News From First Presbyterian Church 430 S. Carancahua St. • Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 • (361) 884-4057 • firstprescc.com

March 2025 Issue March 12, 2025

Mark Your Calendar

FPC Ladies Lunch

Meet up with a fun group of ladies for lunch each Wednesday. Location changes weekly. Contact Sharon Duncan for more information. dunca2tr@aol.com

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Wednesday Nights are a special time at FPC where we share a catered meal at 6pm followed by study, concluding at 7:30pm. The youth group meets at this time and there are fun activities for children.

Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle meets weekly on Thursdays (virtually and in person) for Bible study. Contact Nancy Hutton for more information. electricsinger@att.net



When I reflect on my walk with Jesus, I imagine walking on a long cobblestone path with its curves, bumps, numerous detours and those ominous decision points often referred to as the "fork on the road". Yogi Berra once said, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." No doubt, those "fork in the road" decisions can be as easy as whether you want an Italian or Mexican meal for dinner or struggling with a life-changing decision that will alter the course of your life. Choosing which path to take brings me to the parable of the Sower found in Matthew 13. Are you traveling on a hard path, rocky ground or solid soil? How one receives and applies the word of God will determine the path vou'll take.

A significant fork on the road occurred in my life 25 years ago. I can still recall that phone call from my husband, Tony, when he told me he was quitting his management job with Office Depot. Many of you know that was the beginning of Mission 911. Those initial years were financially and spiritually draining. I recall in those early years when I desperately called out to God for His help. With tears in my eyes and fists raised to heaven, I prayed in desperation. I specifically prayed

for an answer even asking God that we needed an answer within 3 months. Most would call my prayer an act of arrogance. I thought of it more as confidently approaching the God's throne of grace and pouring out my heart to Him just like in Hebrews 4:16. He heard my prayer. Hallelujah! Looking back, I know that because of my foundation in Christ and those "seeds" that fell on solid ground, I was able to sustain my faith in God and allow His will to be done. My path still has its turns and forks on the road. It still has those cracks that will trip me up. But I'm reminded of Isaiah 30: 20-21 "Although the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, your teachers will be hidden no more; with your own eyes you will see them. Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

The Evangelism Committee invites you to share your "faith walk" for the glory of God. Please submit your story to Katie Hoover for an upcoming Tower Time publication.

WHAT IS AN ELDER?

by Elder Terry Smith

The role of church elder has changed substantially during the last century. Following the Civil War, gaining momentum well into the 20th century, elders moved from a primary role as a shepherd of people alongside the pastors, to become the superintendent of a program or ministry. To put it simply, for nearly four millenia, elders oversaw people. For a hundred years up and until today, Presbyterian elders focus nearly all their time upon the things of the church—bricks, money, programs, and pew pencils—at the expense of the people.

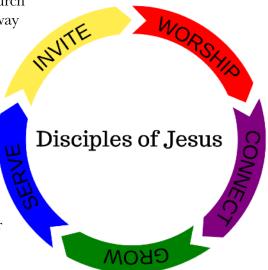
Because church officers are called to such critical roles in the life of the church, the church expects a higher level of commitment from its officers, including higher standards of conduct. When officers are ordained, they are asked a series of questions about their faith in Jesus Christ and about their commitment to the Essential Tenets of ECO, agreeing to be bound by the polity and discipline of the church and agreeing to serve in the particular office for which they are being ordained.

So what's the deal with church officers? Service. Church officers are members of the church who are called by God and ordained by the church to service in particular roles. But ALL members of the church are called to serve the church and minister in the name of Jesus Christ.

BEING THE CHURCH

There are many ways to BE the church at FPC. Committees are a wonderful way to enrich the life of your church. A listing of all committees is listed below along with the chairperson for each.

Connecting - Katie Hoover
Discipleship - Russ Hodges
Evangelism - Sinae McMann
Serving - Matt Anderson
Worship - Walter Scogin
Building & Grounds - Gary Uhlenhaker
Administration - Terry Smith



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms" 1 Peter 4:10

INQUIRER'S LUNCH

The Evangelism Committee will be hosting an Inquirer's Lunch following worship on Sunday, March 23 for anyone interested in learning about membership in First Presbyterian.

