



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
ON SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024, AT 10:30 A.M.**

Please join us for worship this Sunday, The Second Sunday of Easter, at 10:30 a.m. Our Scripture readings will be Psalm 133 (It is like the precious oil on the head, . . .) and Acts 4:32-35 (With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, . . .). A copy of the bulletin can be found here <https://fpcofvictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2024-4-7-Bulletin-PDS-Sunday-PDF.pdf>

A Special Worship Note

We welcome back Reverend Kathy Neece, as we worship this Sunday.



Submitted by Donald Anderson

“We Are Blessed”

*Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to believe*

John 20: 19-31

I don't remember many Sunday School lessons from my childhood, but I remember hearing the teacher say, "This verse is about us." Wow! This verse is about us. We are "those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." My belief was planted by my mother, who prayed for me before I was born. It continues to be nurtured by many as I study and learn.

On this side of Easter, we are reminded that we are blessed in our belief. We are blessed by the faith of those who came before us and taught us. We are blessed with a sense of conviction that is not grounded in seeing. We are blessed as we study God's Word and grow in our understanding of faith.

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, I give thanks for those who planted seeds of faith and for others who nourished my Faith that I might know your deep and abiding love. Amen.

These Days, Maria Shupe, Joshua, Texas



Submitted by Donald Anderson

City of Victoria Bicentennial Celebration

A group made up of Martha Tarkington, Henry Hauschild, and Katheen Carey met on Thursday, March 28, 2024, to discuss how First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas, Victoria’s second oldest church, can participate in the City of Victoria’s bicentennial celebration. Progress has already been put in place for us to have a covered dish luncheon following worship service on Sunday, April 14, 2024. A presentation of the history of FPC is being developed to acknowledge the many members of FPC that have contributed to our area’s growth both financially and spiritually.

Your Mission and Outreach Committee will meet on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 6 P. M. to further discuss and plan this event.

VCAM

The following is an update about the activities of Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM). Our continued support is appreciated and very much needed. Drop off your goods in the shopping carts in the Narthex and office hallway.

**MONTHLY UPDATE
March 2024**

February Services

Total Households Served –	1456
Total Number in Households –	3845
Food Boxes –	1456
Basic Needs -	2683
Home Delivery -	23
Financial Assistance –	186

Homeless Served – 147
Homeless Visits - 794
1st time VCAM Clients Served – 90

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

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

For those of you not aware, VCAM has a laundry card program in place for our homeless that allows them to wash what clothing they do possess. Monetary donations are welcome to target this program.



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

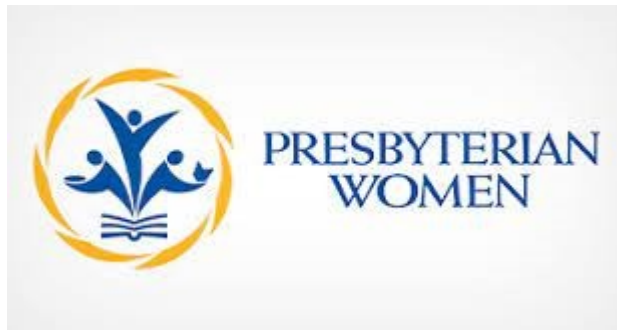
Christ Kitchen continues the amazing task of feeding over 200 mouths every day except Sunday. The Kitchen, as some call it, is also a wonderful place to share time with other volunteers. It is a fun place to see how our community continues to respond to the needs of those that are less fortunate than 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.



Submitted by Becky Richter

COVERED DISH LUNCHEON!!!

Mark your calendars! We will have a covered dish luncheon on Sunday, April 14, directly after the worship service. Be thinking of what delicious main dish, side dish or dessert you would like to bring. It will be a wonderful time of fellowship as we welcome this beautiful season of spring!



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."

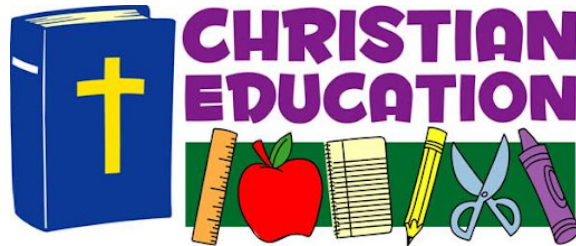


Submitted by Dawn Neel

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.



The Christian Education committee will meet this Friday, April 4 at 4:00 PM! We will be discussing all the fun stuff to prepare for Vacation Bible School. We are calling all volunteers!





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

Rejoice! Rejoice! He has risen indeed! We had our very special Easter Sunday school lesson this past week. Our story was the traditional Easter story, complete with manipulatives that corresponded to each page we read. Using tissue paper and glue, we crafted up a beautiful cross. We also decorated some very tasty Easter cookies for snack, thanks to our friend Becky.

We will be off this Sunday, 4/7, for PDS Sunday, but we will be back on 4/14 with our lesson on Rahab and the spies. It's sure to be an exciting lesson, so if you know some little ones please bring them to our class. We love having new friends.

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.



Submitted by Dawn Neel

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA ANNUAL RUMMAGE
SALE
FRIDAY, JULY 19 AND SATURDAY, JULY 20
FPC FELLOWSHIP HALL
8AM TO 2PM**

If you would like to contribute items for the rummage sale, now is the time to start bringing your donations to the church. All earnings from the sale will help FPC of Victoria support its greatest mission, Presbyterian Day School. Please also consider donating your time to this fundraising project by helping to organize, to price items and by assisting the public during the sale. This is a lofty, yet worthy, undertaking which can be less labor intensive with many hands helping. May we feel so led in supporting the children of Presbyterian Day School.

And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward. –

Matthew 10:42

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First Presbyterian Church · 2408 N Navarro · Victoria, Texas 77901 · USA

