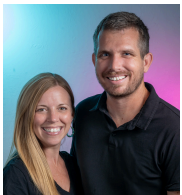




IN STEP

studio news from maranatha



Excitement Grows with Recital, Fall Dance Seasons

There's so much excitement in the air as our dancers continue learning their recital choreography. Costumes will be going home this week, and we're filled with joy as we prepare to celebrate our amazing students during recital season in April and May. For complete show details, be sure to view our [Recital Website](#).

We're also thrilled to share that plans for our Summer Classes and the 2026–2027 Season are already underway!

Class recommendations and next season's schedule will be shared with families at the beginning of May.

See "Seasons" on pg. 2



Discipleship Corner

MS. JAMI B.

This April, we're encouraging kids to keep their **Eyes Up in Hard Times!** Our focus is on learning to look to Jesus when life feels difficult. Our memory verse is **Romans 15:13** – *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him."*

We believe that Jesus is with us in every situation—especially when we're sad, scared, or facing challenges. Through scriptures like **Psalms 23** and **John 16:33**, kids will see that they're never alone, and that Jesus offers real hope and comfort.

Our big idea is: *"Jesus helps me when I'm sad or scared."* Let's help our kids find strength, peace, and hope by keeping their eyes on Jesus, even in hard times.

"Seasons" continued

To make registration easy and stress-free, we're offering Rollover Registration again this year.

Priority Registration: May 11-17, 2026
Dancers participating in the Rollover Registration program will get early access to reserve their classes for the 2026-27 season before general registration opens.

Annual Membership Fee: Your \$39 annual membership fee (\$75 per family) will be automatically renewed and applied to your account on April 28, 2026, unless you complete our **Opt Out Form** by April 24.

General Registration: Opens May 18, 2026

We're looking forward to finishing our season strong and celebrating your student's accomplishments. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of their journey!

*With gratitude,
Andrew, Amy, and the Maranatha Team*

Leveled & Teen Ballet to Celebrate "Hope Rising" in Spring Ballet Production

"Hope Rising" celebrates the confident hope that belongs to those who trust in the Lord. Through worshipful dance, the production reflects the promise of Psalm 33:18: *"Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His steadfast love,"* and reminds us that even in uncertain times, God's love and faithfulness remain our steady foundation. We invite you to experience this message of hope expressed through dance. **Saturday, April 25 at 10 a.m. at The Breeze Church**, North Fort Myers. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the Recital Website: **Spring Ballet Production**

SWFL Arts Foundation Presents "Ruth"

A Ballet Magnificat! Production in partnership with Maranatha Dance and our Elevate Ballet Dancers. **Saturday, April 25 at 6 p.m. at The Breeze Church** in North Fort Myers. Leveled Ballet students, check your email for \$15 off! For ticket information, visit: **<https://33178.danceticketing.com/r/events/>**



Studio Calendar

- April 6 - Easter Monday (Studio Open)
- April 6-9 - Costume Distribution Week
- April 8 - Summer Registration Opens
- April 25 - Spring Ballet Production: "Hope Rising"
- *April 25 - Ballet Magnificat Production: "Ruth"
- **April 26 - Ballet Magnificat Workshops
- April 27-30 - Sneak Peek Week
- April 28 - Annual Membership Fee Auto-Renewed
- May 2 - Theater: Disney Aladdin Jr. & Aladdin Kids
- May 6 - 2026-27 Program Guide Released
- May 8-9 - Picture Day
- May 11 - Priority Registration Opens for Members
- May 18 - General Registration Opens
- May 23 - Recital Showcase: "Eyes Up"
- *featuring Maranatha's Elevate Ballet Dancers
- **Leveled Ballet Students



Preschool & Children's Dance Program

MS. ALICIA W.

BODY SHAPES is the tenth dance concept we will explore in our Children's Program! Exploring STRAIGHT, CURVY, TWISTED, and ANGULAR BODY SHAPES helps dancers develop proper lines and shapes needed for their technical training. We also discover that our focus, core, and energy throughout our shape helps us balance. All while doing this, we continue to develop the vocabulary we started to build while exploring the previous nine dance concepts. We only have one more dance concept to go!

