

The Messenger



A PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
PUNTA GORDA FLORIDA

OCTOBER 2009



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

“Each of us has a purpose in God’s church”



Pastor Steve

As we continue to strive to be a “Loving...Growing...Going...in Jesus!” congregation, we’ve looked at Worship, Fellowship and Discipleship in the past three Messengers. This issue, I’d like us to look at Ministry. Ministry is striving to grow in our understanding of the SHAPE God has given us for the purpose of serving Him and others.

God has called each of us to be in His family, the church, and He has called us with a purpose in mind. Just like when the NFL held its college player draft back in April, each team drafted players for specific purposes. They draft running backs to run the football. They draft defensive tackles to stop the run. They draft wide receivers to catch footballs thrown to them by quarterbacks who were drafted to pass footballs and lead the offense in scoring touchdowns, the goal of every team. Each player drafted is chosen to play a specific role to make the team stronger and better with the goal of winning the Super Bowl. They each have skills, talents and experiences that enable them to fulfill their purpose on the team. They have a passion for the game and for trying to be the best at their position. They all have God-given natural talents that set them apart from normal people. Players who fail to accomplish what they were drafted for are cut and players who don’t use those gifts and talents will weaken the team.

Each of us has a purpose in God’s church. Each of us has a role to play or in other words, a ministry. Ministry is doing what God created us to do – serve Him and others. It’s using our SHAPE that stands for: Spiritual Gifts, Hearth, Abilities, Personality and Experiences. All five of these components make up who we are and what we can do to serve God and others.

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◆ MOCK'S MUSINGS

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God has given to each of us no less than one spiritual gift and most likely multiple spiritual gifts. A spiritual gift is a Spirit-given ability for ministry. Examples are: teaching, leading, serving, giving, preaching, caring, exhorting and many more. These are identified in Scripture and acknowledged by the church as special gifts given to enable us to serve.

When we speak of heart we mean being passionate about something. For example, some are passionate about helping others in need – they have a heart for mission. Some are passionate about the outdoors – they have a heart for God's creation. Some are passionate about the arts, music, etc. – they have a heart for the artistic. Some are passionate about details – they have a heart for organization. We all are passionate about something or things. God has given us our passions to serve Him and others.

We all have abilities. Some of us can sing. Some can work well with numbers. Some are good at solving problems. Others do well with managing money. Still others knit and sew. Abilities come naturally to us or are skills we develop. Our abilities are gifts from God that He wants us to use for Him and for others.

Everybody has a unique personality given by God. Those personalities make us who we are. Some of us are outgoing, others quiet and introverted. Some of us love to make others laugh. Others are calm and deliberate. Our personality guides us to where and how we can serve God and others. A person with a quiet, shy personality would work best in the background. A person with a patience personality may work well with children.

Our experiences are the final shaping tool God uses to prepare us to serve Him and others. Our life experiences enable us to be uniquely qualified to minister in certain situations. Those who have suffered the loss of a loved one can better serve those who recently lost a loved one. Those who have gone through a divorce are more effective ministering to others who are going or have gone through a divorce. Those who have had cancer better understand a person just diagnosed with cancer. God uses our experiences, good or bad, to place us in a position to help others with similar experiences.

God has given each of us a SHAPE for the purpose of serving – that's ministry, and we try to do all we can to help you discover your SHAPE through our Christian Life and Learning Seminar (C.L.A.S.S.) 301 *Discovering Your Ministry*. This class helps people identify their spiritual gifts, where their heart is, what abilities they have, how their personality affects their service and what experiences have opened doors for ministry. Led by Elder Sharon Cuzner, those who have taken this class have discovered or had affirmed their area(s) of ministry in God's body, on God's team.

When each of us is doing what God has SHAPED us for, His church is stronger and more effectively serves one another and the community. As we GROW in our understanding of God's call to serve and where He has called us to serve, we discover more clearly our purpose in life – the why we are on this planet question. And when we are fulfilling our purpose, we discover joy, fulfillment, contentment and peace as gifts from God.

