

The Messenger



A PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
PUNTA GORDA FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 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



Pastor Steve

"I'd like to invite you on a six week adventure"

I'd like to invite you on a six week adventure called 3:16 The Numbers of Hope. This study is based on what many consider to be the most famous verse of the Bible: The Gospel of John, chapter 3, verse 16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." I memorized that verse as a child along with the 23rd Psalm and I've treasured it since - one simple verse, yet so profound and so wonderful.

Starting the week of February 14th, we will begin our journey exploring those great words of hope and truth. They will be the focus of our worship services during Lent as I present a series of messages on that verse. You have a chance to dig even deeper by participating in the weekly small group studies and the daily workbooks.

No verse has impacted as many lives as John 3:16. I strongly urge you to join us during those six weeks. I guarantee you will be blessed. My hope and prayer is that we will have over 100 people involved in this study. Prayerfully consider joining us in this adventure. And if you are here for only part of the time, don't let that stop you from benefiting from this opportunity to grow in our faith.

In Christ,

Steve

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WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY CONTINUES THROUGH FEBRUARY 10TH

The winter session of Wonderful Wednesday is half over. However, you may still attend any of the three classes. Pastor Steve is leading C.L.A.S.S. 212 - "How To Become a Contagious Christian" by Bill Hybels. C.L.A.S.S. 217 - "The Prayers of Jesus," edited by Matt Williams is led by Connie Johansen, and Cy Ling is offering C.L.A.S.S. 218 - "Investigating the Toughest Questions of Christianity" by Lee Strobel. Come at 6pm and enjoy a delicious dinner prepared by the Fellowship Team for a donation of \$6 and attend the class of your choice at 7pm.

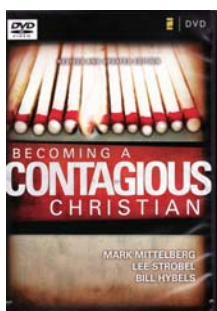
During Lent we invite you to join us in the study of "3:16 The Numbers of Hope." Connie Johansen is coordinating this weekly, small group study.

The Discipleship Team hopes that our programs are enriching your knowledge of Jesus Christ and God's purpose for us as we go on our journey through life.

God bless you all,
Joyce Schork and the Discipleship Team

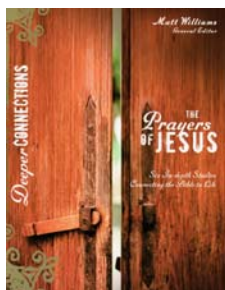
WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY CLASSES

BECOMING A CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN



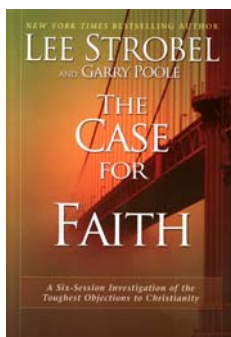
The *Becoming a Contagious Christian* course is designed to help everyday Christians to confidently and effectively spread their faith to people they know. The emphasis is on natural approaches that work over time to bring family members, friends, coworkers and neighbors to the point of trusting in Christ. Through a variety of formats including video vignettes, group discussions, role playing and teaching segments, you will learn how to communicate the message of Christ in your own personal, God-given style. Pastor Steve Mock will be leading this class. A participant guide is required and available to all who attend.

THE PRAYERS OF JESUS



Prayer was the backbone of Jesus' life and ministry. From his baptism to his crucifixion, the Gospels portray Jesus as a man of prayer who knew and deeply valued intimate communion with his heavenly Father. What can we learn from the prayers he prayed? This Deeper Connections DVD study helps explore the prayers of Jesus to gain new insights into prayer, the character of God and how to deepen our relationship with him. Elder Connie Johansen will be leading this class. A participant guide is required and available to all who attend.

