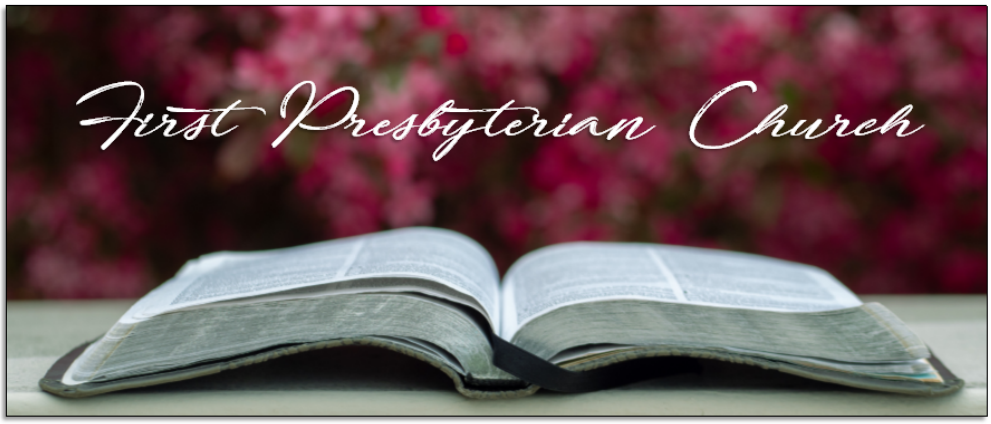


PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON
SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2022, 10:30 A.M.

Please plan to join us in person (and why not invite a friend!) for our worship service this Sunday, the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost. Our Scripture readings are: Psalm 107:1-9, 43; and Colossians 3:1-11. The title of the

sermon is “What Does the Future Hold?,” and this will be the fourth and final of our Summer studies in the Letter to the Colossians. A copy of the Bulletin for this service can be found here: https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/07-31-2022-Bulletin-PDF.pdf.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE
OF KEIMRYN LEE
(September 5, 2012 – July 12, 2022)

As announced in the Newsletter last week, FPC was honored to host a Service of Witness to the Resurrection in Celebration of the Life of Keimryn Lee in our Sanctuary on Saturday, July 23, 2022. Our Sanctuary, Chancel, Choir Loft, and Balcony were filled to capacity with those who loved Keimryn and her family, including our many friends from Mount Nebo Missionary Baptist Church. The courage and faith of this child were remembered through many loving tributes, and God was truly worshiped and praised.

On behalf of the FPC congregation, it was my privilege to receive many compliments and expressions of gratitude from those in attendance for the hospitality and Christian support provided by the members of our church on this occasion. While I am unable to mention all those amoung us whose quiet, unobtrusive efforts helped make the celebration of Keimryn’s life so memorable, I want to extend a special word of thanks to Lynn McAuley (who, with her voluteers, helped prepare the kitchen and Fellowship Hall for the

several hundred folks who enjoyed a meal here after the graveside service for Keimryn), Donald Anderson (who, with his volunteers, helped direct so many cars into and through our parking lot), and Dawn Neel (who, with her volunteers, wiped down all of the pews in the Sanctuary to clean them of dust and mildew). For all involved, I know it was a labor of love-- but it was still 'labor,' and FPC and Keimryn's family rejoice in the gift of all our volunteers' efforts.

