

## Living Out God's Call to Joy and to Justice

### **Prayer requests -- Week of May 5**

#### **New and Recent Prayer Requests:**

- Prayers for Henry McElmurray as he prepares for several upcoming medical appointments.
- Prayers of encouragement and healing for Sopphey Vance, following a recent hospitalization.
- Prayers for the family and friends of Karen Ayers, Sher Wilkes' cousin, who died recently.
- Prayers of thanksgiving and celebration at the birth of Jameson Michael Bradburn, son of Ian and Jessica, brother of Olivia, grandson of Beverly Avila. Jameson was born on Monday, April 22, weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces.
- Arnie LaFuente, brother-in-law of Lita and Bob Simpson (husband of Lita's sister Minnie), is home and doing well after a recent hospitalization.
- Sher Wilkes requests prayers of healing and encouragement for Larry and Debbie Dickerson, good friends of Sher's mother, Estelle Davenport. Larry and Debbie had hoped to travel from their home in Tahlequah, OK for Estelle's birthday party next month, but serious health problems will prevent their attendance.
- Mac Williams, husband of Crystal Simpson and son-in-law of Lita and Bob Simpson, has been moved from the hospital to a long-term acute care facility, where he will continue to receive treatment to regain full function after liver transplant surgery last year.
- Vera Barnes is making progress in her recovery from a recent fall and broken hip. She is currently at Valley Transitional Care in Mission. Cards can be mailed to 4612 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, McAllen, 78504.
- Mauricia Friedman continues to recover at home following her recent hospitalization. Cards can be mailed to 7505 North 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, McAllen, 78504.
- Prayers for *Puentes de Cristo* as it moves through a period of transition. Lety Martinez has been named the Executive Director. Dan Bautista and Fred Gamble are new members of the Board of Directors.
- Sophia Bousquet, Lita Simpson's sister, has returned home after a recent brief hospitalization and is responding well to her therapies.
- Vinson McLeod has moved to Alfredo Gonzalez Veterans Home at 301 E. Yuma. Please contact Cory Raymond at 956-221-2240 to schedule a visit.
- Prayers of healing for Donna Rowland, David's mother, who is experiencing some health and memory challenges.
- Prayers of thanksgiving that Mrs. Eveline Koubango, mother of Ruth Koubango Tabali, has traveled safely from Congo to McAllen for an extended visit.
- Prayers of thanksgiving that Magdelene Tabali, wife of Bernard, has traveled safely from Cameroon to McAllen for an extended visit.
- Jeff Schneider, brother of Doug and dear friend of Sher and Drue Wilkes, has returned home following surgery.
- Jesse requests prayers for his friend Carlton who has been diagnosed with cancer.

- Dee Trevino reports that her grandson Erik Avila remains hospitalized following recent surgery.
- Bob Houlihan, father of Kelly Leonard, has finished proton therapy for prostate cancer. However, the cancer has spread, so they are investigating next steps. Kelly requests prayers for her father and the entire family.
- Prayers of healing for Rachel Green White, youngest daughter of Marci Green (sister of Thomas Ball), as she is treated for metastatic breast cancer that has spread to her vertebrae.
- Prayers for all who are hungry or lonely or without shelter this day.
- Prayers for Chris and Kelly Leonard and their nephew Grant.
- Prayers for peace in the Middle East.
- Prayers for Moazz Zaid Younes (friend of ZZ Hamilton), his family and all Palestinians.
- Prayers for Sveta, Anahird, Tora, and other Ukranian and Russian friends of ZZ Hamilton.

