

First Presbyterian Church

October 18, 2026



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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

Carly Hart

Today's Flowers

*Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Sara Barrera,
in memory of Hugo Barrera.*

Last Week's Attendance, October 11

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 11

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 137

Online Worship Attendance - 21

Total Attendance – 169

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;
LORD, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.
If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,
LORD, who could stand?
But with you, there is forgiveness,
So that we can, with reverence, serve you.
I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
And in his word I put my hope.

*Hymn #138

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

*Please stand if able.

*Call to Confession

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

We hear our Savior's invitation, "Come unto me all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*Gloria Patri

The Word

Scripture Readings

Psalm 46:1-11 ; Mark 6: 6b-13, 30-32

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Rethinking Rest"

Guest Speaker, Randy Blanton

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 #391

Take My Life

1. Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2. Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
3. Take my voice, and let me sing,
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

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"Gentle Shepherd"

By William J. Gaither

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"The Stand"

By Joel Houston

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CCLI Song # 4705248

"In Thee, O Lord"

By F. J. Haydn

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11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place* Wolfe/Brown

Call to Worship

Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;
LORD, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.
If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,
LORD, who could stand?
But with you, there is forgiveness,
So that we can, with reverence, serve you.
I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
And in his word I put my hope.

*Hymn

The Stand

You stood before creation,
eternity in Your hand.
You spoke the earth into motion,
my soul now to stand.

You stood before my failure,
and carried the cross for my shame.
My sin weighed upon Your shoulders,
my soul now to stand.
So what can I say? And what can I do,
but offer this heart, O God, completely to You?

I'll walk upon salvation,
Your Spirit alive in me.
My life to declare Your promise,
my soul now to stand.
So what can I say? And what can I do,
but offer this heart, O God, completely to You?

*Please stand if able.

So I'll stand, with arms high and heart abandoned,
in awe of the One who gave it all.
I'll stand, my soul, Lord, to You surrendered.
All I am is Yours.
(Repeat)

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Heavenly Father, your kindness humbles me. My sin is ever before me, yet you forgive and restore me. My shame from failure causes me to run, yet your goodness and mercy pursue me. I neglect your presence, yet you embrace me and call me your Beloved. How shall I respond to such love? Today, I cease my struggles against you, confess my sins, rejoice in your forgiveness, and rest in your peace.
Amen.

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

We hear our Savior's invitation, "Come unto me all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

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

In Thee, O Lord

Haydn

Scripture Reading

Psalm 46:1-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Hymn #138

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Scripture Reading

Mark 6:6b-13, 30-23

Sermon

“Rethinking Rest”

Guest Speaker, *Randy Blanton*

Responding to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*Hymn #391

Take My Life

1. Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

3. Take my voice, and let me sing,
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

Gentle Shepherd

Gentle Shepherd, come lead us,
For we need You to help us find our way.
Gentle Shepherd, come and feed us,
For we need your strength from day to day.
There's no other we can turn to
Who can help us face another day;
Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,
For we need You to help us find our way.

*Postlude

This Week's Scripture Readings

Psalm 46:1-11

¹ God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, ³ though the waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

⁵ God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

⁶ Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

⁷ The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

⁸ Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ He says, "Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹ The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Mark 6:6b-13, 30-23

^{6b} Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

⁷ Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits.

⁸ These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts.

⁹ Wear sandals but not an extra shirt.

¹⁰ Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town.

¹¹ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.”

¹² They went out and preached that people should repent.

¹³ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.

³¹ Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

³² So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.

Notes



Veterans Day Observance November 8



FPC is requesting photos of your loved ones who have served or are serving in our nation's armed services. Please send your photos to Randy Blanton at randyjblanton@yahoo.com in a jpeg format, and include the name, branch of service, rank, and years of service. We plan to stream the photos of women and men who have served that are still with us prior to the 11:00 AM worship service on November 8, 2026.

Veterans Day Breakfast November 11

On November 11th, PDS will be hosting breakfast for FPC and PDS Veterans. If you would like to take part in this special morning, please plan to meet in the FLC at 8:30 a.m. We hope you will join us!



