

## A Word From The Pastor

While meandering through the church on Thursday morning, I discovered this little guy. He had decided to attend church also on Thursday. I had to tell him, unfortunately, that our services were on Sunday morning at 11:00 am. But I did welcome him to come back then!

This little guy is a Ringneck Snake. They are quite common in our area. And they are completely harmless to humans. While they do have a low-power venom, it is harmless to humans. And in addition, they rarely bite. I actually picked this little fellow up by sliding a piece of paper underneath its body. The snake did not want to remain on the paper, so as you can see it slid quite surprised and onto my hand. I was creation would trust me (at least gigantic to someone as gigantic as him; the snake is the size of a 10 penny finishing nail – in other



words, it is quite small.)

I realize that we often marvel at the great and wonderful things our God has done and created; and yet, He is also responsible for the small things in creation. He made this little snake just as He made the great Rocky Mountain Range.

It amazes me the great care and intricacy that God uses whenever He creates anything, large or small. The Ringneck Snake is no different. Its skin is a deep shiny black and it always has a ring around its neck. Sometimes the ring is white, sometimes orange, and sometimes it is yellow. But the ring always stands out in sharp contrast with its black skin. And I marvel at the little fellow's easy going demeanor. In the numerous times I have encountered Ringneck Snakes here in Florida, they have never gotten upset with me. They have always remained calm and never even attempted to bite me – no, not even once!

The Bible tells us “Who despises the day of small things? Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.” – Zechariah 4:10 While this Scripture is referring to the initiation of the rebuilding of the temple under Zerubbabel, it also speaks to us of every operation of God that starts with insignificant beginnings – “a day of small things.” As one song once said, “little is much when God is in it.” And that continues to be true today! You may recall the Old Testament prophet Micah writing these words: “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel” – Micah 5:2. That small town of Bethlehem produced the greatest human to ever live – our Lord Jesus Christ!

When you look at your own life, what is God doing there? Are you having a “day of small things”? Maybe it seems as if you are taking “baby-steps” in the Christian faith, or that you are not developing as rapidly as you would like as a believer. Heed the voice of the prophets, God accomplishes some great things through small beginnings! Bethlehem was the birth place of both David and Jesus – talk about some small beginnings turning into great things! So trust in the Lord that He knows what He is doing in your life no matter how great or small!

Dr. James L. Fleming

**COLLEGE PARK  
CHURCH OF GOD**

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**OUR MINISTRY TEAM**

**Senior Pastor**

Dr. James L. Fleming

**Children's Director**

Vanessa Small

**OUR SUNDAY SERVICES**

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

**Tuesdays**

Women's Bible Study  
6:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays**

Evening Bible Study  
6:00 p.m.

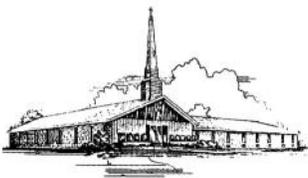
**MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

**Last Sunday - August 29**

Food Drive Collection for  
Interfaith Emergency Services

**OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00/4:00 p.m.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH**

We are partnering with Revo Church to host a Back-to-School Bash on Saturday, August 7, from 5–8 p.m. in our church yard. There will be a bounce house, water slides, fire truck, food, games, prizes, and more! If you are willing to volunteer at the event, please sign up in the narthex. We are also requesting individually wrapped pieces of candy to give out to children.

**CHILDREN'S OLYMPICS CHALLENGE**

Olympics Challenge packets are in the narthex. Pick one up for your child or grandchild. If you would like a copy emailed to you, contact Vanessa Small. Go for the gold & complete all five challenges to receive an award!

**FOOD DRIVE**

Sunday, August 29, is our collection day this month for nonperishable food items for Interfaith Emergency Services. Thank you for your generosity!

**FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING**

Our special 5th Sunday offering for building maintenance will be collected on Sunday, August 29. Please prayerfully consider what you can give.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

The Women's Ministry is collecting gifts for this year's Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Our suggested items to donate for the month of August are **hygiene items** such as toothbrushes, washcloths, tissues, bar soap, lip balm, bandages, deodorant, combs, manicure sets, reusable silverware, plastic cups, and snack bowls. NO liquids or pastes. Collection box is in the narthex.

**CONCERT**

Ben Simmons will be in concert during our morning worship service on Sunday, October 17, at 11:00 a.m. Mark your calendars now!

**CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE**

Pastor Fleming's recent Sunday School lessons & sermon videos are on our Facebook page. Check it out! [Facebook.com/CollegeParkChurchOfGod](https://www.facebook.com/CollegeParkChurchOfGod)

**Happy Birthday!**

- 03 - Rebecca Weber
- 04 - Adam Labounty, Jr.
- 05 - Kiara Parton
- 05 - Shirley Wolfe
- 07 - Madison Struzzieri
- 07 - Hiram Torres
- 08 - Barbara Gonzalez-Bristol
- 13 - Peggy Mills
- 14 - Larry Miller
- 14 - David Pfeffer
- 23 - Ann-Marie Kydd
- 25 - Lou Borders
- 28 - Ed Mills

**Happy Anniversary!**

- 04 - Don & Dee Thompson
- 25 - David & Marilyn Reynolds
- 30 - Rick & Judy Morang



*If you would like your birthday  
or anniversary added to this list,  
please contact the church office.*



*God's Hand Extended To Those In Need*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for caring enough to support our ministry with your donation. Your donation makes it possible for us to assist people in need of basic necessities such as food and clothing. With 44% of our county residents living at or just above the poverty level and paycheck to paycheck, one minor event can put a family in financial distress. By giving of your resources, you lighten the burden of someone going through a difficult time. Your support means a great deal to Interfaith and to those we serve. We appreciate your help more than words can say!

June Gift to Food Pantry — 130 pounds of food

May God bless you,

Karla Grimsley

Chief Executive Officer



Dear Church Family,

I just want to thank all of you for all your prayers and concern for my Mom, Betty Hall. Also, thank you for the nice spread of food from Dee, Don & church and Pastor. I appreciate everything (and my family). Pastor did a beautiful job at Mom's service. I am blessed to be a part of the College Park Church of God family.

Love, Dianna Gabbard & family