### **On-going Prayer Requests:**

- Emma Jasper; 505 Trosky Rd. W, # 112; Edgerton, MN 56128; 507-820-0269 (Updated address)
  - Prayers of continued healing for David Massey, son of Joe and Jinny.
  - Jay Travis, Ann Sahadi's son and Andrea Hudler's brother, who has ALS.
  - Marilyn Travis, wife of Andrea Hudler's father Paul.
  - Estelle Davenport; Brookridge Senior Living; 1301 W. Ridge Road, Apt. 220, Pharr, TX 78577
  - Gail Keyes; 215-594-1072; 3334 Country Club Dr., Edinburgh, 78542
  - Lou Helt; 956-601-0823; 1301 W. Ridge Road, Apt. 229; Pharr, TX 78577
  - Elizabeth Gearhart; c/o Diane Albert; 1350 Burnham Lane, Batavia, IL 60510
  - Ann Sahadi; 1380 Charles Drive, Apt. 415; Longmont, CO 80503; 956-509-1729
  - Rita Cochrane; The Gardens at Brookridge; 1301 W. Ridge Road, Apt. 111; Pharr, TX 78577
  - Dan Eggers
  - Melinda Wright
  - Duke Dashbach
  - Prayers of healing for Richard Kozma, former member of FPC, who is receiving treatment for prostate cancer. He and Gwyn can be reached at 15 Hawthorne Drive, Newnan, GA 30263.
  - Prayers of healing for Jim Harriff, Jack's brother, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer.
  - Prayers of continued improvement for Mel Philips, Kathy Garfield's brother-in-law.
  - Roberta Harriff, daughter-in-law of Jack and Carole Harriff.
  - Sharon Willets; 316 Hazlett Ave., Wheeling, WV 26003.
  - Anna Finn, Mary Ellen Schneider's sister-in-law, has been diagnosed with lung cancer.
  - Prayers that Dalton Moes might experience growth toward robust mental health.
  - Crystal Simpson
  - Jim McLeod, younger brother of Vinson McLeod.
  - Carl Walborg, son of Shirley Pippin's good friend Mary Ann Walborg, diagnosed with cancer.
  - Connor Magee, Mark and Joyce Magee's grandson.
  - Mary Ann Walborg, good friend of Shirley Pippin, as she deals with health and cognitive issues.
  - Victor Herrera, Ezequiel's brother, dealing with long-term health issues
  - Cisco Villa
  - Anthony Trevino
  - The people of the *colonias*.
  - Prayers of safety and hope for the people of Cameroon. Gifts for PDA's work in Cameroon can be made at: <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/cameroon/>
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**WORSHIP LINK: Link for Facebook Live streaming worship services:**

[https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=first%20presbyterian%20church%2C%20mcallen%2C%20tx.](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=first%20presbyterian%20church%2C%20mcallen%2C%20tx)

**ZOOM LINK: Link for all FPC Zoom meetings:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86050357489?pwd=VkhqODg0NjlFS2VTSm91UFFOSjVjQT09>

Meeting ID: 860 5035 7489 Passcode: 912217

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** <https://www.mcallenfpc.org/>

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**Calendar**

- Monday, May 6: 11:00 a.m.: Staff meeting
- Wednesday, May 8: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.: Library open for Mid-Week Prayer
- Wednesday, May 8: 7:30 p.m.; Choir rehearsal; Choir Room
- Thursday, May 9: 10:00 a.m.; Space for God; Parlor (Chapter: “Laboring Woman”)
- Sunday, May 12: 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School; Parlor
- Sunday, May 12: 10:30 a.m.; Worship; Sanctuary and Facebook Live

**Coming Up**

- Saturday, May 18: noon: Birthday Party for Estelle Davenport; Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, May 19: Pentecost Worship
- Sunday, May 19: 11:45 a.m.; Pentecost Lunch; Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, May 19: 2:00 p.m.; Clarinet Recital; Sanctuary
- Sunday, May 19: 5:00 p.m.; Recital by Piano and Voice students of Cecilia Molina; Sanctuary
- Sunday, May 26: Baptism of Lily Noelle Lopez during 10:30 worship
- June 3 – August 11: Sabbatical leave for Pastor Kathy

**Financial Report through April**

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2024	Revenue	Expenses	Net
MTD (April)	\$23,246.25	\$28,538.91	- \$5,292.66
YTD	\$106,119.28	\$105,065.32	+ \$1,053.96

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**Life of the Church – Week of May 5**

- It’s a **Birthday Party!** Estelle Davenport will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this month, and we are all invited to join the festivities. Sher Wilkes, Estelle’s daughter, is hosting a party in the FPC Fellowship Hall at noon on Saturday, May 18. Please RSVP to Sher by May 11 if you can attend. 956-648-4983.
- And the same weekend also has a **Fellowship Lunch!** Please plan to stick around after worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. We’ll move from the sanctuary to Fellowship Hall to share good food and good conversation. A lunch of sandwiches, chips, and fruit will be provided, for a suggested donation of \$8.00 per person. The summer worship schedule, outlining plans for the weeks of Pastor Kathy’s sabbatical, will be handed out during the lunch.
- Many thanks to all who have ordered **Glory to God** hymnals in memory or in honor of a loved one. We have received 33 orders and will purchase the hymnals this week.

