

## *Putting our mission into practice*

Our calling is to be a people of faith committed to *loving God, growing in faith and sharing Christ's love* with each other, our community and our world. As living parts of the body of Christ, each one of us has been given spiritual gifts by the Holy Spirit to use in ministry in the church.

We find our joy in fulfilling our calling to serve one another, just as Christ became a servant to us, leaving us an example. We are here for a purpose, to accomplish the mission that we have been entrusted with.

**MINISTRY TEAMS: our way of organizing our mission of “*loving God, growing in faith and sharing Christ's love*”**

A Presbyterian Church is led by elders, elected by the congregation and ordained to serve as leaders of all aspects of our common mission. Elders oversee specific Ministry Teams who come together to serve a specific ministry area. We always need people to be willing to offer their time and energy, and gifts in service on these ministry teams. Here is where you indicate the ministry in which you would be willing to serve if called upon. Elders use this information as they build their ministry teams to accomplish their part of our mission. In each case, willingness is more important than expertise; we learn the specifics of each ministry along side the other members of the ministry team. **Where are you willing to serve?**

### **Administration & Finance Ministry Team –**

This ministry team helps us accomplish the mission of “*loving God, growing in faith, and sharing Christ's love*” wherever it involves the stewardship of money. We prepare the budget and oversee the finances so that we can accomplish our mission most effectively. This team is also responsible for the employees of the church, to set and review standards and performance, and ensure appropriate compensation levels.

### **Christian Education Ministry Team --**

This ministry team helps us accomplish our mission to “*grow in faith.*” We engage in our mission as we come together to study and learn. We are responsible for ensuring that our children learn the language and practices of faith, that our young people are guided and nurtured in faith, and that our adults are continually growing as faithful disciples.

Our calling to pass our faith on to the next generation means that teachers are always needed.

### **Congregational Care Ministry Team --**

This team is focused on the mission of “*sharing Christ's love*” with one another. Each ministry team member is a “shepherd” with a list of church members to look after and care for. This includes keeping in frequent contact with them and identifying their need for meals, transportation, or maybe a visit. Sending get well cards, visiting them in the hospital or running errands for them are other examples. In the case of the death of a member, the shepherd works with the family and arranges whatever meals the family will need. This does not mean the team member will cook the meals, but the member will arrange with others who have volunteered to provide meals for congregational care.

### **Fellowship Ministry Team --**

This ministry team accomplishes the mission of “*sharing Christ's love*” with one another by encouraging and nurturing members with programs and activities that help us to get to know each other better and enjoy fellowship. This ministry team also helps us “*share Christ's love*” with others by organizing Neighborhood Fellowship Groups and Pot Luck suppers. We help with setting up or decorating tables for dinners – serving coffee and snacks on Sunday mornings – before Sunday School and before and after church and on special occasions.

### **Membership & Communication Ministry Team --**

This ministry team accomplishes the mission of “*sharing Christ's love*” by reaching out beyond our walls to let our community know who we are and the ministries we offer, organizing our advertising and promoting special events. This team helps us “*share Christ's love*” with each other by keeping track of our membership and attendance so that we can respond effectively to visitors and to people in need of a call. This ministry team also maintains our web site and email weekly news.

### **Mission Ministry Team --**

This ministry team accomplishes our mission of “*sharing Christ's love*” with the community and the world. We help make our congregation aware of what we are currently doing in mission and find ways to increase our understanding through the Minute for Mission and other promotions. We prioritize and allocate our mission giving to local ministries and to mission efforts outside our community. We organize and implement special efforts to raise awareness of mission (the Mission Festival and Fair) and at times we organize special projects to raise extra funds for missions. We have participated in mission trips.

### **Property Ministry Team --**

This team helps us to have a place to successfully accomplish our mission of *loving God* (worship space), *growing in faith* (educational space) and *sharing Christ's love* (space for planning and implementing mission). This team cares for the church property, sets up for meetings and services, keeps the building in good working order and looking attractive, both inside and out, as well as the landscaping and parking lot.

### **Worship Ministry Team --**

This ministry team accomplishes our mission of “*loving God*” by planning for and carrying out our worship services. We coordinate with the music ministry, prepare communion, organize flowers, ushers, acolytes, readers, sanctuary supplies, special bulletins, seasonal decorating, special services such as baptisms, Wednesday, Taize and other services. Ushers help with seating, take up the offering, collect the Friendship Register sheets, straighten up the Sanctuary, etc. Both men and women are welcome. We also assist with the care of small children during worship in the nursery.

### **Music Ministry --**

Music is very important way in which we accomplish our mission of “*loving God*” in worship. There is always a need for more voices and musicians.

In addition to serving on a ministry team, we accomplish our mission of “*loving God, growing in faith and sharing Christ's love*” in practical ways from time to time as needs arise. Here is where you can offer your service to God through this congregation:

## **SPECIAL MINISTRIES**

**Congregational Care Meals** – We prepare food for Congregational Care needs.

**Bereavement Meals** – The Sharing & Caring Bereavement team answers the needs of members when a loved one has died.

**Church Office** – Substitute for Church Secretary, or Assist Secretary

**Graphics for ads, flyers, brochures, the web**

**Transportation** -- Assisting those who are unable to drive by providing transportation to services, activities, or doctors.

## **GROUP ACTIVITIES**

Contact us if you would like to be included in or know more about:

Thursday Bible Study  
Prayer Group  
Presbyterian Women  
Presbyterian Men's breakfasts  
Lunch Bunch  
Neighborhood Fellowship Groups  
FEAST Groups  
Youth Activities  
Home based small groups  
The Prayer Shawl group  
After School 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Tutoring

First Presbyterian Church Gulf Shores: [gspcusa@gulftel.com](mailto:gspcusa@gulftel.com)

## **Gulf Shores First Presbyterian Church**

*loving God, growing in faith, sharing  
Christ's love*

**Stewardship Dedication Sunday  
November 14, 2010**

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