

First Presbyterian Church Smithville Newsletter

April

2022

300 Burleson, Smithville, Texas 78957
Phone 512.360.5231

Pastor's Remarks:

From Rev. Kris Brown



Easter is so very close; I hope you are able to find the time and space you need to be ready to welcome Easter with open arms. When we think about the year in terms of church seasons, we are encouraged to lean into all that Easter means. Where we are for the next few weeks, continuing in the season of Lent, allows us to prepare ourselves for the glory that is coming. “Lent,” short for “Lenten,” comes from an Old English word meaning “lengthen.” Most likely, Lent connects to the lengthening of daylight hours that happens in Spring. It’s wonderful that our spiritual life is rooted so deeply in how God’s creation works.

We might also hear and feel in Lent, the distance, the length, between ourselves and God. We begin Lent remembering that from dust we come and to dust we return. We walk alongside the Israelites wandering in the desert; we pay attention to what we have done and what we have left undone and consider the cost of our choices. Some of us decide to give up things for a season to be more aware of how our choices affect our everyday lives.

We may feel our Lenten time to be heavy, but our journey through Lent invites us also to appreciate God’s presence in the smallest parts of our lives, to thank God for God’s good gifts, and to anticipate the greatest gift of all, the gift we will celebrate Easter Sunday. To come to the cross better understanding where exactly we are allows us to experience joy beyond measure as we take in what the Resurrection means for each one of us. Happy Season of Lent. And I can’t wait to celebrate with all of you on Easter Sunday.

Church Members - if you would like to volunteer to help, sign up in the Narthex!

[Click here to register](#) or scan QR code below:



5K - APRIL 9, 2022

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
SMITHVILLE, TX**



First Presbyterian Church in Smithville presents the 2022 5K Fun Bunny Run! Join us for a morning of fun at 9:00 AM on April 9th as we hop into Easter and raise funds for Diabetes Education through the Smithville Lions Club. Participants of all ages are welcome to walk, run, or jog through historic Smithville, TX!

The event will begin and end at the First Presbyterian Church in Smithville - 300 Burleson St, Smithville, TX 78957, where you can join us for light snacks after the race!

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/Harleigh Altmeyer

Fundraising Committee - Harleigh Altmeyer/Lilly Willenberg

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

Sunday Schedules

We are open for 11 am worship. We will continue our Face Book Live option also.

The Following are now meeting:

Sunday School -10 am new study began March 13th, come and join us.

*Women's Bible Study – 2nd Tuesday from Sept to May at 10 a.m. **Exception for April – meeting will be on April 19***

Please check the website for changes in schedule dates and times.

Please welcome our 3 newest members and add their information to your church directory:

Brenda Hurta-Sander

2210 Sharon Dr. Cedar Park, TX 78613

Cell phone 512-627-5406 – email - brendasander@sbcglobal.net

Birthday – September 5th

Married to Darrell Sander – Anniversary – June 12, 1976

Luis and Suzanne (Dee Dee) Gonzalez

113 Gloria Blvd.

Smithville TX 78967

Luis phone – 512-656-7034 – email - luis.gonzalez4.tx@gmail.com

Birthday – December 4th

Dee Dee's phone – 512-569-8653 – email - ddgonzalez@austin.rr.com

Happy Birthday

April Birthdays

- 04/02 - Lilly Willenberg
- 04/05 - Joe Hines
- 04/12 - Jess Winslett
- 04/16 - Sherry Ceder
- 04/17 - Gloria Hurta
- 04/18 - Gwen Morris
- 04/26 - David Altmeyer
- 04/26 - Alex Brown
- 04/27 - Seth Willenberg

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April Anniversaries

- 04/04 - Kari & Joe Hines
- 04/26 - Kris & David Brown

Click here to register or scan QR code below



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April 3rd Communion Schedule

Lisa in charge of Communion for April. 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.

Food Pantry Report - March 2022

From Laurie Morgan

Date	Families	Fam. Mem.	New Clients
03/02	93	231	0
03/09	101	234	2
03/16	84	199	0
03/23	113	286	1
03/30	99	241	0
Totals:	490	1191	3

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.

Cookbooks are ready to purchase for \$20. They are available at the church and the Smithville Library. Contact Monica Miller for additional info.

Bricks with your name, initials, or verse, are available for purchase. They will be laid to form a remembrance of our 150th anniversary when we see how many we have. The information is in the Narthex and the order form and pricing information at www.fpcsmithville.org

NEWS FROM SUSAN GUEDRY

The adult Sunday school class is continuing the study of the paintings of John Swansons 'Holy Week in Word and Art'. This will continue through Easter. The class meets at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings



The Women's Bible Study group will meet Tuesday, April 19th at 10:00 which is a week later than usual. This month the study is on 'Mary in the Faith and Tradition of the Church.'

Beginning in June WBS will meet every Tuesday at 10 to view the video "The Chosen."

Our church is scheduled to work at Born Again Emporium April 4-9. We work Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 9-2. Any amount of help is greatly appreciated. is open Friday and Saturday from 9-2. Donations are taken only on Friday and Saturday from 9-2. BAE will be closed April 11-15 in observance of Holy Week and Easter

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming Events:

April 3rd - Pot luck luncheon after the service! The tradition resumes.

