

**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:
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Church Email:
gulfbeachpres@gmail.com
Liz's 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 Thessaloni-

BEACH TIDINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF GULF BEACH PRESBYTERIAN

JUNE 2015

Special points of interest:

- Summer Picnic
- From the Pastor's Pen
- Ministry updates
- 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 School
9:00AM**

**Coffee and
Donuts
9:45AM**

**Sunday
Worship
Time
10:15 AM**

Volunteers Needed

We need two people to help greet our visitors each Sunday morning and make them feel welcome so they will want to visit our "little pink church" again.

We also need two people to help usher. The Usher will greet them at the same two entrances, handout the church bulletin and take up the offering.

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.**

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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

Hymn for a summer day

Maltbie Davenport Babcock, a minister in upstate New York at the turn of the 20th century, often walked near Niagara Falls to enjoy the view of Lake Ontario and the surrounding scenery. He'd tell his wife he was "going to see the Father's world."

After Babcock's death in 1901, his wife, Katherine, published a book of his writings, including the 16-verse poem "My Father's World." Franklin Sheppard set it to music in 1915, using two verses of text for each hymn stanza.

This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.

This is my Father's world:
he shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me everywhere
he shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me everywhere.

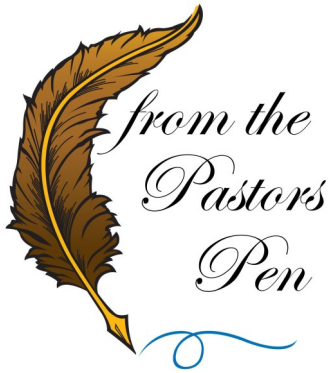


Summer Sunday Picnics

There will be potluck picnic lunches immediately following services on June 7th.. The theme for this picnic will be Salads. The church is providing Shrimp Cocktail, chocolate chip oatmeal cookies, and yummy yeast rolls. If you don't feel like cooking, visit the Front Beach Wal-mart deli. They make several different types of very good salads. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship!

Covered dishes can be brought before church and left in the walk-in cooler in Gulf Treat. Food will be set-up in Gulf Treat after worship and you can choose to eat inside or out.





A New Vision- Revitalizing as we follow God's call in- to the world.

"I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes, I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me...I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me." (Matt. 25, The Message)

At our session retreat last month, a new vision statement for the church was discerned and adopted. Our new Vision Statement is: **"Transforming Lives by the Love of Christ Jesus through Witness, Mission, and Evangelism."** The Ruling Elders have each committed to be a visionary leader in a particular mission focus area for our church (Witness and Evangelism, Compassion, Care, Worship, Spiritual Development and Education, Building and Grounds, Stewardship). I have asked them to listen to and pray about this new Vision, form teams and committees to discern ministry plans of action, and start doing the ministry God is calling us to do. In the passage from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus has given us a very detailed and clear focus of where our actions must begin and where they will find fulfillment. This should guide our movement toward the Vision that always lies before us.

We also have our Mission Statement to guide our steps: **"To be a place where the community can come together in Christ and provide, through God and his Word, love, comfort, and joy to all."** There are opportunities everywhere to "come together," and to be "love, comfort, joy" to others beyond the walls of this church. In my experience, when we follow God's call into the world, this is where we experience renewal and revitalization. How we do this can be discovered as we seek answers to the question, *"Where do you need us to join you, Jesus?"* We do not have to look outside of our community, let alone some of the neighborhoods surrounding us, to find the hunger, thirst, homelessness, nakedness, and the imprisonment which Jesus expects us to do something about. If we look through the eyes of faith, we know each of these are physical as well as spiritual realities in the life of our community, neighbors, family, friends, and in ourselves.

As a missional church, our energy has to be used to reconnect ourselves with our community's needs and as partners with what is already being done for and by the people. If we want to see a future together as a renewed and revitalized growing church, we have to refocus our vision away from our own maintenance and preservation as a church. Otherwise, the question we have to answer is: what are we trying to preserve—God's vision or ours?

I believe that when we serve with vision, we will be energized in our witness, mission, and evangelism. We will have more than enough "energy" left over to care for ourselves and our church. That is one of the mysterious truths I have experienced over and over again in my journey with Jesus and thriving congregations.

God always fills the vessel that is emptying itself for others.

Another "truth" the Session and each of you need to hold on to is that the mission of the church is bigger than the membership. This allows us to faithfully dream God's dreams and see God's vision through a bigger picture than we might otherwise create ourselves. As we reach out, connect, and serve others through our witness, mission, and evangelism, each of you will be part of the mission of Christ through the Church.

