

First Presbyterian Church of Alvin



Press Bytes

To the Saints at First Presbyterian:

Greetings. We are moving into the Season of Lent. Lent is the Latin word for "lengthening." The days are getting longer. We always participate in this season for it is a very important season. It is about Jesus' passion for us. It is about his life, suffering, death and resurrection. We will celebrate these events with different worship services as we always do but this year some will be somewhat different.

Beginning with Ash Wednesday, on Feb 18, we will have an Ash Wednesday service the first Sunday of Lent. There will be no Ash Wednesday service on Ash Wednesday Feb. 14. We changed this because so many of you want to attend but just don't get out at night. So, the first Sunday will be an Ash Wednesday service for everyone.

We will again have soup and devotionals on Wednesday night at 6:00 o'clock. The devotionals will be held in the fellowship hall after supper. We won't go into the sanctuary. That saves us from having to turn on lights and either air or heat. We will invite Grace Episcopal and First Christian to join us. We will look at some of the characters who were part of the passion story.

Palm Sunday will be the choir cantata in place of the sermon. We will have palm branches for everyone as always.

On Maundy Thursday in Holy Week, we will meet in the fellowship hall as we have done before and invite you to bring either bread, fruit, and/or cheese and wine if you prefer. The service will include the upper room last supper as we eat together and a Good Friday type Tenebrae. We will slowly extinguish the candles and end in darkness.

For Easter, we will have again the blooming cross and invite all to bring flowers to place upon the cross. We will convert the Chrismon tree to a Lenten cross for the sanctuary during the Lenten season. The Chrismon tree was the Christmas tree in the sanctuary.

This is a holy season remembering the love God has for us, to be one of us, live as we live, feel what we feel and experience life as we experience it. His death was in our place for we were the ones who should be on the cross for our sinfulness and rejection of God.

I hope you can make the services this Lenten season and I hope they will be meaningful for you.

Peace,

C.O.

February Issue

Message from the Pastor
C. O. Magee (on Cover)

Conclaves **2**

Elder Installation
Chili Cook Off **3**

Souper Bowl of Caring
First Sunday **4**

Elder Committee Liasons
Clothing Outlet Hours
Elder of the Month
Gathering Place News **5**

Prayer Concerns
February Birthdays
Easter Lilies **6**

Blood Drive
Lent & Easter **7**

Insert

February Calendar

Easter Lily Order Form



**February 24,
2024**

Conclaves 2024

February 23rd-25th

6pm Friday - 12pm Sunday

Trinity Pines, 4341 FM356

Trinity, TX 75862



Theme - "Who Am I?"

This year the students will be decorating affirmation mirrors.

Donations Needed:

- Pom-poms
- Sequins
- Paint Markers
- Letter Stickers
- Cute paper
- Mod Podge

The Mission team from the Presbyterian Youth Connection Council will be donating completed mirrors to people living in retirement homes in the Houston area.



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

Installation of Elders
Class of 2026



Rhonda Ashcraft

Marisa Pearce

Robert Escobedo

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



Sunday, February 4th

During Fellowship

Prizes for the following categories:

Chili

Soup

Stew

Bread

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

Do
Everything
In
Love.

1 Corinthians 16:14

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 11th before worship in front of the Sanctuary the youth will be collecting 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.

Here's a friendly reminder that on the 1st Sunday of each month, we are collecting non-perishable food items for the Alvin/Manvel Community Food Pantry. The holidays may be over, but for the folks who can't afford to buy food, the need is still there.

Items needed include:

- **Peanut butter**
- **Rice**
- **Tuna**
- **Beans**
- **Soups**
- **Canned Vegetables**

Thank you for your continued support of this much needed help to our community.

The Mission & Outreach Team

Elder Committee Liasons

- Education - Audrie Gondesen*
- Worship - Rhonda Ashcraft*
- Mission & Outreach - Janet DeLeon*
- Stewardship - Robert Escobedo*
- Buildings & Grounds - Buddy Ruskey*
- Personnel - Marisa Pearce*
- Congregational Care - Janet DeLeon*
- Congregational Life - Jason Elkins*



Vouchers are available for those with needs such as job changes, homelessness, fire at home or relocation.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED ANYTIME

Hours of Operation

Mornings:

Wednesday 9:00am - Noon

Saturday 9:00am - Noon

Evenings:

Monday 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Wednesday 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Elder of the Month -

Refreshments for February -

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

It is amazing to realize that our very own Gathering Place at First Presbyterian Church of Alvin will be celebrating it's 10th anniversary this month!! The volunteers and I are so blessed to be involved in such a caring and meaningful ministry. Our church, along with Alvin Lutheran, First Christian, Grace Episcopal, St. John's the Baptist Catholic Church, and Heights Baptist Church continue to provide respite care each Wednesday to spouses and caregivers of folks with Dementia, Alzheimer's, and other memory issues. Thank you for being such a supportive presence in our endeavor to assist our participants who not only live in Alvin, but also Pearland, Iowa Colony, and Liverpool.



**Celebrating
10 Years
of Service**

**Together
2014 ~ 2024**



The Volunteers of FPC Alvin
Gathering Place

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM



Ongoing Prayers Kristy Myers, the Chaffin Family, Patty Costanzo, Stephanie Elkins, Wanda Cunningham & family, Faye Steckert, Randy Ashley, Dennis Ashley, Howard Pittman, Geri Ebert, and Cayden Gamble.

Immediate Concerns : The Family of Clem Garza, the Family of Kathy Hirsch, the Family of Aydin Torres and the Family of Calvin Carrasco.

Please call the church office with updates.



- 1 Kathryn Wilkerson
- 4 Allison Roles
- 8 Grace Pannell
- 10 Alice Goyen
- 12 Arian Hunt
- 16 Audrey Roles
- 19 Rachel Grimmett
- 22 Cindy Waggoner
- 25 Andrew Hunt
- 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, March 17th. You will be able to pick up your plant(s) after worship Easter Sunday, March 31st, or Monday, April 1st. 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 Ron McClendon Camp Fund.



Save a Life!!

Every Drop Helps!!

Please call Mandi @

2815853406

to secure your time slot.

Our Goal this year:

36 pints!

BLOOD DRIVE

First Presbyterian Church
of Alvin

**Sunday, February 18
9:30 am - 2:00 pm
Fellowship Hall**

Free Rodeo themed t-shirt for all
successful donors!

Scan Below To Sign Up:



Appointments preferred. Walk-ins welcome.



Keeghan, blood donor



EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.

**Share your
donation story**



@commitforlife | #commitforlife

Lent and Easter Services

Mark your calendars and Don't miss a service!

Ash Wednesday is February 14. There will be no evening service this year. Instead, we will have the Ash service on Sunday, February 18th during worship.

Lent Soup and Devotions will be held in the Fellowship Hall during February and March at 6:00pm. Other churches may also be joining in these services. The dates are February 21st, 28th, March 6th, 13th and 20th. Be thinking about which soup recipe you'll be making. A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, March 24th, with a Choir Cantata. Plans for the Maundy Thursday service on March 28th include a service beginning around the tables in the Fellowship Hall. We will celebrate our risen Lord on Easter Sunday, March 31st.

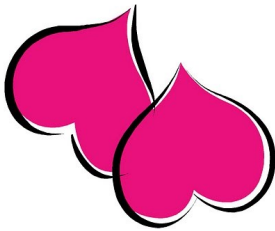
email - fpcalvin@fpcalvin.org

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

