

THE NEWSLETTER OF
GULF BEACH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
271 S. HWY. 79
PANAMA CITY BEACH,
FL 32413

Tel: (850) 234-3161

Find us on the Web at:

www.pinkchurch.org

Church Email:

lizpinkchurch@hotmail.com

Pastor's Email:

gbpcpastor@gmail.com



*We are a Christian
community that offers
fellowship and preaches
the Gospel of God's
love in Jesus Christ.*

*Now may the Lord of Peace Himself give you Peace at all times
and in every way. The Lord will be with all of you.*

-2 Thessalonians 3:16

BEACH TIDINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF GULF BEACH PRESBYTERIAN

MARCH 2015

Special points of interest:

- Announcements
- From the Pastor's Pen
- Men's Group
- Sara Circle
- Session minutes
- Calendar

Articles for the Newsletter can be email to lizpinkchurch@hotmail.com or leave it in the Newsletter Box in the church office. Articles must be received by the 15th of the month.

Sunday
Worship
Time
10:15 AM

Sunday School
9:15AM

Beginning
March 8th we
go back to one
service

**Gulf Beach
Presbyterian
Church
Staff and Session**

Rev. Bonnie Wilkins
Pastor/Head of Staff

Dr. Larry Tyson –
Music Director

Norma Davison -
Accompanist

Liz Creswell –
Bookkeeper/
Admin. Assistant

**SESSION: Please feel free to
call on them.**

Tracy Schoppe Clerk of Ses-
sion 867-5372
schoppepcb@aol.com

Lenny Zacher– 867-3770
tennis850@aol.com

Beve Lutz- Treasurer
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Ron Coleman-890-1172
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Betsy Balmer– 850-348-2890
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Rev. Bonnie Wilkins
870-415-2082
gbpcpastor@gmail.com



www.pinkchurch.org

Worship Service Change

Beginning March 8th
we will go to one service.

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:15AM Worship



Pastor Installation Service

On Sunday March 8, 2015 at 4 pm,
Florida Presbytery will have a Ser-
vice of Installation for our pastor,
Rev. Bonnie J. Wilkins. There will be
representatives and guests from our
presbytery officiating and worship-
ing with us. Mr. Jim Dilamarter will be giving the message. The
congregation is invited to come and celebrate this good news in
the life of our church and together, take this next step on our
journey with Jesus Christ. There will be a reception following
the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Fellowship
Dinner



FELLOWSHIP DINNER

March 4, 2015

5:30P

Menu: Shrimp Creole over Rice French
Bread, Mixed fruit, New Orleans Style Bread Pudding with
Rum Sauce



“For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities - His eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.” (Romans 1:20)

As we prepare ourselves to reach out into our community and share the gospel with new folk, we have to look at the way we have been doing this (or not) and the new ways we can communicate and worship together. Relationships are primary in our unique way of being the Christian community; of being followers of Jesus. How we can enhance, innovate and improve our ability to communicate and worship inside and outside of the walls of this church need to be considered.

One of the areas of growth in my ministry over the last ten years has been in the visual and audio arts in worship. This is one of the gifts I will share with this congregation. As a way to begin this, I want to call into formation a Visual and Audio Arts Team that will work collaboratively with others in our congregation and build a network of resource people in the wider community. We want to think critically and theologically about the way we communicate, in sight and sound, with others inside and outside the church.

Using audio and visual resources in worship is one area of growth for our church. We live in a visual age. To ignore this way of “seeing” worship, “seeing” God, is a spiritual loss to us all. One person said, “God gave us eyes so that we can worship Him. If we were not able to glorify God through what we see, He would not have created us with eyes to begin with.” (A. Lee of Hong Kong, worshipVJ.hk)

The Session has begun praying, discussing, and taking action related to the changes we need to make as we respond to the new thing God is doing in our midst. We also are looking with new eyes and hearing with new ears this new vision that is there for us to discern and respond to as a church and worshiping community. You have already begun to experience some of those actions with the installation of the improved sound system in the sanctuary. Thaddeus Wilkins has been doing video recording of the services and making DVD’s to distribute to some of our shut-ins. I will begin posting sermon audio recordings on a podcast that millions of people will have access to. All these projects are in a test and evaluation phase and not completed yet. There are other proposals waiting on Session discernment and action related to audio/visual communication as well.

So, what is “visual” worship?

