

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

*Thank you for joining us in worship today. We are so glad that you are here!
Please take a minute to fill out the friendship pad in your pew and pass it along to others.
Our desire is to serve you and your family as you seek to grow in your faith.*

WORSHIP TODAY

Flowers today are given to the glory of God from Louis and Faith Alvarez with wishes for a Happy New Year to our church family!

Flowers...If you would like to donate flowers for the Sunday Worship Services, please sign your name on the **New 2018 Flower Chart Calendar** and complete the flower card, located by the bulletin boards in the hall. Please return the flower card to the church office or offering plate with your payment of **\$50.00**. Thanks for being part of this important ministry.

The Barnabas Cards are located in the pews. They are used like thinking-of-you cards. Fill out the person's name on the front and place it in the offering plate. A volunteer will address it and mail it for you.

Remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Health concerns: Sue Miller; Jackie & Granville Sydnor; Norma Shepherd; David Askine; Bill McPhail; Margaret Plunkett (Jim Currie's sister); Frank Ellis; and Mel Hutchinson.

WORSHIP HELPS

Jesus said "Let the children come to me." Here at FPC we take those words to heart and believe that children learn the faith best by worshipping surrounded by an extended church family! We also acknowledge that children often learn and listen best when their hands are busy. Families with young children are invited to sit in the pews on the organ side of the sanctuary (if desired) to allow the children to do quiet activities using the tables and pillows in our new "pray ground". As always, our nursery (Room 1) is open for children 4 and younger following "Chancel Time with Children", should parents/grandparents choose that option.

Bibles and hearing enhancement devices are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Attendance: 12/24/17 - Christmas Eve 10:30 am - 91

12/24/17 - Christmas Eve 7:00 pm - 181

Coffee and Wassail available before and after worship in the fellowship hall.

FPC Event Calendar		
Today, December 31	Worship	10:30 am
Monday, January 1, 2018	Church Offices Closed	NEW YEAR'S DAY
Tuesday, January 2	PW Board Meeting	9:30 am
	Pilates	10:00 am
	Prayer Shawl	2:00 pm
	Yoga chair/standing	6:00 pm
	Yoga floor/mat	7:00 pm
Wednesday, January 3	Baywood Crossing	10:00 am
	Intercessory Prayer	11:00 am
	Brown Bag & Bible	12:00 pm
	Decluttering Group	6:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Thursday, January 4	Men's Breakfast at Franks	7:00 am
	Pilates	10:15 am
	Yoga chair/standing	6:00 pm
	Girl Scout Leaders	6:30 pm
	Spanish Bible Study	6:30 pm
	Men's Bible Study	7:00 pm
	Yoga floor/mat	7:00 pm
Sunday, January 7	BLOOD DRIVE	8:30 am - 12:30 pm
	Sunday School for all ages	9:00 am
	Worship	10:30 am
	YGAC	12:00 pm
	First Sunday Dinner - Potluck	12:00 pm
	Called Session Meeting	12:00 pm

**Blood
DRIVE**

JANUARY 7

**Blood
DRIVE**

*“Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice...
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall...”*

Glory to God, #132

Today is the first Sunday after Christmas Day. It is also the final day of 2017. As we worship this morning, we continue the celebration of Emmanuel (God With Us). The annual FPC devotional book **“From Advent to Epiphany...Celebrating the 12 Days of Christmas”** continues with daily reading through January 6. Feel free to pick up yours today.

Church Directory 2018 Final Sign-up THIS Sunday 12/31/17! Schedule your photography appointment at the sign-up table in the narthex. **Photography dates are January 8, 9, and 10.** Contact Barbara anytime today at 713-443-5529 if you are unable to find a time that works for you.

Brown Bag Bible Study Resumes this Wednesday, January 3, from noon to 1 p.m. All are invited to start the new year with this lively conversations over lunch in the fellowship hall.

Yoga Classes, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Both 6 p.m. classes are now “chair/standing” yoga. The 7 p.m. classes will remain full mat yoga. This year, come grow in strength, flexibility and balance...and invite a friend.

Decluttering Group Meets This Wednesday, January 3, from 6-7 p.m. in Room 11. If you yearn to begin the new year with more simplicity and space, come join the fun and find support

All Sunday School Classes will resume next week, Sunday, January 7, at 9 a.m. Look on the first bulletin board or newsletter for options and details. There is a home for everyone (children, youth and adults) to grow in faith and friendship. Come find yours.

First Sunday Lunch Next Sunday, January 7th! Join us after worship next Sunday for a pot luck lunch. Bring your favorite dish(s) and join us for good food and fellowship!

What Goes Up Must Come Down - Next Sunday, January 7, following the potluck lunch, we invite ALL helping hands (children, youth and adults) to help take down the Christmas greenery and pack it away for next year. Your presence will make a huge difference as we “de-green” the sanctuary and narthex and prepare for a fresh new season here at FPC. Not into climbing ladders? No problem. We always need helpers who can sit and lovingly pack away fragile nativity sets and chrismons. Please plan to stay to help the Worship and Music Committee. Thanks in advance for your service.

Called Session meeting after worship on Sunday, January 7, to examine incoming elders and deacons for the Class of 2020. The meeting will be held during the First Sunday potluck. Once through the line, bring your lunch and meet in the Oasis (youth room).

Committee/Ministries meet Monday, January 8, from 6:45-8:15. Whether you’re a regular or have never been part of a team, you are invited to be part of the life and mission of FPC.

Next Sunday, January 14, we will ordain and install the new church officers during worship. The new class of elders are: Louis Alvarez, Brett Coe, Jeanie Falls, and Tom Hoffman. The new class of deacons are: Faith Alvarez, Donna Coe, Brian Davis, Karen Schimnowski, and George Yeargin. We also express our gratitude for those who are rotating off as elders: Tom Chitwood, Natica Cooper, Shelley Covington, Stan Ganderson, and Roy Kreitz; and to those rotating off as deacons: Cindy Berridge, Garland DeLoach, Joyce DeLoach, Linda Ross, and Bruce Walters. Many thanks to one and all!

Youth & Church Family Bowling, January 14, at Armadillo Lanes following Worship. All are invited for lunch and an afternoon of cross-generational recreation. Please sign up in the narthex.

Wonderful Wednesday, January 17, at 5:30 pm for a light meal followed by a presentation by our own Glenda Kucera from 6-7 pm about her recent mission trip to Cuba. We look forward to hearing about this life-changing adventure! If you’d like to bring a pot of soup or chili, please bring it to the fellowship hall by 5:15 pm

The FPC Brunch & Book Group meets Saturday, January 20, from 10-12. *“Glass Castle”* by Jeanette Walls. All readers are encouraged to be part of the monthly group.

Annual Reports - A Reminder to Session Members, Deacons, Presbyterian Women, Early Childhood Program, Gathering Place and others about Annual Reports. To capture a glimpse of the mission and ministry of FPC during 2017, please write and send your 2017 Annual Report to Jo Ann Currie (jjcurrie152@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Thanks to all who have already done so.

Brothers and Sisters, **KAIROS** is on the move for February 15, 2018 at Jester Unit III. Please prepare letters, cookies (due 2/12/18), and the art work for place mats and cookie bags. The final part is money, we need your financial support. There are ways to support people who are looking for a better way than what got them where they are, that is where you come in, please help if you will. Mark Corder