

Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes, Interim Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling, Pastor
Signe and Todd Webb, Associates for Children and Youth Ministries
Dale Williams, Choir Director and Organist/Pianist (10:00)
Winston Culler, Music Leader for the 8:30 Service
Anthony Wright, Worship Streaming Director
Stacey Jackson, Church Administrator
Kristy Gilbert, Church Bookkeeper
Traci Hitchcox, Media Communications Coordinator
Jennifer Bell and Rafiq Kaid, Cleaning Services

727-360-5508
107 16th Avenue, St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

PASS-A-GRILLE BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Worship

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

FEBRUARY 11, 2024 • 10:00 AM • PAGCHURCH.ORG

Announcements

Many thanks to our guest musicians:

Clarinet: Joseph Beverly

Tenor Saxophone: Josh Hollenbeck

Trumpet: Rob Smith

Trombone: Ross Holcombe

Tuba: Joseph Alvarez

Drums: Kurt Grissom

Concert on the Pavilion • Thursday, February 15 at 7 pm

Featuring the Island Boys. Suggested donation \$10.

Net proceeds to benefit Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

Pancake Breakfast • Saturday, February 17 at 8 am - 10:30 am • Tickets \$7

Sponsored by Men's Ministry. Police, fire and active duty military free of charge.

Racial Justice Ministry Book Discussion • Sunday, February 25 at 11 am

“Just Mercy” by Bryan Stevenson, is an auto-biographical novel of a young African American lawyer fighting for the rights of the wrongfully convicted. Stephenson is the founder of the Equal Justice Initiative. His law practice is dedicated to those most disparaged: the poor, the wrongly condemned and women and children trapped in the criminal justice system.

Book available at the welcome desk, church office, Tombolo bookstore or online.

Movie available on Prime and YouTube.

Book Club • Tuesday, March 5 at 12:30 pm

Join us in the library as we discuss The Four Winds, by Kristin Hannah.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Wilma Beerman, Anne Ciriello, Deb Flack, Kay Frye, Gerry Ingram,

Francie Nelson, Bob Whitcomb, and our servicemen and women

Gifts of the Dark Wood Worship Series

This 7-part series delves into the concept of finding meaning and purpose through life's most challenging and uncertain times, symbolized as the 'Dark Wood'. It suggests that experiences traditionally seen as negative — failure, emptiness, and doubt — are in fact crucial opportunities for personal and spiritual growth. It challenges the notion of avoiding life's darker moments, instead proposing that these periods are rich with hidden gifts. The series will serve as a guide to embracing life's uncertainties and leveraging them for deeper self-discovery and spiritual development.

The series is based on Pastor Eric's book, Gifts of the Dark Wood: Seven Blessings for Soulful Skeptics (and Other Wanderers) (Abingdon, 2015).

February 14: What is the Dark Wood? (Matthew 4:17; 5:1-12)

February 18: The Gift of Uncertainty (Exodus 3:1-14a; 1 Corinthians 13:11-12)

February 25: The Gift of Being Thunderstruck (Job 37:1-5)

NOTE: Thunderstruck and Emptiness are in reverse order from the book.

March: 3: The Gift of Emptiness (Matthew 27:46)

March 10: The Gift of Temptation (Luke 4:1-13)

March 17: The Gift of Disappearing (Mark 5:25-34)

March 24 (Palm Sunday): The Gift of Misfits (Luke 19:28-48)

Gifts of the Dark Woods Small Groups • Starting the week of February 18

A variety of days and times offered. Sign up for your preferred class at pagchurch.org.

Book available at the welcome desk and church office.

MOMENT OF STEWARDSHIP

You can now give a donation via Venmo to (727) 200 – 2785 or by scanning the QR code below.



BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

“When the Saints Go Marching In”

Traditional

Oh, when the saints go marchin’ in, Oh, when the saints go marchin’ in,
Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marchin’ in.

(Repeat chorus)

DRUM SOLO

Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marchin’ in.

*Visitors, before you leave, please visit our welcome table
and help us stay in contact with you by filling out the Visitor Contact Card.*

FEBRUARY 11, 2024 • 10:00 AM

Live simply so that others might simply live. ~ Elizabeth Ann Seton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.*

PRELUDE

“When the Saints Go Marching In”

arr. Paul Severson
Dixieland Band

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in Abundance to celebrate the spirit of generosity.

We gather to live into the work of God’s call.

We gather in Grace, awake to the possibilities seeded within.

We gather to grow: to change moment by moment, in grace again and again.

We gather in Hope, ready to do more than talk...

**...ready to make change through one letter, one meal, one gift, and one
hand at a time...ready to be the Change God calls us to be.**

We gather in Faith, believing our presence makes a difference.

**We gather to give of our time and our talents, our hopes and our energy,
so we may receive the joy of unity in the Spirit.**

OPENING HYMN

“Down By the Riverside”

arr. Paul Severson

Gonna lay down my burden down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.
Gonna lay down my burden down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside.

I ain’t gonna study war no more, ain’t gonna study war no more,
Ain’t gonna study war no more.
I ain’t gonna study war no more, ain’t gonna study war no more,
Ain’t gonna study war no more.

(Repeat chorus)

INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE

Gonna lay down my sword and shield down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside.
Gonna lay down my sword and shield down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Donna DeSpain

Introduction
Questions to the New Members
Affirmation of Mutual Ministry

We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church.
We promise you our support and affirm you as an equal member of this
community, sharing our hopes and labors with you for the church of
Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

ANTHEM

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

Traditional

GOSPEL LESSON

John 6: 1-14

Beth England

Sometime after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (also known as the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw him performing miracles and healing the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his

disciples. The Jewish Passover Festival was near. When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?” He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

Philip answered, “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!”

Another disciple, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said, “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?”

Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were present). Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

When all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.” So, they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

ANTHEM

“Swingin’ with the Saints”

arr. Mark Hayes
Frank Selph, Brian Feist, Scott Hartman, and Todd Donovan, Quartet

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Signe Webb

All children wishing to attend Faith Formations are invited to exit at this time.

SERMON

“Our Generous God!”

Rev. Dr. Guillermo Márquez-Sterling

ANTHEM

“Down to the River to Pray”

arr. Mary McDonald

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.