
WORSHIP SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Hymn Sing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Meditation on Gerald* Robert J. Hughes

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN #10 *Majesty*

*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

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (*debt/debtors*)

OFFERTORY *Kum Ba Yah* arr. Lani Smith

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let the gift of grace, which has been so lavishly given to us, touch our hearts as we give of our gifts. May the needs of others become our needs: their poverty, our poverty; their hunger, our hunger; their longings for a better life, our longings. May we always give in gratitude for the abundance of grace that is ours through the gift of the life of Christ. Amen.

*HYMN #393 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 37:1-14

MESSAGE *Dry Bones* Pastor Barksdale Pullen

*HYMN #56 *To God Be the Glory*

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #232 *God Be with You (vs. 1)*

POSTLUDE *A Celebration of Praise* James Denton

*Please stand, if able

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #50542933

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 those who are still recovering from Hurricane Ian.
- Pray for Lisa Alfonsi, Eric Stone family, 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 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 with Special Needs

Rachel Pfaender	Kay Callahan	Phyllis Ehrhardt
Lynn Lang	Ron Sixt	Rick Berner
Irene Csontos	Barb Harris	Dave Sifferd

Those who are in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Marion Brown, *Truewood by Merrill, Port Charlotte*

NOTES

FLOWERS – The flowers are given today by Gail Thornton in memory of her mom Grace Herwig, and also by Robert Cuzner in memory of Sharon.

CELL PHONES – Please remember to silence or turn off your mobile devices.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER – Available in the church foyer and on our website.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES – Available in the church office.

FLOWERS – May be sponsored for **\$37.50**. 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 notes and messages of interest on the Bulletin Board in the church foyer.

PRAYER EMAIL LIST – If you would like to be on Pastor Barksdale's prayer email list, email Pastor Barksdale at bmpullen3@fpcpunta.org.

OUR DAILY BREAD – This booklet of daily devotionals is on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.

STREAMING MINISTRY – Live stream our services on our website homepage (fpcpunta.org) by clicking the logo **YouTube**.

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

	July 2023	Year-to-Date
*Tithes & Offerings	\$22,011.12	\$181,226.16
Cash Expenditures	\$24,622.99	\$161,713.85
Net	(\$2,611.87)	\$ 19,512.31

*The YTD amount includes \$20,700 in fulfilled annual pledges given in January

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

GATHER FOR PRAYER – A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm online. Please submit any prayer requests to first@fpcpunta.org.

HURRICANE SEASON – We are in the heart of hurricane season and wanted to remind everyone that if a storm is in the area, please don't travel if you are not comfortable, join us online. Also, we have a text messaging system to notify members if Services/Events are canceled. If you do not want to receive a text message, please notify the church office. **Please note: You cannot reply to these text messages.**

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS – **Sunday, October 29th at 9:15am.** If you are interested in joining the church, or just finding out more information about FPC, please join us for a one class introduction to FPC. (For Seasonal Residents, we have an Affiliate Membership, so you can maintain your Membership back home.)

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

DONUTS AND DOCTRINE BIBLE STUDY – **WE WILL NOT MEET ON AUGUST 30TH.** We will resume on Wednesday, September 6th, at 10:00am. We continue our study of Mark. Mark is written primarily to Gentiles, and the ultimate purpose and theme of Mark's Gospel is to present and defend Jesus' universal call to discipleship.

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – **Friday, September 1st, 12:00pm** – Please sign up and join us for lunch at Peter's Restaurant in Port Charlotte. **All ladies are invited!**

PULLEN UP A CHAIR – **Wednesday, September 6th at 5:00pm.** Barksdale and Bo host a get-together dinner at their home. This will be in groups of eight, and you can sign up in the church foyer, or call/email the church office. There is no agenda, lesson, or study; just a time to get together for fellowship and to learn more about one another.

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS – **Resume on Thursday, September 7th at 4:30pm.** Rehearsals last about an hour. If you love to sing, please join us for rehearsals on Thursdays and church services on Sunday mornings. The choir begins singing anthems on October 1st. Call Joan Byron at 941-661-1553 for more information.

SAVE THE DATE -- WEDNESDAY EVENING DINNER AND MOVIE – **Wednesday, September 20th at 5:00pm** – Join us for a Potluck Dinner and stay to watch the new movie **Jesus Revolution**.

ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES for 2023-2024 is set. The Season Brochure is available in the church foyer or on our website www.fpcpunta.org under Ministries / Concert Series. The first concert is Sunday, November 19th at 3:00pm, featuring the Barefoot Trio.

MISSIONS SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

MAUI SUPPORT – A reminder that our trusted partners at World Renew are ECO's go-to resource for long-term disaster relief. We echo their current request for prayer for those affected by the Maui wildfires. We will keep our ECO family updated if they are able to respond or if they will recommend partner organizations to support. You may learn more about how World Renew Disaster Response Services rebuilds hope and shares God's love through holistic disaster recovery work here:

<https://worldrenew.net/disaster-response-services-us/disaster-response-services>

JESUS LOVES YOU MINISTRY SPECIAL NEEDS –

Shower Ministry (Wednesday mornings in our parking lot) – Please place “shower” items in the donation box in Fellowship Hall.

MISSIONS SUPPORT – If you would like to donate to the missionaries and organizations that we are supporting in 2022 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)

Jesus Loves You Ministry (Port Charlotte)

Misión Peniel (Immokalee)

Missionary Ventures (Chasen & Katie Brokaw – Nicaragua)

EVENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

August 27th to September 3rd

Sunday, August 27

10:15am Hymn Sing
10:30am Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am Fellowship Time
6:00pm Prayer Meeting (FaceBook)

Wednesday, August 30

10:00am Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

Thursday, August 31

10:00am Game Fellowship

Friday, September 1

12:00pm Ladies Lunch Bunch

Sunday, September 3

10:30pm **Communion Sunday**
Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am Fellowship Time
6:00pm Prayer Meeting (FaceBook)

Monday, September 4

Labor Day Holiday
Office Closed

First Presbyterian Church of Punta Gorda
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

SERMON NOTES

Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.” ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

Bible Readings

August 27 Lamentations 2:1-4:22
August 28 Lamentations 5:1-22
Obadiah 1:1-21
2 Kings 25:22-26
Jeremiah 40:7-41:18
August 29 Jeremiah 42:1-44:30
Ezekiel 33:21-33
August 30 Ezekiel 34:1-36:38
August 31 Ezekiel 37:1-39:29
Ezekiel 32:1-16
September 1 Ezekiel 32:17-33:20
Jeremiah 52:28-30
Psalm 137:1-9
1 Chronicles 4:24-5:17
September 2 1 Chronicles 5:18-26
1 Chronicles 6:3
1 Chronicles 6:49
1 Chronicles 6:4-15
1 Chronicles 7:1-8:28



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.

August 27, 2023

10:30am

PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN
LITURGIST
USHERS

Dr. Barksdale Pullen
Joan Byron
Denny Ausman
Debbie Rostad
John Evans

Kathy Belville, Roy Belville, Maria Greene, Matthew Greene