THE CASE FOR FAITH: A Six-Session Investigation of the Toughest Objections to Christianity



In this six-session video curriculum, Lee Strobel, former atheist and award-winning author of books for skeptics and Christians, uses his journalistic approach to explore the most common emotional obstacles to faith in Christ. These include the natural inclination to wrestle with faith and doubt, the troubling presence of evil and suffering in the world, and the exclusivity of the Christian gospel. Through videos of compelling stories and experts addressing these topics, combined with reflection and interaction, participants will learn how to overcome these obstacles, deepen their spiritual convictions, and find new confidence that Christianity is a reasonable faith. Elder Cy Ling will be leading this class. A participant guide is required and available to all who attend.

NEXT SUPER SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 20TH AT 10AM

The first Super Saturday of 2010 was held on January 16th. Cy Ling showed a video which told how the A.C.L.U. is trying to overturn our Christian morals and values. The next Super Saturday will be on February 20th at 10am.

Our video and discussion will center on the problems in the Middle East and how they affect Christians everywhere. The basis for our discussion will be a DVD entitled "Epicenter" by Joel Rosenberg presenting the complexities of Middle East politics, religion and social issues. A sign-up sheet is in the church entrance.

SESSION NOTES



Highlights from the January 18th Session

- ◆ Membership report – After a review and audit the membership number is as follows: 114 Active; 21 Affiliate; 5 Inactive.
- ◆ Elder and deacon retreat to be held Saturday, January 23rd from 9am to noon.
- ◆ Approved following people as new members: Bob & Dotty Blakey, Al Churchill, Stan Hoinacki, Shirley Berg. Stan & Barbara Smith moved from affiliate to active members, Pat Ihrie as affiliate member.
- ◆ Approved Sharon Cuzner as Clerk Pro Tem for the annual meeting in Gail's absence.

Gail Thornton, Clerk of Session

24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL — FEBRUARY 5 THRU FEBRUARY 6

Starting at noon on Friday, February 5th, and ending at noon Saturday, February 6th, we are inviting members and friends of FPC, Punta Gorda to a 24-hour prayer vigil at our church for our church, community, country and world. Sharon Cuzner was led by the Holy Spirit to suggest this vigil and the leadership of the church has embraced it.

There will be prayer guides to use during the time and each time slot will be for 30 minutes. You can sign up on the sheet provided on the Sign-Up Table in the foyer, or you can call the church office to select an available time slot. You can sign up for multiple time slots either back to back or at different times during the vigil. Our hope is that this vigil will draw us closer to God and lay before Him our desires for His church and world. The prayer guides will include prayers that can be used as well as topics to pray about. Please sign up and be a part of God's plan for His church.

THE PARISH NURSE HEALTH CORNER

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

I am excited about the future of health at our church! We will be collaborating with Charlotte Regional Medical Center to present some new doctors and their wealth of knowledge to the community. Here are our programs at present:

- 1 BREAKFAST WITH THE DOCTOR — Wednesday, February 3rd at 8:30am - Dr. Antoine Dakouny is a new Board-Certified Internal Medicine doctor in Punta Gorda who will talk about "Wellbeing and Preventative Medicine." Come and expand your brain cells and try the waffles.
- 2 LUNCH 'N LEARN — Tuesday, February 9th at 11:30am - Rachel Struebing, RN from Peace River Regional Medical Center will present "Being a Healthcare Advocate in 2010." She will tell us how we can navigate the healthcare system in our local community and become a Congregational Health Advocate. Rachel will hold an interactive training session on **Friday, February 12th from 10-11:30am** on the foundations of advocacy and will give a certificate and a picture ID badge to all who complete the training. Upon request, you may advocate for your family, friends and church members after this session plus use your skills for your own healthcare. Rachel will remain a resource for all as needed.
- 3 A NEW GRANDSON — I purposely left a month open to welcome my first grandson, David Michael Carney III into this world. My oldest son, David and wife Nicole live in Monroe, North Carolina and Nicole is expecting February 17th so I plan to visit after her parents leave. This will be a joyous occasion as we prayed two years for Nicole to become pregnant. The lesson God taught is to be patient and let Him be God!
- 4 BREAKFAST WITH THE DOCTOR — Friday, March 19th at 8:30am - Dr. Charles Toman, new Orthopedic Surgeon will present "Advances in Orthopedic Medicine."
- 5 LUNCH 'N LEARN — Monday, March 22nd at 11:30am - Dr. Kristopher Aalderink, new Orthopedic Surgeon will present "Cutting Edge Technology for Injuries of the Hips and Knees."
- 6 LUNCH 'N LEARN — April 15th at 11:30am - Dr. Christopher Constance, Plastic Surgeon will present "Skin Cancer and You."
- 7 DIABETES CONVERSATION MAP — A series of three sessions, March 16th, 23rd, and 30th at 1:30pm. The Conversation Map is an interactive diabetes educational tool. This is the road to help one better manage diabetes as a chronic yet conquerable illness.
- 8 BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING — On the 2nd Sunday of each month. Come and meet some of the nurses in the church and have your blood pressure checked!

