



Weekly newsletter, May 22, 2020  
Pastor's Message

Dear Apopka Church Family,

As you will notice in the sermon this week, I am struck by the story of Jesus washing His disciples' feet. What an amazing thing for Him to do!

Sometime earlier, we are told in Luke 7 of an "immoral woman" washing the feet of Jesus at the home of a Pharisee. Jesus considered this to be an act of loving, appreciative service. Now, in John 13, we see Jesus becoming the washer of feet, the one who stoops down to serve, taking the position of someone only at such a meal to do the bidding of the master and work for the comfort of the guests... guests who trudged through the dirt of the world.

Peter would not have it. He could not imagine the One he earlier acknowledged as the Christ (see Matthew 16) doing something so dirty for imperfect people like himself. Jesus had to convince him: "I must wash you for you to belong to Me, and I have *already* washed you... you just need the dirt cleaned off your feet."

When a disciple accepts Christ as Lord and Savior, that disciple is *clean*... made right before the Father. This need not happen again. And yet, as we continue to walk through a dirty world, Jesus continues to clean the dirt off. He saved us, and yet continues saving us in the moment! In church-ese, we might say He justifies and sanctifies us... makes us like Him.

Many I know walk around stressing out over whether they are saved. My grandmother went to her grave wringing her hands over this. I believe Jesus will set her mind at ease one day in a marvelous way, but we need not wait! In Christ, you can be sure that you are saved, *and* you can be sure that He is still saving you and making you more like Him each day!

What wonderful news to share with each other as we celebrate our first "in-home" / "online" communion this week!

In Christ,

James Johnson  
Youth Pastor,  
Apopka Seventh-day Adventist Church

This week we celebrate "Online Communion." You will be guided through the service, much like you would if we were doing this in person.

We recommend having small basins of water ready before you begin viewing the service. After the welcome and church life portions of the service, you will see Pastor James give an introduction to the service, whereupon you will see him bringing his family into the "Ordinance of Humility," or the foot washing. After his prayer, you will see his family washing each other's feet. When they are finished (they will be sitting on their couch), if you need more time, feel free to pause the recording.

Next, you will hear the Message - "Extending the Gospel - Through Humility," which goes deeper into the Gospel meaning of the foot washing. Upon completion of this, you will see the video of Pastor James reading from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Elder Lou Badillo will pray over the bread, and Pastor James will lead his family in eating the bread together... follow along with him as you would during regular communion services.

You may choose to use an "unleavened bread" such as Triscuits or Wheat Thins, or you may prepare the simple recipe as follows:

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1 cup fine-ground flour (preferably whole grain)  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 tablespoons cold water  
1/4 cup olive/vegetable oil

Sift the flour and salt together.

Pour the water into the oil, but do not stir.

Add water & oil to the dry ingredients and mix with a fork until the dry ingredients are dampened.

Roll out between two sheets of wax paper to the thickness of a pie pastry.

Place on an ungreased, food baking sheet, and mark off with a sharp knife into bite-sized squares (prick each square to prevent blistering).

Bake at 450 degrees for 10-15 minutes. Watch carefully during the last five minutes so that the bread will not burn.

(This recipe serves about 50 people, so you may want to half the recipe)

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After we eat the bread, Elder Robert Broome will pray over the "fruit of the vine" (Grape Juice), whereupon Pastor James will lead again in drinking the juice, followed by prayer.

This will conclude the service.

## Virtual Services

**Virtual Sabbath Worship Services:** Go to [www.apokasdachurch.com](http://www.apokasdachurch.com) for our local Sabbath School options and the worship service.

### Local Sabbath School Option.

- **“Perspectives” Sabbath School, James Johnson: 7:00 PM**, Friday evening. Go to <https://zoom.us/j/597674660>.
- **High School Sabbath School, 10:00 AM**, Sabbath morning. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84523787323?pwd=dkVGajg4UGNuSEJ1ZkQ4SlhxBZz09>  
Meeting ID: 895 1979 8035, Password: 2PYKey.
- **Adult Sabbath School Quarterly 1, George Crawford: 10:00 AM**, Sabbath morning. Go to <https://zoom.us/j/914391071>.
- **Adult Sabbath School Quarterly 2, Jack Carey: 10:00 AM**, Sabbath morning. Go to <https://zoom.us/j/601759026>.
- **Adult Sabbath School Quarterly 3, Hugo Kennedy, 10:15 AM**, Sabbath morning, Go to <https://zoom.us/j/3999743097>. Meeting ID: 399 974 3097. Dial by location +1- 929- 436- 2866, US (NY).
- **Seeker’s Class, Scott Shelton: 9:55 AM**, Sabbath morning. Go to <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2249739986>. Password is - 287556
- **Junior Sabbath School** - We now have an online Junior Sabbath School each Sabbath morning at **10:00 AM**. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82360827579?pwd=eTZPVngwNzZDQmdSdGZMN1Y5VXE4dz09>  
(Meeting ID: 823 6082 7579; Password: Juniors).

