



Good News

First Presbyterian Church

November 2020



***"Blessing and glory and
wisdom and thanksgiving and
honor and power and might
be to our God
forever and ever! Amen."***

Revelation 7:12, NRSV

Where Every Member is a Missionary

(985) 643-0871

www.fpcslidell.org



Oh My Goodness! Again?...

Again!

I feel like I've written this same news-letter article three times in a row: We've got a hurricane in the Gulf; We're still in a pandemic; Stay Safe, etc., etc., etc. Personally, I'm getting tired of being in a tropical storm's "Cone of Uncertainty".

And like everyone I'm getting tired of the coronavirus which, sadly, is beginning to spread around the country again. With the highest number of new cases just a week ago, it looks like we may be heading into the "Fall Wave" that scientists have warned about since April. For a myriad of reasons (including our own failures to follow the preventative measures recommended by doctors and scientists), we've never been able to contain the spread of this virus. And so we sit, still waiting....

I know that most of us want to "get back to normal" as soon as we can. Some in fact have argued that we should reopen church and everything else right away. While we all may have differences of opinion on the best timing for that, another thought keeps nagging at me: There is no "going back to normal".

Despite our longing to "return to normal", the reality likely will be that many of the preventative measures (like mask-wearing, distancing, handwashing) will become permanent aspects of our lives - in the same way that frugality changed those who lived through the Depression. Many of these measures are already a "normal part of life" in places like Asia.

Even beyond those measures, many other parts of our lives will not "return to normal". In many ways, COVID-19 accelerated changes already underway. The move to online shopping and curbside pickups, contactless payments options, a cashless economy, all these changes have been accelerated by the pandemic and are quickly becoming more acceptable and accessible.

And there will be changes to the life of the church, as well. Many people, particularly younger people, are finding that they prefer “worshipping from home” and will make in-person church attendance less and less a priority. (This again will accelerate the changes already underway.)

And that means that the question for us shouldn’t be “When can we reopen church?”, but “How will we adapt to the new future we will live in? Are we trying to get back to what we’ve known, or are we trying to adapt ourselves to the new future that will emerge because of this virus?” Just as the Black Death and the Spanish Flu changed the world, COVID-19 will change us too. The question for us is: “How will we adapt to that change?”

Blessings,
Pastor Keith

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THE MISSIONS CORNER

Samaritan's Purse: Christmas Gifts

We recently received a **Christmas gift catalog for Samaritan's purse**. In it are many affordable gift ideas, some that will last long past the holidays. The shoeboxes are there too. Perhaps this year, under these unusual circumstances, **we should give the gift of life. Jesus always gives us new life and hope. We should share that life and hope with the world.**

Please review some of the gift ideas below and if the Holy Spirit so moves you, note your gift selection on your check or envelope with your contribution.

Hot Meals for a Child (one week)	\$ 7
Rescue Children in crisis	\$ 75
Feed a Hungry Baby (one week)	\$ 9
Care for an Orphan	\$ 35
Emergency Medical Care	\$ 100
Serve Desperate Refugees	\$ 125
Disaster Relief for a family	\$ 45
Feed a Crisis Stricken Family Food	\$ 35
Prenatal Care for Mom's & Babies	\$ 75
Help a Family earn an Income	\$ 100
Empower Vulnerable Women	\$ 30
Help a Farming Family	\$ 55
Give a Dairy Goat	\$ 70

THE MISSIONS CORNER

Samaritan's Purse: Christmas Gift List

Build a Family Home	\$2500 or \$100/share
Help Raise Cattle	\$ 350
Plant a Grove of Trees	\$ 45
Honeybees	\$ 20
Baby Chicks	\$ 14
Gospel Booklets	\$ 5
Balls & Sports Gear	\$ 8
Jesus Loves Me Toy Lambs	\$ 10
Give a Water Filter to a Family	\$ 100
Bring Clean water to a community	\$ 75
Drill a Village Well	\$10,000 or \$20/share
Support a Mission Hospital	\$ 50
Provide Life Changing Surgery	\$ 350
Provide Life Saving Med Equip	\$ 25
Send a new Missionary Doctor	\$ 100
Train & Equip an Evangelist	\$ 35
Stand with Persecuted Christians	\$ 40
Give a Copy of God's Word (Bible)	\$ 15
Adopt a Shoebox	\$9 each or \$135 for 15
Disciple a Child	\$6 each or \$180 for 30
Mend a Child's Heart	\$2,200 or \$50/share

**There are so many opportunities to reach out
across the world with the love of Christ!**

Thank you for your support!

