



Press Bytes

To the Saints at First Presbyterian:

Greetings: We are off and running into the new year. Looks like covid is still going to wreak havoc in our lives. Somehow we are going to have to adjust to a drastic change in lifestyles.

Its good to see folks slowly coming back to church. Each of us must decide what we want to do concerning safety. Vaccinations, masks and distancing still seem to be the best course of action but doesn't prevent us completely from contracting the virus. It just makes symptoms a lot less serious for most of us. Here I thought retirement would be so much fun!

As we move through what use to be called, "Christmas Tide", that period in the Christian year from Christmas day to Lent, we celebrate Jesus' birth and his growing up. The question always before Jesus was, "what kind of messiah are you?" People were always trying to define who he should be. People do that to us too. Trying to make us or shape us into who they want us to be or who we should be. That attitude can cause a variety of problems for all involved. It caused a lot of concern and maybe grief for Jesus. Let's look at some of the thoughts people had and may even still have those thoughts. Rev. Davis Mason had some ideas in a sermon he printed in the paper. I added some things and kinda editorialized on his thoughts.

He was a miracle worker and healer. Jesus did many things of healing and performing miracles.

He was a great preacher and teacher. A Rabbi. He had secret knowledge and was the suffering servant; a prayerful guide who taught real spirituality.

A revolutionary. Unaccepted rebel leader. Rallied against the present-day religion and challenged ancient beliefs and traditions. A great liberator of oppressed people. This also gave him the reputation for being a heretic and trouble maker.

A Great Moral example. A friend, forgiver, gave us a basis for making moral decisions. Pointed out consequences of our decisions and actions.

He was the Savior. To many he was the Son of God sent to save us from sin and separation from God.

A Prophet, Priest and King. This connected him to the Old Testament and fulfillment of the prophet's prophecy.

A Celebrity. Spoke to thousands at a time. Lots of charisma. Today he could have filled the largest stadium.

Glutton and Drunkard. Called this but little evidence in Bible to justify this title. Couldn't be very flattering.

We have always wanted to create God in our own image. We have wanted the

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C. O. Magee (on Cover)

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**February 24,
2022**

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

Conclaves 2022
February 18th-20th
6pm Friday - 12pm Sunday
Camp Cho-Yeh, 2539 US-59, Livingston, TX 77351

Theme - REBUILDING
Isaiah 61:4 “...and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.”

- Mission project supplies:**
- **Band-aids**
 - **Gauze**
 - **Antibacterial wipes**
 - **Lip balm**
 - **Neosporin**
 - **Masks**
 - **Individually packaged snacks**



****Mission project supplies are being used to create first aid kits for those experiencing homelessness.****

Cont. from cover

kind of God we could somewhat control and know what to expect. Thankfully, Jesus wasn't going to be that kind of person in his lifetime. Constantly being someone who defied all stereotypes of being labeled. If we could make Jesus our own then we would have exclusive possession and use Jesus for our own good especially when we needed him. There are times we need Jesus to be different things when we face certain things in life: forgiveness at times, healing at times, direction at times, purpose in life at times, help, instruction, correction, security and love. Jesus can be all these things to us at the right time, but it is always his call as he sees need.

One of the toughest things about our faith is to accept Jesus for who he is. Let God be God. Let God define us and not vice-versa. Be open for God to touch our lives with grace and love with a divine purpose for our lives. He has a plan for each of us. I have learned this lesson over the many years of ministry. God's ways are so much better than my own.

When Moses spoke to God in the burning bush, he asked who are you in so many words. God said, not, "I am who I am", but "I will be who I will be" (correct translation of the Hebrew). God will be who God will be! Thanks be to God!

Peace,
 C.O.

Installation of Elders Class of 2024

Buddy Ruskey
Janet DeLeon



Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Do
Everything
In
Love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



Sunday, February 27th

After Worship

Prizes for the following categories:

- Spiciest
- Mildest
- Beaniest
- Meatiest
- Overall

****Please deliver to the Fellowship Hall prior to Worship service.**



The Session has reinstated the Stewardship committee and created the Audio/Video committee. Please let Mandi or any of the Session members know if you are interested in joining either committee.

Making Joyful Music

Have you noticed a change to the music on Sunday mornings? Nancy Melenric is back at the organ and piano sharing her love of music and the flow of Presbyterian worship. In addition to Nancy on the keys and pedals, we can expect other instruments in worship, as well.

Do you play an instrument and would you be willing to play that instrument as we praise God?

Can you read music? The worship team is looking for everyone interested in playing the handbells, which are played much like handbells.

If you're interested in joining in the musical aspect of worship in any way, let anyone from the worship team know.



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 6th 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/Manvel Community 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.

Lent and Easter Services

Mark your calendars and Don't miss a service!

Ash Wednesday is March 2. There will be an evening service with ashes.

Lent Soup and Devotions will be ecumenical with Grace Episcopal Church and the Disciples of Christ Christian Church. Other churches may also be joining in these services. The dates are March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6. Be thinking about which soup recipe you'll be making.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, April 10, with a traditional worship service. Plans for the Maundy Thursday service on Apr. 14 include a service beginning around the tables in the Fellowship Hall.

We will celebrate our risen Lord on Easter Sunday, Apr. 17.

Soroptimist International of Alvin
Spirit & Apron Raffle



\$5 Per Raffle Ticket

Over \$500 value on each item!

Tickets can be purchased from any Soroptimist member or at: bit.ly/MenWhoCook-2022
We will be drawing at the March 5 at the Men Who Cook event. Need not to be present to win.



All monies raised support women & children.

Soroptimist International of Alvin has it's annual fundraiser coming up. Please see Mandi if you'd like more information about Soroptimist International, the Men Who Cook fundraiser, or the spirit & apron raffle.



Saturday, March 5, 2022
6 p.m. - Knights of Columbus Hall

Sponsorships

-  **Head Chef Sponsors \$1,500**
Reserved Table of 10 - Table Hostess -Wine on the table - Logo on all Advertising
-  **Sous Chef Sponsors \$750**
Reserved Table of 8- Wine on Table - Logo on all Advertising
-  **Prep Cook Sponsors \$300**
2 tickets- Logo on all Advertising
- Individual Tickets \$60**

For sponsorships and tickets please visit
bit.ly/MenWhoCook-2022 or
call 832-794-9811
All proceeds benefit scholarships and local non-profit organizations.



Elder of the Month - Marisa Whitfield

Refreshments for February - Worship Team

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

Happy 100th Birthday, Wade!

On February 6, we will celebrate Wade's 100th birthday. He has had a very active and involved life. He is a military veteran of the Navy and Army Air Force having served in World War II. He worked for NASA at its inception in the 60's. He is an elder and dedicated church member of First Presbyterian. He served as a Trustee, chaired the Building & Grounds Committee and helped renovate the church office. His hobbies included woodworking and making clocks. He exercised frequently in his 80's and 90's and exercises at home even today.

Happy 94th Birthday, Kathryn!

We will also be celebrating Kathryn's birthday on February 6th after worship. She is a funny woman who will keep you laughing from Alvin to Houston. Prior to the pandemic, Kathryn ran the 4G's group each month planning games or outings. She enjoys playing Bridge with her friends and is an excellent hugger. In the past, Kathryn helped with Meals on Wheels, prepared communion, and always dropped a dish off even if she wasn't able to attend the event. She met her good friends Frank & JoAnne Mitton while living in England & Norway years ago.

Let's celebrate

Join us Sunday, February 6th after worship to celebrate Wade & Kathryn's Birthday with a meal, cake and good company!!



CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

Ongoing Prayers Jill Wheatley, Evelyn Robison, Patty Costanzo, Kade McGhee, Bill Moffett, Kathy Mayfield, Anna Neff, Christy Alexander, Kristy Myers, Cathy Boyle, Mendy

Davis, Abbie Farris, Mary Loreda, Nolen Garrett, Bobbie Farris, Mary Loreda, Nolen Garrett, Chuck Boyd, Billy Steckert, Jr., Diana Jones, Dorothy Steckert, Aaron Lieber, Mike Fralick, the LeBouef Family, Judy Benson-Boren, and Henrietta Meyer.

Immediate Concerns : The family of Brian Sweeny, and the family of Michael Cox.

Please call the church office with updates.



