

The Messenger



A PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
PUNTA GORDA FLORIDA

OCTOBER 2010



OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE

LOVING.... GROWING.... GOING.... in JESUS!

*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.*

MOCK'S MUSINGS

Rev. Stephen A. Mock, Pastor



Scripture always has words of encouragement to us and I'd like to share with you Psalm 16 that I read this morning. This Psalm of David has great words for us during these difficult days. May you, too, find encouragement from these words.

Psalm 16

- 1 Keep me safe, my God,
for in you I take refuge.
- 2 I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing."
- 3 I say of the godly who are in the land,
"They are the noble people
in whom is all my delight."
- 4 Those who run after other gods
will suffer more and more.
I will not pour out their libations of blood
or take up their names on my lips.
- 5 LORD, you have assigned me my portion and my cup;
you have made my lot secure.
- 6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.
- 7 I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
- 8 I keep my eyes always on the LORD.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,
- 10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
- 11 You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Aren't we so blessed to have such a great and loving God?

In Christ,

Steve

IN THIS ISSUE

Wonderful Wednesday	2
Session Notes	2
Bereavement Team	3
Presbyterian Women's Bible Study	3
Music Notes	4
Parish Nurse	5
Stewardship Update	6
Getting to Know Your Church Family	7
Mission Ministry	10
Church Prayer Calendar, Birthdays & Anniversaries	12
This 'n That	13
Bible Quiz	14
Church Officers & Staff	15
Monthly Calendar (see insert)	

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY STUDY 7PM WEEKLY

The fall session of WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY, which began September 29th, continues weekly at 7pm through November 17th.

Pastor Steve leads a video study entitled "Introduction To The Old Testament." A sign-up sheet is in the church entrance.

SESSION NOTES



Highlights from the September 20th Session

1. Approved motion to accept John Truby's resignation from session due to illness.
2. Approved motion to lower the asking price of the Harvey Street property to \$75,000 each lot.
3. Session had a discussion on ways to pay off the mortgage as it is a large part of our yearly expenses.
4. Sharon Cuzner, Ministry Team elder, is planning a gathering of elders, deacons, & volunteers on November 6, 2010, from 10am to 12pm. This gathering is to recognize them for their contributions to the church.
5. The Helping Hands Ministry is up and running. If you need help with small repairs around the house please contact Paul Gebel.
6. Presbyteries Triennial Gathering is September 30th. Pastor Steve, Marguerite O'Brien, Phyllis Botticelli, Arlene Gebel, and Sharon Cuzner will be attending.
7. Approved Dianne Sizemore and Gail Thornton as delegates and Marguerite O'Brien as alternate delegate to the November 18th, Presbytery Meeting in Cape Coral.
8. Approved motion to invite Carmen Fowler, Editor of *The Layman*, to speak on Sunday, October 24th. Light luncheon to be served after second service.

Gail Thornton, Clerk of Session

NEW MEMBERS C.L.A.S.S. 101

The Christian Life and Service Seminar (C.L.A.S.S. 101) is being offered on October 10th from 2—6 pm for anyone interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian. Pastor Mock teaches this seminar that introduces people to First Presbyterian, the Presbyterian Church U. S. A., and what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

If you have not decided to become a member, you are still invited to take the class. A sign-up sheet can be found on the table in the church entrance.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BEREAVEMENT TEAM

Did you know that you have rights during your last days on this earth? The Dying Person's Bill of Rights was adopted some years ago to protect those who face sometimes difficult days preceding their deaths. To truly know and understand your rights is as important as the relationship of knowledge and wisdom.

Revelations 3:8 (NIV): See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut.

The Dying Person's Bill Of Rights

- I have the right to be treated as a living human being until I die.
- I have the right to maintain a sense of hopefulness, however changing its focus.
- I have a right to be cared for by those who can maintain a sense of optimism with change.
- I have a right to express my feelings and emotions about my approaching death in my own way.
- I have a right to participate in decisions concerning my care.
- I have a right to expect continuing medical and nursing care when "cure" goals change to comfort goals.
- I have a right not to die alone.

