



From the Pastor

Hey Gulf Cove,

It's a New Year, and a New Beginning!

New beginnings can be both exciting and intimidating. They represent a chance to start fresh and make positive changes in our lives, but they also require us to let go of the familiar and step into the unknown.

As Christians, we can find hope and strength in knowing that God is with us in all things, including the new beginnings we face. In Isaiah 43:19, the Lord says, "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" God is constantly at work in our lives, creating new opportunities and possibilities for us.

When we encounter a new beginning, it can be helpful to reflect on the past and give thanks for the experiences and lessons we have gained. However, it's also important not to get too caught up in the past and to keep an open mind and heart for what God has in store for us in the future.

One way to embrace new beginnings is to plan and set goals for what we want to accomplish. This can give us a sense of direction and purpose and help us to stay focused and motivated. It's also important to remember that we don't have to go through new beginnings alone. We can seek the guidance and support of friends, family, and our faith community.

As we begin a new year, let us remember that with God's help, we can face any new beginning with confidence and hope. May we trust in His plan for our lives and embrace the opportunities and challenges that come our way.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." – Jeremiah 29:11

I pray this will be a fantastic new year for you and your loved ones!

Happy New Year Church,

Pastor Mike



Family Movie Night



**January 26,
2024 at 6pm.**

**Free popcorn!
BYO snacks
and drinks.**

**Please, no
kids drop off!**

Synopsis: After the death of his father, a boy growing up on a lunar mining colony takes a trip to explore a legendary crater, along with his four best friends, prior to permanently leaving the Moon and relocated to another planet.

Hey Gulf Cove,
It's me again, Pastor Mike. I just wanted to thank y'all for the many cards, gifts and goodies we received over the Christmas Season!
Also, thanks for the donations for kids in our community. You are very generous, and I am blessed to be your pastor.
Love you guys,
Pastor Mike



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Help Wanted in and around Gulf Cove Church What CAN you do?

Handy Helpers-The trustees, Richard Jacoby and Jim Brown, are forming a task force to help with small projects around the church. If you are handy and want to help, sign-up in the back of sanctuary or contact Jim at 712-299-2084.

Kids Church-Holly Tozer needs help with Kids Church on Sunday mornings at 9:30. If you can help one Sunday a month (or more), please let Holly know.

Greeters/Ushers-sign-up at the back of the sanctuary or contact Sue Betz at 860-608-3686.

Hospitality -Help when you can- one week or one month. It's up to you! Make beverages first thing, set out goodies before and after 8am service, or clean up at the end of the morning. Sign-up in the back of the sanctuary or call the church office at 941-697-1747.

Barn Boys-Mowing and trimming-contact John Furtado at 941-830-0121.

First Impressions-Weeding and pruning - contact Ken Priest at 941-769-058.

2024 CUBA MISSION TRIPS



Do you have a sister church in Cuba? When was the last time “you” were blessed by Cuban hospitality? In 2023 there were seven trips to Cuba that is to: Holguin Norte, Ciego de Avila and Sancti Spiritus districts. Yet our numbers of visitors to their sister churches were minimal. Yes, you can travel to Cuba. I understand the hesitancy because of Covid but this should not be a deterrent. For the sister church wanting to take larger sums of funds to their sister church going on a trip is a great way to get the funds to them.

We have implemented many changes with our trip agendas:

1. Shorter trips five to six days
2. Trip size, maximum five
3. Minimizing travel
4. More time at sister church “if possible”
5. Price has not changed-\$1,900 per person
6. Personal time at your sister church
7. United States church purchasing pig for pig roast at sister church and entire village in Cuba

We are making plans for 2024 trips in:

1. February, Sancti Spiritus
2. March/April, Holguin Norte
3. May, if needed
4. September, Ciego de Avila (full)
5. October, Holguin Norte
6. November, Ciego de Avila

All subject to change as needed.

If you're interested in a life altering experience in Cuba with your sister church or you have never been to Cuba and God is calling you.... Just email, text or call me.

We need to get back to Cuba!

In Christ,

Dan Christopherson

Southwest District Mission Program, Inc.
www.christforcuba.com
Direct Line: 941-468-7209

CRAFTY LADIES will meet every Thursday during January from 10-12 to replenish supplies, and they can use your help. Contact Kathy Grawcock for more information at 260-226-0240.



CHANCEL FLOWERS ~ Starting January 7, you may reserve your special dates to place on the chancel. Gulf Cove invites you to make a gift toward thanksgiving

for, in celebration of, or in honor of a person or event. The donor's name(s) and appropriate dedication are printed in our Sunday bulletins. Donations are made directly to Gulf Cove's Flower Fund. The suggested donation amount is \$75 for two bouquets. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex. Please note whether you are taking the flowers or not. Please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions.

2024 GIVING ENVELOPES ~ If you have not received your 2024 giving envelopes, please contact the office. The counting team appreciates your using them!

COMMUNION OFFERING ENVELOPES

Each month a different fund is chosen by our church leadership to receive these extra funds. If you wish to give above and beyond your usual tithe for January, the Communion Offering will be designated for our general fund, as we need to "catch up" and start the year off on a solid footing.

SECOND SUNDAY ~ SECOND MILE GIVING is another opportunity to go above and beyond your normal giving to support the church. This collection always goes to our reserve fund, so that we may pay our bills when gifts and tithes wil not cover our regular monthly expenses.



February 3, 2024

Pancake

Breakfast

February 24, 2024



Spaghetti
Dinner



Dick Morrow	1/01
Bob Mac Donald	1/01
Jim Vanderford	1/04
Pat Hansell	1/05
Mimi Hamilton	1/08
Samantha McVety	1/09
Beth Leone	1/09
Zinnia Gray	1/13
Janice Botelho	1/13
Linda Thatcher	1/13
Patricia MacKenzie	1/16
Wendy Lisbon	1/18
Kari Sue Telles	1/18
Loman Jenkins	1/19
Caleb Waterman	1/19
Gerri McGee	1/20
Lorna Ryan	1/21
Dan Taylor	1/21
Cleo Grayden	1/23
Kathy Mortensen	1/24
Anita Ten Brink	1/24
Sandy Doty	1/24
Suzanne Ludwig	1/24
Al Crosby	1/24
Kelly Weaver	1/27
Pat Hitchcock	1/30
Jan Hahn	1/30
Ron Wolfe	1/31
Julie Thoman	1/31
Myra Ehnert	1/31



Dick & Susie Morrow	1/19
Joseph & Linda Coffey	1/28

JANUARY SERMON SERIES

What’s the “piph” with e-PIPH-any:

January 7 “but wait, there’s more...
Matthew 2:1-12

January 14 “Come and See”
John 1:43-51

January 21 “The Kingdom Is at Hand”
Mark 1:14-20

January 28 “What Gets Into People?”
Mark 1:21-28