

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

### **Prayer requests -- Week of April 14**

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

- Prayers for a blessed and meaningful Eastertide for Christians throughout the world.
- Mauricia Friedman hopes to be discharged from DHR Rehab this Thursday (April 18), but until then she is in Room 504. The best time to visit is after 3 p.m.
- Renewed prayers, especially prayers for comfort, for Sher Wilkes' cousin, Karen Ayers, who has cancer.
- Prayers of healing for Henry McElmurray.
- 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.
- Sophia Bousquet, Lita Simpson's sister, is doing well in her recovery from a recent fall and expects to return to her home in early April.
- Stephanie requests prayers that she will find her dog Stitch, and that she might restore broken relationships.
- 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.
- Prayers of healing for Dan Eggers and for clarity about the treatment decisions he should make.
- Mac Williams, husband of Crystal Simpson and son-in-law of Lita and Bob Simpson suffered a set-back recently in his recovering from liver transplant surgery last year.
- 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.
- Judy MacArthur, Cathy Salinas' mother, who broke her hip in a fall on January 27, is continuing with rehab and is doing well.
- 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.
- Bernard Tabali requests prayers for family unity.
- 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 Ukrainian 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
- 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
- Prayers of healing for Sophey Vance who is experiencing medication side-effects.
- 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**

- Tuesday, April 16: 11:00: Staff meeting
- Tuesday, April 16: 6:30 p.m.; Stated Session Meeting; Parlor
- Wednesday, April 17: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.: Library open for Mid-Week Prayer
- Wednesday, April 17: 7:30 p.m.; Choir rehearsal; Choir Room
- Thursday, April 18: 10:00 a.m.; Space for God; Parlor
- Sunday, April 21: 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School; Parlor
- Sunday, April 21: 10:30 a.m.; Worship; Sanctuary and Facebook Live
- Sunday, April 21: Birthday Party for Spud Brown (and all other April birthday celebrants); 11:45 a.m.; Parlor

## **Coming Up**

- June 3 – August 11: Sabbatical leave for Pastor Kathy

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## **Financial Report through March**

<b>2024</b>	<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Net</b>
<b>MTD (March)</b>	<b>\$18,104.45</b>	<b>\$28,241.22</b>	<b>- \$10,136.77</b>
<b>YTD</b>	<b>\$82,320.30</b>	<b>\$76,462.47</b>	<b>+ \$5,857.83</b>

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## **April Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### Birthdays

1 – David Rowland	16 – Spurgeon “Spud” Brown	24 – Ann Rowland
5 – Austin Miller	David King	26 – John Miller
9 – Emma Lentz	20 – Chris Leonard	29 – Nancy Pruneda
13 – Barbara Montemayor	21 – Vanna Vorbach	
14 – Caleb Miller	23 – Bert Miller	

### Anniversary

Kelly and Chris Leonard

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## **Life of the Church – Week of April 14**

- **It's a party!!** We're all invited to the Parlor after worship on Sunday, April 21 to celebrate the birthday of Spurgeon (Spud) Brown and all the other April birthday folks. Jan and Spud are providing the refreshments, so please plan to stick around to wish Spud a Happy 94<sup>th</sup> Birthday and to sing a rousing chorus of "How I Love My Valley Home."
- **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 Session has approved a campaign to purchase additional **Glory to God** hymnals. If you would like to purchase a hymnal in honor or in memory of a loved one, please complete the form posted on the church website or contact the church office. Hymnals are \$25.00 each.
- On Easter Sunday, March 31, we received the **One Great Hour of Sharing** special offering of the PC(USA), but you have one final week to mail an offering to the church for inclusion in our OGHS total. Gifts to this offering are distributed among three PC(USA) programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; Presbyterian Hunger Program; and Self-Development of People.
- 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.
- The Sunday School class has returned to **Feasting on the Word** curriculum.
- **Space for God** is currently discussing *Wearing God* by Lauren Winner. Reading assignment for April 18 is Chapter 3 – "Clothing". Books can be purchased from Amazon (<https://www.amazon.com/Wearing-God-Clothing-Laughter-Overlooked/dp/B01LTHXJW8>) or from Bookshop.org (<https://bookshop.org/search?keywords=Wearing+God>).

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

- We have kept the food shelves in the narthex and continue to receive food donations. The collected food will be given to food pantries in area churches and the RGV Food Bank.
  - 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 [fpccpastorkathy@gmail.com](mailto:fpccpastorkathy@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.
  - **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: [fpccpastorkathy@gmail.com](mailto:fpccpastorkathy@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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## **Readings for April 21 – Fourth Sunday of Easter**

- Acts 4:5-12
- Psalm 23
- 1 John 3:16-24
- John 10:11-18

[Jesus said] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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

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## **April Library Blessing:**



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**The blessing of the eternal, triune God –  
Alpha and Omega,  
first and last,  
beginning and end –  
be with you always.**

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**Prayer for the Week – Psalm 23**

O my Beloved, You are my shepherd,  
I shall not want;  
You bring me to green pastures for rest  
and lead me beside still waters  
renewing my spirit;  
You restore my soul.  
You lead me in the path of goodness  
to follow Love's way.

Even though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow and of death,  
I am not afraid;  
For You are ever with me;  
your rod and your staff  
they guide me,  
they give me strength and comfort.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of all my fears;  
you bless me with oil,  
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me  
all the days of my life;  
and I shall dwell in the heart  
of the Beloved forever.  
Amen.

Source: Nan C. Merrill; *Psalms for Praying: An Invitation to Wholeness*; p. 38

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