

**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

JANUARY 2015

Special points of interest:

- Ash Wednesday
- From the Pastor's Pen
- Red Letter Day
- Let's Move
- Dogwood Acres
- 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

8:15AM
10:15 AM

Sunday School
9:15AM



**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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gbpcpastor@gmail.com



www.pinkchurch.org

LENTEN LIVING

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18 this year. Christians have observed this season of the church year since the fourth century. It's traditionally a time of reflection, penitence and spiritual renewal before Easter.

During Lent, some Christians give up something that hinders their relationship with God. Others do something extra for their spiritual growth or make a special sacrifice. The key is to make Lent a memorable season of sincere spiritual growth — a time that can set the tone for the rest of the year.

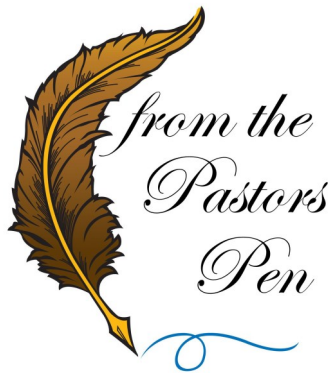


ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 18, 2015

Beginning 5:30PM with a





"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you..."

I am God. At the right time I'll make it happen." Isaiah 60:1 & 22 (NIV, The Message)

One of the paradoxes of our faith is that real freedom comes when we turn the control of our lives over to Christ and follow him. I recently saw a church sign that read, "God is more interested in our availability rather than our ability." Our willingness, rather than our ability, is what God is seeking in us. How available do you make yourself to God?

I often find that people aren't too keen about starting something new or going in a new direction unless they have all the facts or assurances first. In reality, we are often asked by the Lord to step out or take up a new way or a challenge by faith alone. What is most important, from a faith perspective, is our willingness to follow; our availability to respond to God.

I have often found this to be true in my journey of faith. I could not predict or have absolute assurances about the future of my ministry when I entered into this search process for the next place God was calling me to serve. But, I felt an assurance that it was time to do so. I felt a trust in what God was doing throughout the process. I could only imagine then how it might all turn out. There were no absolutes or assurances going into it. Today, I am here with you at Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church, just on the other side of this whole call process, and I can't imagine being anywhere else.

I believe that most often as we make our way through the twists and turns of life and faith, we will arrive in due time to the destination God prepares for us when we make ourselves available by faith. God's grace and light mark the path ahead for us even when nothing else is yet visible or understandable to us. God chooses to reveal himself to us and to lead us, despite our obvious gifts or shortcomings; despite what we know or don't know, whether we're ready, or not. Our availability and willingness is the key.

There will be moments throughout life where something will be revealed to us; where we will step out of the dark and into the light. We call these moments an "epiphany." They can be an "a-ha" moment when we understand or see something about who God is and how God is at work in a way we've never known before. Those epiphany moments often lead us to change course in our faith and life. It may be a moment when we are moved by the words of a prayer or hymn or scripture, and we sense God's presence and leading in it. Maybe that epiphany moment is as profound as seeing another person's life change and blossom as God intervenes and we feel ourselves long for that same kind of experience in our life. I truly believe that when you make yourself available to God, epiphany moments happen in your life. God's light seeks ways to enter into our heart

every day until the day when our journey here on earth is finished.

Any journey we begin with God will not be in vain. It will have a destination even if we don't see it yet. If we follow God's Light into the world, Christ will always be revealed to us. God promises that even in the darkest places we will find the light of Christ. We will find the hope, the forgiveness, the peace, and the healing we're seeking in our lives. No matter how long and convoluted the journey of faith is for us, no matter who we are or what we've done, God's salvation and new life in Christ is available to us when we are available and open to him. When we accept that gift, we become bearers of light to one another. *"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you."* (Is. 60:1)

I've had several people over the years ask me if I was disappointed that it took so long for me to realize my calling (I didn't go to seminary until I was forty). And I've always thought that that was an odd question because I feel like my whole life, with all its twist and turns, were all a part of this journey. I admit my faithfulness has wavered at times. For a long time I tried to live-out my faith by ability rather than availability. It took some time for me to believe that there was freedom in letting God have all of my life. But, there have been a few epiphany moments that helped me "to see the light." I believe God's call came exactly when it was supposed to, then and now. God's grace brought me to you, to Gulf Beach, at just the right time; in God's time. *"I am God. At the right time I'll make it happen."* (Is. 60:22)

I bet that none of us, looking at our journey through life, has had a very straight or non-stop path to where we are today in our relationship with God. We may feel like we don't always know where our relationship with God is or where our beliefs will lead us. And we won't always understand how we are a part of God's plan or why in the moment. But, that's okay, because God does. We just need to faithfully follow the Light of the World, Jesus Christ, where ever the journey leads us. Remember and believe that God is interested in your availability more than your ability or understanding.

