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PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MAY 14, 2023, 10:30 A.M.

Our Scripture readings for this Sunday, the Sixth Sunday of Easter, are Psalm 68:8-20 ("Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me") and John 14:15-21 (more about Jesus' Farewell Discourse). The title of the sermon is "The Paraclete," and a copy of the Bulletin for this service can be found here: <a href="https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2023-5-14-Bulletin-PDF.pdf">https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2023-5-14-Bulletin-PDF.pdf</a>.

The Second Sunday in May is celebrated as Mother's Day in the United States. It is a day when we remember mothers and all who have loved and cared for us like a mother. If there is a special, nurturing, caring woman in your

life whom you would like to honor, please consider bringing her with you to church this Sunday. Even more than the worship service itself, she will enjoy the time you spend together.

You're Invited!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

On Sunday, May 21, Presbyterian Women will be celebrating the 101st year of the annual PW Birthday Offering. On that day, in addition to collecting the Birthday Offering, we will also be installing our new slate of PW officers for 2023-2024 during the worship service.

Following that service, PW will be providing a lunch of fried chicken with all the fixings for the members of FPC. And, yes, there will be **CAKE**!! Please plan to join us in this celebration of mission and service in the life of our church.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND

# GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PLAN JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE ON PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023 (AND DON'T FORGET TO WEAR RED!)

FPC and Grace Presbyterian are planning a joint worship service for Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023. On this occasion, we will gather in FPC's Sanctuary at 10:30 p.m., and the worship service will be led by our pastor and the leadership at Grace, who will participate equally in leading us in the worship liturgy. We also hope that Grace's choir will be able to join with members of our choir to lead us in music.

While our plans are still in the preliminary stages, we are looking forward to extending a warm welcome of Christian friendship to our Presbyterian sisters and brothers from Grace. Many of us remember our joint celebrations with Mount Nebo Missionary Baptist Church in the past (especially Pentecost!), and we know how enriching a joint service can be.

Let us anticipate with joy the opportunity to praise God and to celebrate the birth of Christ's Church with our good friends from Grace. This will be a worship service you will not want to miss!

#### MISSION AND OUTREACH

Wonderful and glorious things are happening at FPC, Victoria. Our congregation is out and helping our community. Your financial support encourages those of us that also contribute our time, knowledge, and human effort and energy.



Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry is one of those organizations that fulfills the call of Jesus Christ to feed, cloth, and help heal the less fortunate in our community. VCAM's mission is: *Providing Hope When Things Seem Hopeless*.



Presbyterian Women continue to work tirelessly by providing needed supplies to various organizations. This month the Women Circles are supporting "Promise Pointe," a special place for the homeless that seek not only a safe place to sleep but also comfort and camaraderie from those in similar stages of life (see the article further down in this Newsletter).



Christ Kitchen is a vital source of a good homecooked meal at noon every day. The Kitchen provides anywhere from 175-350 meals a day, Monday-Saturday. Our members volunteer with food handling, food preparation, and serving the food to those that come through the doors. If you are looking for a place to spend a few hours each week with your friends, please consider volunteering at Christ Kitchen. Call them (361.578.4233) or stop by (611 E. Warren Ave.), and just say you are from First Presbyterian Church. They will find a job for you!



Let's not forget the Boy Scouts of Troop 368 and the younger Cub Scout Pack 104 that come and use our facilities to further the nurturing of these children.



Our pride and joy, Presbyterian Day School, fulfills two meaningful missions of FPC. First, to provide early childhood education in a Christian atmosphere to nearly 75 children. Second, we are making full use of our facility by providing classrooms and space in our Fellowship Hall for these young disciples to learn to respect each other, lead each other, and bond with each other making lifelong friends under the soft, caring hand of Jesus Christ.



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#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HYMN?

Among clergy and church musicians, there are at least two tasks that are considered impossible to achieve. The first is to get the temperature in the Sanctuary at the level where *everybody* is comfortable, and the second is to pick a hymn that *everybody* likes! But nevertheless we try, dependent on the grace and understanding of the congregation when we fail.