THE MISSIONS CORNER



6.5 million people in the United States have an intellectual or developmental disability. Evergreen Presbyterian Ministries' Mission is to **serve, provide for and champion individuals with disabilities.**

Evergreen Life Services (ELS) is a non-profit organization that provides a full range of professional services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

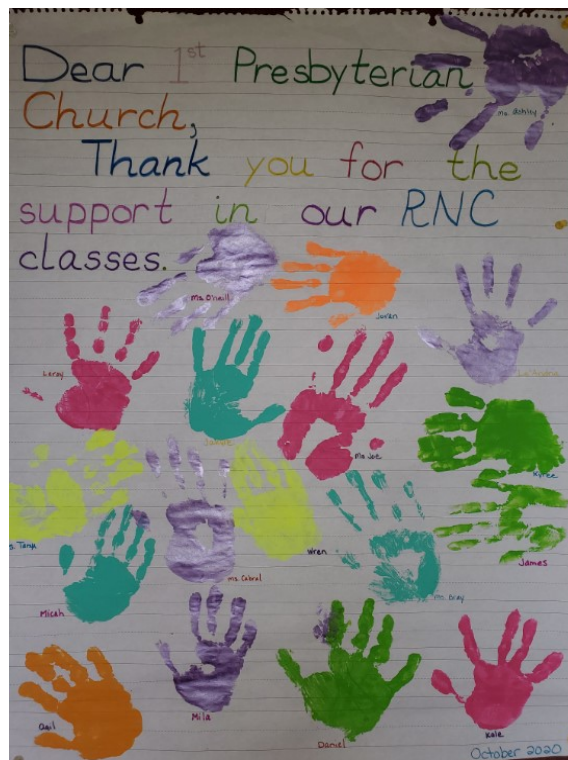
Founded in the 1950s, today we are proud to serve nearly 1,300 individuals with disabilities in 8 states. Evergreen supports individuals with disabilities by:

- Helping them find self-worth and abilities.
- Teaching basic life and social skills, job and financial training.
- Quality care for medical and behavioral needs.
- Opportunities for meaningful employment.
- An independent and abundant life.
- A place they can call home.
- Love, acceptance, value and friendship.
- Advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities.
- Help society understand disabilities and how they can help.
- Support individuals in making their dreams a reality.

**Mail in your support for this special offering between
Nov. 1st & 15th. Please prayerfully consider
what you can give to this worthy cause.**

THE MISSIONS CORNER

Thank You
notes from
Davilynn
Oneill's class
and Kathy
McDowell



Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much once again for the generous donation of school supplies & backpacks for our first grade students. Thank you also for the tote bags with "care" supplies for our teachers and for me!

You are so thoughtful. In the midst of the pandemic, along with so many other needs, you remembered the children of Slidell & acted on it to help in a much needed manner. It always brightens my day to see the smile on a child's face when they receive a brand new bookbag to call their own! Thanks again for demonstrating your Christian love and support in our community. **Sincerely, Kathy McDowell**

THE MISSIONS CORNER

**Mount Olive Feeding Ministry
Remains Closed due to the Pandemic
We will let you know when they plan to
re-open as soon as we know.**

**We are currently renting our CFC gym to some
local “dads” who have 10 or so children playing
basketball 3 times per week.**

**What a blessing from God for all involved. Local
youth have a safe venue to play ball.**

**The building is being used again, and this is
generating an income to offset some expenses.**

**Community Christian Concern (CCC) provides emer-
gency items to families in need in the Slidell community.
We continue to support CCC with a monthly contribu-
tion, McDonald gift cards for the counselors to dis-
pense, and dry good donations.**

