



MAY 2021

**Worship Service in our Sanctuary at 10:30am
or watch our worship service LIVE! at:
www.fpcpunta.org and click on the logo "vimeo livestream"**

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So long for now....

Bo and I have been at the church almost a year and a half now, but we have yet to have a 'normal' year! With Covid last year, this was our first real Easter Season with you, and it was a great time celebrating our Saviour.

Another cycle I am starting to get a handle on in the life of our church is the seasonal resident. In past churches where we have served the church calendar mirrored the school calendar, but not so here and that makes perfect sense.

We finally had a 'normal' fall, winter and spring and have gotten to know many of you better, and now people are packing up and closing their houses, and before long they will disappear for several months. We will miss y'all! It feels a lot like when my kids went off to college, I knew they were not gone forever, but it still felt like we were missing part of the family. Please know that you are valued and missed, and we look forward to your return in the fall.

Meanwhile, for those of us year-round residents, we do not want to press the pause button; the summer is a great opportunity to continue our fellowship and reach out to our friends and neighbors. The Fellowship Team is busy planning different opportunities for us to get together.

In May we have three events to participate in:

On May 15 from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM we will host a booth at the Charlotte County Centennial Celebration at the Convention Center. We will have artifacts from our church on display and flyers about the church and will invite people to join us on Sunday morning. If you would like to take a one-hour shift at the booth, please contact Gail Evans or Bev Brady.

The next event is our Cookie Drive for Charlotte County First Responders on May 23rd. Bring your cookies that Sunday and the Fellowship Team will pack them up and deliver them that week. Our tag line on the Cookie Box, "Thank you for your service, please join us for our Service on Sunday."

Lastly, on May 29th at 5:00 PM we will have our first Fellowship Supper in quite a while with a Church Picnic using the refurbished grill. (We will be eating inside because it should be very warm by then.) Details to follow.

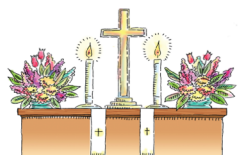
We are also in the planning stages for some day trips in June and July to area museums and events, and a weekly Wednesday evening meal and Bible study. So, keep your eye on the bulletin for more details.

Again, it is a great joy to be part of this community of believers, and whether you are a seasonal or year-round resident, we are looking forward to great things ahead.

In Christ,

Pastor Barksdale

WORSHIP MINISTRY



Worship Schedule

Sunday Mornings - 10:30am Worship Service (Also Online)

Sunday Evenings - 6:00pm Prayer Meeting (On Facebook)



Fellowship Time resumed on Sunday, April 11th.

We have begun with coffee service only.

Hopefully, we can bring back the cookies/treats in June.

In consideration of others, we ask that you wear your mask when you are up and about in the Fellowship Hall.

As always, if you are not comfortable joining Fellowship Time after church, no worries, we will be there when you are ready.



Choir Rehearsals have begun again on Thursdays at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. We will rehearse for about an hour and are planning to sing for Mother's Day on May 9th and Memorial Day Weekend on May 30th.

EASTER CROSS **Sunday, April 4th**



THE MONTH OF MAY

Happy Mother's Day
Sunday, May 9th



MAY

MAY WE CHERISH EVERY MOMENT
GOD HAS GIVEN US ON EARTH
AND OUR LIFE BE FULL OF PURPOSE
OUR HEARTS FILLED WITH MIRTH

MAY WE TAKE THE TIME TO LISTEN
TO THE BIRDS AND TO THE WIND
AND TO SMELL THE RAIN AROUND US
WATCH THE PLANTS WITH DEW THAT GLISTEN

MAY WE HAVE DEAR FRIENDS TO CARE
WHEN WE ARE HAPPY AND ARE SAD
AND WHEN WE WANT SOMEONE TO TALK TO
AND OUR THOUGHTS WITH WHICH TO SHARE

MAY WE KNOW OUR GOD IS LOVE
EVERY MOMENT OF THE DAY
TO TRUST AND BE ALWAYS WITH US
SENDING SPRINGTIME FROM ABOVE

Holy Spirit/Nancy Beasom



MISSIONS MINISTRY FOR 2021



First Presbyterian Church proudly supports
Missions from our church budget.
If you would personally like to make additional
donations, please make checks payable to FPC
and indicate the mission on the memo line.



Special Mission Support



Thank you for your donations of blue jeans for *Jesus Loves You Ministry*.
We collected and delivered 101 pairs of jeans! Thank you!