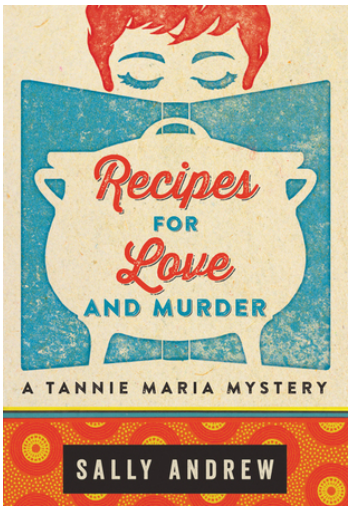
Enjoy the random assortment of pictures below that marks the day we said goodbye to Keimryn:

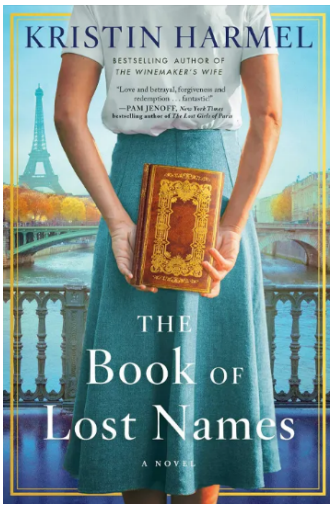
ANOTHER EVENT DURING OUR BUSY WEEKEND:
A PUBLIC CONCERT PERFORMED BY MEMBERS OF THE
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
ON SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2002

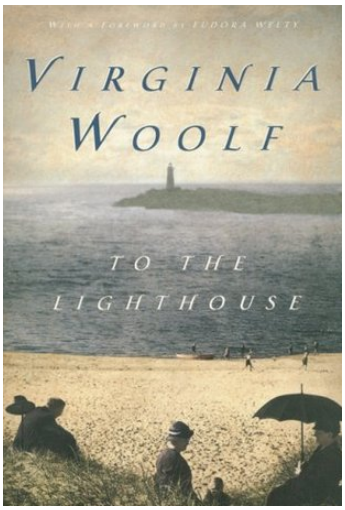
Our Sanctuary was once again filled with visitors on Sunday afternoon, July 24th, as talented organists from the Victoria Crossroads Chapter of the American Guild of Organists put our mighty Sanctuary organ through its paces. Musicians and concert-goers alike praised the quality, power, and range of this beautiful instrument, and all of us were treated to a lovely program of classical and reverential music.

It was impressive to hear our organ express, as the musicians described it, so many “colors” of music by means of the seven divisions and some 150 ranks of pipes that comprise our instrument. The musicians were also generous in expressing their gratitude to FPC for letting them perform in our Sanctuary, with special thanks to Robert Wyatt who was present for their many rehearsals and who gave so generiously of his time to orient them to the many features of our fine organ.

I believe that musicians and audience alike enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of music in our Sanctuary. I hope we can do it again sometime soon!







IMPROMPTU BOOK CLUB
CONTINUES TO GATHER MOMENTUM!

All who are avid readers, occasional readers, or even sporadic readers are welcome to join the members and friends of FPC who gather once a month to discuss a book they have selected in advance.

Here is the schedule of selections for the next three months:

August:
Recipe for Love and Murder, by Sally Andrew
Tuesday, August 23, 2022, 1:00 p.m., in the Parlor

September:
The Book of Lost Names, by Kristin Harmel
[meeting date pending]

October:
To the Light House, by Virginia Woolf
[meeting date pending]

For more information, contact Dawn Neel (361.652.3925) or Roxanna Hauschild (361.649.7899). Happy reading; happy discussions!

“ONE GREAT HOUR OF CARING”

In last week’s Newsletter, we announced that the Session was instituting a program whereby members could stop by the church at pre-announced times to help us with some light cleaning and upkeep. Motivated in part by the desire to reduce our operating expenses (we will be able to lower our outside janitorial costs by at least 50%), the Session also believed that such occasions would be an opportunity for fellowship and general good times together. By devoting one hour of our time twice a month, the members of FPC can reduce expenses, maintain the cleanliness and beautiful character of our church, and build stronger relationships among our church family.

We had our first opportunity to test these goals last Friday, July 22nd, when members dropped by the church at 10:00 a.m. to wipe down the pews in the Sanctuary in anticipation of the arrival of so many visitors for Keimryn Lee’s Celebration of Life service and for the AGO organ concert (all as reported above). The hour that our collegial group spent together encouraged us that the Session’s goals of economy, church maintenance, and fellowship can be easily met.

