

First Presbyterian Church of Alvin

Press Bytes



To the Saints at First Presbyterian:

Greetings. I have had an interesting experience last week. I have had cataract surgery on my left eye. The right eye will follow the 20th of this month. I have been absolutely amazed at how much my vision has improved. I can see better than I have seen in a very long time. Didn't know one could see so clearly. Quite a miracle.

My experience was typical for this type surgery but I wasn't prepared for what all had to take place. No preparation so to speak. 3 different drops in eye 4 times a day. No food or drink the night before it was to take place. No problem.

Then came the preparation that morning for the surgery. A hospital gown, (just for waist up). An IV for anesthesia to relax me, drops in eyes, Papers to sign. I especially like the one for resuscitation if I died during procedure. Asked Brenda if that was alright!! She said sure!! Procedure lasted about 10 minutes. I was on my way back to the recovery room.

The follow-up though is quite extensive. Patch at night. Don't sleep on left side. No lifting over 5 pounds. No bending over. No water in eye. 3 different drops 4 times a day. No exertion. After week, visit to Dr. and all is well. Still do drops but weaning off two of them. Still all the restrictions. One eye great, other not so great. Looking through left lens on glasses which is blurry due to prescription for old lens. Vision is so-so.

What impresses me is what a simple procedure can mean; from poor vision to clear vision. Gives new meaning to the hymn, "Amazing Grace", being blind but now I see!

What's more than that is who my doctor is in her practice. My doc is a woman, a black woman, and a Muslim! Wow. She gave sight to a white, male, Christian. Isn't this what this country is all about? Isn't that what our Christian faith is all about?

With all the hate and prejudice we see and hear plaguing our country and world, it doesn't have to be that way. Hang up the negative and give everyone a chance to be who God created.

I shared this thought with her and she was appreciative.

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♥
Every
journey
begins
with
just
a
single
step

“Behold, I am doing
a new thing; now it
springs forth, do you
not perceive it?
I will make a
way in the wilderness
and rivers in the
desert.”

Isaiah 43:19

Upcoming events in:

September

- 8th Coffee with C.O.
- 11th Congregational Meeting after worship service.
- 22nd Coffee with C.O.
- 25th New Member Luncheon during Fellowship.
Please bring your favorite side dish to accompany brisket.

October

- 2nd World Communion Sunday
- 6th Coffee with C.O.
- 20th Coffee with C.O.
- 30th Pumpkin Carving contest in the Fellowship Hall.
Snacks will be provided.
- 31st Trick or Treat trail at Oak Park 6:30p-8:30p

November

- 3rd Coffee with C.O.
- 17th Coffee with C.O.

2022-2023 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CLASS	TEACHERS	CURRICULUM
Preschool	Rachel Grimmett, Cindy Waggoner	Sermons 4 Kids
2 nd – 5 th Grade	Alice Sloan	Sermons 4 Kids
Junior High	Barbara Bennett	Youth Specialty "Talk Sheets"
Senior High		
Women Wondering Why	Barbara Whitfield (Ruth Frerking)	Philippians: God's guide to Joy - Fisherman Bible Studies
Fellowship Class	Herb Myers (Pat Spiller)	Exodus

YOUR LOVE
NEVER
FAILS
NEVER GIVES UP
NEVER RUNS OUT
ON ME.

A Season of Peace



The prophet Isaiah invites us to imagine God's peace in unlikely places. Trees clap their hands. Joy grows where sorrow once reigned. A world torn by enmity, strife and despair blossoms back to abundant life. Lions lie down with lambs, and nations once at war with each other come together in peace.

Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. We worship together and are fed from Scripture and at Christ's table of peace.

After the feast God has prepared for us, we are sent out carrying the joy rekindled in worship and challenged to take the peace of Christ into our world. No matter how large or small the world we inhabit, the joy of God's presence empowers us to live joyfully within our communities and to bring peace to all around us.

Peace empowered by joy is at a premium in our world. It is difficult to find and even more challenging to maintain. In our polarized world torn by war, famine, and marginalization of the poor and disenfranchised, we are in desperate need of joyful and brave people willing to ask the hard questions and live the difficult solutions that make peace possible. One person, one situation, one step at a time.

