

# First Presbyterian Church of Alvin



## Press Bytes



To the Saints at First Presbyterian,

Greetings. We are winding down the 40 days and nights of Lent. This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday, the day folks gathered by the roadside and welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem as he road on a donkey, coming as a “hero”, so the folks thought. We will wave the palm branches as did those original folks.

The Holy Week then begins. We will have our Maundy Thursday service in the fellowship Hall around tables set in a square. We will try and duplicate, to a point, something of the original meal, the last supper. The service will consist of a meal of fruit, bread and cheese. We ask that all who are coming will bring either fruit, bread or cheese or all of the above. Lamb is optional if anyone would like to bring it. Wine is optional as well, if one wants to bring their own bottle. Water will be provided. The service will start at 6:30 pm. We will have communion around the tables. While this will seem like an informal service which it will be, it will carry a lot of history and importance. The last supper or communion, is still celebrated each month by a lot of churches and celebrated to some degree by almost all Christian churches.

The theme I want to examine that night is the theme of “betrayal.” We all probably have experienced betrayal to some degree by others. Betrayal doesn’t have to be by a person. It can be by a group of people, a business, institutions, elected officials, religious leaders or even a denomination. Spouses, family members and friends are always part of that too.

Jesus had a terrible betrayal since it came from one of his own disciples. He knew who it was as even told him to go and do what he must do. A kiss sealed the deal; an act of love identified him as the Christ to the guards.

Join us for this re-enactment of the supper and worship communion service. Look forward to seeing you.

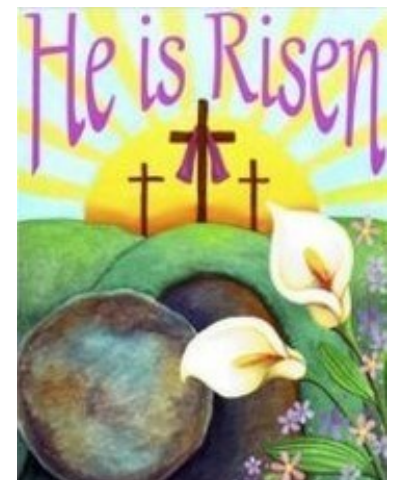
Peace,

C.O.

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Insert:  
April 2022 Calendar





### Children's Easter Celebration

On Easter Sunday, April 17 at 9:30 a.m. breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall for adults and children. Following breakfast all Sunday School classes will take place as usual. The children will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus by doing crafts and participating in an Easter egg hunt. Don't forget to bring your Easter basket!



## April Birthdays

- 3 Sheila Follmar
- 4 Brenda Magee
- 5 Amber Bennett
- 8 Natalie Aparicio
- 10 Christopher Odom
- 11 Audrie Gondesén

- 14 Alan Ruskey
- 17 Jo Myers
- 19 Ruth Frerking
- 22 Eric Grimmett
- 23 Shirley Brothers
- 29 Jim Dallas

"We love Him because He first loved us."

1 John 4: 9-10



**We will have a Maundy Thursday service on April 14th @ 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are planning to attend, and are able, please bring one of the following: cheese, fruit, bread, or wine (optional). We will share what we bring as we gather around our tables for our meal and service.**





**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**  
 SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
 HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

**BUILDING CONNECTIONS TO LAST  
 ....Advocating for Environmental  
 Justice**

What does July 16 mean to you? If you are part of the Navajo nation, or have connections near Church Rock, New Mexico, that date might stir a heartbreaking memory of a preventable disaster that continues to have disastrous impacts.

Over 40 years ago, the earthen dam of a nuclear waste disposal pond broke near Church Rock and dumped tons of solid, radioactive waste and 90 million gallons of acidic and radioactive liquids into the Rio Puerco. The resulting contamination of the land, air and ground water affected nine Navajo municipalities.

The toxic and cumulative effects of

this human-caused disaster have impacted the Navajo people for generations — especially in the form of such chronic health problems as asthma as well as a higher incidence of miscarriages, birth defects, and liver and pancreatic cancer. Each year, hundreds of Diné families and their allies come together near the tragic anniversary to pray, to heal and to act, together.

