

First Presbyterian Church of Alvin



Press Bytes

Life Together

Goodbye:

When I was 22 years old – I took the news of our pastor leaving very hard. Reverend Jack Bennett was a great man, preached good sermons, and supported the members of First Presbyterian Church in Galveston in a myriad of ways. He seemed to know exactly what to say or do in any situation. So when I heard Jack was leaving, I was shocked and disappointed – having never heard before of this curious practice the church had of losing pastors. I’ve always tried to pattern myself after Jack as a pastor – but I don’t think I’ll ever quite get there.

Since the announcement of my move – I’ve been overwhelmed by your show of love and support and expressions of appreciation. You’ve shared memories of times together, often intimate moments, and thanked me for my service. It has been a humbling and gratifying experience to think back with you over the past 7 plus years.

But time moves on. What I didn’t understand as a young man, I know now: nothing lasts forever. Church members come and go – pastors come and go. We’d often like to crystalize moments and situations – but the world doesn’t work that way. So now it is time to say goodbye.

FPC Alvin is a unique church – a church that has a spirit of love, grace, and service. Lives (including mine) have been changed through the mission and ministry of this church.

As I said in my final sermon on January 13, *“goodbye”* is a contraction of *“God-be-with-you.”* As I said goodbye to all of you – please know that I was using that word in this sense, may God be with you. God will be with all of you in the months and years to come, and I take comfort in that fact.

As I leave, I’m also comforted to know that the Rev. Dr. C.O. Magee will begin serving here as a stated supply beginning February 1. A stated supply minister is simply a part-time minister who preaches every Sunday. He was my family’s pastor in La Marque, and served the Phipps at Tiki Island. C.O. is a good man and an exceptional preacher, and his presence will allow this church to take time and see where God is leading.

As I say *“God-be-with-you”* – I leave you all with this Benediction: *“People of God, you called me to serve in this place, and now God has seen fit to lead me to another stage in my life and service. I praise God for the years which we have shared together. I have known your love and your patience. You have ministered to me as I have ministered to you. You have been my teacher as I have been yours. I thank you for the love, the kindness, and the support shown to me and my family during my ministry among you. Hand in hand we have walked in the light of Christ, and we have grown together in the Gospel. Our lives have been intertwined by the Holy Spirit. I ask forgiveness for the ways I have sinned against you, and I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve you.”*

Peace out,

Craig

February Issue

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Insert

February Calendar

C.O. Magee Bio

Official Secretary

Office Hours

Mon-Thur

8:30am-4:30pm

Fri

9am-12pm

FAIRY GOD MOTHERS

The Fairy God Mothers have been busy making a beautiful quilt for Pastor Craig and Cathy King. They presented the quilt to the Kings during fellowship, Sunday, January 13th.

Please feel free to join the FGM's on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10am in the mission room.



Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

Proverbs 3:3-4

Welcome our new member

Patricia Costanzo



P. Y. E.

CONCLAVES 2019

The youth will attend Conclaves at Camp Cho-Yeh February 23 – 25. A **HUGE** Thank You goes out to the congregation for helping fund the kids to attend.

Each year at Conclaves all the youth and their church families participate in a Mission Project.

THIS SHOULD NEVER BE A CHILD'S SUITCASE.



The Mission project will be Comfort Cases, that consists of a small backpack or duffle bag with the

purpose of providing comfort for youth as they enter the foster care system. The

Installation of Elders Class of 2021

Jason Elkins
Helen Escobedo
Wanda Cunningham



God is not unjust, he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

Hebrews 6:10

Relay for Life team - Angels in the Outfield



want to thank the congregation for allowing them to use the fellowship hall as well as the support they received in January. They look forward to coming back at the end of April for their next event.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

God does not demand we be **SUCCESSFUL**, God demands we be **FAITHFUL!**



Mother Theresa speaking a great truth of perspective for life.

Do
Everything
In
Love.

1 Corinthians 16:14

Special Thanks

Members of the Choir from Grace Episcopal Church joined us for service January 13th.