I have been reading a book by Stephen Proctor on visual worship. I want to share some of his thoughts from the introduction with you. I have also asked the Session to begin talking to you, the congregation, about what you are interested in seeing and hearing in worship and to ask you about your thoughts in regards to communication inside and outside our church. Let’s remember as we think and talk and make decisions that we are to give God the glory and “keep our eyes focused on Jesus” as we look and listen for the way God is guiding us into people’s lives for the sake of the Gospel.

Visual Worship by Stephen Proctor:

“Worship is our response to a revelation from God, specifically: who He is, what He’s done, and what He’s yet to do. So then, how can visual media/art facilitate a revelation from God (just as text on paper can), and how can we use visual media as a way of responding to God? This is Visual Worship.

Eyes are windows to our souls...a way to let the Light in. We see His glory displayed all around us in creation as well as in His people, both inside and outside the Church. Savor a beautiful sunset, gaze up at a star-filled sky, play with children in a developing country...you will see God at work with your own eyes! They speak of and declare the glory of God! (Psalm 19)

What we see in the world around us deepens our knowledge and understanding of a Holy God and compels us to respond to Him in fresh new ways. But this requires an awareness of the world we live in. And we have a choice to see Christ at work in these visual ways. Not only can we see the evidence of God and His revelations, but we have an incredible opportunity to respond to His glory through visual creativity!

Steven Frost says, 'Visual Worship is declaration, not decoration. It isn't decorating a product for attracting, it's the declaration of a people for remembering.' Visual worship is only one small piece of the puzzle though. For sight is just one of many senses that God has created us with. However, it seems to be a gift that has been severely misunderstood in the Western Church.

The question for you and your church is, are you willing to open your eyes and to shift your approach (if needed) in order to more clearly reflect the creativity of God? And if so, what might that look like? I once heard a young teenager say, "It seems the best way to give witness to the Creator is following His example and to create." Creating visual art is one of many ways we can imitate Christ, as we were made in His image! Not only is it a powerful expression of worship, but it serves as a creative way to facilitate environments where people are free to worship fully and without restraint. There is so much beauty and freedom when it comes to worshipping Jesus through the medium of art. This obviously raises a few questions...theological, philosophical, artistic, technical, and more. I don't have all the answers, but I think the answers lie in learning to ask better questions and trusting the Holy Spirit to show us the Way."

A final word

So my friends, may this be spiritual food for thought and prayer for you in this season of Lent. If you are interested in being part of the Visual and Audio Arts Team, pray about it and then come talk to me. If you want to find other ways to contribute to the process of discernment and action, come talk to me. Let's remember these words as we do:

"Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven." -Matthew 5:14-16 (The Message, E. Peterson)

In Christ,

Rev. Bonnie

gbpcpastor@gmail.com

(870) 415-2082

Twitter: @pastorbonbon



Believe.
HOPE.
Encourage.
PERSEVERE.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry's mission is to increase access to food for hungry people, and empower them to help each other.

In January the food pantry served 250 total people and we supplied them with 2331 meals.

Please help stock our shelves.

Needs:

Plastic Grocery Sacks. Our supply was mistakenly thrown away and we need to replenish quickly. Thanks.

Thank you to Karen Ferguson and Kelli Stevenson for getting the carpet in the Food Pantry cleaned.

The SHEPHERDING TEAM is available to you at anytime for member care. Please feel free to call on them.

John Skelton 706-436-4288 ratpack219@gmail.com

Lenny Zacker 850-867-3770 tennis850@ail.com

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Beve Lutz 850-35-7349 meinschaatz406@aol.com

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Tammy Price 615-483-6067 tprice118@hotmail.com

Jim Price 850-830-3612 jbprice0@gmail.com

Linda Coleman 850-890-0161 antiquegeek55@yahoo.com

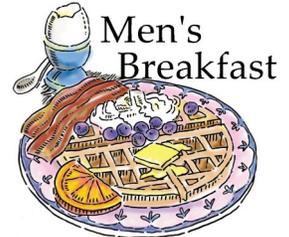
Ron Coleman 850-890-1172 dirtft.coleman@gmail.com

Suzanne Burke 850-867-5371 suzannegilmoreburke@gmail.com

Lorraine Gilmore 850-867-5370 lorrainegilmore46@gmail.com

Men's Ministry

THE Men's Breakfast will be on March 2nd at 7:30AM.



The monthly Spruce up Day at the Church.



will be the third (3rd) Sunday of every month (MARCH 15TH) after 10:15 service, from 12:00-2:00

PM.

Bring work clothes and work gloves. Pizza will be provided. Bring your own beverage.

Let's work together to take care of God's House!

