



**VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICE  
ON  
FACEBOOK/FPCOFVICTORIA:  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020**

Our Scripture readings for next Sunday (the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost), August 30, 2020, are: Jeremiah 15:15-21; and Matthew 16:21-28. The sermon title is "Jesus Warns of Suffering," and the Bulletin is available here:

[https://fpcovictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2020-08-30-BulletinPDF.pub\\_.pdf](https://fpcovictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2020-08-30-BulletinPDF.pub_.pdf)



### CARES AND CONCERNS

We are happy to report that Sarah Waldrop, a former member and always a loving friend to many in this church, has been released from DeTar Hospital in Victoria and allowed to return home where her husband Steve will help her with her convalescence.

In these days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Steve was not able to visit Sarah during her hospitalization and had to rely on doctors and nurses for daily reports about Sarah's condition. Fortunately, however, Sarah responded well to treatment for what turned out to be several ailments (not just a blood clot as reported earlier), and, according to Steve, her prognosis for a full recovery is very encouraging.

We thank God for his mercy and care during this time of trial for the Waldrop's, and we rejoice at Sarah's recovery. *Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul. 3 John 1.*

### IN MEMORIUM

On August 7, 2020, the Lord called home his daughter, Claire Heger. We have now learned that Claire's mortal remains have been cremated and are interred in Moulton, Texas. Claire's many friends at FPC would like to have a worship service, with a special musical emphasis, in celebration of Claire's life sometime later this year, as and when we are able to gather in person in our Sanctuary. Meanwhile, memorials and tributes to Claire can be found here:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/victoria-tx/claire-heger-9308677>.

Once again, 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.

## ONLINE GIVING NOW POSSIBLE VIA THE FPC WEBSITE

We continue to make adjustments in our church life as we adapt to the reality of the pandemic and the isolation and confinement attendant to it. With the authorization of the Session, we have upgraded our website to make it possible for the members, family, and friends of FPC to make contributions to our church via the Internet. We hope, also, that visitors to our worship services posted on our Facebook page and website will take advantage of this opportunity to support our church and its mission in the community.

If you have ever made an online purchase (on Amazon, for instance), you will find our website simple to use. Just go to our homepage (<https://fpcofvictoria.org/>), and there you will see this screen:



Click on the green “Giving” rectangle, and you will be guided through the easy donation process. Have your credit card or checking account informatin handy, and the process should go smoothly. As always, however, if you need assistance, please contact the church office. Meanwhile, here are answers to some “FAQ’s” (frequently asked questions) that we hope you find helpful:

**Q1:** Do I now have to make all my donations on the website?

**A1:** *No. If you currently mail your check or drop it off at the church office, you may certainly continue to do so. The website is just **another, optional** way for you to make your gifts to the church.*

**Q2:** If I make my donation via the website, can I use my checking account instead of my credit card?

**A2:** *Yes. After you follow the process on our website, you will be taken to a screen that will allow you to choose between your credit card and your checking account. Simply click “checking account” and enter the appropriate banking information.*

**Q3:** Does the church have to pay a fee when a gift is made via our website?

**A3:** *Yes. The fee varies from 3% to 6% of your gift. The amount of the fee is based*

*primarily on what your credit card company charges to process your “purchase” (just as if you were using it at the gas station). The company that we use to handle the transaction also adds on a small fee for handling each gift. To be clear, however, the church pays nothing (no montly fees, for instance) for this service. Fees are imposed only when a gift is made.*

Q4: Can I help the church cover the costs of the fees incurred when I make a contribution via the webside?

A4: Yes. After you enter the amount of you gift, your name, and the appropriate information for you credit card or checking account, you will see a “button” that says “Cover Costs.” If you select that button, your gift will be increased by the amount of the fees applicable to that particular transaction.

E4(a): As an example, suppose you make a gift of \$100.00 using your credit card and suppose the fee for your credit card is 4%. When you click “cover costs,” the amount of your gift will be increased to \$104.00. The result is as follows: you will be charged \$104.00, the church will receive \$100.00, and you will receive credit for a tax-deductible donation of \$104.00 (not \$100.00). The credit card and Internet service companies will receive a total of \$4.00.

