

First Presbyterian Church

September 28, 2025



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First Presbyterian Church of Conroe Welcomes You!



Visitors and Guests: We are excited you have chosen to worship with us today! As a small token of our appreciation, we invite you to stop by the Welcome Desk in the narthex to pick up a complimentary FPC Conroe bookmark and a church brochure. We hope to see you again soon!

If you are interested in learning more about our church, or wish to become active in our ministry teams and activities, please visit our website at fpcConroe.org. There you can fill out the visitor form online, or you can do so now by visiting our welcome desk. We appreciate you joining us for services today.

~ Good Things to Know ~

Today's Worship Leader

Elizabeth Laletas

Today's Flowers

*Today's flowers are given to the glory of God
by Pat Hudson, in honor of Mary's 90th birthday.*

Last Week's Attendance, September 21

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 20

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 141

Online Worship Attendance - 24

Total Attendance – 185

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Come and praise the Lord with all that you are.

We lift our voices to God, here and now, and for as long as we live.

Don't put your trust in people or things; they can't save you.

Our hope is in the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

God brings justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry.

God sets prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord will reign forever—our God for all generations.

Praise the Lord, from this time and forever.

***Hymn #303**

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last!
2. Other refuge have I none;
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me.
All my rust on Thee is stayed,
All my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing.

*Please stand if able.

3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in Thee I find:
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind,
Just and holy is Thy name;
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

***Call to Confession**

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

People are fickle, but the Lord is faithful forever. God sets us free from what binds us, opens our eyes when we cannot see, and lifts us up when we are bowed low.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

***Gloria Patri**

Minute for Mission

The Word

Scripture Readings

Psalm 146; Luke 16:19-31

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"If I Were a Rich Man"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to the Word

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table
Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer
Words of Institution
Communion of the People
Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Hymn**

Faith of Our Fathers

1. Faith of our fathers, living still
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!

Refrain:

Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

3. Faith of our fathers! We will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach thee, too, as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life.
(Refrain)

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

We Will Glorify

Paris

Call to Worship

Come and praise the Lord with all that you are.

We lift our voices to God, here and now, and for as long as we live.

Don't put your trust in people or things; they can't save you.

Our hope is in the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

God brings justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry.

God sets prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord will reign forever—our God for all generations.

Praise the Lord, from this time and forever.

***Hymn #303**

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last!
2. Other refuge have I none;
Hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me.
All my rust on Thee is stayed,
All my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
With the shadow of Thy wing.

*Please stand if able.

3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in Thee I find:
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind,
Just and holy is Thy name;
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that too often we place our trust in things that cannot save. We chase after power, wealth, and influence, forgetting that you alone are our help and our hope. You call us to care for the poor, the stranger, the vulnerable, but we are quick to turn away when it costs us something. You lift up those who are weighed down, yet we add to the burdens of others with our silence or indifference.

Forgive us, Lord. Set us free from what binds us, open our eyes to see your truth, and teach us to live as people of your kingdom.
Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

People are fickle, but the Lord is faithful forever. God sets us free from what binds us, opens our eyes when we cannot see, and lifts us up when we are bowed low.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

***Gloria Patri**

Minute for Mission

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication and the Lord's Prayer

*Choral Response

The Word

Children's Time

Anthem

Ride on, King Jesus!

Johnson

Soloist, David Davidian

Scripture Reading

Psalm 146

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #341

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, This is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, This is my song,
Praising my savior all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above,
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
(Refrain)

Scripture Reading

Luke 16:19-31

Sermon

"If I Were a Rich Man"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Responding to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

(The Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

***Hymn**

Faith of Our Fathers

1. Faith of our fathers, living still
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!

Refrain:

Faith of our fathers, holy faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

3. Faith of our fathers! We will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach thee, too, as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life.
(Refrain)

Called Meeting of the Congregation

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response**

Trust (Medley)

(Standing on the Promises)

Standing on the promises of Christ, my King!

