

**VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICE
ON
FACEBOOK/FPCOFVICTORIA:
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020**

Our Scripture readings for next Sunday (the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost), August 23, 2020, are: Isaiah 51:1-6; and Matthew 16:13-20. The sermon title is "The Question" and the Bulletin is available here: https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2020-08-23-Bulletin-PDF.pub_.pdf



I appreciate the several positive comments I have received regarding the inclusion of a Prayer of Thanksgiving, followed by the *Doxology*, in our Order of Worship for last Sunday's service. Gratitude and praise to God for his many blessings, even during these awful times of illness, hardship, and isolation, should always have a place in our hearts, our prayers, and of course our liturgy.

We will continue this practice during future worship services.



**MS. MURIEL COTMAN
RETURNS AS OUR
GUEST ORGANIST**

As mentioned before, Robert Wyatt, our faithful Choirmaster, will be enjoying a well-deserved vacation for three Sundays this month (August 9, 16, and 23). Leading us in our ministry of music during Robert's absence is Muriel Cotman, a talented musician who has played in our Sanctuary before as a featured guest piano soloist.

The worship service for this Sunday, August 23, will be the last for Muriel during the current "substitution" period, but Robert and I assure you she will be invited back to play for us again soon.

On behalf of Robert, myself, and our entire congregation, I would like to thank Muriel for her service to our church. All who have heard her play are impressed by her talent and musicality. Those of us who have also met Muriel are likewise impressed by her dedication, her pleasant disposition, and her joy in worshiping the Lord in music. God bless you, Muriel, as you continue your studies at Victoria College during your upcoming sophomore year!



August 22 - Roby Christian

If you or someone you know, has a birthday this week please contact the church office:

361.575.2441

or

info@fpcovictoria.org



CARES AND CONCERNS

Sarah Waldrop, a former member and always a loving friend to many in this church, has been admitted to the intensive care unit at DeTar Hospital in Victoria for treatment of a blood clot in her lung. She was admitted on Saturday, August 15th, and as of the time we are publishing this Newsletter, we have not received any updates about her condition.

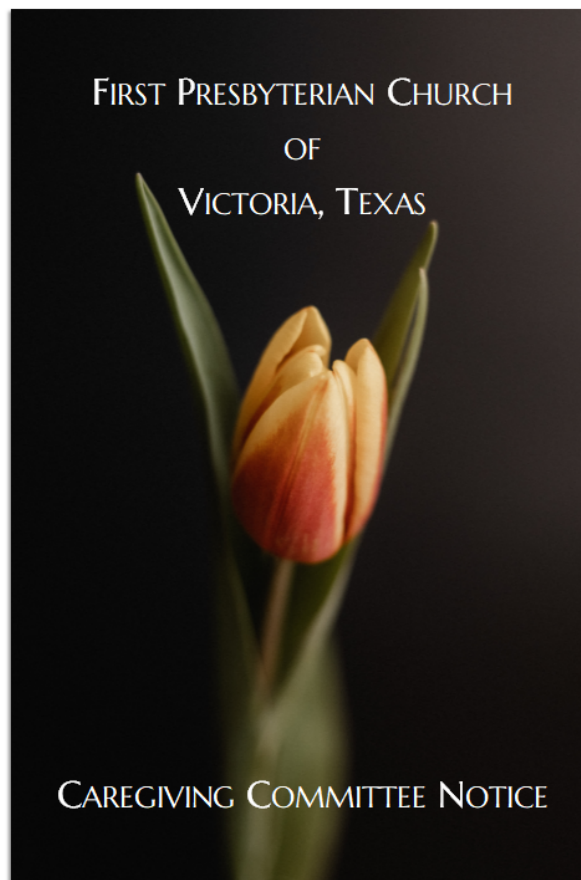
If you receive any news from or about Sarah, please let us know in the church office. Meanwhile, let us all be in prayer for Sarah and Steve, her husband, together with all of Sarah's family and friends. May God visit his tender mercy and caring comfort on Sarah and all those who love and care for her.

IN MEMORIUM

We have only recently learned that on August 7, 2020, the Lord called home his daughter, Claire Heger. We have not yet been able to learn any further information, except that final arrangements are being handled by Rosewood funeral chapel: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/victoria-tx/claire-heger-9308677>. If and as we receive additional information, we will include it in our next Newsletter.

We mourn the loss of our friend and companion, and we offer our condolences to all of Claire's family and friends. We also rejoice in Claire's steadfast faith and love.

In life and in death, we belong to Christ.



When you or a family member is in the hospital, facing illness, or simply in need of prayer or care once a loved one has passed, please call or email members of the Caregiving Committee.

Also, our team is seeking special people, to pray, work, and to aid in the tasks involved. Would you like to help? If so, please contact us at the info below.

Rev. Jim DeMent

361.575.2441 (church office)

info@fpcofvictoria.org (email)

Jack Kleinecke

361.212.3229

jkleinecke@mybankersbank.com

Gayla Whitaker

361.935.0950

gwhitaker@stjvictoria.com

*Each of these numbers can take messages,
or are actively receiving emails.*

** Due to the HIPPA Act, hospitals will no longer release
any information, unless we know you are there.
If you are hospitalized, please have a loved one or friend call the
church office so we may pray for your prompt recovery
and come visit you if you wish.*

*Are any among you sick?
They should call for the elders of the church
and have them pray over them,
anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.
The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up;
and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.
Therefore confess your sins to one another,
and pray for one another, so that you may be healed.
The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.*

James 5:14-16



**IMPROVING THE “PRODUCTION VALUES”
OF OUR
VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICES
(HELP WANTED!)**

Thanks to Bob Whitaker, we are completing significant upgrades to the audio system in the Sanctuary. Not only will this improve the quality of the sound which we stream over the Internet, it will be a beautiful enhancement to the worship services when (someday soon, please Lord!) we return to in-person worship in our Sanctuary.

While all of this is going on, we are still searching for a camera person to help us operate our new camera equipment which we obtained with a grant from Mission Presbytery. We need someone to be available for two hours on the Saturdays when we record our worship services and, once the pandemic has passed, for two hours on the Sundays when we gather again in the Sanctuary. Additionally, a few additional hours are necessary to process and upload each video from our new equipment to the Internet.

Do you know of someone who might be interested in working for the church in this manner? Do you know a student, family member, or friend who could use some extra cash and would enjoy helping our congregation with this task? If so, please ask them to call (361.575.2441) or email (info@fpcovictoria.org) the church office. We would love to speak with them!

**NEW EDITION (FALL 2020) OF
“THE PRESENT WORD,
ADULT BIBLE LESSONS”
NOW AVAILABLE FROM CHURCH OFFICE**

An additional burden which we must bear during this pandemic is the inability of our Adult Sunday School Class to meet under C.F. Schneider's faithful leadership. Nevertheless, several members have asked to receive copies of the "Participant's Book" which are published as study guides for class members.

If you would like to receive a copy of the latest study guide, entitled, "Love for One Another," we would be more than happy to mail one to you from the church office. You know what to do! Contact us by phone or email, and we will promptly mail you your copy.

As a reminder, the July/August/September 2020 editions of "*These Days: Daily Devotions for Living by Faith*" are likewise available by request.

Also as a reminder, if you are interested in online worship devotionals, please remember there is none better than *The Presbyterian Outlook*. Investigate this timely, informative, and spiritually motivating publication at: <https://pres-outlook.org/>. I particularly recommend the devotionals presented by Jill Duffield. If you enjoy this publication, you can sign up for a free "Internet subscription" and receive the weekly editions by email.

Peace, grace, and mercy,
Pastor Jim

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