The "Love Line" is available for your prayer needs, announcements and celebrations. Just email your requests to Mary Foist at myseaclusion@gmail.com



To all the women of the church:

The Sara Circle will meet on March 10th at 12:30.

We will be studying about Paul this year. We will be studying in several different books of the New Testament, and we will look at each of his missionary journeys.

High Tea

The High Tea on Feb 14th was a smashing success with 49 ladies in attendance. Tari Sales' artful displays of hats, boas, scarves and antique perfume bottles was fabulous!

Sara Circle would like to continue having these afternoons of Christian women fellowship and are looking for more Tea Pots, and cups and saucers. If you run across such items in your journeys at rummage sales, Thrift Shops etc and are willing to donate to us, it would be appreciated. We currently have 12 Tea Pots and would like to have 25 or 30. We have 35 cups and saucers and would like to have at least 50. Thanks for helping and hope to see you at the next Tea Party.



Gulf Beach Presbyterian Stated Session Minutes

February 9, 2015 5:30pm

Attendees

Rev. Bonnie Wilkins - moderator, Tracy Schoppe (clerk), Ron Coleman, Beve Lutz, Lenny Zacher
Betsy Balmer – Elder elect, Wanda Pflugfelder – Elder elect, Jim Price – Elder elect
Julie Bailey, Representing the Hospitality Committee - guest

Call to Meeting and Opening Prayer

Rev. Wilkins called the meeting to order and opened the meeting prayer and a reading from 2nd Corinthians
All current Ruling Elders in attendance, a quorum was established.

A motion was made by Beve Lutz, 2nd by Tracy Schoppe to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lenny Zacher, 2nd by Ron Coleman to approve the minutes from January 5, 2015 Stated Session Meeting, January 25, 2015 Called Session Meeting and January 25, 2015 Annual Stated Congregational Meeting. The motion carried.

Request from Hospitality Committee:

The Hospitality Committee would like to spearhead a program to improve the audio and visual aspects of worship service. The request from the committee is:

One of the projects that we(Hospitality Committee) feel has merit is the Media Project. We feel that it would help us to communicate with our congregation and our community if we were able to hear and see better in the Sanctuary, Gulf Treat and the Chapel. There are 5 phases to this project. Phase 1 is updating and managing the sanctuaries speakers. We need to hear sermons without crackling and we need a way to hear concerns and celebrations no matter where in the sanctuary the person is sitting. To this end we moved the speakers that were used in Gulf Treat for Let's Move Exercise and the Fellowship dinner. This is at no expense to the church. Phase 2 is to replace the system in Gulf Treat with a less expensive but adequate system. The estimated cost of Phase 2 is \$619.00.

Phase 3 is to buy 2 speakers and combine them with the mixer that was taken out of the sanctuary and put them in the chapel so that it would be wired for sound. The estimated cost of phase 3 is \$300.

Phase 4 and 5 are very exciting. Phase 4 is to have a visual component to the worship service. Identifying the need for 3- 70" monitors is \$3894.00 (\$1298 for each TV Monitor). Phase 5 is to have the capability to capture sermons and activities in video format so that we can share the worship and other activities to our members and friends no matter where they may be. The estimated funding for phase 5 is \$1149.00 for a video camera and \$1125.00 for a DLSR Camera. The total cost for all 5 phases is estimated to be \$7087.00.

The Hospitality Committee would like Session to approve the entire Media Project and to open a designated fund for the project. The Hospitality Committee would like to pledge \$1500 to the project to get it started and to help encourage others to give.

Phase 1 of this project was completed during the week of 2/2 – 2/6, with volunteer labor and an expense still to be determined. After discussion, Session did not feel they had adequate information to make a decision. The request for action from the Hospitality Committee was tabled until the March 9, 2015 Stated Session Meeting.

Moderator's Report

Rev. Wilkins will be officially installed on March 8, 2015 at 4pm. The service will be held at Gulf Beach. Cake and punch will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the installation service.

A motion was made by Tracy Schoppe, 2nd by Lenny Zacher, Betsy Balmer, Wanda Pflugfelder and Jim Price will be ordained and installed as Ruling Elders February 22, 2015 at 10:15 worship service. The motion carried.

Clerk's Report

A motion was made by Ron Coleman, 2nd by Beve Lutz to approve Annual Statistical Report. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ron Coleman, 2nd by Lenny Zacher to approve Richard Johnson's transfer of membership to 1st Presbyterian of Phenix City, AL. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tracy Schoppe, 2nd by Beve Lutz to approve hosting Summer Stated Meeting of Presbytery of Florida on September 8, 2015.

