



The Courtyard Chatter

May 2023 • Volume 54 • Number 5

A Publication of First Presbyterian Church of Bartow

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FPC Bartow's Hospitality Ministry

Do you have the gift of hospitality?



Join us Sunday, May 7th in the sanctuary after our morning service for a brief and informal meeting for anyone who may be interested in being a part of our FPC Hospitality Ministry Team.

Hospitality Matters!



FAITH FORWARD

Rightly Ordered Love — Rev. Josh Roberts

Dear FPC Bartow Church Family,

I hope this letter finds you all doing well. I wanted to take a moment to remind you of some things that I wholeheartedly believe the Holy Spirit is calling each person in our church to focus on. So over the month of May, would you please join in with your church family to allow this letter be a framework for how you pray for our church family and how you pray for the Holy Spirit to give you the heart and mind of Christ?

In *City of God*, Saint Augustine defined virtue as “rightly ordered love” (*City of God*, XV.23). The right ordering of love was a very significant theme in Augustine’s life and writings. In *On Christian Doctrine*, he wrote: But living a just and holy life requires one to be capable of an objective and impartial evaluation of things: to love things, that is to say, in the right order, so that you do not love what is not to be loved, or fail to love what is to be loved, or have a greater love for what should be loved less, or an equal love for things that should be loved less or more, or a lesser or greater love for things that should be loved equally. (*On Christian Doctrine*, I. 27-28) I believe as a church, we need to rightly order our loves around six things. These six things are: Jesus, His Word, One Another, Our City, Families, and Stewardship.

First and foremost, **we must prioritize our love for Jesus**. He is the one who calls us to follow Him, and it is only through Him that we can become the people He has created us to be.

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Rev. Josh Roberts
Pastor

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**Congratulations to
our High School
2023 Graduates!**

Makayleigh Aliff
Emileigh Eckman
Hayley Sims
Taylor Tinsley
Tyler Tinsley

The Congregation is cordially invited to take a moment to bless our 2023 Graduates on Sunday Morning, May 21. Drop your note or gift of congratulations into their Personalized Grad Bags which will be in the narthex of our sanctuary.

PRAYER NEEDS

LET'S PRAY

Pray One For Another —James 5:16

Reggie Arnold, Sharon Arnold, Mica Barrington, Laurie Benton, John Bianco, Wayne Blount, Margaret Boren, Dr. Bill Brown in China, Wayne Canady, Dan Cooley, Deborah Draper, Hunter Dupree, John Dye, Cliff & Lena Ellis, iffany Fogleson, Bonnie Forgar, Tim & Debra Gensch, Kathy Grimes, Sarah Hallock, Dot Harris, Gabe Hatch & Family, Joyce Hatch, Travis Hoover, Shirley Johnson, Charlotte Jordan & sons Weston & Carson, Linda Keene, Andy Laurent, Fred & Sheila Lepley, Barbara Lewis, Richard Lewis, Courtney Maniatis, Floyd & Myoko McLain, Bill Morgan, Paul & Jenny Mudgett, Frank & Monette Munroe, David Patt, Willene Pawley, Porter Reed, Caroline Schulz, Jack Schulz, Lisa Shenson, Curtis Smith, James Spoon, John Stansel, Debbie Turbe, Karen Vadala, Amy Till and family, Dick & Wilma Till, Wanda Tyson, Piper Vanderlee, Debbie Warren, Stephen Washington, Billy Whitaker, Glenda Wiggins, Serlie Williams, Gary Wilson, Our Pastor & his family, Our Elders, Our Children & Youth, Our Military & their families, Our Nation & Leaders, Our Community, and Our Church.




**Church Barbeque &
Dinner on the Grounds**
(in the Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, May 21st
following
Morning Worship

Bring a covered dish or two and your lawn chairs or a blanket and get ready to have fun with your church family! Join us for church — stay for dinner-on-the-grounds *(in the Fellowship Hall)*.