- We will receive the **Pentecost Offering** on Sunday, May 19 during worship. This special offering of the PC(USA) is used to support children, youth, and young adults in the local community and around the world.
- **Space for God** is currently discussing *Wearing God* by Lauren Winner. Reading assignments for completing the book are: May 9 is Chapter 6– “Laboring Woman”; May 16: “Laughter”; May 23: “Flame”; May 30: “In This Poverty of Expression, Thou Findest that He Is All” and “A Short Note from the Women’s Prison”.
- **Mo in the Valley** information and registration meeting has been postponed. Look for the new date in an upcoming Monday Message. The Valley Mo experience is for students from 8 to 15 years old. For more information or a registration form, contact Sheri Dittmann at [sheri.dittman@gmail.com](mailto:sheri.dittman@gmail.com).
- The Sunday School class has returned to ***Feasting on the Word*** curriculum.

### **Life of the Church -- On-going**

- A growing number of people are coming to the church for food and hygiene bags. If you would like to help with that ministry, you can make a financial contribution or purchase any of these food items for our cupboard:
 

○ peanut butter crackers	○ protein bars
○ tuna packets	○ cereal bars
○ fruit cups / applesauce	○ beef jerky
○ potted meat / Vienna sausages	○ bottled water
- If you’d like to add your voice to the **FPC Chancel Choir’s** worshipful praise of God, check out choir practice or contact Robert Garza at 956-720-2301 or [rob\\_grza10@yahoo.com](mailto:rob_grza10@yahoo.com). Choir practice is held at 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Choir Room.
- **“Leave a Prayer / Take a Blessing”**. There is a table in the Library with materials to write a prayer and post it on the bulletin board. Prayers can be shared or private. Printed blessings are available for you to take one (or several). Each month will bring a new blessing.
- The **church staff** – Pastor Kathy, church administrator Brian Pullen, custodian Shannon Pruneda, and facilities manager Martin Davila – hold weekly meetings on Monday morning. If you have an item for the staff to discuss, please send it to [fpchurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fpchurch@sbcglobal.net) or [fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com](mailto:fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com).
- There is a **Flower** sign-up board in the hallway near the church office for members to sponsor fresh flowers in honor or memory of a loved one on the first Sunday of a month.
- Dan Eggers has written a pamphlet about how to lower the cost of running air conditioners. He has provided copies for the congregation. If you would like one, you can stop by the church office or ask to have one mailed to you.
- **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** works with communities facing urgent need. Here is a link to their webpage: <https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resources/list/?situation=hurricane-ian>
- **Church Office Hours** are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday, or by appointment.
- The exterior **Parlor doors** are now key-entry only. If you have an access card for those doors, please dispose of it. To request a key for the exterior church doors, contact the church office.
- How to reach Pastor Kathy: [fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com](mailto:fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com); 512-466-5662
- How to reach the church office: [fpchurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fpchurch@sbcglobal.net)
- All mail for the church should be sent to P.O. Box 1029, McAllen, TX 78505.

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### **May Birthdays and Anniversaries**

## Birthdays

10 – Samuel Friedman

11 – Sher Wilkes

12 – Laura Turk

13 – Debra Schneider

14 – Kyle Henry

Kathleen Maxson

16 – Bethann Freeland

18 – Estelle Davenport

Lindsey Schneider

Judy Suter

26 – Meredith Ashlye Jenkins

30 – Nadine Force-Macey

## Anniversaries

Dan and Betty Bautista

Hugo and Nancy Pruneda (5/29/1976)

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## **Readings for May 12 – Seventh Sunday of Easter**

• **Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**

• **Psalm 1**

• **1 John 5:9-13**

• **John 17:6-19**

[Jesus said] “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup> But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>15</sup> I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they may also be sanctified in truth.”

The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God**

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**Prayer for the Week –**

Living God,  
Loving God,  
You are the source of all that is,  
and all that is  
is holy  
when it seeks itself in You.  
You are the bond  
that unites us all  
and erases all division.  
May we be one  
as You are one in us  
and we in You.  
Amen.

Source: Miriam Therese Winter; *WomanWord: A Feminist Lectionary and Psalter*; p. 260

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**May Library Blessing:**



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**Good people,  
Most royal greening verdancy,  
Rooted in the sun,  
You shine with radiant light.  
In this circle of earthly existence  
You shine so finely,  
It surpasses understanding.  
God hugs you.  
You are encircled by the arms  
of the mystery of God.**

**Hildegard of Bingen**

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