If you haven't taken the C.L.A.S.S. 301, *Discovering Your Ministry*, Elder Sharon Cuzner will be offering it this fall. Make sure you sign up. You will not regret taking the time to GROW.

In Christ,

Steve

FALL WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY BEGINS OCTOBER 14TH

Often we think of autumn as the approach to the end of the year. However, in some ways, autumn seems to be the beginning. The children have begun a new school year. People are returning to work and their normal activities after a vacation. Committees in our church have resumed meeting after a brief hiatus.

On October 14th Wonderful Wednesday will begin its fourth year!! The Fellowship Team will prepare delicious suppers (they always are) and the Discipleship Team will offer two Bible study classes. The dinner will be at 6pm followed by the studies at 7pm. You can attend either or both events. A sign-up sheet for the classes is on the table in the church entrance. Each week there will be a new sign-up sheet for the dinner.

Pastor Steve will lead C.L.A.S.S. 215, "The Miracles of Jesus," a video study edited by Matt Williams;

and Elder Sharon Cuzner will lead C.L.A.S.S. 216, "The Parables of Jesus." The lessons are designed so that you may join in at any time. The fall session will continue through November 18th.

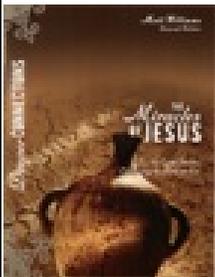
Super Saturday will return on November 21st. Elder Cy Ling has picked some interesting topics for this series which will be held on the third Saturday of each month through March 2010.

The Discipleship Team has an exciting year planned for you. Watch for 3:16 "The Numbers of Hope."

Joyce Schork and the Discipleship Team

FALL WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY CLASSES – OCT. 14 TO NOV. 18 at 7pm

We will be offering two Wonderful Wednesday classes this fall starting October 14th through November 18th at 7:00pm. Both classes are video studies from the Deeper Connections series from Zondervan. Unlike any other Bible study available, this visually stunning DVD series is written and taught by biblical experts – six professors with specialized areas of knowledge. Don't let the word deeper scare you. These engaging and accessible studies are for everyone who wants to deepen their understanding of God's Word and apply it more faithfully and effectively.



The Miracles of Jesus – Healer of diseases. Master of nature. Conqueror of demons and death. Jesus not only preached the kingdom of God in word, but he demonstrated it in power through his miraculous deeds. In six engaging, interactive sessions, this Deeper Connections DVD gives you a unique, in-depth look at the miracles of Jesus that will open your eyes to their impact on the lives he touched, what they reveal about God's heart, and their significance for us today.

Pastor Steve will be leading this class in the Choir Room.



The Parables of Jesus – Jesus communicated deep spiritual truths through simple, vivid, and engaging stories. Woven from the stuff of everyday life, the parables of Jesus made the kingdom of God understandable and accessible to his listeners. In six thought-provoking, interactive sessions, this Deeper Connections DVD will give you new insights into his parables and their meanings that will help you to appreciate more fully their relevance for your own life.

Elder Sharon Cuzner will be leading this class in the Conference Room.

HUMBLE BUMBLE (3)

Humble Bumble is getting smart
You know he had trouble at the start.
Now he walks with head held high
Smiling and greeting each passerby.
He goes to church each Sunday too.
Sitting in the closest pew.
However, as he walks out the door
His eyes look down toward the floor.
God is whispering in his ear
Don't just pay attention here.
Try to use the things you've heard
And do your best to spread the word.
His eyes light up as he looks on high
And then he says, "I will give it a try."

By Nancy Beasom



Our prayers and sympathy are shared with:

- ◆ Fran Hill and family on the death of her adopted daughter, Inga, who went home to the Lord July 27, 2009 in Oklahoma.
- ◆ The family and friends of Linda Pulera, who went home to the Lord August 25, 2009 in Wisconsin.
- ◆ The family and friends of Matilda Collmer Anderson, who went home to the Lord September 17, 2009 in Tacoma, Washington.

