

# First Presbyterian Church

December 29, 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](http://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***

Elizabeth Laletas

***Today's Flowers***

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Yvonne Rose, in memory of her dear departed loved ones.

***Last Week's Attendance, December 22***

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 18

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 147

Online Worship Attendance - 31

**Total Attendance – 196**

## **11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE**

### *Preparing to Receive God's Word*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.  
On those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.  
For unto us a child is born.  
Unto us a child is given.  
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.  
We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came  
from the Father, full of grace and truth.

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ, you came among us as light  
shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light  
or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in  
our midst, expecting little, hoping for less. Forgive our doubts and  
renew our hope, that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and  
live in the truth of Christ the Lord.

\*Silent Prayer of Confession

\*Assurance of Pardon

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word  
was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were  
made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was  
life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the dark-  
ness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

\*Please stand if able.

\*Gloria Patri

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

\*Doxology

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

*A Service of Lessons and Carols*

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Hymn No. 44    *O Little Town of Bethlehem*    (1-4)

Second Lesson: Luke 1:26-33

*Mary, Did You Know?*

Third Lesson: Matthew 1:18-24

Hymn No. 9    *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*    (1-3)

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Hymn No. 53    *What Child Is This*    (1-3)

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-15

Hymn No. 56    *The First Nowell*    (1-4)

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-11

Hymn No. 66    *We Three Kings of Orient Are*    (1-5)

Seventh Lesson: John 1:1-14

Hymn No. 60    *Silent Night, Holy Night*    (1-4)

Prayers of the People

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude



### *Stewardship Campaign Update*

We have made a strong start to achieving a balanced budget for 2025. To date, we have received 90 pledges for slightly over \$600,800. This puts us ~90% toward that goal. There are still 20 individuals who pledged in 2024 that have not, as yet, committed to pledging for 2025. This represents a potential of \$71,500 in additional revenue. If you have already pledged to give for the 2025 Budget, thank you for your very generous support. If not, please prayerfully consider doing so. There is simply no way around the fact that achieving a **balanced budget requires everyone's financial support. If you plan to pledge but** have not done so for whatever reason, it is not too late. Either put your completed card in the collection plate on Sunday or drop it by the church office at your convenience. Our goal of a balanced budget is within our reach, so please pledge to do your part in achieving this goal.

REMINDER! For those of you who are considering donating stock to the church or making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly from your IRA to the church for the calendar year 2024, this memo is to remind you that the transaction must be completed by 12/31/2024 if you want the contribution to be a tax deduction for 2024. However, please try to complete transactions **before the last week in December to avoid a last minute "glitch" that may keep you** from being eligible for a 2024 tax deduction. Yvonne Rose has paperwork in the church office that facilitates the stock donation process so please feel to contact Yvonne if you wish to donate stock.

Also, for those who intend to pre-pay their pledge for 2025 in the calendar year 2024, please note that this should be completed before the last week in December as mentioned above.

Yours in Christ,

Administration Committee

## *Sunday Greeters Needed*

FPC Conroe is a warm welcoming church due to friendly faces meeting and greeting members and visitors each Sunday. As such, we are in need of MORE greeters, so we are asking Sunday school classes to provide 2+ greeters one Sunday a month. The schedule is as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – Seekers Bible Study

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Bereans Class

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Fellowship Class

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Exploring Our Faith

If you do not attend a Sunday school class, but would like to volunteer, please contact Judy Weinburger at (713) 202-8458, or by email at [garyjudyweinburger@gmail.com](mailto:garyjudyweinburger@gmail.com). Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to welcome all people to our church. May the Lord be with each of you.

## *Revamping our Fellowship Sunday School Class*

After more than 35 years of teaching our Fellowship Class, Cara Wood has retired from teaching Sunday School here at FPC. While we will miss her and appreciate her many years of service, we are looking forward to revitalizing and revamping the Fellowship Sunday School Class. As we enter into the New Year, we'll be looking for new ideas for the upcoming studies. On January 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> we'll explore several possible curriculum options. Please join us in Room 204 to help decide our path. This is a great opportunity to get plugged in and help lead and participate in our Sunday morning classes. Please contact Glenn Elms at [geatelms80@consolodated.net](mailto:geatelms80@consolodated.net) or Dena Sowden at [dsowden@fpcconroe.org](mailto:dsowden@fpcconroe.org).

## TACOS & TRIVIA

**January 8, 2025**

**Join us for our Wednesday Night Live Kickoff on January 8<sup>th</sup>, where a taco dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m., followed by trivia that will be brought to us by Rev. Saathoff.**



**There will be age-appropriate trivia, so that everyone can enjoy a fun-filled evening. You won't want to miss it!**

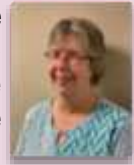


### *Wednesday Night Live Resumes in January*

Wednesday Night Live will resume on January 8, 2025 with a kick-off event, **Tacos & Trivia with Pastor Seth**. After that, we'll have eight weeks of studies, ending with our pancake supper on Ash Wednesday, March 5. If you're interested in leading a bible study, small group or other event during that time, please contact Dena Sowden [DSowden@FPCConroe.org](mailto:DSowden@FPCConroe.org)

*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.





## 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, Don Myer, Virginia Tamborello, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Celia G. (Hernandez- Garcia), Richard R. (Rose), 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)

## Calendar of Weekly Events

<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>December 29</i></p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus <b>No class today; will resume Jan 5.</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Max Lucado study series "What Happens Next - A Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age."</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton</b> (Library) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's Sunday School</b> (Rm. 203)</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 <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> <i>January 1</i></p>	<p>Happy New Year!</p>



<p><i>Sunday</i> <i>January 5</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 (Rm. 204) Max Lucado study series "What Happens Next - A Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age."</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206)</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton</b> (Library) Study of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians</p> <p><b>9:30 a.m. FPC Kid's Sunday School</b> (Rm. 203)</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 <a href="http://www.com/fpcConroe">www.com/fpcConroe</a> or YouTube.com/fpcConroe)</p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)</p>
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## Save the Date

January 1	<b>New Year's Day (Church office closed)</b>
January 7	PDS classes resume
January 8	Tacos & Trivia with Pastor Saathoff
January 12	Reception for Rev. Callie Candee

## Staff and Church Information

### Staff

Rev. Seth Saathoff, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Callie Candee, Pastoral Care  
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:*

2727 N. Loop 336 W., Conroe, TX 77304  
Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842  
Website: [www.fpcConroe.org](http://www.fpcConroe.org)

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#### *Mailing Address:*

2257 N Loop 336 W  
Suite 140, # 349, Conroe, TX 77304