The yellow star I received from our church spelled the word SERVICE. I know this was God's way of communicating to me. Please do your part and let me know how I can be of service to you.

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



INVITATION TO OUR LENTEN STUDY GROUPS

Dear FPC Members and Friends,

The Discipleship Team invites you to join us in the study of "**3:16 The Numbers of Hope**" each week beginning February 15th. This Lenten study will continue for 6 weeks and end Palm Sunday week. Every Sunday for several weeks Pastor Steve will be giving us a message based on this scripture.

On Sunday February 7th, in Fellowship Hall, we will distribute the work books and study books to all who have signed up, either previously or on that day. The cost for both books is \$21.00 but we are asking only for a donation toward that expense.

The following is a list of classes, day of the week and time. This is a very personal study that will enrich you greatly in your Christian walk. You will be called by your facilitator about your starting date once you sign up. The first class begins Monday, February 15th.

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| MONDAY 10AM | NANCY SMITH | 575-9338 | 820 Via Tripoli PG |
| TUESDAY 10AM | SHARON CUZNER | 637-1792 | 215 Rio Grand PG |
| TUESDAY 7PM | NANCY JULIUS | 575-7491 | 4730 Almar Dr. PG |
| TUESDAY 7PM | PASTOR STEVE | 613-1561 | 2099 Onondaga Ln. PG |
| WEDNESDAY 1:30PM | CY LING | 639-6394 | First Presbyterian Church |
| WEDNESDAY 2PM | PAT IHRIE | 629-0559 | 25556 Heritage Lake Blvd. |
| THURSDAY 10:30AM | CRAIG ANDERSON | 575-9197 | 632 Brindisi Ct. |
| FRIDAY 10AM | NANCY & RON BEASOM | 505-9383 | 2085 River Basin Terrace |

Any questions call Connie Johansen at (941) 286-9923 (new number). I'll be happy to help you choose a class.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

YEAR ENDING 12/31/09

| | |
|------------|------------|
| Income | \$228,397 |
| Expenses | \$260,372 |
| Difference | \$(31,975) |

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.



2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES

We encourage all who contribute on a regular basis to use offering envelopes—it is helpful to the money counters and for posting to the computer. If you don't already have a box, contact the church office and a box will be prepared for you.

HUMBLE BUMBLE'S PLIGHT

HUMBLE BUMBLE MADE A FUMBLE
TOO MANY BOWL GAMES I BET.
HE'S REALLY HAVING TROUBLE WITH HIS HEART
SO HERE'S THE STORY FROM THE START.

WHO TO PUT FIRST IN HIS LIFE
IS CAUSING HIM A LOT OF STRIFE.

HE LOVES HIS WIFE
AND CHILDREN TOO.
HE LOVES HIS JOB
TO NAME A FEW.

HE CONTEMPLATES SO VERY HARD
WITH FURROWED BROW.
HE KNOWS NOT HOW
TO PRIORITIZE HIS LIFE JUST NOW.

POSSIBLY THERE IS SO MUCH MORE.
IS HE MISSING SOMETHING
IN WHAT HE IS LOOKING FOR?

AT LAST A FRIEND
SAYS WITH A SIGH
JUST CHECK YOUR BIBLE
AND YOU'LL KNOW WHY.

