

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
AND COMMUNION ON
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2022, 10:30 A.M.**

All worship of God is glorious, but we will have a special opportunity to appreciate so many blessings during our worship service this coming Sunday, the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost.

On October 2, 1841, eight faithful Presbyterians signed documentation to form the First Presbyterian Church of Victoria-- *exactly* 181 years ago. During our worship service we will recite a litany of praise and thanksgiving on the anniversary of our beloved church.

Also, as is our custom on the first Sunday of each month, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. If you will be joining us via the Internet, please remember to gather elements in advance to allow you to join us in communion. Any bread and any liquid will be sufficient for you to participate, together with those in the Sanctuary, in this great sacrament of remembrance.

If you are able, please join us in person (and why not invite a friend!), and, by the way, don't forget the potluck luncheon which is to follow (keep reading!). Our Scripture readings will be Deuteronomy 8:7-18, and 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, and the title of the sermon is "A Cheerful Giver." A copy of the Bulletin for this service can be found here: <https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/10-02-2022-Bulletin-Communion-PDF.pdf>.



2023 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN WRAP-UP

Our 2023 Stewardship Campaign "officially" wraps up this Friday, September 30th, at 5:00 p.m. If you are an uber-procrastinator, or a very forgetful person, there is still time for you to turn your pledge card in to the church office and for the amount of your pledge to be counted in the final total that we will soon disclose.

We must never forget, however, that the opportunity to give glory to God through the offering of our time, talent, and treasure is never limited by the calendar. As we move from this year into the next, if you feel called by God to submit a pledge to First Presbyterian Church, we will receive it with praise and gratitude.

To all who have already submitted your pledge card, please remember that, should your circumstances change (for richer, but especially for poorer), you must not be reluctant to contact Jim Stokes, our Treasurer, and he will

adjust our records accordingly. As I have often said, the Session does not want you to give until it hurts, we want your gifts to God to be a source of joy and thanksgiving for you!

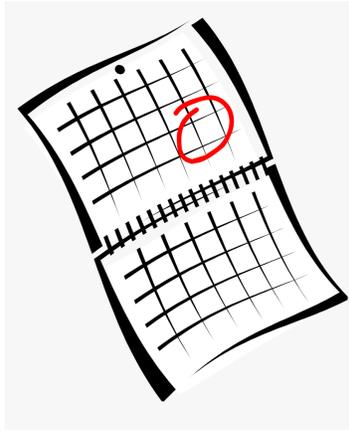
So, are you wondering whether our Stewardship Campaign has been “successful”? Are you curious as to how much has been pledged by the (to date) 34 pledgers who are represented by the 34 butterflies swarming around our Campaign Tree? All will be revealed at our potluck luncheon in Fellowship Hall following our worship service this Sunday, October 2nd. Bring a potluck dish, bring a grateful heart, and bring a friend, as we mark our progress on *Our Journey Forward*. 181 years and still going strong!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CALENDAR

- Sunday, October 2nd, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m., in the Parlor: The Nellie Hudson Sunday School Class, led by Dawn Neel, is going to have a ***Sunday School Hymns Sing Along*** to celebrate the completion of their four-week study entitled, “We Are Called ... to Stewardship.” What a perfect way to anticipate the celebration at our potluck luncheon when we will announce the results of our 2023 Stewardship Campaign! There is absolutely no need for you to have previously attended this class to come join in this half-hour of praise and worship. Robert Wyatt will be there to help lead in the hymns. Don’t miss the fun!
- Wednesday, October 5th, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., in the Parlor: Jim Stokes continues to lead this weekday study of the Book of Genesis. Given the devastating rains and winds from Hurricane Ian that will soon afflict our friends in the State of Florida, Jim’s study of Noah and the flood will be timely.

- Sunday, October 9th, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m., in the Parlor: Dawn Neel will commence a new six-weeks study in the Nellie Hudson Sunday School Class. The study is entitled, “The Protestant Reformations,” and is taken from the *Being Reformed: Faith Seeking Understanding* series. This study is designed to encourage reflections on the Protestant Reformations and to stimulate the desire for more church and individual study of this profound topic. The class will explore the backgrounds to the Reformations and then each of the four Reformation traditions. Participants in the study will consider divisive theological issues focusing on three of the important matters about which each of the traditions has unique views. Finally, the class will look at the Reformations today regarding their influences and legacies, as well as the impact of the Reformation in today’s churches. This is a supremely timely study, given that on Sunday, October 30, 2022, our worship service will be designed to celebrate “Reformation Sunday,” a time to reflect and rejoice on our uniquely Presbyterian theology in the Reformed Tradition. **If you plan to attend this class**, please contact Dawn (361-652-3925) or the church office (361.575.2441) as soon as possible so that we may have an accurate count for the number of study books we will order at the end of this week.
 - Wednesday evenings, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in the church conference room: Our three teenage students are continuing their studies of faith in the context of the Reformed Tradition during our confirmation class. As I have said before, this class will not have the structure and formality of the types of confirmation classes in which you or your children may have participated, but it will nevertheless be an earnest attempt to take an age-appropriate look at faith and worship. Please add these trusting and inquisitive young students to your prayer list as they consider what they believe about God, his creation, and their place in it.
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IMPORTANT COMMITTEE MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Please take note of the following important meetings. If you are a member of one of the Committees listed below, or if there is something you would like to bring to a Committee's attention, please plan to attend.