Treasurer's Report

For the month ending January 31, 2015 GBPC recorded a net income of \$220. The total income was \$17,925; \$13,741 regular givers, \$1,677 loose plate, \$1,400 in rental income, miscellaneous income \$270, interest income \$46 and in-kind contributions of \$789. The general operating expense was \$9,583. The payroll expense was \$7,786.

In the month of January, the long debt of GBPC was reduced by \$3,472, leaving a mortgage balance of \$473,281.

A motion was made by Tracy Schoppe, to approve the financial reports, balance sheet and income statement as presented by the Treasurer. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Tracy Schoppe, 2nd by Lenny Zacher to move the designated fund "Pastor's Salary", line item 425.20 to unrestricted funds. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Lenny Zacher, 2nd by Ron Coleman to move up to \$1000 from designated fund "Hospitality", line item 426.20 to unrestricted funds to pay kitchen repairs. The funds are to be moved as the expense is incurred. If expenses do not meet the budgeted \$1000, the remaining funds will stay in the designated "Hospitality" fund 426.20. The motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Administration: Beve Lutz, chair – no report

Building and Grounds: Lenny Zacher, chair- no report

Christian Education: Ron Coleman, chair

Adult and children Sunday School classes continue to meet at 9:15 am. The youth class is on hiatus.

Member Care: Wanda Pflugfelder, chair

The pictorial directory was a success, 71 families participated.

Mission, no chairperson–

Report from Scouting for Food- Gulf Beach received 70 boxes of food and \$204 from the event.

Report from Food Pantry- January 2015 our food pantry served 259 people a total of 2,331 meals.

Worship: no chairperson

The following recommendation was presented to Session for its approval:

Recommendations to the Session for its consideration: The responsibility for worship committee is divided by month, with each member of Session assuming responsibility on a rotating basis. In the months with 2 worship services, January, February and March, two elders would share the responsibility for those months.

Rational for the this recommendation: Traditionally at Gulf Beach, the Ruling Elders responsibilities have been divided into: Ministry of Evangelism, Ministry of Worship, Ministry of Member Care, Ministry of Christian Education, Ministry of Missions, Facilities Management, Administration and Clerk of Session. We currently have 7 elders on Session and 8 areas of responsibility. Of the Session responsibilities; Worship lends itself best to a division of duties.

The Session concurred with the recommendation. The monthly responsibilities for 2015 will be divided as follows:

March	Beve Lutz & Betsy Balmer
April	Betsy Balmer
May	Tracy Schoppe
June	Beve Lutz
July	Ron Coleman
August	Jim Price
September	Wanda Pflugfelder
October	Betsy Balmer
November	Tracy Schoppe
December	Wanda Pflugfelder

Evangelism: Ron Coleman, chair

The Shepherding Committee continues to meet the 2nd Sunday of each month. The Committee does not have a line item on the budget; it is requesting Session to add some money to the budget for this committee. A motion was made by Tracy Schoppe, 2nd by Lenny Zacher, Session will add \$300 to the GBPC 2015 budget for the Shepherding Committee. \$300 from the Outreach Ministries designated fund, line item 425.18 is to be moved to unrestricted funds for the use of the Shepherding Committee. The motion carries. Session realizes this is a preliminary budget; the Shepherding committee may have need of more funds. These needs will be addressed as they arise.

New Business

Request to release funds from Designated Fund "Youth" (line item 425.12) for Dogwood Youth Conference. The fee to attend DYC is \$80 per participant, the request is for 100% of chaperon fees and 50% of youth fees be paid from youth fund. Session concurred and added that youth may apply for additional scholarship funds.

Adjournment and Prayer

Rev. Wilkins adjourned the meeting with prayer at 7:30pm.

Next stated session meeting will be March 9, 2015 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall.

Tracy G. Schoppe, Clerk of Session

Stewardship means a "giving" lifestyle. Too often, we link "stewardship" with our money, rather than taking our money and connecting it to our hearts and our living.



March 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																	
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February Anniversaries

March Anniversaries

25- Larry & Ann Offord

March Birthdays

- 4- Caitlin LaPlante
- 7- Catherine Grace Burke
- 8- Marie Norton
- 9- Larry Tyson
- 13- Phyllis Reimink
- 15- Kathy Hasbrouck

Karl Wiselogel

- 17- Lorraine Gilmore
- 18- Nyle Staffen
- 19- Margaret Davies
- 22- Inez Thomas
- 29- Robert Loewe