

FRESH Start

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PORT CHARLOTTE SDA CHURCH



"The Lord's loyal kindness never ceases; his compassions never end. They are fresh every morning..." Lam. 3:22,23 NET

Seith Andi Toboso was baptized by Pastor Jaime

Photo by Wave Williams

IT ONLY TAKES A SPARK

On October 30 of last year we had several young people give their lives to God publicly in baptism. That event inspired the hearts of many others, and the Lord blessed our church with over 20 new members in the fourth quarter of the year.

God is doing something here at the Port Charlotte SDA Church! Please continue to pray that His Holy Spirit fills our church leaders and members, and works in our community.

QUICK LINKS

[Click Here for
SERMONS](#)

[Click Here for
SABBATH SCHOOL
LESSONS](#)

[Click Here to GIVE](#)



LOOK HOW FAR WE'VE COME

BY DUSTIN HALL, SENIOR PASTOR

With everything happening in our crazy world it is very easy to be so involved with today that we forget what God has done in our past. Even within a pandemic and things changing in our world daily God has done some incredible things for our church. Over the last two years we have seen a significant increase in tithe, we have discovered a wonderful new direction for community services, offerings for our Family Resource Center toys eclipsed \$5,000, we upgraded our screens in the sanctuary, we installed two new church signs, and our end of the year offering this year was at an all time

high. Best of all we have had nearly thirty baptisms and professions of faith.

We also have a huge blessing that God has prepared for us that we will be experiencing soon. A new roof! We have had numerous bids from several companies for our roofing project and through the process we learned that we have had extensive storm damage. We followed the process with Adventist Risk Management (our insurance company funded by our offerings) and we are happy to tell you that almost half of our entire new roof will be

continued on page 3



Pastor Jaime baptizes Sarah Smith (above) and Benilia Riviere (below)

Baptism Photo credits: Wave Williams

covered by insurance. In addition, because of God's wonderful blessings in the past we have enough funding in reserve to cover that balance without a significant reduction of our resources. God has certainly taken care of our church.

There is so much to be excited about here at PCSDA. With our

dynamic children's ministries, our connection with the Health Department, and your continued dedication to service and stewardship our future is bright! God is revitalizing us and preparing us for the future. Please keep praying, volunteering, giving, and serving. I can't wait to see what God does in 2022.



"WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FOR THE FUTURE, EXCEPT AS WE SHALL FORGET THE WAY THE LORD HAS LED US, AND HIS TEACHING IN OUR PAST HISTORY."

Ellen G, White, *Counsels for the Church*, p.359.

MEET OUR NEW CHURCH TREASURER: Lynne Schmitz

BY LAURA DANCEK

Photo by Barb Goffin



Lynne Schmitz joined our church by profession of faith last November, and already she has taken on a very major responsibility in our church.

Lynne moved to Port Charlotte from Wisconsin in 1988, with her three young children. After working for a local accountant, she began her own bookkeeping and tax service business. She is gradually working toward full-retirement so she can spend more time with her 15 grandchildren, the last was born on Christmas day. This month, she will become a great-grandmother.

Lynne joined the Community Life Church in Port Charlotte in 2007. She was an active member there, helping with children's ministry, driving the van, and counting the money. She continues to volunteer to help in their food pantry every Thursday afternoon.

Last year, after watching "Days of Noah" on Amazon Prime, Lynne was convicted that she needed to keep the Sabbath holy. She and Betty Weisberg have walked together weekly for five years. She knew that Betty worshipped on Saturday and inquired about our church. After a short time of visiting, she made the decision to become a member, and we are so glad she did!

Lynn plans to continue the treasurer's operations without any changes. If you have a question, you can contact her through the church office.



THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER: HOW CAN YOU HELP?

BY LA DONNA BLOM-ANTONIO

The Church Administrative Board representing the church constituency has chosen a mission to focus on/nurture the health of young families in our community through providing a family resource center on our campus. With intention we want to make friends of young families in our community and work together to provide a healthier environment for our children. We want to effectively grow their minds and bodies, and help them develop a strong Christlike character.

