



OCTOBER 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"**

25250 Airport Road
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-639-1959
first@fpcpunta.org
www.fpcpunta.org

Hospitality

In 1 Peter 4:9 we read: Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. The Bible is full of examples of God's people showing hospitality to others – sometimes to people in their own community, other times to people who are very different from themselves. In fact, in Hebrews 13:2 we read: Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Now that is a sobering thought to think we may have been with angels.

Hospitality should really be a given in Christian communities, however that is not always the case. At one church we served, the church shared the building with a Christian school. One Sunday, as I was walking through the classrooms making sure everything was ready, I walked into one room where the day-school teacher had covered the shelves of toys and books with a blanket and note saying, "Do not touch." Now if you were a visitor that Sunday at church and checking in on your children, how would a room with signs saying, "Do not touch.", make you feel? Well, Monday morning I had a meeting with that teacher and explained the impression such a sign made, especially on visitors. The desire was to protect the toys and books for the day-school children, which was fine, but we worked out a different way to 'protect the toys'.

Steven Koster described hospitality like this: "Hospitality is about making someone feel welcome. It means making it easy for someone to spend time with you without feeling as if they are intruding. It means a warm welcome and a comfortable setting in your presence. It means knowing that our homes, churches, and time are gifts to be shared. They don't have to be perfect or beautiful, but just open. We can share these blessings so that people know we care!"

And the Apostle Peter adds to do it without grumbling. That can be the hard part at times because it can mean an inconvenience in our life. An interruption to plans. But think of Jesus...how many times did He go out of His way to welcome in the stranger, or outsider, to give an encouraging Word, or perform a miracle? Think about those Apostles whom He called, a group from very diverse backgrounds brought together for one purpose – share the Good News of the Gospel with all people.

We are known as being a welcoming and friendly church; let's not take that for granted, but strive all the more to show hospitality to those whom we interact with – inside or outside the church walls.

In Christ,

Pastor Barksdale Pullen

WORSHIP MINISTRY



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

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



Fellowship Time

Join us for beverages, cookies and treats after Sunday's Worship Service

FPC'S ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES



Pianist Nada

Sunday, October 17th, 3:00pm

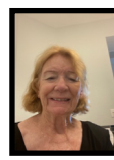
Pianist Nada presents a program entitled
"Contrasting Worlds".

"I speak music" is the motto which best describes
her charismatic personality and talent
to generate enthusiasm and love of classical music.

Pick up a Concert Series brochure for 2021-2022



*Rachel & Judy
Sunday, December 5*



*Bluegrass
in Punta Gorda
Sunday, February 27*



*Ann Alton & Friends
Sunday, January 30*



*Two Pianos
Sunday, March 20*



*Some Events require Sign-ups
in the church foyer*

Badges and Burgers - Monday, October 18th, 11am to 1pm

Help us show our appreciation to our Sheriff's Department as we grill out hamburgers and hotdogs. Have lunch with us by the BBQ Pit and say thank-you to our local first responders. If you have a tailgate type of tent, let us know. Sign up in the church foyer.



Saturday, October 2 - 9:30am

Sunday, October 17 - 3:00pm

Monday, October 18 - 11am-1pm

Tuesday, October 26 - 9:30am

Monday, November 8 - 9:30am

Wednesday, November 17 - 5:00pm

Saturday, November 27 - 10:00am

Friday, December 3 - 7:00pm

Sunday, December 5 - 3:00pm

Wednesday, December 8 - 5:00pm

Sundays, December 12 & 19

Friday, December 24

Alzheimer's Walk (FPC will sponsor a team)

Concert Series - Pianist Nada

Burgers and Badges BBQ for our Sheriff's Dept.

Mural Walk in downtown Punta Gorda

Mural Walk in downtown Punta Gorda

Welcome Back Cookout

Hanging of the Greens

Bob Hope Concert at Military Museum (SOLD OUT)

Christmas Concert followed by cookies and punch

Church-wide Christmas Pot Luck Dinner

Christmas Open House at home of Barksdale and Bo

Christmas Eve Service

FPC ACTIVITIES



PRAYER SHAWL GATHERINGS

Monday, October 11th, at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall to knit or crochet



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will resume in November!



GAME FELLOWSHIP

Thursday mornings at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall *All are welcome!*



DONUTS & DOCTRINE

Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10:00am

I and II Samuel



WEDNESDAY EVENING SUPPER AND BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays through October 20th

Join us on Wednesday evening at 5:00pm for supper

October 6 - Chili and Fixins

October 13 - TBA

October 20 - Pot Luck

Following supper, at 5:45pm, we will watch the video series
The Chosen (Season 2, Episodes 6-8)

with discussion afterwards from 6:30pm to 7:00pm

SOCIABLE SINGLES

LUNCH - 1st and 3rd Friday of each month

Sign up in the church foyer

Friday, October 1st, 12:00pm
Fish Market
Fishermans Village
Punta Gorda



Friday, October 15th, 12:00pm
Peter's Restaurant
2200 Kings Hwy.
Port Charlotte

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.



Jesus Loves You Ministry

Fundraiser Summary

356 Items of Clothing and 100 Razors
Socks - 84
Womens Underwear - 106
Girls Underwear - 30
Men's Underwear - 136



"Shower Ministry"

Monthly Mission Support



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



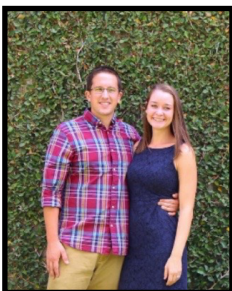
MISSIONARY VENTURES INTERNATIONAL

Chasen and Katie Brokaw

Nicaragua

mvi.org

breakingborders.org



MILITARY PRAYER LIST

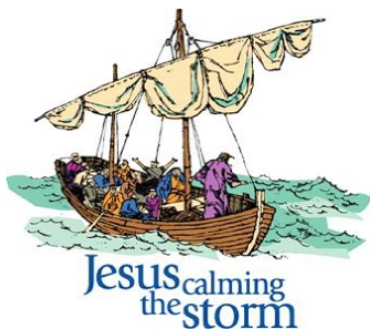
Prayer

O Prince of Peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity and devotion the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Guard our churches, our homes, our schools, our hospitals, our factories, our buildings, and all those within from harm and peril. Protect our land and its people from enemies within and without. Grant an early peace with victory founded upon justice. Instill in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will towards all. Amen.

- * Capt. Alex Treadwell, Army, grandson-in-law of Diane Culver-Truby, stationed at Fort Hood, Texas
- * Major John McPherson, Air Force, great nephew of Marguerite O'Brien, stationed at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas
- * Major Ryan Swisher, Army Ranger, grandson of Rachel Pfaender, stationed in North Carolina
- * Major Eric Engstrom, Army Intel., son of Alan Engstrom, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
- * 2nd Lt. Zadick Self, Marines, grandson-in-law of Ron Beasom, stationed in Peoria, Illinois
- * Navy Seaman Tyler Beasom, Navy, grandson of Ron Beasom, stationed in San Diego, California
- * MSgt. Nick Weiss, Air Force, grandson of Gail Thornton, is home based

Do you have a family member serving in the military?

If so, we'd like to add them to the newsletter prayer list. Fill out the form that's on the sign-up table in the church foyer and place it in the HELMET or let the church office know.



STORMS

INTO OUR LIVES
A STORM MAY BE BORN
OUR WORRIES AND CARES
WITH GOD WE MUST SHARE

OUR MINDS TEND TO FIX
ON OUR PROBLEMS AND STRIFE
YET WHEN WE DO PRAY
GOD SENDS THEM AWAY

WE ARE NEVER ALONE
WITH NO ONE TO SHARE
OUR GRIEF AND OUR PROBLEMS
AS GOD IS ALWAYS THERE

HE COMFORTS AND LIFTS US
AWAY FROM OUR THOUGHTS
AND SHOWS US A WAY
TO HEAR WHAT GOD HAS TO SAY

WE MUST NEVER FORGET
THE WAY TO FEEL PEACE
IS ALWAYS TO TRUST
IN GOD'S HEALING FOR US

By Nancy Beasom and THE HOLY SPIRIT

MEMBER CARE



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](https://facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurch-PuntaGorda)



Giving to FPC - In person
Mail to the church office: 25250 Airport Rd; PG, FL 33950
Online Giving through our website: fpcpunta.org, click Donate



*Please pray for the family of Jean Hinman,
who went home to the Lord on September 13th.*



OCTOBER 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	Ken & Lynda Lambert	11	Steve & Joanie Mock	21	Barksdale & Bo Pullen
2	David & Lynn Lang	12	Jim & Patti Nuznoff	22	Pete & Debbie Rostad
3	Ernie & DeAnn Lehman	13	Marguerite O'Brien	23	Jack & Patty Rothley
4	Al & Susie Lorenz	14	David Osweiler	24	Barbara Ryan
5	Connie Luther	15	David & Jane Otoupal	25	Charles Sampsel
6	Myles MacDonald	16	Nelson and Florence Parker	26	Elaine Schultz
7	Steve MacDonald	17	Bruce Peters	27	Jene Shafer
8	Carolyn Ann Maupin	18	Rachel Pfaender	28	Dave & Ella Sifferd
9	Gene & Barbara McPherson	19	Linda Potthoff	29	Ron & Billie Sixt
10	Larry & Sue Mesler	20	Larry & Pat Pritchard	30	Andy & Nancy Smith
				31	Margie Smith



1—Barbara Ryan	13—Kathy Belville
1—Teri York	13—Elaine Schultz
12—Carol Kerr	21—Kay Callahan
12—Jean LaMantia	27—Ron Gensemer

3—Larrie & Marjorie Tisdale	61 yrs.
29—Tom & Carol Kerr	55 yrs.