

# First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater, Texas

March 2016

*The mission of our church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ  
Our vision is to be an oasis of God's love.*

1311 McCaulley Office hours: M ~ F, 9:00 am ~12:00pm

P. O. Box 956, Sweetwater, Texas 79556 325-235-5491

Pastor – Rev. Kary Fry

Clerk of Session: Paula Huckabee

website: [www.fpcsweetwater.org](http://www.fpcsweetwater.org)

email: [secfpc@att.net](mailto:secfpc@att.net)

email: [kary.fry@att.net](mailto:kary.fry@att.net)

Elder of the Month: Rob Elliott

## From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Everybody,

This year March winds bring with them a fragrance of devotion, repentance and joy.

Our Lenten walk continues close beside our Lord. Now in week 3, I hope you are walking in such a way that your reading of scripture, your prayers and your very personal walk is aware of the voice and presence of Jesus.

In two weeks we will be beside Jesus as he walks into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Shout your praises to him; remember the rocks will do so even if you do not. Do not let their "voice" be heard above yours! *Be devoted to Jesus.*

At the foot of the cross, we will each feel the weight of our sin. Give it to Jesus. He died for you. Let that weight be lifted from your tired and weary shoulders. *Claim the act of repentance.*

And then find your way to the tomb on Sunday morning. Go early! Discover for yourself its empty places, folded linens and lighted passage in places that are usually darkly hidden. Run into the tomb like John and Peter. And hear the voice of the angel in your heart—"He is risen!" It is a

promise for you to hang on to. *Allow joy to fill your ministry.*

What will you do with this Lenten walk? Will you be different? Will others be able to tell? I hope you will bring your personal story to Sunday School and worship. We want to hear.

Blessed journey,

Kary



Palm Sunday March 20, 10:45 Worship

Lenten Lunch March 23, Noon Trinity Baptist

Maundy Thursday March 24, 5:30pm Chapel

Easter Sunday March 27, 10:45am Worship  
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Easter Egg Hunt after Worship  
Bring your Easter Basket



**Everyone please bring a bag or two of wrapped candy or plastic eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Please have the candy at the church by March 20.**

## Dates to Remember

- 2 Lenten Lunch~ Trinity Baptist ~Noon  
Presbyterian Women~5:00pm Business Meeting  
5:30pm Bible Study
- 3 Kary Ann's Clan~11:30am~ Pizza Hut  
Choir Practice~ 5:30pm
- 6 Hoyt House Worship ~ 9:00am-9:30am  
Sunday School for all ages ~ 9:30am  
Worship ~ 10:45am ~ Reverse Offering  
Communion Class of 2018  
First Day to Order Easter Lilies  
Little Ones and IBKS~ 5:00pm-6:00pm
- 10 Kary Ann's Clan~11:30am~ TA Truck Stop  
Choir Practice~ 5:30pm
- 13 **Day Light Savings Time Begins**  
**No Sunday School**  
Worship~ 10:45am
- 16 Session Meeting~5:30pm
- 17 Kary Ann's Clan ~ 11:30am~ Dairy Queen  
Choir Practice~ 5:30pm
- 20 **Palm Sunday**  
Sunday School for all ages~9:30am  
Little Ones and IBKS~ Meet 10:15~ Choir Practice  
Worship~ 10:45am ~Children will sing.  
Last Day to Order Easter Lilies  
MS & HS Meet to fill Easter Eggs~5:00pm
- 23 Lenten Lunch~ Avondale Baptist~ Noon
- 24 Kary Ann's Clan ~ 11:30am~ Big Boys  
**Maundy Thursday Service~Chapel~5:30pm**
- 27 **Easter Sunday**  
**No Sunday School**  
Little Ones and IBKS~ Meet 10:15~ Choir Practice  
Worship~ 10:45am~ Children will sing.  
Noisy Offering  
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering  
Communion Class of 2016  
MS & HS hide eggs toward end of service.  
Easter Egg Hunt following worship.
- 28 Church Office Closed
- 31 Kary Ann's Clan ~ 11:30am~ Schlotzsky's  
Choir Practice~5:30pm



- 6 Lou Ann Cumbie and Dennis Cumbie
- 13 Mike Fry and Doug Richards
- 20 Donella Parker and Hilary Brennan
- 27 Patty Gesin and Richard Gesin



March 2 Trinity Baptist Church

March 23 Avondale Baptist Church

FPC will be helping with the Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday, March 23rd at Avondale Baptist Church. We need volunteers to make and bring sandwiches and brownies. If you can help, please contact Becky at the church or Ruth Ann at 338-1595 or [ruthanncampbell@me.com](mailto:ruthanncampbell@me.com).



Help us fill our sanctuary with Easter lilies on Easter morning to help celebrate the rising of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please give an Easter lily in honor or in memory of a loved one.

The cost is \$17.50 per lily. The deadline for ordering lilies is March 20<sup>th</sup>. Sweetwater Floral will deliver the lilies to the church Easter morning. You may order by calling the church office, 235-5491, or use order form and place in offering plate.



## Birthdays

- 1 Robert Hampton  
Chris Maxwell
- 2 Peyton Gee
- 3 Marina Wilcox
- 5 Leslie Bond
- 6 Ann Shirley
- 9 Kim Cason
- 10 Major Briggs
- 11 Tracey Smola
- 12 Jeannette Bryant
- 16 Jeff Stein
- 19 Dane Bennett
- 25 Jenny Smola
- 27 Beth Maxwell
- 30 Bill Brock  
Betsy Howe  
Kallen Moody

Do You want to Refresh your Spring Spirit?

Let's Walk Away Your Winter Blues  
at Hoyt Place



Come and walk with us daily and Enter to Win  
a Prize for the person who walks the most  
miles.

Begins February 23<sup>rd</sup> an ends March 31<sup>st</sup>

8:00am-5:00pm  
1700 Hoyt Avenue  
Sweetwater, Texas

Call 325-235-5655 for more information.



**All Women of the Church are invited to come  
for fellowship, prayer and Bible Study.  
Presbyterian Women will meet on Wed.,  
March 2. There is a business meeting at  
5:00pm and Bible Study with Kay Staton at  
5:30pm.**

**The study this year is  
Come to the Waters by Judy Record Fletcher**

*Hoyt Place*

*We are excited to lead worship every  
first Sunday of the month at Hoyt  
Place, from 9:00-9:30 a.m. We will  
sing, hear the Word of God, and share  
Communion.*

*Come join us in this wonderful  
Ministry of fellowship*

*Thank  
You*

**Donations given for Renovation Project**  
**In Memory of:**

*Joe Liner  
by Winnie Ruth Liner  
Lesa Foreman  
Matt Liner*

*We are also very grateful for several  
anonymous and undesignated gifts.*

~~~~~  
*Thank you to Richard Gesin for his hard  
work on repairing our pews, and Pat Foy for  
the addition of the beautiful crosses on the  
pews.*



**Children's Choir**  
**From Stephanie Wiele**

Children's choir: We are excited to have the children's choir (Little Ones and IBKs) sing on both Palm Sunday and Easter. We will meet at 10:15 in the sanctuary to practice before each service. Also on Palm Sunday we will have the children process in during the first hymn waving palm branches. We will gather the children at the back of the church before the start of the service.

**Little One and IBKS**  
**From Lou Ann Cumbie**

**March 6: 5:00-6:00** IBKs and Little Ones

**March 20: Palm Sunday**

**10:15** Children's Choir Practice  
Children will sing during worship.

**March 27: Easter Sunday**

**10:15** Children's Choir Practice  
Children will sing during worship.

Bring your Easter basket for the egg hunt after church! Easter Egg Hunt immediately after worship on the front lawn.

**Middle School and High School**

**March 20: 5:00pm**

Middle School and High School students meet with LouAnn to fill eggs for Sunday's Easter Egg Hunt.

**March 27: Easter Sunday**

Middle School and High School kids - meet LouAnn towards the end of the service to hide the eggs for the kids.



***Congratulations to Caroline Brennan!***  
***She will be working at Mo Ranch as a counselor for both summer sessions!***

**Mo Ranch Youth Camps-Conferences**

Below is the link for information about Youth Camps and Conferences

At Mo Ranch. If anyone is interested, please call the church office, 235-5491 or [secfpc@att.net](mailto:secfpc@att.net)

<http://www.moranch.org/Camps-Conferences/Youth-Adult>

**Session Minutes**

***Stewardship and Finance: Financial Report which was unanimously approved.***

***Fellowship: Ruthann Campbell reported that the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper was a success.***

***Donella Parker reported that Texas Country Reporter will be filming a segment regarding the planning mission of FPC.***

***We will provide sandwiches for the Lenten lunch at Avondale Baptist on Wed. March 23 at noon.***

***Mission and Outreach: Jeannette Bryant reported that \$50.00 has been donated to the Care Portal Mission. One Great Hour of Sharing offering is planned for the Easter Service. Special envelopes will be in the pews.***

***Christian Education: Sunday School teachers are needed for the summer.***



**Worship Committee:** *Easter services in March:  
Palm Sunday March 20~ Children singing  
Maundy Thursday~ March 24~ 5:30pm in the  
chapel with communion.  
Easter Sunday~ March 27~ Children singing  
One Great Hour of Sharing~Communion.*

*Prepaid orders for Easter Lilies in memory or to  
honor family members are being taken by Secretary  
Becky Brock. Easter lilies will be used to decorate  
the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday.*

**Personnel Committee:** *Rob Elliott and Paula  
Huckabee proposed a revision to the budget for  
children and youth services. After discussion, the  
matter was tabled for further study.*

**New Business:** *Keith Brock gave a report on  
renovations at Buffalo Gap. A reunion is planned  
for May 28<sup>th</sup>.*

*Keith Brock volunteered to be the Commissioner at  
the Palo Duro Presbytery meeting to be held on May  
6-7 at the Union Presbyterian Church in  
Brownwood.*

*Rev. Fry is planning to attend a Presbytery Retreat  
scheduled for Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>-Mar. 1 The speaker will be  
Roy Oswald.*



**Super Bowl Pizza Party for  
Little Ones and IBKs.**



**Paint Party was a great success!  
Thanks to Ruth Ann and Lea  
Cleveland for this fun event!**





## Shrove Tuesday~ Pancake Supper



**Richard Gesin & Rev. Kary Fry**



**Prizes were won by all  
by unwrapping  
big balls of saran wrap!**

**Patty Gesin & Jim Gesin**

