

Gulf Beach

Presbyterian Church

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Choir Director/Accompanist

Amanda Matthews



*This Newsletter is emailed
and posted on Facebook
and our church website.*



A Closer Look Inside...

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Sunday Mornings at Gulf Beach

Bible Study	9:00AM
Coffee and Donuts	11:15AM
Worship	8:15 & 10:15AM

Jazz for the Soul Worship

2nd Tues. each month at 7PM

Beach Tidings



JANUARY 2016

From the Pastor's Pen

Feed My Lambs: Calling all disciples— now hear this!

Simon Peter announced, "I'm going fishing." The rest of them replied, "We're going with you." They went out and got in the boat. They caught nothing that night. When the sun came up, Jesus was standing on the beach, but they didn't recognize him. Jesus spoke to them: "Good morning! Did you catch anything for breakfast?" They answered, "No." He said, "Throw the net off the right side of the boat and see what happens." They did what he said. All of a sudden there were so many fish in it, they weren't strong enough to pull it in. Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Master!" When Simon Peter realized that it was the Master, he threw on some clothes, for he was stripped for work, and dove into the sea. The other disciples came in by boat for they weren't far from land, a hundred yards or so, pulling along the net full of fish.... After breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" " Yes, Master, you know I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." (from John 21, The Message)

This month we will be ordaining and installing two new Ruling Elders, Tari Sale and Bob Lemken. Lenny Zacher will also be installed for one more year. We thank each of these members for prayerfully accepting this call to serve our church in this way. Part of the task that these new Elders and the rest of the Session and I will be focused on this year will be discerning, making plans, and going forward in new and renewed ways with the mission and ministry of Christ through this church. This is what Christ needs us to do and is calling us to complete both as a congregation and as individual disciples. We need to keep our eyes on the vision we discerned as a church: "Transforming lives by the love of Christ Jesus through witness, mission, and evangelism." Transformation is no light thing! Are you ready to take a leap of faith, from boat to shore, with us this year as we seek new ways to be a mission-minded and mission-active church and disciples?

Spiritual growth and church growth depend on active and growing discipleship and the opportunities for that kind of discipleship. We can sit in our boat and "catch" nothing on our own. Or, we can catch a new vision for life as active and empowered disciples. There are fish to catch and lambs to feed as Jesus directs us to them. Think how empowering and exciting it will be to say to someone: "Hey, come plant a community garden with us; come feed hungry people with us; come mentor a child with us; come read a book or play a game of chess with lonely adult with us; come love Jesus with us, as we tend to His needs!" I think we have to ask ourselves, "How faithful is it for us to call ourselves disciples of Jesus Christ if we do nothing more than tend to and feed ourselves?"

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(From the Pastor's Pen..... Cont.)

This community is filled with Christ's lambs that are hungry, homeless, poor, hurting and lonely. They are our mission and ministry. Jesus tells us it's our responsibility to love and care for them, not someone else's. Our outreach and mission is dependent on your generosity of money and time, resources and prayer in order to do the work of feeding Christ's lambs.

Without your commitment neither this church nor you may be able to fulfill our calling. And there will be people who will suffer because of it. Jesus didn't ask Peter, "Will you feed; will you tend..." He commanded him. Jesus' commands are always a matter of life and death for us; always opportunities for growth and renewal; listening and responding.

Jesus is serious about his command to us to feed and tend his lambs. And just like he promised, Jesus doesn't send us out there alone or unprepared. He goes with us and he empowers us with the work of the Holy Spirit. We are supplied with gifts and time and resources to do the thing Christ needs doing—to love others in the same way he loves us. Even if we feel like our time and talent is limited these days by age or infirmity or other commitments or tight resources, our call to discipleship is never limited. Love always finds a way. Christ's love is the way in us that makes all things possible. Every kind of tithe and giving we do of ourselves---of our lives---is a way of love that helps to care for the lambs that Christ has entrusted to us.