- I have a right to be free of pain.
- I have a right to have my questions answered honestly.
- I have a right to not be deceived.
- I have a right to have help from and for my family in accepting my death.
- I have a right to die in peace and dignity.
- I have a right to retain my individuality and beliefs, even though they may be different from others.
- I have a right to discuss and enlarge my religious and spiritual experiences, though they may be different from others.
- I have a right to expect that the sanctity of the human body will be respected after death.
- I have the right to be cared for by loving, caring, knowledgeable people who will respect my wishes until my death.

Bereavement Meet and Chat will be held on Friday, October 1st at 10am in the Conference Room of the church.

God bless you and keep you in His care.

Joy Kiser

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



The Presbyterian Women's Bible study called "Remember Miriam" will continue Tuesday, October 5th and October 9th at 10am in the home of Sharon Cuzner. All women of the church are welcome.

Miriam is the sister of Moses and Aaron. This study focuses on what kind of an older woman God

wants us to be. Miriam provides an example to follow and a warning to heed.

The study is a combination of video, Bible study and discussion. A time of fellowship follows the study. Sharon's address is 2615 Rio Grande Drive, Punta Gorda Isles.

The Role of Faith

"Fear imprisons, faith liberates; fear paralyzes, faith empowers; fear disheartens, faith encourages; fear sickens, faith heals; fear makes useless, faith makes serviceable — and, most of all, fear puts hopelessness at the heart of life, while faith rejoices in its God."

—Harry Emerson Fosdick

MUSIC NOTES



Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:19 NIV

When you really love someone, you want nothing more than to spend time together. This is also true of our relationship with God. If you really love Him, you'll want to spend time with God in personal and corporate worship. Time spent with God in worship is both a responsibility and a great privilege. Sharing the gift of time and energy in corporate worship will bless you and please the One who loves us more than we can even begin to understand.

A major part of our weekly worship involves music. To me, I cannot imagine worshipping my God without music. Whether from a praise song or hymn, a piano solo or organ prelude, music is my main form of worship to Him. If you love to worship Him through music, please consider becoming a part of our Sanctuary

Choir. We have a lot of fun and fellowship on Thursday night as we prepare our music for Sunday morning. But our real joy comes in singing for Him and for His glory. We have plenty of music, chairs, and choir robes for several new people. Come and worship with us. I know there are several out in the congregation who have thought about joining us. Now is the perfect time to start.

May our music always bring glory to God and faithfully communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rudy". The signature is written in a cursive style.



Presbyterian Women Fall Luncheon Meeting



Saturday, October 9, 2010  11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Bring your own sandwich and a salad or dessert for the communal table.

Drinks will be furnished.

Bring your thoughts and ideas on what you would like to see Presbyterian Women accomplish in the coming year.

If you are a woman who attends First Pres then you are a Presbyterian Woman. Come to the meeting, bring your fresh ideas and friends and see if you are a carrot, egg or coffee bean.



THE PARISH NURSE HEALTH CORNER

**Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains!
For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his
afflicted ones.**

Isaiah 49:13

I am reading Isaiah and there are so many wonderful words from the Lord! Before we left New York, we were able to see the beginning of fall with the leaves turning colors. It was beautiful and reminded me that God knows every leaf and knows and loves every one of us intimately. What an awesome God we serve!

Here are a few updates:

1- Companion Ministry: Imagine being a dedicated servant of the church for many years. Fast-forward to the time when you are too sick to attend church services. Would you be forgotten? It is said that loneliness is the greatest disease of the 21st century. We are looking for folks to bridge that gap and help us have a connection with our "elders at home." Please call the church to get involved in this much-needed ministry, which takes very little time and reaps so many rewards!

2- Our Flu Clinic is Tuesday, October 5th from 10am-12noon in the Fellowship Hall of the church. This will be administered by the VNA (Visiting Nurses Association).

3- All summer I have received frequent emails on the subject of osteoporosis and ordered the book called "Save Our Bones Program." This book is authored by Vivian Goldschmidt, MA and is available in the church office. Also, you can go to the web site www.saveourbones.com and read many tips and articles, including spine and bone strengthening exercises.

