

First Presbyterian Church

January 19, 2025



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First Presbyterian Church of Conroe Welcomes You!



If you are interested in learning more about our church, or wish to become active in our ministry teams and activities, please visit our website at fpcConroe.org. There you can fill out the visitor form online, or you can do so now by visiting our welcome desk.

We appreciate you joining us for services today.

~ Good Things to Know ~

Today's Worship Leader

Chloe Folts

Today's Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Yvonne Rose in memory of her husband, Bruce, on his birthday.

Last Week's Attendance, January 12

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 30

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 145

Online Worship Attendance - 32

Total Attendance – 207

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

No matter how far we wander from you, O God,
Your steadfast faith seeks us.
No matter how unjust the world seems to us, O God,
Your steadfast righteousness sustains us.
No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God,
Your steadfast presence gives us hope.
No matter how unloved and unworthy we feel, O God,
Your steadfast love endures forever.

*Hymn #276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

*Please stand if able.

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Even when we lack faith, God is always faithful. Even when we find it hard
**to hope, God is always showing us a way. Even when we can't see how
we can be forgiven or loved, God's grace and love fill us in abundance.**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri

The Word

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The Party's Just Getting Started"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to the Word

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn #446

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

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"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by William Marion Runyan and
Thomas Obediah Chisholm
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11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit (Hymn #411) *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

Call to Worship

No matter how far we wander from you, O God,
Your steadfast faith seeks us.
No matter how unjust the world seems to us, O God,
Your steadfast righteousness sustains us.
No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God,
Your steadfast presence gives us hope.
No matter how unloved and unworthy we feel, O God,
Your steadfast love endures forever.

*Hymn #276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)

*Please stand if able.

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful Lord, you are a God of grace and good gifts. Forgive us when we do not recognize your grace or gifts in the busyness of life.

Forgive us when we do not hear or heed your Spirit's calling. Forgive us for being quick to judge and slow to offer compassion. Forgive us when we doubt your grace and whether we are good enough to be loved.

Wash us in your mercy, shower us with your abundance, and move us to new life, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Even when we lack faith, God is always faithful. Even when we find it hard **to hope, God is always showing us a way. Even when we can't see how we can be forgiven or loved, God's grace and love fill us in abundance.**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication and The Lord's Prayer**

*Choral Response

The Word

Children's Time

Anthem

Thanks Be to God

Curry

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #142

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!
2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all!
3. Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!

Scripture Reading

John 2:1-11

Sermon

"The Party's Just Getting Started"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to the Word

Called Congregational Meeting for the Election of Trustee

Nominating Committee Nominee: Fred Kate

Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elders

*Hymn #446

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2. See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Shine, Jesus, Shine

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring us;
Shine on me, Shine on me.

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

*Postlude

This Week's Scripture Readings

Isaiah 62:1-5

¹ **For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I** will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn and her salvation like a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your vindication and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

³ You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the Lord and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her and your land Married, for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

John 2:1-11

² On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus **said to him, "They have no wine."** ⁴ **And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come."** ⁵ **His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."** ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ **Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.** ⁸ **He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it.** ⁹ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and **said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."** ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

Notes



Called Congregational Meeting Today

The session has approved calling a congregational meeting for Sunday, January 19, 2025 during the 11:00 a.m. service. This is for the purpose of the 2024 Officer Nominating Committee presenting a candidate for the position of Trustee for the Class of 2027.

What's For Dinner?

Below is the menu schedule for Wednesday Night Live:

January 22	Sheet pan chicken fajitas
January 29	Shepherd's pie
February 5	Ham, macaroni and cheese
February 12	Chicken spaghetti
February 19	Creamy vegetable soup
February 26	Chicken and dumpling casserole
March 5	Pancake supper

Fellowship Sunday School Class

Fellowship Sunday School class plans to remain together and would welcome new members. Debra Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms plan to take turns teaching. We meet at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays, in Room 204. Over the next **couple of weeks, we'll be looking for ideas for the upcoming studies. Please join us** if you would like to help decide our path. This is a great opportunity to get plugged in and participate in our Sunday morning classes. Please contact Glenn Elms at geatelms80@consolidated.net. Hope to see you soon!

20s, 30s, and 40s Get Together

Friday, January 17, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
511 Blue Threadfin Ct. Willis, TX

Join us for food, games, and fellowship! Childcare will be offered at the church. Contact Katy Saathoff (806) 239-7029 for details.

Directory Changes

The Membership Committee is working on an updated listing/supplement for the recently printed Member Directory. If your information (address, phone #, email, etc.) was incorrect or needs to be updated, please send your information to Steve Scheffler at scscheffler@sbcglobal.net BY NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31.

We will print an updated page or pages that will be made available to all church members.

Need Your Help Closing Doors

With the colder weather setting in, some of the church's exterior doors are not coming to a complete close on their own. We ask that as you enter and exit the building, regardless of which door you use, that you make sure the doors close completely behind you before walking away. This simple safety measure would make sure our campus is secure for those entering after you. Thank you for helping out in this way.

Fourteenth Annual Sew-a-thon

Sew Much Love, the 14th Annual Sew-a-thon, will be held 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 22, 2025, in the Family Life Center of First Presbyterian Church of Conroe. At this all-day event, participants will make children's quilts for Bags of Love. The bags are given to children in Montgomery County who are removed from their homes by Child Protective Services. These bags contain a quilt, stuffed animal, age/gender-appropriate books, games and toiletry items. Don't sew? No problem, we have a special place for you, such as ironing or tying quilts.