The board voted to hire a director for this crucial ministry of our church. The director needs to be a spiritual individual with experience in mission extension in churches and shares a passion to serve with young families. Apply if you have experience with groups of children and their spiritual development.

Please give thought as to how you can support this project. You can help by purchasing items on our Amazon wishlist, recommending individuals to apply to be the director, planning to support the FRC with your offerings, volunteering, and by praying for the success of the center to reach more people with Good News. The kingdom of heaven was made for people who have the heart of children.

[Click here to see the full job description.](#) **[Click here to see the Amazon wishlist.](#)**

Welcome to the Family

On November 13, our family grew by six. Lynne Schmitz (see page 4) joined by profession of faith.

Photos by Wave Williams



Seith Andi Toboso - also pictured on cover



Benilia Riviere - also pictured on page 3



Jax Thorne



Fiol Knight



Joseph Wright

Welcome to the Family

On November 20 we added seven MORE members by baptism. Angelina and her children are pictured below.

Photos by Barb Goffin



Angelina Kauffman



Tyler Vivona



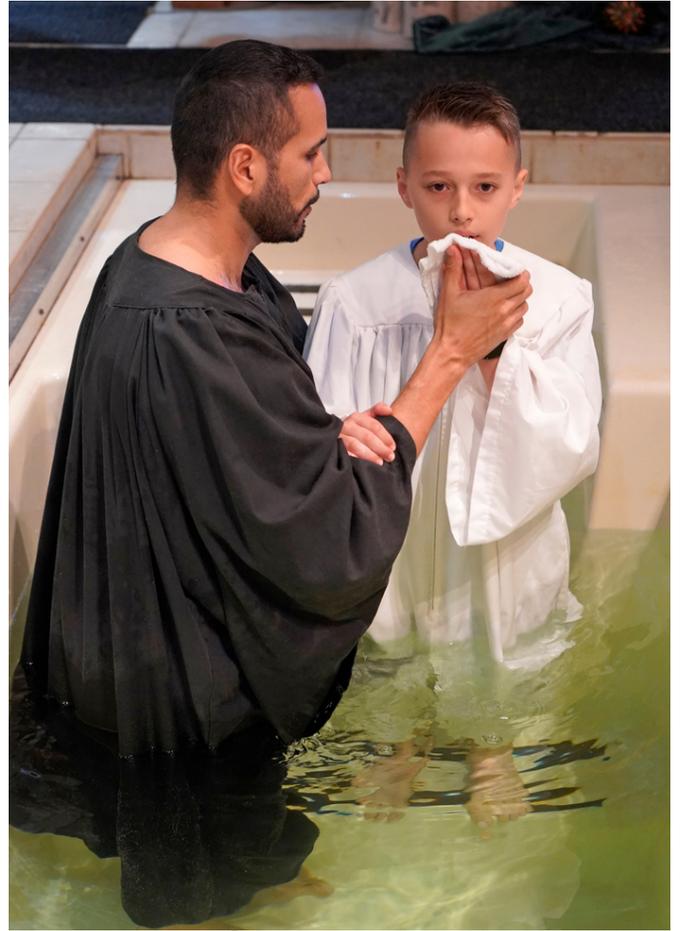
Nicholas Vivona



Anaya Vivona



Marianella Jelinek



Matthew Studor

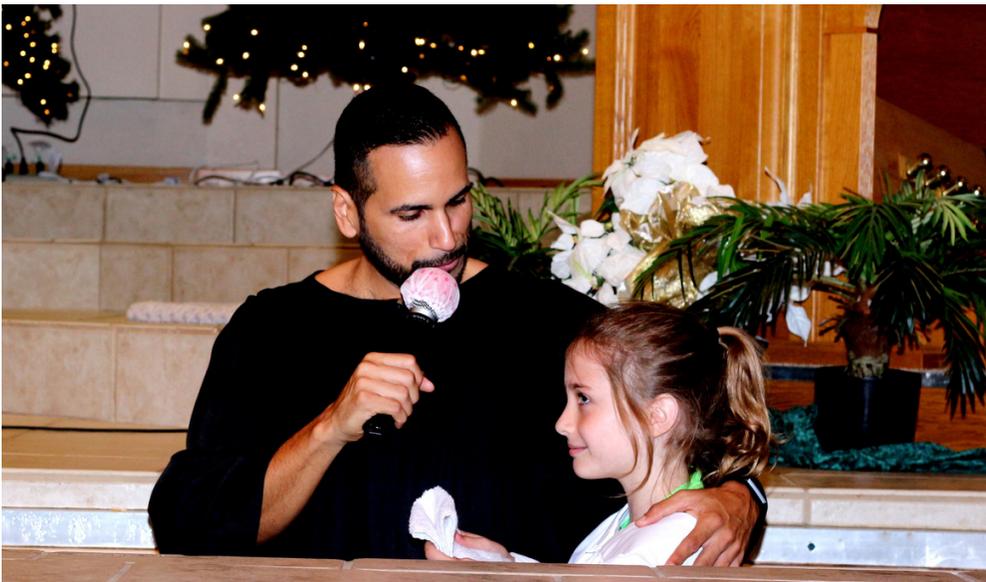


Andre Jones

Welcome to the Family



Three more joined our church on December 4. Shirley S. Thomas, pictured in the group photo to the left joined by profession of faith.



Maria Mikluscak



Sarah Smith - also pictured on page 3

Baptisms in 2022 will be featured in future issues of the newsletter.

The Florida Department of Health in Charlotte County Thanks YOU!

One of the blessings our church experienced last year was having greater opportunity to serve families in our community, due to a growing relationship with the health department. YOU have made a difference in the lives of many families! Last month our church received an award and letter of appreciation for our joint efforts to help young children.

- Sixty-one families received more than 200 books that you donated.
- Over one dozen families received gift baskets for their newborns.