- 1 Kathryn Wilkerson
- 1 Wade Vance
- 4 Allison Roles
- 7 Marsha Watkins
- 8 Grace Pannell
- 10 Alice Goyen
- 12 Arian Hunt
- 16 Audrey Roles
- 19 Rachel Grimmatt
- 22 Cindy Waggoner
- 23 Haley Stevens
- 25 Andrew Hunt
- 25 Nina Froberg
- 26 Jason Roles

EASTER LILIES

As we've done the past three years, you will be able to purchase Easter Lilies to decorate our sanctuary Easter Sunday morning to celebrate the resurrection of our Savior Jesus. You can honor and/or remember a loved one by completing a form and placing it in an envelope, along with your donation in the form of a check or cash. The envelope containing your form and donation may be placed in the collection plate or taken to the church office during office hours. A form is included in this newsletter for your convenience. Additional forms can be found in the Narthex. The forms need to be received by Sunday, April 3rd. You will be able to pick up your plant(s) after worship Easter Sunday, April 17th, or Monday, April 18th. If you prefer, you may donate your lily to one of our home bound members with a note that says: "Happy Easter!" The proceeds from the lily sales will go to the Youth Fund to help expand the Youth Program.



To the Presbyterian Church,

Many thanks for the great box of cookies delivered by Ruth Frerking. We are very fortunate to be part of a church family that is so thoughtful and caring. Best wishes for the New Year, may we all have peace and joy.

Blessings,

The Vances

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the lovely tin of cookies. I certainly enjoyed the visit with Barbara Whitfield! Thank you so much for thinking of me. Happy New Year! You made my Christmas much brighter. May God Bless you and the church!

Kathryn Wilkerson

To fellow Presbyterian Church members,

Thank you for the festive container of cookies, candy, nuts, and baked goods. They were all delicious and greatly appreciated. They were a nice surprise for the holidays.

Thank you,

Nora Richardson

Betty Montgomery called to say Thank You for the Christmas cookies & fruit. She loves each and every member and prays for us all the time. She enjoyed the visit she got as well.

Marietta Benson also called and stopped by to say Thank You for the special Christmas treat and for remembering her all the way out in the boonies. It truly meant a lot!



A little thought
And a little kindness
Are often worth more
Than a great deal of money.

Thank You

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Pancake
Breakfast



Saturday, February 26th

10am - 1pm

First Christian Church - 1212 S. Durant St

To Go plates available

Free Will Donation

Funds raised will be used to replace the air conditioning unit in their sanctuary.

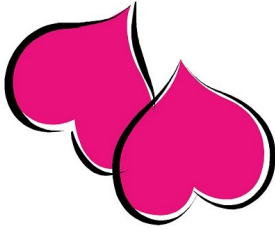
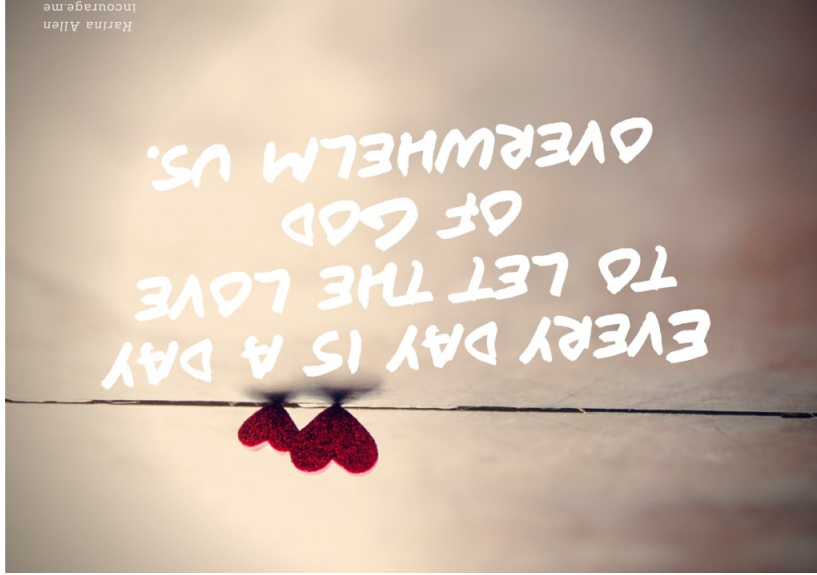
email - fpcalvin@fpcalvin.org

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."



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

Address Service Requested

First Presbyterian Church
 302 South Johnson Street
 Alvin, TX 77511