As to finding hymns that (almost) everyone knows and likes, we are going to have a worship service, on June 11, 2023, that consists principally of singing hymns selected in advance by the congregation. We have done this before, and everyone enjoys it!

As the date draws closer, we will be placing a "suggestion form" in the Narthex each Sunday. For the benefit of our Newsletter readers, however, we are printing an advance copy of that form below. If you have a suggestion to make, you can clip this form, fill it out, and mail it to the church office. Better yet, just call us (361.575.2441) or email us (info@fpcofvictoria.org), and we will make sure that your requests get into the right hands.

#### WHATARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS?

On Sunday, June 11, 2023, our worship service will concentrate on congregational singing, especially the great, familiar hymns of the Church. Do you have a favorite? Is there a precious hymn that we have not sung for a while and you would love to hear? Let us know!

Fill out this form and either place it in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office. Our Worship Committee will do its best to pick the most popular hymns nominated by the congregation.

<u>Title</u>	Number in the Hymnal (if you know it)

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#### 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

In this past Sunday school lesson, we learned about Noah, the ark he built according to God's instructions, the great flood and the meaning behind a rainbow. Our interactive book on Noah's ark included all sorts of fun manipulatives as well as our very own Ark! We also had fun placing the animals, 2 by 2, in the Ark. For snack time, we made our very own Ark using a banana, and some animal cookies.

We hope you can join us this Sunday as we continue to learn about Noah and the importance of obeying God in all things! 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. We also reiterate each lesson by presenting it for at least 2 Sundays, which helps the children recall the stories and reemphasizes the teaching.

Join us on Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Children ages 5-12 are welcome. Contact Leila Galvan at 956-367-2234 if you have questions or would like to participate. All are welcome!



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#### ONE GREAT HOUR OF CARING: THIS FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023, AT 10:00 A.M.

Our schedule for future cleaning sessions appears below (all dates are on a Friday). If you have some time to help us save money for the church while enjoying fellowship with good friends who love our church, please join us. No prior experience required!

May 12 at 10:00 AM: Sanctuary & Restrooms
May 26 at 10:00 AM: Office Space & Halls
June 9 at 10:00 AM: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall
June 23 at 10:00 AM: Sanctuary & Restrooms
July 14 at 10:00 AM: Office Spaces & Halls
July 28 at 10:00 AM: Kitchen & Fellowship Hall



## HEADS UP: ANOTHER RUMMAGE SALE IS BEING PLANNED FOR FRIDAY, JULY 28, THROUGH SATURDAY, JULY 29, 2023!

Who can forget the fantastic rummage sale that we had in Fellowship Hall in August of last year?

That was such a great success, as we raised \$500 for the Presbyterian Day School and over \$1,500 for the church! The only less than superlative feedback we received about the event was that it should have been publicized earlier so that folks could have had more time to collect "stuff" to bring to the sale.

Well, this year we are starting to publicize our next rummage sale well in advance! For certain, we will have a rummage sale on Friday, July 28, through Saturday, July 29, 2023.

While we continue to make plans about the hours of the sale and the dates and time to drop off donated items, please begin to set aside the things you will want to bring to our rummage sale in July. In fact, if there are things that you need to clean out now and can't wait for the rummage sale, please contact the church office. We have cleared out some storage space where we will be able to put items away until we can set them out to be sold.

If you have some items that you want to bring to the church to store for the rummage sale, please call the church office to coordinate the arrangements. Meanwhile, keep your eye out for those things that you believe deserve a new home and a fresh start with some other happy owner who will be looking for bargains at our rummage sale!



### PW Mission Focus May, 2023 Promise Pointe

We can assist Promise Pointe by providing the following:

Progresso (or similar type) soups
Canned goods (especially vegetables
Paper towels
Laundry detergent pods
Kleenex
Septic-safe toilet paper

#### **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 even 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.



#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

- <u>Sunday, May 14, 2023, 9:30 10:15 a.m., in the Parlor</u>: The Nellie
  Hudson Adult Sunday School Class continues its study entitled, "*Prayers and Poetry*," a 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.
- <u>Kingdom Kids</u>: Sunday Morning starting at 9:45 a.m. Come by and experience our multi-sensory lessons.

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim

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