CLOTHING OUTLET

Most of you know that The Clothing Outlet is the main source of funds for the School Supply Ministry. It is wonderful that due to hard working volunteers the Clothing Outlet continues to progress at a fast pace. We will be teaming up with staff from Alvin High School to provide low-cost formal wear for students to attend Prom or the Military Ball. We are currently in need of formal wear (ie: dresses, tuxedos, suits, shoes, jewelry, and hair accessories). Our volunteers are very committed to helping others. Although we remain steadfast in our mission to carry out the work of Grace Ward Harby and others, we welcome the opportunity to expand this ministry to our community. However, we will need your help. If you have any time to share with us, please contact Sheila Follmar and she will give you a time that is convenient .



Thank You!



Brain Camp

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 9 to 11 am

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
110 E. South St., Alvin

Brain Camp Version IV introduces the results of more than two dozen recent clinical trials and studies in a format that's user-friendly and fun.

Materials fee \$25 waived for returning students continuing their lifelong learning to optimize brain health

Call Education Coordinator, Erika Longoria for information or to register
(979) 235-9195

P.Y.E. Cont.

backpacks are full of essentials for the first few days in a new place as well as

comfort items to help ease a scary transition. Items needed to make cases are:

- Large backpack and duffle bag
- Pajamas
- Toothpaste (travel size)
- Lotion (travel size)
- Stuffed animals
- Deodorant
- Fleece (to make blankets)
- Shampoo and Conditioner (Travel size)
- Soap or Body Wash
- Journal and pens

You may give your donations to any youth member or there will be a box in the Narthex for donations to be placed in.

Food insecurity is a frightening fact of life for many in our community. On any given day, 66,000 people in southeast Texas experience the pain of hunger: 5,000 of which are children. Making the community food bank essential for so many in our community.

What are common characteristics of food insecurity?

- Limiting the amount of money spent on food - buying less
- Eating less food because of low money
- Inability to participate in a Food Assistance Program
- Using coping mechanisms when food is scarce: e.g., buying cheaper, lower nutritional quality food
- Two-thirds of food insecure households have an adult with a full-time job



This year the youth will be participating in the SouperBowl of Caring!

On Sunday, February 3rd before worship in front of the Sanctuary the youth will be receiving canned goods for the SouperBowl of

Caring. The canned goods will be donated to our local Alvin Food Pantry. If you would like to make a monetary donation please note Souper Bowl on your check or envelope and place it in the offering during worship.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**JANUARY 2019**

The Stated Session meeting was held on Monday, January 21, 2019. There were eight members present. Welcome to Jason Elkins for his new seat on Session!

Treasurer's Report: Giving is down, as well as the Payte Investment Fund, due to the market fluctuations of the past few months. It is expected that this will rise once again when the Market is more stable. She reported that it is not "gloom and doom" but informed us that these are only two of the reasons why we cannot afford a full-time minister. Expenditures and income were reviewed for any changes.

Session heard reports from the various church officers and committees. The Clerk shared that she had received several communications from the Presbytery related to the dissolution of the relationship between Rev. King and AFPC. Of particular importance is the issue of our former pastor being asked to perform church sacraments such as funerals and weddings. For this to happen, the person requesting this must communicate the request through the Moderator, who is now Rev. C.O. Magee.

Pastoral concerns include the health issues of several of our congregation. Pastor King also thanked all for his last Sunday of preaching, on January 13th. He had intended for the service to be "business as usual" and thanked all for respecting his wishes.

Brandi Bowers, Chair of Congregational Life, reported that there will be a Pot Luck on Super Bowl Sunday during fellowship. It will be the first Sunday for our Stated Supply Pastor, C.O. Magee to preach, so let's impress him and Brenda Magee with our best cooking and bless them with our presence. Brandi also reported that the Youth have sold about 50 cookbooks so far; their goal is 100.

The Worship Committee has met and is working on the Lenten Soup and Devotional schedule. AFPC will have three Wednesdays this year, 3/13, 3/20, and 3/27. More details will be coming.