Every Wednesday, anyone who is part of our Juniors Sabbath School Class is invited to a virtual “check-in” at 7:00 PM to be able to say hello to our friends we haven’t been able to see for awhile. Join us at...

<https://us04webzoom.us/j/77111838436>? Password: TFNOTXJyNmRkUXcvOGIhb2FEdk40Zz09

**Message:** "Extending the Gospel - Through Humility," James Johnson. **Scriptures:** Scripture readings this week come from John 13:1-17, and are read by Isaiah Greene (Apopka High), Grace Denizard (Lake Brantley High), and Rusheka Levy (Forest Lake Academy)... all from the Class of 2020! Congratulations!

- **Your Next Step "Connection Card":** Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9FCMY3Z> to specify what "next step(s)" you want to take with Jesus!
- Every week is a new opportunity for us to invite people to take a step in their lives with Jesus! We encourage each of you to fill out an online connection card after viewing our service this weekend. We intend to continue this with physical and digital connection cards when we are able to worship together again!

## Church Life

**Morning Prayers:** Every weekday morning at 7:30, we invite you to join together in prayer via Zoom. The gathering is hosted by Elder George Crawford, and it is a tremendous blessing. Simply go to the internet, and go to <https://zoom.us/j/150286450>, or dial in by phone at (929) 205-6099 and enter the Meeting ID when prompted: 150286450.

**Journey Through the Word:** We continue to study Matthew on Wednesday evenings. Go to <https://zoom.us/j/676008518>, or dial in at (929) 205-6099 and enter the Meeting ID when prompted: 676 008 518.

### Announcements

Due to increased car traffic at the church property in the very late hours of the night and the fact of some vandalism that has taken place, we will be installing an additional chain/lock system at the second entrance to attempt to control some of this traffic. After its installation, if you need to enter the property for any reason please call Jack Carey (407-464-3615) or Scott Shelton (407-694-4955) for assistance.

### For Your Prayers

- Tim McGuire, son of Kristen and Norm McGuire, as he continues to recover from his automobile accident.
- Cindy Locke and her family, grieving the loss of her mother Peggie Youngs, and supporting her through her brother's lung surgery recovery, and now he's facing a heart procedure, and in a very weak state.
- Pat Marshall recovering from surgery
- COVID-19: The health of our families. Those who will be facing financial difficulty. Our young people as they are dealing with isolation and a new way of being educated. Teachers, who continue to work hard to continue to provide a good education,
- First responders and healthcare workers who are dealing with this crisis first-hand.
- Residents and staff at nursing homes and assisted living facilities who are vulnerable to the spread of COVID-19.

### TCI Initiative: COVID-19

Thank you for making it possible to assist those who have been adversely affected by COVID-19 pandemic. The Apopka Church will continue this service each Sunday to support our Church members and people you know in the community who need assistance. **Please feel free to stop by and pick up a bag and gift card for a neighbor in need, or send them in our direction.**

Food distribution information:

- Date: Sunday, May 24
- Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Where: Apopka SDA Church front entrance
- 16 families were helped on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 7 families were helped on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### Services available:

- Bag of groceries.
- Gift certificate to ALDI Food Market.
- Transportation to the grocery store, pharmacy, medical appointment.
- Delivery of food to the home.

#### How can one help?

1. Donate food.
2. Volunteer with food distribution at the Church.
3. Donate cash through the Apopka Church "Online Giving"  
<https://adventistgiving.org/#/org/ANTBBB/envelope/start>. Select the line: "TCI Initiatives-COVID-19"
4. Volunteer with transportation to the grocery store, pharmacy, medical appointment, or food delivery to home.

#### Contact information:

1. Financial Aid resources: Bill Nutt, 321-277-7097
2. To volunteer time: Judy Blair, 303-968-9731
3. To donate food: Judy Blair, 303-968-9731
4. To donate cash: go to <https://adventistgiving.org/#/org/ANTBBB/envelope/start>  
"Online Giving"