FINANCIAL REPORT

(YTD as of 9/30)

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Revenue	\$591,370	\$575,760
Expenses	\$591,405	\$582,290

To the FPC-C church family:

If you've been paying attention, I'm sure that you're aware that our ongoing Capital Campaign has been a terrific success. To date, we have reduced our outstanding debt by more than \$1,000,000 and lowered our yearly debt payments by over \$70,000! Despite this wonderful success story, we are facing yet another financial challenge. If you look at the church's financial results as of 9/30/2026, we now have a small budget deficit for the first time in almost four years. If left unchecked, however, the projected deficit at year-end would be almost \$20,000. The good news is that we still have three months to turn this around. The last time we faced this challenge (2022), we were able to achieve a balanced budget by year-end because of the generous response of the entire congregation. With God's help, we can make it happen again. Every dollar counts. Are you willing to help?

Fred Kate - Church Treasurer



EXPLORE • LEARN • WORSHIP • WALK IN HISTORY

SCOTLAND

Presbyterian Heritage Tour

Faith. History. Beautiful Places.

Walk the paths of faith, explore historic sites, and experience the rich heritage of the Presbyterian Church in Scotland.



10 DAYS
JUNE 9-18, 2027

\$6,498*
GROUP RATE PRICE
Rate based on 20 travelers.

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT
Katy Saathoff

(806) 239-7029 | k.saathoff@yahoo.com

Saturday's with the Saathoffs

Due to overwhelming demand, Saturdays with the Saathoffs is BACK!

Use this link to claim a Saturday: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4CABAD2EA2F94-65479762-saturdays#/>

SAVE THE DATE

THE GREAT PUMPKIN

patch & festival

FOOD & GAMES
TRUNK-A-TREAT & SHOP
PUMPKIN PATCH
RAFFLES
HAYRIDE & MORE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026
4:00-8:00 PM

PRESBYTERIAN DAY SCHOOL
2727 N. LOOP 336 W
CONROE, TX 77304
ACROSS FROM H-E-B

MOVIE AMONG THE PUMPKINS
showing
"It's The Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown!"

WWW.PDSCONROE.COM

Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday October 18</i>	8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Studying the book of Malachi, the last of the written prophets. 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 (Rm. 203) 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) No meal or programming during Pumpkin Patch.
<i>Monday October 19</i>	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)
<i>Wednesday October 21</i>	9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing (Rm. 105) 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Live Meal 5:45 p.m. Handbells Practice (Sanctuary) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Sunday October 25	8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion (Sanctuary) 9:30 a.m. Bereans Sunday School Class with Bob Shepherd (Rm. 105) Studying the book of Malachi, the last of the written prophets. 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 (Rm. 203) 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) 12:30 p.m. Session Meeting 4:00-5:00 p.m. Through the Bible in a Year Study (Rm. 105) 5:00-7:00 p.m. The Spark (Gym) No meal or programming during Pumpkin Patch.
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Save the Date

October 10-31 Pumpkin Patch

October 24 Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat

November 1 All Saints' Day

November 11 Veterans Day Breakfast



Prayer List

Members: Susan Juhl, Paula Shepherd, Virginia Tamborello, Tildon Hebert, John Lancaster, John Gutekunst, Ron Bailey, Marcia Park and family, Jean Heasley, Fred Kate, Jeannene Wendt, Reed Watson, Kari Elliott, Alice Helms, Jean Ball, Mary Hudson, Virginia Olivier

Members' Relatives & Friends: Laura K. (Shepherd), Jim M. (Sowden), the Spence family (Elliott), Alfred H. (Harshbarger), Cynthia M. (Rose), Debbie R. (Rose), Mike S. (Haines), Luke W. (Murphy), Gabrielle T. (Tanner), Noah G. (Simon), David W. (Hart), Dorene D. and Dan S. (B. Hernandez), Wes K. (Yates), Alicia I., James I., and Ron S. (Bailey), 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), 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), 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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2727 N Loop 336 W, Conroe, TX 77304
Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpcConroe.org

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2257 N Loop 336 W
Suite 140, # 349, Conroe, TX 77304