



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP  
ON SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024, AT 10:30 A.M.**

Please join us for worship this Sunday, The Fourth Sunday of Easter, at 10:30 a.m. Our Scripture readings will be Psalm 139:1-4 (O Lord, you have searched me and known me.) and Ephesians 2:4-10, 4:2-6 (one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, . . .). A copy of the bulletin can be found here: <https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2024-4-21-Bulletin-PDF.pdf>

## *A Special Worship Note*

This Sunday we welcome back Bette Burris.

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One of the joyous occasions for a congregation is the baptism of a child. Our denomination stresses that a child's baptism, before he or she is conscious of what is happening is an especially good reminder of the way God's grace comes to all of us in the first place. At whatever age we are, God calls us and works in our lives and hearts before we are aware of it. In other words, before we love God, God loves us.

This Sunday, Sage Welder Aimone will receive the sacrament of baptism. Sage is the daughter of John and Ashley Aimone and the little sister of Vance Aimone. She is the granddaughter of John and DeDe Welder and Dr. Roy and Nancy Aimone.

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Submitted by Henry Hauschild

### **April is Autism Awareness Month**

In today's Advocate (Wed. April 17, 2024) our own Elder Leila Gavan's work for Autism Awareness is noted on the Editorial Page.

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Submitted by Donald Anderson

### **“In Truth and Action”**

*Little Children, let us love, not in word or speech,  
but in truth and action.*

1 John 3:18, NRSV

“Little children” and, later, “Beloved” (v. 21) are terms of precious endearment. They can sound insincere and patronizing on the wrong tongue but let us assume the face value of these tender words. This is such a beautiful line: “let us love, not is words or speech, but in truth and action.”

This isn't “thoughts and prayers” theology. This love takes action.

Loving isn't about warm, fuzzy feelings, but about treating one another with dignity and respect. It is our actions that assure the truth before Christ. We are born from the truth when our actions are loving of our brother and sister. If we are to take any biblical passage literally, this is one to take. Let us love our brother and sister in truth and action.

#### Prayer of the Day

*Holy One, you are greater than our hearts. Let us love, not in word and speech, but in truth and action. Amen.*

These Days, David Carheart, Port Coquitlam, British Columbia

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Submitted by Donald Anderson

#### **City of Victoria Bicentennial Celebration**

It was a wonderful and fun time on Sunday reminiscing about old times. Thanks to Henry Hauschild, Marth Tarkington, and Kathleen Carey for displaying all of the historical documents and information about the history of our congregation going all the way back to 1839. Thanks to our Fellowship Committee and all the cooks for putting on a delicious variety of food dishes and desserts.

**VCAM**



**MONTHLY UPDATE**

**April 2024**

***March Services***

<b>Total Households Served –</b>	<b>1353</b>
<b>Total Number in Households –</b>	<b>3573</b>
<b>Food Boxes –</b>	<b>1210</b>
<b>Basic Needs -</b>	<b>2296</b>
<b>Home Delivery -</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Financial Assistance –</b>	<b>84</b>
<b># Homeless Served –</b>	<b>139</b>
<b># Homeless Visits -</b>	<b>606</b>
<b><i>1<sup>st</sup> time VCAM Clients Served –</i></b>	<b><i>87</i></b>

Visit our website at: [www.vcamvictoria.org](http://www.vcamvictoria.org) or our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/vcam.org/> for VCAM services or news.

Another busy month last month & the numbers continue to increase. If your congregation, business, neighborhood or family is interested in starting a food, basic needs or clothing (or both!) drive for VCAM, it is always much appreciated. Recently, a youth group from Trinity Episcopal School managed their own food drive for VCAM & brought in over 3,000 lbs. of perishable foods! & they did it in just a little over a week's time!!

We at FPC donated 55 pounds of food in March, 2024. Keep the food coming.

The ministry of offering supplemental groceries, a few basic needs, clothing for those in need in Victoria County goes a long way for those needing to just “get over that hump” until that next payday. Listed below are some of the items that are always needed for our inventory.

