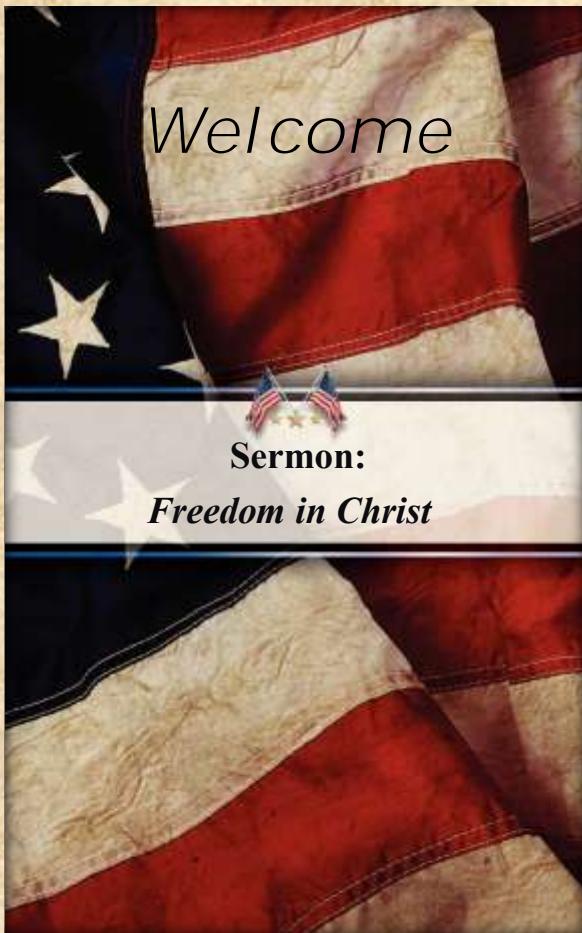


First Presbyterian Church

June 30, 2024



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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.

Special Thanks...

To Today's Worship Leader

Bobby Ezell

To Our Guest Pianist/Organist

Donna Davis

(who is filling in for Rolethial while she is on vacation)

For Today's Flowers

There is no flower dedication today.

Order of Worship

(*Please stand if able.)

Preparation

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Adoration

Introit

Holy Spirit Lord of Love

Bach

Call to Worship

One: From shore to shore -

All: Let God's praise be sung.

One: From mountains high to valleys low --

All: Let the echo of praise resound.

One: From the mouths of children and the prayers of the saints --

All: Let thanksgiving abound.

One: For great is our God

All: And greatly to be praised.

*Hymn #561

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

1. My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside let freedom ring.

2. My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free, Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills like that above.

3. Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake, let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

4. Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty, to Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, great God, our King.

Confession

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Open our eyes, O God.

May the light of your presence pierce the darkness that keeps us captive:
the darkness of grief, and pain,
the darkness of fear and isolation,
the darkness of pride and sin, the darkness of addiction.

In those times when the darkness threatens to overwhelm us,
when we cannot see which way to go,
or what to do,
or a reason to go on,
help us to trust in your power to bring new life and hope.

Walk with us through this journey of life.
Lead us,
teach us,
and set us free to follow the path of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Our sin and brokenness may surround us in the night, but joy comes in the light of morning. God turns weeping into dancing. The powers of sin and **death have been defeated by Jesus Christ. God's authority stands above** all earthly authorities.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and raised to a new creation, in which we live for God and for one another.

*Gloria Patri

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

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

*Choral Response

Anthem

From Sea to Shining Sea

Ward

Proclamation

Scripture Reading

Romans 7: 15-25

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

*Hymn #562

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1. Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm has bound the restless wave,
Who bade the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

2. O Savior, whose almighty word
The wind and waves submissive heard,
Who walked upon the foaming deep,
And calm amid its rage did sleep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

3. O Holy Spirit, who did brood
Upon the chaos wild and rude,
And bade its angry tumult cease,
And gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

4. O Trinity of love and power,
All travelers guard in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea.

Scripture Reading

Galatians 5: 13-25

Sermon

“Freedom in Christ”

Rev. Greg Han

Dedication

Prayers of the People

*Hymn #344

Christ of the Upward Way

1. Christ of the upward way, My guide divine,
Where You have set Your feet May I place mine;
And move and march wherever You have trod,
Keeping face forward up the hill of God.
2. Give me the heart to hear Your voice and will,
That without fault or fear I may fulfill
Your purpose with a glad and holy zest,
Like one who would not bring less than the best.
3. Christ of the upward way, My guide divine,
Where you have set your feet May I place mine;
And when your last call comes serene and clear,
Calm may my answer be, “Lord, I am here.”

*Charge and Benediction

*Closing Response

From Sea to Shining Sea

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimm'd by human tears.
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown they good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!
From sea to shining sea!