Gifts of treasure—time and talent: this is how we feed the lambs Christ has given us. This is how you demonstrate your love for Jesus. If you live this way, you will find the purpose and meaning you crave. You will experience the deep happiness that can come from focusing on others instead of on yourself. This is the first response of love, the leap, from boat to shore, that Jesus desires from each of us.

So, are we committed or not to this way of discipleship; to this very real act of communion with Christ through love? If you say: "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you," then our mission and ministry is just a leap of faith away from joyfully keeping Jesus' command to love and serve others.

In Christ' Service,

Rev. Bonnie Wilkins



A Change in Offering Envelopes

In an effort to cut expenses, we will not be using the numbered offering envelopes this coming year. However, we will continue using the numbers for data entry in the computer. If you remember your current number you can write it on the blank envelope found in the back of the church chairs. We will maintain blank envelopes for your convenience.

Beve Lutz, Treasurer



The SESSION of GBPC

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Moderator of Session

Prayer "Love Line"

Mary Foist

seaclusion@panamacity.com

January Fellowship Dinner



January 6, 2016 at 5:30PM, Gulfstream

Adults \$12.50, Children under 14 \$3.00

RSPV—Church 850 234-3161

Julie Bailey, Hospitality Committee Chairperson

From the Hospitality Team Kitchen

Buffalo Wing Dip

This is a fabulous, easy recipe for your Super Bowl get-together on February 7th!

2 large cans white meat chicken or 3 if you want more chicken [drained]

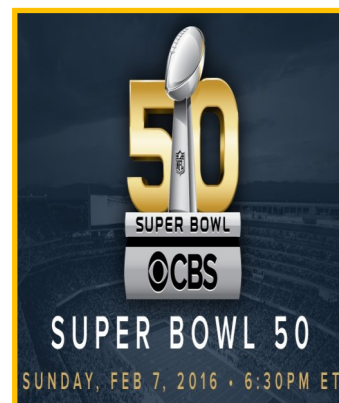
1/cup ranch salad dressing [Hidden Valley]

1/cup buffalo wing sauce medium [add hot to taste]

Mix all together and set aside.

2 pkg. cream cheese, spread in the bottom of your pan [spray with pam first]

Pour chicken mixture on top. Add grated cheddar cheese on top. Cook 30 min. on 350. Garnish with green onions chopped fine.



“Pillars of the Church” champion sees work ahead for PC(USA) —December 28, 2015, Presbyterian News Service

For Robert Trawick, joining the Pillars of the Church campaign was a no brainer. He strongly believes in the work the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), adding that the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations and the Office of Public Witness conduct some of the most vital work the church can do...“I sense there has been a pushback in the Presbyterian Church that political involvement and social witness in general are not appropriate for the church,” he says. “A lot of my work has been around the idea that not only is it appropriate, but it is central to the mission of the church.”



As times have changed, Trawick has seen the role of the church change. “I think we need to prayerfully let go of this sense that we as a church are going to return to our place in American culture,” he says. “The 1950’s are gone and the church’s cultural pre-eminence is gone. I don’t think our central mission is to make more Presbyterians. I’d like for us to understand what it means to be a smaller church. I’d like for us to understand what it means to be a church that is visibly faithful to a particular message.”

Trawick says the church has an opportunity to be more prophetic in its work and stand for issues it has not embraced before. He believes being part of Pillars of the Church allows him to make that a reality. “My identity and the most vibrant work I do centers around the church. I would be sad to see the church lose its vitality and public witness and so to me, it’s an exciting opportunity to support what I see as a vital piece of the future,” says Trawick. “There’s still something we have to say that can be game changing if we continue to have a voice. But we’ve got to have the resources to have that voice.”



Please pray for... **Amanda Craft and Omar Chan Giron**

PC(USA) Mission Co-Workers (*Serving Christ in Mexico and Guatemala*) Amanda and Omar build bridges between US Presbyterians and partner churches and organizations in Guatemala and Mexico. They also support the ministries of other mission co-workers serving in these countries. Amanda and Omar facilitate cross cultural partnerships that are centered on a common faith in Christ and cultivated in a spirit of mutuality. “When we have the opportunity to walk together in our spiritual lives, a richness is fostered and nurtured, deepening our understanding of how God manifests in different communities,” they write.