Through eternal ages let His praises ring.

"Glory in the highest!" I will shout and sing,

Standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing,

Standing on the promises of God, my Savior;

Standing, standing,

I'm standing on the promises of God.

***Postlude**

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"Ride On, King Jesus!"

(King of Kings) from the Cantata Son of Man. Arr. by Hall Johnson.

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"Trust (Medley)"

Arranged by Camp Kirkland

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This Week's Scripture Readings

Psalm 146

¹ Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! ² I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³ Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. ⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free; ⁸ the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. ⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

Luke 16:19-31

¹⁹ "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.'

²⁷ He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰ He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

Notes



Called Meeting of the Congregation Today

There will be a called meeting of the congregation today, after the 11:00 service, in order to elect an Officer Nominating Committee. The ONC 2025 consists of Catherine Scheffler, Mark Sowden, Dena Sowden, Neva Hammonds, Shirley Dukes, Lynn Wisda and David Nichols.

Office Volunteer Needed for Wednesday Morning

The church office is in need of a Wednesday morning volunteer to cover the phones and welcome guests during the weekly staff meeting. If you can give a few hours of your time, please contact Yvonne Rose at (936) 756-8884.

Fall Festival and Ways You Can Help

PDS will be collecting candy, stickers, small toys, etc. that can be given as game prizes for the festival. There is a box in the narthex for your convenience. Also, if anyone would like to donate to the festival or be a sponsor, paperwork is available in the church office. We are most grateful for your help!



Welcome



Welcome to our newest member, Marcia Park (pictured right with Rev. Saathoff), who officially joined the church during the Session meeting on Sunday, September 21.

New & Prospective Members Invited to "First Steps" Orientation Class on November 9

First Presbyterian Church Conroe and its Membership Committee will host a new and prospective member lunch and orientation class called First Steps on Sunday, November 9, from 12:30 p.m. (following the 11 a.m. worship service) until 1:45 p.m. in the Family Life Center gym. First Steps gives new and prospective members an overview of the Christian faith, the Presbyterian traditions, and the mission and ministries of our church. Rev. Saathoff and several church ministry leaders will facilitate this class. Lunch and nursery will be provided.

In order to best plan for this event, we request that all attendees RSVP to Steve Scheffler (281.851.1690 or scscheffler@sbcglobal.net) no later than Sunday, November 2.

Christmas Boxes for the International Seafarers' Center, Port of Houston

For many years Presbyterian Women of our church, with the help of our entire congregation, have packed 100 shoe boxes a year with non-perishable items (such as hygiene supplies, socks, caps, and Texas souvenirs) and delivered them to the Port of Houston for distribution to ships that come in from mid-November through December.



This is a Christmas project for faith communities in the Houston area, and thousands of seafarers are reached in this way. It is an important opportunity to offer a gesture of "hospitality" to some of those who serve us all year long.

If you would like to help with monetary support for this project, please make a donation through the church, marked clearly for the "Seafarer's boxes." Our shopping is now in progress and will continue during through October, in order to meet a November 6 packing date. Our boxes will be dedicated in Worship November 9 and delivered to the Seafarers' Center the following week. If you have questions or need more information about this opportunity, please call the church office (936) 756- 8884 or Liz Kessler (713) 818-1006.

Thanks to the generosity of the Friday Men's Breakfast Group, boxes will be purchased this year, so no donated shoe boxes are needed.

All Saints Day Service November 2, 2025

If you want to include the remembrance of your loved one who passed from November 2024 through October 2025 in this special service, then please provide the information to Yvonne Rose, Office Manager, by October 23, 2025, at yrose@fpccnroe.org, or by calling the Church Office at: **(936) 756-8884**



Wednesday Night Live Kickoff

Join us October 1 for Dinner and Bingo!