THE BIBLE TELLS HIM
GOD IS LOVE
AT LAST HE SMILES
AND LOOKS ABOVE.

-- NANCY BEASOM

A MESSAGE FROM BEREAVEMENT MINISTRIES

Henry Ward Beecher wrote many years ago that love is the medicine for all moral evil. By it, the world is cured of sin. When one drinks the wine of existence, called love or charity – faith and hope become the wings by which it flies. Love thy neighbor and enemy, the Lord has said. No man can afford to invest himself in anything less than faith, hope and love – the greater of which is love.

When someone we care about dies, a slice of the love we have within us disappears. We may believe we will see that person again in eternity, but the slice is still gone. It simply is a void, even though the love lives on. Love lives on because God is love and He is with us through all life trials. We maintain hope because of His promise that we will finally be with Him in eternity.

How some of us get in trouble in life is when we settle for less than the real things of faith, hope and charity (love). We confuse infatuation and greed with love, engage in self-

centeredness instead of faith in a supreme being and finally, give in to disillusionment and despair instead of having hope in God. A Christian counselor colleague of mine used to tell her patients “Keep your eyes on the roads of faith, hope and charity (love). If done consistently, you will prevent much misery, pain and detour in life.” That’s good advice for us all.

Meet and Chat will meet at 10:00am Friday, February 5th in the church Conference Room. This is the month we remember and celebrate our friends and loved ones passing to the Lord in our annual Post Service Valentine Memorial with Pastor Steve officiating in the Memorial Garden. It will take place immediately following the 10:30am service on February 14th. All are welcome to attend.

Joy Kiser

STEPHEN MINISTRY NEWS

Our next meeting will be at 10:00am on Wednesday, February 10th at the church. We want to invite all “retired” Stephen Leaders and Ministers to join us.

As with any organization, we welcome input on how to improve our ministry and bring it to as many people as possible. We feel that you will be a big help to us as we research ways to reach those who are lost and without hope, both in our congregation and our surrounding area.

Please be in prayer about ways we can make a difference in the lives of God’s people. We look forward to seeing you on February 10th. Thank you.

Mary Anne Washabaugh

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

The Presbytery Presbyterian Women (PW) is having its annual gathering on Saturday, February 13th at Covenant Church, Mac Gregor Blvd., Fort Myers at 8:30am. Betty Stroth is working on a new flag to be carried in the procession. We have not had anyone go in years and I would really love to have representation this year. There is a flyer on the PW bulletin board if anyone is interested.

Our PW will meet on the 20th of February for a Valentine Tea at noon in Fellowship Hall. It will be tea sandwiches and cookies with beverages provided by the board. All the ladies of the church are invited.

Phyllis Botticelli, Moderator

GETTING TO KNOW THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FAMILY

By Craig Anderson



David & Barb Woods

David and Barb live on Jones Loop Road. They are dear people and much appreciated members of our church. David serves as our substitute organist (he was organist in their church in Indiana) and is often a liturgist in our services. Barbara assists with the coffee hour on Sunday and together with Dave serves as an usher.

David L. Woods

Born/grew up: Princeton, Indiana.

Fond childhood memory: Living on the farm with grandpa, wheat threshing.

Education: Graduated from high school.

Spouse/family: Married Barbara in September of 1950 in Princeton. They both attended high school together as well as attending the same Presbyterian church.

Vocation: Retired. Owned and operated Woods Machine Works.

What brought you to Punta Gorda? Warm weather. Small town like we were used to.

Spiritual journey: My family went to the United Presbyterian Church and I always knew about Jesus. At the age of 12 years I attended a membership class and accepted Jesus.

How did you happen to come to our church? Looking for a conservative church that believed the Bible as the Word of God.

Great church memory: Youth groups, youth camps at Hanover College campus.

Service in the church: Played organ for the United Presbyterian Church services in our church in Indiana, served as elder, was in charge of building & church property. Served on the Salvation Army Board of Directors.

