



GT CHURCH



December 2021

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From the Pastor

It is my vision that GT Church be a loving church.

The nature of our Lord can be summed up in one word. That word is “Love”

We see this in Mark 12:30-31. In response to the scribe’s question of priority, Jesus places the emphasis on love. He also prioritizes our application of love in the order He presents the commandment.

Notice:

- “Love” God with all your heart;
- “Love” God with all your soul;
- “Love” God with all your mind;
- “Love” God with all your strength;
- “Love” your neighbor;
- “Love” yourself.

The repetition of the word “Love” shows the importance while the progression of the application shows the priority: God first... others second...me last.

This is what I desire that our church look like.

Jesus was the greatest leader who ever lived. He used many leadership styles during His earthly ministry; however, in identifying one that can qualify as the “Nature” of our Lord’s leadership, it would have to be love. Love embodies the very essence of God’s plan and purpose. This is personified through Christ as He imparted this into His followers. So, our challenge is to love one another. My prayer for GT Church is that we will operate in love like Christ did when He walked this earth.

Only then can we effectively fulfill God’s plan and purpose in these exciting days. Our challenge is to love others like our Wonderful Lord loves us.
Let’s Go!

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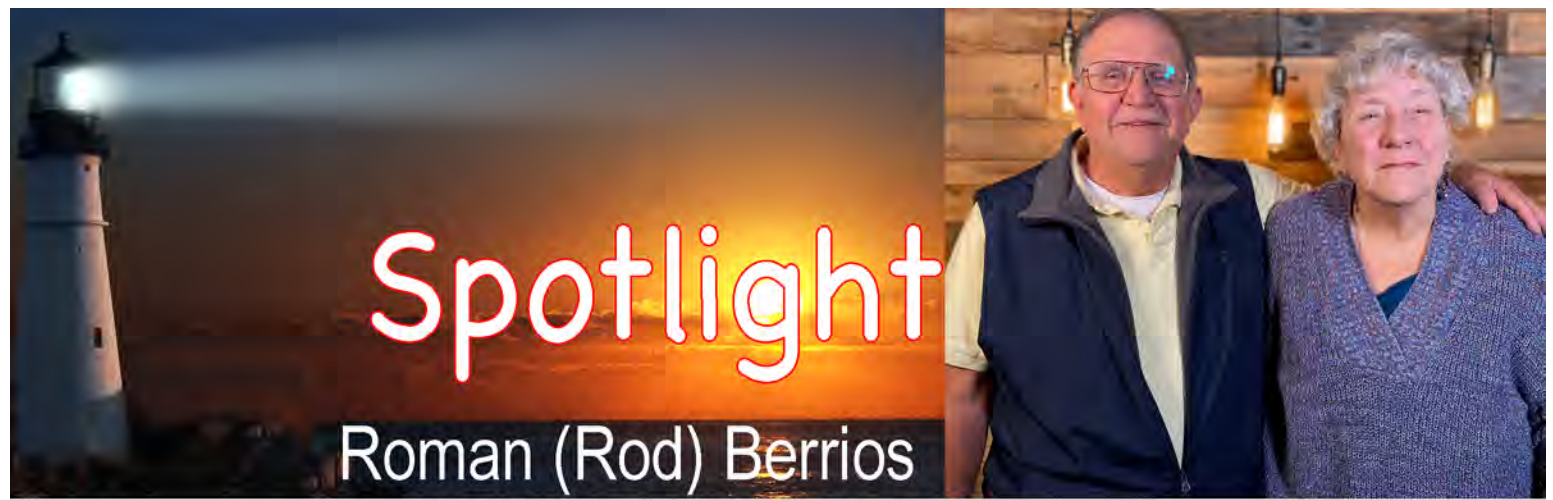
The mission of GT Church is to be a lighthouse to the community and to send beams of light all over the world

Service Times

Sunday - 9a traditional
Sunday - 10:45a contemporary



GT CHURCH



Rod Berrios has been serving as a volunteer in the church office since he retired in 2011. He is faithful to come every Tuesday and answer the phone and handle all the data input. Shortly after he started volunteering weekly, he said he was so grateful to the Lord for giving him something to do! Rod and his beautiful wife, Margaret, have been members at GT Church since 1995. They are the proud parents of four children; Sylvia, Angela, Richard & Vickie and they have 2 granddaughters and 1 grandson. Rod and Margaret have been married over 51 years!



In addition to his volunteer service on Tuesdays, Rod has been a member of the worship team (first trumpet!) and has served several terms as a church elder.

He also has a heart for missions and has been on several of our mission trips.

GT Church is very grateful to Rod for his faithfulness in serving the Lord and the church!

It's Easy to Get Involved

If you have a heart for service and want to serve our precious Lord with your time and talent, GT Church has a wealth of opportunities to get involved in Kingdom work. From working with our very youngest in the nursery to the kitchen to the homebound - all that is missing is YOU! For the most part, the work is light, the environment is pleasant, and the rewards are eternal. Why not take a minute to link to our online volunteer form and pick something that can use your time and talent. Or, just give the office a call to discuss possibilities for becoming a vital part of the GT Church mission - being a lighthouse in the community and sending beams of light all over the world. (<https://gtchurchfl.com/volunteer/>)



GT Church supports our Missionaries Justin & Sarah White with children Noah, Hannah, Charity and Mila. The Whites serve in Constanta, Romania with a heart to radiate love with everything they do. This happens through an American-style coffee house/restaurant geared toward giving youth and college students a safe and fun place to hang out. They also lead the United Dream Center, an outreach to families, elderly, and homeless in a low income area of Constanta. The Whites use this facility to show love to the entire body: physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Justin and Sarah also pastor a church called "United". This Church helps people grow in their relationship with Jesus! One project the Whites are leading is the development of a youth camp.- Camp Dumbraveni - currently under construction. The foundation is being laid now, and once completed the project will have an impact, year round in Constanta County through camps and conferences. This past summer, Justin and Sarah took over 100 kids from local villages to camp. They are looking forward to when the campgrounds are finished and they can take 100s more. The vision is to make it available for any child to go to camp and learn about Jesus! The White family is a beam of light from our congregation to Romania. Thank you for your support for missions!



Justin at the door of the "United Constanta" American-style coffee shop.



The main building at Camp Dumbraveni will serve the Constanta community year round with camps and conferences.



The whole White family

Harvest Festival Outreach



We were able to share the love of Jesus to over 150 kids at our Annual Harvest Festival Outreach on October 31! Thank you to everyone who donated supplies and came out to help make this event possible. Praise the Lord!



Harvest Festival Outreach





Our youth group went to the new St. Pete Pier, had a blast, and even ran through the water jet fountain. We had prayer and a word from the Lord in the grass under God's great cathedral of the stars.





Our annual Friendsgiving. Our young adults get together and we break bread, play games and fellowship. The gathering is hosted by Pastor Heath and Shannan Panganiban.



Kids Pastor Madi promised the GT Kids that they could throw pies in her face if they raised \$200 for BGMC. Well, the kids did their part. So Angel Jones joined Maddy for the great pie-in-the-face celebration! The kids were extremely excited. Don't know about Maddy and Angel, though.

Pie in the face for BGMC



December 15 - Christmas Caroling - 7 pm

Join us at the church at 7pm as we spread the joy of our Savior's birth in the surrounding neighborhoods. So dress warm and bring your best voice for this night of fellowship, song and praise. Contact Karen at the church office (727.323.5017) for more information.



December 18 - Beauty for Ashes - 8 am

Ladies, come join us for breakfast, Bible study, and prayer as we continue our series on *"Ain't No MaMa Like A Prayin MaMa"*! Bring a batch of your favorite Christmas cookies and a copy of the recipe! We will be doing a cookie exchange.

Cookie tins will be provided. Contact Karen at the church office (727.323.5017) for more information.



December 19 - Christmas Banquet - 6 pm

Come and celebrate the reason for the season as the GTChurch family gather for fellowship, food and fun - and most of all - praise for the coming of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Contact Karen at the church office (727.323.5017) for more information.



December 24 - Christmas Outreach- 4 pm

This is where we share the Christmas gift with our neighbors and friends in the surrounding neighborhoods. Following up on a very successful Thanksgiving outreach, the Christmas Outreach will feature lots of fun and games for the entire family - along with a word about the reason for the season. This outreach is a great opportunity to share the true joy of Christmas with families who may not know Jesus. We will need a whole host of volunteers to make this outreach successful.

To sign up for any of these events, complete the online volunteer form (<https://gtchurchfl.com/volunteer/>)



December 26 - Pancake Breakfast - 10 am

What could be better than starting off the Christmas service with a great pancake breakfast served up by Bill Jones and his Men's Ministry.



December 26 - One Service Only - 10:45 am

After your fill of pancakes, come to the Carols, Candles & Communion service at 10:45. No Wednesday night discipleship meetings on 12/22 or 12/29.



January 12, 2022 - Annual Family Gathering - 7 pm

The entire GT Church family is invited to hear a performance report on 2021. In addition, new leaders will be elected and volunteer opportunities will be explored. All this and refreshments, too!

Contact Karen at the church office (727.323.5017) for more information.



January 20 - Highway Harmony Singers -9:30 am

Come and enjoy this special event sponsored by Prime Time. This dynamic duo formed Truckstop Ministries over 13 years ago with the following mission statement:

We are dedicated to spending the rest of our lives serving our Lord & Savior in whatever way and wherever HE leads, singing HIS praises, Southern Gospel Style, and being an encouragement to the family of GOD!

