

**“MAYOR’S PRAYER BREAKFAST”**  
**MAY 2007**

The organizer of the Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast in Seminole phoned me this morning to discuss plans for the May 10<sup>th</sup> event. I told her that she could count on our church’s continued support and I agreed to be one of the speakers. Our local Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast began two years ago and Lake Seminole Presbyterian Church continues to be one of its strong supporters. The theme this year will be “Inspiration for Faith.” Each speaker will be asked to reflect on what inspires people to have faith in God.

I am happy that our church continues to be one of the key participants in this annual community event. It shows that we are serious about being a “community church” that actively seeks out opportunities to share our Christian faith in the “public square.” There is much debate today about the place of faith in the “public square” of our country. Some want to keep faith just a private matter, but our faith can never only be private. It will always have public implications. The prophet Isaiah talks about his concern for the sad state of affairs found in the “public square,”

*“Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands at a distance;  
for truth stumbles in the public square, and uprightness cannot enter.”  
(Isaiah 59:14)*

Over and over again, the prophets applied God’s revelation to public affairs. Their words were not always well received by those in power.

The easy path would be for Christians to retreat into their churches and not be active participants in the life of their community. We could then talk with each other about religious things within the safety of our four walls. How is the good news of the Risen Christ going to be shared if we isolate ourselves from our surroundings? Fortunately, the leaders of our church have not chosen the easy path. They have decided to engage our community and speak a Christian message in the “public square.” Consistent with this outlook, our church has recently been involved in Girl Scout Sunday, the Welsh Society Music Festival, the Pow Wow Parade, Community Campfire, and the Tribute to Teachers breakfast.

Hopefully you can attend the Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast on May 10<sup>th</sup>. You can phone the church office for details. Since its inception two years ago, members of our church have attended this community event. Their presence has been a testimony to our desire that the voice of Christians still be heard in the “public square” today.

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