Sneak Peek Week

This month, families will get two very special opportunities to come into class! **Costume Distribution Week** will be **April 6-9**. Children's class families will be invited in at the end of class to receive your dancer's costume. Then, during the week of **April 27-30**, families will be invited back into classes to video record recital dances. Dancers can use these videos to practice with at home leading up to recital!

Maranatha Theater to Perform Disney's Aladdin Jr. & Aladdin Kids



Based on the iconic animated film, Disney's Aladdin takes audiences on a magical flying carpet adventure filled with courage and friendship. When Aladdin finds a mysterious lamp and releases the Genie who can grant three wishes, he begins a journey that challenges him to grow in honesty, bravery, and character. A fun, high-energy production that celebrates teamwork, integrity, and the importance of making wise choices.

Saturday, May 2 at New Hope Church in Cape Coral.

Aladdin Kids at 10:30 a.m. | Aladdin Jr. at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m.

ADVANCE TICKETS:

<https://25515.danceticketing.com/sg/1097/aladdin/>



Leveled & Teen Dance Program

MS. AMY P.

Evaluations aren't about perfection—they're about showing where you are in your dance journey. Teachers look for a strong technical foundation, focus, and effort, not just advanced tricks. Remember: your class placement is about growth, not comparison. Every dancer's path is unique! Evaluations will take place in leveled ballet classes in early May. Please view our **Evaluation Letter** for further details.



April Birthdays

Katherine P
Rinoa D
Kate W
Sadie J
McKenna G
Alejandro D
Melissa O
Janiya E
Penelope F
Juliet S
Madisyn D
Lilyana B
Katherine K
Harper C
Layla S
Emma A
Davina M

Abigail B
Ryleigh P
Remington K
Adeya Fae R
Olivia N
Zoe D
Gianna L
Isabella S
Victoria Q
Emma L
Emma H
Adeline A
Lennon O
Aria S
Vanessa F
Gracelynne S
Emma M

STAFF: Cami D

Fun Week

Our next fun week will be in May. The week of **May 4-7 is Teacher Appreciation Week**. We would love for students to write a sweet note or color a picture to surprise their teacher...and an extra for our amazing front desk team. We are so grateful for the incredible staff at Maranatha!



From Empty Containers to Endless Possibility

In Burkina Faso, I continue to be amazed by how much can be accomplished with so little. It's a powerful reminder that impact is not limited by resources, but fueled by creativity, determination, and generosity.

Twice each year, Love Does partners with Lifeline Ministries to send a shipping container filled with rice and beans - simple provisions that become daily nourishment for the children at the school and the surrounding community. These meals are life-giving in every sense of the word.

But what makes these containers truly remarkable is what happens after they're emptied.

With ingenuity and vision, they are transformed into functional, low-cost buildings that serve the growing needs of the school. Just last month, the first two-story container conversion was completed, now providing much-needed office space for staff and leadership.

And the momentum continues.

Another container is already on its way, and discussions are already in motion around converting it into a school clinic - expanding care for each of our students.

Your ongoing support is what makes this possible. Thank you for being part of a story that is bringing nourishment, opportunity, and hope, one container at a time.

Meet Salimata - Faithfulness before the Sun Rises

We are honored to introduce Salimata, the wife of Pastor Deme and a true behind-the-scenes hero in Burkina Faso.

While much of the work at the school is visible, her impact is felt in the quiet, faithful rhythms of each day. Long before the sun rises, Salimata begins her work, waking at 4:30 each morning to prepare meals that will nourish every child at the school. What starts as simple ingredients from the food containers becomes something far greater: strength for learning, energy for play, and care that each child can feel.

Her consistency, sacrifice, and servant-hearted dedication are a powerful reflection of love in action. As you read this, we invite you to join us in praying for continued health, strength, and encouragement for Pastor Deme, Salimata, and their entire family. Their faithful work is changing lives every single day.

If your family or business would like to be more involved, you can set up a one-time or monthly donation [through this link](#). All contributions are made directly through Love Does and are fully tax-deductible. www.maranathadance.com/burkinafaso

