

<u>PUBLICATION NOTICE</u>: Your pastor, the Editor-in-Chief of this Newsletter, will be away on vacation for three Sundays in June. Erica Colding, however, will make sure that an abbreviated edition of the Newsletter will be prepared and circulated according to our normal schedule.

If you have an article to be published in the Newsletter, please send it directly to Erica (<u>info@fpcofvictoria.org</u>) by no later than *Tuesday at noon* in the week you *want it to be published.*

Meanwhile, even if our Newsletter may at times be shorter than usual, it is only because things generally slow down a bit in the summer (for instance, PW does not meet, PDS is not in session, and our Adult Sunday School Class is going to take a break for a bit this summer).

Faith never takes a vacation, however. Exciting things are happening at FPC, and we hope you will continue to worship with us this summer so that you may be aware of the dynamic things that are happening as we continue to contemplate and implement the next steps in *Our Journey Forward*!



THE TIME HAS COME! JOIN US THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023, FOR A GOOD OL' CHURCH SING-ALONG OF FOND, FAMILIAR HYMNS

Please plan to join us this Sunday, June 11. 2023 (the Second Sunday after Pentecost), as we conduct a worship service centered around over a dozen hymns that have been nominated by members of our congregation. This would also really be a good time to bring some friends, promising them they will not have to sit through a sermon! <u>https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023-6-11-Bulletin-sing-along-PDF.pdf</u>

We are also going to introduce a new piece of music which many members may have heard but which we have not sung in our Sanctuary for a long time. It is a traditional Irish blessing, "May the road rise up to meet you ... and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand."

The Preface to the Presbyterian Hymnbook of 1955 (universally know among Presbyterians as "The Red Hymnal") contains this observation:

The Christian religion is a singing faith, and thus stands in striking contrast to most of the great religions of [humanity]. From the dawn of creation, when 'the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy" [Job 38:7], psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs have been vehicles of the faith, the aspiration, and the joy of God's people. The corporate praise and choral prayer of a worshipping congregation have been characteristic expressions of its response to divine grace."

Come be with us this Sunday morning and join friends and neighbors in a joyful response to the divine grace given us by our generous God!



BABY BAIN ROGERS CHEERS ABOUT HIS GOOD HEALTH, HIS GOOD GROWTH, AND HIS CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT

Proud grandparents Gayla and Robert Whitaker report that their newest grandson, Bain Wilson, is doing well in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Texas Childrens Hospital in Houston.

Bain was born almost two months premature on May 10, 2023, and since then the doctors have been monitoring him carefully for signs of infection or other complications. So far, however, no serious medical intervention has been necessary other than the attentive, round-the-clock care he has been receiving from the nurses and physicians in the NICU.

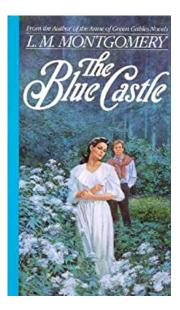
Bain's parents and grandparents are aware that the many members and friends of FPC have been praying for Bain and his family, and they are forever grateful. Bain will remain in the NICU until he is ready to be released to come home (which may be several more weeks). Once he is ready to come home, what a glorious day it will be in Victoria, Texas!



ONE GREAT HOUR OF CARING: THIS FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 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 take pride in our church, please join us. No prior experience required!

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



BOOK CLUB RESUMES TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023, AT 1:00 P.M.

It's summer, and thus time to find and read a good book (or several!). On Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., the Book Club will convene to discuss *The Blue Castle*, by L.M. Montgomery. Now is a good time to get your copy and spend some leisure time reading it (you know you want to!).

Plan to gather with friends at the end of summer to share your love of reading and to trade reviews of *The Blue Castle*.



VICTORIA BACH FESTIVAL RETURNS WITH PERFORMANCES AT FPC

The Victoria Bach Festival will be presenting its annual series of concerts in Victoria on June 4-11, 2023. For more information and to purchase your tickets (hurry!), click here: <u>https://victoriabachfestival.org/concerts/events/</u>.

Of special interest to FPC are the programs that will be held in our church this year, namely:

Thursday, June 8, 2023 6:45 pm - 7:15 pm Thursday, June 8, 2023

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

PRE-CONCERT TALK WITH GEORGE STAUFFER

First Presbyterian Church, Victoria Texas Purchase Tickets

VBF BAROQUE ENSEMBLE LED BY STEPHEN REDFIELD

First Presbyterian Church, Victoria Texas <u>Purchase Tickets</u>

Without a doubt, the performances underwritten by the Victoria Bach Festival are of world-class quality, and we, as residents of this community, are blessed to have access to them. All music, whether of the church or otherwise, it one of God's greatest gifts to his creation. Whether you attend the Bach Festival performances at FPC or elsewhere (or everywhere!), you will be enthralled by the quality of the performances, not to mention that you will be supporting the high quality of musical artistry that this community enjoys.



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

As the dates for our rummage sale get closer, we want to mention that volunteers are needed to make our tasks lighter as we engage in the preparations necessary to make this event as successful as it was last year. We will be arranging and pricing items for sale during the week of July 24 – 27, Monday through Thursday, during the church's normal office hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). The sale itself will take place over two days, specifically, Friday, July 28 and Saturday, July 29, each day from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Please bring your donated items to the church during office hours anytime between now and July 26th (the earlier the better), and if possible, please plan to come help us to get things ready during the week of the sale.

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!

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

Don't forget we are back this week (Sunday, June 11)! Come join us as we continue our lesson on Abraham and Sarah.

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!





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

• The Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class will resume on Sunday, July 23, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.

• <u>*Kingdom Kids*</u>: Sunday Morning starting at 9:45 a.m. Come by and experience our multi-sensory lessons.



PW WILL RESUME MEETINGS AND BIBLE STUDY IN SEPTEMBER

PW Purpose:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

to nurture our faith through prayer and bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

PW's new bible study will begin in September along with their new schedule of monthly mission focus projects. PW would love for all the women of FPC, Victoria to join them and, of course, to bring a friend!

Please call any of the PW Coordinating Team officers if you have any questions: Dawn Neel; Martha Tarkington; Sally DeMent; Paula Leske; Frances Miller; Lynn McAuley, Hellen Williams, and Bonnie Wilkinson.

Peace, grace, mercy,

Pastor Jim

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