



Garden Times Newsletter for the NOVEMBER 2018

Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions for the newsletter! WE love YOUR input.



All are welcome to come and dream together!

Let's Dream together!



I love dreaming about what could come. I love taking time to discern where God is calling me next in my faith journey and where God is calling us as a congregation. It's time to take our vision and dreams to the next level.

Diving deeper into our purpose in our community is what the leadership believes God is calling us too. But the four of us can't do it without the whole congregation! We believe our call and purpose is truly to feed people. **Yet, what does that mean at a larger scale?** We need to spend time together on this purpose for our community. This gathering is for everyone connected to Wintergarden-friends, members, children, youth, and more! Just because you aren't officially a member, doesn't mean your voice isn't vital to our mission!

So, please mark your calendars for Friday, November 9 from 5-8 and Saturday, November 10 from 9-12 for a time to discuss, dream, and figure out how to live into the future God is creating for our congregation and community.

I just have to say I am really blessed to be the pastor of this congregation. I am blessed that you call me pastor and together we have the opportunity to feed people in Charlotte County. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the changes we have seen together, created together, and dreamed together. And I am really looking

forward to dreaming together on November 9 and 10th! It is my hope and prayer that the next 10 years bring even more fruit to all of our lives as we continue to live out the journey God is calling all of us too!

Blessings,

Pastor Devon

Turkey day is coming!



On Thursday, November 22, all are welcome to bring a dish to share or just come and eat at 2pm at Wintergarden. Weldon and Heather are preparing an amazing feast for our community and you are invited to join us! Side dishes are welcomed and encouraged. Bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish to share with our community. Come out for this time of food and fellowship. Questions, talk with Weldon or Heather (also known as the Sign Guy and Music Lady)!

Interested in Joining?



Come and learn more about what membership means in our faith community. This is a time for you to get to know others interested in joining on this crazy journey of faith! If you are interested in becoming a member or an affiliate, please join us for our next new members class on Sunday, November 18 after worship at 11am.

Thank you to the Trunk or Treat Team!



Thank you to everyone who make the Trunk or Treat a huge success! Looking forward to seeing what comes next year!

Wintergarden Updates

1. Heather has started free piano lessons for the community. She does accept donations as well! We are able to do this through receiving the Blessing Grant from Peace River Presbytery.

2. A new AC system will be installed sometime during the month of November. No more squeaking, no more prayers that it works, and we can test out the heat pretty soon!
3. The Winter Garden Community Garden is starting! If you are interested in having a garden spot, talk with Weldon and he will help you out. We are also in need of coffee grinds, kitchen scraps (uncooked). For those who have become dependent on food pantries, we hope the community garden and food forest will help them become less dependent and more empowered to feed their families! As we build the garden beds, we want to create beds for the homeless to use and for the children of our congregation and community.

Check here every month for the quick updates happening around Wintergarden!

Community Group Meetings

Embracing our COMMUNITY

Alcoholics Anonymous

Meets Tuesday night AA Book Club meets in the library at 7pm.

Meets Friday night Closed Men's Meeting meets in the library at 7pm.

Charlotte Harbor Anthropological Society

Meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Here is information about about this NEW community group.

The mission of the Charlotte Harbor Anthropological Society is to:

- *Preserve and protect prehistoric sites*
- *Educate and reform*
- *Foster research and publication*
- *Develop private/public partnerships to advance historic tourism*
- *Sponsor speakers and field trips*

Narcotics Anonymous

Meets Sunday evenings in the library at 7pm.

Neighborhood Watch Groups

The Wintergarden Neighborhood Watch Group takes place on the first Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm. If you are interested in joining the effort for this Neighborhood Watch Group, contact Phil at chmpjf@yahoo.com or Neil Caldeira at ncaldeira044@gmail.com.

The Tatum Lake Neighborhood Watch Group takes place on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm. If you are interested in joining this effort for this neighborhood watch group, contact Jean at jeaneetie@yahoo.com.

The O'Hara Neighborhood Watch Group takes place on the third Monday of every month at 6:00 pm. If you are interested in joining the effort for this Neighborhood Watch Group, contact Denise at twelve_d4three@yahoo.com.

Nurse Support Group

Meets Mondays in the library at 5pm.

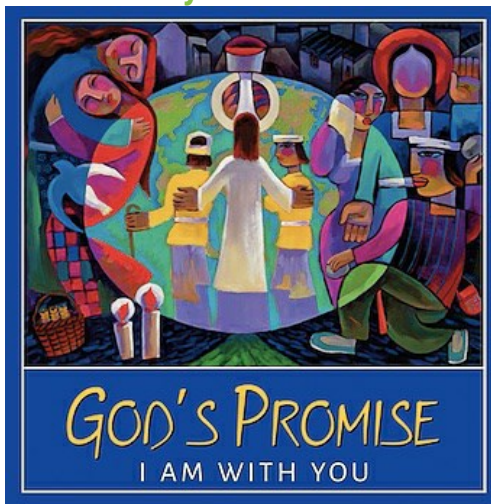
Plant Based Foodies

Meets the first Monday of every month in the Sanctuary for a whole foods plant based meal with no oil and no salt. Meeting is from 6-8pm and includes a potluck of yummy food, a recipe demonstration, and information on what it means to live a "Whole Food Plant Based Lifestyle."

Visually Impaired Peer Support Group

Meets Tuesdays in the library from 11am-1pm.