So, I'd like to hear what you think and want to say about our church and its new Vision. You are invited to meet with me on **Sunday, June 28th from 3-4:30p** at Gulftreat, to talk about what you see and hear through this new Vision and the ministries inspired in response to it. I want to hear your stories about the church, what inspires you, what you feel challenged by, and what you believe God may be calling us, calling you, to do now and in the future through ministries of Witness, Mission, and Evangelism.

Jesus calls us to discipleship in order to share the good news of God's love. Expect to meet Christ in one another. Expect to experience renewal. Watch our church be revitalized by the power of the Holy Spirit through our sharing of Witness, Mission, and Evangelism.

Let's take these words with us on the journey:

May we now depart,

knowing the invitation of God

to move from comfort to insecurity—

so we may move from what we know to what we have yet to discover;

May we now follow,

knowing the invitation of Christ Jesus

to move from the safety of our own making to a place of risk for his kingdom—

so we may move from where we have been to where we have yet to go;

May we now listen,

knowing the invitation of the Holy Spirit

to move us from self to selflessness—

so we may move from how we once knew God to how we have yet to

discover who and where God is at work.

Be committed to sharing in the ministries of Witness, Mission, and Evangelism, through the invitation of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior, who made the invitation to, "Follow me," without saying where he was going. His promise to you on such a journey is transformation and a deepening relationship with the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Pray and ask, "*Where do you need us to join you, Jesus?*"

In Christ's love and service,

Pastor Bonnie



The missional church is such an ingrained part of the surrounding community, that there is a genuine and heartfelt desire to see good things come about in the community. Furthermore, as people of faith, the dreams are big God- sized ones which will only come about with God's favor and blessing. The missional church is recognized and loved for its contribution in the neighborhood. (2015 GBPC Session Retreat)

FOOD PANTRY

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

Report from Food Pantry— April 2015 our food pantry served 145 people a total of 1305 meals.

Needs:

Canned Chili and canned Fruit

Food Pantry needs volunteers. We are short 3 people. Training happens while you work. There is always one experienced person on each shift. We are open 9am-12noon Mon-Fri. This is a great Mission and a good way to serve the Lord. Please call Beve Lutz if you think you can give us a hand serving the poor and hungry. (859) 235-7349. Thx

The Pantry is very, very low on the hygiene and cleaning products at this time. The Pantry Policy has been to buy nutritious foods only.

So we are asking for your donations of the following: **shampoo, razors, deodorant, liquid dish soap, toilet paper, paper towels, can openers. I recommend you purchase small travel size or sample sizes of the hygiene products.** We break down packages with multiple items and distribute just one at a time, i.e. one roll of toilet paper per client, etc.

I have begun shopping at Dollar Tree for Pantry food. I've noticed good buys on hygiene and cleaning products there as well. It sure helps stretch that dollar. My plea to the congregations is to search your heart and if you can help us with these non-nutritious products for a few months that would be wonderful.

Thank you for your faithful and continuous support of this Mission. May God bless each of you.

Beve Lutz, Elder

Men's Ministry

THE Men's ministry will be meeting for lunch on Monday, June 1st at 11:30A. Bring your own lunch and come join the fun.



The monthly Spruce up Day at the Church.

will be the third (3rd) Sunday of every month (June 21st) 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!



CAREGIVER SUPPORT

We meet every Thursday at 1:00PM in Gulf Treat.

There is a vast amount of knowledge available to caregivers and we are striving to share information and

love with these folks as they journey to care for a loved one. Do you know someone who would benefit from this support group? Please tell them about our meetings, or better yet bring them to a meeting. They may be more comfortable with you there. Reach out your hand in Christian Love.

CARE GIVER SUPPORT MEETINGS ARE ON

Thursday at 1:00PM in Gulf Treat Building
Everyone is welcome.



To all the women of the church:

Next meeting is 2nd Tuesday of September with a "Meet & Greet" pot luck luncheon.

Newly elected officers of Sara Circle are: President, Wanda Pflugflender; Secretary: Tammy Price; Treasurer: Beve Lutz.

Rummage Sale Reminder

When you are cleaning out your garage, closets, etc. this summer remember the Sara Circle Rummage Sale. 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 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.

