

First Presbyterian Church
300 Burleson
Smithville, TX 78957



A Message from Pastor Kris

How could so many things be going on at our church in the middle of the Covid winter? Yet, thank God, they are. I hope you will mark your calendars for these upcoming events and join us however you can.

On Sunday, January 31st, we will begin a celebration that should take us through December 2021. 2021 marks our church's 150th year of being a worshipping community in Smithville. We'll have a ribbon cutting before church. Harleigh Elliott and Monica Miller are chairing a committee to help us plan some other events to honor our church's history, its present, and its future. We are starting with an updated community cookbook. Please send your recipes (and anything else you might like to include) to Monica at we4blessed@gmail.com. I am certain Harleigh and Monica would appreciate any and all celebrating ideas you might like to share, so please, as you think of wonderful things we might do, get in contact with them.

Susan will be leading the Women's' Bible Study group on Monday, February 1st at 10:00 am at the church. The following Sunday, February 7th at 10:45 am, we'll have our annual congregational meeting. Of course, Covid makes everyone's attendance difficult. We are installing Lilly Willingberg as a new session member and Barbara Maresh along with Jane Istre as returning session members. Please keep them and our entire session in your prayers. I so appreciate our dear session. This past year has been a challenge through which they have ably directed our church. I am very much looking forward to 2021.

I will be at the church Wednesday, February 17th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for anyone who would like to receive the imposition of ashes to remember Ash Wednesday. I'll be wearing a mask (I ask that you do as well) and will attend to each one of you individually as you enter.

In order to move into Lent, on Sunday, February 21st at 11:00 am (weather permitting), we will have a letting go service at our farm in McDade. We will socially distance as we did at our All Saints' Service. We'll sing hymns and throw into the fire anything we need to let go. You may bring lunch (there's plenty of room at the farm), if you'd like. I can't wait until we will be able to share meals together normally again.

Lisa is gathering together our bell choir so that we might ring in Easter morning. Bell practice will begin February 14th at 10:00 am. Susan will be leading worship on this Sunday. We'll plan more for Easter as we see what happens next with the spread of Covid. Please get your vaccines as soon as they become available.

So that's a pretty good list for February, right? Thank our dear Lord, we are making it through together.

Sunday Schedule We are open for 11am worship but not events with food. When we do open completely:

9:45 am – Coffee/Social Hour

10 am Sunday school for all ages 3 to adults – Note: SS for pre-K is available at 10 am now

Worship Service - 11 am
Communion on First Sunday
Church Leadership Pastor -
Kristin Brown- 512.608.4293

Clerk of Session - Leah Saunders

Pastoral Assistant - Susan Guedry 512.304.8082

Piano/Organ/Harp - Monica Miller

Session Members - Leah Saunders, Lisa Maresh, Lisa Altmeyer, Kathy Ford, Monica Miller, Harleigh Altmeyer

Worship - Elder Monica Miller

Mission Outreach - Elder Leah Saunders

Fellowship & Christian Formation - Elder Lisa Maresh

Church Administration - Elder Jane Istre

Web Page, Facebook Page, Newsletter - Elder Kathy Ford - 512.217.5706



February Birthdays:

- 02/08 CADE HURTA
- 02/18 MARK WINSLETT
- 02/19 CARA HURTA SWEENEY
- 02/22 LISA MARESH
- 02/22 GRAYSON MERCER



February Anniversary:

- 02/16/2002 JANE & WILLIE ISTRE



The Super Bowl is Sunday, February 7th. Don't forget to donate to the SOUPER BOWL OF CARING BY DONATING IN PERSON AT THE CHURCH OR ONLINE AT WWW.SMITHVILLEFOODPANTRY.COM

Smithville Food Pantry

Prepared by Mary Ellen Keathey



Date	Clients	Family Members	New Clients	New Family Members
01/06	121	250	3	11
01/13	121	285	1	4
01/20	109	210	3	11
01/27	133	296	0	0
Jan. TOTALS	484	1,1041	7	26

The Food Pantry can purchase food from the Capital area Food Bank much more economically than you can purchase it at the store, so please consider giving by check/cash or donate online and mark "for Food Pantry". The number of clients has really grown in the last few months. Please join us in giving to the pantry. If you have questions, please contact Dorothy Dillon



All of our Services in January were broadcast on FaceBook Live. They are also recorded and posted on FaceBook and the church web site: www.fpcsmithville.org for later viewing. The Service Bulletin is published on the website and on FaceBook Live.



Historic church photo from David Herrington.

Original organ and no stained glass in windows!

Bernie looks cold, turn up the heat please!
(borrowed from Mission Presbytery)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION, PLEASE READ:

IN SEPTEMBER 2021 WE WILL CELEBRATE FPC'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY!! THE SESSION HAS PUT TOGETHER A COMMITTEE TO PLAN THE CELEBRATION. IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THE COMMITTEE PLEASE CALL OR TEXT HARLEIGH ALTMeyer AT 512-479-5564.