One Great Hour of Sharing connects us with these families through MASE, the Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment. MASE’s mission envisions respectful, peaceful communities cherishing a healthy environment.

I like to think that’s a lot like our Church’s mission, too. It is part of what led the Committee on the Self-Development of People to connect with MASE, reaching out “like the arms of the Church,” as the Rev. Dr. Alonzo Johnson with SDOP puts it, to address the systems and

structures that perpetuate oppression, leading to poverty.

Susan Gordon, MASE’s coordinator, reminds us that “this is not short-term work. This is decades. And generations. Taking the long view has not prevented progress; the community took a very strong stand opposing new uranium mines on Navajo Nation and were instrumental in getting Navajo Nation to pass two fundamental laws. One prohibits new uranium mining and another prohibits the transportation of radioactive materials across the nation.”

Uranium Legacy Action and Remembrance Day (July 16) connects the importance of lament, especially in the face of an intergenerational trauma, with the opportunity to educate and expose Navajo youth to the realities of environmental racism.

Today I am grateful for Diné neighbors, Gordon, and Johnson, for this church, and the Whole Church, together, for reminding us that this day and every day are part of the decades and generations where

we seek change.

Our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing connect us with people finding their voice and accessing their God-given power, and is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience and sustainability. During Lent, we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus’ resurrection and connects us with those “who have the least” — that’s how Matthew 25 puts it — and that’s what One Great Hour of Sharing is all about.

Thank you for your generosity! For as we always say ... when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



Every gift makes a difference in the life of someone who deserves God’s love and support.