4- THE HIDING PLACE by Ballet Magnificat Omega is coming to Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center (CHECC) on November 14, 2010. It is based on the true story of Corrie ten Boom. This ballet portrays divinely inspired forgiveness in the midst of desperate and unimaginable circumstances. Go to www.taliah.org and click on EVENTS to preview this performance. Our church members will get a 10% discount on this production if tickets are bought in the lobby of the CHECC or telephone (941) 639-5833 and mention the discount.

Because He lives!
Debbie Carney, RN, Parish Nurse
carneydeb@hotmail.com or 637-9389



Congratulations to:

- Dorothy Blue on the birth of her great-grandson, Andrew Charles Fitzgerald, Jr. , on September 1st. Andrew is the son of Andrew & Crista Fitzgerald.

AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS COMPLETED

Re: Review of church financial records for years 2007, 2008 and 2009
Audit done by: Sharon Cuzner and Marguerite O'Brien

The intent of our review was to verify deposits, invoices, business practices and bank statements. To do so we looked at bank deposit slips, matched them to church records, matched to the balance sheet and the profit and loss statements as prepared by the church's accounting system. We then looked at invoices, payment records, and cancelled checks to verify correct and timely payment of expenses.

We found that church office manager, Elizabeth Dunn, has kept accurate, neat, and well organized files. Her attention to detail and organization were appreciated by the review committee and she should be commended for a job well done.

We found no irregularities in the records that were not corrected and properly marked in any of our review. Entries on P & L's were matched to deposits and the balance sheets. All met standard audit tests.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

YEAR ENDING 08/31/10

Income	\$151,001
Expenses	\$170,364
Difference	\$(19,363)

We Pray—

Lord, everything we have is a gift from You. We bring You our gifts in response to Your love and generosity as we try to live each day in gratitude for Your blessings.

Be a Good Steward

Various committees are writing the church budget for the coming year. They're placing their trust in God and believing in our members and friends to support the church's ministry. Let us all show our faithfulness with good stewardship through our time, talents and treasures.



GETTING TO KNOW THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FAMILY

By Craig Anderson



David & Beverly Doupe

Dave and Beverly Anne moved to Punta Gorda in 2001 and live on Stillwater Circle in Seminole Lakes. They also have a home in North East, Pennsylvania (a suburb of Erie) and spend a portion of each year there. They began attending our church after Hurricane Charley when the congregation was meeting at Burnt Store Presbyterian Church. They have been a wonderful addition to our fellowship. They have been involved not only in worship but in our small groups, the Mission Team and the Gourmet Group.

David Doupe

Born/grew up: Seaview, Washington (s.w. corner of the state). We moved to Seattle when I started high school.

Fond childhood memory: Stormy days walking the ocean beach. I was never afraid of the heavy rains, but enjoyed the solitude and the crashing waves.

Education: Undergrad work at Johns Hopkins University (1961-65), then to the U. of Washington in Seattle to attend medical school with internship afterward at the county hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana. In 1966 we left for Japan and the Air Force for 3 years. It was then on to Pittsburgh to train as an obstetrician and gynecologist for 3 years at the University of Pittsburgh.

Spouse/family: Beverly Anne and I met at a YM/YWCA retreat in western Maryland. (Interesting sidebar: Other than our meeting, it was unique and memorable for it was at this event that I first encountered segregation and racial bigotry. Our group of college students was refused service at a diner because a black girl was part of our group. Later I became involved in the first sit-in in Baltimore. It was a bit risky at the time and when the restaurant burned a few days later, there was talk—unfounded—that we were responsible!). We were married in Fairmont, West Virginia on August 15, 1962 and honeymooned driving west on Route 66 to Seattle

where I was a med student. We have three children: Bill, Michael and Julianne.

Vocation: Retired physician (OB/GYN) in Erie, Pennsylvania where I was in private practice until 1986 when I joined the hospital as vice president for medical affairs.

Spiritual journey/church service: Brought up in a spiritual household where regular church involvement was expected and normal. Joined the Ilwaco Presbyterian Church when I was 10. Throughout high school I was active in Westminster Fellowship. In Baltimore I attended the Second Presbyterian Church near the JHU campus. While I do not recall a “conversion” experience, I cannot recall a time that Christ was not a part of my daily personal life. In Erie, we were actively involved in the First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant where I was ordained an elder and served as the assistant clerk of session. In 1996 as I was retiring and spending more time in Chautauqua, New York, we joined the Hurlbut Memorial Community United Methodist Church where we continue to have our membership. Here I served as chairman of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. (Ed. Note: Dave has also done short-term medical mission work in Africa).