Favorite hymn: *Blessed Assurance, It Is Well with my Soul.*

Favorite vacation: Our first trip to Sanibel in 1960—before the bridge.

Book I'd recommend: *The Disappearance of God* by R. Albert Mohler.

Hobbies/interests: music, reading.

Barbara Woods

Born/grew up: Princeton, Indiana.

Fond childhood memory: Going to my Uncle John's farm when they were threshing wheat and family gatherings there eating watermelons he raised.

Spouse/Family: Husband – David Woods, son – Michael, daughters – Michele and Carolyn. We have 6 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Education: Graduated from high school in Princeton.

Vocation: Homemaker and retired secretary and office manager for Woods Machine Works.

Favorite vacation: Our first visit to Sanibel (before the causeway) and all the beautiful shells.

What brought you to Punta Gorda? Warm weather and small town atmosphere like our home town.

How did you come to faith in Christ: After going to several churches, my family started attending the United Presbyterian Church when I was 11 years old. After attending the Pastor's Communicants Class, I received Christ as my Savior and was baptized and joined the church.

Great church memory: Youth meetings and the parties afterwards, special Godly youth leaders.

What brought you to our church? We were looking for a Presbyterian Church where they believed the Bible is the Word of God.

Service in the church: Nursery, Missionary Society, women's Bible study, choir, hospital Pink Lady, after-church coffees, Meals-on-Wheels.

Favorte hymn and scripture verse: *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* and Psalm 27:1.

Book I'd recommend: *Stepping Heavenward* by Elizabeth Prentiss.

Hobbies, interests: Yard work, bird-watching, reading.

MISSION MINISTRY NEWS

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

AHHHHHH Super Bowl Sunday and everyone is sitting on the edge of their seats awaiting that big game. Before that big game we are going to celebrate in our own way with - YES YOU GUESSED IT, "SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY." We will have soup pots for you to drop your \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$, and the blue bin will be there for you to add that can of soup. Last year we donated 100 cans of soup to St. Vincent de Paul for the hungry in Charlotte County. Let's surpass that number and bring 200 cans this year! Not only do the \$\$\$\$\$\$ we collect stay here to feed the hungry, but we can make a difference one can of soup at a time. So remember when you go to the store, SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY is right around the corner on February 7th.

A VALENTINE FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY

On February 14th let's give Charlotte County a valentine. MMMMMMMMM you say, how can we do that? By collecting peanut butter and jelly for the hungry of Charlotte County. This will help feed the homeless and hungry. Let no child go hungry; bring them that "special valentine" of peanut butter and jelly. Let us have 100 of each. Please put your "valentine" in the blue bin in the church entrance.

MISIÓN PENIEL

Misión Peniel will use the Christmas Eve offering we sent to them for canned goods to help with the crisis they will be having in Immokalee due to the freeze. There will be little work and many will need to be fed. The needs will be canned goods, corn flour, sugar, cooking oil such as corn oil or canola, pinto beans and rice.

127 pounds of beans and 226 pounds of rice were collected on January 10th, and will be a great blessing for them. Miguel has great faith and he knows the Lord will help him provide for their needs. He is very grateful for all that we bring to them. Thank you for your generosity.

Benefit Concert for Misión Peniel

On Tuesday night, January 19th, approximately 130 people were treated to a wonderful recital of classical music by violinist/composer Leon Petrus and his talented pianist Mitchell Vines.

Mr. Petrus is the cousin of our own Elizabeth

Dunn. His gifts are a real blessing. Someone said how could we be so privileged to have such important people in our midst here in Punta Gorda. Mr. Petrus not only



played many well known composers but he also played Valse Elegante a piece he wrote and composed. His violin is a copy of a da Salo violin made by Sebastian Maria of the New York Atelier: Jason Visel tear, violins. His bow is by Victor Fetique. Leon is also known for his singing abilities (tenor) also appearing with American orchestras such as the Seattle and Detroit Symphonies and composes stage music as well as for film. He and his accompanist have given recitals in Portland, Oregon and New York and are planning a recital in Pennsylvania.

