



The Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2020

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"

The Greats

For those of you that have been around the church for a while, you are familiar with the two 'greats', the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

The Great Commission is Jesus' command to the disciples, and us, before returning to heaven (Matt 28):

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

And the Great Commandment, is recorded in Matthew 22:

36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Taken together, they provide all the marching orders that we need as Christians. Then the big question; How do we do these things? Some people just have a gift at outreach, others at prayer, hospitality, or service. But that does not let us off the hook, we all have a part to play in the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

This fall we are working on equipping the members of our congregation to do just that. The Sunday morning series on the *Spiritual Disciplines* is designed to help you love God more deeply, to become godly (I Tim 4:7). I hope through Worship, Bible, prayer, stewardship, service and evangelism we will grow more godly as individuals, and as a congregation, so that our love for God overflows into our community.

In October, pending a few more details on making it safe, we will be having a Wednesday evening meal and Bible Study entitled *Go Fish by Andy Stanley*. It is part study, part DVD, part discussion, all helping us hone our skills at evangelism. After all, Jesus called His disciples to be 'Fisher of men.' How well are we fishing? What I like about this series is the concept of Invest and Invite. God puts us in natural social circles, those whose lives we invest in. He is not necessarily calling us to go overseas, or to a strangers' house, or maybe He is. But, if we are open, He gives us the opportunity to invite them to learn more about the Good News. To that end our Fellowship Team is busy planning for the fall and spring activities that we can invite people to.

2020 has been a different kind of year, but our mission remains the same as given in the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. We simply need to be creative and use the gifts that God has placed in our church, for His glory to reach our community. Look for details in the coming weeks as we firm up more plans to assist you for the purpose of godliness.

Pastor Barksdale

MEMBER CARE AND ACTIVITIES

Keep us informed on:

Prayer Requests and Hospital / Rehab Information
Address, Phone, Email changes
Birthdays and Anniversaries
Email to first@fpcpunta.org



To watch the
Worship Service online,
go to our webpage at
www.fpcpunta.org and click
the Vimeo logo:



First Pres is now on Facebook!

You may now see posts about the life of our church....
Go to facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurch-PuntaGorda

Giving to FPC - Punta Gorda

Mail to the church office: 25250 Airport Rd; Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Online Giving through our website: fpcpunta.org, click Donate



New Babies



Welcome New Elders & Deacons

Bev Brady - Ruling Elder - Fellowship

George Fallenbeck - Deacon of Communion
Patti Nuznoff - Deacon of Library
Sharon Russell - Deacon of Kitchen

Congratulations to Jean LaMantia!

Twin boys, Beau and Brody McDonald
are her new great grandsons
Beau and Brody were born July 26th
to Ryan and Brittany McDonald of Brandenton, Florida



*Pullen-Up-A-Chair is continuing. Sign-Up in the Church Foyer, or
call/email the church office. Our September dates are
Wednesdays, September 2nd and 16th.
We will provide a light meal/dessert at the Pullen's home,*

Donuts & Doctrine

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study
of the Book of Colossians
Wednesday at 10:00am
in Fellowship Hall.

Game Fellowship

Thursday Mornings
at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall

SEPTEMBER 2020

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 Jack & Patty Rothley	11 Jerry & Margie Smith	21 James & Teri York
2 Sharon Russell	12 Bo & Karen Sostar	22 Jay Aldridge
3 Barbara Ryan	13 John Stremming	23 Rex & Helen Anderson
4 Charles Sampsel	14 Anne Swift	24 Laurel Aumend
5 Elaine Schultz	15 Diane Tabert	25 Ron Beasom
6 Jene Shafer	16 Gail Thornton	26 Roy & Kathy Belville
7 Dave & Ella Sifferd	17 Larrie & Marjorie Tisale	27 Shirley Berg
8 Ron & Billie Sixt	18 Verna Wargo	28 Rick & Kay Berner
9 Dianne Sizemore	19 Don & Mary Anne Washabaugh	29 Bonnie Brown
10 Andy & Nancy Smith	20 Dave Woods	30 Marion Brown



- 2—Pat Ihrie
- 17—Tim Farris
- 22—Rich Harris
- 26—Karen Sostar



- 9—Ernie & DeAnn Lehman 59 yrs.
- 30—Dick & Sandy Fisher 54 yrs.



25250 Airport Road
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

OUR MISSION AND PURPOSE

LOVING...GROWING...GOING...in JESUS!