So, how available are you making yourself to God's will and way here at Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church and other places in your life these days?

In Christ,

Rev. Bonnie

gbpcpastor@gmail.com

(870) 415-2082

Twitter: @pastorbonbon

Celebrating Red-Letter Days

If there was a color of the month club, this month would definitely be all about red. From red hearts, red roses, and red candy boxes to the infamous red carpet at the Academy Awards, February has us all seeing red. Valentine's Day may be the most famous red day of the month, but did you know you can make every day a red day this month? That's right, you can forget what your calendar says are holidays, because you can change any ordinary day into a "red-letter day"—another day to celebrate!

Perhaps you've heard the expression "red-letter day" before, but do you know what it really means? The significance of red-letter days developed in the early 1700's from a long-term practice of using red ink to indicate high days and holidays on church calendars. In a year dominated by black-inked days, these few were boldly proclaimed in bright red as the most special, most memorable, and most joyful days in a Christian's life. Red-letter days were the best of the best days!

If you had lived in the 1700's, your calendar would have had the red days all scheduled and marked in advance. But now your red-letter days can happen *any* day. Because every day of your life, God takes out a red pen—more like a thick red *marker*—and wants to boldly edit your black-inked expectations. God delights in showing himself off in your life—boldly, joyfully, and memorably!

So go red this month, and allow God to change your daily expectations. Take a red marker to your calendar, and make every day a day to celebrate. Write Psalm 118:24 in bold red letters, and stick it on your mirror: "This is the day the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it." Wear something red every day to help you celebrate how God loves and cares for you. Keep a daily journal (written in red ink, of course) of the ways God has shown his love to you. Throw a "Go Red" or "Jesus Loves Me" party with a group of friends—complete with red outfits, décor, food, and readings from your favorite "red-letter words" of Jesus.

Celebrate every day this month as a red-letter day, and maybe by the end of the month you'll want to change the rest of the 337 days left in the year!

The Word

"I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever."

—Psalm 145:2

VALENTINE FROM GOD

A valentine sends flowers, gives chocolate, takes you out to dinner, and plays you a love song. God wants to give you all that...and more!

Flowers: *The most beautiful rose of all—Jesus.*

(Song of Solomon 2:1)

Chocolate: *Something even sweeter—God's Word.*

(Psalm 119:103)

Dinner: *The most amazing dinner ever—the wedding feast of the Lamb.*

(Revelation 19:9)

Love song: *He sings the sweetest song in the universe over you.*

(Zephaniah 3:17)

Love: *He loved you before you were born and will love you forever.*

(Jeremiah 31:3)



FOOD PANTRY

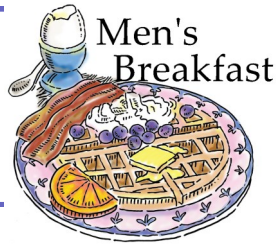
The Food Pantry's mission is to increase access to food for hungry people, and empower them to help each other.

In December the food pantry served 317 total people and we supplied them with 2853 meals.

Please help stock our shelves.

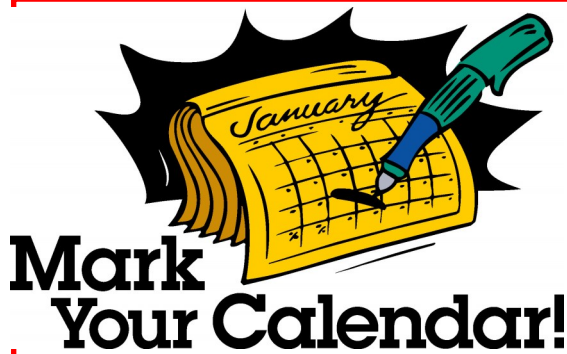
Needs: Peanut Butter, Saltine crackers & soup. You may wonder why we always ask for the same items. The reason is because those three items go to every one regardless of how many people in their family so we give out more of these three than any other item.

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



The building and grounds committee is starting a monthly Fix-up Clean-up Day at the Church.

This will resume the in January. It will be the third (3rd) Sunday of every month 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!



FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

February 2—Men's Breakfast 7:30AM

Let's Move Exercise class begins 10-11AM M, W, F

February 11– Fellowship dinner 5:30PM

February 10– Sara Circle 12:30PM

February 14– Sara Circle High Tea 2-4PM

February 18– Ash Wed Service 5:30PM Soup and Bread Supper

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



To all the women of the church:

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

We will be studying about Paul this year in 6 lessons. We will be studying in several different books of the New Testament, but if you want to start reading ahead, read Acts because we will look at each of his missionary journeys found there.

