

Presbygram

Annual Congregational Meeting and

New Member Luncheon

Sunday, **March 10** immediately following the
11:00 am Combined worship service.

A Continental Café will be open from 9:30 -
10:00 am

This is a covered dish luncheon for our entire
congregation so bring a dish to share.

Our program includes:

- The introduction of members who have joined our congregation since our last new member luncheon.
- A report on the work of our committees over the last year.
- Election of Officers Nominating Committee.



Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, **March 10**.
Don't forget to change your manual clocks on Saturday
night!

The One Thing



Lent is a season of preparation for self-examination, fasting, prayer, and works of love.

Conversion ("turning around our lives towards God) is the theme of Lent.

The purpose of Lent is for us to look inward and reflect on our commitment to following Jesus to the cross. **The forty days of Lent correspond to the forty days of temptation of Jesus in the wilderness and the forty years of wandering in the desert.**

Lenten season reminds us of what is IMPORTANT to us.

Lent is not about giving up our favorite food.

Lent is not about giving up coffee.

Lent is not about giving up our peanut M&Ms.

Lent is not about giving up our favorite shows.

Lent is not about giving up social media,

Lent is not about giving up golf, smoking, drinking, etc.

Lent is about the ONE THING...

It's about choosing the "BETTER."

Jesus says to Martha in Luke 10:41-42 the following:

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." (Mark 10:41)

Lent is about *doing* the ONLY ONE THING needed...

Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her. (Mark 10:42)

Lent is NOT about "taking away" something we have or "giving up" something; but rather "GAINING" Christ.

So, during this Lenten season may we all *GAIN* more of Jesus Christ.

With love and affection,

Peter

Philippians 1:6

Upcoming Committee Schedules



Administrative:

Congregational Care:

Endowment:

Evangelism:

Finance:

Missions:

Nurture:

Property:

Worship:

Sunday, **March 17**, 6:00 pm

Sunday, **March 10**, 5:00 pm

Sunday, **February 25**, 12:00 pm

Sunday, **March 10**, 5:30 pm

Sunday, **April 14**, 6:00 pm

Sunday, **March 17**, 5:30 pm

Sunday, **April 7**, 12:00 pm

Sunday, **March 10**, 5:00 pm

Sunday, **April 14**, 12:10 pm



What is visitation? I wonder sometimes what constitutes a visit. What I mean by that is 'visit' usually means going to someone's home and spending time with them - or maybe in their hospital room or rehab facility. But what I learned from my years in pastoral

ministry, is sometimes a visit is sitting down for a talk after worship; sometimes a visit is a phone call - and sometimes a visit can be some time spent in conversation on by text message or IM or other social media. In fact, to my surprise - and it is still the case - some people would rather share a visit by phone or text rather than something in person. And while in person has some great benefits, a phone call or a text which lets someone know you care about them can be just as meaningful and impactful as going somewhere face to face. What that means for us is that if you are not someone who likes to go to someone's home (and that is OK) or are not able to go to someone's home, a phone call, a text, a message can be just as much a visit as it lets people know you are thinking of them and you can 'listen' by written or spoken word just as well.

Rev. Joanne Glaser - Parish Visitor

LET US COME TOGETHER IN PRAYER!

Someone asked me about the Prayer Ministry in the church and my response was we have a wonderful prayer ministry! After all, prayer is one of the great works of the church. But if you are unfamiliar with our prayer opportunities here are two of them:



Prayer Team - the prayer team is an online group (although if you are not 'online' just let me know you would like to be a part of the prayer team and we will have someone call you with the prayer requests). This group is notified by email whenever there is a prayer request within the congregation (and sometimes for people not affiliated with our congregation but who still need our prayers). If you are not a part of this group and would like to be just let me know.

Prayer Group - the prayer group meets the third Wednesday of each month at 11am in the parlor. We spend time in prayer for various needs around the church and for those who have requested prayer using the prayer cards found in the pews. We also spend some time learning about prayer - different techniques, different types of prayer, how to pray in public, etc. Come join us!

