

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 Dan & Melba Slaven in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary.

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; Deanna Herreth; Sue Miller; Jamie Jamison; Frances Jamison; Kelsey Hilson; Kirsten Hilson; Dean Pogue; Jim Tinney; Betty Abramchuk; Dr. Jack Walker; Christopher Finch; Sally Carr; Jimmy Gilchrest; Susan Robinson; Dianne Bunnell; Aaron-Nathaniel Arambula; Cassandra Guice; Pat Clark; Doris Reed; Carrie Walker; Nancy Heeth; Rachel Herreth; Vicki Jones; Virgil Cammack; Olga Pate; Theo Holt; Aaron Valentine; Dave Askine; and Glenn Williams.

Loss of a loved one: the Flippen family

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: 12/13/15

10:30 am: 115

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

FPC Event Calendar

Today	Youth & Young Adult Lunch	12:00 pm
	Hand Bell Practice	12:15 pm
Wednesday, December 23	Baywood Crossing Service	10:00 am
	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Thursday, December 24	Office Closed	
	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	7:00 pm
Friday, December 25	Christmas Morning Worship (Informal)	10:30 am
Sunday, December 27	Worship	10:30 am

FRIDGE NOTES 12-20-15 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church.

*We pray that our eyes may be opened to see the wonder of the world around us...
to connect with, commit to, and celebrate Emmanuel...God With Us.*

Worshipping God With Open Eyes this Advent Season and Beyond There are many ways to pray...with words, silence, music, and movement, to name a few. We can also pray with our eyes, sometimes called "visio divina" or "sacred gazing". This morning, as you reflect on the images on the screens, prayerfully look for glimpses of God's presence. May we be open to the majesty and mystery of God's world here in worship as well as when we walk out the doors today. A special thanks to all who have submitted photos for our sanctuary screens. As always, if you have an image that somehow reflects God's glory and presence, please send it to the office. We'd love to add your photos to the weekly rotation. Advent blessings.

Spread the Good News! FPC Youth invite you to pick up a few discount cards to area restaurants and activities. For a love offering (any amount) you are encouraged to take some cards and share them with neighbors, teachers and friends. Proceeds will offset the cost of camps and conferences, but even more, the cards share the good news of the ministries here and through FPC. Thanks for spreading the joy!

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.

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.

Seafarers' Wrapped Boxes of Love must be returned to the tree by Today. Thank you.

Youth & College-Age Young Adults Christmas Lunch Today! Since some of our youth who have moved out of state and our college age young adults are here for Christmas, following worship, it's time to celebrate and catch up with one another. We'll meet in The Oasis immediately after worship, then go out for lunch and deliver the boxes of love to the International Seafarer's Center at the Port of Houston. We will return to FPC by 3 p.m. No need to bring anything...lunch is our treat!

Needed: One loving person to help one Nursery Caregiver on Sunday, Dec. 27th. It is a fun experience! Please call Joan G. at 713-962-5810 if you can help.

Brown Bag Bible Study will NOT meet on December 23, and 30th. Study will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

On Thursday, December 24th for the office will be closed. The staff at FPC would like to wish everyone a very "Blessed Merry Christmas".

A Library Invitation...Ruth Askine is our FPC librarian. To enrich the season, she has done an amazing job of pulling out the Advent and Christmas books from our collection and has put them in three places around the church building: in the back of the sanctuary, on the carts in the fellowship hall reading corner, and in the library itself. For a time of rest and renewal this season, stop by one of these places, sit down and read a story...alone or with a child.

Looking for Some Peace & Quiet this Season? If so, you are invited walk through our interactive prayer stations at the back of the sanctuary today and all week. 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. New to our 2015 stations is a gift from Theresa Dunn Rogerson, Elois Murray's daughter and frequent member of our Prayer Shawl Ministry. It is a ceramic nativity that has an accompanying meditation near it. *May the peace of Christ be with us all as we listen and wait this Advent season and beyond.*

It is almost the end of the year. Statements thru mid-November have been mailed. Year-end statements will go out in January.

As of November 30, 2015:

Operating Budget:	Total Income: \$367,576	Total Expenses: \$370,047
Organ Repair Fund:	Total Needed: \$ 56,925	Total Collected \$ 50,175

Thanks to all who turned in pledges. This really helps me prepare the estimate for next year, which in turns sets the budget. It is not too late, if you still would like to turn your card in. You can mail it, leave it in my box or drop it in the offering plate. They are located in the pews or here in the office. All 2015 offerings and 2016 pre-pledges must be in my office by 12/31/2015 to receive credit for this year.