After our collective 60 minutes of effort (“many hands make light work”), we found that not only did the Sanctuary now sparkle and gleam, but we had also had a very nice time together catching up with each other and sharing news about the community. Not that this will be a recurring practice (although you never know!), but one among our number decided that we should be rewarded with a treat of strawberry/banana smoothies, and, lo!, they magically appeared to cap off a strong hour’s work with appropriate refreshment.

So, we are going to do this again! Please join us on **Friday, August 5, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.** as we devote another hour to attend to our Sanctuary and restrooms. Incorporating a "twice a month" concept, we are also forecasting these additional dates on which to participate in our One Great Hour of Caring program. Please take note (all of the listed dates are on a Friday):

Aug. 5 @ 10am: Office Spaces & Halls
Aug. 19 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall
Sept. 2 @ 10am: Sanctuary & Restrooms
Sept. 16 @ 10am: Office Spaces & Halls
Sept. 30 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall
Oct. 14 @ 10am: Sanctuary & Restrooms
Oct. 28 @ 10am: Office Spaces & Halls
Nov. 11 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall
Nov. 25 @ 10am: Sanctuary & Restrooms (may change)
Dec. 9 @ 10am: Office Spaces & Halls
Dec. 23 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall (may change)

Also, not only do we need folks willing to do some light cleaning, we are looking for iced tea and/or ice water servers (or maybe even smoothie servers!). Please plan to join us when you are able, and invite a friend (they will be surprised how much fun we are having). Contact Dawn Neel (361.652.3925) with any questions.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

NEWS CONCERNING
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

A meeting of the Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Council will be held on **Tuesday, August 2, at 12:00 noon** in the church conference room.

The Presbyterian Women of Mission Presbytery will be having their Fall Gathering on **Saturday, August 27, at 9:00 a.m.** at the First Presbyterian Church of Seguin. Please let your circle chair know if you would like to attend so that we can have the needed cars available for the trip. We hope you will join us on this informative and fun-filled day!

COMING SOONER THAN YOU THINK:
CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE,
FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND SATURDAY,
AUGUST 19TH AND 20TH!

While we are providing lots of advance notice, the dates for our Church Rummage Sale are going to be here before you know it!

Our plans are now firm to have a Church Rummage Sale out of our Fellowship Hall on Friday afternoon (1:00 to 5:00 p.m.) and Saturday (7:00 a.m. until done). FPC members are encouraged to bring unneeded/unwanted items to Fellowship Hall in the afternoon (*after 1:00 p.m.* so as not to interfere with PDS classes in the morning) during the week of August 15-19, 2022. All proceeds from sales will be for the benefit of FPC and its ministries. Unsold items will be donated to appropriate charities.

As we all know, the real work occurs prior to the days of the sale, because participants need to look through their closets, garages, attics, storage rooms, etc., to collect those items that need to be cleaned out, cleared out, and sent out! So, now's the time to do that housecleaning you have been promising

yourself since the COVID pandemic began to ease up! And now's the time to start!

The rewards for you and for the church you love will be great. You will be left with less clutter, and the church will be the grateful beneficiary of the income you have helped to generate.

"OFFICE ENTRANCE" TO CHURCH
TO BE LOCKED
AFTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE BEGINS

While we have had no incidents yet, during its meeting last Monday evening the Session determined that it would be prudent to lock the doors under the porte cochere (the church's "office entrance") shortly after the beginning of our Sunday morning worship services. These doors would be unlocked promptly at the end of the service. All other doors in the Narthex and just outside the opposite (east) end of the Sanctuary will remain unlocked as required by the fire code.

Given that the office entrance allows access to the building without anyone in the Sanctuary being aware of it, the Session believes it would be more secure to lock that door while we are worshipping. If you find yourself running late for church (and we have all been there!), please plan to come in the front door of the Narthex.

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim

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