

January 2023

**GULF BEACH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**271 SOUTH HWY 79**  
**PANAMA CITY BECH., FL 32413**



Beach Tidings  
Newsletter

## A Word from Pastor Michael

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As we start the New Year, I pray that each of you will find joy and many blessings throughout the year. For the past couple of years, I have prayerfully tried to come up with a theme for the year which embodies our work and ministry of the church. So, this year the theme for the year will be, Embracing our Potential. There will be messages centered around this theme throughout the year as well as activities and visuals which will have something to do with this theme.



Our congregation has great potential to do many wonderful things both in ministry and outreach, I hope you will remember the theme throughout the year so you will see how it is being applied to our ministry. I am not sure where God will lead

us throughout the year but, I can say that I look forward to seeing what is in store for us.

Many of you will recognize the name of the late Dr. Robert H. Schuller and his church the Crystal Cathedral. I never had the opportunity to visit this church but, I did watch many of the services held in this awesome building. Some of you may be unfamiliar with how Dr. Schuller got started in ministry. The first sanctuary was a drive-in theater, where Mr. Schuller preached from the snack bar's tar-papered roof to a congregation that included many who listened from the family car through drive-in speakers. Who in their wildest dreams would think this would lead him to build the Crystal Cathedral and have visitors from around the world come and worship there? When we embrace our Godly potential anything is possible and God will do great and wonderful things.

So, as we come into this new year let us remember our theme, Embracing our Potential. We are not trying to build a "Crystal Cathedral" but, we are trying to build an active community of faith for all people where people can gather and give thanks and praise to the Lord for all He has done.

I would like to share this piece of information again in closing. In January, Rev. David Leggatt who is a retired Presbyterian minister from Canada and will be one of our winter guests agreed to do a bible study on the book of Revelation. The book he will use is Revelation, by Max Lucado. This book can be ordered on Amazon. We hope you will be able to take part in this bible study and also give our support and encouragement to David during his visit with us. We will meet in the church fellowship hall from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM and if you would like, feel free to bring snacks to share as we gather in this bible study. This bible study will meet on Mondays starting January 9 and last until we complete the book of Revelation.

Once again Happy New Year and may you continue to be a blessing to others

Pastor, Mike

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## Supporting Bay County Schools

It has come to our attention that Breakfast Point Academy has needs that are not being met. We are collecting **Paper Towels, Hand Soap, Goldfish Crackers, shoes for kids** for the school. Please place your donations in the red box in the foyer.

## Men's Walking Group

All Men are invited to join this group as they meet at Aaron Bessant park parking lot and walk together at 7: 00am every Tuesday.

## Community Prayer Line

Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church, the Little Pink Church, has established a Community Prayer Line. If you would like to submit a concern, joy, or sorrow, please send your short message to our Prayer email at: [Prayers271@gmail.com](mailto:Prayers271@gmail.com).

## Food Pantry-

The number of people the Food Pantry serves has increased. We are in need food donations so we would like to resume asking the congregation to donate on a monthly basis. This month we will be collecting **Spaghetti Sauce, Saltines, Canned Tuna and Chicken** Please place your donations in the box in the narthex. Thank you. As always, monetary donations are welcomed. Write for Food pantry on your envelope.



**Adult Sunday  
School**

Sunday school is at 8:00am in a room in the Preschool wing. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Revelations Bible Study -every Monday beginning  
January 9th from 11-1pm**

This is a weekly bible study led by Reverend David Leggett. The study book is "Life Lessons from Revelations" By Max Lucado Everyone is welcome. Bring a snack to share.

**Evening Women's**

**Bible Study-Monday, January 9th at 5:30pm**

The evening women's Bible study will meet in the fellowship area. We share a meal and the word of the Lord together. All are welcome.

**Sara Circle-**

Meets **Tuesday, January 10th** at 12:30pm. All ladies are invited to join us.

**Fun Friday- Will meet on Saturday, Jan 14th**

Fun Friday group will have a Saturday event in Jan. Meet in Gulftreat at 10:00am. Bring your favorite cookie recipe and the ingredients. We will bake cookies for the concert series. Even if you don't bake please come and join us there will be no bake cookies, snickerdoodles to roll in cinnamon, and nuts to chop.

**Monday- January 16<sup>th</sup> - 11-2pm**

Revelation Bible Study

**Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> - After Worship**

**Congregational Meeting**

There will be a Congregational meeting following worship. This meeting is for the purpose of electing Corporate officers, Presenting the 2023 Budget and annual report of each committee.