A delicious lunch, prepared by Shirley Dukes and her team, will be served at 12:30 to all volunteers.

Registration for this event will begin on February 2nd and end on February 16th.

Youth Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, February 2, 2025

5-7 pm

Family Life Center

BRING THE HEAT!

Think you make the best chili this side of the Pecos??

Then bring your best chili recipe and fixins

and let us decide!

Trophies for 1st-3rd Place

&

People's Choice Best Table

Not a chef but like to eat??

Bring your appetite and plenty of \$\$ for voting ~ Each vote is \$1

Vote early and vote often!

(Padding your friend's voting bucket is highly encouraged!)

For more information visit FPCCConroe.Org

Proceeds support our FPC Youth Missions and Activities

First Presbyterian Church of Conroe

Dena Sowden

Director of Christian Education

Cell 979-255-2096

DSowden@FPCCConroe.Org



WNL Class: Theology 101

Led by Rev. Seth Saathoff

Justification. Sanctification. Incarnation. Atonement. Christology. Pneumatology. Ecclesiology. Eschatology. Hypostatic union.

Whether you're new to the faith or a lifelong Christian, you may have trouble articulating what any of these terms mean. Perhaps you've heard them in church before, maybe you vaguely remember your middle school Sunday School teacher talking about them, or perhaps your sweet Baptist next-door neighbor mentioned one of these words in passing and you still have no idea what they were talking about. Whatever the case, this is the class for you.

During this Wednesday Night Live class, Rev. Saathoff will offer a broad overview of key theological ideas and terms. This class will be taught with the assumption that you are encountering these concepts for the very first time, so it **is perfect for beginners, those who haven't been to church in a while, or those** who could use a refresher course.

Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>January 19</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus. 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Study of Moses, taught by Debra Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms. 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) 9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians 9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's Sunday School (Rm. 203) 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 10:40 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe) 12:30 p.m. Session Meeting 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>January 20</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor) NO STUDY THIS WEEK</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>January 22</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 4:00 p.m. Small Group Study with Gordon Juhl. Studying Timothy Keller's devotional "God's Wisdom for Navigating Life". 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Meal (FLC) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 6:00 p.m. Bible Study with Rev. Saathoff (Rm. 105) 6:00 p.m. "Jesus and Me" for Youth (Youth Commons area) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>January 26</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus. 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Study of Moses, taught by Debra Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms. 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) 9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians 9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's Sunday School (Rm. 203) 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 10:40 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
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Save the Date

January 20	PDS/CISD Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
February 2	Annual Chili Cookoff
February 17	PDS/CISD Holiday (President's Day)
February 22	14 th Annual Sew-a-thon Go Texan Parade in Conroe
February 23	Gospel Music Sunday

Prayer List

Members: Roy Kessler, Judy Weinburger, Ruth Masters, Paula Shepherd, Kyle Walker, Glenna Lang, Joe Clark, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Nedra Murphy, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, David Green, Ron Bailey, Joanne Deaver, Alice Helms, Polly Miller, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Jerry W., Lisa W. (Webb), Celia G. (Hernandez-Garcia), George G., Karl W. (Watt), Ted M. (Rose), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K. (Davis), Anna and Wendy C. (Harshbarger), Brooke J., Danielle S. & kids, Kelly D., Stephanie R. (Riggs-Harpur), Blade B., Judy N. (Dukes), Bonnie L., Michael R. (Dwyer), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Tony N. (Spinks), Aimee L. (Amoneno), Buddy H. (Hayter), Amanda N. (Bosse), Brenda H. (Cannon), Scott P. (Peterson), Linda S., Larry B., Janie M. (Harrison), Lindsey W. (Walker), Lisa J. (Miller), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J., Sydney H. and Martha K. (Juhl), Joe T. Sr and caregivers, Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), Kim H. (Ganek), John R. (Hethershaw), James M., Patty M., Enrique E. (Moore), William W. (Weinburger), Jeffrey H. & Leah H. (Heasley), Katie B. (Pohla), Wendy S. (Adamson), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts), Tucker H. (Hudson)

Ministry Leaders

Administration	Cheryl Nichols (2025, Chair)
Building & Grounds	Bill Harshbarger (2026, Chair)
Care-Prayer	Bob Shepherd (2024, Chair)
Discipleship	Mark Sowden (2024, Chair) Dena Sowden (2024) Alex Williams (2024) Masen Stuntz (2025)
Fellowship	TBD
Membership	Steve Scheffler (2025)
Missions	Bobby Ezell (2024, Chair) Catherine Scheffler (2025)
PDS	TBD
Worship	Randy Blanton and Mike Wisda (2026, Co-chairs)

Staff and Church Information

Staff

Rev. Seth Saathoff, Senior Pastor
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education
Sharon VanSchuyver, Director of Communications
Yvonne Rose, Office Manager
Bonnie Hernandez, Music Director
Rolethial McKelvey, Accompanist
Jackye Cannon and Jane Corbit, Bookkeeping
Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse



First Presbyterian Church

Physical Address:

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Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpcConroe.org

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

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Suite 140, # 349, Conroe, TX 77304