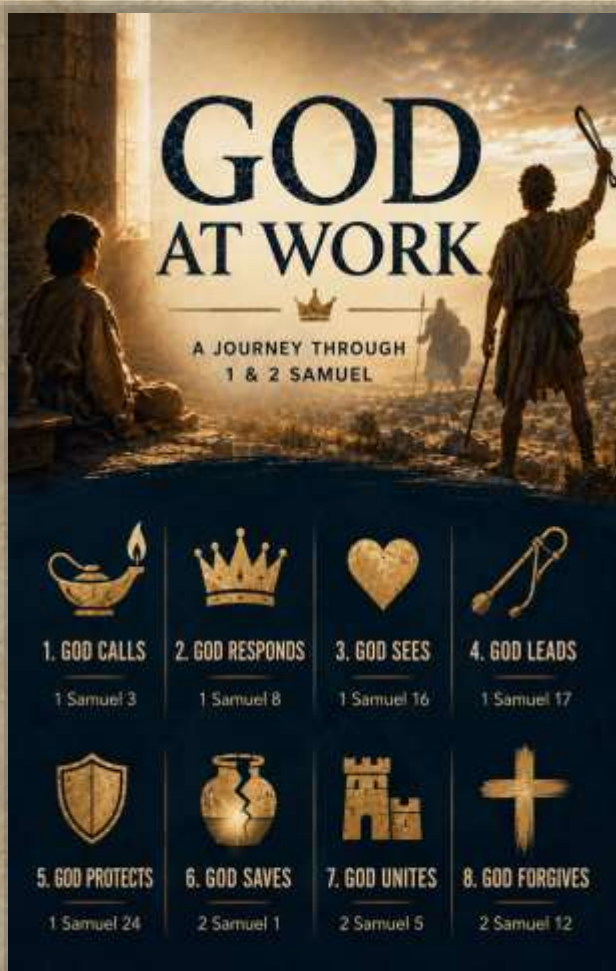


First Presbyterian Church

August 30, 2026



11:00 Worship Service

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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

Randy Blanton

Today's Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by the Spinks, who are celebrating 41 years of marriage.

Last Week's Attendance, August 23

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 145

Online Worship Attendance - 31

Total Attendance – 176

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Sing a New Song to the Lord!*

Call to Worship

Come, let us turn our hearts to God.

We come with gratitude, hope, and expectation.

Let us lay aside the burdens we carry and make room for God's presence.

We come trusting in the God who meets us where we are.

Come, let us worship God together.

We worship the Lord, our refuge and our hope.

***Hymn #384**

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

1. O love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.
2. O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.
3. O joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

*Please stand if able.

4. O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from Thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and against one another. Like David, we sometimes allow our desires to become more important than your commands. We hide our failures, make excuses for our actions, and convince ourselves that we have done nothing wrong.

Forgive us for the harm we have caused, for the truth we have avoided, and for the ways we have failed to love you and our neighbors. Give us courage to acknowledge our sin, humility to seek forgiveness, and grace to turn again to you.

Create in us clean hearts and renew a right spirit within us, that we may walk in the light of your love.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

God does not abandon us in our sin. When we confess, God is faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

***Gloria Patri**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication and the Lord's Prayer**

***Choral Response**

The Word

Children's Time

Anthem

Go Down, Moses

Gray

Scripture Reading

I John 1:5-2:2

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Hymn #369**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1. I'm gonna live so
God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so
God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime!
2. I'm gonna work so
God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so
God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime!
3. I'm gonna pray so
God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so
God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime!

Scripture Readings

II Samuel 11:26-12:13

Sermon

“God Forgives”

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**

Standing on the Promises

1. 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.

Refrain:

Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail.
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.
[Refrain]

3. Standing on the promises of Christ, the Lord,
Bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
Standing on the promises of God.
[Refrain]

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response**

I Will Praise You

I will praise You, O Lord, with all my heart,
I will tell of all of Your wonders.
I will be glad and rejoice in You,
I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.
I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High, Most High.

***Postlude**

Copyright Information

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"I Will Praise You" by Cindy Berry
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"Go Down, Moses"
Arr. by Ruth Morris Gray
Copyright © 2018 by Alfred Music
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"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"
Traditional, arranged by Wendell Whalum
Arrangement © the Estate of Wendell Whalum. Used by permission.
CCL # 2714264

This Week's Scripture Readings

I John 1:5-2:2

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

^{2:1} My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

II Samuel 11:26-12:13

²⁶ When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷ After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.

^{12:1} The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, ³ but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

⁴ "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."

⁵ David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, “As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶ He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity.”

⁷ Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. ⁸ I gave your master’s house to you, and your master’s wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. ⁹ Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰ Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.’

¹¹ “This is what the Lord says: ‘Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. ¹² You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.’”

¹³ Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die.

Notes



School Safety Protocol

Due to safety protocols that are in place at PDS, only school employees and parents with students should use the FLC school entrance Monday through Thursday during school hours. All church members and visitors should come to the church side and sign in at church office. Please be sure to wear your name badge so that PDS Staff knows you're supposed to be in the building. Thank you for your cooperation.

