



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024, AT 10:30 A.M.**

Please join us for worship this Sunday, the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany, at 10:30 a.m. Our Scripture readings will be Psalm 111 ("Great are the works of the Lord...") and Ephesians 2:1-10 ("Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God."). A copy of the bulletin can be found [here](#):

A Special Worship Note

We want to welcome back our friend, Rev. Bette Burris, who will lead our worship service this Sunday, January 28. Please come and hear her message to us from the word of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” At once they left their nets and followed him.

When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him. *Mark 1: 16-20 NIV*

Isn't this call the same today? Do we hear Jesus calling our name? We are all called today in the life of First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas to drop our nets, drop what we believe are the important things in our daily life and agree to volunteer to serve on one of the Session committees. You are needed now in the life of our church.



As Jesus called to Simon, Andrew, James and John on that day on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, we are called as fishers of men. We begin 2024 with unanswered questions in our hearts about the future of FPC, Victoria. We heard on Sunday from Rev. Watson that each of us has different talents, skills, and knowledge. The call is to share your talent, skill or knowledge by volunteering in the many outreach programs of your congregation.

Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM), South Texas Meals on Wheels through the Paw Bites program, Salvation Army, and Christ Kitchen each provides services to our brothers and sisters that are in need of daily help. Volunteers from our church work within these organizations. Please step out of your boat and volunteer to serve in our community.



Our congregation continues to hear the call. The ladies at Meals on Wheels are excited and grateful for your contributions. We need to keep it up. Our contributions have diminished over the past several months. Please renew your commitment to this important outreach.

We are reminded all donations and food support the over 200-mobility restricted senior citizens they serve who have a pet living with them. The food is partitioned out in 5 lbs. bags of for cats and 10 lbs. bags for dogs. This is overwhelming.

Your support of this important work for God in our community is being felt in the lives of many. We do this in the name of Jesus Christ.



The year-end 2023 report from VCAM shows they served 16,514 households in 2023. This was up from 12,959 households in 2022, a twenty-seven percent (27%) increase. What is more impressive is they spent \$117,288 on food commodities in 2023 compared to only \$65,025 in 2022, an eighty percent (80%) increase in the cost of the food provided.

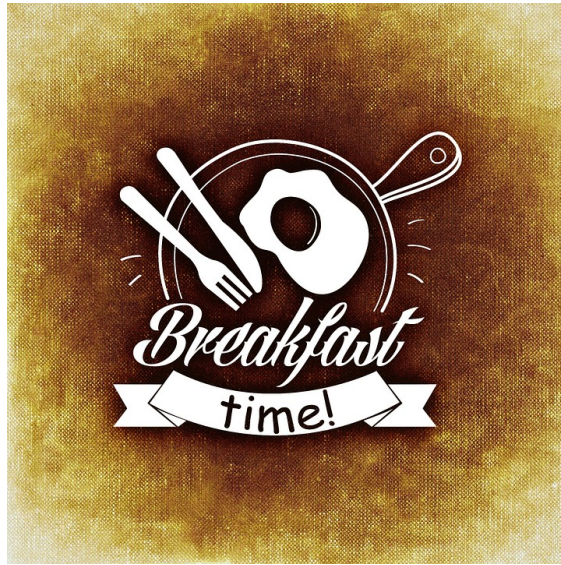
FPC, Victoria was one of the original founding churches of the VCAM

organization. You have continued the financial and volunteer support of VCAM for close to forty years (40 yrs.) VCAM needs us more now than ever. The VCAM shopping cart is still located in the hallway leading into the Fellowship Hall. Please remember to bring canned goods and dry staples. A volunteer from our church delivers those items to VCAM every Tuesday. They need you to volunteer. Contact the church office, Becky Richter, or Jack Klienecke about how you can spend 2-4 hours a week serving our community.



Christ Kitchen continues the amazing task of feeding over 200 mouths every day except Sunday. Their food costs have also gone up in 2024. The local merchant donations have decreased in 2023. Somehow the volunteers make good in what they have and receive daily. They need volunteers.

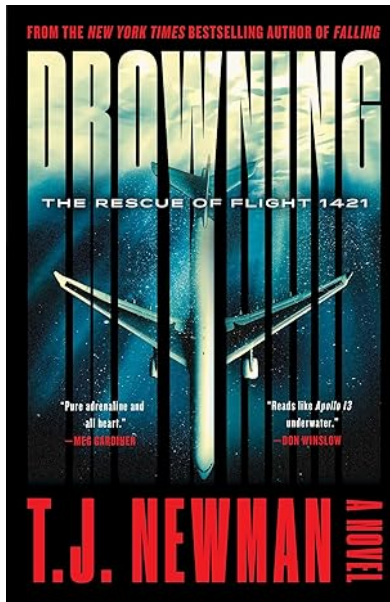
FPC, Victoria at one time provided 5-7 volunteers on Tuesday morning. Today, we only have three that get up on Tuesday and head over to Christ Kitchen to serve. They need you to volunteer. Contact the church office, Billy Leske, or Frances Miller about how you can spend 2-4 hours a week serving a community just across the fence.



