

Press Bytes



Unexpected Mission

Sometimes, when we least expect it, God give us an opportunity to help people in need.

Saturday, after the Mission Sale, as used bicycles were being set out on the curb, a young couple came walking down Beauregard Street. The man asked why the bikes were there. We told him that they were not sold, so we hoped someone could use them. When we told the young man and his girlfriend that the bikes were free, they both became excited and asked if they could have them. All of us there said a resounding "Yes"!!

Upon learning that they were moving to a house near the church and that they were in need of furniture, we were able to give them a computer desk, a glass coffee table, a wooden bedframe and headboard, and an artificial Christmas tree. All for FREE.

You see, the young couple (though not having money) are planning to repair and paint the bikes and give them to children in the neighborhood - children who can't afford a bike! This young couple, by allowing us to bless them with household items, are going to pass the blessing on to kids who need bicycles! Wow, isn't that amazing?

Incidentally, the young man saw the sign for the Clothing Outlet had been damaged last year and replaced the pieces that were destroyed after receiving permission from the Clothing Outlet, earlier this year. He used his own materials. Most of the Mission Team was not aware of this when the decision to bless this couple was made.



Truly Amazed,
The Mission & Outreach Team
& Helpers.

P.S. Many thanks to Linda Byrd for being the transporter of the goods for the young couple!

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Genesis Sunday

Come celebrate the beginning of another fantastic year of fun and learning at First Presbyterian! Genesis Sunday is on August 14. During the worship service the 2022 – 2023 church teachers/leaders will be recognized and commissioned and the students and their backpacks blessed. Remember to bring your backpack. We will also present Bibles to 3rd graders. If you know of any 3rd graders and higher who are active in our church and have not previously received a Bible from us, please contact the church office. We don't want to miss anyone.

After church the celebration will continue with a Pot Luck Luncheon. So bring your favorite dish and enjoy delicious food, fun and fellowship with your church family. We'll have a great time!



Vacation Bible School 2022

While we started with few numbers, we gained students throughout the week. These children began their quest in search of five mysterious infinity lanterns that help light their way on the island. These lanterns are the light of Love, the light of Trust, the light of Faith, the light of Joy, and the light of Hope. **WE LOVE HOW**

Discovery on Adventure Island encouraged evangelism by teaching kids the ways God's great light shines in the lives of familiar Bible characters and shows them how the same light can be shining in their lives.

The kids learned the signal verse: Arise! Shine! Your light has come: the Lord's glory has shone upon you! (Isaiah 60:1). The Lantern of Love was about the Creation Story (Genesis 1:1-2:9). Then the kids learned about the Lantern of Trust, which was about Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1-20). The next day, they found the Lantern of Faith, with the Faith Through the Roof story (Luke 5:17-26). On Thursday, the kids found the Lantern of Joy

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MISSION



Once again, we have been blessed by a tremendously successful sale. As of Sunday, July 24th, we collected a total of \$1215.25 that will be used to supplement the offerings collected for our local and world outreach efforts. All this would not have been possible without the combined efforts of all those who volunteered their time to sort and arrange the massive amount that was donated, those who spent a portion of or all of the 6+ hours on Saturday assisting shoppers with their purchases, those who boxed up the unsold items and deliver those boxes to Goodwill. We, of course, appreciate all of you who cleaned out your attics, garages, closets and drawers to supply us with your unneeded treasures. A great big "THANK YOU!" goes out to everyone for your support in making this such an awesome sale.



Margie Hill welcomed her 5th Great-Grandchild, Palmer, born to Megan & Matt Shimek, on July 9th. She weighed 7lbs 14oz.



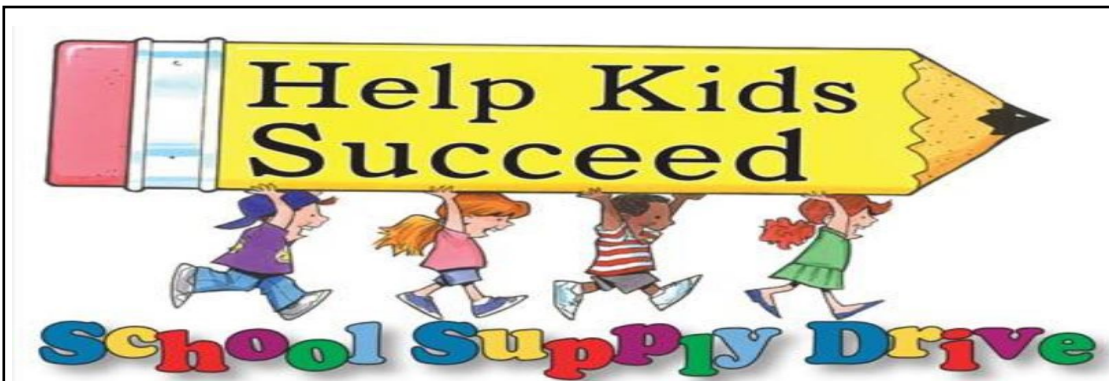
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and learned about The “Lost” Parables (Luke 15). Finally, they found the Lantern of Hope and heard the story of Mary at the Tomb (John 20:1-18). The kids had a blast making compasses, Sand Art, bracelets, and their favorite item to make was a toss up between the volcano and Lighthouses.

