
10:30am Worship Service

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**PRELUDE** *O Sanctissima* arr. Mark Hayes**CALL TO WORSHIP****INTROIT** *O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful* Tattersal's Psalmody
Chancel Choir***HYMN #291** *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Wise and gracious God, we admit that we have not lived a life conformed to Christ. You offer us the wisdom of Your Word, but we neglect our study of Scripture. You are wise in Your care for the world, but we think we know better. You call us to take up the cross and follow, but we want to forge our own paths. You offer Your peace that is "not as the world gives," but we are not content; we want security and guarantees. You give us the gift of Your commandments, but we look for the loopholes, and make our own rules. Forgive us, Lord. Call us back to the life that You intend for us. (*Silent Confession*)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE***GLORIA PATRI #813*****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The First Creed – Ephesians 4:4-7 NKJV (*Unison*)

There is **One Body, and One Spirit, even as we are called in One Hope of our calling — One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God and Father of us all, who is above all, and through all, and in all. Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Amen.**

ANTHEM *Were You There on That Christmas Night?* Natalie Sleeth
Chancel Choir**PASTORAL PRAYER****RESPONSE** *Come Lord Jesus* R. P. Curtis**OFFERTORY** *Still, Still, Still* arr. Mark Hayes***DOXOLOGY #815*****PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Generous God, we have given to You what is Yours. You entrust us with so much abundance; accept what we offer to You now as signs of our love for You and our desire to serve You. You alone are Lord of our lives. It is already so; make it so even more for us, day by day. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 119:105-112**MESSAGE** *Lighting the Way for 2016* Pastor Steve Mock**HYMN #811** *Another Year Is Dawning****BENEDICTION*****RESPONSE** *Come, Holy Child* 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 *Joy to the World****PRAISING GOD IN SONG** *Good Christian Men, Rejoice
Hark, The Herald Angels Sing
Manger Medley***PRAYER****OFFERING** *Infant Holy***SCRIPTURE** Psalm 119:105-112**MESSAGE** *Lighting the Way for 2016* Pastor Steve Mock***CLOSING SONG** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

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 Diane Tabert and family on the loss of her husband, Fred, on December 4th, 2015

Those with Special Needs

Jerry & Nancy Julius	Rev. Larry Yerger
Helmut Ehrhardt	Helen Anderson
Kay Callahan	Arlene Gebel
Ella Sifferd	Carol Foster
Dianne Sizemore	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>
Lorraine Sisson, <i>Saginaw, MI</i>	Marion Brown, <i>Royal Palm</i>
Doris Henning, <i>Sandhill Gardens</i>	John Milligan, <i>Sandhill Gardens</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 Rachel Pfaender in loving memory of her husband, Fred.**THE JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER** is now available in the church foyer and on our website.**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES****GUEST ORGANIST TODAY** – We welcome Jan Durrant as our guest organist/pianist today.**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.**BIBLE STUDY AT FPCPG** – Pastor Larry is leading a study on the "minor" books in the Bible **Wednesday mornings at 10am**. The study is open to everyone.**R.O.M.E.O.S. (Retired Old Men Eating Out Someplace) & J.U.L.I.E.T.S. (Joyful Understanding Ladies Inconspicuously Eating Together Someplace)** - will meet at Sky View Café at the Punta Gorda Airport at 8:00am **THIS Thursday, December 31st**. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship.**THE SECOND CUP (of coffee)** – You're invited to be part of a Bible study discussion group **THIS Thursday, December 31st at 9:30am** in Fellowship Hall. Dave Sifferd leads this study of the Book of Acts, using the NIV Bible as the textbook. Bring a friend and join us on Thursday morning for a Second Cup.**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED** – **THIS Friday, January 1st.****TAKE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS DOWN** – **THIS Saturday, January 2nd**, your help is needed to take down all the decorations that have made our church so beautiful this holiday season. Sign up in the church foyer.**PLEDGE CARD** – If you haven't returned your pledge card for 2016, please do so as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you.**YEAR-END GIVING** – To make sure your giving for 2015 gets credited for 2015, please have your offering/gift to the church by **December 31, 2015**. Any donations received after that date will be applied to one's 2016 giving.**2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE** – The 2016 offering envelope boxes are now available for you to pick up on the table in the foyer. If you don't see your name; or if you haven't used envelopes in the past, but would like to, let the office know and we'll assign a box of envelopes for you to use.**CPR CLASS** – Beginning in January 2016, we will hold Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation classes. If you would like to learn more about CPR, please sign up in the church foyer. Debbie Carney, our former Parish Nurse, will coordinate scheduling the class dates and times.**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 call the church office to volunteer.**HELPING MISIÓN PENIEL** – Our next mission trip to Immokalee will be **Friday, January 22nd**. 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.**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.

MUSIC MINISTRY – Special Music is available in an mp3 format by emailing Randy at rpc1220@me.com. We also have a private Facebook page where music and occasional videos are uploaded for your enjoyment. To gain access to this page, please email Randy. Live streaming of services is available on our website homepage (www.fpcpunta.org) by clicking on the link: WATCH LIVE AND RECENT SERVICES HERE.

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

December 27th thru January 3rd

Sunday, December 27

6:00pm

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, December 30

10:00am

Bible Study

Thursday, December 31

8:00am

R.O.M.E.O.S. & J.U.L.I.E.T.S.

9:30am

Second Cup

Friday, January 1

NEW YEAR’S DAY

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, January 2

10:00am

Take Down Christmas Decorations

Sunday, January 3

9:00am

New Beginnings Worship

10:30am

Traditional Worship & *Cantata*

6:00pm

Prayer Meeting

SERMON NOTES

Psalm 119:105-112 (NIV)

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. ¹⁰⁶I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws. ¹⁰⁷I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word. ¹⁰⁸Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws. ¹⁰⁹Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law. ¹¹⁰The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts. ¹¹¹Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. ¹¹²My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

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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

December 27, 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
Ernie Lehman
Sharon Russell, Kay Callahan,
Mary Anne Washabaugh, Jean LaMantia