Favorite hymn: *How Great Thou Art* (although *Come Labor On* would be more appropriate for an obstetrician!).

Favorite vacation: Three weeks with our family at the American Summer Institute in St. Andrews, Scotland.

Books I'd recommend: William Barclay, Philip Yancy and Timothy Luke Johnson are my favorite Biblical teachers. *Half the Sky* and *Three Cups of Tea* are excellent references as to our need to care for the young girls of the world. *Cold Mountain* remains one of my favorite novels. And I find interesting anything to do with international infectious disease history and control.

Continued on page 8: Getting to Know

◆ GETTING TO KNOW

From page 7

Hobbies/interests: Golf, kayaking, reading. In Pennsylvania we have an acre of grapes to tend to and I really enjoy “putzing” around the kitchen.

Beverly Anne Doupé

Born/grew up: Fairmont, West Virginia.

Fond childhood memory: Playing under the streetlights and chasing fireflies.

Education: Bachelor of Fine Arts (in graphic arts) from Beaver College (now Arcadia University) just north of Philadelphia.

Spouse/family: Husband – David; two sons – Bill, Michael (and Amy); and one daughter – Julianne (and Jay) Nickerson. We have 5 grandchildren.

How did you and your spouse meet? “Across a crowded room” at a YM/YW Conference in New Windsor, Maryland. David was a sophomore at Johns Hopkins U, Baltimore, and I was 3 weeks into my freshman year! We saw each other periodically until David graduated and went back to Seattle for medical school. We were married on August 15, 1962 in a family wedding in my parents’ home in Fairmont, West Virginia.

What brought you to Punta Gorda? Other family members were living in Punta Gorda.

Spiritual journey: I grew up in an active church family and in high school served on the Mission Committee,

something I’m still doing here at First Presbyterian, Punta Gorda.

Great church memory: Climbing out the girl’s bathroom window to spend “Sunday School” at the drugstore!

What brought you to our church? Shortly after coming to Punta Gorda, I met Neta Gensemer who told me that this church had the best choir (and it still does!).

Service in the church: C.E. weekday program director, elder, deacon, co-founder of Erie Co. (Pennsylvania) Koinonia—a weekend spiritual renewal retreat, youth advisor, and 6 years on the Board of Trustees for the Presbyterian Assoc. of Chautauqua (at the Chautauqua Institute).

Favorite vacation: Three weeks with our children at the American Summer Institute in St. Andrews, Scotland.

Favorite hymn and scripture verse: *All Things Bright and Beautiful* and *Amazing Grace*.

Book I’d recommend: *Three Cups of Tea* and *Stones into Schools* – both by Greg Mortenson.

Hobbies, interests: Making jewelry and other art related projects, reading, and this fall I will become a puppy trainer for Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc., and am looking forward to the challenge.

