

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.

Please speak to the pastor if you would like to become a member of this community of faith.

WORSHIP TODAY

Flowers today are given to the glory of God and presented by Martha & Jim Braswell in celebration of Martha and Allison Johnsons' birthdays.

Flowers....If you would like to donate flowers for the Sunday Worship Services, please sign your name on the flower chart calendar that is located by the bulletin boards in the hall. **It is very important that you complete the flower card** (which is located on the bulletin board next to the chart) **with details of what occasion** (in memory, honor, special occasions, etc.) the flowers are for. Please return the flower card to the church office with your payment of **\$50.00**. You may also turn in the flower card in the offering plate. Thanks for being part of this important ministry.

The Barnabas Cards are also 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: Norma Shepherd; Jackie Sydnor; Brenda McCaleb; Sue Miller; Doris Reed; Nancy Heeth; Virgil Cammack; Patsy Dunbar; Jo Anne Reed; Jimmy Gilchrest; Theresa Wester; Jane Christopher; Darlene Sprague; Frank Wamble; Ray Poe; JoAnn Ruble; Juandine Fifield; Robert Corkran; Curtis Abrams; Nanci Engle; Marjorie Wells; Evelyn Darden; Priscilla & Rory Hall; and Elizabeth Dean.

WORSHIP HELPS

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me..." At First Presbyterian Church, we believe that children enrich worship within the full faith community. In them, Christ is present for us. We also believe that children learn best to worship by worshipping! Therefore, all adults and youth are encouraged to help our young children experience the rhythms and rituals of worship: finding and standing for hymns, being still when we pray, and learning responses. Following "Chancel Time with Children", children are invited to take a Children's Bulletin from Pastor Jim and a worship bag or notebook to draw them further into the remainder of worship. Younger children (under 5) may go to the nursery in Room 1, if desired.

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

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

Worship Attendance: 12/4/16 129

FPC Event Calendar

Today	YGAC Christmas Lunch & Party at the Curries	12:00 - 3:00 pm
	Handbells	12:15 pm
Monday, December 12	Gathering Place Board Mtg.	1:30 pm
	ECP Christmas Program	6:30 pm
Tuesday, December 13	PW Joint Circle Mtg. & Luncheon	10:00 am
	Pilates	10:45 am
	Prayer Shawl	2:00 pm
	Yoga	6:00 pm
	Yoga	7:00 pm
	PW Night Circle	7:00 pm
Wednesday, December 14	Baywood Crossing	10:00 am
	Intercessory Prayer Group	11:00 am
	Brown Bag Bible Study	12:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Thursday, December 15	Men's Breakfast at Franks	7:00 am
	Young at Heart	10:00 am
	Pilates	10:45 am
	Spanish Bible Study	6:30 pm
	Men's Bible Study	7:00 pm
	Yoga	7:00 pm
Sunday, December 18	Sunday School	9:00 am
	Worship	10:30 am
	Handbells	12:15 pm

FRIDGE NOTES 12-11-17 Third Sunday of Advent

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!*
based on Psalm 27:14 and Hymn #90

Youth Group Christmas Lunch & Party Today at the Curries! All 6th-12th graders are invited to an afternoon of fun & food today. We'll meet in The Oasis (Room 12) immediately after worship and caravan to the party. Parents or grandparents may pick up youth up 3 p.m.

Chrismon Kits Available A Chrismon is a "Christ-monogram" or a symbol for Jesus. You are invited to pick up a "Chrismon Kit" on a table near our beautiful Chrismon tree in the narthex to make a Chrismon at home. In each ziplock bag you will find an ornament, the meaning of the symbol, and a hanger. All you do is add glue, gold and white glitter and/or sequins and a little imagination to have your own one-of-a-kind ornaments to celebrate the season.

The annual Advent devotional booklets are available today. Please feel free to pick one up.

The Bethlehem Market, the alternative gift market, is open in the narthex after worship services today and next two weeks. You may donate to your favorite mission in honor of someone, and you will be given a gift card to send to the person you are honoring. Stop by to shop and give a gift that will make a difference.

December PW Meeting...the PW joint meeting and luncheon is Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. Please bring a friend and favorite dish. Night Circle will meet at 7:00 pm.

The Presbyterian Church, USA JOY OFFERING will be collected next Sunday during worship. This annual offering is used to give financial assistance to clergy in need and to aid racial ethnic institutions of higher learning. Please give generously to this special offering. Envelopes are available.

Youth Retreat at Camp Cho Yeh February 24-26, 2017 All 6th-12th graders interested in being part of this annual weekend should sign up by next **Sunday, December 18**, on the youth bulletin board to reserve your spot.

Seafarer Boxes of Love Interested in a simple yet meaningful personal or family hands-on mission project this season? Consider filling a shoebox with items that will bring joy to homesick seafarers. For about \$10, you can make a difference in a stranger's life as you share God's love. Details are in the newsletter. Please return wrapped boxes and place them under the Chrismon Tree by next **Sunday, December 18**, so they can be delivered in time for Christmas.

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 2016, please write and send your 2016 Annual Report to Jo Ann Currie (jjcurrie5152@gmail.com) by **Wednesday, December 21**. As we look forward to seeing where the Spirit may lead us in 2017, we also thank God for the opportunity to serve Jesus Christ through the life of First Presbyterian during the past year.

Financial Peace University for the New Year Today is the deadline to sign up and pay for the Dave Ramsey course that begins on Sunday evening, January 8, from 6-7:30. The 8-week course is \$100 per individual/couple/family and covers all materials. Our teacher, Bryan Avis, will order books this week so we need a final count. Sign up today to reserve your spot at the display under the bulletin boards. Please make checks to FPC (Dave Ramsey in the memo) then put your check in the offering plate or give it to Jo Ann Currie. You may also pay on our website using Paypal.

Looking for Some Peace & Quiet this Season? If so, you are invited to walk through our interactive prayer stations at the back of the sanctuary. Whenever the doors of the building are open, you are welcome to come in for a time of reflection and prayer...whether for ten minutes, an hour or an afternoon. **"Be still, and know that I am God"** is an open invitation to all.

2017 Proposed Budget \$387,972

Financial Update....As of this week 67 pledges had been received totaling \$344,104. Although the final budget has not yet been approved by the session, the Stewardship Committee believes that we will need \$387,972 in pledges in order to meet the anticipated expenses for 2017. If you have not yet submitted your pledge, please do so as soon as possible. Your gift and pledge will make a difference. Thanks so much!

- **Pledges Received \$344,104**
- **Pledges Still Needed \$43,868**

Urgent need at Pasadena Community Ministry! PCM needs two men on Monday mornings, 8:30 to 10:00 am, to help unload trucks with food supplies from Houston Food Bank and local grocery stores. If you are available, please contact Ruth Askine, or Betty Frazier at pcm200@att.net, 713-299-2437. Thank you!

Website Fun Facts...Did you know that there is info & pictures about the Hanging of the Greens. Go to the worship page and follow the link.

**We will be celebrating
The Lord's Supper
December 24th during the
Christmas Eve
Candlelight & Communion Worship.**

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

People need help in our broken world. Most are embarrassed about their need. Some of them we know. Others come to us as strangers. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund allows the pastor to confidentially help those in need. Please consider marking your envelope "Pastor's Discretionary Fund," in order to be instruments of the Lord in a hurting world.