**Monday- January 23<sup>th</sup> - 11-2pm**

Revelation Bible Study

**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> - 5pm**

Tuesday Foodies Fellowship group

Meet at Oishi on Front Beach Road, dutch-treat We will meet once a month and enjoys meals at local restaurants. Everyone is invited

**Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>- After Worship**

**Potluck-** We will resume our monthly potluck on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The church will provide the meat and we ask you to bring a side dish to share.

**Monday- January 30<sup>th</sup> - 11-2pm**

Revelation Bible Study

## Online giving with ease

We have made giving simpler. Whether you are giving to your pledge or making an end of year gift, it is now as easy as scanning the QR code with your phone.



**The Witness and Evangelism** committee is beginning a program called **WE SERVE**. We are looking for the people who volunteer their time in service. Volunteer time includes the food pantry, the Red Cross, schools, Council on Aging, walking a neighbor's dog and taking someone to an appointment to name a few. There will be a poster in the fellowship area for you to log your hours. All you need to do is put your name down, the activity you did and the hours involved. If you want to volunteer somewhere, let us know your time and talent and we will work with you to find an appropriate place. Let's see how many volunteer hours we can count! We are a church that serves in the community.

**We Serve volunteered 80 hours in the community in the month of November. Ways we serve include taking food to a neighbor or colleague in need, walking someone's dog or volunteering at a school or church. We are a church in the community.**

## Don't lose the key

In *Walking on Water*, Madeleine L'Engle writes: "We have to be braver than we think we can be, because God is constantly calling us to be more than we are, to see through plastic sham to living, breathing reality, and to break down our defenses of self-protection in order to be free to receive and give love." That sounds inspiring, but the moment I stumble, exhausted or overwhelmed, these words no longer encourage. Instead, they read like the work is mine *alone*, and I'm not up for that.

Knowing some of L'Engle's writings on faith, I researched that quote. Turns out it had been chopped off at the knees. Her next words are the key: "With God, even a rich man can enter the narrow gate to heaven." *With God*.

I can't respond to God's call to be more than I am, grow in faith, serve my neighbor or "enter the narrow gate to heaven" on my own. But "with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26), and whatever Jesus calls me to do, *he* will equip me to do, walking with me all the way.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

# *Concert Series Performances*

**2023**

**Sunday January 8th**

Todd Herendeen

**Sunday, January 15-**

In Faith– Gospel Bluegrass Band

**Sunday, January 22nd-**

Janelle Frost

**Sunday, January 29th-**

Frank Fletcher

**Sunday, February 5th-**

Bobby Van Deusen, Bob Maksymkow  
with Steve Gilmore

**Sunday, February 19th-**

**Sunday, February 26th-**

Arnold Jazz Band

All Concerts start at 7:00pm

## **TICKETS AND PACKAGES**

DIAMOND Package \$500.00

Seating in the first three rows.

Six (6) Reserved Seats for all concerts.

Name in the program as Concert Series Sponsor

GOLD Package \$250.00

Seating within rows 3-5

Two (2) Reserved Seats for all concerts,

Name in the program as Concert Series Sponsor

SILVER Package \$100.00

Seating within row 6-7

One (1) Reserved Seat for all concerts

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$10 general admission

Reserved tickets can be purchased in the church office on

Tue, Wed, 10 am -1pm

or at the door day of the performance,

*starting at 6 pm.*



## Birthdays /Anniversaries



### January

#### Anniversaries

2-Chris and Molly Allen  
16-Kent and Phyllis Miller

#### January Birthdays

2-Christopher Allen  
4- Sally Erskine  
7-Darlene Dilamarter  
25-Ruth Breen  
29-Gary Schua  
30-Mike Burke

"O Lord, let my New Year's resolution be to follow you more closely and to trust in your loving guidance. \* \* \*



### **TUESDAY FOODIES**

You are invited to join a new group called TUESDAY FOODIES. We will meet for the first time on Tuesday, January 24th at 5:00pm. We will meet at Oishi Thai food on Front Beach Road. The point of this group is to share fun, fellowship and good food.

## Pursue Jesus — and your passions

If you struggle with making and keeping resolutions, you're not alone. It can be discouraging to focus on what you're doing "wrong" and all the difficult changes in store. Yet January offers great opportunities to listen to God's direction. After all, Jesus came to give us abundant life and wants us to pursue him.

As you review the previous year, ask: What brought me joy? How did I grow? How did I help others? What did I do that no one else could have done? Whether your list includes spending time outside, mentoring or coaching young people or making crafts to give away or sell, continue doing what brings you joy. God gives us each unique gifts and circumstances, so live passionately for him this year!

—Janna Firestone