MAY CALENDAR

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 2:30 PM; Grace Diner	5	6
7 Communion Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	8 6:00 PM; Women's Monday Night Bible Study & Fellowship; Place To Be Announced	9	10	11 Feeding Bartow at CSC; 1-2:30 PM 2:30 PM; Grace Diner	12	13
14 	15	16	17	18 2:30 PM; Grace Diner Session Meeting 6:30 PM; East Room	19	20
21 High School Senior Recognition Sunday during morning worship Church BBQ & Picnic TODAY after church	22 6:00 PM; Women's Monday Night Bible Study & Fellowship; Place To Be Announced	23	24	25 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study; Church Library; Last meeting until September 7th Feeding Bartow at CSC; 1-2:30 PM 2:30 PM; Grace Diner	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	30	31 Last Growth Wednesday until August 16th			

Schedule of Weekly Events

Summer Break for Growth Wednesday Activities begins May 31st. Activities resume August 16th

Sundays:

- 9:00 AM — Sunday School
- 9:35 AM — Pre-Service Prayer; meet in Sanctuary
- 10:15 AM — Worship

Mondays:

- 4:00 PM — Intercessory Prayer; Church Library

Tuesdays:

- 12:00 PM — The Bonus Round Podcast; streaming live on Facebook, Twitter, & YouTube

Wednesday:

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

Wednesday:

- 6:15 PM — Adult Choir Rehearsal; Choir Room
- 6:15 - 7:30 PM
 - ⇒ Wednesday Warriors
 - King's Kids Choir Rehearsal - 7- 7:30 PM
 - ⇒ Pursuit Youth; Room West 6 upstairs
 - ⇒ Growth Wednesdays

Thursday:

- 7:30 AM — Men's Bible Study at PalletOne; 6001 Foxtrot Avenue; Bartow
- 9:30 AM — Ladies Bible Study; Church Library (Sep — May)
- 2:30 - 4:30 PM — Grace Diner Meal Ministry; take-home meals served on 355 S. Florida Avenue

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Calendar

05/04 Fred Bohde
Bob Schulz
05/06 Brenda Guice
05/08 Hannah Royer
05/09 Chris Pawley
05/10 Savannah Jackson
05/11 Savannah Macias
Sharon Stinson
05/13 Kristie Hamer
05/15 Tina Colvin
05/17 Charissa Kesler
05/20 Becky Harboe
Valerie Kirkland
05/21 Dottie Walters
Mason Warren
05/26 Alex Guice
Kyle Royer
05/29 Howe Wallace

Happy Birthday!

*Did we forget your
birthday? Please let us
know so we can add you to
our birthday calendar!*

*Email us at:
Office@fpcbartowfl.org*

FAITH FORWARD

Rightly Ordered Love — Rev. Josh Roberts

(Continued from page 1)

Secondly, **we must prioritize our love for His Word.** The Bible is our guide and our source of wisdom and truth. We must be people who are constantly reading, studying, and applying the Scriptures to our lives. His word is a lamp unto our feet and light unto our path!

Thirdly, **we must prioritize our love for one another.** As a church family, we are called to love, support, and encourage one another as we grow together in our faith.

Fourthly, **we must prioritize our love for our city.** We are called to be a light to our community, and we must actively seek ways to serve and bless those around us in the city of Bartow and its surrounding areas!

Fifthly, **we must prioritize our love for families.** We must support and equip parents to raise their children in the ways of the Lord, and we must be a community that cares for and supports one another in our families. We want to be a church where great grandparents and great grandchildren flourish!

Lastly, **we must prioritize our love for stewardship.** The Scriptures are clear. If we are good stewards God gives us more to steward, and if we are poor stewards God takes away the things we were stewarding! We are called to be good stewards of all that God has entrusted to us, including our time, talents, and resources.

Over the month of May, I am encouraging each of us to pray on these six things and ask the Holy Spirit to correctly order our loves so that we will be able to focus more on who we are becoming as followers of Christ.

As you do this, you will start living life as though Jesus is living through you because He will be!

Let us strive to be a community that is marked by our love for Jesus and for one another.

The Best is yet to Come! — Pastor Josh



STELLAR VBS

JUNE 19-23 — 5:30-8:30 PM

LAUNCH KIDS ON A COSMIC QUEST
WHERE THEY'LL HAVE A BLAST
SHINING JESUS' LIGHT TO THE
WORLD. TOGETHER, THEY WILL
EXPLORE HOW JESUS SHINED HOPE,
LOVE, FORGIVENESS, AND JOY TO
THE WORLD—AND HOW WE CAN DO
THE SAME WITH HIS POWER!