Gulf Beach Presbyterian Stated Session Minutes April 13, 2015 5:30pm

Reception of New Member:

After the sharing of and examination of faith, session approved that we receive Molly Allen into membership of Gulf Beach Presbyterian by Affirmation of Faith. The service will take place on Sunday in April 19th.

Moderator's Report

- A Session retreat is planned for Sunday April 26, 2015.
- Assignment of Committee Chairs

Ministry of Witness & Evangelism: Ron Coleman

Ministry of Worship: All of Session will continue to fill this role

Ministry of Care: Wanda Pflugfelder

Ministry of Spiritual Development and Education: Jim Price

Ministry of Compassion: Beve Lutz

Ministry of Building and Grounds: Lenny Zacher

Ministry of Stewardship: Betsy Balmer

Treasurer: Beve Lutz

Clerk of Session: Tracy Schoppe

- Rev. Wilkins will participate in the National Day of Prayer Service at the Panama City Beach City Hall.
- Session approved the scout's request to use church's fellowship hall and kitchen on April 27, 2015 from 6-8 pm,

Treasurer's Report

- For the month ending March 31, 2015 GBPC recorded a net loss of \$2,820. The total income was \$15,867; \$12,700 regular givers, \$1,490 loose plate, \$1,400 in rental income, miscellaneous income \$40, interest income \$.56 and in-kind contributions of \$277. The general operating expense was \$8,788. The payroll expense was \$9,560. In the month of March, the long term debt of GBPC was reduced by \$3,646, leaving a mortgage balance of \$466,113. For the 1st Quarter of 2015: income was \$55,615, operating expenses were \$25,368, and payroll expenses were \$27,000. 1st Quarter net income was \$2,250.
- Session approved to move the money from designated fund 425.03, flowers, to unrestricted funds.

Member Care:

- The committee has begun a new ministry to support caregivers. This ministry is open to the community and will begin April 27, 2015 at 1pm in Gulf treat. It will take place weekly.
- Pot luck lunches and they will be offered the 1st Sunday of each month May – October in Gulf treat family center.

Mission

- March 2015 our food pantry served 122 people a total of 1100 meals. We received cash donations of \$565 while we purchased \$55 in groceries.

Evangelism:

- The Shepherding Committee continues to meet the 2nd Sunday of each month. The team is visiting and contacting those in need.

Old Business

The Session will meet with our Realtor on April 30, 2015 at 5:30 to discuss the options for listing our property .

Next stated session meeting will be on May 11, 2015 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall.

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

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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 myseclusion@gmail.com

First Together:

A new ministry at Gulf Beach Pres. 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, "Food, Fun, & Fellowship" (10 a.m. every Friday in the Fellowship Hall) and "First Tuesday" (monthly lunch at area restaurants-dutch treat).

Mark your calendar and join Pastor Bonnie on June 2 for "First Tuesday" monthly lunch at Shoney's (Pier Park) at Noon.



DID YOU KNOW?

Because you donate and volunteer,

The Panama City Rescue Mission

is able to provide vital rescue and recovery services FREE of charge.

DID YOU KNOW?

100 percent of the bargain center proceeds are used to help fund the Mission.

YOU can donate.....

86,000 Meals are served by the Mission every year.

YOU can serve.....

June 2015

This month at the Beach

Sunday	Monday	Tue sday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	1 1:00 PM -3:00 PM Bible Study	2 12:00 PM First Together Lunch	3	4 1:00 PM Caregiver Support Group	5 10:00 AM Food, Fun & Fellowship	6																																																																																											
7 9:00 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Coffee and Donuts 10:15 AM Summer Picnic following worship	8 1:00 PM -3:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Session Meeting	9 6:00 PM Worship Committee	10	11 1:00 PM Caregiver Support Group	12 10:00 AM Food, Fun & Fellowship	13																																																																																											
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June Anniversaries
 14- Robert & Mavis Zumstein
 18- Cliff & Audrey Porter
 John and Marion Lankford
 21- Bob and Sondra Ricketts
 24- Graham & Ruth Segrest
 25- Rob & Caroline LaPlante

June Birthdays
 4- Nelle Craver
 5- Dianne Coons
 6- Norma Davison
 8- Joyce Beale
 14- Paige Wiselogel
 19- Betty Van Valkenberg
 21- Olivia Camille Burke
 23- Brent Barnhart
 Mary Foist
 26- Emily Wiselogel

Edith Doherty
 Sondra Ricketts
 28- Mary Reeder
 Ed Tomaszewski
 Bud Torrence
 29- Dana Johnson
 Larry Offord