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

THE PARISH NURSE HEALTH CORNER

"My people perish for lack of knowledge." Hosea 4:6

It's flu season again and this year is a perfect time to get THE SHOT at our church!

Date: Wednesday the 28th of October
Time: 9am -12noon
Place: Fellowship Hall
Questions: Call Debbie 637-9389



There is no information regarding when the H1N1 vaccine will be available locally. It will be up to the Health Department as to how it will be given. If the Visiting Nurses Association becomes involved, we will hold a clinic at our church. Young people and those with chronic diseases will want to be vaccinated with the H1N1 vaccine. We will keep you abreast of the situation as we get more information. You can check out www.flu.gov.

Our first Lunch 'n Learn will be November 4th, 11:30am, with Dr. Jeremiah Joseph. "A to Z Workshop on Vitamins and Supplements" will be the topic.

Blessings!
Debbie Carney, Parish Nurse

FELLOWSHIP TEAM PLANS HALLOWEEN CANDY GIVE AWAY

Iwould like to thank the following people for their participation in cleaning the kitchen: Mary & Howard Chamberlain, Gail Thornton, Dianne Sizemore, Barb Woods, Barbara Shinn, Joan Hoffman, David Botticelli, & Christine Hutchinson. I hope I didn't forget anyone!

We had enough people to complete the task in the allotted three hours. They did a super job. We are now shipshape and ready for the coming year.

The Fellowship Team will be having our 2nd annual Halloween give-away at 115 Harvey St. again this year. Volunteers are needed for setup and handing out the candy. Three of our regulars are not able to participate this year due to health problems. We also will need to start collecting candy immediately as we gave out more than 2,000 pieces last year. Anyone who is interested in volunteering please let me know. Telephone Phyllis Botticelli at 647-0445.

Those who attended the 'reminiscing and

remembrance' pot-luck dinner really had a treat. Gail Thornton, as usual, did an outstanding job. She read a beautiful poem from "God" to those involved with 9/11 and dealing with any other crises in their lives. We exhibited church photo directories as far back as 1982. We recalled people's names from the past and how they touched our lives. Amazing how many there were who probably didn't even know what they did. We passed baskets of loose photos and enjoyed seeing how we looked before we were gray, or fat, or too thin. I was looking at one and remembering the faces and suddenly realized it was taken at my house. We were delighted to have the Schultz's back with us. Thank you again Gail for an evening none of us will forget.

Blessings,
Phyllis Botticelli, Fellowship Chair



GETTING TO KNOW THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FAMILY

By Craig Anderson



Betty Stroth

Betty Stroth resides on Kings Highway in Port Charlotte. Although she and her husband, Leonard, have been in Port Charlotte since 1988, they were here first as snowbirds but now are year-round residents. Betty has been a faithful member of our church for many years and is often an usher on Sunday mornings at the second service.

Born/grew up: Born in Detroit, Michigan. Grew up in Cleveland, Ohio.

Fond childhood memory: Picking violets for our mother for Mothers' Day.

Education: Registered Nurse. Attended Huron Road Hospital School of Nursing in Cleveland.

Spouse/family: She and her husband, Leonard, met after a basketball game in high school. They were married on October 4, 1947, the same year Betty graduated from Nursing School. Leonard worked until his retirement for Ohio Bell Telephone Company. They have a son, William, and a daughter, Susan, and 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Vocation: Retired School Nurse. She volunteered for 40 years with the American Red Cross—mostly during the summer when school was out but frequently on weekends while working.

What brought you to the area? We have a daughter and son-in-law that live here.

Spiritual journey: I was baptized at age 12 or 13 in the Baptist Church of the Master in Cleveland, Ohio.

How did you come to attend our church? After visiting a number of churches in the area including Baptist churches, someone suggested First Presbyterian Church. I found the friendliness and small size so inviting and decided this is where I belong.

Great church memory: Church camp.

Service in the church: Very active in my previous church (Baptist Church of the Master) – served on numerous boards and sang in the choir. Serves as usher at our church.

Favorite Hymn: “Stranger of Galilee.”

Favorite Vacations: World's Fair in Seattle and a trip to England.