And of course don't forget the **prayer cards** found in the pews which are also a part of our prayer ministry. We would love to have you as an active prayer partner however you may want to participate!

Any questions just let me know!

Rev. Joanne Glaser – Parish Visitor



Devotional Moment

Ephesians 1:5 *He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us as the beloved.*

I don't know how much English cats understand, but I tell these 3 kittens and our full grown cat every day how lucky they are. They don't respond in any way except maybe a 'meow' wanting me to give them more food or a bowl of milk! All of these animals were 'abandoned' at our farm and of course being the soft-hearted people we are, we began to take care of them - fed them, got their shots and had them spayed and neutered. We pet them (when they let us) and care for them in whatever way they need.

Just like God adopts each of us, not because of anything we have done, but simply because we are loved. God loves us and cares for us in whatever way we need - how fortunate we are to be loved and cared for by our great God! And just like I tell my kittens and the cat, we are so fortunate!

Prayer: Caring God, we praise you and thank you for loving us and caring for us just as we are! Amen!

Rev. Joanne Glaser – Parish Visitor

SAGES: Senior Adults Growing, Engaging & Serving



SAGES will attend Bach's Lunch at Starmount Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, **March 13**. We will leave from our church parking lot at about 11:30 am. Contact Erin Bowers for more information ~ and don't forget to register to attend "The Sound of Music" on **May 4** at High Point Theatre with SAGES! The last day to register for tickets is **March 25**.

If you would like to be added to the email list that will keep you up to date on SAGES activities, simply contact Erin Bowers at erin@firstpreshp.org.

Stephen Ministry

Continuing Education



Did you know... that in addition to receiving 50 hours of training, your Stephen Ministers meet regularly for Continuing Education? One of the ways we accomplish that here at FPC, High Point, is by discussing books on topics of caregiving, death and dying, grief, listening, and any number of other related concerns. Here are the books we are planning to discuss in 2024:

- *No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)* by Kate Bowler
- *The End of Your Life Book Club: A Memoir* by Will Schwalbe
- *The Other Side of Sadness: What the New Science of Bereavement Tells Us About Life After Loss* by George A. Bonanno
- *The Best Care Possible: A Physician's Quest to Transform Care Through the End of Life* by Ira Byock
- *A Bittersweet Season: Caring for Our Aging Parents—and Ourselves* by Jane Gross

If you would like a visit from a Stephen Minister, please contact one of our Stephen Leaders: Erin Bowers, Lisa Cooper or Chris Osborne.

Missions

Simple Gesture



FPC partners with *A Simple Gesture* to collect food for our local food pantries. If you haven't taken advantage of the green bag donation program, you can easily sign up for that online. Once you sign up and receive your green bag, simply fill it and leave it on your porch on the designated Saturday morning. When it is picked up, a new bag will be

left for you, and you can fill it again! If you prefer, bring your items to the Church and place in the Food Pantry in the big baskets to the left of the door. More information about the green bag program, online donation, or volunteering for *A Simple Gesture* is available at: www.asimplegesturegso.org or by calling 336-547-7000.

MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE

Ward Street food bank feeds 40 families a week. Each family receives a large box of helpful items. Please donate this month and place your items under the table in the FLC lobby. You do not have to buy each item, but if everyone bought one thing or more, we would be helping our community so much! This month, we are collecting canned corn, canned green beans, peanut butter and cereal. Please drop off your items anytime by **March 24**.



BLESSING BOX

As winter approaches, please remember to donate items for the Blessing Box that would serve our homeless population the best. Pop top cans (or pouches of meat, canned fruit, peanut butter and juice boxes/water. Thank you for your help in helping the hungry in our community. We can also use hats and gloves.