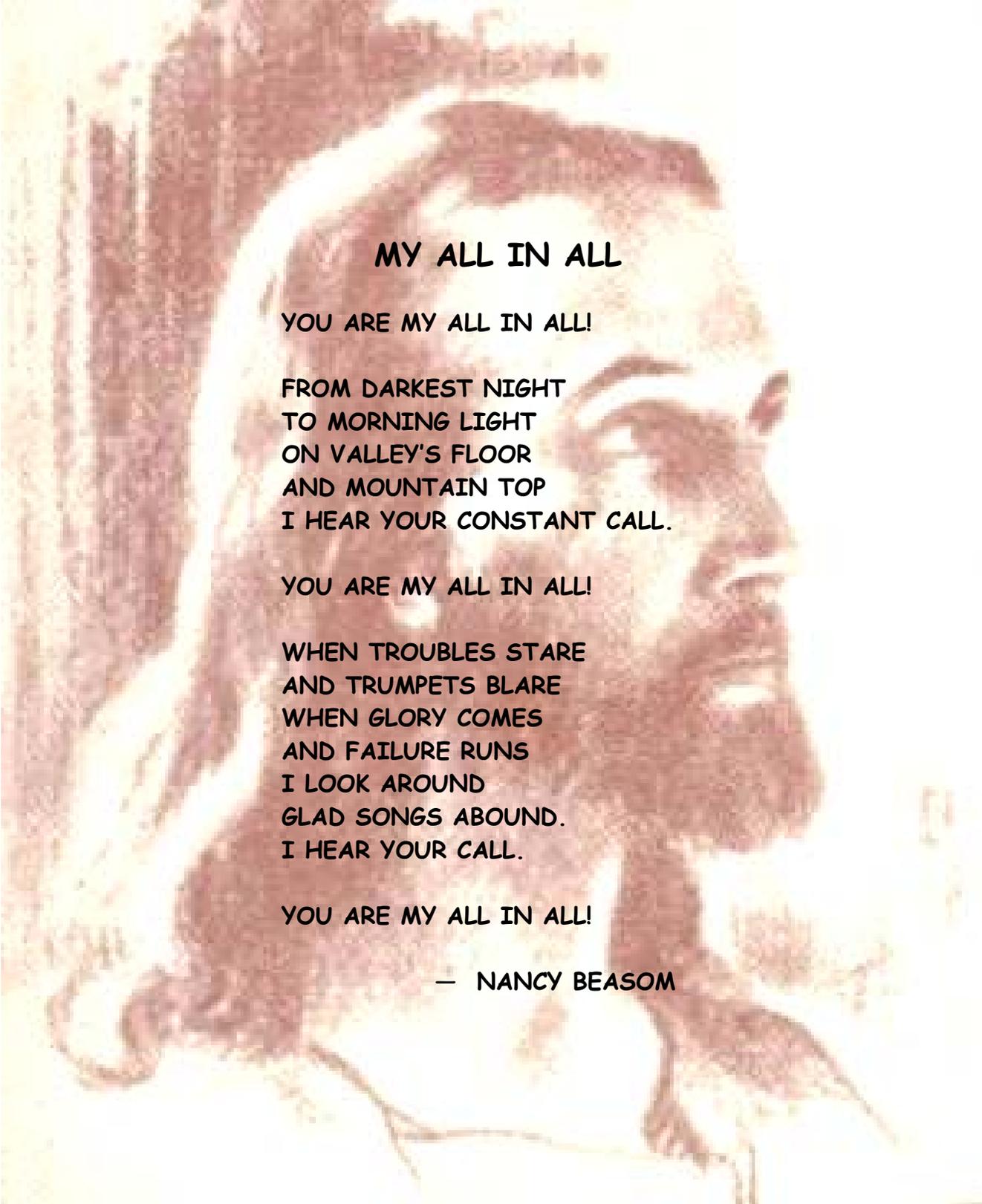
Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody

This is a little story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done, and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody’s job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn’t do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.



MY ALL IN ALL

YOU ARE MY ALL IN ALL!

**FROM DARKEST NIGHT
TO MORNING LIGHT
ON VALLEY'S FLOOR
AND MOUNTAIN TOP
I HEAR YOUR CONSTANT CALL.**

YOU ARE MY ALL IN ALL!

**WHEN TROUBLES STARE
AND TRUMPETS BLARE
WHEN GLORY COMES
AND FAILURE RUNS
I LOOK AROUND
GLAD SONGS ABOUND.
I HEAR YOUR CALL.**

YOU ARE MY ALL IN ALL!

— NANCY BEASOM

MISSION MINISTRY NEWS



**Operation
Christmas Child**
A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Samaritan's Purse The Power of a Simple Gift.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Please pray for the people who get involved in Operation Christmas Child by packing shoe boxes and sending volunteers to serve in the processing centers. !
- Please Pray for the children who will be receiving the gift-filled shoeboxes that they and their families will come to know Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift. !
- Please pray for the National Leadership teams in 100 countries around the world, as they work with local churches to coordinate the distribution and plan evangelistic activities. !