Worship Committee, Wednesday, October 5th, 4:00 p.m., in the office conference room.

Finance Committee, Friday, October 7th, 5:00 p.m., in the office conference room.

Also, as a reminder to Elders, the next meeting of the **Session** will be on Monday, October 11th, at 6:00 p.m., in the office conference room (not next week, but the week following).



This Friday, September 30th, our merry band of dusters, sweepers, and cleaners will gather again at 10:00 a.m. to participate in an hour of light housekeeping around the church (this time principally in the kitchen and in Fellowship Hall-- to prepare for our potluck luncheon this Sunday!).

If you have not joined us before, why not drop in at the church this Friday morning? You will be among friends, and you will be helping immeasurably in keeping our operating costs at a minimum.

Here are the future dates for our One Great Hour of Caring (all of the listed dates are on a Friday):

Sept. 30 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall

Oct. 14 @ 10am: Sanctuary & Restrooms

Oct. 28 @ 10am: Office Spaces & Halls

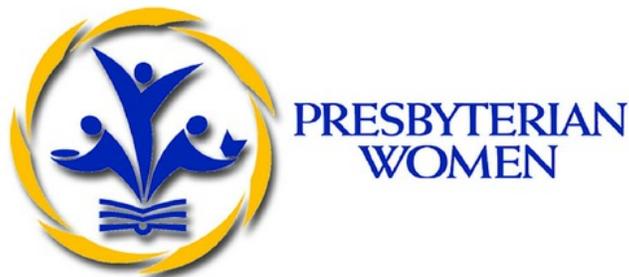
Nov. 11 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall

Nov. 25 @ 10am: Sanctuary & Restrooms (may change)

Dec. 9 @ 10am: Office Spaces & Halls

Dec. 23 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall (may change)

Any questions? If so, please contact Dawn Neel (361.652.3925).



During October, the PW mission project will be to support our own Presbyterian Day School. Please consider helping this effort with your contribution of any of these items which PW is collecting for the students at PDS:

Paper towels

Cotton balls

"Cheap" small paper plates
Gold Fish crackers
Animal crackers
Coffee filters
Thick craft sticks
Disinfectant wipes
Disinfectant spray
Non-powdered nitrile gloves

Members of the Mary and Martha Circle and the Adele Carsner Young Circle are asked to bring items from this list to their October meetings to share with PDS.

The Mary and Martha Circle meets at 2:00 p.m. in the church parlor on Monday, October 10.

The Adele Carsner Young Circle meets at 9:30 a.m. in the church parlor on Thursday, October 13.



**NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022,
FOLLOWING THE 10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE**

Pursuant to a call by the Session, notice is hereby given of a Congregational Meeting of the members of First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas to be held at the conclusion of the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, October 9, 2022.

The purposes of the Meeting will be (a) to consider a report from the Session regarding nominations of persons to serve on a Congregational Nominating Committee (CNC) and (b) to elect, in accordance with the will of a majority of the Congregation present, persons to serve on the CNC. The task of the CNC thus elected will be to consider persons suitable for nomination to serve on the Session for designated terms in succession of current Elders who are rotating off the Session at the expiration of their respective terms on December 31, 2022. The Elders whose terms expire on that date are Dawn Neel, Susan Salinas, and Gayla Whitaker.

The newly elected CNC will report back to the Congregation, at a date to be determined in due course, with nominations of persons to fill the vacancies on the Session created by the departing Elders, and the Congregation will be asked to elect individuals who will commence their respective terms of service on the Session on January 1, 2023.



CURRENT COPIES OF "THESE DAYS" HAVE ARRIVED

We have received our quarterly delivery of the most recent edition (October/November/December 2022) of *These Days: Daily Devotions for Living by Faith*. Upon request, we will be happy to mail a copy to any member desiring one. Also, as is our custom, we will place copies of these devotionals on the tables in the Narthex and in front of the church office for people to pick up on Sunday mornings or whenever they are at the church.

Many FPC members faithfully follow the daily devotionals contained in *These Days*. If you have not previously considered adding the spiritual practice of spending a few moments each day to engage in a quiet, peaceful reflection on your faith, this carefully designed publication is a great way to introduce yourself to that powerful practice.

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim