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Mission co-workers, Amanda Craft and Omar Chan Giron

(cont.)

"The work in Mexico is changing and the work in Guatemala will continue to grow. This is an exciting moment in the history of our partnerships to grow together in our understanding of mutual mission."

"Though the Lord may give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself any more...Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'" *Isaiah 30:20-21*

Learn more about supporting Presbyterian mission workers,

Call 800-728-7228, ext. 5611.

Learn more about Presbyterian World Mission at pcusa.org/worldmission

Gulf Beach Presbyterian presents our 24th

Church and the Arts Concert Series

January 31, 2016 @ 7pm - David Seering

February 21, 2016 @ 7pm - Arnold HS Jazz Band Ensemble

February 28, 2016 @ 7pm - Brian Muth



Beach Tidings is published monthly to inform members and friends of church news, upcoming events, and "for spiritual nurture. Deadline for contributions is the 15th of each month. Contributions are subject to editing with regard to subject matter, space requirements and timely submission. We appreciate your kind and thoughtful cooperation. For weekly updates, please come to Worship Service each Sunday morning to receive your copy of the Bulletin and Announcements.

Our Daily Bread for KIDS

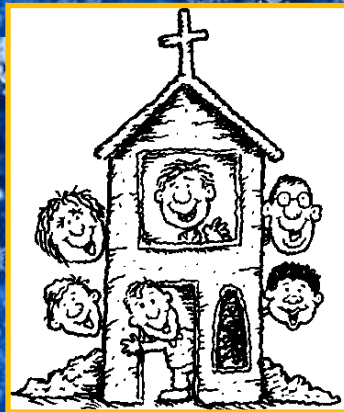


Friendship is a gift from God

Having a best friend is special. It's more fun to play hid-and-seek with someone you like. It's nice to have a friend to build a fort with. Eating ice cream is even sweeter when you can share it with a friend. God gives friendship as a gift. And He can use it to do great things!

The Bible tells us about two friends. Their names were David and Jonathan. Jonathan was the son of Saul, the first king of Israel. Saul liked Jonathan's friend David for a while, but then he became jealous. Saul knew that David was going to be the new king—and he wasn't happy about that. Saul tried to keep David from becoming king and even tried to hurt Saul.

"David and Jonathan became close friends. Jonathan loved David just as he loved himself.."
1 Samuel 18:1 NIRV



O God, look with compassion on the one in seven Americans who face hunger in this country. Preserve their dignity as they struggle to get enough to eat. May those looking for jobs find new opportunities to earn a living. May those who are unable to work be supported and sustained by their communities and by ours. Amen.



Smart reforms to U.S. food aid will help millions of hungry people.

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN



Ministry News



will meet Monday, Jan. 11th at 7:30AM. Join us for breakfast, bible study, fellowship, and project planning.

To all the women of the church:

Sara Circle, a revelry of sisterhood, will meet Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 12:30PM .
Led by Elder Beve Lutz.



When you are cleaning out your garage, closets, etc. remember the Sara Circle **Rummage Sale, Sat., Jan. 23rd**. Sara Circle will be happy take those old items of yours any time. We have a special storage room designed for that purpose. All monies generated at our Rummage sale goes to help finance major Church building repairs and upkeep, send our children to Church camp, and support the Thornwell Children's home. We appreciate all the

rummage you give us.

Evening Women's Circle meet for a shared meal and bible study the 4th Monday of each month at 6:00PM.
Led by Elder Betsy Balmer.



Hands and Hearts Caregiver Support Group meet every Thursday. 1-2PM. This is a small group of men and women who gather each week to offer care for one another and to share their caregiving experiences in hopes that their solutions may in some way be of benefit to others. Led by Elder Wanda Pflugfelder.