Books I'd recommend: Christian fiction by Karen Kingsbury.

Hobbies/interests: Sewing – Quilting.

A MESSAGE FROM BEREAVEMENT MINISTRIES

John Muir wrote that most folks live ON the world instead of living IN the world. His love of nature and natural settings brought to him a great appreciation of life and living.

Sidney Lanier created a lovely poem that expressed the relationship between our Savior and the trees of the earth. This poem was called "A Ballad of Trees and the Master." Both writers show us that this world was made incredibly beautiful by our God and it is there for all of us to experience.

But, we humans are thrifty with our time and energies and as this trait is absorbed into our psyches we ultimately become "why?" people. This state of mind causes us to lose some of our zest for life and decreases our sense of adventure. As we grow older and our horizons narrow a bit, we really need to work on becoming "why not?" people. We simply need to get up

and move toward seeing the good things that God has put before us in nature and living. So the next time we feel like going to a play or going boating or even taking a ride in the country, let's go for it! Our finite lives may be decreasing, but our enjoyment of God's blessings can increase. When we stand before our Lord, will we say "thank you for all the opportunities" or will we say otherwise? Being a "why" person or a "why not" person is our call. Which one do you choose to be?

The Meet and Chat group will meet at 10am on October 2nd. See you there.

Another special thanks to Joan Hoffman, Bereavement Team Ministry cochairman, who kept the home fires kindled this summer.

God bless all of you,
Joy Kiser

RECIPE EXCHANGE

Compliments of Barb Woods

CLARA STECKERT'S MIXED NUT BARS

1 ½ CUPS ALL PURPOSE FLOUR
¾ CUP PACKED BROWN SUGAR
¼ TSP SALT
½ CUP PLUS 2 TABLESPOONS COLD BUTTER OR MARGARINE, DIVIDED
1 CAN (11 ½ OUNCE) MIXED NUTS
1 CUP BUTTERSCOTCH CHIPS
½ CUP LIGHT CORN SYRUP

IN A BOWL COMBINE: FLOUR, SUGAR, AND SALT
CUT IN ½ CUP OF BUTTER UNTIL MIXTURE RESEMBLES COARSE CRUMBS
PRESS INTO A GREASED 13 X 9 X 2 INCH PAN
BAKE 350 DEGREES FOR 10 MINUTES
SPRINKLE WITH NUTS
MELT BUTTERSCOTCH CHIPS AND ADD CORN SYRUP AND REMAINING BUTTER. MIX WELL
POUR THIS MIXTURE OVER NUTS
BAKE FOR 10 MINUTES. COOL
YIELD: ABOUT 3 ½ DOZEN



Dear friends in Christ,

We both want to thank you for the prayers, cards, calls and visits while Larrie was in the hospital. His tests came back with good results. We feel so blessed! Not only for his health but also for the many caring, loving folks at First Presbyterian!
Marjorie Tisdale

Dear friends,

It is with loving gratitude that I send you thanks for the many acts of kindness you have showered me with. My heart has been warmed so often by your thoughtfulness extended in big and little ways.

I pray for God's blessing on you always.

Sarah Ferry

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

SHALL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CONTINUE?



There has been very little response to my letter about keeping Presbyterian Women (PW) going, so no decision has been made yet. If you would like PW to continue, please sign the sheet on the PW table in the narthex. Also, there is information from Presbytery about up-coming events on the PW table. Please avail yourself of this.

Phyllis Botticelli, PW Moderator



Congratulations to:

† Dr. Bob & Joyce Kiskaddon on the birth of their 5th great-grandson, Logan Paul Kiskaddon, on September 1, 2009. Logan is the son of Joshua & Dr. Karrie Kiskaddon of Du Bois, PA.

2009 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

YEAR TO DATE 8/31/09

Income	\$157,622
Expenses	\$167,708
Difference	\$ (10,086)

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.

MISSION MINISTRY NEWS



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

The Lord is using this ministry to bring children and families and communities to Himself all around the world.