The gathering includes discussion on what it means to be a follower of Jesus, what it means to be a Presbyterian (and in particular ECO) follower of Jesus, and finally what it means to be a Covenant Partner of First Presbyterian Church of Corpus Christi.

If you know anyone who might be interested please contact the church office.

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH

"...by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." - Philippians 4:6

Please pray regularly and boldly that God will:

- show you where you can serve in the church
- show us how to better serve our community
- draw over 120 people to worship each week
- send 30 new Covenant Partners this year
- double our children's Sunday School (again!)
- guide the elders as they lead

Please include the following in your prayers: Luis & Julie Añil, Roy Daniels, Julianna Duncan, Sue Hawn, Bob Minor, Charles Murphey, Maribeth Pierce, Bill Quinton, Liz Ramon, Dale Stewart, Cliff Taylor, April Vaughan, Robert Vaughan, Mark Wemer, Thomas Cameron, Clayton Johnson, the family of Julie Bernhard.

Please try to call the church office at 884-4057#100 if you are in the hospital.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

"Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another." Hebrews 10:24-25a

2/02/25	99
2/09/25	112
2/1625	91
2/23/25	90

It really makes a difference when you're here!



3/2	Nancy Hutton
	Addilyn Smith
3/5	Robert Haley
3/6	Cayson Loving
	Cooper Loving
3/9	Shelbi Moran
	Madelyn Sword
	Charlotte Smith
3/15	Mary Lou Bartels
3/26	James Loving
	Kenzie Stice
3/28	Sally Pomeroy
3/30	Maribeth Pierce
	Sierra Spencer
4/2	Sharon Alsup
	Keith Smith
4/6	Kaylie Hodges
	Chastidy Rodriguez

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE



The Worship Committee is seeking **new volunteers** to learn and assist in producing our Sunday services. These individuals will learn how stream services online and/or run sound in the sanctuary.

Please contact Glen Sword at masterduckster@yahoo.com for more information.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT: CONNECTING

The Connecting Committee is where fellowship and member care meet! From gathering in Kleberg Hall after worship to funeral receptions, we are a behind the scenes committee. Our members put these and other events together to celebrate our congregation and give them opportunities for fellowship.

In addition, we also serve communion to "At Home" Covenant Partners, provide care to members who are sick or experience a crisis, we send notes and greeting cards as part of our outreach, have an active

The Connecting Committee is online prayer chain, host the ere fellowship and member care Independence Day Picnic, et! From gathering in Kleberg Thanksgiving Luncheon, and ll after worship to funeral Christmas Eve Cookie Reception.

The Connecting Ministry is responsible for engaging people in the life of the church, building deep, healthy relationships among congregation members, and for coordinating care for members in crisis or who are At Home (homebound).

If you're interested in joining the committee, contact Katie Hoover at 361-549-7310.

THANK YOU, BRAD KISNER!



We celebrated Brad Kisner at Sunday fellowship on March 2. When our previous Music Director left, Brad graciously agreed to serve as interim choir director for eight weeks. It turned into two years, far longer than he'd planned. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

Brad will continue to serve FPC uas accompanist, playing the organ and piano and offering advice to Shelby.

WELCOME NEW COVENANT PARTNERS!

Our congregation is growing! Please welcome our newest Covenant Partners who were received on February 9 – Jacob & Tracey Allegria, Justin

& Kayla Butts, Juan Davila & Anais Mata, Bob Haley, and Vic Pinion. Be sure to introduce yourself when you see them around!





Save the date! The Pregnancy Center's fundraising banquet is set for Thursday, March 27, at the American Bank Center. I am excited to be hosting a table and would love you to join us. A complimentary dinner is included.

This year's keynote speaker is Eric Metaxas. The banquet is well-worth attending. It is very informative, and the speakers have always been exceptional.

The fundraiser is mission-critical to the Pregnancy Center's lifesaving work as the Center is a 501(c)(3) entity and is funded only by the generous gifts of individuals, churches, businesses, other non-profit organizations, and foundations. For more info on the mission of The Pregnancy Center please visit their website: https://hifriends4life.org.



To reserve a seat, contact Kim Tucker at ktucker@hartlinebarger.com or 361.563.6373 prior to March 3. If you can't make it, please consider a donation. Thank you!

