



The Courtyard Chatter

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GRAY MATTERS

A Time for Giving Thanks — Rev. Barry Gray

November 1st is the traditional church celebration of All Saints Day. And as we move through the coming month toward the end of November, we will celebrate our national day of Thanksgiving. I believe there is a wonderful tie-in between these two holidays. On All Saints Day we remember and give thanks for those who have passed on before us into the presence of God and now share in the joys of eternal life. We're grateful for the faith they have passed on to us as they have taught us through the testimonies of their lives how we may live our lives in faithfulness to God.

It seems to me that we also do this on our national day of Thanksgiving as we give thanks to God for all the blessings we've received from his hand, realizing that most of those blessings have

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Congregational Interest Meeting for All Areas of Worship



Sunday, November 3rd immediately following Morning Worship Service
there will be a quick 15-20 minute congregational interest meeting for all areas of worship: tech, music/band, choir, and handbells. Everyone interested in joining or learning more about our worship and tech teams meet in the front pews of the sanctuary after service on November 3rd.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



Women's Ministry Friendsgiving

Our Monday Night Women's Bible Study Group will be having a Friendsgiving Celebration, Monday, November 18th at 6 PM

at Ann Longboy's home, 810 E. Stuart St., Bartow. All ladies of the church are invited to this special fellowship event.

Supper will be turkey and guests are asked to bring their favorite Thanksgiving food. A craft activity is planned. All women of the church are invited.



LET'S PRAY

Pray One For Another —James 5:16

Mica Barrington, Jesse Beeles, Laurie Benton, John Bianco, Sonja Bianco, Wayne Blount, Drew & Priscilla Boren, Becky Braswell, Michael Brinsley, Dr. Bill Brown in China, Harriet Campbell, Kathi Colvin, Marsha Dalley, David Delph, Tami Estes, Sarah Hallock, Dot Harris, Doug Hartsaw, Matt Heidel. Dell & Rose Henderson, June Hollingsworth, Travis Hoover, Melody Horne, Shirley Johnson, Robert Jones, Sylvester Jones, Johnathan Kimble, Nixon Knights, Fred & Sheila Lepley, Bill McClintock, David McClintock, Monette Monroe, Ezra Myers, Becky Arnold Pate, David Patt, Jerry Patt, Willene Pawley, Benjamin Sanchez, Luke Shaver, Lisa Shenson, John Stansel, David Stewart, Toni Strickland, David Tindell, Vicki Tillis, Debbie & Ted Turbe, Cathy Whistin, Glenda Wiggins, Pam Zeigler and Family, Patrick Zier, Our Pastor & family, Our Elders and Staff, Our Children & Youth, Our Military & their families, Our Nation, Leaders, Community & Our Church, Those affected by Hurricane Helene & Milton.

THANKSGIVING FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, November 17th after Morning Worship Service

Make plans to join us on **Sunday, November 17th** for our annual

Thanksgiving Fellowship Celebration

We need volunteers to prepare a turkey or two!

First Presbyterian will provide the turkey and aluminum pan with cover for serving. **Turkeys will be available at the church on Sunday, November 10th.** Bring your **prepared and sliced — ready to serve turkey** to the kitchen anytime after **8:30 AM on Sunday morning, November 17th.** Please include a note indicating if you prepared your turkey using peanut oil for those with peanut allergies. We also need volunteers to bring side dishes, desserts, bread, and beverages. To sign-up, email the church office at office@fpcbartow.org or sign up on Sunday morning — Sign-up sheets will be available in the narthex.

Morning worship begins at 10:15 AM.