“I will look from My dwelling place quietly like dazzling heat in the sunshine, like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest”.

Isaiah 18:4





In 1967, Grace Ward Harby had a vision to provide inexpensive, serviceable clothing to school-age children and their families. What started as a ministry in her car evolved into what is now the Clothing Outlet, located on our church campus. As it was back in Mrs. Harby's day, the proceeds from the Clothing Outlet still provide school supplies for children/families in need.

Now, 55 years later, this ministry is still going strong, and we have joined with the Alvin Independent School District, Alvin Area Retired School Persons and the YMCA, to better serve our community. August 1st - 4th, we will be sorting and stuffing supplies into backpacks at the old CTE building in Manvel. This year, will be similar to last year, with a drive through pick up. The backpacks will be distributed to qualifying students on August 9th.

What a joy and privilege to continue this vital ministry to our community.

Blessings and peace.

****Thank you to everyone who has provided school supplies and financial support to purchase additional supplies. We definitely could not do it without your support!!****

Want to help with packing or distribution? Please register here



[Operation Backpack Volunteer Sign Up](#)



“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”

Galatians 5:13



Ongoing Prayers : Kristy Myers, Mona Taylor, Stevie Pearce, Keith Davis, Larry Phillips, Irene Peltier, Brian Wiltshire, the Williams Family, Jeanine Richey, Margie Hill, Brandi Bowers, Janet & Stanley Fontenot, Melissa Pounds, Charles Pounds, Michelle Petersen, and Barbara Whitfield.

Immediate Concerns : The Teachers, Administrators, Support Staff & Students returning to school this month.

Please call the church office with updates.

**Elder of the Month - Janet DeLeon
Refreshments - Education**

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 Adam Wells | 2 Bill Pannell |
| 3 Caitlin Melchor | 3 Gabby Dantzman |
| 8 Brendon BuPane | 8 Violette BuPane |
| 9 Alice Sloan | 11 Lexi Hunt |
| 12 Kathy Miller | 12 Thomas Lewis |
| 14 Michael DeLeon | 22 Emma Gondesen |
| 23 Herb Myers | 24 Brandy Carlson |
| 26 Wayne Williams | |



Acolytes

At the request of the Session, acolyte training was held on Sunday, July 31, during Sunday school. On that date six acolytes were trained.

Following procedural training, future acolytes learned the Biblical meaning of lighting candles prior to worship focusing on the scripture, John 8:12: " Jesus said, I am the light of the world." The presence of the lighted candles on our communion table reminds us of Jesus' coming into our world and into our lives. Two candles are used on the altar to symbolize Jesus as both a human being and God.

Since ancient times, light and fire have reminded people that God is here with us. When light (fire) is brought into the worship service and the candles are lit, acolytes remind worshippers that God is with us at home, at school, and at work, as well as in the worship service. While lighted candles are a reminder that Jesus Christ is the light of the world, they also remind us to take His light in our hearts after worship to share with others.

We are thankful that our new acolytes are willing to share their gifts with our congregation!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Beginning in September we will have a confirmation class for anyone interested in attending. Confirmation is a study of the requirements set down by the PCUSA for church membership. The classes are usually for young people who are interested in joining the church. The class is usually made up of persons who have been baptized as an infant or young person and are looking to confirm the promises made for them by their parents. Baptism though, isn't a requirement for attending the class. One does not have to join church after attending the class as well. Adults are also welcome to attend. Classes will be at 9:45 Sunday morning and will meet with the pastor for 4-6 weeks. A day will be set for those who desire to join the church. White robes are worn and red stoles are presented to each person. Those who haven't been baptized will be baptized on that Sunday.

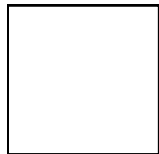
Please call the church office or see C.O. if interested. These classes are usually a lot of fun.

September Sermon Series

Pastor C.O. will be presenting a sermon series in September. The series, titled "Why Jesus Never Had Ulcers", may cause you to ponder things you've not previously considered. You won't want to miss worship in September.

Progress on the Video /Sound System

Thank you to Buddy Ruskey, Scott Gondesens, Randy Phipps and Adrienne Thomas!! They are working together to get the new video/sound system installed. This new equipment will improve the sound in the sanctuary and the streaming of the worship services.



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Alvin, TX 77511*



Address Service Requested

Please notify the church office
of any change of address or
telephone number.



*"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."*

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