

Welcome Home

Our vision: Experience and share the love of Jesus.
"And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one." John 17:22 (NKJV)

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Take a minute, this month, to **share your love and appreciation** with William, Bill, Neil and their families for being obedient to the call of God on their lives. *"To respect those who work hard among you . . . hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work."* (1 Thess. 5:12-13).

NEW WEBSITE

We just launched our **new website**. **Have fun exploring!** Discover how efficient and intuitive it is. Need help? Call the church office or email ben.passmore@commpres.com.

HAITI MISSION

Pastor Yvan will be with us during each service on **Sunday, October 14**. He will be sharing about the amazing things God is doing through their outreach ministry. You can meet him after each service outside as well.

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

Sunday, October 21 is our Children's Sabbath 2018! Our Super Sunday School students will lead worship at the **9:30 AM** service. **Please join us** for this treasured tradition.

IDIGNITY OSCEOLA

IDignity Osceola is **looking for volunteers** to help with their next event: **Friday, October 26**. **Please register by Friday, October 19** to participate. You can see details and register online at www.hope192.com.

Notes



October 7, 2018

Hymn: 428

services

Sun 8:00 am Traditional
Sun 9:30 am Contemporary
Sun 11:11 am Blended
Thurs 7:30 pm Contemporary
Childcare provided at all services

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A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR Rev Dr William A Lewis

In most ancient mythologies, the gods were genuine slackers. They sat around and did nothing, apart from occasionally getting themselves into relational messes worthy of a soap opera. What's the point of being a god unless you can play golf or take a nap whenever you want and demand that other people serve you? According to the Greeks, the gods despised every kind of labor. The ancient Babylonians believed their gods had created humans to be a slave race who did the grunt work they would never lower themselves to do.

When we get to the book of Genesis, we suddenly find ourselves in a dramatically different story. From the very beginning of scripture God is at work (literally). We find God is joyfully and extravagantly creative. When He finishes, God saw all that He had done, and it was very good (Genesis 1:31). Unlike any wannabe deities in mythology, God is a productive God.

Then comes a bit of a surprise for readers in Genesis: humans also have work to do in paradise. We often perceive work, as a consequence of sin entering our world, but that is not the case. From the beginning humans were called to work and keep the garden (Genesis 2:15). All too often we picture Paradise as the time when we finally get to stop working. We won't have to set the alarm. We can finally say good bye to reports and meetings and co-workers who make us daydream about updating our resumes.

But the fact is that working is built into people's DNA. God made us that way. Work is not a form of punishment, nor a necessary evil. It is not the enemy of human happiness. While our present work may not be fulfilling, it is more satisfying to be productive than to sit around and do nothing.

Work is one of the primary ways that we make ourselves useful for others. Jesus states in John 5:17 "My Father is at work and so am I." You and I have the privilege of participating in the greatest work, soul reclamation! Jesus came to draw all people unto Himself and He has given us the work of reconciliation.

This means whatever we might do to make a living, our life's purpose is to introduce others to God!

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