Janet DeLeon Chair of Congregational Care reported that there were 117 contacts made, with four people receiving in-home communion.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Peace and Blessings,

Martha Phipps

Elder of the Month - David Gonzales

Refreshments for February - Congregational Life

Note to Congregation: Please remember that the Committee is only responsible for coordinating the refreshments. Please consider helping our committees in supplying refreshments for our after church fellowship. Its an easy and great way to be involved. Thank You, Your Session

CHURCH LEADERSHIP**Class of 2019**

Brandi Bowers

Sheila Follmar

Cathy King

Class of 2020

Janet DeLeon

David Gonzales

Randy Phipps

Trustees

Lucile Beasley

Herb Myers

Class of 2021

Helen Escobedo

Wanda Cunningham

Jason Elkins

Barbara Whitfield

Moderator - Rev. Dr. C. O. McGee**Treasurer - Cindy Waggoner****Giving Coordinator - Barbara Whitfield****Organist / Pianist - Chris Lo****Clerk of Session - Martha Phipps****Asst. Treasurer - Mary Aparicio****Music Director - Scott Gondesén****Secretary - Mandi Odom**

Meals On Wheels - Barbara Whitfield · Gathering Place - Janet DeLeon · 4 G's - Kathryn Wilkerson
 School Supplies - Martha Phipps · Youth Sponsor - Brandi Bowers · Relay for Life - Jill Wheatley
 Fairy God Mothers—Cindy Waggoner · Scrapbooking—Marisa Whitfield
 Clothing Outlet Coordinator - Sheila Follmar / Lucile Beasley · Worship - Cindy Waggoner
 Missions / Outreach - Cathy King · Education - Barbara Bennett · Buildings & Grounds - David Gonzales



CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

Ongoing Prayers Julie Thompson, Mary Leah Miller, Lewis & Edith Rockwell, Jeanine Richey, D. J. McClendon, Kay Tucker, Oliver Cochran, Evelyn Monk, Bill Pannell, Freddie Keene, Ruth Anderson, Daniel Vaughn, Louisa Vera, Jimmy Abney, Danny Arena, Jean Barrow, Lacey

Famil, Lee Syrett, Danielle Kline, Estelle Blackwell, Terri Bell, Barrett Blackwell, Janet Brown, Cathy Carvin, Dana Shackelford Evans, Cathy Gross, Charles Harrison, Chris Henry, Gayle Cross, Diane Howard, Shelly Jenkins, Ima Jane King, Dave Krauskepf, Bobby Loveless, Paige LeJune, Margie Martin, Traci Owens, Lupe Rodriguez, Jason Poole, Joan and Joe Rossano, Elsie Smith, Clyde Scott, Theresa Stegman, Winona Temple, Karen Van Horne, Kathy Veigt, Barry Ward, Stephanie Wilson, John White, Heidi Young, Dave Powledge, Melodie Chandler, Nancy Williams, Bill Von Restorff, John Shaw, Johnny Martin, Brandy Brooks, Henrietta Meyer, The Overshown Families, Lisa Freitag and Kara Blakemore.

Immediate Concerns : Kaye McDonald, Gladys McKissick, J.D. Stephens, Sharon Roberts, Travis Tidwell, Bill Howell, Jim Hilton, and Gary Miloradovich.

Please call the church office with updates.



February BIRTHDAYS

1	Cathy King	16	Audrey Roles
1	Kathryn Wilkerson	19	Rachel Grimmett
1	Wade Vance	20	Paul Sloan
4	Allison Roles	22	Cindy Waggoner
7	Marsha Watkins	23	Haley Stevens
8	Gracie Pannell	25	Andrew Hunt
10	Alice Goyen	25	Nina Froberg
12	Arian Hunt	26	Jason Roles

Congregational Life is having a Pre-Superbowl Party.

Sunday, February 3rd during Fellowship. Please bring your favorite Superbowl must-have snacks to share with the congregation.



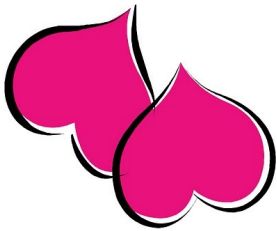
email - fpcalvin@fpcalvin.org

281-585-3406 www.fpcalvin.org

302 South Johnson Street, Alvin, Texas 77511

First Presbyterian Church of Alvin

"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
302 South Johnson Street
Alvin, TX 77511

