

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

Physical Address:

2727 N Loop 336 W, Conroe, TX 77304
Church Office (936) 756-8884 Fax (936) 756-8842
Website: www.fpcConroe.org

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Mailing Address:

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

First Presbyterian Church *October 25, 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

Randy Blanton

Today's Flowers

*Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Leslie Graham,
in memory of Sarah..*

Last Week's Attendance, October 18

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 11

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 135

Online Worship Attendance - 21

Total Attendance – 167



*Thank You
for
Joining Us*

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)

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us lift up our hearts as an act of worship; let us lift our voices in praise.

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to God, whose giving knows no ending.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Hymn #158

Psalm 1 - The One is Blest

1. The one is blest who, fearing God,
Walks not where sinners meet,
Who does not stand with wicked ones,
And shuns the scorners' seat.
2. How blest the one who in God's law
Finds goodness and delight,
And meditates upon that law
With gladness day and night.
3. That one is nourished like a tree
Set by the river's side;
Its leaf is green, its fruit is sure:
The works of such abide.
4. The wicked, like the driven chaff,
Are swept from off the land;
They shall not gather with the just,
Nor at the judgment stand.

*Please stand if able.

***Call to Confession**

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Our salvation rests not upon our own merits, but upon the boundless mercy of God, who has reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ. In him, our sins are forgiven, our guilt is put away, and we are clothed in his righteousness.

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

Matthew 22:34-40; Deuteronomy 34:1-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Looking Back, Looking Ahead"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

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**

Rock of Ages

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me pure.

Sunday November 1	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.

Save the Date

October 10-31 Pumpkin Patch

November 1 All Saints' Day

November 11 Veterans Day Breakfast

November 18 Thanksgiving Feast and Worship Service



Calendar of Weekly Events

<i>Sunday October 25</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) 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.
<i>Monday October 26</i>	1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study (Parlor)
<i>Wednesday October 28</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) 6:00 p.m. WNL Class: Science and God (Rm. 105) 6:00 p.m. Jesus and Me (JAM) (Rm. 203) 7:00-8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice (Choir Room)

2. Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

3. Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Copyright Information

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"Gentle Shepherd"
By William J. Gaither

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"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"
Arr. by Mark Miller
Copyright © 2018 by Hal Leonard LLC
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11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Rejoice Greatly* Geschke
FPC Handbell Choir

Call to Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us lift up our hearts as an act of worship; let us lift our voices in praise.

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to God, whose giving knows no ending.

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*Hymn #158

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Who does not stand with wicked ones,
And shuns the scorners' seat.
2. How blest the one who in God's law
Finds goodness and delight,
And meditates upon that law
With gladness day and night.
3. That one is nourished like a tree
Set by the river's side;
Its leaf is green, its fruit is sure:
The works of such abide.
4. The wicked, like the driven chaff,
Are swept from off the land;
They shall not gather with the just,
Nor at the judgment stand.

*Please stand if able.

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)



*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (Adapted from the liturgy of the Reformed Church of Zurich, 1525)

Heavenly father, merciful and everlasting God, we acknowledge and confess before your divine majesty that we are poor sinners, prone to evil and ever falling short of goodness. We have transgressed your commandments and are worthy of your anger.

But, O Lord, we repent and are sorry from our hearts that we have so displeased you. We pray that your grace may bring help to our distress.

Be pleased, therefore, to have mercy upon us, O most gracious God and Father. Forgive us all our sins, through the holy sufferings of your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant us now the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Increase these in us each day, that we may repent, that sin may be destroyed in us, and that we may bring forth the fruits of righteousness and a pure life that are pleasing to you, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

Our salvation rests not upon our own merits, but upon the boundless mercy of God, who has reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ. In him, our sins are forgiven, our guilt is put away, and we are clothed in his righteousness.

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

Sacrament of Baptism Cade Michael Smith

Presentation

Profession of Faith

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Baptism

Anthem *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

Miller

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:34-40

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



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!

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#/>



Notes

*Hymn #359

1. More love to Thee, O Christ,
More love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make
On bended knee.
This is my earnest plea:
More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!
2. Once earthly joy I craved,
Sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek,
Give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!
3. Then shall my latest breath
Whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry
My heart shall raise.
This still its prayer shall be:
More Love, O Christ, to Thee,
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!

Scripture Reading

Sermon

More Love to Thee, O Christ

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

"Looking Back, Looking Ahead"

Rev. Seth Saathoff

Prayers of the People

*Hymn

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me pure.
2. Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.
3. Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Response

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

Rock of Ages

Gentle Shepherd

Matthew 22:34-40

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

¹ Then Moses climbed Mount Nebo from the plains of Moab to the top of Pisgah, across from Jericho. There the Lord showed him the whole land—from Gilead to Dan, ² all of Naphtali, the territory of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Mediterranean Sea, ³ the Negev and the whole region from the Valley of Jericho, the City of Palms, as far as Zoar. ⁴ Then the Lord said to him, "This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it."

⁵ And Moses the servant of the Lord died there in Moab, as the Lord had said. ⁶ He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is. ⁷ Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died, yet his eyes were not weak nor his strength gone. ⁸ The Israelites grieved for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days, until the time of weeping and mourning was over.

⁹ Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the Lord had commanded Moses.

¹⁰ Since then, no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face, ¹¹ who did all those signs and wonders the Lord sent him to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh and to all his officials and to his whole land. ¹² For no one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.