



First Presbyterian Church **FIRST NEWS**

April 2019

A Publication of FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
211 S. Avenue G – Clifton, Texas 76634 – phone (254) 675-8105
Church Office Hours: Monday thru Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Rev. Clint Schofield, Pastor
Brenda Robinson, Church Secretary

Pastor Notes

April 2019

“Witnesses”

As the early morning light reveals the dew covered Bosque river bottom, shades of green and brown flow together in the gentle morning breeze. Across the river to the southwest the hills and mesas define the beauty of this land. The words that come to mind are from Psalm 121:1-2: *“I lift up my eyes to the hills, from where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”*

We receive life from the One who made all things. The One who we know as Lord, Yahweh, is closer to us than the air we breathe, on whom every heartbeat depends.

With the hills and mesas rimming the open fields, the awareness of the beauty of creation is overflowing. I am conscious of the Creator being very near. Breathe the good air that God has given, receive His Divine Presence. We are observers and participants in holiness. The gentle breeze loosens last year’s oak leaves and they float to the ground. Cardinals and sparrows flutter around as they jockey for position on the feeders seeking their freely given food. The moment is not static, but graced with active movement of the created. Calmness is here, the presence of God’s Spirit flows through this place. The breath of God surrounds us, fills us, sustains us, and propels us into service.

In these moments of awe and amazement observing God’s Creation, we see with refined vision. We see the creative work and indwelling presence of God. We become fully aware of the Holy. We are witnesses, just as Jesus asked His disciples to be witnesses. The first duty of a witness is to observe, and the second is to tell what we have seen. As followers of Jesus, we pay attention to Him, to what He is doing and are blessed to experience His grace. Mary was the first witness to the Risen Lord. She saw and responded, carrying out Jesus’ command to tell the other disciples that their Savior lives! Sisters and Brothers in Christ, we are called to do no less.

*“Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Dead in the Tomb with Christ our King;
One with His rising, Freed and forgiven, Thankfully now God’s praises we sing.”*

“Baptized in Water”

M.A. Saward, 1981

***Alleluia He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!
The Blessing and Promise of Easter is yours. Live it!***

See You In Church!
Clint

APRIL MEETINGS

01	Congregational Care Meeting	12:30 pm
02	Deacon Meeting	11:00 pm
02	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
03	Bible Study Group	10:00 pm
03	Lenten Study	5:30 pm
03	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
07	Food Bank Collection	
08	Presbyterian Women Meeting	12:00 pm
09	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
10	Bible Study Group	10:00 pm
10	Lenten Study	5:30 pm
10	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
11	Food Bank Work Day	9:00-12:00 pm
14	Second Sunday Lunch	
16	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
17	Bible Study Group	10:00 pm
17	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
18	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00 pm
19	Good Friday Service	12:00 pm
23	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
23	Session Meeting	5:30 pm
24	Bible Study Group	10:00 pm
24	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
28	Goodall Witcher Worship	1:30 pm
30	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm

LEADING WORSHIP IN APRIL

APRIL GREETERS

- 07 Mark & Lorana Rush
- 14 Sherrod & Sue Fielden
- 18 George & Jenny Walker Maundy Thursday
- 19 Lois Krause & Elane Valero Good Friday
- 21 Driscoll & Laura Jenkins Easter Sunday
- 28 Carol Forson, Nansy Reiss & Ann Wiland

APRIL LITURGIST

- 07 Shayne Embry
- 14 Carla Sigler
- 18 Steve Robertson Maundy Thursday
- 21 Debra Embry Easter Sunday
- 28 Martin Grelle

APRIL ELDER OF THE DAY

- 07 Lois Krause
- 14 Mike Conner
- 18 George Larson Maundy Thursday
- 21 Debbie Bergman Easter Sunday
- 28 Brian Haenisch

"Scholarship Program"

The response from the congregation in supporting our College Scholarship Fund is greatly appreciated! Currently we have 5 students receiving scholarships. Your support will make a big difference in the future of these young people. Thank You!

Year to Date Financials

thru February

Offerings received in February	\$13,675
Offerings received thru February	\$24,453
Expenses thru February	\$25,000
Budgeted exp. thru February	\$31,496

**THE FOOD DRIVE BOX
WILL BE IN THE NARTHEX
Sunday, April 7th
Our work day is the 11th**



**Food
Bank**

The Congregational Care Committee

Congregational Care meeting will be April 1st at 12:30 pm Fellowship Hall.

Second Sunday lunch on April 14th will be a church potluck meal. Ham will be provided by the Congregational Care Committee. The congregation is asked to bring potluck dishes according to the initial letter of your last name:

A-H Vegetable; I- P Salad; and Q- Z Dessert

For faster clean-up purposes, please consider bringing your dish in a disposable container. However, regular containers are welcome as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please feel free to contact Debbie Bergman at 254-749-6372 for further information.



Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women:

Our next meeting is on

April 8th, Monday, in the Fellowship Hall from

12 PM-2 PM. The hostesses are Frances Seljos & Laura Jenkins.

Presbyterian Women will host the birthday party at Clifton Care Nursing Home on April 24th, Wednesday. Starting time will be announced later.

