



WORSHIP SERVICE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2021, 10:30 A.M.

Our Scripture readings for next Sunday, September 26, 2021, the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, are: Psalm 24; and James 5:13-20 ("Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise."). The title of the sermon is "Prayer," and a copy of the Bulletin for this

worship service can be found here: <https://fpcovictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/9-26-2021-Bulletin-PDF.pdf>.



**COME JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 3, 2021!
BRING A FRIEND!**

Every Sunday morning worship service at FPC is a wonderful time, but next Sunday, October 3, 2021, will be very special, given the occasions we will be celebrating.

Of course, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of the month, but this Sunday is World Communion Sunday. In recognition of the fact that we will be participating in this sacrament with our Christian sisters and brothers around the world, we will decorate our altar with a multitude of breads-- breads as diverse as God's people around the world who bring their own unique style to preparing this staple of life.

We will also celebrate the 180th anniversary of the founding of First Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Texas (October 2, 1841). For eighteen decades, FPC has been spreading the Gospel in the Crossroads area! Let us rejoice over the host of so many faithful saints before us who selflessly kept the flame of faith ablaze and who have made it possible for us to worship as we do today.

Finally, we shall commemorate with a service of music the post-Hurricane Harvey acquisition of our splendid new organ. Please plan to attend as we feature organ anthems and other special music during our hour of worship. What

a right and proper way to thank God for the many blessings he offers us through the ministry of music!

With World Communion Sunday, an anniversary celebration, and special music to mark the dedication of our new organ, this is a service that will lift your heart and restore your spirit. Please plan to join us, and why not invite a friend?



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Even though our current COVID protocols prevented visitors (even parents and grandparents!) from attending, your pastor wishes you could have been present in our Sanctuary last Tuesday morning (September 21st) when it was full of over 76 PDS students and their teachers. The children sang songs, recited Bible verses, showed off their craft project ("prayer hands" on which they wrote about the things they pray for), and bowed their head (and raised their arm like the preacher did) for the blessing of their backpack.

Class by class, your pastor blessed colorful backpacks and prayed for the children who wore them, the parents who filled them, and the teachers who tended to them. Certain that God would not mind, your pastor also asked God to bless Spiderman, Elsa and Anna, dinosaurs, unicorns, toy cars, rainbows, and all those other things that bring joy to the young hearts who picked the designs displayed on their backpacks. After the blessing, each child received a name tag for his or her backpack ("My backpack was blessed with love at First

Presbyterian Church, Victoria”), plus a small toy trinket to hang next to the name tag.

So often I am reminded of what a special ministry our congregation makes possible by its support of the Presbyterian Day School. May God bless all those who attend, teach, support, and otherwise make possible the education of our young disciples in the love of Jesus for them and for all God’s creation.



VCAM UPDATE

Don't forget Victoria Christian Assistance Ministry (VCAM) will have the drawing for its annual fundraiser at noon on Saturday, September 25 (although you do not have to be present to win). Be on the lookout if you purchased tickets to see if you are one of the lucky winners. For more information, call 361-572-0048



SAVE THE DATE!

"New Beginnings"

Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering

March 18-20, 2022

Mo Ranch, Hunt TX

Host: PWMP Coordinating Team

ATTENTION: WOMEN OF THE CHURCH!

Mark your calendars for this marvelous annual spiritual experience being planned by Presbyterian Women. Watch this space for further details as the date draws closer!

We do, infact have further information about this exciting PW event. Registration forms are now available in the church office for those who are planning to attend. Please contact our Office Administrator, Erica Colding, by phone (361.575.2441) or email (info@fpcofvictoria.org) for a copy of the form or for further information

Prayer Request Card

*If you have any prayer requests or needs, please
let us know & let us pray for you!*

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*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."*

Philippians 4:6



**A NEW INITIATIVE
FROM OUR
MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE:
A PRAYER TREE IS ABOUT TO BLOOM!**

Recognizing that prayer is one of the most powerful tools Christ has given his followers, the Mission & Outreach Committee of First Presbyterian Church is starting a Prayer Tree. *Look for the Prayer Tree our Narthex.*

The members of that Committee have reached out to the families at Presbyterian Day School and The Vine School extending a sincere offer from the members of our church to pray for them. Prayer cards (as shown above) have now been sent out to both schools, and we are beginning to collect completed cards to hang on our Prayer Tree.

It's simple, but it will be powerful and effective: the next time you are at church, swing by the Prayer Tree and take a prayer card! If you are unable to make it to church, but would like to participate, simply call the church office and let Erica know – she will get the request to the Mission & Outreach Committee. We can either mail you a card or come by your house to drop it off.

Once you have a card, all we ask is that you pray in the manner requested. Pray silently, pray aloud. Pray alone, pray with a prayer partner. Pray with the confidence you will be heard. We hope to keep this practice going during the school year for as long as we receive requests, and we hope you will join us in this powerful Christian ministry!

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Phil 4:6

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thess 5:16-18



Give me a "P!" Give me a "D!" Give me an "S!"

Our planning for the "Presbyterian Day School 75th anniversary Homecoming continues in earnest.

Help us make this a joyful event for our church and our community-- one that we will enjoy and remember for a long time. If you are a PDS former student, teacher, or staff member, or have family or friends who are, please provide the First Presbyterian Church office (info@fpcofvictoria.org or (361) 575-2441) with contact information to receive a special invitation. Tell your friends; help us spread the word! All are welcome.

With the support and far-sighted vision of the members of our church who have preceded us, the Presbyterian Day School held its first classes on September 9, 1946. The school's rich tradition of teaching young children in a loving and nurturing Christian environment has been fundamental throughout its history and continues today.

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim

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