Last year, shoe-box gifts were delivered to the children of inmates at a prison in Mongolia. Some of the guards were curious and asked that boxes be given to their children too. The team agreed and scheduled a distribution for their sons and daughters. They told the children about God's greatest gift, Jesus Christ, and taught them worship songs. Hearing the Gospel convinced the guards of their own need for a Savior. "At first we thought this was good for the prisoners. They have done wrong. We didn't think we needed to hear the message," said one guard, "Now we realize that we are sinners too and we want to know more about Jesus."

This is a very exciting project and we ask you to start collecting things for your special shoe box. I always put a card in my filled box with my name and address, and I have been blessed with two letters from the recipients the past two years. My family in India keeps in touch quite regularly and have sent pictures with their emails so I can watch how Amol is growing.

This is a chance for a very rewarding feeling - spreading love across the world. **Shoe-box gifts will be collected from October 11th to November 15th.**

Any questions talk to Dianne Sizemore. If you have any empty shoe boxes, please bring them in to the church office. Thank you.

Miguel Estrada , Pastor of Misión Peniel



Miguel Estrada came to Misión Peniel from Amatlian, Gutemala where he was pastor of El Buen Pastor, or the Good Shepherd in English. It is a church of about 400 in a fairly small community of Central America where people survive on a day-to-

day basis. Compared to us in the United States, they live in utter poverty.

Yet, this church is doing some amazing things. This little church of only 400 has started two New Church Developments. That is pretty amazing and there is more. This little church also runs a full-time school on the campus of the church for the poorest children of the community. It's the only school these children would ever have a chance to attend and get an education.

In one of the communities where a New Church Development is, this church along with other neighboring churches have built over 70 houses, they improved roads to get into the village, they introduced electric power to the community and provided a clean water drinking system.

This little church of 400 souls runs a food pantry for their town, one of the only ways hungry people eat in Amatlian and also supports a full-time missionary in Ghana.

When Miguel heard the call to leave that little church in Guatemala and come to the United States to work with Misión Peniel, the church not only supported him with their prayers and their encouragement, they have sent a check for \$120 every single month for Misión Peniel. For two years, this little church with no resources, no wealthy people, no big endowments or reserve funds sends \$120 faithfully each month to Misión Peniel.

Do you know the average family income of Guatemala in 2008 was \$1,680 per year? That's \$140 per month. How can they do so much with so little resources? Miguel's answer is one word, DISCIPLESHIP. What the disciples of El Buen Pastor seem to understand is that it costs something to follow Jesus.

What we need to ask ourselves is, "What does someone else need in order to be happy?" Then whatever is left over can be ours. That is how El Buen Pastor and other churches in Guatemala define discipleship. It costs them a lot to be followers of Jesus.

Taking care of people Jesus calls us to care for is a high expectation, but it is exactly what we as a Mission Team and Miguel have done in giving of ourselves and our gifts and our smiles, showing that God is love and He cares and so do we!

Misión Peniel is a great outreach to a poverty stricken community. It takes a lifetime of learning,

Continued on page 10: Mission Ministry

◆ MISSION MINISTRY

From page 9

struggling, and praying to even come close to the ideal of a disciple of Jesus. To always put someone else's needs above your own takes a lot of practice, so I am offering you a challenge. Please come and see what the Lord is doing the fourth Friday of the month as we feed the hungry at Misión Peniel. Our next trip to Immokalee will be October 23rd. We car pool from the church at 12 noon. Call Dianne Sizemore at 743-5637 to help make a difference one day at a time.

Help Feed the Hungry

The food bin needs to be overflowing each week. The need is so great the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry is running out of food before all are helped. Peanut butter and jelly is in great need, and I was told that you had to have children in order to receive a jar because of the short supply. Peanut butter is a good source of protein and a good donation to help fill the food bin. Other things you can fill the bin with - baby food, cereal, spaghetti noodles and sauce, ramen noodles, macaroni and cheese dinners.