*Postlude

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“From Sea to Shining Sea”

by Katherine Lee Bates and Samuel A. Ward

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CCL # 2714264

This Week's Scripture Readings

Romans 7: 15-25

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that, when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched person that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am enslaved to the law of God, but with my flesh I am enslaved to the law of sin.

Galatians 5: 13-25

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**” ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.



Your Weekly Connection

June 30, 2024

Welcome to Our New Music Director, Bonnie Hernandez



Bonnie Hernandez recently served as the Handbell Director and **Children's Choir Director at Windwood Presbyterian Church**, where she served for 16 years. Bonnie has also been a music educator for the last 24 years. She has taught every level from pre-k through high school in public schools.

Bonnie started her choral directing career at Hillside United Methodist Church while in college at University of Minnesota Duluth, where she earned her BA in Music Education with a Choral Emphasis. Bonnie started her teaching career in Alief ISD where she started teaching junior high choir and handbells. In 2005, she moved to Tomball and started teaching in Magnolia. In 2008, she connected with Windwood and began directing the handbells and singing as a section leader, helping lead sectionals, etc. In 2013, Bonnie was **asked to lead the children's choir at Windwood and did so until 2020, but still did musical camps for the kids the last few summers**. While Bonnie worked with Magnolia High School choir, she assisted and conducted major concerts, events, and musicals, including conducting pieces at Carnegie Hall and the National Cathedral.

Bonnie recently took a new position at Lucas Middle School, in Willis, and will be teaching Choir 6-8th grade. Bonnie is married to Rigo and has two children: Garrett Hehli who will be in 7th grade, and Rosalin who will be in 4th grade this **coming school year**. **As a family, they really love to enjoy God's beauty while hiking, swimming, biking, and cooking**. Bonnie started praising God through **music starting in children's choir in her church growing up, and eventually singing with her church's adult choir and singing solos for special occasions**.

"I want to inspire all members at First Presbyterian Conroe to share their talents for His glory, and praise Him through music and through all that we do."

The Seekers Bible Study Class

Randy Blanton invites you to join The Seekers Class on July 7, Room 207, at 9:30 a.m., as the class begins their study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians. We hope you will join us.

New Church Directories Now Available

Church directories will be available before and after services in the Narthex. Please pick one up at your convenience.

SCUBA VBS 2024

July 8, 2024 – July 12, 2024

Don't forget to sign up for Vacation Bible School at FPC. Details can be found in the VBS link below.

The link to sign up is:

<https://vbspro.events/p/fpccconroe24>



For Pastoral Care, Contact Rev. Callie Candee

Greetings from Reverend Callie Candee! I'm so grateful to have been asked to assist with pastoral care duties here at First Presbyterian Church-Conroe. I'll be available for phone and home visits. I'm carrying the church's emergency phone and can be contacted directly at (936) 290-4535.



Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>June 30</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Ancient Christianity-video presentation and class discussion</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Rm. 207) "Micah: Social Injustice and the Covenant Community"</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Fourth of July Ice Cream Social (Narthex)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Monday</i> <i>July 1</i></p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)</p> <p><i>Will not be meeting the month of July</i></p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>July 3</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105)</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Bible Study with Gordon Juhl: <i>Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Life</i> (Rm. 206)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary)</p> <p>7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)</p>
<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>July 7</i></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class with Cara Wood (Rm. 204) Ancient Christianity-video presentation and class discussion</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Rm. 207) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex)</p> <p>10:40 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Committee Meetings</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>

Save the Date

July 4	Independence Day (Church office closed)
July 7	Going Away Reception for Stephanie Cooke
July 8-12	VBS/Youth At-Home Mission Week
July 14	VBS Sunday
August 11	Rally Day / Ice Cream Social

Prayer List

Members: Karen Hethershaw, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Nedra Murphy, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, David Green, Ron Bailey, Joanne Deaver, Alice Helms, Polly Miller, Jean Ball, Roy Kessler, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Don Myer, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Thad M. (West), Kelly D., Stephanie R. (Riggs-Harpur), Sharon M. and Meaghan G. & family (FPC Staff), Blade B., Judy N. (Dukes), Bonnie L., Michael R. (Dwyer), the family of Dorothy P. (Lucas), Marie J. (Das), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Lee family (Corbit), 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), Genevieve W. (Morton), Lindsey W. (Walker), Karl W. (Watt), Lisa J. (Miller), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J., Sydney H. and Martha K. (Juhl), Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Joy D. (Rose), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), Wendy C. (Harshbarger), Gloria S., Kim H., Vickie K., Cindy K. (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)

Staff and Church Information

Staff

Rev. Callie Candee, Pastoral Care
Rev. Greg Han, Temporary Pulpit Pastor
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education
Sharon VanSchuyver, Director of Communications
Yvonne Rose, Office Manager
Stephanie Cooke, Music Director
Rolethial McKelvey, Accompanist
Jackye Cannon and Jane Corbit, Bookkeeping
Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse



First Presbyterian Church

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Website: www.fpcConroe.org

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