

# First Presbyterian Church of Alvin

## *Press Bytes*



To the Saints at First Presbyterian:

Greetings. This invitation is for all church folks and friends. I hope you will join me on April 1st for good food, good drink, good music (Tom Bennett's band will play) and just plain fun. Island dress is the theme (Hawaiian shirt, shorts if its warm and casual shoes). If you so desire to dress like that. You can park free across from Boardwalk by Swamp Shack at the end of the road and take the boat shuttle across to Aquarium if you don't want to walk from parking lot and what you may be charged to park. There is a parking deck right by the Aquarium as well. Party is upstairs when you enter the restaurant.

I would love to celebrate my 80th with all of you, so I hope you can come. Just RSVP as soon as possible so we can prepare a number for food and drink. No gifts please! Looking forward to having a great time with everyone.

Peace,  
C.O.

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## A Pirate Looks at Eighty

Please join us to celebrate

**CAPTAIN CO MAGEE**

as he turns 80!

April 1, 2023

6:00 - 10:00 pm

Kemah Boardwalk

Aquarium Restaurant

RSVP to Brenda Magee  
at 409-771-4567 (call/text)



### Chili Cook Off Winners!!

**Congratulations to our Chili Cook Off Winners!!**

**Beaniest - Randy Phipps**

**Spiciest - Faye Steckert**

**Mildest - Helen Escobedo**

**Meatiest - Jeff Pearce**

**• Overall - Jeff Pearce**



And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mark 11:22-24



Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 12, 2023. Don't forget to move your clocks ahead one hour.

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Carol "Sissy" Gross
- 13 Laura Dantzman
- 14 Carol Warych
- 24 Cathy Rayburn
- 27 Evan Gondesen
- 30 C.O. Magee



# You shall be called Repairers of the breach

— ISAIAH 58



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

02.22.23 - 04.9.23



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

## Presbyterian Hunger Program approves more than \$1.2 million in grants

The Advisory Committee of the [Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) has approved more than \$1.2 million in grants to address hunger and its root causes, from Florida to Madagascar.

Over the course of multiple days, the Advisory Committee met virtually to discuss and settle on the grants, which will benefit organizations and projects in about 22 countries, including the United States.

“We are so grateful to our elected committee members who faithfully take 2½ days on Zoom to cover (almost) 100 grant proposals,” said the Rev. Rebecca Barnes, coordinator of PHP.

“They’ve all taken the time over

the summer to read the grant proposals assigned to them, and they’ve scored and made comments on them,” she continued, “and then in the committee itself, they give a brief overview to the others who haven’t read the grant. It takes a lot of dedication, time and energy, and we’re thankful for their attentive reading, great questions and passion about the good work of the grantee partners.”

U.S. organizations receiving grants include [BeLoved Asheville](#), which works on food equity and access issues in North Carolina; [Creation Justice Ministries](#), which connects people to resources for environmental justice, education and advocacy; and the [Coalition of Immokalee Workers](#) (CIW), a human rights organization in Florida that has fought corporate giants and others to improve farm labor standards and establish fairer wages.

Commenting on CIW, Ann Elyse Hicks, Advisory Committee member, said, “I really appreciate the work that they’re doing in

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5:7



## Mark Your Calendars for Lent and Holy Week 2023

Lent Soup and Devotions - 6:00 PM

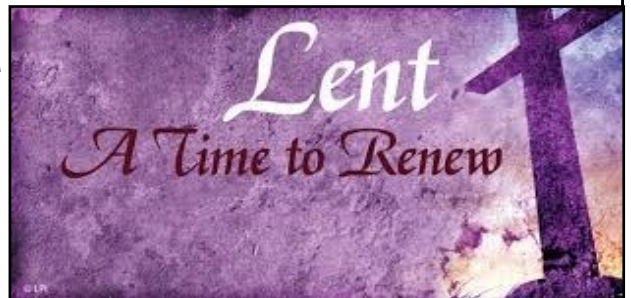
Please see Pg 6 for more information.

Watch for the sign-up sheet for soup, salad, bread and dessert

Palm Sunday - April 2 at 11:00 AM

Maundy Thursday - April 6 at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunday - April 9 at 11:00 AM



**Elder of the Month - Jason Elkins**

**Refreshments for - Worship**

## Gathering Place News

In February, First Presbyterian Church of Alvin celebrated it's ninth (9th) year providing respite for caregivers of dementia patients. The participants enjoy coming each month to have fellowship and fun. Peggy Krampota gave us this beautiful sign to commemorate these last nine years. She had these lovely words to say...

