
10:30am Worship Service

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**PRELUDE** *Finale in C minor* Stanley E. Saxton**CALL TO WORSHIP****INTROIT** *Worship God With Music* Natalie Sleeth
Chancel Choir***HYMN #65** *Stand Up and Bless the Lord***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Wondrous and generous God, You have blessed us with gentle rains, glorious sunsets and sun-warmed days. You bless us with loving families, kind friends and a caring church. Let us receive these gifts with thankfulness and humility. We cannot earn nor do we deserve such generosity, but we graciously open our hearts and hands to receive. Forgive us when we are hardhearted and tight-handed, when we don't let Your goodness flow through us, when we hide our talents and turn away from the needs of the world. Release us, Holy One, from fear, and create a contagious spirit of giving that touches the world with hope. *(Silent Confession)*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE***GLORIA PATRI #813*****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed *(Unison)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM *Down to the River to Pray* arr. Mary McDonald
Chancel Choir**PASTORAL PRAYER****RESPONSE** *He's All I Need* R. P. Curtis**OFFERTORY** *Deep River* arr. Wilbur Held***DOXOLOGY #815*****PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Generous God, we dedicate our offering to the work and ministries of Your church. We also dedicate our commitment to Your church in the coming year with our pledges of support. Please multiply our commitments so that we can continue to build Your kingdom of love in Punta Gorda and beyond. We dedicate them in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3**MESSAGE** *The Church in Thessalonica* Pastor Larry Yerger
*[Punta Gorda]****HYMN #329** *There Is Power in the Blood****BENEDICTION*****RESPONSE** *Threefold Amen* R. P. Curtis

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth – please feel free to ask for one.

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #502319310

9:00am New Beginnings Service

GATHERING SONG *I Am Somebody****PRAISING GOD IN SONG** *The River is Here*
Great Is the Lord
*Make Me a Servant***PRAYER****OFFERING** *Sweet Presence of Jesus***SPECIAL MUSIC** *We Believe*
New Beginnings Praise Team**SCRIPTURE** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-3**MESSAGE** *The Church in Thessalonica* Pastor Larry Yerger
*[Punta Gorda]****CLOSING SONG** *How Great You Are*

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Prayer Focus

- Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.
- Pray for those who serve in the military and their families during the war against terrorism.
- Pray for our church and new denomination as we seek ways to reach the lost and needy in our community and world.
- Pray for Charlotte County, for revival and renewal as part of Prayers Over Charlotte initiated by the Sunday Night Prayer meeting
- Pray for Rob and Jennifer Taylor, missionaries to Zambia, that we support.

Those who Grieve

- Pray for Arlene Gebel and family on the passing of her husband, Paul Gebel, on October 28th, 2015.

Those with Special Needs

Jerry & Nancy Julius	Rev. Larry Yerger
Helmut Ehrhardt	Fred Tabert
Kay Callahan	Arlene Gebel
Ella Sifferd	Carol Foster
Dianne Sizemore	Rob Taylor & family
Helen Anderson	Nancy Beasom
Cara Coletti	

Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Barbara Shinn, <i>The Palms of Punta Gorda</i>	Dorothy Blue, <i>Harbor Terrace</i>
Esther Wheeler, <i>Life Care Center</i>	Marion Brown, <i>Royal Palm</i>
Lorraine Sisson, <i>Saginaw, MI</i>	

*Please keep the office updated concerning your requests.**Requests will be listed for 4 weeks and then removed unless updated.*

Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the 10:30am service***CELL PHONES*** – Please remember to silence or turn off your mobile devices.***FLOWERS*** – The flowers this morning are given by Laurel Aumend, in memory of her mother, Doris Aumend.***NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER*** is available in the foyer and on our website.**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

TODAY IS DEACONS FUND SUNDAY – our monthly collection which supports our efforts to help congregation needs, emergency needs, Misi3n Peniel Spanish devotionals, and others.

2016 PLEDGE DEDICATION SUNDAY – Today, we will offer our 2016 pledges to God in thanksgiving for His many blessings. Let's respond to God's generosity with generous giving to His church. Extra pledge cards and narrative budgets are on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held **TODAY at 11:30am** to elect new elders and a nominating committee for 2016.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS – THIS AFTERNOON at 2pm, Pastor Steve Mock will be holding C.L.A.S.S. 101, *Becoming a Covenant Partner*. Anyone interested in becoming a member/covenant partner of First Presbyterian Church is invited to attend this seminar. Please sign up in the church foyer.

PRAYER MEETING – A prayer meeting is held **Sunday evenings at 6pm** in the Conference Room. Come and be a part of what God's Spirit is doing in our church and community.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets **THIS Tuesday, November 17th, at 10am**. We continue with the study of Luke - *Living with Passion & Purpose* by Elizabeth George, taken from her *A Woman After God's Own Heart* series. The study meets at the home of Robert and Sharon Cuzner, 2615 Rio Grande Drive, Punta Gorda Isles, and begins at 10am. The study is about 1½ hours long with time for fellowship and refreshments. All women are welcome.

BIBLE STUDY AT FPCPG – Pastor Larry is leading a study on the Book of Ezekiel **Wednesday mornings at 10am**. The study is open to everyone.

THANKSGIVING GIFTING – Donations for Charlotte County families continue **through Sunday, November 22nd**. Special envelopes are in in the church foyer or you may use a pew envelope.