E4(b): As another example using the same assumptions, suppose you make a gift of \$100.00 but do not select “Cover Costs.” The result is as follows: you will be charged \$100.00, the church will receive \$96.00, and you will receive credit for a tax-deductible donation of \$100.00. The credit card and Internet service companies will receive a total of \$4.00.

Q5: How does FPC receive my gift?

A5: Our Internet service company deposits the amount of your gift (minus fees) **immediately and directly** into the church’s account at Prosperity Bank. The church office also receives an email when that deposit is made.

Q6: Does FPC keep a record of my gift?

A6: Yes. Whether you drop off a check at the church or make a gift via our website, FPC records your gift in our financial records. Whenever we mail you a report about your contributions to FPC, it will include all gifts, whether mailed, delivered personally, or made via our website.

E6: As an example: If you mailed a \$100 check to the chuch and made a \$104 gift via the Internet, you would receive a “Detailed Statement” from the church verifying that you made total gifts to the church of \$204.

Q7: Can I set up automatic, “repeating” contributions to the church?

A7: Yes. By following the options given on our website, you can set up periodic

*contributions (e.g., weekly, monthly, or other) from either your credit card or your banking account. Remember, however, that the applicable fee will apply to **each** contribution.*

The members of the Session have already participated in a “trial run” of this giving feature of our website, and they report that it is easy to understand and very user-friendly. We want to emphasize, however, that we have created this feature for two main reasons: (a) to allow visitors to our virtual worship services to make donations they cannot make at this time because we are not meeting in-person; and (b) to provide a convenience to our members who might want to use it.

In no way, however, is the Session trying to encourage members to change their current manner of giving if they are satisfied. The cost of a stamp to mail your check is still cheaper than the fees that would be incurred by using our website. The website is simply there for your convenience, if and only if you prefer it.

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**August 30 - Ann Murphy  
Billy Leske**

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

361.575.2441

or

[info@fpcovictoria.org](mailto:info@fpcovictoria.org)

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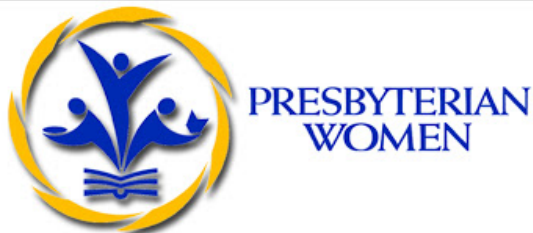
## ROBERT WYATT IS BACK FROM VACATION!

We have certainly enjoyed Muriel Cotman's leadership of our music ministry these past three worship services, and we are so genuinely appreciative of her dedication and talent in being with us this month. Thank you, Muriel!

We are also happy to welcome Robert Wyatt back from his well-deserved vacation. In celebration of his return, some impertinent member of our church suggested that we should make some "surprise" modifications to our new organ that Robert might enjoy. Fortunately, cooler heads prevailed, and the organ was not touched. Still, we wonder if, secretly, Robert might wish he did have these controls on the organ:



*Welcome back, Robert!*



I want to republish some information from Lynn McAuley, our “soon-to-be installed” Moderator of PW of FPC of Victoria, concerning future PW programs. Due to the limitations on in-person gatherings imposed by current public health protocols, Mission Presbytery has had to cancel all face-to-face gatherings among the regional PW clusters.

In their place, however, Mission Presbytery has organized a presbytery-wide Zoom event, “Come Live in the Light!,” on Saturday, September 12, 2020, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. A copy of the information circular for that event is reproduced below. Both Lynn and I encourage everyone to participate in this joyful event.

Meanwhile, Lynn suggests that, should you not have the capabilities to take part in a Zoom meeting or just want an awesome introduction to the new PW study book (which is still pending delivery), you can watch either or both of the following pertinent YouTube videos:

Introduction to the “Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament” Bible Study by Lynn Miller

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VwExYuUHAQ8&list=WL&index=4&t=22s>

In-depth Webinar with Lynn Miller, author of “Into the Light”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgykJqtyEaY&list=WL&index=2>

May God bless the faithful members of Presbyterian Women as they continue to study, serve, and follow in the way of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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**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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