- Any family that could not afford diapers, pull-ups, or wipes was able to receive them.
- Our church became a health advocate when we hosted the Faithful Families project and became a catalyst for change to local families who participated. Lessons in faith, nutrition, and exercise inspired families to thrive physically, mentally, and spiritually.
- You generously donated to holiday dinners that blessed:
 - a family of six with a new baby born prematurely due to COVID complications
 - a poverty level single mom with three children who was out of work due to surgery
 - a poverty level family of four with a daughter who has poor health
 - a single mom with three grown boys who assumed guardianship of her newborn niece because the mother was incarcerated
 - a poverty level household with four generations living under one roof
 - and a single mother of two with limited ability to work due to complications related to pregnancy.





Christmas at PCSDA

December was filled with special events. The month began with Christmas caroling outside the homes of homebound members, a Christmas movie with cocoa and cookies on the 4th. The next week passersby were blessed with the Christmas music at Gilchrist Park, led by Pine Price. On the 19th, the Spanish congregation had a gift exchange, with games for the kids. Pastor Art said they had a "woopy time!" We gathered for a communion service on Christmas Eve. On Sabbath, Christmas day, we watched a very creative telling of the birth of Jesus, mixed with beautiful music.

Enjoy the photo gallery of memories!





Photos by Wave Williams



Photo by Laura Dancek

Photo by Ed Dancek



Photos by Laura Dancek



Photos by Lynn Price



Photos by Art Grayman



Photos by Laura Dancek



We are looking for writers and photographers to join the communications team.

If you are interested, contact pcsdacommunication@gmail.com

Laura Dancek, Editor



941-629-1333
2036 Loveland Blvd.
Pt. Charlotte, FL 33952

www.pcsda.net

**Follow us on
Facebook**



**Watch our
YouTube Channel**



Listen to our Podcast



Sermon Schedule

February 5
Pastor Dustin

February 12
Pastor Jaime

February 19
Pastor Dustin

February 26
Pastor Dustin

February 24



PCAS

Spaghetti Dinner
& Talent Show

Contact the school for more information: 941-625-5237