SIGN UP TO HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH - On **Friday, November 27th at 10:00am** we assemble the decorations and set up the Christmas trees. Then on **Saturday, November 28th at 10:00am** we will decorate the church for the Christmas season. There will be coffee & donuts on Friday and a light lunch on Saturday. Sign up in the church foyer and come and join the fun!!!

CHRISTMAS DINNER - The Fellowship Team invites you to their 2015 Christmas Dinner on **Saturday, December 5th at 5:30pm**. Ham, beverages and cake will be furnished. Please bring your favorite dish for the buffet table. The Dunneman Gospel Singers will provide entertainment for us at 7:00pm. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the church foyer.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS LUNCH – All women of the church are invited to our Christmas Lunch on **Thursday, December 10th at 11am** in Fellowship Hall. Please bring finger sandwiches or desserts to share; as well as cookies and cookie tins to package for shut-ins, veterans and policeman.

FPC'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY HISTORY BOOK – If you would like a copy of our church's history book, please sign up for one in the church foyer.

CHOOSE YOUR GAME – Join us for a Game Morning activity every 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 10am to Noon in Fellowship Hall. Our next date will be **Tuesday, November 24th**. Curious? Come one and all, men and women – either to play a variety of games, or just to observe.

SHOEBOX GIFTING FOR MISI3N PENIEL – Fill a shoebox for the children at Misi3n Peniel. The shoeboxes will be collected until **Sunday, December 13th**. A list of suggested items is in the church foyer. Mark the box “boy” or “girl” and the age on it. Do not wrap it, as we may add items to each box.

HELPING MISI3N PENIEL – Our next mission trip to Immokalee will be

Friday, December 18th, when we will deliver the *Shoebox Gifts*. We will carpool from the church at 12:15pm. Call Dianne Sizemore or the church office to volunteer. Donations of *gently used blankets, sheets, towels, long-sleeve t-shirts and regular shirts* can be put in the wicker basket in the church foyer.

LOAVES AND FISHES MINISTRY – Are you interested in making a meal when there is a short-term need in the congregation due to an illness or loss? Are you willing to deliver a meal that someone else has fixed? If so, please use the sign up sheet in the church foyer.

CROSSROADS MINISTRY – AMI KIDS Crossroads is in need of operating funds. To donate, please make checks payable to the church and on the memo line write “Crossroads.”

MISSIONARY SUPPORT – We are financially supporting the Taylor family in their 2-year commitment in Zambia, Africa. Please pray for them. If you would like to donate to this mission, please make checks payable to the church and on the memo line write “Taylor Family.”

PLEASE BRING IN FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY - Let us see the blue food bin overflowing each week. **Some suggestions: peanut butter, jelly, cereal and soup.**

FURRY FRIENDS – Our furry friends need your help! In the church foyer there is a green tub where you can put dog and cat food, animal toys and gently used blankets and towels. For questions, ask Randy or Diane Curtis.

PRAYER EMAIL LIST – If you would like to be on Pastor Steve’s prayer email list, please email Pastor Steve at steve@fpcpunta.org.

OUR DAILY BREAD – This booklet of daily devotionals is on the back table in the Sanctuary.

THE FELLOWSHIP TEAM requests your comments & suggestions for our activities. An “idea box” is on the sign-up table in the church foyer.

FLOWERS – May be sponsored for the cost of \$37. To make a donation, sign up in the church foyer. You may list the flowers in honor and/or in memory of something or someone.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

November 15th thru November 22nd

Sunday, November 15

11:30am
2:00pm
6:00pm

DEDICATION SUNDAY

Congregational Meeting
C.L.A.S.S. 101
Prayer Meeting

Monday, November 16

2:00pm

Session

Tuesday, November 17

10:00am

Women’s Bible Study at the Cuzners

Wednesday, November 18

10:00am

Bible Study

Thursday, November 19

5:30pm
7:00pm

Praise Team
Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 22

9:00am
10:30am
6:00pm

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

New Beginnings Worship
Traditional Worship
Prayer Meeting

SERMON NOTES

1 Thessalonians 1:1-3 (NLT)

¹This letter is from Paul, Silas, and Timothy. We are writing to the church in Thessalonica, to you who belong to God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. May God give you grace and peace. ²We always thank God for all of you, and pray for you constantly. ³As we pray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have because of our Lord Jesus Christ.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Loving...Growing...Going...in Jesus!



ECO

**A Covenant Order
of Evangelical
Presbyterians**

OUR VISION AND PURPOSE

LOVING...

... God and others through worship and fellowship

GROWING...

... in our understanding Jesus’ and God’s purposes for us through Bible study, and developing our ministries to serve God and others

GOING...

... into God’s world with His message of love and salvation through Jesus Christ, and with His ministries of compassion and mercy

ALL IN JESUS’ NAME!

ECO’S VISION

... to build flourishing churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ

November 15, 2015

9:00am & 10:30am

WELCOME

This morning as we join in worship, our hope is that each of us will find renewed life, health and strength in God. We are glad to welcome each visitor and friend, and that you have chosen to hear God’s call with this congregation. If you are living in this area, either permanently or for the season, we invite you to join hands in ministry with us by becoming a covenant partner of our congregation.

PASTOR
ASSISTANT PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
OFFICE MANAGER
LITURGIST
USHERS

Rev. Steve Mock
Rev. Larry Yerger
Randall Curtis
Debbie Rostad
Don Washabaugh
Georgia Cherny, Sharon Russell,
Nancy Murphy, Pat Patterson

25250 Airport Road
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-639-1959 (phone)
941-637-3763 (fax)

Email: first@fpcpunta.org

Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Friday

Website: www.fpcpunta.org