AND THEN YOU CAN:

1. Use an empty shoe box (wrap it or leave it unwrapped) or use a clear plastic shoe box.
2. Determine whether your gift will be for a boy or girl and the appropriate age category. Place proper tag on top of box and secure.
3. Fill with a variety of gifts. Some suggestions: school supplies, cars, dolls, small toys, stuffed animals, Etch-a-Sketches, kazoos, yo-yos, jump ropes and balls; hygiene items such as toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, a comb, and washcloths; hard candies (placed in double bags), gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, and flashlights with extra batteries.
4. A personal note is nice (if you include your name and address the child may write you back). I have received two such letters and one of the children has been writing me regularly for the last three years.
5. Place your \$7.00 (for postage) in the envelope and place it in your shoebox.
6. Place a sturdy rubber band around your box.

DO NOT SEND:

- Damaged items. !
- WAR RELATED ITEMS such as toy guns, knives, military figures. !
- NO CHOCOLATE OR FOOD OR OUT OF DATE CANDY. !
- NO LIQUIDS, lotions, medications, vitamins. !
NO AREOSOL CANS, sno-globes or glass containers. !

**BRING YOUR SHOEBOX TO THE CHURCH BY
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14th.**

Guatemala Floods

(A letter from Rev. Miguel Estrada (Misión Peniel) on September 5th)

Sisters and brothers,

The wettest rainy season on record here in Guatemala continues to claim lives and cause damage. President Alvaro Colom declared a state of emergency this afternoon. A total of 21 deaths have been reported in the last 24 hours. This morning a bus was buried in a landslide on the Interamerican Highway and 12 people lost their lives. Landslides have continued throughout the day, burying vehicles and homes. Officials closed sections of the Interamerican Highway to traffic this afternoon. Along the Pacific coast, a temporary bridge put up after Tropical Storm Agatha collapsed, interrupting the other major highway in the country.

Here in Quetzaltenango we have had a break from the rain the last few hours.

The worst of the rainy season is yet to come. Please keep the people of Guatemala and the entire region in your prayers.

(Anyone wanting to help can give us a designated check and we will see that the proper people receive it. I know Miguel is worried about his friends so mostly we need to pray for them).



Continued on page 11: MISSION

St. Vincent De Paul Thanksgiving Gifting

For \$3,000 in donations, St. Vincent De Paul was able to distribute 18,000 pounds of food in August to 1,730 needy people in Charlotte County with the help of the Harry Chapin Food Bank and government sources. They also help other food pantries when their supplies become low. People helping people so no child goes hungry.

At their facility on the corner of Taylor and Airport Rd., they have small household items, clothing, and food. They also help pay rent, utilities, etc. They invite you to come see their facility. They also have furniture outlets as well as a health clinic.

This is a wonderful outreach and we at First Presbyterian Church donate monies from our Deacons' Fund every 3 months for meat, and on Sundays the congregation is helping to fill a huge bin with food.

Their clients have changed from the homeless to people like you and me who maybe have lost their savings or their investments, or who have lost jobs because of the economy.

They are also connected with other agencies in the system so we can be assured there is no "double dipping" by their clients. That is why we at First Presbyterian Church have decided to give our Thanksgiving gifting offering to St. Vincent DePaul. Each dollar we give will have more purchasing power and reach more of the needy in our community. **We will be taking our goodwill Thanksgiving offering on Sunday, November 7th and Sunday, November 14th.**

Thank you for your generosity.

Come Join the Literacy Buddy Program

The Early Learning Coalition of SWFL wants to thank Linda Greenfield and her friends, Gail Thornton and Dianne Sizemore for their efforts as a Literacy Buddy Volunteer.

Many young children suffer from limited vocabularies and knowledge of how books work. This program is a way to strengthen literacy skills and build interest in literature. The children have been thrilled with the fascinating letters and books they have received.

A touching experience this year concerned a child who seldom spoke or participated in story time. This child requested a book about Spiderman. The Buddy sent a beautiful hardbound book with colorful detailed pictures and this young man described the characters and scenes in detail to his classmates requesting that his mother read it to him every night.

Would you like to be a literacy buddy? Contact Early Learning Coalition at www.elcofswfl.org or email Jill at Jill.corbett@elcofswfl.org or call 239-210-6867. You can also give your information to Dianne Sizemore or Gail Thornton and they will forward it on.

It is a very rewarding program. JOIN US.