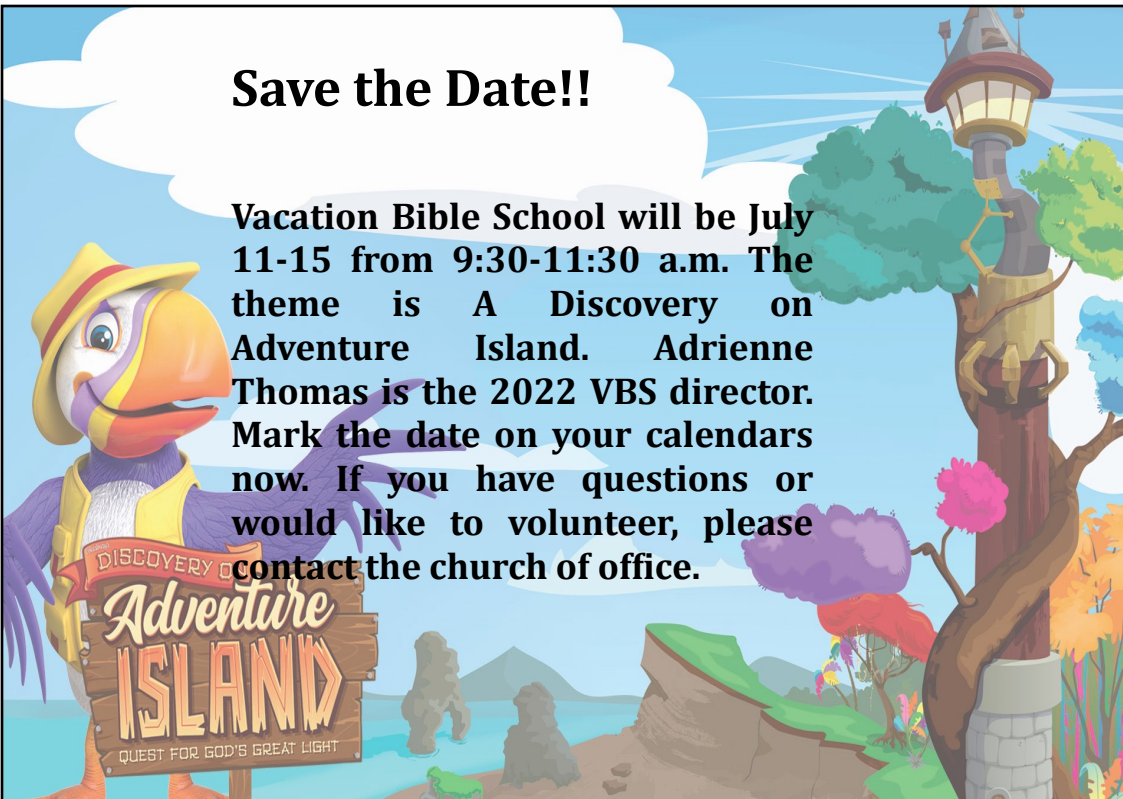


ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

03.02.22-  
04.17.22

## Save the Date!!

Vacation Bible School will be July 11-15 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The theme is A Discovery on Adventure Island. Adrienne Thomas is the 2022 VBS director. Mark the date on your calendars now. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact the church of office.



## Nursery Volunteers Needed

The church is in need of members who are willing to volunteer in the nursery. A signup sheet is in the church narthex. Please prayerfully consider our need for it will help those who are already volunteering. If you have any questions contact the church office.

## Easter Blooming Cross

Since Easter comes later in the spring this year, the Worship Committee would like to invite everyone who has blossoming flowers in their yard to consider bringing some of them for placement on the traditional Blooming Cross in the sanctuary on Easter morning. This act of kindness will help decorate the cross and allow the Worship Committee to reduce the number of flowers that need to be purchased.



“Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.”

Romans 12: 11-12





**Ongoing Prayers:** Kristy Myers, Henrietta Meyer, Jill Wheatley, Evelyn Robison, Patty Costanzo, Pat Spiller, Mary Loreda, Mr. Davis, the Elkins Family, Maddie Geiman, Sara Pannell, Rachel Flores, Eleanor Del Basso, John Shaw, Ayla Busscher, Kaye McDonald & her son, the Family of Dr. Nancy Hughes, Katie Ayres, Brittany Elliott, Linda Allen and

Rachel Grimmett.

**Immediate Concerns:** The People of Ukraine.

*Please call the church office with updates.*

**\*\*Office Hours have changed\*\***

Monday	8:30am - 3:30pm
Tuesday	8:00am - 4:00pm
Wednesday	8:00am - 4:00pm
Thursday	8:00am - 4:00pm
Friday	Closed

**Elder of the Month**  
Janet DeLeon

**Refreshments**  
Education

**ALVIN HOPE**  
presents:  
**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY APRIL 23RD 8-12**

Hosted by  
First Presbyterian Church  
302 S. Johnson St.  
in the Fellowship Hall

**Menu**  
pancakes  
breakfast meat  
coffee, milk or OJ

Proceeds will be used to fund our **Mobile Community Outreach Project.**

Can't make it out but still want to help. Please scan our QR code.

**DINE IN BY DONATION**  
**TAKE OUT AVAILABLE \$10/MEAL**

PayPal

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## Lenten Soup & Devotions

On March 2, 2022 the Lenten season began with a short Ash Wednesday service here at First Presbyterian. We, as is custom, joined forces with other churches in town to provide a meal and short devotion each Wednesday night throughout Lent. First Christian Church was the first in the series, Dateline Jerusalem, interviewing Pontius Pilate, a corrupt politician who says things are intentionally misleading. First Presbyterian took on the second interview with Caiaphas. Pastor C.O. Magee played the part well representing the High Priest who largely disapproved of Jesus being seen as the religious authority. The third Wednesday, we visited Grace Episcopal Church where Chris Lo interviewed Mother Suzanne who portrayed Mary Magdalene, a bold and confident follower of Jesus. The fourth Wednesday had us back at First Christian Church where we heard the interview of Peter. Peter explained how Jesus predicted his deception. We will complete the series on Wednesday, April 6th at First Presbyterian Church where we will interview John. Please join us. If you have pictures from these events please email to [fpccalvin@fpccalvin.org](mailto:fpccalvin@fpccalvin.org). Thank you!!



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*"The First Presbyterian Church of Alvin has been called by God and organized to share the gospel message of Jesus Christ in our community and world."*



**Address Service Requested**  
Please notify the church office  
of any change of address or  
telephone number.

First Presbyterian Church  
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Alvin, TX 77511

