

Sunflowers

Have you ever stood in awe viewing a field of sunflowers? Travel magazines often describe the best sunflower farms to visit. Some boast thirty-plus acres with over two million blooms. Depending on their location, sunflowers typically show off their dazzling display from July through September. Beholding all those smiling faces lifts our mood as well as praise to God.

There are over sixty varieties of sunflowers, growing from three to ten feet tall. The tallest ever recorded was twenty-seven feet tall. Colors range from yellow to red, white and chocolate. A sunflower may be as large as one foot in diameter, producing 1,000 seeds in its center. Not only birds like chickadees and nuthatches are lured to its tasty offering, but also people enjoy munching sunflower seeds as well. Their nutritious seeds are high in protein and contain healthy vitamins, minerals and fats.

Scientists have discovered that God gave sunflowers an internal circadian clock just like animals and humans. Young sunflower faces gradually move during the day, following the sun, then turn back 180 degrees at night to be ready to greet the warmth of morning's first rays.

The sunflower's behavior is a great biblical object lesson. We should be ready and eager, with smiling faces, to greet God each morning with praises, songs, prayer and thanksgiving. Then faithfully follow the "Son" throughout our day. What spiritual growth and bounteous blessings that ensures! Hope lifts our spirit, knowing the Lord's mercies, compassion and faithfulness are new every morning to those who obey Jesus' words to "Follow me" (Lamentations 3:21-25).

"For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee" (Psalm 84:11-12).

Lucinda J. Rollings

Rejoice in the Lord

Philippians 4:4



©Olyasolodenko/123RF • Printed in USA

Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16th Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

October 27, 2024

Call to Worship

Sounds of Hope

Invocation

Pastor Don Mauldin

Sing Unto the Lord

Hymn # 437 Send the Light

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of Guests

Mission Moment

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Worship in Song

Hymn # 431 Shine, Jesus Shine

Offertory Prayer

Craig Alexander

Offertory

Rose Morgan

Special Music

Sounds of Hope

Sermon:

Scripture:

Pastor Don Mauldin

Hymn of Benediction

Pastor Don Mauldin

352-262-5349

Covenant News

Our ministry for October is Hurricane Relief. Since there is so much that is needed, we are going to collect toiletries, paper products, detergents and other supplies like we do for Newberry High School and Pine Grove.



Save the Date

We will have our annual Covenant Church business meeting immediately after church on November 17 to approve our 2025 annual budget and acclaim approval for the Trustees to continue their work in the leadership of Covenant Church.

Thanksgiving Dinner November 24th