CENTS-A-BILITY ("Three cents a meal"/ hunger offering)

The idea of this program is: placing 3 cents for each meal per person that you eat in a month into the designated offering cans at the church. These monies are then distributed 100% to hunger programs local and worldwide.

Each little bit adds up. Remember 10 pennies make a dime and 10 dimes make a dollar. Let us give generously to this program. You have an opportunity each Sunday during coffee hour, at pot lucks or fellowship meals, or simply drop your donation in the offering plate, designated for Cents-A-Bility, or it can be given to Dianne Sizemore or Gail Thornton.

Mission Team Trip to Misión Peniel

If you want an experience you will never forget, one that is tiring but very humbling with a lot of laughter and a great meal afterwards at Cracker Barrel, join us on **Friday, October 22nd** as we spread God's love to the patient and gentle people at Misión Peniel. We carpool from church at 12:30pm.

Thank you for all your support.

Dianne Sizemore, Mission Chair, and your Mission Team

OCTOBER 2010 CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

Please remember in your prayers the elderly, the infirm, the hospitalized, those in nursing homes, the homebound and lonely, and all those who have requested our prayerful support. Pray for the men and women who serve our country:

- *Sgt. Ian Hendricks, grandson of Dianne Sizemore. Ian is a Marine and was deployed to Afghanistan. If you'd like to send Ian a card, his address is: 219 H&S Unit 74140, FPO AE 09510-4140.*
- *Lt. Col. Mark McCullohs, USAF, cousin of Kay Callahan. Deployed to Afghanistan in August.*

Each month we remember church members and friends on a rotating basis

OCTOBER

- 1 Barbara Klepinger
- 2 Art & Fran Koon
- 3 Verner & Cheryl Laird
- 4 Richard & Doris Lindsey
- 5 Cy & Marcia Ling
- 6 William Luchynsky
- 7 Myles MacDonald
- 8 Steve MacDonald
- 9 Gene & Janet McLemore
- 10 Martha McMahan
- 11 Steve, Joan, & Jason Mock

OCTOBER

- 12 Kay Nay
- 13 Edwina Norton
- 14 Robert & Eleanor Norton
- 15 Marguerite O'Brien
- 16 Richard Owens
- 17 Leetta Parrott
- 18 Bob & Bonnie Patterson
- 19 Edwin & Myrna Patterson
- 20 Frank & Kay Perkins
- 21 Bruce & Myrna Peters
- 22 Dick & Donna Peterson

OCTOBER

- 23 Fred & Rachel Pfaender
- 24 Diane Pfister
- 25 Paul & Louise Quillman
- 26 Pete & Sharon Rehm
- 27 Marilyn Ress
- 28 Thomas & Shirley Richey
- 29 Gayle Rosa
- 30 Jack & Patricia Rothley
- 31 Barbara Ryan

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES IN OCTOBER



Barbara Ryan	1	Daniel Curtis	21
Sharon Cuzner	4	Kay Callahan	21
Helen Travis	4	Jean Cleffi	23
Jason Mock	5	Helen Fowkes	25
Joyce Kiskaddon	9	Mary Stones	25
Elaine Schultz	13	Ron Gensemer	27
Craig Anderson	15	Donald Deblauw	29
Helmut Ehrhardt	19		



Larrie & Marjorie Tisdale	3
Leonard & Betty Stroth	4
Richard & Anna Hill	16
Walt & Joy Kiser	17
Fred & Diane Tabert	29



THIS 'N THAT

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

We welcome material for our church newsletter. All contributions are subject to editing with regard to the subject matter and space requirements. Articles for the November issue of *The Messenger* are due in the church office by **Monday, October 18th**.

WEEKLY PRAYER SERVICE

You are invited to join your church family in the Conference Room Sundays at 6pm. Come and share in this experience of God's people praying together.

SPONSOR SUNDAY FLOWERS

The cost to sponsor flowers is \$30. To sponsor the flowers, please sign up on the sheet in the church entrance or call the church office. If you sponsored flowers for a Sunday and would like to take them after the service, please let the church office know before the date sponsored, or stop in the kitchen after the last service and see the deacon in charge that day.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Our church music is available to you on the internet at <http://public.me.com/rpc1220>. Click on one of the folders to view Organ Music, Choir Music, or Praise Team Music and a list of the music will appear by song title. Then click on the arrow at the right of the song to download and listen. Feel free to share with friends, family or potential members. Questions or comments may be directed to Randy Curtis at rpc1220@me.com.