ONE OF THE FIRST FUNDRAISERS FOR THIS EVENT IS BEING CHAIRED BY MONICA MILLER. SHE IS COLLECTING RECIPIES FOR AN ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK. PLEASE SEND RECIPIES TO HER AT we4blessed@gmail.com

JOIN US ON THE STEPS JANUARY 31 FOR A RIBBON CUTTING BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT 10:45 TO BEGIN THE CELEBRATION!

We need everyone's ideas & input!!

Notes from Lisa Maresh:

Bell Choir practice will start Feb 14 at 10 AM

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Subject: BASTROP COUNTY COVID VACCINATION PARTICIPATION - INTAKE APPLICATION SIGN UP LINK BASTROP COUNTY

Hello Everyone - Please go to the link below if you are interested in signing up to receive your COVID vaccination. Once you sign-up they will contact you. Please pass this on to those you know who are interested in receiving the vaccine. Put this URL in your browser and it will take you to the site.

Thanks, Janice (Bruno, Smithville Community Clinic)

<http://covac.info/>

Women's Bible Study

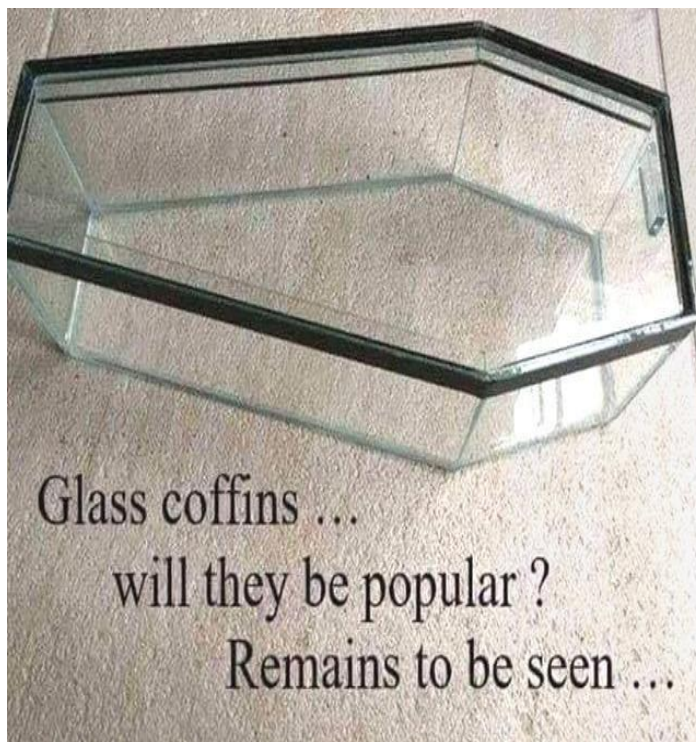
The Women's Bible Study group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10 am September through May. At this time, no food will be served, bring your own snack and drink. You must wear a mask. We will practice social distancing in the Fellowship Hall.

The next meeting has been rescheduled TO Monday, February 1 and there will be NO ZOOM available.

The study for this year is "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament." Please contact Susan Guedry or Gwen Morris for more information. Everyone is invited!!

From Gloria Hurta:

I couldn't resist. 😊



February 2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAL CHURCH SMITHVILLE
AGENDA for ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 7, 2021

Opening Prayer

2021 Nominating Committee Election (2 Elders, 3 members) Kathy Ford & Barbara Maresh

REPORTS:

Pastor's Report- Pastor Kris Brown

Clerk's Report - Leah Saunders

Christian Fellowship & Christian Formation Committee - Lisa Maresh & Kathy Ford

Church Administration Committee - Jane Istre

Building & Grounds Committee - Jane Istre

Women's Group - Gwen Morris

Worship Committee - Monica Miller & Lisa Maresh

Mission & Outreach Committee - Leah Saunders & Kathy Ford

Year-end Financial Report - Jane Istr

e

2021 Approved Budget Report - Jane Istre

Closing Prayer

February 2021

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Women's Bible Study 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall <i>World Interfaith Harmony Week begins</i>					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
5th Sunday of Epiphany 10:45 am Congregational Meeting 11 am Service with Communion in the Church Building and on Facebook Live (agenda on pg 5) <i>Souper Bowl of Caring</i> <i>Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies</i>		Women's Bible Study 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall	Session Mtg 7:pm	<i>Thursdays in Black</i>		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Transfiguration of the Lord 11 am Service in the Church Building and on Facebook Live <i>Health Awareness & Day of Prayer for Healing & Wholeness</i>	<i>Presidents' Day</i>		Ash Wednesday <i>Imposition of Ashes by Pastor Kris 6-7 p.m. at the church</i>			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
1st Sunday in Lent 11 am - Service at the Brown Farm and on Facebook Live <i>Universal Day of Prayer for Students</i> <i>PDA Blue T-Shirt Sunday</i>						
28						
2nd Sunday in Lent 11 am - Service in the Church Building and on Facebook Live <i>Camp & Conference Ministries</i> <i>Presbyterian Media Sunday</i>						