



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2022, 10:30 A.M.**

During our worship service on Sunday, October 23, 2022, the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, our Scripture readings will be Psalm 121 and Luke 18:1-8. We are excited to have Reverend Bette Burris as our Preacher this Sunday.

Next Sunday, we will, as usual, be singing, praying, and joining in fellowship, so please join us in person (and why not bring a friend?!). A copy of the Bulletin for this service can be found here: <https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/10-23-2022-Bulletin-PDF-2.pdf>

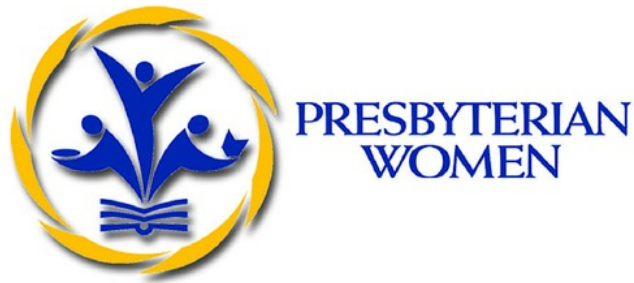


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CALENDAR

- Sunday, October 23th, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m., in the Parlor: The Nellie Hudson Sunday School Class, led by Dawn Neel, will continue its six-week study of the Protestant Reformations in anticipation of our celebration of Reformation Sunday during our worship service on October 30, 2022. Entitled, “The Protestant Reformations,” the study is taken from the *Being Reformed: Faith Seeking Understanding* series. As previously reported, 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.

Extra study books have been ordered in case you want to participate in this class but have not yet mentioned your interest to Dawn. If you are interested, let nothing hold you back from engaging in this enlightening study!

- Wednesday, October 19th, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., in the Parlor: Jim Stokes continues to lead this weekday study of the Book of Genesis.
 - Our confirmation class is in recess for three weeks while your pastor is on vacation. We will pick up our studies again on Wednesday evening, November 2nd, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
-



During October, the PW mission project is to support our own Presbyterian 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



This Friday, October 28th, 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.

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):

Oct. 28 @ 10am: Office Spaces & Halls

Nov. 11 @ 10am: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall

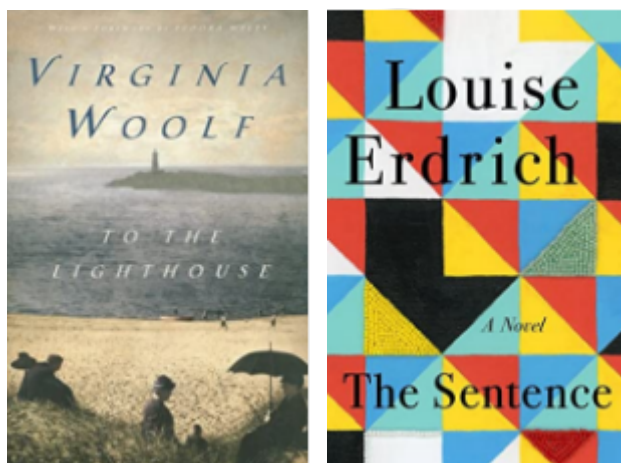
Nov. 25 @ 10am: Sanctuary & Restrooms (may change)

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).

BOOK CLUB MEETING



Our informal Book Club will meet October 25th, 2022 at 1:00 PM to discuss this month's selection, "*To the Lighthouse*," by Virginia Woolf. Please join us as we gather round to discuss what each of us enjoyed about the book.

We will also be starting November's book which is "*The Sentence*," by Louise Erdrich.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR WORSHIP COMMITTEE

As you may know, Pastor Jim is on a much-deserved vacation. We wish he and Sally an abundance of rest and delight while traveling with their grandson!

We hope to see everyone this Sunday, Oct. 23rd, as we will be welcoming our long-time friend, Rev. Bette Burris to the pulpit. Thank you in advance Bette for sharing your love of God with us by preaching His Word.

This past Sunday, Oct. 16th, First Presbyterian Church welcomed our guest speaker, Lessa Morales from Perpetual Help Home. We offer a huge Thank You to Lessa, Executive Director, and Stella Calzada, Program Director of Perpetual Help Home for joining us in worship. Lessa spoke of the organization's restorative justice ministry to area women and their children in assisting, teaching, and advocating for the needs of women. Domestic abuse, previously incarcerated, substance-use disorders, and mental health challenges are some of the areas of need in which Perpetual Help Home provides the skills necessary to survive in a healthy, safe, and God filled environment. In addition to the assistance given, these women find jobs to support themselves and their children; create savings accounts; and tithe to a Church of their choice.

Perpetual Help Home is a non-profit organization and would welcome and appreciate any assistance with their ministry. Please check out their upcoming fund-raiser on November 6th, "Taste of the Town", to be held at the Victoria Community Center. Donate online or purchase a ticket and sample food items from area restaurants all while enjoying the fellowship of others who support this wonderful organization.



Finally, our committee chair would like to thank the members of First Presbyterian Church who were in the congregation on Oct. 16, who not only gave a wonderful reception to our guest speaker, but who also radiated the

Spirit of our Lord to your very thankful lay leader. May God Bless you all for your kindness and generosity of heart.



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 members of FPC 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.



Gone fishing . . .

I am forever grateful to this congregation for the time they afford me to step away from my pastoral duties at FPC in order to spend time with my family, to rest, and to relax. During this time, I am refreshed and given the opportunity to re-create myself in order to better serve you and to go about God's work in his kingdom.

I will be out of the office from Thursday, October 13, 2022 (the day I leave) until Thursday, October 27, 2022 (the day I return). As always, the Worship Committee is planning some exciting worship services during the two Sundays I will be absent (October 16th and 23rd)

As we did earlier this year, Sally and I are taking another grandchild on his "very own grandparent trip" Readers of this Newsletter know that this is an indulgence we allow ourselves to introduce our grandchildren to the excitement of travel and the adventure of diverse cultures. The trip that we took earlier this year was one that was scheduled for last year, but of course COVID forced a delay in our original plans. So, while this year we are faced with two long trips, we don't mind. The opportunity to spend some private, one-on-one time with children we love is a blessing for which we are eternally grateful.

While I am away, Erica Colding will, to the extent she is able, publish an abbreviated version of the Newsletter with information about the upcoming worship service for each successive Sunday. This is a busy time during the church year, so please be patient with Erica if she is unable to complete this additional chore while she attends to her other duties. Regardless of whether the Newsletter is published, and even if it is uncharacteristically short, those who ordinarily receive the Newsletter by mail will at least receive, as usual, a copy of the Bulletin for the following Sunday's worship service.

Readers of this Newsletter will also know that when Sally and I travel, we try as best we can to attend a church service on Sunday in whatever locale we find ourselves. We hope that you, too, will be in church on Sunday to glorify God and praise his name. You will be in our prayers as we travel, and especially on Sunday morning, we will be thinking of all our friends in the pews at FPC!

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim
