdom, encouragement, and faith with others. May God bless you on this special day.

I also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our **Summer Movie Mania** such a tremendous success. From those who planned and organized, to those who greeted guests, served refreshments, directed traffic, and cleaned up afterward—your efforts made a lasting impact. Together we welcomed more than 1,000 people to our campus over the three evenings. What a wonderful opportunity to share hospitality, build community, and remind our neighbors that they are always welcome here.

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, July 29, when we will host a **Senior Lunch & Learn** in partnership with Volusia Council on Aging. The presentation will begin at 11:00 a.m. in Friendship Hall, followed by a light lunch. This promises to be an informative and enjoyable event, and we hope many of our seniors and caregivers will attend.

You're also invited to our **Sunday School Open House** on Sunday, June 28, between services. We have recently relocated and refreshed our Sunday School space on the lower level of the Altar Building, and we'd love for you to stop by, take a look around, and learn more about the opportunities available for children and families. This will also be a convenient time to bring your back-to-school donations for our upcoming outreach event with the residents of the Domestic Abuse Council.

Finally, I am pleased to report that our **Friendship Hall Ramp Project** has successfully completed the City's permitting process. Construction should begin soon. This important accessibility project is made possible through the generous support of those who contribute to our **Circle of Generosity** Capital Campaign. Thank you for helping us create a campus that is increasingly welcoming and accessible to all.

As summer unfolds, I pray that you will find time for rest, recreation, and renewal. Whether you're traveling, spending time with family, or simply enjoying a quieter pace, may you experience God's presence and blessings in abundance. See you in worship!

Pastor Bob



IMPORTANT DATES

6/28 Sunday School Open House between services - bring your back-to-school donations

7/4 Birthday Lunch Bunch Olive Garden, Port Orange 11:30am



News you can use from your Associate Pastor

BY REV. MELISSA FRANTZ

****Bounce Back to School Celebration: Continuing to Love Our Community This July****

Last month, I shared how stepping away from Vacation Bible School opened the door for a new kind of outreach—one shaped by compassion, creativity, and your generosity. Because of that space, we are preparing to host our first Bounce Back to School Celebration, a private, invitation-only event for children and families currently living in the Domestic Abuse Council's emergency shelter.

For the safety and anonymity of the families we are serving, we will not be sharing the date or time publicly. What matters most is that our church is creating a moment of joy, dignity, and confidence for approximately 50 children as they prepare for a new school year.

The celebration will include a kid-friendly lunch from Stroud's BBQ, a bounce house, creative activity stations, and plenty of room for children to simply play and be kids. At the heart of the day is our Pop-Up School Supply Shop, where each child will choose their own backpack, supplies, and fun extras—turning a stressful moment into one filled with empowerment and delight.

School Supply Drive Update

Thank you to everyone who has already donated. Our Pop-Up Shop is taking shape beautifully, but we still have more to gather. We will be receiving school supplies through July 12, and every item helps us ensure each child leaves fully equipped for the year ahead. You can also donate directly through our Amazon Wish List by scanning the QR code on this page.

Community Partnerships

Alongside the supply drive, I am reconnecting with several of the generous sponsors who supported our Summer Drive-In Movie Nights. These local businesses helped create memorable experiences for our community, and many are eager to partner with us again—this time by providing kid-friendly activity stations for the celebration. As details come together, we hope to add a few special touches that bring even more joy to the day.

A Full-Church Effort

There are several ways to participate:

- **Donate school supplies** through July 12
- **Volunteer** in hospitality, activities, setup, or cleanup (contact me directly for details)
- **Pray for each child and family** we will welcome
- **Invite local businesses** to partner with us
- **Celebrate our Sunday school youth**, who are organizing donations and serving
- **Lift up our Prayers & Squares Quilt Group**, who have now completed their beautiful handmade zipper pulls for each backpack (photo included in this newsletter)

Thank you for being a church that responds with compassion and creativity. Because of your faithfulness, we are able to offer a fresh start—and a moment of joy—to children who need it most.

Much love, Rev. Melissa

RevMelissa@driveinchurch.net

Prefer to Give Financially?

You may also give toward school supplies by marking your donation "School Supplies." We'll use those funds to purchase the items still needed for the Pop-Up Shop.



Drive Through Bethlehem: It's Time to Get Ready!

Believe it or not, it's already time to begin preparing for this year's Drive Through Bethlehem, scheduled for December 10–13. This beloved community outreach ministry has touched thousands of lives over the years, and we are excited to begin getting ready for another memorable presentation of the Christmas story.

To help prepare, we have scheduled two "Fifth Saturday" workdays on August 29 and October 31. These workdays will focus on repairing, refreshing, and enhancing scenery and other elements used throughout the event. Whether you're handy with tools, enjoy painting, or simply want to lend a helping hand, we'd love to have you join us.

We are also looking for one or more individuals who would be interested in helping coordinate this major ministry effort. Drive Through Bethlehem depends on dedicated volunteers who can help organize details, recruit participants, and keep things moving smoothly. If you would like to learn more about serving in a leadership role or helping with preparations, please contact Rev. Bob or Rev. Melissa. Together, we can continue sharing the good news of Christ's birth with our community in a meaningful and memorable way.

