

Living Out God's Call to Joy and to Justice

Prayer requests -- Week of November 20

New Prayer Requests:

- Safe travels for all Thanksgiving travelers.
- A joyous and meaningful Thanksgiving holiday for all.
- Kevin Henry, son of Cam and Kathryn Henry, still seeking treatment options for a pinched nerve.

Updates on recent Prayer Requests:

- Ernie Williams continues to recover at home.
- Martin Davila is continuing with a slow recovery after being hit by a truck a few weeks ago.

On-going Prayer Requests:

- Lynn Kohl, brother of Neil Kohl, has entered hospice care at home. Neil asks that we pray that Lynn might find comfort and peace of mind.
- Prayers for Emmanuel Tabali and his family as they settle into life in the Valley
- Jim McLeod, younger brother of Vinson McLeod, is living at High Hope Care Center in Brenham, Texas. Jim enjoys receiving mail. Greetings for Jim and notes of support for his wife Mary Ann Wycoff can be sent to P.O. Box 160, Kenney TX 77452,
- Roberta Harriff, Jack and Carole Harriff's daughter-in-law, continues treatment for a rare, aggressive form of non-hodgkin's lymphoma.
- Jay Travis, Ann Sahadi's son and Andrea Hudler's brother, is at home, continuing treatment for a neurological disorder.
- Roderick Smith, Carole Harriff's brother, who has suffered vision loss from a badly deteriorated retina. The condition has stabilized and is not worsening; however, his vision loss is not reversible.
- Janette Smith, Carole Harriff's sister-in-law, as she continues with treatments for breast cancer.
- Carl Walborg, son of Shirley Pippin's good friend Mary Ann Walborg, recently diagnosed with cancer.
- Jeff Schneider, Doug Schneider's brother, who is wearing a defibrillation vest to monitor and correct his heart activity. Please keep Jeff and his wife Mary Ellen in prayer.
- Charlie Helt remains at McAllen Nursing Center, 600 N. Cynthia, where he is able to have visitors. Please keep both Charlie and Lou in prayer.
- Connor Magee, Mark and Joyce Magee's grandson.
- Mary Ann Walborg, very good friend of Shirley Pippin, as she deals with health and cognitive issues.
- Victor Herrera, Ezequiel's brother, dealing with long-term health issues
- The people of the *colonias*.

Calendar -- Week of November 20

- Monday, November 21: Rehearsal for Advent Music; 4:30 p.m.; Zoom
- Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25: Church Office closed
- Sunday, November 27: Sunday School; 9:00 a.m.; FPC Parlor
- Sunday, November 27: Worship; 10:30 a.m.; FPC Sanctuary and Facebook Live

Link for all FPC Zoom meetings: **WORSHIP IS NOW STREAMED ON FACEBOOK LIVE, NOT ZOOM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86050357489?pwd=VkhqODg0NjJFS2VTSm91UFFOSjVjQT09>

Meeting ID: 860 5035 7489 Passcode: 912217

One tap mobile: +13462487799,,86050357489#,,,,,0#,,912217# US (Houston)

Link for Facebook Live streaming worship services:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=first%20presbyterian%20church%2C%20mcallen%2C%20tx>.