The Nellie Hudson Sunday School would like to invite everyone to stop by for breakfast in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning February 4th and 11th from 9am to 10am. For the first Sunday, we will be serving Breakfast Pizza, Bacon and Fruit along with coffee and juice. For the second Sunday, we will have Breakfast Casserole, Scones & Jelly and Fruit along with coffee and juice. Please come and join us for a pre-Church Service gathering and fellowship!



Book Club will meet February 28, 2024, at 12:30 P.M. in the parlor to discuss the book "Drowning" by, TJ Newman. We hope to see you there for discussion, and to find out our next book! Bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy during our discussion.



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

KINGDOM KIDS RESUME THEIR SUNDAY SCHOOL

We're back and ready to learn! We are starting off the New Year learning about David and Goliath.

Our lessons are multi-sensory – so we read, craft, sing/dance, and eat during each lesson – and are so much fun! We will continue learning about David and Goliath next Sunday, so spread the word – we'd love to have more friends join our classes this year.

Contact Leila Galvan at 956-367-2234, or the church office, if you have questions or would like to participate.

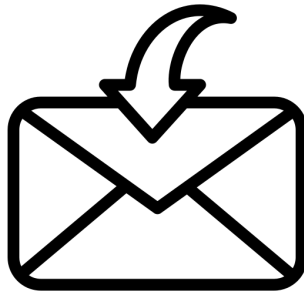
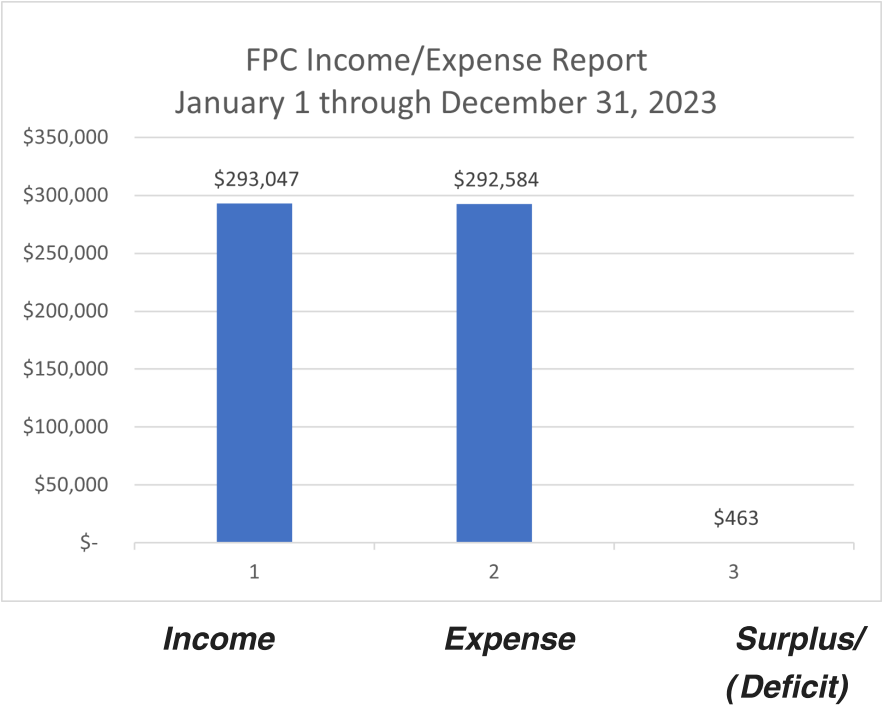


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- This Sunday, January 28, 2024, the *Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class* will conclude its study of “The Seven Essential Marks of a Vital Congregation.” There will be no Sunday School February 4, and February 11, as we are hosting the All Church Breakfast!
- Kid’s Kingdom, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.: The Kingdom Kids are back in Sunday School learning about how David, with God’s help, overcame his bigger, more powerful foe, the giant Goliath!

PERIODIC FPC FINANCIAL REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION (JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023)

Church treasurer, Dawn Neel, is happy to report that the End Of The Year financial report from Bumgardner, Morrison & Company, LLP reveals a surplus in revenue in the amount of \$463 compared to total yearly expenses! Glory to God!



Dan Person sent the church office an email letting us know, he and Beth have moved to Marble Falls. No other information was given. They are always in our prayers as fellow members of our church family.

