



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Mollie Page, (239) 455-6727  
mollie@printpageusa.com

## **Bargain Box Thrift Store Hosts Grand Opening Event on January 21st**

**NAPLES, FL (Dec. 20, 2011)** – The Bargain Box Thrift Store ([www.bargainboxnaples.com](http://www.bargainboxnaples.com)) will host a Grand Opening event on Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 10am – 4pm at its new store location at 153 Tenth Street South. The event will celebrate the store’s expansion and decision by church officials from Naples United Church of Christ to move operations for the 37-year-old mission thrift store. The new store, which underwent an aggressive custom buildout in September, provides shoppers with nearly 7,000 square feet of discounted quality merchandise including an expanded boutique department and 1,500 sq. ft. dedicated to furniture. Live music will be performed by Leelo Basham and Gregg Lepore inside the store, and a dedication and blessing ceremony will be given by senior pastor Rev. Ron Patterson at 1:00pm.

Guests of the grand opening event will enjoy 15% off all storewide purchases with hourly drawings for a chance for one lucky shopper to convert that discount to 50% off merchandise or 25% off one furniture purchase. The event also includes several gift basket raffles. To honor the store’s impact in the community, Dr. Becky Weese, Naples United Church of Christ’s Director of Music, assisted a choir member in writing a special anthem. The anthem will be sung at the Grand Opening event by Bargain Box volunteers who also sing in the church’s Sunday choir.

“We’re blessed to be able to grow with the community,” says store manager Sandy Goldstein. “The new store allows us to accept and sell a variety of new donated items including furniture. Plus, we can finally showcase many items we’ve been storing off site because of space limitations in our old store.”

“At a time when the resources of local caring organizations are stretched to their limit, the money raised by the Bargain Box has provided our congregation with the funds to help,” said Rev.

Ronald M. Patterson, Naples United Church of Christ senior pastor. “The Bargain Box is a major contributor to our congregation’s mission.”

“The quality of our donated merchandise continues to impress and attract new shoppers,” said Goldstein. “We’re seeing so many new faces at the new location on Tenth Street. Plus our regulars are coming back more often because we are constantly adding to our stock in every department. This grand opening is more of a thank you to the community for its ongoing support.”

“Through our contributions to the church’s outreach programs, we are able to help over 30 charities each year,” said Bill Anderson, Volunteer Committee Chair for the Bargain Box. “This special event lets us make an even stronger connection with our charity partners by expanding awareness of the store and its mission.”

Proceeds from the Grand Opening event will support Naples United Church of Christ outreach programs. The Bargain Box has progressively increased its contribution to the Board of Mission and Outreach at the church over the past three years.

Additional parking is available behind the store and accessible from First Avenue South.

### **ABOUT THE BARGAIN BOX**

*Mission: The Bargain Box provides affordable items to individuals and families as well as donates all profits generated by these items to help those in need in the greater Naples community.*

Located at the foot of the Tenth Street shopping district, the Bargain Box thrift store is the longest operating community thrift store in Collier County. The store was established in 1975 by women leaders in the community including members of the Naples Women’s Club and Women’s Fellowship at Naples United Church of Christ. Merchandise at the Bargain Box is obtained through 100 percent community donations, and all revenue generated from sales goes back into the community. Over 100 volunteers from Naples United Church of Christ and the community assist in store operations. The Bargain Box is open year round and includes several departments such as housewares, jewelry, electronics, furniture, a ladies name-brand fashion boutique, linens, books, and men’s and women’s clothing. The Bargain Box is open from 10:00am – 4:00pm daily,

closed on Sunday. The new store location is at 153 Tenth Street South, just south of First Avenue South, [www.bargainboxnaples.com](http://www.bargainboxnaples.com) or (239) 262-3802.

\* photos available upon request.

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