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## WORSHIP SERVICE

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PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Blended Christian Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*The Faithful Shepherd*

Stewart Landon

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\*HYMN #219

*Surely the Presence (Repeat)  
All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord*

\*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 (debts/debtors)

OFFERTORY - \*\*

*Near to the Heart of God*

Lani Smith

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We honor You, O gracious God. Accept these gifts, we pray, as a sign of our obedience to You, our love for You and our desire to take Your reign into the world. Transform them into Your blessing for others. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

\*HYMN #9

SCRIPTURE

*Glorify Thy Name*

Ephesians 1:3-14

MESSAGE

*Spiritual Blessings in Christ (Part 2)*

Pastor Barksdale Pullen

\*HYMN #778

*Sweet By and By*

\*BENEDICTION

*God Be with You (vs. 1)*

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #232

*Recessional*

POSTLUDE

Chester Nordman

\*Please stand, if able

\*\*You may give securely online at [www.fpcpunta.org](http://www.fpcpunta.org)

Hearing assist devices are available at the tech booth

CCLI #1140231 CVLI #50550373

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## MINISTRY OF PRAYER

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**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 with Special Needs**

Rachel Pfaender	Phyllis Ehrhardt	Rick Berner
Lynn Lang	Ron Sixt	Dave Sifferd

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## NOTES

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**PRAYER EMAIL LIST** – If you would like to be on Pastor Barksdale's prayer email list, email Pastor Barksdale at [bmullen3@fpcpunta.org](mailto:bmullen3@fpcpunta.org).

**PRAYER REQUESTS** – Email your praise or petition to [first@fpcpunta.org](mailto: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 are given by Bev Brady in celebration of her 80th birthday!

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

**JANUARY 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.

**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](http://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**

	December 2025	Year-to-Date (\$260,000 Budget)
Tithes & Offerings	\$24,167.19	\$259,459.95
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$21,504.38</u>	<u>\$261,197.45</u>
Net	\$2,662.81	<b><u>(\$1,737.50)</u></b>

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## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AND NOTES

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**GATHER FOR PRAYER** – A prayer meeting is held Sundays at 6pm (FaceBook online). Please submit any prayer requests to [first@fpcpunta.org](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org).

**MISIÓN PENIEL** – Our next trip to Immokalee is **Friday, January 30th, 12:30pm**. Please meet at our church. We need 12 people to sign up in the church foyer.

**SERMON ON THE SAND** – Pastor Barksdale delivers the message on **Sunday, February 15th at 8:00am at Fishermen's Village**.

**THANK YOU FROM THE MISSIONS TEAM** – God's abundant blessings to all of you!! Because of your generosity for our Christmas Offering, we were able to give generous gifts to the Veterans at Veterans Village and our three missionaries. The Mission Team appreciates every year your willingness to help us to reach out to the world. THANK YOU!!

**DEACON'S FUND SUNDAY – TODAY** – is our monthly collection to help support congregation, emergency needs, Misión Peniel, and others.

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## ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

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**PRAYER SHAWL GATHERING** – **Monday, January 19th, at 10:00am** – Please join us in 2026!

**DONUTS & DOCTRINE** – **Wednesday, January 21st, at 10:00am** – Join us as we journey through Paul's powerful letter to the Galatians! This study will explore the heart of Christian freedom, the grace of God through faith, and what it means to live by the Spirit rather than the law. Together, we'll unpack the historical context, key theological themes, and practical lessons that speak directly to our lives today. Everyone welcome.

**LADIES CARDS FELLOWSHIP** – **Thursday, January 22nd, at 10:00am** – All ladies are welcome to join us Thursdays for cards and conversation.

**LUNCH 'N' LEARN** – **Wednesday, January 28th, 12:00pm** – Sign up in the church foyer for this presentation by Sky Med. *Lunch will be provided*. Many people assume that their health insurance is enough for travel, and that adding travel insurance will cover all "unexpected moments," but that's not the case. Being stranded far from your preferred hospital shouldn't be an option, yet many accept this as sufficient. Emergencies strike without warning, and that's where SkyMed comes in—offering peace of mind and potentially saving you thousands of dollars if you ever need medical evacuation while traveling.

**LADIES LUNCH BUNCH** – **Friday, February 6th, 11:30am** – Sign up for Peter's Restaurant in Port Charlotte.

**VALENTINE DINNER & MOVIE** – **Wednesday, February 11th, 5:00pm** – Sign up for a Potluck Dinner and watch a movie to celebrate Valentine's Day.

## 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 2025 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)

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

### January 18 – January 25

#### Sunday, January 18

10:30am      Deacon's Fund Sunday  
11:30am      Worship Service (Also Online)  
6:00pm      Fellowship Time  
                  Prayer Meeting-FB

#### Monday, January 19

10:00am      Prayer Shawl Gathering  
1:00pm      Session

#### Wednesday, January 21

10:00am      Donuts & Doctrine  
10:00am      Jesus Loves You Shower Ministry

#### Thursday, January 22

10:00am      Ladies Cards Fellowship

#### Sunday, January 25

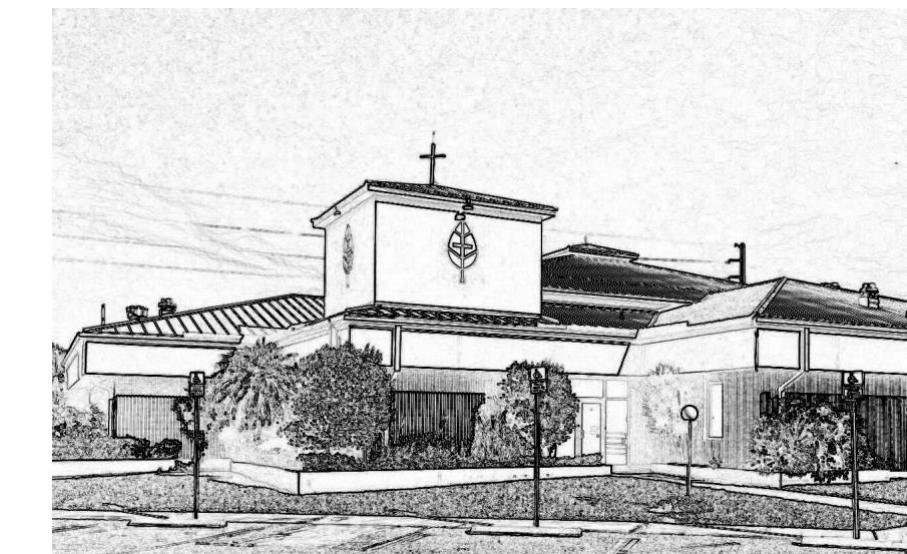
10:30am      Worship Service (Also Online)  
11:30am      Fellowship Time  
6:00pm      Prayer Meeting-FB

**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](mailto:first@fpcpunta.org)      Website: [fpcpunta.org](http://fpcpunta.org)  
Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday – Thursday  
(and by appointment)

## SERMON NOTES

### Ephesians 1:3-14

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.



### *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 as we lift our hearts and voices in praise.*

*We are glad to welcome each guest and friend, and that you have chosen to worship God with this congregation.*

**January 18, 2026**

**PASTOR**

**ORGANIST**

**OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN**

**LITURGIST**

**USHERS**

**A/V TECH**

Dr. Barksdale Pullen

Denny Ausman

Debbie Rostad

Sam Cessna

Marjorie Haun, Susie Lorenz, Billie Sixt, Don Willecke  
George Fallenbeck, Jim Nuznoff, Gene McPherson

**10:30am**