High Tea on Sat., February 14th 2-4pm. All ladies and girls over the age of 5 are welcome. Come join us for tea, finger sandwiches, tasty sweets and enjoy the fellowship of our Christian sisters. Hats are welcome, but not required.



Let's Move (formally known as Body Recall)

Low Impact Movement for Men & Women of all ages

Classes will be at Gulf Treat

It will be on Mon, Wed. and Fri. from 10-11 AM

You can expect Let's Move to be gentle movements that help blood circulate to all parts of your body without threatening the heart, an increased awareness of your own particular body functions, and a sense of achievement as you begin to regain control over the body you thought could never be called back to some of its former vitality and flexibility.

Class will be taught by Julie Bailey former certified Body Recall instructor.

SHEPHERDING TEAM

The purpose of our Shepherding Team, which is made up of 12 members of our church, is to visit those who are sick, hospitalized or shut-in, make follow-up visits and/or phone calls to visitors of our church, and to witness in the community at large. We are available to our snowbirds and visitors. Regardless of the amount of time you spend with us, we are here for you. We are your brothers and sisters in Christ. We invite you to share with us and allow us to pray with and for you. All team members have completed 12 hours of training focusing on the primary areas of visitation and witnessing. We would like to invited anyone who is interested in assisting this very special ministry and outreach to please contact Ron Coleman at 890-1172

For those who would like to request prayers or visitation the Shepherding email address is:

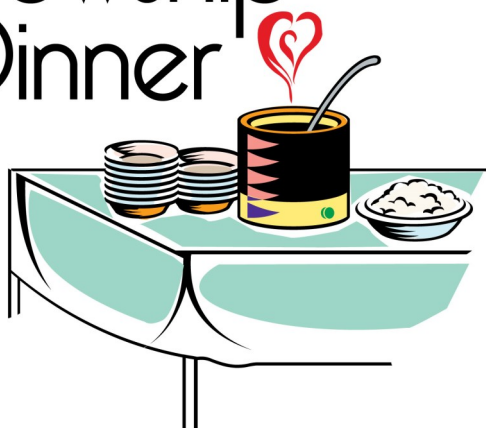
gulfbeachshepherding-team@yahoo.com,



Something new at Gulf Beach

Attendance Pads are now being passed down the aisle. Not only do we want to know you were here, we need your address. Winter visitors please give us your local address so we can sent the newsletter to you and send a note of Welcome Back, we are glad you are here.

Fellowship Dinner



FELLOWSHIP DINNER

February 11, 2015

5:30Pm

Menu:

Beef Bourguignon over Egg Noodles, Broccoli, Cranberry Tomato

Salad, Yeast Rolls, Angel Food Cake with Strawberries and Minted Chocolate Sauce

You Don't Want to Miss...



MARK YOUR CALENDARS
DYC '15 for youth grades 6-12
February 20-22 at Dogwood Acres
\$80.00 per person...REGISTRATIONS COMING SOON

Winter Concert Series to Support Camp Helen State Park

Come join us for the 2015 series of concerts featuring the best American Roots musicians touring the country today. This impressive series of five indoor concerts at Camp Helen's historic log cabin style lodge is **sponsored by Florida's Department of Environmental Protection and the Friends of Camp Helen State Park.**

CONCERT DATES:

All concerts are from 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Saturday, February 7th—The New 76ers

Saturday, February 21st—Granville Automatic

Saturday, March 7th—Scott & Michelle Dalziel

Admission is FREE

Donations accepted and will go directly to the Friends of Camp Helen State Park to be used to benefit the park's resource management projects and interpretive programs

For more information

Call: (850)233-5059

Email: Camphelenfriends@gmail.com

Camp Helen State Park is located 8 miles West of Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church on Hwy. 98.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	2 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move 6:00 PM Session Meeting	3	4 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	5	6 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	7
8 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	9 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	10 12:30 PM Sara Circle	11 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	12	13 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	14 Sara Circle's High Tea Valentines Day
15 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	16 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	17	18 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move 5:30 PM Ash Wed. Service with Soup and Bread dinner	19	20 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	21
22 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	23 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	24	25 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	26	27 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Let's Move	28



February Anniversaries

- 1- Christian & Ken Waringa
- 4- Hubert & Thelma Crile

February Birthdays

- 4- Lowell Pyles
Bill Turnquist
- 5- Linda Wiselogel

Julie Smith

- 8- Cherry Creekmore
- 9- Alex Bernstein
- 10- Dorothy Colvin
- 14- Bryan Brown
- 15- Timothy Wiselogel