Pianist Mitchell Vines' active career has taken him to Europe, South America, Asia and the United States. He has performed with the Aspen Music Festival to Brooklyn College Conservatory of Music to summer opera scenes and even Cunard Cruise Lines. He is highly sought after as a collaborative pianist for many and at present is music and choir director for Unitarian Church in Summit, New Jersey and Temple Israel in New York City.



A love offering was taken and Mr. Petrus and Mr. Vines designated it to be given to Misión Peniel. The offering of \$765 will buy food for Misión Peniel and Miguel will be able to multiply it to feed many as he works his magic. It may even open the door to do an extra feeding during the week.

We would like to thank Elizabeth for bringing this wonderfully talented duo to share with us their talents and many thanks to our wonderful ladies who baked cookies for the "meet the artists" hour after the recital. AND.....Thank you Leon Petrus and Mitchell Vines.

Praise be to God. Dianne Sizemore and your Mission Team

MUSIC ON A WINTER'S EVE MEET THE ARTISTS



Susanne Hess, Leon Petrus, & Elizabeth Dunn



Joyce Schork & Mitchell Vines chat



Leon Petrus, Pat Monk Durkin, & Rich Beautz (former classmates of Leon)



A good time was had by all and the cookies were great!

FEBRUARY 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, especially: Lt. Ryan Swisher, an Army Ranger, who is stationed in Afghanistan. Ryan is the grandson of Fred & Rachel Pfaender.

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

FEBRUARY

- 1 Constance Wrock
- 2 Bob & Natalie Wylie
- 3 Pennie Aiken
- 4 Jay & Patricia Aldridge
- 5 Raymond & Kittie Alexander
- 6 Craig & Dotty Anderson
- 7 Stephanie Anderson
- 8 Tom & Vera Aping
- 9 Laurel Aumend
- 10 Rod & Edie Barrett
- 11 Darry & Mary Anne Beasom

FEBRUARY

- 12 Ron & Nancy Beasom
- 13 Shirley Berg
- 14 Patricia Bird
- 15 Robert & Dorothy Blakey
- 16 Dorothy Blue
- 17 Lynda Borg
- 18 David Botticelli
- 19 Dick & Phyllis Botticelli
- 20 Bob & Maribeth Brakvill
- 21 Lloyd & Loriania Brenton
- 22 Erma Brown

FEBRUARY

- 23 Jim & Marion Brown
- 24 Kay Callahan
- 25 Bonnie Carey
- 26 David & Debbie Carney
- 27 William & Mary Carrier
- 28 Howard & Mary Chamberlain

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY



- | | | | |
|-----------------|----|--------------|----|
| Dick Botticelli | 3 | Speed Unrau | 24 |
| Richard Hill | 3 | Arlene Gebel | 25 |
| Bob Kiskaddon | 3 | David Carney | 26 |
| Janet McLemore | 3 | Stan Smith | 27 |
| Veralou Scott | 8 | Marcia Ling | 28 |
| Margie Smith | 17 | | |

Bob & Joyce Kisdaddon 3

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 March issue of *The Messenger* are due in the church office by Monday, February 15th.

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.

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

R.O.M.E.O.S. (Retired Old Men Eating Out Someplace) meet for breakfast at 8am every other **Tuesday** at Sky View Café at the Punta Gorda Airport. February's meetings will be on the 2nd and 16th. 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 FUNDRAISER

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. If you would like to order them, please put your name on the list. Thank you for supporting PW in this.

BLOOD PRESSURES TAKEN

Blood pressures will be taken on Sunday, February 14th from 9:45am—10:45am.



Our prayers and sympathy are shared with:

- ◆ Fred Tabert and family on the death of his brother on January 14, 2010.
- ◆ The family and friends of Inez Sutton, a former member, who went home to the Lord January 7, 2010.
- ◆ June Bowling and family on the death of her husband, Hilliard, on December 31, 2009. June and Hilliard were former members.

*"Because I live, you also will live."
John 14: 19b*



BIBLE QUIZ



What did Jesus say his earthly mission was all about? Choose the correct answer from the list below:

- A. Doing his own will
- B. Doing God's will
- C. Doing the will of the people
- D. All of the above



Answer: B (See John 5:30.)