OTHER MISSIONS WE SUPPORT:

- Blessing Box – items are available in the parking lot for the local community
- CROP Walk - communities coming together to raise money and awareness for hunger relief, locally and around the world
- Heifer International - a global nonprofit working to eradicate poverty and hunger
- Missionary family in Taiwan – Jonathan & Emily Seitz
- Mobile Meals – volunteers deliver hot meals to shut-ins each Tuesday
- Open Door Ministries – with the leadership of Brooke & Willy Garrou, our church provides a meal once a month
- The Salvation Army – Angel Tree and a week of Bell Ringing
- A Simple Gesture - bags for food are provided and picked up at your home
- Souper Bowl of Caring – empowers youth and united communities around the time of the Big Game to help those in need
- Ward Street Community Resources – local food and other assistance
- Special Offerings: Joy Offering, One Great Hour of Sharing, Pennies for Hunger, Pentecost Offering
- Youth Missions – local, national and international mission trips each summer

Lenten Bible Reading

Lent is a special season of the church year which spans the forty days before the Resurrection - Easter Sunday. Historically, this season was meant to be a time of study and discernment for those who were wanting to join the church - with the congregation praying for these individuals during the 40 days. Anyone who wished would then join the church on Easter Sunday. Over the centuries, Lent has become a time for all of us to take some additional time in prayer, scripture reading and discernment in our relationship with Jesus Christ and the church. To help you with this, there will be a handout located in the church gathering areas with (very) short Bible passages for each day during Lent. These are short enough that even the busiest of you can find time to spend a few moments each day in God's word.

Blessings to you all through this special season of the church!

Easter Lilies



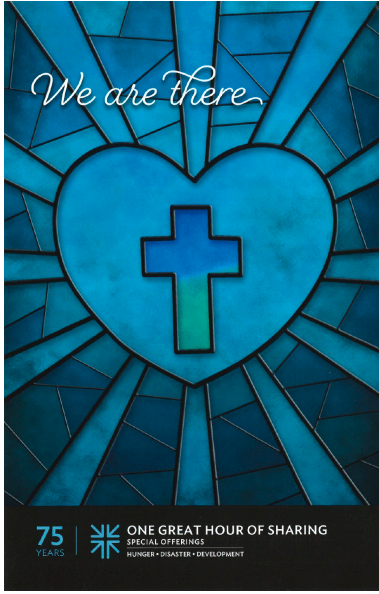
If you wish to donate Easter lilies to be placed in the sanctuary, please fill in the information below and turn it in to the church office by **Thursday, March 28**. Cost of the lilies is \$20.00 each. Please attach payment to order form. Checks should be made out to First Presbyterian Church and marked "Lilies". Please print your information below.

Number of lilies ____ Given by _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

One Great Hour of Sharing



Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Ways to give:

- Write a check to First Presbyterian Church, *note "One Great Hour of Sharing"*
Donation envelopes are in the Pew Racks
- Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- Text OGHS to 91999
- Use this QR code:



For more information, grab a brochure from the table in one of the Gathering Areas.



Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast will be Saturday, March 23 at 9:30 am. Everyone is invited to this fellowship event. Continental breakfast will be served starting at 9:30 with the egg hunt to follow at 10:45. Rain or shine, this event will go on! **Donations of new eggs and wrapped candy are needed for the Easter Egg hunt.** Please bring your donation to Heather's office.



Youth Sunday March 17 – Come hear our Youth sing and lead worship!



Holy Week Contemplative Services

Make your Holy Week more meaningful by joining us each weekday in the Chapel at noon for a brief contemplative service of prayer, scripture, and music. These services will last only 20-30 minutes—join us every day, or just once during the week if you are able.