Life of the Church – Week of November 20

- **Many thanks** to all who participated in the November 20 Hanging of the Greens activities and the Fellowship Lunch.
- **Advent Sunday School** – each week the class will watch a short video and then discuss its contents. November 27 – Father Gregory Boyle speaking about “Compassion and Kinship”. The class is held in the Parlor and begins at 9:00 a.m.
- We are observing a **Reverse Advent Calendar** and will collect food items for the RGV Food Bank. Calendars can be picked up this Sunday in the Narthex or contact the Church Office to have one mailed to you. Items may be brought any Sunday during Advent and placed in the baskets in the Narthex or dropped off in the Church Office during the week.
- **Session Highlights** from the November meeting:
 - Moved to draw \$30,000 out of our Grace Funds “Useable Account” to assure that we have money to cover expenses, including Benevolences, through the end of the year.
 - Approved use of the sanctuary for a recital by the students of Alejandra Pacheco, Cecilia Molina, and Briana Olivares on Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m.
 - Received information about a new sign to be installed on the east wall of the sanctuary.
 - Received Van Talbert’s resignation from his many years of service preparing the weekly deposit of church offerings. Expressed gratitude for Van’s faithful service. Kathy Garfield will take over as deposit preparer.
 - Discussed Stewardship 2023 plans and decided to send a letter to the congregation with 2023 Pledge Cards.
 - Heard a report from Lita Simpson regarding Youth Fellowship. Beginning in December, the Youth will meet on the first and third Sundays of each month instead of weekly.
 - Received a report on the October Presbytery meeting.
- 2022 marks the **60th Anniversary of the Church Organ**. We will commemorate the occasion with special organ music following the December 11th worship service.
- **Youth Fellowship** will not meet on November 27. Beginning in December, the Youth will meet at the church from 3 to 5 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sunday afternoons of each month. If you can assist, email lita.mojicasimpson@gmail.com or contact the church office.
- Rita Cochrane, a retired PC(USA) minister living at The Gardens at Brookridge, worshipped with us recently. Her son Jeff sends the following request: “Can you recommend someone who could meet my mother Rita and take her to lunch or shopping for a few hours. The person would have to have a sedan since Rita cannot step up into a higher vehicle.” If you know of care / service providers who might be able to do this -- or if you might be able to do it yourself -- please contact Pastor Kathy.

- **Space for God** will next meet on Thursday, December 1 in the Church Parlor with a Zoom link for remote attendance. The group will discuss the fourth chapter of *When Your Life is on Fire: What Would You Save?* by Erik Kolbell. If you need a copy of the book, contact Pastor Kathy.

Life of the Church -- On-going

- On **Rally Day**, September 11, the CE Calling introduced the theme for this program year: ***Living Out God's Call to Joy and to Justice.***
- There is a **Flower** sign-up board the church office for members to sponsor fresh flowers in honor or memory of a loved one on the first Sunday of a month.
- **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>
- **Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in the Choir Room. Contact Robert Garza at 956-720-2301 for more information.
- **Church Office Hours** are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday, or by appointment.
- The **Puentes de Cristo** website is up. Check it out to see all the great work that is going on: <https://puentesdecristo.org/> Caly Fernandez can use these supplies:
 - H-E-B gift cards, food, hygiene supplies, and especially diapers. Supplies may be brought to FPC during office hours.
- How to reach Pastor Kathy: fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com; 512-466-5662
- How to reach Michael Pullen: fpchurch@sbcglobal.net
- All mail for the church should be sent to P.O. Box 1029, McAllen, TX 78505.

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

5 - Kathy Garfield	19 - Dana Friedman	27 - Jan Brown
7 - Lita Simpson	20 - Drue Wilkes	28 - Steve Flowers
9 - Pinkie Schwartz	21 - Lauren Schneider	Garrett Garfield
12 - Dee Trevino	21 - Feliz Simpson	Aaron Leonard
15 - Betty Bautista	Joanna Simpson	29 - Dan Bautista
18 - Ernie Williams	25- Shirley Pippin	

Anniversaries

Mitch and Lety Magee

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

4 - Joyce Magee	12 - Ansen Seale	27 - Ann-Marie Freeland
6 - Rev. O'Quinn Kelly	14 - Carolyn Landrum	29 - Amanda Wright
9 - Sadie Garza	20 -- Ezequiel Bautista	31 - Eng Parker
10 - Doug Schneider	24 Veronica Zamora	

Anniversaries

Dana and Mauricia Friedman
 Erik and Cassie (Vorbach) Vose
 John and Melinda Wright

Lectionary Readings for November 27 – First Sunday of Advent

- ♦ **Isaiah 2:1-5** The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ² In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!
- ♦ **Psalms 122** I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" / ² Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. / ³ Jerusalem – built as a city that is bound firmly together ⁴ To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. / ⁵ For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. / ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: / "May they prosper who love you. ⁷ Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers." / ⁸ For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be with you." / ⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.
- ♦ **Romans 13:11-14** Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us live honorably as in the day, not reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.
- ♦ **Matthew 24:36-44** "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Prayer for the Week – A Rune of Hospitality

I saw a stranger today
I put food for him in the eating-place
And drink in the drinking-place
And music in the listening-place.
In the Holy Name of the Trinity
He blessed himself and my house
My goods and my family.
And the lark said in her warble
Often, often, often
Goes Christ in the stranger's guise
O, oft and oft and oft,
Goes Christ in the Stranger's guise.