Dinner Served 5:00-5:45 pm

\$5/person (Under 12 & 90+ eat FREE)

Bingo from 6 - 7 pm



Young Adult Retreat at Mo Ranch March 20-22, 2026

Reignite your purpose and strengthen your spirit. Join us for a transformative retreat designed for those navigating the post-college years. Connect with a supportive community, explore life planning, vocational discernment, and creative budgeting, all while deepening your faith through worship, prayer, and interactive workshops. Together, let's build a future of meaning, purpose, and connection. Details regarding this retreat can be found at:

<https://www.moranch.org/attend-a-conference/adult-conferences/young-adult-retreat/>

Prayer List

Members: Jean Heasley, Fred Kate, Penny Bell, Sylvia Dopp, Gordon Juhl, Roy Kessler, John Wright, Ruth Masters, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, John Lancaster, Kari Elliott, Tildon Hebert, Ron Bailey, Alice Helms, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Jeanne Leverette, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Noah G. (Simon), David W. (Hart), Bret F. (Kasmiersky), Thad M. (West), Dorene D. and Dan S. (B. Hernandez), Siana F. and family (Watson), Jerry W., Lisa W. (Webb), Celia G. (Hernandez- Garcia), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K. (Davis), Stephanie R. & Brooke J., Danielle S. & kids (Riggs-Harpur), Blade B., Judy N. (Dukes), Bonnie L., Michael R. (Dwyer), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Tony N. (Spinks), Aimee L. (Amoneno), Buddy H. (Hayter), Amanda N. (Bosse), Brenda H. (Cannon), Scott P. (Peterson), Linda S., Larry B., Janie M. (Harrison), Lindsey W. (Walker), Shannon L. (Diamond), Rick J. (Juhl), Joe T. Sr., Harry S., Jr. and family (Havens), Steve T., Lonnie H. and Vivian M. (Hammonds), John R. (Hethershaw), James M., Patty M., Enrique E. (Moore), Jeffrey H. & Leah H. (Heasley), Wendy S. (Adamson), Sherry M. (Garrison), Lee H. (Helms), Caleb & Michaela W. (Henderson), Gerald H. (Roberts)

Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday September 28</i>	8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's uplifting letter to the church at Philippi. 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying "More Parables from the Back Side" by J. Ellsworth Kalas, taught by Deborah Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms. 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) 9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library) Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom). 9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School (Rm. 203) 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 10:40 a.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe) 5:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)
<i>Monday September 29</i>	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)
<i>Wednesday October 1</i>	9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 5:00 WNL Dinner, followed by Bingo (FLC) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

<i>Sunday October 5</i>	8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Paul's uplifting letter to the church at Philippi. 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying "More Parables from the Back Side" by J. Ellsworth Kalas, taught by Deborah Geddes, Glenna Lang and Glenn Elms. 9:30 a.m. Exploring Our Faith with Susan Buckley (Rm. 206) 9:30 a.m. Seekers' Bible Study with Randy Blanton (Library) Paul's Letter to the Romans on Sunday (Contact Randy Blanton to join by Zoom). 9:30 a.m. FPC Kids' Sunday School (Rm. 203) 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 10:40 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe) 12:00 p.m. Committee Meetings 5:00 p.m. "A Year Through the Bible" Study (Rm. 105) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)
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Save the Date

October 1	Wednesday Night Live Kickoff
October 10	Pumpkin Delivery
October 25	Fall Festival
October 11-31	Pumpkin Patch
November 2	All Saints Day
November 9	First Steps Orientation Class

Staff and Church Information

Staff

Rev. Seth Saathoff, Senior Pastor
Dena Sowden, Director of Christian Education
Sharon VanSchuyver, Director of Communications
Yvonne Rose, Office Manager
Bonnie Hernandez, Music Director
Rolethial McKelvey, Accompanist
Jackye Cannon and Jane Corbit, Bookkeeping
Shirley Dukes, Parish Nurse



First Presbyterian Church

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2727 N Loop 336 W, Conroe, TX 77304
Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
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Suite 140, # 349, Conroe, TX 77304