Monthly Mission Support

Crossroads
HOPE
Academy



CROSSROADS HOPE ACADEMY (PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA)

Crossroadspg.org



JESUS LOVES YOU MINISTRY (PORT CHARLOTTE, FLORIDA)

Jesuslovesyouministryinc.com



MISIÓN PENIEL (IMMOKALEE, FLORIDA)

Misionpeniel.com

ANTIOCH PARTNERS MISSIONARIES



Eric and Debbie Stone, Guatemala

Lisa Alfonsi, Lima, Peru

theantiochpartners.org



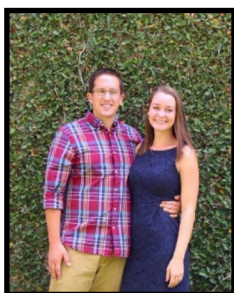
MISSIONARY VENTURES INTERNATIONAL

Chasen and Katie Brokaw

Nicaragua

mvi.org

breakingborders.org



MEMBER CARE AND ACTIVITIES

Prayer Requests and Hospital / Rehab Information

Address, Phone, Email changes

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Email to first@fpcpunta.org

First Pres is on Facebook!

Go to:

facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurch-Punta Gorda

Giving to FPC - In person or Mail to the church office: 25250 Airport Rd; PG, FL 33950

Online Giving through our website: fpcpunta.org, click Donate

PRAYER SHAWL GATHERINGS

Monday, May 10th, at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall to knit or crochet.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, May 4th and 18th - We are studying *Elijah: Spiritual Stamina in Every Season* by Melissa Spoelstra. We meet at the church from **10:00am - 11:30am**.

For additional information, please call Kathy Belville at 508-733-0546.

All women are invited to join us for study, fellowship, and refreshments!

DONUTS & DOCTRINE

Our Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets at **10:00am** both at the church and online.

In May, we are continuing our study of the Book of James.

Please join us in person or online!

GAME FELLOWSHIP — Thursday mornings at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall. **All welcome!**



CHARLOTTE COUNTY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 15th, 11:00am to 3:00pm

at the Convention Center

Pastor Barksdale and Bev Brady will be there to give out cards and pens with our information on them. Please stop by our Memories Booth! (You may also sign up to help man the table - Thank you!)

This is a free event and a way for us to let people know we are around!



Bring cookies to the church on **Sunday, May 23rd**.

We will pack the cookies and deliver to

First Responders in Punta Gorda.

CHURCH BBQ COOKOUT

Saturday, May 29th, 5:00pm

Fellowship Hall

Hot dogs and burgers / beverages (water and lemonade) will be provided. Please sign up to attend and bring a salad, side or dessert to share.



Congratulations to Sharon Russell and George Albright who were married at First Pres on April 15, 2021! Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Albright!

MAY 2021

CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR AND CELEBRATIONS

Prayer is the place where burdens change shoulders - We pray for....
*The elderly, the infirm, the hospitalized, those in nursing homes, the homebound and lonely,
 and all those who have requested our prayerful support.*

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



1 Steve MacDonald	11 Nelson & Florence Parker	21 Charles Sampsel
2 Gene & Barbara McPherson	12 Bruce Peters	22 Elaine Schultz
3 Larry & Sue Mesler	13 Rachel Pfaender	23 Jene Shafer
4 Bob & Sammi Mischler	14 Linda Potthoff	24 Dave & Ella Sifferd
5 Steve & Joanie Mock	15 Larry & Pat Pritchard	25 Ron & Billie Sixt
6 Nancy Murphy	16 Barksdale & Bo Pullen	26 Andy & Nancy Smith
7 Jim & Patti Nuznoff	17 Bill & Pauli Purcell	27 Jerry & Margie Smith
8 Marguerite O'Brien	18 David & Milanne Richards	28 Bo & Karen Sostar
9 David Osweiler	19 Jack & Patty Rothley	29 Anne Swift
10 David & Jane Otoupal	20 Barbara Ryan	30 Gail Thornton
		31 Larrie & Marjorie Tisdale



4—Connie Luther	15—Rex Anderson
6—Shirley Berg	17—Jay Aldridge
12—Gail Evans	17—Denny Ausman
13—Charles Sampsel	19—Robert Cuzner

21—Anne Swift
22—Nancy Murphy
22—Charlie Costa
24—Joan Hoffman



2—George & Beverly Fallenbeck	6 yrs.
2—Gene & Barbara McPherson	6 yrs.
5—Jack & Patty Rothley	59 yrs.
6—Al & Susie Lorenz	49 yrs.
27—Rick & Kay Berner	54 yrs.