

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 Bob & Pat Pesl in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.

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; JoAnn Ruble; Juandine Fifield; Robert Corkran; Curtis Abrams; Nanci Engle; Marjorie Wells; Evelyn Darden; Chris; Hannah; and Barbara Sample.

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.

2017 PROPOSED BUDGET \$387,972

Financial Update....As of this week 73 pledges had been received totaling \$364,484. 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	\$364,484
Pledges Still Needed	\$23,488

FPC Event Calendar

Today	Deadline for Seafarers' Christmas Boxes	
	Handbells	12:15 pm
Tuesday, December 20	Yoga	6:00 pm
	Yoga	7:00 pm
	Interfaith Manor Board Mtg.	7:00 pm
Wednesday, December 21	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 22	Men's Breakfast at Franks	7:00 am
	Spanish Bible Study	6:30 pm
	Men's Bible Study	7:00 pm
	Yoga	7:00 pm
Saturday, December 24	Christmas Eve Communion Service	7:00 pm
Sunday, December 25	Worship - Informal	10:30 am
	Informal Christmas Day Lunch at the Currie's Home after worship	12:00 pm
	Christmas Caroling at Baywood Crossing	2:00 pm
Monday, December 26	Office Closed	

FRIDGE NOTES 12-18-17 Fourth Sunday of Advent

***“O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.”***

From “O Little Town of Bethlehem”, verse 4a

Chrismon Kits Still Available A Chrismon is a “Christ-monogram” or a symbol for Jesus. Please pick up a “Chrismon Kit” near our Chrismon tree in the narthex to make one at home. Each bag holds an ornament, the meaning of the symbol, and a hanger. Just add gold and white glitter and/or sequins and a little imagination to have your own one-of-a-kind ornament.

Today is the last day to shop at the Bethlehem Market, an alternative gift market. 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. Give a gift that will make a difference.

The Presbyterian Church, USA JOY OFFERING will be collected today 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 awesome annual weekend sign up today on the youth bulletin board.

Financial Peace University for the New Year If you’ve signed up for the Dave Ramsey course, but haven’t paid the \$100 per family/individual, please do so today. Classes begin on Sunday evening, January 8, from 6-7:30. 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. Questions? Speak to Jo Ann.

Looking for Some Peace & Quiet this Season? Whenever the doors of the building are open, you are welcome to come in to the sanctuary 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.

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 this Wednesday, December 21. Thank you!

Great News! The organ renovation is nearly complete! Our best hope is that we will have our beloved instrument back for Christmas Eve Services. Your generosity in supporting this project has been wonderful. Your pledges have been pouring in and we are just \$5600 (pledged) short of having our project completed. If you have not finished your pledge, we would be grateful to have this project completed. We are looking forward to hearing this renovated instrument in the near future.

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!



Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Worship for All Ages
Saturday, December 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

Informal Christmas Morning Worship in the Round...for Everyone!
Sunday, December 25 @ 10:30 a.m.

*On Christmas morning, come celebrate with songs, scripture, stories and prayers
as we gather round the manger in the narthex for this cozy FPC tradition.*

*Children may bring a quiet toy & even wear pajamas.
There is always room for a baby doll or two in the manger.*

Informal Christmas Day Lunch at the Currie's Home

Come for a bowl of soup and Christian friendship beginning at noon. We will eat, enjoy one another's company, then around 2 p.m. head to Baywood Crossing to visit and sing carols.