St. Vincent De Paul distributed 22,000 of food in the Month of August. You were part of that distribution. Thank you to all who contributed. St Vincent de Paul buys food from Harry Chapin Food Bank for 14 cents across the board, and this is how they can help to feed our community. Although it was started by the Catholic churches, they help all denominations. We are all one church! They are very grateful for all we do to help them. If you would like to see what they do, you can visit them on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 9am until noon. They also have a wonderful clinic where one of our members helps out. If you would like to know more about this, talk to Lynda Borg.

We will be collecting PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY on Sunday October 4th. Let us fill the blue bin with PEANUT BUTTER and JELLY. Let's see if we can collect 100 jars of peanut butter and 100 jars of jelly.

LET'S FILL THE BIN and feed the hungry of Charlotte County. Remember to buy one for you and one for them. This is just one of our outreaches to the community. Don't let anyone go hungry.

Become a Mentor for Habitat for Humanity

Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity is looking for a few good men and women to become a

friend and support system for a new homeowner family. Their next Mentor Informational Training is Friday, October 9th from 10am—Noon at Habitat for Humanity Community Volunteer Center, 17234 Cedarwood St., Port Charlotte. For more information or to sign up for the training telephone 639-3162.

Become a Literacy Buddy

Join the Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida and become a literacy buddy. The goal for a "buddy" is to give each child a total of three letters and books by the end of May 2010. The literacy buddy receives letters from their child, who tells them what their interests are. There is a list of books on-line that you can choose from or just go to the book store and find books with the child's interests.

Not only does your child benefit but also the other children in the class. Glowing accounts have been received from teachers about the wonderful conversations that stem from reading the books in class, discussing letters, talking about buddies. You are directly involved in enriching the lives of many children.



Christopher, Dianne Sizemore's literacy buddy

If we get enough to sign up we can do a whole class and send the books in one box; otherwise you will send them as you so desire, at whatever time suits your schedule.

Sign up today. Reading is important and most of these children are needy and have never had books of their own. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the foyer of the church.

If you have any questions as to how this works, please talk to Gail Thornton or Dianne Sizemore as they have both been a literacy buddy. It is very rewarding.

OCTOBER 2009 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; and Sgt. Jacob V. West, a Marine stationed in Iraq. Jacob is the boyfriend of Adrienne Hendricks, granddaughter of Dianne Sizemore.

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

OCTOBER

1 Robert & Sharon Cuzner
 2 Donald & Annabelle Deblauw
 3 Connie Diller
 4 David & Beverly Doupe
 5 Don & June Drake
 6 Millie Drum
 7 Kathryn Duke
 8 Elizabeth Dunn
 9 Helmut & Phyllis Ehrhardt
 10 Chris, Laura, Jonathan, & Timothy Epperly
 11 Sarah Ferry

OCTOBER

12 Dick & Sandy Fisher
 13 Ray & Cheri Foley
 14 Helen Fowkes
 15 Fred Galati
 16 Paul & Arlene Gebel
 17 Ron & Neta Gensemer
 18 Jack & Mary Gilbert
 19 Margaret Giner
 20 Frank & Sue Gready
 21 Barbara Gurney
 22 Robert & Carolyn Hansman

OCTOBER

23 Jessica Harris
 24 George & Adelaide Hauck
 25 Lawrence & Anne Hawthorne
 26 Deborah Hemminger & Aaron
 27 Doris Henning
 28 William & Sine Herold
 29 Herbert Hewitt
 30 Fran Hill
 31 Jason Hill

PRAY FOR THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES IN OCTOBER



Barbara Ryan	1	Daniel Curtis	21
Sharon Cuzner	4	Doris Wackerbarth	22
Jason Mock	5	Jean Cleffi	23
Joyce Kiskaddon	9	Helen Fowkes	25
Elaine Schultz	13	Mary Stones	25
Craig Anderson	15	Ron Gensemer	27
Helmut Ehrhardt	19	Donald Deblauw	29
Kay Callahan	21		



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 Tuesday, October 13th.

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.

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.



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 Wednesday at Brenda's Restaurant (across from the church). October's meetings will be on the 14th and 28th. 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.



