



**JOIN US FOR
PRESBYTERIAN DAY SCHOOL
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE,
APRIL 23, 2023, 10:30 A.M.
(BUT PLEASE COME TO CHURCH AT 10:00 A.M.!)**

The Presbyterian Day School young disciples and their families will join us for worship this Sunday, the Third Sunday of Easter. The children have been practicing the joyful songs they will sing for us on the Chancel steps during the service, and their teachers have been busy putting up the children's art projects on the walls of the Sanctuary.

As an act of hospitality worthy of our congregation, the Mission and Outreach Committee will be providing coffee, milk, donuts, and other light refreshments in Fellowship Hall beginning at 10:00 a.m. Please plan to come early to greet the children and their parents (not to mention one another) in a warm and welcoming atmosphere prior to our PDS Sunday worship service. This is a wonderful occasion to show our community how much we love their children-- indeed how much we love the Lord and one another!

Our Scripture readings for PDS Sunday are Psalm 23 (the traditional translation found in the King James Version of the Bible) and John 10:11-18 (Jesus says, "I am the Good Shepherd"). The title of the sermon is "The Good Shepherd," and a copy of the Bulletin for this service can be found here: <https://fpcovictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023-4-23-Bulletin-PDS-Sunday-PDF.pdf>.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY!



As an extra delight on Sunday, April 30th, the Rev. Bette Burris will join us in our worship service for two important liturgical functions. First, she will be our guest Liturgist, and more importantly, she will also preside over the baptism in our Chancel of Karoline Gohlke, daughter of Shaye and Katie Gohlke.

Bette officiated at Shaye's and Katie's wedding, and now, as time marches relentlessly on, the couple has asked her to baptize their daughter. Bette might be bashful to say this, but I will say on her behalf that one of the greatest privileges, one of the greatest joys in our "line of work," is to baptize a baby. When that baby is the child of parents whom we have known and loved (and married!), then greater is the joy!

Come, let us welcome Bette and the Gohlke Family on this joyous occasion!

**OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL
FOR AGES 5-12**



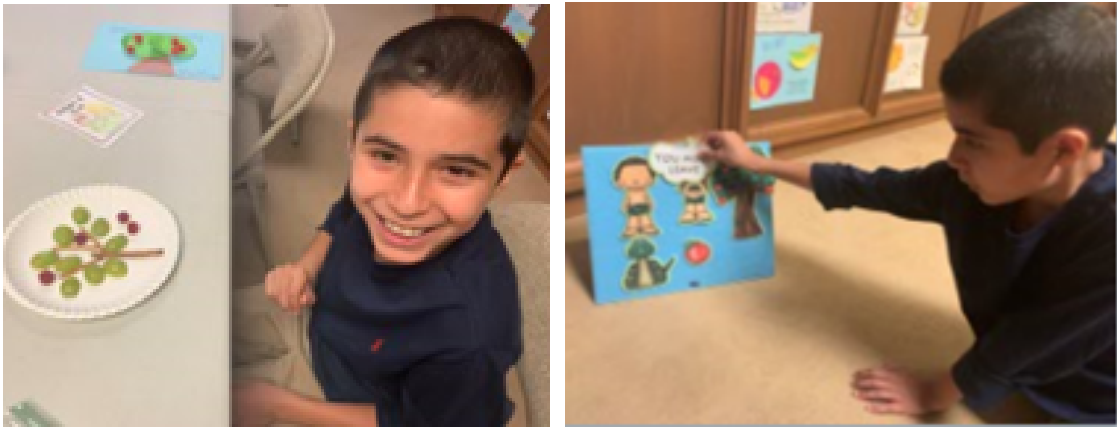
Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these". Matt 19:14

The Tree of Knowledge, Adam and Eve, that pesky snake and how God's love and forgiveness always wins - you guessed right, we are learning all about the first man and woman! Using our interactive story and felt pieces, we read all about Adam and Eve and why they had to leave the Garden of Eden. We also made a Tree of Knowledge craft and snack. In this case, it was more than ok to eat from the tree of Knowledge.

We will be joining our friends from PDS this Sunday and resume our Sunday School class on 4/30.

