

WORSHIP SERVICE		
PRE-SERVICE MUSIC		Classical Music
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		
PRELUDE	<i>In This Holy Place</i>	Wihla Hudson
RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP		<i>Praise The Almighty King</i>
Worship Leader: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is Yours.		
<i>Everyone: We give You thanks, and praise Your glorious name!</i>		
Worship Leader: Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; You are exalted as Head over all! Wealth and honor come from You; You are the ruler of all things.		
<i>Everyone: We give You thanks, and praise Your glorious name!</i>		
Worship Leader: In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.		
<i>Everyone: Now, our God, we give You thanks, and praise Your glorious name!</i>		
PRAYER OF INVOCATION		
*HYMN #8	<i>Come, Thou Almighty King</i>	
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles’ Creed (Unison)		
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.		
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.		
*GLORIA PATRI		
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>I Love To Tell The Story</i> New Voices	Hankey/Fisher arr. Don Chapman
PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD’S PRAYER <i>(debts/debtors)</i>		
OFFERTORY - **	<i>“Resonet in Laudibus”</i>	arr. David Paxton
*DOXOLOGY		
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		
Generous God, we have given to You what is Yours. You entrust us with so much abundance; accept what we offer to You now as signs of our love for You and our desire to serve You. You alone are Lord of our lives. It is already so; make it so even more for us, day by day. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.		
*HYMN #92	<i>O How I Love Jesus</i>	
SCRIPTURE	Mark 2:1-12	
MESSAGE	<i>Authority Expanded</i>	Pastor Barksdale Pullen
*HYMN #690	<i>He Leadeth Me</i>	
*BENEDICTION		
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #507		<i>Something Beautiful</i>
POSTLUDE	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty</i>	Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.
*Please stand, if able		
**You may give securely online at www.fpcpunta.org		
Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth		
CCLI #1140231 CVLI #50554113		

MINISTRY OF PRAYER		
Prayer Focus		
- Pray for those who serve in the military and their families. - Pray for First Responders and Healthcare Workers. - Pray for our church as we seek to be a flourishing church that makes disciples of Jesus Christ. - Pray for Lisa and Clever Alfonsi, Eric and Debbie Stone, and Chasen and Katie Brokaw, missionaries we support in Peru, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. - Pray for Crossroads, the mission for foster boys in Punta Gorda. - Pray for Ground Up Ministries, a ministry for human trafficking in Florida. - Pray for Jesus Loves You Ministry for the homeless in Charlotte County. - Pray for Misión Peniel, the mission that we support in Immokalee. - Pray for persecuted Christians throughout the world.		
Those who Grieve		
Please pray for Denny Ausman, whose wife Minty went home to the Lord on October 6th. Her Celebration of Life Service is Friday, October 23rd at 10:00am at our church.		
Those with Special Needs		
Phyllis Ehrhardt	Rick Berner	Lynn Lang
Dave Sifferd		
NOTES		
PRAYER EMAIL LIST – If you would like to be on Pastor Barksdale’s prayer email list, email Pastor Barksdale at bmpullen3@fpcpunta.org .		
PRAYER REQUESTS – Email your praise or petition to first@fpcpunta.org . Indicate if your prayer is for the Pastor only, church email prayer list, or prayer team on Sundays – or all of the above.		
FLOWERS – The flowers today are given by Merrilyn Ellison in celebration of her 80th birthday.		
CELL PHONES – Please remember to silence or turn off your mobile devices.		
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER – Available in the church foyer and on our website.		
CHURCH DIRECTORIES – <i>We are working on an updated directory. If your contact information has changed, please let the office know. Thank you!</i>		
FLOWERS – <u>May be sponsored for \$45.00.</u> To make a donation, sign up in the church foyer, listing the flowers in honor and/or in memory of something or someone.		
BULLETIN BOARD – Check out Missions Newsletters, notes and messages of interest on the Bulletin Board in the church foyer.		
OUR DAILY BREAD – A booklet of daily devotionals is in the back of the Sanctuary.		
STREAMING MINISTRY – Live stream our services on our website homepage (fpcpunta.org) by clicking the logo YouTube .		
FACEBOOK PAGE – If you are on Facebook, don’t forget to follow our page for the latest happenings – https://www.facebook.com/FPCPGFL .		
FELLOWSHIP TIME – Following the Worship Service, join us in Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and refreshments. You may bring cookies / treats to share!		
Comparative Financial Operations / Performance		
	September 2026	Year-to-Date
Tithes & Offerings	\$16,611.19	\$182,710.07
Cash Expenditures	\$18,924.22	\$186,136.92
Net	(\$2,313.03)	(\$3,426.85)

