

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Oct
2021

300 Burleson, Smithville, Texas 78957
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Pastor's Remarks:

From Rev. Kris Brown



As our church year moves, step by step, toward Advent and then (ta da) Christmas, we come to the beautiful month of October and spend a little time getting ready to get ready. For all sorts of reasons, October is special: cooler air encourages us to be outside and enjoy sunny days and new colors. School is in full sway, bringing energy and excitement even to those of us who are beyond its obvious reach. And then there is my birthday, so of course, I'm partial to October.

I hope, like me, you are looking forward to what is coming. As we begin to get ready to get ready, we might find ourselves benefiting from paying attention to how other folks are living or have lived their lives of faith; it's so helpful to have friends whom we respect, friends whose behavior inspires the best in us. Holidays in October nudge us to notice the saints around us, to think about and be thankful for the many examples of hope and love we have been given.

We begin our month together with a St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals service led by the youth in our church. St. Francis offers us a remarkable model of faith along with an ever-renewing challenge to see God's glory in all of creation. Bring your pet or a picture of that pet to church Sunday, and we'll thank God for the blessings that they are. We'll also thank God that we are able to share the blessing of faith with our children.

The end of the month, we will celebrate all the saints in our lives who are no longer with us. On Sunday, October 31st, we'll have a special All Saints Service at our farm. After our worship together, anyone who is comfortable can stay for a mini fall/ Halloween fun-time. We'll do a pot-luck (we are hoping to ease back into these meals that we have missed so much). Hopefully, the weather will be perfect.

As we consider the examples of faith, hope and love so many lives around us offer, we might start to think about how we ourselves are able to serve as examples for others. Perhaps this is the best way we can get ready to get ready for Christmas. We have an in between time to make the most of: how will we grow into becoming the saints our neighbors need, the saints God calls us to be?

Church Leadership

Pastor - Rev. Kris Brown - 512.608.4293 Email - kribrown1001@gmail.com

Clerk of Session - Barbara Maresh - Email - bvmaresh@yahoo.com

Pastoral Assistant - Susan Guedry - Email - sguedry85@gmail.com

Music Director - Lisa Maresh - Email - lisamaresh@yahoo.com

- Piano/Organ/Harp - Monica Miller
- Trumpet - Alan Ford/Wayne King

Session Members: Harleigh Altmeyer, Jane Istre, Kathy Ford, Lilly Willenberg, Lisa Maresh, Monica Miller, Barbara Maresh

Worship & Christian Formation - Lisa Maresh/Monica Miller

Church Administration - Jane Istre

Mission Outreach & Fellowship - Kathy Ford/Lilly Willenberg

150th Anniversary - Harleigh Altmeyer/Monica Miller

Web site - www.fpcsmithville.org, Facebook, Newsletter - Kathy Ford - kathrynford@austin.rr.com

Sunday Schedules

We are open for 11 am worship, masks are now required for all in-person attendees. We will continue our Face Book Live option also.

The Following are Now Open

Sunday School -10 am began on September 12

Women's Bible Study – 2nd Tuesday from Sept to May at

*10 a.m. began on Sept 14th. **Next meeting Oct 12***

Please check the website for changes in schedule

When we open completely

Coffee Hour 9:45



FOOD PANTRY – September

Remember to bring your donations for the food pantry on First Sunday. There are envelopes if you prefer to give money. Actually, The Food Pantry can purchase food from the Capital Area Food Bank more economically than you can purchase it at the store.

Date	Clients	# Family Members	New Clients	
9-1-21	94	206	2	
9-8-21	97	215	4	
9-15-21	109	234	2	
9-22-21	112	264	1	
9-29-21	112	256	3	
Totals	524	1175	12	

UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THESE DATES IN OCTOBER:

Brick sale. Engraved bricks will be sold to raise funds for building repair and maintenance. Buy one and have your name/short message engraved on the brick. They will be used to build something beautiful at the church. Order forms available at church and from session members and at the front steps on Sunday. Cookbooks and copies of Pastor Kris’s book *Bleed of Heaven* will also be for sale at the front steps of the church and other select locations.

October 3rd – the youth will lead the St. Francis Day Service and blessing of the pets.

October 31st – All Saints Day Service at the Brown Farm..



October Birthdays

- 10-01 - Rosaleigh Saunders
- 10-01 - Kris Brown
- 10-02 - Cole Willenberg
- 10-03 - Pat Brown
- 10-03 - Oliver Christian Chavez
- 10/09 - Shawn Hernandez
- 10/13 - Sue Patterson
- 10/18 - Mark Miller
- 10/21 - Nancy Evans
- 10/24 - Gary Saunders
- 10/27 - Charlotte Hines
- 10/29 - David Herrington



October Anniversaries

- 10/04 - Crystal & Irving Hernandez
- 10/29 - Sue & Jim Patterson

Cookbook Info

The new cookbooks are here and ready to purchase for \$20. They are available at the church and will be available at a few other locations to be announced later. Beginning in October, Lydia will be selling on the front porch of the church. Contact Monica Miller for additional info. There is one correction: pg. 105, Pistachio Pudding Cake - add- 1 sm. pkg. pistachio pudding mix to the CAKE ingredients list. This is in addition to the package in the FROSTING ingredients. The correction is being made to the unsold books. The cookbook is a fundraiser for our 150th Anniversary. Proceeds will go to building repair and maintenance. It makes a great gift!



October Communion Schedule

Lisa is in charge of Communion for September. She will prepare the communion table, pick up the glasses at the end of the service, wash and put away the service trays.

Monica Miller has volunteered to bring the bread and juice for ALL communion services. Thank you, Monica!

If you cannot be at church when it is your turn to be in charge of the preparation for communion, please ask one of the other Elders to serve in your place.

October – Lisa Maresh

November – Jane Istre

PICTURES FROM OUR 150TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE



From Lisa: I wanted to share with you that on the 150th anniversary date for the church (9/24), 4 generations of our family met on the steps of the church to celebrate. Harleigh read aloud the history book that Ruth Whitehead and my father put together. It was a very special occasion for us all.

October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1 <i>Mental Illness Awareness Week</i>	2
3 19th Sunday after Pentecost 11 am Service with Communion <i>Blessing of the Pets</i> <i>World Commuion Sunday & Global Witness Offering</i>	4 <i>A Social Creed for the 21st Century Labor Day</i>	5	6 <i>International Literacy Day Presbyterian Higher Education</i>	7	8	9
10 20th Sunday after Pentecost 11 am Service In the Building and on Facebook Live <i>Domestic Violence Awareness Week</i>	11 COLUMBUS DAY	12 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study	13	14	15	16 <i>World Food Day</i>
17 21st Sunday after Pentecost 11 am Service In the Building and on Facebook Live <i>Educate a Child,</i>	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 11 am Service in the Building and on Facebook Live	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 23rd Sunday after Pentecost -10 am All Saints Service at the Farm HAPPY HALLOWEEN						