MINISTRY NEED — PR COORDINATOR

First Presbyterian Church is in need of a PR Coordinator. This person will be responsible for the advertising of church events by way of the various community media available to us. Please pray about this and see if this might be the way our Lord would have you serve. If so, please contact the church office, 639-1959.

R.O.M.E.O.S. BREAKFAST MEETING

R.O.M.E.O.S. (Retired Old Men Eating Out Someplace) will be meeting for breakfast at 8am at Sky View Café, Punta Gorda Airport on **October 7th and 21st**. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship.

EMAIL UPDATE

Please advise the church office when you change your email address. Thank you.

COMPUTER AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE



We've set up a computer in the Conference Room for those of you who need the use of one. It has high-speed internet access and is available during office hours. We suggest you call to reserve the time before coming to use it.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FUNDRAISERS

Presbyterian Women (PW) are selling note cards as a fundraiser. There are 5 cards in a set for a cost of \$2.50. A sample & an order form are on the PW table in the Narthex.

Here is your opportunity to pass on your "Priceless Treasures." A table is set up in Fellowship Hall for you to put them on. Please – no clothing. You are encouraged to bring household goods and appliances in good working order, toys, general-interest books, CDs, DVDs, and decorative items. If you find a "treasure" that you would like to take home, just put your donation in the container provided. This is an on-going Presbyterian Women fundraiser for their use in outreach projects.

LOAVES & FISHES MINISTRY



Session has approved the re-establishment of the Loaves & Fishes Ministry here at the church. Kay Callahan has agreed to be the coordinator of this ministry and will become the Deacon of Loaves and Fishes.

This is a great opportunity for those of us who like to cook to share a meal with a church family in need after surgery or illness. Having a familiar, friendly face at your door with cooked food when you return home from the hospital is a very loving experience for both the cook and the recipient. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, please put your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet on the table in the church entrance.



BIBLE QUIZ



A ccording to the New Testament, John the Baptist introduced two of his followers to Jesus. The men were brothers named Andrew and Simon.

Almost immediately, Jesus accepted the two men as friends and followers. He gave one of them a new name. Jesus said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated _____).

Choose the correct name from the list below.



- A. Nicodemus
- B. Matthew
- C. Philip
- D. Peter

Answer: D (See John 1:42.)



Three Kinds of Faith

There are three kinds of faith in Christ:

1. Struggling faith, like a man in deep water desperately swimming.
2. Clinging faith, like a man hanging to the side of a boat.
3. Resting faith, like a man safely within the boat (and able to reach out with a hand to help someone else get in).

-D.L. Moody



"I'd like to overwhelm them with an appeal to Christian charity, but I'm not above winning through intimidation."

A Fishy Excuse

Two men were in a boat fishing on a Sunday morning. "I suppose we should have gone to church this morning," said one man. "Don't you feel a wee bit guilty about it?"

"Nope," said the other, "besides, I couldn't have gone anyway. My wife's sick in bed today."

MEET OUR OFFICERS

ELDERS

Sharon Cuzner — Ministry	637-1792
Arlene Gebel — Worship	637-8655
Dave Woods — Ministry	456-4876
Marguerite O'Brien — Administration	639-7226
Dianne Sizemore — Mission	743-5637
Phyllis Botticelli — Fellowship	637-0445
Don Washabaugh — Worship	255-8616
Gail Thornton — Clerk of Session	639-5510

DEACONS

Debbie Carney — Parish Nursing	637-9389
Paul Gebel — Helping Hands	637-8655
Nancy Julius — Communication	575-7491
Joy Kiser — Bereavement	575-9745
Elaine Schultz — Flowers	505-8339
Margie Smith — Prayer Shawls	833-0185
Mary Anne Washabaugh — Communion	255-8616

MEET THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN STAFF



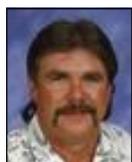
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MEMBER, CONFESSING CHURCH



A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH



A PURPOSE-DRIVEN CHURCH