

Join us December 9th @ 5pm-8pm
for the GracePoint Christmas Dinner
Party. This year's party will be
hosted by the Roberts home:
3401 Sam Astin Road, Plant City.
<https://tinyurl.com/GPChristmas18>
to RSVP or contact the Church
Office!



Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins

Sunday, December 16; 2pm
See Dawn Kicklighter for more
information or call the office
813-759-9383.



For more information and events happening at GracePoint visit or follow us at:
www.gracepointpc.org



GracePoint Plant City, GP Outsiders, & GracePoint Jr.



@GracePoint Plant City & @ GP_Outsiders



gracepointpc, gp_outsiders, gracepointjr

Church Office hours: Mon. – Thu. 8am-3pm

December 2, 2018

Promise

For unto us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

SUNDAY WORSHIP

*All things were made by him; and without him was
not any thing made that was made.*

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER

GREETING ONE ANOTHER – LUKE 24:36

FIRST ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING – CLINT & CINDY CLINE

CALL TO WORSHIP – PSALM 122

SONGS OF PRAISE TO OUR SHEPHERD

*“Angels We Have Heard on High”

*“Great Are You Lord”

*“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (with O Come Let Us Adore Him)”

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S LESSON – MATTHEW 1:1-2

HEAR GOD’S WORD

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2:2-5

New Testament Reading: Matthew 1:1-17

SERMON – MATTHEW 1:1-2, 16-17 - PASTOR ROBERT OLSZEWSKI

COMMUNION

THE DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY

“Orphans of God”

*We offer ourselves to God, dedicating all to his service.
Visitors, please feel no obligation to give to this ministry.*

***BENEDICTION**

Elders will be available for prayer following the Service

**Stand as Comfort Allows*



"Today we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Since this is not the table of any one church but is the table of the Lord, any member of any branch of the Christian church who truly and sincerely repents of his or her sins, and accepts Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord, is invited. Draw near with faith and take this sacrament to your comfort." - Book of Worship 3-3

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Our Advent Readers and Lighters for the First Advent are Clint and Cindy Cline.

NAME TAG SUNDAYS

This month at GracePoint we are going to do “Name tag” Sundays. Each week we encourage you to write your name on a name tag provided at the end of each aisle. When we greet one another let’s be encouraged by the fact we will all be “visitors” as we share the peace of Christ.

ORNAMENTATION CHURCH FAMILY PARTY-DEC. 12

or·na·men·ta·tion Party
/ ˌɔrnəmenˈtāSH(ə)n/
Noun

1. things added to something to provide decoration.
Come enjoy a family meal (5:30-6pm) followed by making Christmas ornaments for kids, parents, and friends.

THE 1ST ADVENT

The **first candle** symbolizes **promise** and is called the “Prophet’s Candle.” The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited for the promise of the Messiah’s arrival.

AN ADVENT PRAYER

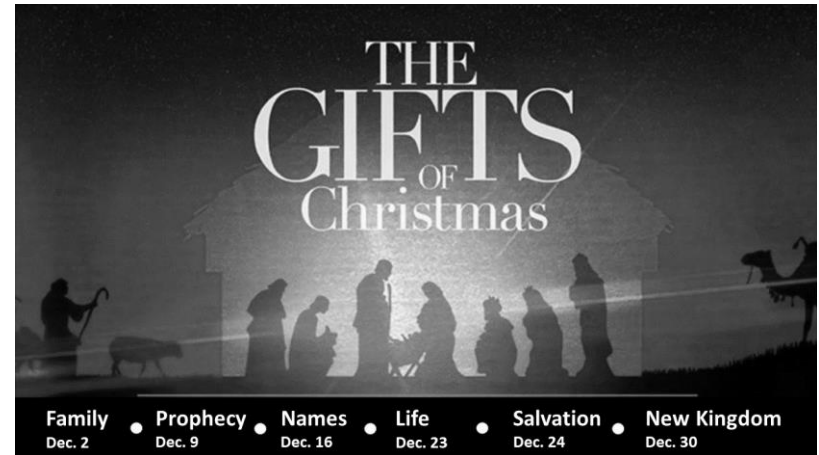
*This Advent, Lord, come to the manger of my heart.
Fill me with Your presence from the very start.
As I prepare for the holidays and gifts to be given,
Remind me of the gift You gave when You sent Your Son from Heaven.
The first Christmas gift, it was the greatest gift ever.
You came as a baby born in a manger.
Wrapped like the gifts I find under my tree,
Waiting to be opened, to reveal Your love to me.
Restore to me the wonder that came with Jesus' birth,
When He left the riches of Heaven and wrapped Himself in rags of earth.
Immanuel, God with us, Your presence came that night.
And angels announced, "Into your darkness, God brings His Light."
"Do not be afraid," they said, to shepherds in the field.
Speak to my heart today, Lord, and help me to yield.
Make me like those shepherd boys, obedient to Your call.
Setting distractions and worries aside, to You I surrender them all.
Surround me with Your presence, Lord, I long to hear Your voice.
Clear my mind of countless concerns and all the holiday noise.
Slow me down this Christmas, let me not be in a rush.
In the midst of parties and planning, I want to feel Your hush.
This Christmas, Jesus, come to the manger of my heart.
Invade my soul like Bethlehem, bringing peace to every part.
Dwell within and around me, as I unwrap Your presence each day.
Keep me close to You, Lord. It's in Your wonderful Name I pray.*

~Renee Swope, “The Manger of My Heart” from Proverbs 31 Ministries

ANOTHER ADVENT TRADITION

Advent Calendars! Advent means “the coming,” and refers to the four-week season of preparation for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day and the anticipation of His coming again. The Advent calendar, which originated in 19th Century Europe, has 24 numbered flaps concealing a biblical scene and verse about the coming of the Messiah. Please see, Mrs. Kerry if your Nursery-5th student has not received their Advent Calendar from the Children’s Ministry Team.