Our Sunday school lessons are multi-sensory, which means we are using all 5 senses to learn our bible stories, and it is fun, fun, fun. Children ages 5-12 are welcome.

Join us on Sunday mornings from 9:45am – 10:15am. Contact Leila Galvan at 956-367-2234 if you have questions or would like to participate. All are welcome!



Mission and Outreach

You are invited to join the First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas's volunteer team for Earth Day on April 22, 2023. We will join teams from around the Victoria area cleaning up roadsides around Victoria. The event is sponsored by Keep Victoria Beautiful in partnership with TxDOT Adopt-a-Highway Program.

Time will be from 7:30 AM to 9:30 AM.

Main Meeting Location: Target Parking Lot at Loop 463.

Breakfast is sponsored by Chick-fil-A and The Chopping Block, and drinks are courtesy of Del Papa Distributing.

Come join our team on April 22, 2023, at 7:30 AM, for some fun, fellowship, exercise, and help keep God's great world a cleaner place. Call Donald Anderson (361)-550-1221 for details about where to meet.



BOY SCOUTS AND CUB SCOUTS

Did you know FPC is the proud supporter of Boy Scout Troop 368 and now Cub Scout Pack 104? The Boy Scouts meet in our Boy Scout hut at the rear of our campus and the Cub Scouts meet in our Fellowship Hall. We will be planning to lend a helping hand as the cubs plan a trip to spend the night on the aircraft carrier Lexington in Corpus Christ, Texas. Stay tuned!



The most precious commodity we own in God's world is our time. When we let one minute slip away without producing something good or doing something for someone else we can never get that minute back. Please consider the value of your minutes and join one of the FPC's team at Christ's Kitchen or Victoria Christian Assistance Ministries.

Luke 11:9 – *“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”*



**HOW DO YOU LIKE
THE REVISED FORMAT
OF OUR
WORSHIP BULLETIN?**

Last Sunday was the debut of our worship bulletin in its shorter format, principally without the text of the Scripture readings and without the lyrics of the hymns. Do you like it? Have you had a chance to overhear comments from any of our visitors about it?

This Sunday you will notice that the shortened bulletin contains an insert. That is necessitated by the fact that the hymn in question is not in our hymnal, plus we did not have enough space to print it in the shortened bulletin. As a reminder, given the publishing software we use, bulletins of 4, 8, and 12 pages are the only printing options we have (we cannot, for example, print a 5-page bulletin).

As we continue to use this shortened format while we await more feedback from the congregation, please let us know your thoughts. And, as always, whenever you have a thought about how we might enhance the worship experience at FPC (with the liturgy, with the music, with the readings, whatever!), please let your pastor or members of our Worship Committee know. Chances are, if something is on your heart, it is likely on someone else's heart as well!



Mark your calendar for the Presbyterian Men's Bake Sale which will be held Sunday, April 30, immediately following worship and our potluck luncheon scheduled for that day. All men are encouraged to create the pie, cake, cookies, or bread of your choice to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Get out your cookbooks to start making your plans and gathering your ingredients. If you need a little assistance from "others" in your household, that's all right, too!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Sunday, April 23, 2023, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m., in the Parlor: The Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class continues its new study entitled, "*Prayers and Poetry*." If it has been a while since you have been to Sunday School, this would be a great time to visit with your friends in the Nellie Hudson class as they engage in a new, and surely spiritual, study of the beauty, majesty, and power of prayer. Materials will be provided, and you can be sure of a great time of fellowship and learning.
- Kid's Kingdom: No classes this week. We will be celebrating PDS Sunday!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN MISSION PROJECT APRIL 2023 - THE VINE SCHOOL

Items needed by The Vine School are:

- * Disinfectant Wipes
- * Dry Erase cleaner (such as Mr. Clean Magic Eraser sponges).
- * Dry Erase cleaning sprays and wipes are available at Walmart, Big Lots, Office Depot, and Lowe's.
- *Nitrile disposable gloves, sizes medium and large
- *Baby Wipes (unscented)
- *Body Wash - Fragrance Free, Sensitive Skin
- *Bubbles
- *Large bags of rice and pinto beans for tactile art activities

The Vine School provides a customized learning environment for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. April is Autism Awareness Month, so this is a perfect time for Presbyterian Women to assist the Vine School.