To First Presbyterian Church of Alvin, Church Leaders, Members, and dedicated Gathering Place Volunteers: For you answering God's call nine years ago to follow the vision of Brenda Maust to provide The Gathering Place Interfaith Ministries. Lead by Pastor Craig King and a handful of dedicated members, Alvin's first Gathering Place became a reality here. You have demonstrated beyond any doubt this to be "Where friends become family."



### EASTER LILIES

As we've done the past two 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 26<sup>th</sup>. You will be able to pick up your plant(s) after worship Easter Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, or Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. If you prefer, you may donate your lily to one of our home bound members with a note that says: "Happy Easter!" This year the proceeds from the lily sales will go to the Youth Fund to help our young people with their activities.



### Easter Sunday Celebration

On Easter Sunday, April 9 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!



For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9



## CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM



**Ongoing Prayers** Kristy Myers, Patty Costanzo, Rosa Ashley, Barbara Bennett, Brooklyn Palavicini, Stephanie Meystedt, Carmen Mondragon, Alice Ostemeyer, Irene Peltier, Jill Wheatley, Emma Anderson, Savannah Farris, Faye Steckert, and Niel & Doris Connell.

**Immediate Concerns** : The Family of Cindy Roberts.

*Please call the church office with updates.*

## Lenten Soup & Devotion

This year FPC Alvin will be hosting Soup & Devotions each Wednesday during Lent, beginning March 1st. Cindy Waggoner is the lead on this event, however, each committee has chosen a week to make soup. If you can help by making and bringing a soup, salad, bread or dessert please contact your committee chairperson. We will also need assistance with the setup and cleanup those days. Please get with a committee chairperson (listed below) if you can help.

March 1st - Buildings & Grounds and Congregational Life Committees

Buddy Ruskey, 713-829-4558 & Brandi Bowers, 281-965-1242

March 8th - Education Committee

Barbara Bennett, 281-703-0445

March 15th - Personnel & Congregational Care Committees

Marisa Pearce, 713-416-8406 & Janet DeLeon, 281-795-9932

March 22nd - Worship & Stewardship Committees

Cindy Waggoner, 281-814-9087 & Randy Phipps, 409-739-5908

March 29th - Mission Committee

Janet DeLeon, 281-795-9932



minority farming communities, and I really love that they have their own radio station,” which was helpful in disseminating information during the pandemic.

An ocean away is [Action for Rural Women’s Empowerment](#), which works for women’s rights in Uganda.

In that country, “women are often cheated out of their inheritance and their land by a variety of different organizations and this organization helps women learn how to stand up and claim their land, so they can continue to farm the land and feed their families,” said Eileen Best, Advisory Committee member.

Other grant recipients from abroad include the [Improvement and Development for Communities Center](#) in Palestine; funding will help provide seedlings and foster greenhouse projects. There’s also the [Fruits, Vegetables and Environmental Education Program](#) of the Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar, a country where food insecurity has been impacted by drought and there are concerns about the possibility of climate-induced famine.

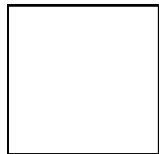
“I think this is a wonderful organization,” Best said of the Madagascar program.

“What I really like about it is that it works through the churches. They plant trees, they feed kids, they work on water problems, and they’re expanding into all of their congregations and the seminaries and encouraging everybody to plant trees.”

The grant projects mesh with the Presbyterian Mission Agency’s [Matthew 25 invitation](#), which seeks to eradicate poverty, dismantle structural racism and build congregational vitality, and reflects PHP’s desire to empower communities and families, care for Creation and fight the vestiges of colonialism.

“The PHP Advisory Committee has long used principles of decolonizing wealth in the decision-making process, inviting and reviewing grant proposals that particularly provide access to food, farming, land, water and sanitation, and training to communities that have experienced structural racism and systemic poverty,” Barnes said. “Our grants also go to Hunger Action Advocates in presbyteries and to Congregation-Based Community Organizing, which helps to revitalize





First Presbyterian Church  
302 South Johnson Street  
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."*

First Presbyterian Church of Alvin

302 South Johnson Street, Alvin, Texas 77511

281-585-3406 www.fpcalvin.org

email - [fpcalvin@fpcalvin.org](mailto:fpcalvin@fpcalvin.org)