P2P (PASTOR TO PEOPLE) - CHRISTMAS GIFTS



Gift giving is central to Christmas. There is the **giving** of gifts to those we love, care about, and obligated to give to. There is the **receiving** of gifts from co-workers, friends, and a company you have done business with. Most of us are better at giving gifts than receiving them. It takes humility and acceptance to receive a gift with joy and gratitude. As we get older often it can get harder to receive gifts because we really don’t need any more things but would rather warm the heart of a child when they open a gift. As we enter into this Christmas season, I want to personally challenge you to do both: **give** and **receive** gifts. Here are the two challenges:

1. The first challenge will be to hear God’s word preached (receive it in faith, Romans 10:14) as we focus on “The Gifts of Christmas” namely who is the God behind all the good gifts He gives us at Christmas.
2. The second challenge is to give a gift to a friend who does not know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This gift will be provided by GracePoint and is a little book called, “So This is Christmas” by Rico Tice. These will be available on Dec. 9 and particularly offered to those in attendance on Dec. 24 at our Christmas Eve service (6pm).

I am praying that we would both learn to receive and give gifts this Christmas. Giving and receiving in light of who God is as revealed in his Holy word.

Much joy,
Pastor Robert

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 2

Communion & 1st Advent

8:45 a.m. Prayer Group in Chapel
 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
 10:45 a.m. Sip 'n Chat
 11:10 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

Monday, December 3

7:00 p.m. Praise Team Practice

Tuesday, December 4

6:00 a.m. Prayer Group
 5:00 p.m. Exercise & Praise

Wednesday, December 5

9:30 a.m. Ladies' LifeGroup
 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
 6:15 p.m. 252Kids
 6:15 p.m. Mission Moment
 Alex & Valerie Crawford
 7:15 p.m. Chorus Practice

Thursday, December 6

10:30 a.m. Exercise & Praise
 7:00 p.m. Acts 242 LifeGroup

Friday, December 7 - Office closed

6:00 a.m. Sleep Warriors
 7:00 p.m. Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 8 - Office closed

9:00 a.m. Jingle Jam

Sunday, December 9 - 2nd Advent

8:45 a.m. Prayer Group in Chapel
 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
 10:45 a.m. Sip 'n Chat
 11:10 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
 5:00 p.m. Christmas Party

GRACEPOINT PRAYER LIST

If you have a prayer request or would like to be added to our email prayer chain, please email:

kbergman@gracepointpc.org.

...Simmons Family for relocation and that God would continue to open doors for connection during their time in Florida

...Church leadership for God's unity and wisdom as we thank God for his faithfulness these past months and for future plans in 2019.

...Kacy, Rylee, and Bracee, friends of the McNab Family, lost their home in a fire.

...Callum, grandson of Steve and Vicky Kennedy, for healing and for wisdom for those who are treating him.

...Lesley Bateman's father for strength and wisdom.

...McNab family, unspoken

...Sabrina Pritt for employment

...Megan, a friend of Mercy Pritt, for family struggles and that she would come to church.

...Paul Pritt for work and home.



WEDNESDAY DINNER MENU 12/5

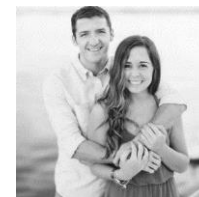
Taco Bar, Salad, &
Dessert

THE WEEK THAT WAS — FINANCE

Weekly Income Budget	\$	9,616
Offering	11/25	\$ 4,605

SERVING LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

ALEX & VALERIE CRAWFORD – DEC. 5



Thank you for partnering with us. UCF has more than 60,000 college students and we believe it is becoming and has become one of the most influential universities in the nation. College students are our future. We want to reach the world for Christ and we believe this can start by reaching college students. We pray that leaders all over the world would be Christ centered in all that they do.

Come enjoy a meal, fellowship, and a report from Alex and Valerie Crawford Wednesday night, December 5. There will be an open discussion and question time as we learn how God is changing lives at UFC. Bring a friend and enjoy hearing about God's amazing love for college students.



SERVING LOCALLY

Here are several ways to serve at GracePoint! Contact the Church office to serve.

- Support the Deacon's Fund
- Join us for prayer on Tuesday mornings at 6 a.m. or on Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m.
- Usher
- Greeter
- Sign up for the Christmas Party
- Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins
- Serve with Friends in the Park
- Connect with the Dorcas Circle to make scarves for the homeless and much more.
- Lydia Guild, who make dresses for the Guatemala Mission Trip.

TODAY'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Special Needs Class

9:30 a.m.

Megan Fernandez

11:00 a.m.

Debbie Schreffler

Sip n' Chat Cleanup

College & Career