

# WELCOME HOME

**Our vision:** Experience and share the love of Jesus.

*"Not one of all the good promises  
which the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed;  
all came to pass."*

Joshua 21:45

## CHURCH BUSINESS

- **Celebration Academy of Spiritual Empowerment (C.A.S.E.)** begins **Thursday, August 22 at 6 PM** in the Spirit Room of the Life Center.
- Volunteers needed for this year's **Pumpkin Patch**. Begins September 29th. Benefits the Community Hope Center. Sign up at [commpres.com/connect](http://commpres.com/connect).

## LIFE GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

- **U.S. Constitution** from a strong biblical perspective. Starting **Monday, Sept 9 at 7 PM** in the St. Andrew Room.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

- **Super Sunday School** is back on **Sunday, Aug 18 at 9:30 AM** (PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade).

**Back to School  
Burger Bash was  
bodacious!**



## GIVING

**Three ways to donate:**

- **Offering Envelopes** for checks or cash
- **Text to Give (407) 680-1872**. Check phone's accessibility settings if no response.
- **GIVE** button at [commpres.com](http://commpres.com).

If you are a first-time visitor to Compress on Sunday, come to the Connection Center to receive your free welcome gift!

August 18, 2019

Hymns: 705, 700, 709

## services

Sun 8:00 am Traditional  
Sun 9:30 am Contemporary  
Sun 11:11 am Blended  
Sun 6:00 pm Encounter  
Thur 7:30 pm Contemporary

Childcare provided on  
Sunday mornings for  
infants up to 3rd grade

## get social



@commpreschurch

## online

[commpres.com](http://commpres.com)

Sign up for Enews  
Watch sermons  
Read blogs  
Find Life Groups

## donate

Text to  
**407-680-1872**  
Enter \$\$ amount  
Send

## contact

[commpres.com](http://commpres.com)  
[church@commpres.com](mailto:church@commpres.com)  
407.566.1633  
511 Celebration Avenue  
Celebration, FL 34747



## A Note From The Pastor

Rev. Dr. William Lewis

The burr oak is an amazing creation of God's. If an acorn is buried by a squirrel in the fall and is not recovered the following spring, the acorn sends a root straight down five feet long that will anchor the tree for the rest of its life. Burr oaks grow slowly - about 12 inches a year. It takes 35 years before a young tree can grow its own acorns. That seems like a long time for a living thing to reproduce itself. But once a burr oak is established, it has the capacity to become one of the strongest, tallest and most durable trees on the planet that can live between 500 and 1,000 years.

Over the course of its lifetime each tree will face two great enemies: fire and drought. Burr oaks have exceptionally thick bark that provides protection from passing flames. They also have a dense root system that reaches deep into the soil for moisture.

Each human life is up against those same two enemies. Our lives will be tested by fire - crises that arrive with little warning will threaten to incinerate everything we hold dear. There will also be seasons in which we fail to receive the nourishment we need to thrive. Our ability to love, forgive, serve and simply put one foot in front of the other will begin to wither and die.

So how do burr oaks become such remarkable trees? It takes a long time to grow and to bear fruit, but the results are spectacular. Our hearts grow at the same pace. Slowly but surely we put down roots. We study and pray. Every day we make choices that help feed our souls.

We stop long enough to listen to someone else tell about their tough day (and not think about what we're going to say next). We offer words of thanks for raindrops on thirsty lawns. We pause to acknowledge the hard work of the housekeeping team cleaning the bathrooms. We recall an old friend and ask God to bless them today. Those are the little things that nourish our hearts.

No wonder the Bible declares that those who build their lives around the work of the Spirit will be called "oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor" (Isaiah 61:3).

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