Food Bank:

FPC volunteers are needed to help at the Clifton Food Bank on Thursday, April 11th from 9:30 a.m - 12:00 noon. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 9:15 a.m. Contact Elane Valero.

M&O

Will be providing lunch to CISD Christian Athletes on April 4th, Thursday, at 12 noon. If you would like assist, please contact Elane Valero.

The Seasons of Lent , Holy Week,& Easter First Presbyterian Church, Clifton Texas

LENT began in the early church as a time to prepare new converts for Baptism on Easter. By the mid-fourth century, it became the 40 – day period (not counting Sundays) we now observe. The word “Lent” comes from the Anglo-Saxon word that means “spring.” For God’s people, the season before Easter is the springtime of the soul – a time of self-examination, repentance and preparation for Jesus’ resurrection. Throughout Lent, the liturgical color is purple, representing passion, penance and anticipation.

LENTEN STUDY – Each Wednesday evening in Lent, 5:30 to 6:30pm.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing for the following six Wednesday evenings we will host a Lenten Study in the Fellowship Hall. The study is based in The Gospel of Mark, chapters 14, 15 and 16. “*Jesus: Understanding His Death and Resurrection,*” by Kay Arthur and David Arthur. Each week we will study God’s Word during Our time together seeking His guidance in understanding Christ’s Death and Resurrection. We will begin at 5:30pm and conclude at 6:30pm. Please join us as we follow Christ from the Mt. of Transfiguration to the Gates of Jerusalem and on to the Cross on Golgotha.

PALM SUNDAY – (April 14) - Worship at 11:00am

Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter, celebrates the triumph of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem. Riding a donkey, He was hailed with palms and cloaks placed on the road, both things done for the kings at that time.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – (April 18) - Worship at 7:00pm

The Thursday before Easter has traditionally been called Maundy Thursday. The word *maundy* comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning “commandment.” Jesus gave His disciples at their last supper together the command to *love one another as he loved them*. We remember this last supper as the event when Jesus instituted communion.

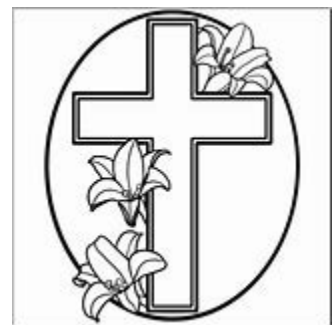
COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SVC. – (April 19) - Worship at 12-Noon, hosted by First Presbyterian Church.

This day is a worldwide commemoration of Christ’s suffering and death on the cross. Many will voluntarily fast, be silent for 3 hours to represent the time Christ was dying on the cross, or hold a vigil until early Easter Sunday morning to commemorate His sacrifice. Come and join us for this Community Wide Worship Service sponsored by the Clifton Ministerial Alliance. There will be a light lunch served after the service in the fellowship hall.

EASTER SUNDAY – (April 21) – Worship at 11:00am

Easter Sunday is the greatest Sunday of the church year, for without the resurrection; everything else would have no meaning. The liturgical color changes to white, representing Jesus’ redemptive work on the cross. The days of fasting and reflection are over. It is time to celebrate our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Invite a friend or family member to join you for these services and the study!









April 2019

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																														
	1 Congregational Care Meeting 12:30 pm	2 1:00 PM Weekly Prayer Group Deacon Meeting 11:00 am	3 Bible Study Group 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Study 5:30-6:30 pm.	4	5	6																																																																																																														
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












April 2019

Birthdays Anniversaries

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7	8  Bob Askew	9	10	11  Cookie Myers	12	13																																																								
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5	6  Judy Askew  Marschelle Brewett	7  Roland Jones	8  Ollie Evinger	9  Mike Conner	10	11																																																
12	13	14	15	16  Deb Phinney	17	18  Shiloh Fuller																																																
19	20  Brian Gillaspie  Sue & Sherrod Fielden	21	22	23  Marylee Phinney	24	25  Don & Carol Fosson																																																
26  Kim Fields	27	28  Betty Bronstad	29	30	31																																																	

SESSION MEMBERS

CLASS of 2019
Laura Baughman
Brian Haenisch
Elisabeth Montgomery

CLASS of 2020
Debbie Bergman
Lois Krause
George Larson

CLASS of 2021
Elane Valero
Mike Conner
Don Forson

TREASURER
Jean Lewis

DEACONS
Punky Penberthy
Jenny Walker
Grant & Dana Ferguson
Lorana Rush

TRUSTEES
Brian Gillaspie
Chris Bergman
Joe Borden

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
Lois Krause, Moderator
G-Ann Jones, Vice-Moderator
Elane Valero, Secretary-Treasurer
Kay Gebhardt, Historian
Ann Wiland, Least Coin
Laura Jenkins & Joy Williamson, Coordinators for NH parties



Sunday School – Bible Study – All Ages – 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship 10:30 – 10:50 a.m.
Worship – 11:00 a.m. Sunday (Communion on 1st Sunday of month)
Presbyterian Women – 2nd Monday of month 12:00 p.m., (Sept.-May)
Session Meets – 4th Tuesday of month, 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Adult Choir Practice – Wednesday evenings – 7:00 p.m.



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