Holy Week: Contemplative Services Monday–Friday, each day at noon

March 25	Kendra Biddle, flute
March 26	Jack Gorham, piano
March 27	Elizabeth Gulley, piano
March 28	Margaret Petty, cello
March 29	Mike Jenkins, piano

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:30 pm

Service of Communion & Tenebrae (childcare provided)

Don't miss this remembrance of the Last Supper and the final hours of Jesus' life. Each reading is accompanied by growing darkness until his death and burial, when all leave in silence.



Mark Your Calendars! Wednesday Night Supper & Bible Study will return this Spring. Join us for supper at 5:45 and Bible Study at 6:30 from **April 3 through May 8.**

Presbyterian Women

“Bridging the Gaps Among Us”

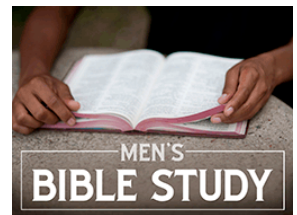


Save the Date! The **April 8** PW Gathering will be the Annual Spring Tea. More details to follow...

Men's Bible Study – Tuesdays!

An invitation to all men from FPC's Men's Bible Study – each Tuesday morning at 7:15 am

The Men's Bible Study of First Presbyterian Church is a dynamic group of men whose goals are: to engage in fellowship, pray for God's Church and our congregation, and study the Word of God.



We meet **IN PERSON** in the Session room for those who would like to be in person. We will also continue our **Zoom** link (below) so that those who can't or choose not to be physically present can still participate. COME and JOIN us. Contact Peter Kim (336-884-2248) (peter@firstpreshp.org) or Kevin Harron (Cell: 336-687-4042) (kevin.harron@inmar.com).

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83278245326?pwd=UWhXcFdYTEQ2NXVQa0ZEOEowRS85QT09>

You're **Invited!**

SPRING *fling*



March

16th



5-7pm



First Presbyterian Church High Point Family Life Center

**THE WHOLE CONGREGATION IS INVITED TO
JOIN US FOR FOOD, GAMES, DANCING**

Donations will be accepted for the missions committee food drive.

Tickets \$5 kids 3 and under free.



Worship & Music

Regular Worship Times

- 9:00 am – Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center
- 10:00 am – Sunday School
- 11:00 am – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- Our Traditional Worship (11:00 am worship) is live streamed on our YouTube channel each week.

Lenten & Easter Music in Worship

March 10	11 am	COMBINED SERVICE Contemporary Worship Band, Covenant Choir, and guest soloist, Joe Britt & cellist, Margaret Petty
March 17	9 am & 11 am	Youth Choir & Youth Handbells
March 24	11 am	PALM SUNDAY – Children's Processional AND...

Celebrate Life!

A Folk Rock Musical

Covenant Choir (adults & youth 16+)
Wednesday, January 3 7:30-9:00 pm –
we're working on the 1970's musical
'Celebrate Life' for Palm Sunday, **March 24**.
Get your groove on and come sing.



New Keys in the Choir Room!



While on a recent scavenger hunt, the youth bounded into the choir room and said, 'We found it!' Their clue for the mystery item:

***Find the keys that open the songs;
in a white case is where it belongs.***

Clue credit:
Deborah Brown ;-)

Indeed! We have a lovely new piano in our choir room

which was gifted to the church by John and Verna Croom. The glossy ivory color conservatory grand is a wonderful addition to our Music Ministry and will be enjoyed by many for years to come! Thank you, John & Verna!



John & Verna looking on as Mike Jenkins plays the piano in their cottage at RLSR.

Youth News

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

If you are the parent of a Middle or High school youth and they are not active in our youth program, we encourage them to join in fellowship with us each week, September through the end of May. We all know these are difficult times which means fellowship with others is more valuable than ever. If you know someone interested, please reach out to the church office for info.

MSYG Upcoming

Mar 10 – Game Night

Mar 17 – Youth Sunday
(Church only)

Mar 24 – Escape Room
(after Church)

Mar 31 – Easter – no PYC



HSYG Upcoming

Mar 10 – Game Night

Mar 17 – Youth Sunday
(Church only)

Mar 24 – Escape Room
(after Church)

Mar 31 – Easter – no PYC



The annual Yard Sale for Youth Missions will be on Saturday, **May 18**. We will start collecting items the week before the sale in the Family Life Center. This is an "ABC-TV Sale" – anything but clothes and TV's! Please begin collecting items to donate at your home in the next few months. We appreciate your support!



The high school youth are selling **INDULGENCES** to raise money for the 2024 heritage trip to Scotland. Hire a youth from our church to help you or a loved one get those pesky tasks complete!

Contact Heather Redding at children@firstpreshp.org to set up an indulgence.

Christian Education

Adult Sunday School Classes

The **Martha Brown Bible Study class** is studying the book of Acts in the Chapel Sunday mornings at 10:00 am. Dave Perry teaches this class.

The **Parlor class** meets in the Parlor at 10:00 am. It is a discussion class using video series from RightNow Media. Our current study is *Jesus's Farewell Message* with Francis Chan! Lisa Cooper and Joanne Glaser lead this class.

Children's News



Kids of the Covenant (KOC)
Next meeting Sunday March 17
6:00 - 7:30 pm

Save the Date: Easter
Breakfast and Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 23, 9:30 - 11 am



Young  Heart

*Make your reservations for the annual Young at Heart dinner on **Sunday, April 14** at 12:00 noon in the Family Life Center. All single church members over 65 and all widows and widowers are cordially invited to this event. Dinner will be served, and we will provide entertainment. Please call Lisa in the church office at 336-884-2248 or email her at amoffice@firstpreshp.org to accept our invitation to this special event. Please let us know if you need transportation. You can also register on Realm.*



Church Information

Online Worship Service Access

Each Sunday, you will be able to find our livestreamed worship service on our YouTube channel beginning at 11:00 am, or later in the day as a saved recording.

Go to the church webpage (www.firstpreshp.org) and click on the "Online worship – Live & on demand" link in the top right corner. This link will take you directly to our YouTube channel. Once there, click on "Live" and all our videos will appear.

Prayer Group

Prayer group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am in the parlor. We have a wonderful, prayerful group who have spent our time together learning about prayer using classic prayers and psalms and learning about techniques to help us 'pray better'. We hope you will continue to fill out the prayer cards found in the pews and we would love to have you come and join us!

Notary Public

In need of a Notary? Ashley and Lisa are both certified and can help you. Come by the church office any weekday between 9:00 am and 4:30 pm (12:00 pm on Fridays).



Reading Group



Reading Group meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am. Anyone who is interested in reading and discussing the following selections is welcome to join! Contact Erin Bowers at erin@firstpreshp.org if you'd like to be included on the email list to receive information and reminders.

April 3: *Lilli de Jong* by Janet Benton

May 1: *The Fraud* by Zadie Smith

June 5: *The Country of the Blind* by Andrew Leland

July: NO MEETING

August 7: *Table for Two* by Amor Towles

PLEASE NOTE:

If the door is locked during office hours, please press the grey button on the AIPPHONE unit to the side of the door for assistance.

BE SURE TO STAND IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA so the office staff can identify you.



The Church Office will be closed on **Monday, April 1** in observance of the Easter Holiday. We will reopen Tuesday at 8:30 am.

Staff Extensions & Email Addresses 336-884-2248

Peter Kim, Pastor, Ext. 545
peter@firstpreshp.org

Erin Kesterson Bowers, Associate Pastor, Ext. 546
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Joanne Glaser, Parish Visitor
presbyjo@gmail.com

Elizabeth Gulley, Director of Music, Ext. 550
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Alek Ottaway, 1st Worship Leader, Ext. 544
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Michael Jenkins, Organist & Assistant Music Director Ext. 551
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Heather Redding, Director of Childrens' Ministries, Ext. 548
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Cynthia Varner, Preschool Director, Ext. 549
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