As we go out into the world in joy and are led forth in peace, we are called to take decisive and bold action. We take action today by offering a blessing of our own. Through our participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community — 25% of the gifts received will stay right here at the church to build God's house. Twenty-five percent will support regional efforts in our presbytery, and 50% will go the Presbyterian Mission Agency for its ministries of education and partnership with active peacemakers all around the world.

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all Creation. We celebrate that we are all together at the table, in God's house. We celebrate that we are offered what we need to continue the work of building the household of God with active peacemakers here at home and around the world.

God's peace, empowered by God's joy, reminds us that we are connected to each other. We are not alone. You are not alone. Peace begins with each of us. Thanks be to God.



“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.”

John 6:37





Ongoing Prayers : Kristy Myers, Margie Hill, Barbara Whitfield, Frank Delgado, Benny Ray, Betty Montgomery, Mandi Odom, Linda Byrd, Lilly Bower, and David Lemoine

Immediate Concerns : The Family of Johnny Hill.

Please call the church office with updates.

Elder of the Month - Cindy Waggoner

Refreshments - Congregational Life/ Congregational Care

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Aunnie Petersen	1	Emma Andersen
3	Marietta Benson	5	Jill Wheatley
5	Madizen Gondesen	9	Marisa Whitfield
12	Kaye McDonald	17	Gladys McKissick
19	Nancy Williams	19	Paul Froberg
20	Kelsey Del Basso	22	David Pannell
23	Pat Spiller	23	Shelley Andreas
24	Dinah Bupane	25	Sarah Thomas
26	Alfred Froberg	27	Gloria Mercer
28	Mary Aparicio		



CONFIRMATION

Classes begin on Sunday, September 18th during Sunday School.

Please meet in the Junior High class room.

Class is open to anyone who wishes to participate.

Seafarer’s Boxes

- ◆ Our Youth are collecting items to prepare Christmas boxes for Seafarers.
- ◆ Below is a wish list from the Seafarers.
- ◆ Please place items in the container in the Narthex labelled SEAFARERS or place a donation in the offering plate with Seafarers in the memo line.
- ◆ We plan to send 48 boxes as we have in the past.
- ◆ Deadline for items is November 9th.



Please try to pack a shoebox full with new items such as these:

**** Note: Full-sized items are much preferred over small travel size**

Body Wash (sealed)	Band-Aids (fabric)	Socks	Popcorn
Shampoo/Conditioner (sealed)	Lip Balm	Pocket-sized Notebooks	Gum & Hard Candy
Deodorant	Nail Clippers	Cold Weather Caps	Needle & Thread
Toothbrush/Toothpaste	Q-Tips	Pens	2023 Calendar
Dental Floss	Gold Bond Powder	Word Search/Sudoku/Fill-in books	Magnets
Disposable Razors	Gold Bond Cream	USB Flash Drive	Key Chains
Shaving Cream	Baseball Caps (NEW)	Earbuds/Headphones	Playing Cards
Hairbrush/Comb	T-shirts (NEW)	Flashlight w/ batteries	Texas Souvenirs
Lotion	Whistle	Bible/Devotional materials – Daily Bread, Open Door, etc.	Personal note or card

Operation Backpack 2022

This year as we have in year's past, we joined forces with Alvin ISD, the Thelma Ley Anderson YMCA, as well as other churches and organizations in Alvin to conduct Operation Backpack. Over 400 volunteers showed up to sort and organize school supplies and stuff 3000 backpacks that were distributed to students before the first day of school.





Cont. from cover

There are places where she could never be who she is. Only in a country that accepts all people and gives people a chance to be who they can be, would she ever be able to do what she believes is her calling. The folks at UTMB sing her praises. They love her and so do I.

Love will always overcome hate because as I John says, God is love and love is God. Anywhere there is love, God is there.

God's love is in the hands of a beautiful person whose skills bring sight to failing eyes. Wish all people could "see" the beauty in loving those who may be different. Maybe we all could sing, "... was blind but now I see."

Peace,
C.O.

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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