April 9th - Fun Bun Run - sign up to help in the Narthex

April 10th - Stations of the Cross available to walk before and after church in the sanctuary

April 10th - Palm Sunday - a special service beginning with Palms and ending with the Crucifixion with special music and readings from Luke

April 17th - Easter Day, Decorate the cross with butterflies; Easter egg hunt and sidewalk chalk drawing

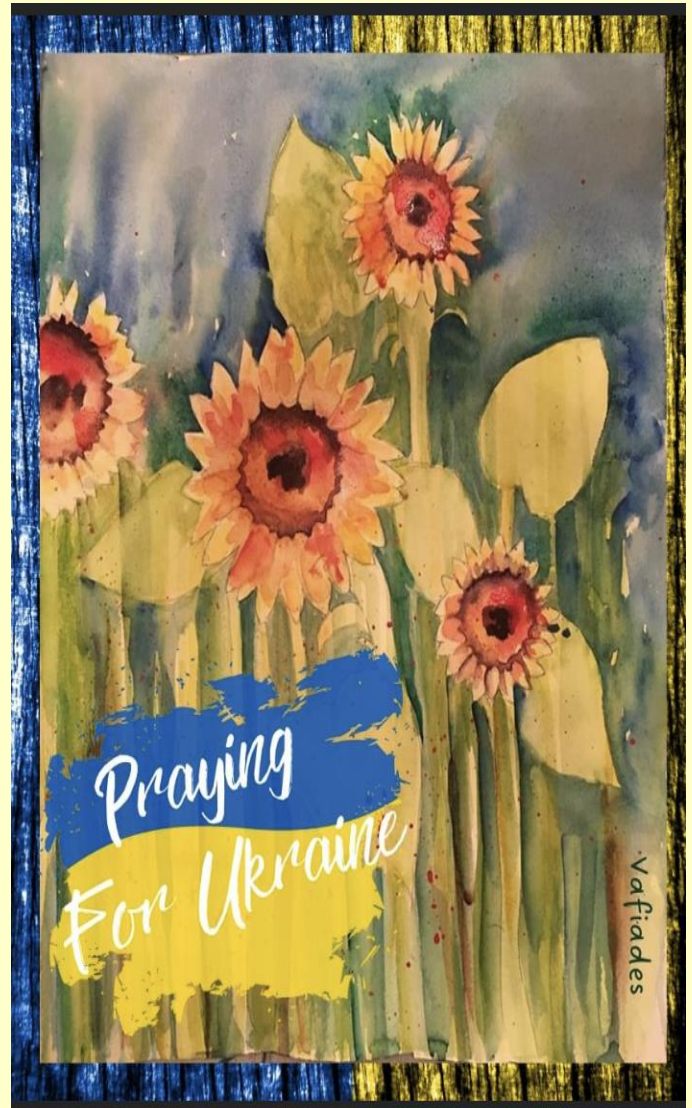
April 19th - Women's Bible Study - 10 a.m.

A Poem by john roedel –

Submitted by DeeDee Gonzalez

In the face of war
I'm so small. Yet love is big.
I can't make the world be peaceful
I can't stall tanks
from roaring down roads
I can't prevent children
from having to hide in bunkers
I can't convince the news to
stop turning war into a video game
I can't silence the sound of bombs
tearing neighborhoods apart
I can't turn guided missiles
into a bouquet of flowers
I can't make a warmonger
have an ounce of empathy
I can't convince ambassadors
to quit playing truth or dare
I can't deflect a sniper's bullet
from turning a wife into a widow
I can't stave off a country from being
Reduced to ash and rubble
I can't do any of that
the only thing I can do
is to love the next person I encounter
without any strings or conditions
to love my neighbor
so fearlessly that
it causes a ripple
that stretches from
one horizon to the next
I can't force peace
upon the world
but I can become a force
of peace in the world because sometimes all it takes
is a single lit candle in the darkness to start a
movement
"Lord, make me a candle of comfort in this world
let me burn with peace" - john roedel

Thank you for this sharing this beautiful poem Dee Dee!



April 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1	2
<p>3</p> <p>5th Sunday in Lent</p> <p>Worship Service 11 a.m Communion, - In the building - lunch after service Facebook Live <i>Justice Advocacy Sunday</i></p>	4	5	6	7	8	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 a.m.</p>  <p>Fun Bunny Run</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Palm/Passion Sunday</p> <p>Worship Service 11 a.m - In the building and on Facebook Live</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Monday of Holy Week</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Tuesday of Holy Week</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Wednesday of Holy Week</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Maunday Thursday</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Good Friday</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Great Vigil of Easter</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Day</p> <p>Worship Service 11 a.m - In the building and on Facebook Live</p> <p><i>One Great Hour of Sharing-collection ends</i></p>	18	<p>19</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 10 am</p>	20	21	22	23
<p>24</p> <p>2nd Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Worship Service 11 a.m. - In the building and on Facebook Live</p> <p>Session Meeting <i>Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day</i></p>	25	26	27	28	29	30