Presbyterian Women



On November 29th, we continue our monthly study on "God's Promise's: I am with you". Come out and join us as we discover what exciting things God can show us and be with us. We meet on the last Thursday of every month. Our next meeting will be on December 20th @ 7pm. We hope to see you there!

FREE Community Dinners



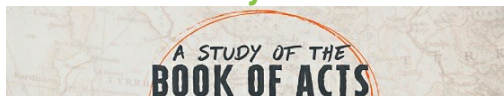
COMMUNITY DINNER

Join us and invite your friends to come for our FREE community dinner the FIRST Sunday of every month. But pay attention to the dates!

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 2nd at 5:30 to join us for dinner. Invite your friends to join us too! Also, it is our hope that those who are single, feel lonely, need company, or are just plain ole' hungry, will join us for our meal.

If you can, call the church and let us know you are coming. 941-743-5335. Thanks!

Summer Sunday School





All are welcomed to join us for a new study on the Book of Acts. After we journeyed with Paul in "The Call," we thought it would be encouraging and thought provoking to dig deeper into the early days of the church and learn the stories of churches beginning. The Book of Acts is also a book about the importance of relying on the power of the Holy Spirit and learning to listen for God's call. Hope to see you on Sunday, at 11:00am for this new bible study. Lamont Andrews will continue to teach and learn with you.

During October, the children and youth will begin talking through what it means to be disciples of Jesus and how that impacts their lives. They will meet every week for music with Ms. Heather after worship, and meet with Pastor Devon on the Sundays she is in town.

first...putting God first



During the month of November we are going to dig deeper into our priorities. This sermon series is a bit of a continuation from our "Back to Basics" series and will focus on the importance of putting God first in living and giving.

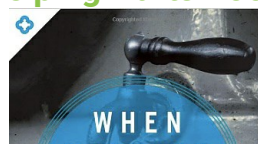
Also, a mailing will be coming out with information on how you consider your donation and tithe to the mission and vision of Wintergarden and exciting information from our Dream Time about how we believe God is calling us to be the church in 2019 and beyond! It is our prayer that you will start to consider how you will live and give as God calls you to do so. Please note, that Dedication Sunday will be on Sunday, November 25.

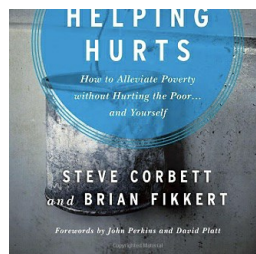
Homeless Coalition Service Opportunities



So, we hope to see you on Tuesday, November 20 at 4:30 to help us serve a meal to those who are in need through the Homeless Coalition. Join us at 4:45 at the Coalition, located at 1476 Kenesaw St, Port Charlotte.

When Helping Hurts Book Study





BEGINNING TUESDAY (but will continue on Wednesday evenings on November 14),

NOVEMBER 6 AT 6:30pm

“Unleashing and equipping people to effectively help the poor requires repentance and the realization of our own brokenness. When Helping Hurts articulates a biblically based framework concerning the root causes of poverty and its alleviation.”

A path forward is found, not through providing resources to the poor, but by walking with them in humble relationships. Whether you're involved in short-term missions or long-term empowerment of the poor, this book helps in three key areas:

1. Foundational Concepts- Who are the poor?
2. Principles- Should we do relief, rehabilitation, or development?
3. Strategies- How can we help people effectively here and abroad?”

If you are interested in reading and learning together, books are \$13 each. Please let Pastor Devon know and she will order a book for you. Looking forward to learning together on how we are helping our community as we continue to live into feeding people.

Please read the first 3 chapters for Tuesday, November 6th gathering.

Calendar Update

Our calendar is fully updated and LIVE on our website. If you have questions on happenings at church, please make sure you check the website. Here is the link:
<http://www.wintergardenpres.org/calendar/>.

Heathy Recipes that Taste Good

Turmeric Latte – Foamy Golden Milk



Ingredients

- 2 cups coconut, cashew, or almond milk (or any combination)
- 1 teaspoon turmeric powder

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Pinch ground black pepper
- Honey or agave to taste

Optional: (add your favorite diced veggies)

- cucumbers
- carrots
- peppers
- 1 T dill or tarragon

Directions

1. In a small soup pot, heat all ingredients except for sweetener over low-medium heat. Stir as needed.
2. Use an electric frother or whisk to create a foamy consistency.
3. Remove from heat and divide into two mugs.
4. Sweeten with honey or agave, if using.

*If you wish, you can also sub out half the milk with strong brewed coffee.

Serving: 2 cups of yummy goodness for your body!

Office Hours

Devon's office hours for October will be every Wednesday. Feel free to stop by and see her!

Beckie's office hours are Wednesdays from 9 to 4.

Volunteers in office on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10-12.

Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-12. Wednesdays 9 to 4.

Always remember, if there are any emergencies, please do not hesitate to call Devon on her cell phone at 941-525-6671.

We give thanks to this team of people who help make everything happen!

Session: Brian Ellsworth (Treasurer), Luther Pringle, Joy Swails, Bob Swails (Clerk of Session) and Barbara Woods.

Pastor: Devon Andrews

Music Director: Heather DeGroot

Bookkeeper: Kari Albanes

Administrative Assistant: Beckie Tokarski

Office Volunteers: Bob Swails (Mondays)

AV Assistant: Lamont Andrews and Daniel Garland (thanks for volunteering!)