Be A Love Bird

Many stories about the origin of Valentine's Day have come down through the centuries. There's no definitive story, but most revolve around the imprisonment of

Valentinus (St. Valentine) for his disregard of Roman laws.



Many legends are also associated with Valentine's Day. For example, because birds seemed to arrive and mate in some countries in mid-February, human couples came to be called "love birds."

In 1667, the first recorded Valentine card was printed. Today, people will give their sweethearts countless millions of cards and acres of heart-shaped boxes filled with candy. But why wait for Valentine's Day to share love with others? Remember Jesus' words in John 13:34 (NRSV): "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."



Campbell.

"They joined the Fruit-of-the-Month Club, and everything was fine 'til they got to apple."



FEBRUARY 2010

Church office hours are:
Monday—Thursday 9:00am to 2:30pm
Friday 9:00am to 12:00pm

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 7 SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY 9:00am New Beginnings Worship 10:30am Traditional Worship with Communion followed by Annual Meeting 6:00pm Prayer Service | 1 9:30am Yes You Can Fitness 3:30pm Worship Team 6:00-9:00pm Children's Network | 2 8:00am *R.O.M.E.O.S. 10:00am Women's Bible Study | 3 8:30am Breakfast with the Doctor Wonderful Wednesday: 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm Bible Study | 4 5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 5 10:00am Bereavement Meet & Chat 12:00pm 24-hour Prayer Vigil Begins 24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL | 6 12:00pm 24-hour Prayer Vigil Ends | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 9:00am <i>New Beginnings</i> Worship 9:45-10:45am Blood Pressures Taken 10:30am Traditional Worship followed by Valentine Memorial Service 6:00pm Prayer Service | 8 9:30am Yes You Can Fitness 10:00am Fellowship Team 6:00-9:00pm Children's Network | 9 11:30am Lunch 'n Learn 1:30pm Discipleship Team 3:00pm Mission Team | 10 10:00am Stephen Ministry Wonderful Wednesday: 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm Bible Study | 11 5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 12 10:00 - 11:30am Health Advocate Training | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 1st Sunday in Lent 9:00am <i>New Beginnings</i> Worship 10:30am Traditional Worship 6:00pm Prayer Service | 15 9:30am Yes You Can Fitness 2:00pm Session 6:00-9:00pm Children's Network  | 16 8:00am *R.O.M.E.O.S. | 17  | 18 5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 19 | 20 10:00am Super Saturday | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:00am <i>New Beginnings</i> Worship 10:30am Traditional Worship 6:00pm Prayer Service | 22 9:30am Yes You Can Fitness 6:00-9:00pm Children's Network | 23 | 24 | 25 5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 26 12:00pm Mission Trip to Immokalee | 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">March 2010</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | | | | March 2010 | | | | | | | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | *Retired <u>Old</u> Men <u>Eating</u> <u>Out</u> Someplace |
| March 2010 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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 |
| John Truby — Discipleship | 637-7407 |
| Joyce Schork — Discipleship | 575-9493 |
| 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



Pastor

Steve Mock
revmock@fpcpunta.org



Custodian

Bill Barbour
first@fpcpunta.org



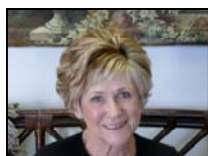
Music Director

Randall Curtis
randy@fpcpunta.org



Volunteer Office Assistant

Gail Thornton
gail@fpcpunta.org



Office Mgr., Bookkeeper & Editor "The Messenger"

Elizabeth Dunn
elizabeth@fpcpunta.org



Treasurer

Joe Cherny
first@fpcpunta.org



Parish Nurse

Debbie Carney
carneydeb@hotmail.com



First Presbyterian Church

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Telephone: (941) 639-1959
Email: first@fpcpunta.org
Website: www.fpcpunta.org



PC(USA)



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A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH



A PURPOSE-DRIVEN CHURCH