I Am Your Church Envelope

I would like to talk with you, for
I am part of your church life.
I may be a complete stranger to you, but
I can help you be a better Christian.
I like to go to worship on Sunday, for
I help you to be Christ's partner.
I am very small, but
I am the keystone of your church program.
I am a weekly reminder of your daily blessings.
I dare you to be as good to God as he has been
to you.
I am only paper, but
I carry the full gift of a generous heart.
I am the only pocketbook you need on Sunday,
and
I promise not to be a burden.
I am your chance to preach, for
I am a silent sermon of your devotion.

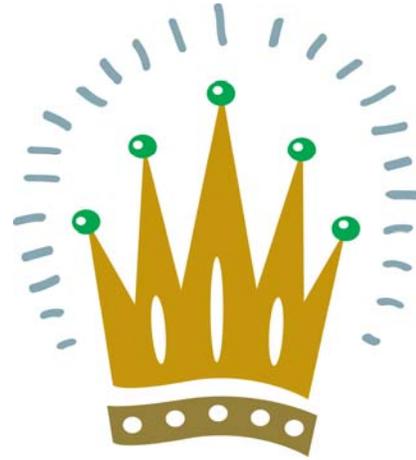


BIBLE QUIZ



A beautiful psalm describes God's majesty and speaks of human dignity. Which of the following psalms describes people as having been crowned by God "with glory and honor"?

- A. Psalm 1
- B. Psalm 8
- C. Psalm 23
- D. Psalm 51



Answer: B See verse 5 (NRSV)



Tomorrow

Do not look forward to what might happen tomorrow.

The same God who cares for you today
Will take care of you and yours tomorrow
and every day.

Either God will shield you from suffering
Or God will give you unfailing strength to
bear it.

Be at peace then and put aside
All anxious thoughts and imaginations.

—St. Francis de Sales



"Now turn to hymn 206. Sing the first verse. Mumble the third. Hum the fifth."

OCTOBER 2009



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																	
<p>4</p> <p>WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY</p>  <p>COLLECTION OF PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY</p> <p>9:00am <i>New Beginnings</i> Worship 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>5</p> <p>3:30pm Worship Team</p>	<p>6</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="7">November 2009</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>M</td> <td>T</td> <td>W</td> <td>T</td> <td>F</td> <td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	November 2009							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						<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>11:00am Stephen Ministry 5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
November 2009																																																							
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<p>11</p> <p>9:00am <i>New Beginnings</i> Worship 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00am Fellowship Team 3:30pm Personnel Team</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1:30pm Discipleship Team 3:00pm Mission Team</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00am *R.O.M.E.O.S Wonderful Wednesday: 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>																																																	
<p>18</p> <p>9:00am <i>New Beginnings</i> Worship 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>19</p> <p>2:00pm Session</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Wonderful Wednesday: 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:00pm Mission Trip to Immokalee</p>	<p>24</p>																																																	
<p>25</p> <p>9:00am <i>New Beginnings</i> Worship 10:30am Worship 6:00pm Prayer Service</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00am *R.O.M.E.O.S 9:00am—12:00pm Flu Shot Clinic Wonderful Wednesday: 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:30pm Praise Team 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> 																																																	

MEET OUR OFFICERS

ELDERS

Sharon Cuzner — Ministry	637-1792
Arlene Gebel — Worship	637-8655
Dave Woods — Ministry	456-4876
Marguerite O'Brien — Administration	575-7491
Cy Ling — Discipleship	639-6394
Joyce Schork — Discipleship	575-9493
Dianne Sizemore — Mission	743-5637
Phyllis Botticelli — Fellowship	639-5510
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
Helen Travis — Hospital Visitation	639-3067
Mary Anne Washabaugh — Communion	255-8616

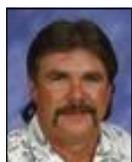
MEET THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN STAFF



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Music Director
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Office Mgr., Bookkeeper & Editor "The Messenger"
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Joe Cherny
first@fpcpunta.org



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PC(USA)



MEMBER, CONFESSING CHURCH



A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH



A PURPOSE-DRIVEN CHURCH