Science & God Study Group: Hosted by Matthew Laletas

Introduction:

For our upcoming season of Wednesday Night Live, we are excited to introduce a new group study entitled "Science and God." This group is designed for anyone curious about how our understanding of the natural world intersects with our Christian faith.

For some, the most profound moments happen when Biblical truth and scientific discovery meet. We believe that God created this marvelous universe, gifting us the intelligence to unravel its mysteries layer by layer as we grow in knowledge and spirit.

What we will explore:

- Scripture: Deep dives into Genesis, Job, and Psalms.
- Literature: Insights from *The Case for a Creator* by Lee Strobel.
- Current Events: Modern scientific articles and emerging theories.

Questions:

If you have questions or are interested in joining us, please reach out to Matthew Laletas (302)-593-6877, or contact Dena Sowden for more information. We look forward to exploring the wonders of creation with you!

“Through the Bible in One Year” Begins Today

The series of “Through the Bible in One Year” will begin again on Sunday, August 30th, at 4:00 p.m. Classes will last one hour. The series will be led by Frank Denton, using a workbook by Alan Stringfellow (provided at no charge to participants). This very well received program was just completed by about 25 participants this past June. Several have indicated they intend to repeat the program. You are encouraged to visit with someone who has completed the program for their recommendation. As in the past, this program is open to the public as well as church members, or those from other denominations who might want to attend, so feel free to invite a friend.

This series will demonstrate how each book of the Bible is connected and relates to the other, in both the New as well as Old Testament. The unfolding drama of the coming of the Messiah, which comes together as a finely woven piece of cloth. Open to all ages, whether a Bible student or just getting started, all are welcome. No cost, no tests!

Please put your name on the sign-up sheet located in the church office so that enough workbooks can be ordered. We look forward to seeing you and beginning this exciting journey.

Lunch Delivery to Salvation Army

Do you have time for a worthy mission service project? We need someone to prepare and deliver 60 sack lunches to the Salvation Army on the third Monday of every month. This could be an individual or a group project. For more information, please contact Debra Slade-Redden at (936) 520-8929.

Children’s Church and Sunday School Volunteers Needed

Seeking volunteers for Children’s Church and Children’s Sunday School, which will be starting September 13. Please contact Dena to volunteer (DSowden@fpccconroe.org).

Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday</i> <i>August 30</i>	9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) The most successful Old Testament prophet, Haggai. 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying “Living Life Backward” by David Gibson, a study of Ecclesiastes, 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 OFF FOR THE SUMMER. (Children can check in at nursery for Sunday School hour) 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 10:35 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe) 4:00-5:00 p.m. Through the Bible in a Year Study (Rm. 105) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)
<i>Monday</i> <i>August 31</i>	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>September 2</i>	9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

<i>Sunday</i> <i>September 6</i>	9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) The most successful Old Testament prophet, Haggai. 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Class (Rm. 204) Studying “Living Life Backward” by David Gibson, a study of Ecclesiastes, 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 OFF FOR THE SUMMER. (Children can check in at nursery for Sunday School hour) 10:30 a.m. Fellowship (Narthex) 10:35 a.m. Praise band (Sanctuary) 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary and Facebook Live www.com/fpcConroe or YouTube.com/fpcConroe) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym)
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Save the Date

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|--------------|---|
| September 7 | Labor Day (PDS and Church offices closed) |
| September 13 | Resume 2-service schedule / Rally Sunday |
| September 18 | Lifeline Screening at FPC |
| September 30 | WNL Kickoff |

Prayer List

Members: Paula Shepherd, Nedra Murphy, Virginia Tamborello, Tildon Hebert, John Lancaster, John Gutekunst, Ron Bailey, Marcia Park and family, Steve and Connie Tibbetts, Jean Heasley, Fred Kate, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, Kari Elliott, Alice Helms, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Paul Ivison, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Debbie R. (Rose), Mike S. (Haines), Luke W. (Murphy), Melissa and Mark M. (Miller), Gabrielle T. (Tanner), Noah G. (Simon), David W. (Hart), Dorene D. and Dan S. (B. Hernandez), Siana F. and family (Watson), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), Susie K. (Davis), Blade B., Judy N. (Dukes), Michael R. (Dwyer), Tom J. & family, Bill M. (Browder), Tony N. (Spinks), Amanda N. (Bosse), Brenda H. (Cannon), Scott P. (Peterson), Linda S., Trey H., 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)

Ministry Leaders

Administration	Cheryl Nichols (2027, Chair) Matthew Laletas (2028)
Building & Grounds	Bill Harshbarger (2026, Chair)
Care-Prayer	Randy Blanton (2026, Chair)
Discipleship	Elizabeth Laletas (2028, Chair) Sabrina Sowden (2027) Sean Morton (2027, Youth elder) Savannah Hector (2028, Youth elder)
Fellowship	Marilu Howard (2027, Chair)
Membership	David Nichols (2027, Chair)
Missions	Debra Slade-Redden (2028, Chair)
PDS	Pat Hudson (2027, Chair)
Worship	Mike Wisda (2026, Chair) Cynda Hector (2028)
Trustees	David Nichols (2026) Fred Kate (2027) Anne Spinks (2028)

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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Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpcConroe.org

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