Invite family and friends



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

First Presbyterian Church of Bartow
 Rev. Bary Gray Pastor
 barymg@live.com
 355 S. Florida Ave; Bartow, FL 33830
 (863) 533-5005 — fpcbartow.org



November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship					1	2 Heart of Florida Walk to Emmaus 4th Day Retreat; 3 PM - 7:30 PM Turn clocks back 1 hour tonight
3 Daylight Saving Time Ends COMMUNION Stewardship Sunday Congregational Info. Meeting: Worship, Music & Tech Team; after Morning Worship; meet in Sanctuary	4	5	6	7	8	9 VETERANS' DAY
10	11 VETERANS' DAY 6:00 PM Women's Monday Night Bible Study; at Jan Heidel's; 2315 EF Griffin Rd. Bartow	12	13	14 Feeding Bartow at CSC; 1-2:30 PM	15	16
17 Thanksgiving Dinner in the Fellowship Hall today after Morning Worship	18 6:00 PM Women's Monday Night Bible Study Friendsgiving; 810 E. Stuart St. Bartow; All women are invited.	19	20	21 6:30 PM Session Meeting; East Room	22	23
24	25	26 Feeding Bartow at CSC; 1-2:30 PM	27 No Wednesday Activities Today	28 Happy Thanksgiving!	29	30 "Hanging of the Greens" & Decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas - 9 AM Everyone's Invited!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE — NOVEMBER 2024

Sundays:

- 9:00 AM — Sunday School
- 9:35 AM — Pre-Service Prayer; meet in Sanctuary
- 10:15 AM — Worship
- 4:00 PM — Intercessory Prayer; Office Conference Room

Mondays:

- 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM — Women of the Cloth Sewing Group;
Meet in East Room

Growth Wednesday: (Childcare provided for all activities)

- 5:15 PM — Handbell Choir Rehearsal; Choir Room
- 5:30 - 6 PM — Dinner in Fellowship Hall

Growth Wednesday: (Childcare provided for all activities)

- 6:15 - 7:30 PM — Growth Wednesdays
 - ⇒ Wednesday Warriors; Rooms 3 & 5; Downstairs
 - ⇒ Pursuit Youth; Room West 6; Upstairs
 - ⇒ *The Chosen* film & discussion; East Room
 - ⇒ *Abide* Women's Bible Study; Church Library
 - ⇒ Adult Choir Rehearsal; Choir Room

Thursday:

- 7:30 AM — Men's Bible Study; PalletOne; 6001 Foxtrot; Bartow
- 9:30 AM — Ladies Bible Study; East Room
- 2:30 - 4:30 PM — Grace Diner Meal Ministry; Fellowship Hall

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Calendar

- 11/01 Kristina Gadd
- 11/02 Ben Mills
- 11/05 Molly Egli
Lloyd Harris
- 11/08 Matt Heidel
Karolyn Nunnallee
- 11/09 Elizabeth Harboe
- 11/12 Alice Martin
- 11/13 Ginny Music
- 11/14 Mary Jordan
- 11/15 Andy Porter
- 11/17 Tucker Briggs
Warren Lauen
- 11/18 Wayne Harrison
Gerald Kirkland
- 11/23 Jason Hamer
Nancy Morgan
- 11/24 Douglas Jordan
- 11/26 Lucas Auto
Mary Cromartie
- 11/27 Evie Hallock
- 11/29 Tim Gensch
- 11/30 Rachel Hebb
Hayden Mathre
Nic Nichols

Happy Birthday!

*Did we forget your birthday?
Please let us know! Email us at
Office@fpcbartow.org*

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come through those faithful saints down through the ages who have modeled for us and mentored us in how God has called us to live.

It has only been a little over a month since we moved here to labor among you, and we thank you for the warm welcome you have shown us. It has been such a joy to be here that I give thanks to God for you and for those saints who have kept you standing steady on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ throughout the years. And so, I find myself praying, along with the apostle Paul:

“For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe.” (Ephesians 1:15-19a ESV)

As we continue our walk together seeking to be faithful disciples, founded and focused on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, being led by the Holy Spirit, and resting in the great love of the Father, who has called us and equipped us to walk in partnership with Him, may we all make it a point to reach out in His name to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with as many people as we can, all to the glory of God and for the upbuilding of this congregation!

— Barry



Community Service Center Holiday Food Drive

Please bring canned & non-perishable food items to church on

Sunday or drop off at the church office through the week.

Bring your donations no later than Sunday, November 17th.

Thank you for helping our community end hunger.