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AND NOTES	
GATHER FOR PRAYER – A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm (FaceBook online). Please submit any prayer requests to first@fpcpunta.org .	
HURRICANE SEASON – Remember that if a storm is in the area, please don’t travel if you are not comfortable, but you may join us online. We have a text messaging system to notify folks if Services/Events are canceled. <i>Please note: You cannot reply to these text messages.</i>	
CHURCH LIBRARY – Looking for a good book, help with a theological question, Christian biography, or a devotional? Just log on to this website and search: https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FPCPG . <i>Check out our book display in the foyer.</i>	
ACTIVITIES / EVENTS	
BURGERS FOR BADGES – Monday, October 19th, 11am – 1pm – Help us show our appreciation to our local and retired First Responders as we grill out hamburgers and hotdogs. If you would like to make a donation to help defray the costs of this outreach event, please designate it as “B4B”. Sign up in the church foyer to bring cookies or desserts and to come for lunch and personally thank our First Responders (suggested donation of \$5.00 for members).	
WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY – Tuesday, October 20th – <u>Joshua!</u> This study by Jen Wilkin is led by Kathy Belville. We meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 10:00am. All are welcome!	
GROUND UP MINISTRIES – Ground Up is a ministry for girls rescued from sex trafficking. At their safe house in Cape Coral, we will do different activities such as crafts, crocheting, and dinner. (We will be signing an NDA (Non-disclosure agreement). See Patti MacDonald to sign up for <u>Tuesday, October 20th. We will meet at 2:00pm at our church.</u>	
DONUTS & DOCTRINE – Wednesday, October 21st at 10:00am. We are studying Paul’s letter to the Romans. Everyone is invited, led by Pastor Barksdale.	
LADIES CARDS FELLOWSHIP – Thursday, October 22nd, 10:00am -- All ladies are welcome!	
LUNCH ‘N’ LEARN – Wednesday, October 28th, 11:45am – “Care for the Caregiver”. See the Newsletter for information. Sign up in the church foyer.	
MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is Friday, October 30th, 9:30am. Please meet at our church. We need 6 - 8 people to sign up in the church foyer.	
PULLEN UP A CHAIR – Wednesday, November 4th, 5:00pm. Barksdale and Bo will host get-together dinners for groups of eight at their home. There is no agenda, lesson, or study, just a time to get together for fellowship. Sign up in the church foyer or call/email the church office.	
LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – Friday, November 6th, 11:30am – Sign up for Lime Tequila in Port Charlotte.	
GRIEFSHARE SEMINAR – Monday, November 9th, 10am – 12pm – “Surviving The Holidays”. This seminar offers practical, actionable help for navigating the holiday season after loss. The two-hour program includes a video featuring people who have experienced grief during the holidays, as well as insight from Christian counselors, pastors, and psychologists. Participants will receive a <i>Holiday Survival Guide</i> with practical strategies, encouraging words, exercises, questions and answers, and journaling ideas. The holiday season may not be easy, but you can walk through it in a way that honors your loved one and supports health and healing. Please sign up in the church foyer.	
CHOIR – Rehearses Thursday, November 12th, 4:30pm and Sings on Sunday, November 18th.	

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

DISASTER RELIEF SUPPORT – Our trusted partners at World Renew are ECO’s go-to resource for long-term disaster relief.
<https://worldrenew.net/disaster-response-services-us/disaster-response-services>

JESUS LOVES YOU MINISTRY SHOWER MINISTRY – (Wednesday mornings in our parking lot) – Please place “shower” items on the table in Fellowship Hall.

MISSIONS SUPPORT – If you would like to donate to the missionaries and organizations that we are supporting in 2026 in our church budget, please make checks payable to FPC and on the memo line write the name of the mission.

- Antioch Partners – Stone Family (Guatemala) or Lisa Alfonsi (Peru)
- Crossroads Hope Academy (Punta Gorda)
- Ground Up Ministries (Cape Coral) Jesus Loves You Ministry (Port Charlotte)
- Misión Peniel (Immokalee) St. Vincent de Paul (Punta Gorda)
- Missionary Ventures (Chasen & Katie Brokaw – Nicaragua)

STAND IN THE GAP FUND – The purpose of this fund is to assist supported missionaries and ministries of our church, when they face unexpected financial burdens. To donate to this fund, please mark your gift as SITG.

EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

October 18 – October 25

Sunday, October 18	Deacon’s Fund Sunday
10:30am	Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am	Fellowship Time
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting-FB
Monday, October 19	
11:00am	Burgers for Badges
2:00pm	Session
Tuesday, October 20	
10:00am	Women’s Bible Study
Wednesday, October 21	
10:00am	Donuts & Doctrine
10:00am	Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry
Thursday, October 22	
10:00am	Ladies Cards Fellowship
Friday, October 23	
10:00am	Celebration of Life Service for Minty Ausman
Sunday, October 25	Reformation Sunday
10:15am	Hymn Sing
10:30am	Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am	Fellowship Time
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting-FB

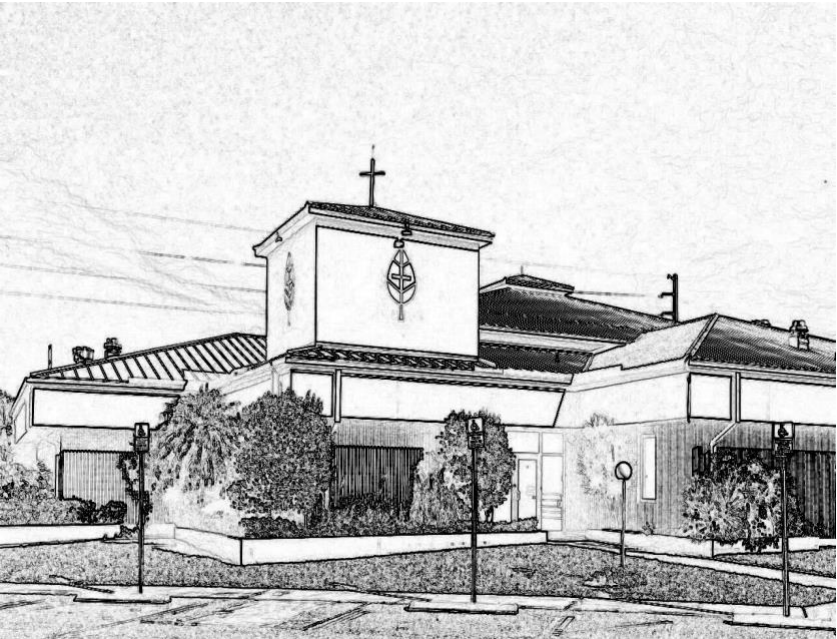
First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda
Member of ECO (A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians)
25250 Airport Road Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-639-1959 (phone) 941-637-3763 (fax)
Email: first@fpcpunta.org Website: fpcpunta.org
Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday
(and by appointment)

SERMON NOTES

Authority Expanded
Mark 2:1-12

- ELDERS
- Kathy Belville – Deacons / Missions
 - Bev Brady – Fellowship / Worship / Finance
 - Sam Cesssna – Admin / Property / Worship
 - Merrilyn Ellison – Missions / Fellowship
 - Bruce Peters – Admin / Finance
 - Barksdale Pullen – Discipleship / Worship
 - Andy Schulte – Admin / Property
 - Gail Thornton – Clerk of Session / Missions

- DEACONS
- Merrilyn Ellison – Deacon of Visitation
 - Linda Wagar – Deacon of Loaves and Fishes
 - Katie Schulte – Deacon of Parish Nursing
 - Marjorie Haun – Deacon of Communications
 - Patti MacDonald – Deacon of Bereavement
 - Laurel Aumend – Deacon of Flowers
 - Roy Belville – Deacon of Helping Hands
 - Kathy Belville – Deacon of Communion
 - Lili Bush – Deacon of Kitchen
 - Susie Lorenz – Deacon of Prayer Shawl
 - Maria Greene – Deacon of Library
 - Sharon Fant – Assistant Librarian



Loving...Growing...Going...in Jesus!

This morning as we join in worship, our hope is that each of us will find renewed life, health and strength in God.
We are glad to welcome each guest and friend, and that you have chosen to hear God’s call with this congregation.

October 18, 2026	10:30am
PASTOR	Dr. Barksdale Pullen
ORGANIST	Denny Ausman
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN	Debbie Rostad
LITURGIST	Sam Cessna
USHERS	Katie Schulte, Billie Sixt, Andy Schulte, Don Willecke
AV TECH	George Fallenbeck, Jim Nuznoff, Gene McPherson