Jazz for the Soul—January 13th

Come and worship with us at a new worship service on the 2nd Wed. of the month at 7:00pm in Gulfstream. Jazz with music by the accomplished jazz pianist, **Amanda Matthews**. Communion is celebrated at this service each month.

A *Jazz for the Soul* email with information about each jazz service is sent out monthly. To subscribe to this email, send email addresses to GulfBeachPres@gmail.com with "Jazz" in the subject line.

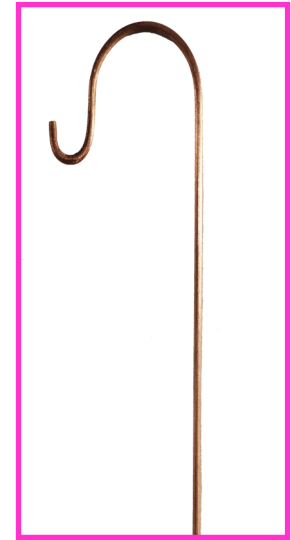
For more information, contact: Lenny Zacher, Worship Team (850 867-3770); Rev. Bonnie Wilkins (850 234-3161)



Caring for Each Other

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
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Wanda Pflugfelder	850-249-3396r	einholdwanda@misn.com
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Suzanne Burke	850-867-5371	suzannegilmoreburke@gmail.com
Lorraine Gilmore	850-867-5370	lorrainegilmore46@gmail.com



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

First Together Fellowship is dedicated to building relationships, fostering spiritual growth, and providing assistance through socializing, visiting, resource building, loving and caring. Our activities together will seek to deepen our relationship with Christ, each other, and our community. Activities throughout the year will include day trips, concerts, movies, service projects, forum discussions, meals.



Check out these First Together activities this month:

"Food, Fun, & Fellowship" meets at 10AM every Friday in the Fellowship Hall for games, conversation and potluck lunch.

"First Tuesday" is a monthly meal at an area restaurant (Dutchtreat). We are having our monthly fellowship supper at Mike's Café on Jan. 5th at 4:30PM. We have a great time talking, laughing, eating, and getting to know one another. Usually about a dozen or so of us meet each month for this early evening supper fellowship.

"First Sunday Potluck" is the first Sunday of the month at 11:30, following worship. Join us on Sunday, Jan. 3rd and bring the dish that your family eats for "good luck" at the beginning of the New Year.

10 Beach Tidings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:15 Worship 9:00 am Sunday School / Choir 10:15 Worship 11:15 Coffee and Donuts Potluck, 11:30	2:30p Chapel Svc @ Superior 5:30 PM Worship and Person- nel Commit- tees	4:30 Pm First To- gether Supper	5:30PM Fellowship Dinner - Meatloaf	1:00 PM Caregiver Support Group	10:00 AM Food, Fun, Fellowship	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:15 Worship 9:00 am Sunday School / Choir 10:15 Worship 11:15 Coffee and Donuts Shepherding Team 11:30a Confirmation Class 11:30a	Men's Meet- ing 7:30am 5:30 Session	12:30 Sara Circle	7:00 PM Jazz Worship	1:00 PM Caregiver Support Group	10:00 AM Food, Fun, Fellowship	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:15 Worship 9:00 am Sunday School / Choir 10:15 Worship 11:15 Coffee and Donuts Confirmation Class 11:30a				1:00 PM Caregiver Support Group	10:00 AM Food, Fun, Fellowship	Sara Circle Rummage Sale 7-1
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:15 Worship 9:00 am Sunday School / Choir 10:15 Worship 11:15 Annual Congregational Meeting	6PM Evening Women's Circle			1:00 PM Caregiver Support Group	10:00 AM Food, Fun, Fellowship	
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
8:15 Worship 9:00 am Sunday School / Choir 10:15 Worship 11:15 Coffee and Donuts Confirmation Class 11:30a David Seering Concert, 7p						

January 2016