

WORSHIP SERVICE		
PRE-SERVICE MUSIC		
Christmas Carols		
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		
PRELUDE		
Blow, Ye Winds Softly (A Christmas Pastorale)		
Ruth Keys Kennerly		
CALL TO WORSHIP		
PRAYER OF INVOCATION		
*HYMN #249		
O Come, All Ye Faithful		
*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 - **		
Meditation on “Morning Star”		
James Denton		
*DOXOLOGY		
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		
Holy One, like Abraham and Sarah, we have heard Your call. We respond with fledgling faith, offering what we have as we step into the unknown future with You. Bless and multiply these gifts of faith, we pray, to accomplish more than we dare think or ask. In Jesus’ name. Amen.		
*HYMN #251		
It Came upon the Midnight Clear		
SCRIPTURE		
Colossians 3:12-17		
MESSAGE		
After The Presents		
Pastor Barksdale Pullen		
*HYMN #258		
Go, Tell It on the Mountain		
*BENEDICTION		
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #243		
Emmanuel		
POSTLUDE		
Shine, Jesus, Shine		
Graham Kendrick		
*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 #50550373

MINISTRY OF PRAYER		
Prayer Focus		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">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

NOTES

PRAYER QUOTE – “Fear not because your prayer is stammering, your words feeble, and your language poor. Jesus can understand you.” – *J.C. Ryle*

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.

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) 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!

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 .
MISIÓN PENIEL – Our next trip to Immokalee is Friday, January 9th, 12:00pm . Please meet at our church. We need 12 people to sign up.
YEAR-END GIVING – To make sure your giving for 2025 gets credited for 2025, please have your offering/gift to the church by December 31, 2025. Any donations received after that date will be applied to one’s 2026 giving.
2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES – Available on the table in the foyer. If you don’t see your name, let the office know. Thank you.

ACTIVITIES / EVENTS

LADIES LUNCH BUNCH – **Friday, January 2nd, 11:30am** – Sign up for Salty Tarpon in Punta Gorda.

HELP TAKE THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS DOWN – Join us on **Saturday, January 3rd, at 9:00am**, to help take down and store our decorations. ***Many hands make light work!*** Sign up in the church foyer.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY – **Tuesday, January 6th, 10:00am** – We are studying “Keep It Shut” by Karen Ehman, Lesson 6 (Chapters 11 & 12 in Book) “As Sweet As Honey: Wonderful Ways to Use Your Words”. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall. All ladies welcome!

LADIES CARDS FELLOWSHIP – ***We will resume on Thursday, January 8th, at 10:00am --*** All ladies are welcome to join us Thursdays for cards and conversation.

DONUTS & DOCTRINE – ***Resumes Wednesday, January 14th, 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.

Comparative Financial Operations / Performance
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	<u>November 2025</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Tithes & Offerings	\$29,713.19	\$235,292.76
Cash Expenditures	<u>\$22,984.63</u>	<u>\$241,293.72</u>
Net	\$6,728.56	(\$6,000.96)

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

December 28 – January 4

Sunday, December 28	
10:30am	Worship Service (Also Online)
11:30am	Fellowship Time
6:00pm	Prayer Meeting-FB

The Church Office will be closed December 29th through January 2nd.

If a need arises, please call the pastor or leave a message at the church voicemail. Messages are checked daily.

Saturday, January 3	
9:00am	Take Down the Greens

Sunday, January 4	
10:30am	Communion Sunday
11:30am	Worship Service (Also Online)
6:00pm	Fellowship Time
	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

Colossians 3:12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



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.

December 28, 2025	10:30am
PASTOR	Dr. Barksdale Pullen
ORGANIST	Denny Ausman
OFFICE & WORSHIP ADMIN	Debbie Rostad
LITURGIST	Sam Cessna
USHERS	Donna DeBree, Pete DeBree, Susie Lorenz, Don Willecke
A/V TECH	George Fallenbeck, Jim Nuznoff, Gene McPherson