NEWS FOR THE NEW PW STUDY YEAR

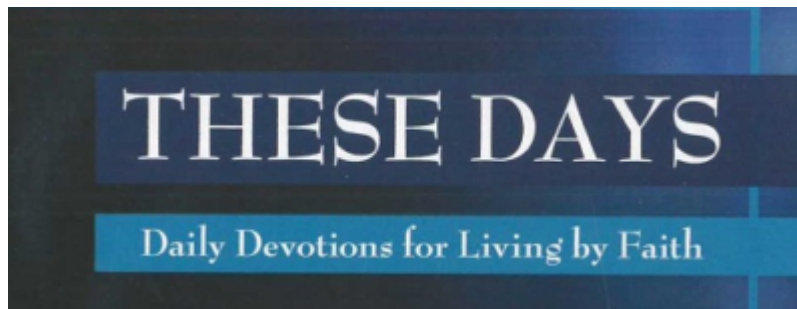
May will bring with it the final lesson in our Horizon's Bible Study: Celebrating Sabbath. Presbyterian Women have begun planning already for the new study year which starts in September. Two big changes include combining the two daytime circles into one and the addition of an evening circle.

We would love to have input about what you would like the evening circle to be. If you are possibly interested in joining the evening circle, we would love to hear from you. Please call the church office and leave your name with Erica. With a list of possible members, we can proceed to make this circle very special and meaningful to those who choose to attend it.



Janice Mullins, originally from Victoria and a member of our church throughout her youth, passed into the Church Triumphant on Friday, April 7, 2023, at the age of 77. We will hold a Service of Witness to the Resurrection in Celebration of the Life of Janice Long Mullins in our Sanctuary on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. The family invites all in attendance to join them for a catered reception in Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

In life and in death, we belong to the Lord!



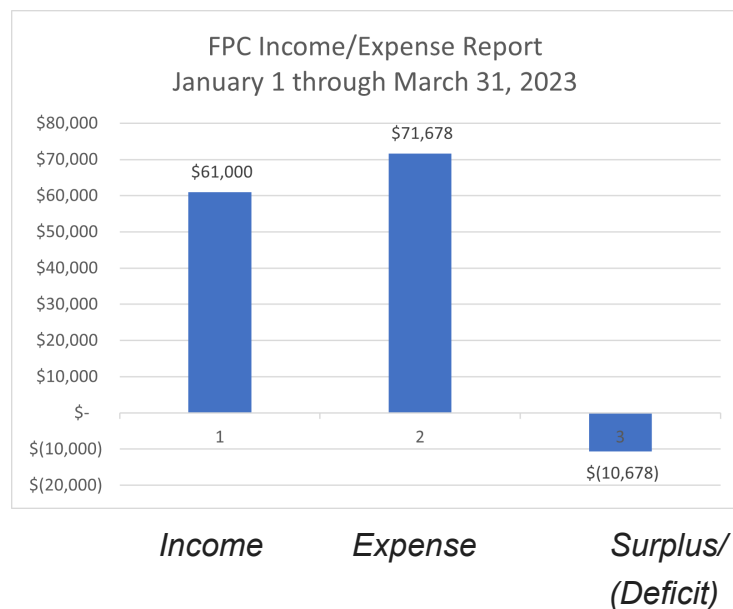
CURRENT COPIES OF "THESE DAYS" HAVE ARRIVED

The church has received the April/May/June 2023 edition of *These Days: Daily Devotions for Living by Faith*. Upon request, we would be happy to mail a copy to any member desiring one. Also, we have placed copies of *These Days* 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. The devotionals in this cherished publication are always a wonderful source of inspiration, hope, and comfort.



Disappointingly, church revenue through the first calendar quarter of 2023 fell approximately \$10,000 short of our expenses during the same period. Our Finance Committee will be meeting soon to determine if this is merely a timing issue or whether we need to consider even greater (likely painful) reductions in our expenses going forward.

Meanwhile, however, so far we are fortunate to have sufficient cash flow in April (which includes Easter Sunday) to not be in immediate difficulty. Still, if you have been 'tardy' in keeping your pledge-giving current, please help us by catching up as soon as you can!



*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind,
not reluctantly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.*

2 Cor 9:7

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim

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