**Please write CCC or McDonald’s gift cards on your con-
tribution and we will get it to CCC. Thanks be to God
for your continued support of this ministry!**

CHRISTIAN NURTURE

In Our



Thoughts & Prayers

*Jerry Clark— hospitalized with COVID
*Family & Friends of Vivian Huntington—on her passing
*Brenda Veitch – health concerns
*Tommy Schwangler (friend of Dussor's) - Cancer
*All those affected by Hurricanes and Natural Disasters
Marsha Carson—health concerns
Paula Gunn – moved out of state to live with her daughter
Larry & Debbie Cook – health concerns
Teachers and Students everywhere – as school begins again
Bernard & JoAnn Gomez – health concerns
Bob Clifton – health concerns
Gloria Vinson (Barbara and Laurie's Aunt) – health concerns
Ed & Charleen Kruebbe (Dawn's Parents) – health concerns
Sue Cartmill – health concerns
Henry Martinez (friend of Veitches) – health concerns
Joy Martinez (friend of Veitches) – health concerns
Charlie Gutridge (Jeff & Kathy's Grandson) – spinal muscular atrophy
Barbara Touns (Sue's Son-In-Law's Sister) – undergoing cancer treatment
Mitchel Glasgow (Marsha Carson's brother) - cancer
Shirley Sharpe – health concerns
Vivian Huntington – health concerns
Our Veterans, Military, First Responders, & Diplomatic Persons –
Serving around the world

* Indicates new person or change in condition

*If you know of a person who should be added to the prayer list
or if someone is in the hospital, please tell Pastor Keith Abramowski,
or notify the church office. Thank You!*

CHRISTIAN NURTURE



Linnie Stasney Nov 8
Ashleigh Nicosia Nov 13
Susan Boots Nov 17

Happy Birthday

From all of us here at FPC

*Missing a birthday?
Please notify the church office ASAP. Thank you.

SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR

**Daylight Savings Time ends
Sunday, November 1st**

Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before
bedtime on Saturday, October 31st.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS



All Saints' Day

All Saints Day

In the Catholic church, every day of the year has a saint's feast associated with it. It's a day when special thanks and prayers are offered to God for that person. But, over the centuries, nearly than 10,000 people were canonized as "saints". Since each saint couldn't have a special day of their own, the church instituted "All Saints' Day" to celebrate all those saints who did not have specific feasts associated with them. (This is where "Halloween" came from; All Saints' Day used to be known as All Hallows' Day and the day before was "All Hallows' Eve" which became Halloween.)

We Presbyterians, obviously, don't honor saints the same way the Catholic church does. But it is a wonderful way to remember, celebrate, and give thanks to God for all those "saints" who came before us, taught us, and passed the faith to us. And it is a wonderful way to remember our call to pass on the faith to the saints that will come after us. Be sure to offer up a special prayer of thanks to God for the saints who've touched your lives on this first Sunday in November, All Saints Day.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS



Place Your Orders for a “To Go” Meal

On Wednesday, November 11

Chef Jeff will prepare:

Pulled pork, mixed vegetables,
baked beans, bread and dessert

Contact Jeff or Kathy with your order:

kymbwe@yahoo.com or 646-1307/788-1308

5:30 Pick Up or delivery after 6 PM.



CHURCH FINANCES



Please prayerfully consider what you can give to help us replenish the capital reserves used to replace the church's flat roof in May 2019.

Total cost of the new roof was \$57K . To date, we have raised \$22,084 or 39% of our goal, leaving 61% to go.

If you wish to give to this fund, Simply note "roof" on your contribution check, envelope, or in online notes.

If you wish to contribute online via PayPal, copy and paste the link below or type it into the Google search bar.

<https://fpcslidell.org/give>

Thank you for your support!

STEWARDSHIP

Tithing helps session prepare the budget for our 122nd year of service in the Slidell community.

You read correctly. First Presbyterian Church of Slidell was founded in 1899. If we all tithe, we can share the love of Christ for many years to come.

Remember, you tip a waiter or waitress 15% or more.

10% to God really isn't that much...especially in light of all God's blessings. You get to keep 90%.

Below is a birds eye view of 2020's basic monthly expenses simply to remain in operation. To make an impact in the community we must exceed the below.

Pastor	\$ 2,854/mo.
Secretary	\$ 1,225/mo.
Janitor	\$ 400/mo.
Sexton	\$ 433/mo.
Basic Utilities	\$ 1,500/mo.
Fidelity	\$ 375/mo.
CCC	\$ 150/mo.
Insurance	\$ 704/mo.
Fire Prevention	\$ 79/mo.
Bulletin Covers	\$ 22/mo.

Average Monthly Basic Expenses \$ 8,400/mo.

Average Yearly Basic Expenses \$ 100,800/yr.

**Please prayerfully consider your
tithes of talent and treasure for 2021.**

STEWARDSHIP



Don't
Forget
Your
Tithe

2021 Tithe of Treasure for the Glory of God

Print Name: _____

I/We Pledge: _____ Weekly / Monthly



FOR THE GLORY OF GOD
through
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SLIDELL, LA

**The Session of First Presbyterian Church
is thankful to God for you
and your continued generosity!**

MINISTRY NEWS



Facilities and Finance

Glen Carson ('20)
Jim Veitch ('21)
Laurie Clark ('22)

WMMCCE

(Worship, Mission, Member Care,
Christian Ed)

Larry Gay ('20)
Wilma Dickey ('21)
Jeff McDowell ('22)

Nominating Committee



First Presbyterian Church's nominating committee needs two nominees to present to the congregation for approval for the upcoming Elder Class of 2023.

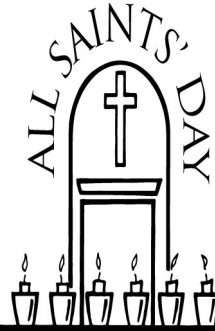
If you always wanted to be a church Elder, now's your chance. You can notify a nominating committee member, an elder, or you may wish to wait and put your name in the hat for the vote during the congregational meeting. Date of meeting to be announced.

Committee Members: Larry Gay, Glen Carson, Magda Angle, Joanne Gay, and Margie Wood

NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS

Sunday, Nov. 1st is All Saints Day.

We will remember, celebrate, and give thanks to God for all those “saints” who came before us, taught us, and passed the faith on to us.



Veterans Day originated as “Armistice Day” on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I.

Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and November 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938.

Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

Remember to thank a Veteran
Wednesday, November 11th

NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS

**Wishing each and every one of you and your families
a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving from all of us
here at First Presbyterian Church!**

If there is one thing we can all be thankful for it's the endless love of God and the many blessings He has bestowed and continues to bestow upon our church family.

All Thanks Be To God!



BIBLE TRIVIA

October's Trivia Answer:

In which book of the bible does God do all the talking?

The book of **Leviticus**, which is one of the first five books of the bible. The first five books are known as the Written Torah, also known as the Pentateuch (meaning five).

November's Trivia Question:

What is the shortest book in the Old Testament?

HOLY HUMOR



HOLY HUMOR

Dear God!

We would like to return our subscription
to the Hurricane of the week club.

- Concerned Disciples



COMING ATTRACTIONS



Advent & Christmas

Advent is a time of preparation, where we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ child. It is the time we remember the longing people

had as they awaited the coming messiah. Like them we take time each year to pause and wait with longing for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Rather than get caught up in the Christmas craziness, get caught by God's slow, meditative, longing time of Advent. Think now about where you want Christ born anew in your heart and let us see him born there this Christmas.

Advent Devotionals

All,
Advent begins on Sunday, November 29th.

If you'd like an advent devotional mailed to you, please call or email the church office at: 1fpcslidell@gmail.com
Thank you.

COMING ATTRACTIONS



Christmas Joy Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need, and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1041 Ninth Street

Slidell, La 70458

**Worship Anytime Online at:
www.fpcslidell.org/sermons**