VCAM needs staple items: canned fruit & vegetables, packaged rice & beans, and small canned tomato sauce for our pantry. Items for the homeless such as: easy-open canned meats, nutrition bars, bottled waters, and fruit cups.

Other items needed: small toiletry items, washcloths, towels & blankets.

**Paw Bites – Meals on Wheels**





Get Support

## PAW Pet Care Assistance

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.

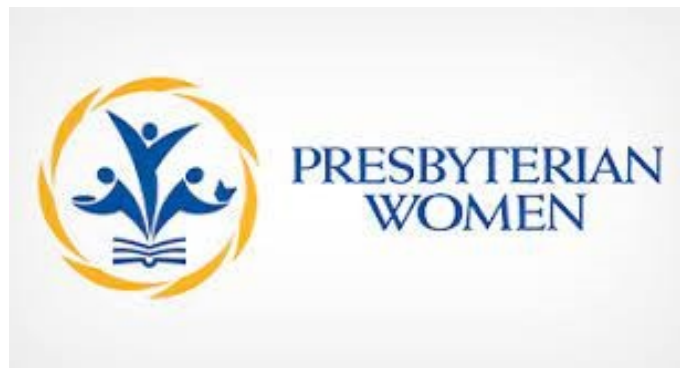
We are reminded they take all of the donations and food they buy to support the over 200-mobility restricted senior citizens they serve that have a pet living with them. The food is partitioned out in bags of 5 lbs. for cats and 10 lbs. for dogs. This is overwhelming.

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, is also 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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Submitted by Frances Miller

Presbyterian Women's mission focus for April is The Vine School. The Vine School has requested donations of:

- \* Batteries (size AA and AAA)
- \* Baby Wipes (Hypoallergenic / Sensitive Skin)
- \* Nitrile Gloves (sizes Med and Large)
- \* Paper Towels
- \* Disinfecting **WIPES**
- \*Lysol **SANITIZING** Spray

Presbyterian Women should bring their donations for The Vine School to the April Women of Faith meeting. Any donations from Church members can be left with Erica in the Church office. April is Autism Awareness Month, so it is appropriate that First Presbyterian Church support this school "where individuals with special needs can grow their potential."

Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team Meeting

Tuesday, April 23rd @ 12 noon

Conference Room

Evening Circle

Tuesday, April 23rd @ 6pm

Church Parlor

*Sacred Encounters*

Lessons 6 and 7

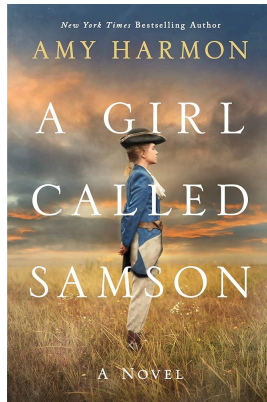
Women of Faith

Wednesday, April 24 @ 2pm

Church Parlor

*Sacred Encounters*

## Lesson 7



Book club will meet in the Fellowship Hall. We will discuss this month's book, as we enjoy our brown bag lunches.

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Submitted by Dawn Neel

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Nellie Hudson Sunday School Class

The Nellie Hudson Sunday School class will not be meeting for the next several weeks. We hope to resume in late May dependent upon family health issues. Please be watching the newsletter for its return and upcoming course of study. We will greatly miss gathering together and look forward to



anyone who would like to join us when we resume.



**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

Sunday's lesson was about a brave lady and some spies. Have you guessed who it is? Rahab! We learned all about how she kept the spies safe and how they, in return, kept her and her family safe. We also learned how God sometimes uses the most surprising people to help us on our life's journey.

For our craft, we made a house using construction paper and straw for the roof. We added our 'spies' to the rooftop as well. For snack, we made a house using cheese slices, pretzel sticks (for the straw rooftop) and teddy grahams for the spies.

This Sunday, we will be continuing with our lesson on Rahab and the spies. If you have time, check out our Sunday School wall in the conference room to see all our crafts.

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!

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

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