



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP  
ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 2024, AT 10:30 A.M.**

Please join us for worship this Sunday, the Second Sunday of Lent, at 10:30 a.m. Our Scripture readings will be Psalm 22:23-31 (From you comes my praise in the great congregation . . .) and Mark 8:27-38 ("If any wish to come after me, . . .). A copy of the bulletin can be found here:

<https://fpcovictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024-2-25-Bulletin-PDF.pdf>

***A Special Worship Note***

We want to welcome back Reverend Carol Rahn, who will lead our worship service this Sunday, February 25.

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Submitted by Donald Anderson

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#### ENJOYING TRUE WELCOME IN THE BURGER SPOT

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*“Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Matthew 7:7-8)*

In the heart of our Main Street stands a beloved burger spot, an icon since 1938. It clung to its unique traits for a long time: such as no cheese, cash only and getting your food before finding a table. It now takes credit cards and offers cheese as a burger topping, but the distinct menu remains, drawing both locals and visitors. Despite a bustling lunch rush and limited tables, there's always room.

This spot isn't just for locals, either. It's a pilgrimage for burger seekers. Approaching the counter with my usual order, delivered in the restaurant's unique lingo, triggers a smile from the familiar cashier, an unspoken recognition of me as one of the regulars. But it remains a warm, welcoming spot even when a newcomer is told they don't sell french fries or don't have lettuce and tomatoes. It's a place where strangers become friends, where the unspoken rules create a sense of community. You always run into friends and family from near and far, giving everyone a sense of home.

**PRAYER** | Gracious God, we're grateful for places in our communities that mirror your inclusivity. May the comfort and simplicity of these places and times remind us of those seeking to belong in your church. Help us share this welcome message with others, and through our interactions with others, teach us to understand that true belonging lies in Christ. Grant us patience as we wait, knowing that seeking leads to finding, that waiting opens promised doors. Guide us to embrace fellowship, spreading the love of Christ. And when we encounter such places, remind us that our ultimate home is in your presence. Amen.

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Submitted by Donald Anderson

HEY!!! We need everyone to show up at the important Mission & Outreach activity this Saturday to participate in the Silver City Neighborhood cleanup. Please contact the church office or Donald Anderson, (361) 550-1221 for more information.



Silver City Neighborhood Clean Up this Saturday February 24. Please plan on meeting at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church at 3101 Callis St. around 8:30 AM. Program to start activities from 9 AM to 11 AM. Take a minute to look at the information below before you arrive:

- Please plan to arrive no later than **8:50 am at Greater Mount Calvary Baptist Church** at 3101 Callis St.
- **Parking** – there is limited parking in the area (no street parking on Odem and Callis Streets – side streets only). You can also park at **Dudley Elementary School**, 3307 Callis St. which is right near the church on Callis Street.
- Wear close toed shoes and bring gloves if you have them. We will have vests, gloves, trash bags, etc.
- On arrival, we will assign you to a Team – you can then gather at your Team # sign with your Team Lead.
- We will be helping residents move large items, picking up trash/debris and conducting a Waste Diversion Education brief survey.

- We will have coffee (provided by The Box Coffee) and donuts on arrival. Yay!
- Hot dogs/chips afterwards.

### **“Your Life, Your Legacy Pre-planning”**

Watch future newsletter for this exciting and important event sponsored by Dignity Memorial counseling staff. We are in the process of planning this event in our Fellowship Hall at a date to be determined in April.

### **VCAM**

Your food keeps showing up in our food wagon in the hall by the church office and in the Narthex. Please consider bringing an extra item of canned goods or a bag of flour, sugar, rice or beans. We encourage 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. It is truly a blessing and is actually a lot of fun.

### **Paw Bites – Meals on Wheels**



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

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

### **Christ Kitchen**

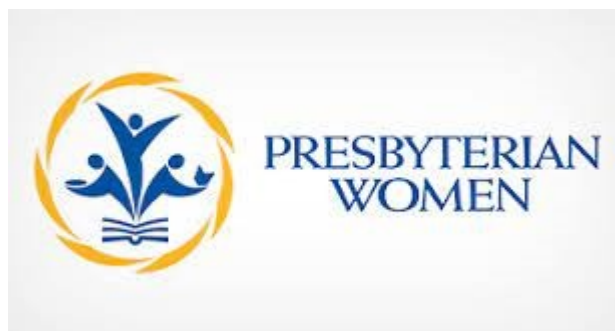
Christ Kitchen continues the amazing task of feeding over 200 mouths every day except Sunday. The Kitchen, as some call it, also is a wonderful place to share time with other volunteers. It is a fun place to see how our community continues to respond to the needs of those that are less fortunate than we are. They need you to volunteer. Contact the church office, Billy Leske, or Frances Miller about how you can spend 2-4 hours a week helping a community just across our fence. We are all created in the image of God and each person that graces The Kitchen each day are seen as the same whether one is a volunteer or one is hungry for a fresh, hot meal.

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There will be a Worship Committee Meeting this Wednesday, February 28 at 4:00 PM in the conference room.

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Submitted by Dawn Neel, and Frances Miller

This month we will study Lesson Six in our Horizon Bible Study, *Sacred Encounters*. The title of our lesson this month is *A Person with a Physical Disability Encounter Jesus* (Acts 3:1-10) God calls us to affirm that each person

is a child of God who should be treated with dignity and equity.

Evening Circle 4th Tuesday at 6:00pm

Women of Faith Day Circle 4th Wednesday at 2:00pm

Both circles will meet in the Parlor

Presbyterian Women mission focus for **February 2024** is **Christ's Kitchen**.

We can assist Christ's Kitchen by donating:

Foil Pans (Large restaurant casserole size available at Sam's)

Food Storage Bags (NOT snack size)

Post-It Notes ("sticky notes")

Spiral Notebooks

Computer Printer Paper

Masking Tape (that can be written on)

Donations of these items may be left in the church office, and will be collected by Presbyterian Women.



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

Submitted by Leila Galvan

Gulp! Splash! Jonah learned a great lesson and through his story, so have we. We finished our lesson on Jonah and the Big Fish this past Sunday. We crafted up a fish puppet using a paper bag and used our imagination to swallow up Jonah. For snack, we used a banana, vanilla wafers, and chocolate chips to make a tasty whale.

Join us this Sunday as we start our lesson on Queen Ester.

Our lessons are multi-sensory – so we read, craft, sing, dance, and snack during each lesson! If you know a child between the ages of 5-12, invite them to join us for some fun!

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



Submitted by Dawn Neel



Book Club is implementing something new. Starting in February, we will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 12:30 for a combined BROWN BAG lunch and book discussion. We promise heart-felt conversation with great fellowship. We would love for you to join us!

February 28<sup>th</sup> @ 12:30

*Drowning* by T. J. Newman

Bring a brown bag lunch to enjoy while discussing the book.

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### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

- Nellie Hudson Sunday School Class -Join us on our Lenten study titled *Illuminating Lent*. This study will guide us in seeking understanding of God's call to us and exploring ways the Christian faith can be more fully known and expressed. Through this study, we will encounter ways to enhance, enrich, and expand our insights. We will find our minds moved by new ideas, our emotions stirred with responses of gratitude, and calls for action that can lead us in different life directions.

We invite you to join us on this journey of faith seeking understanding. Study booklets are available in the church office.

- Kingdom Kids, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.: Join us this Sunday, see what fun activities we have planned! We will also be starting a new lesson this week! Come and check it out!
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