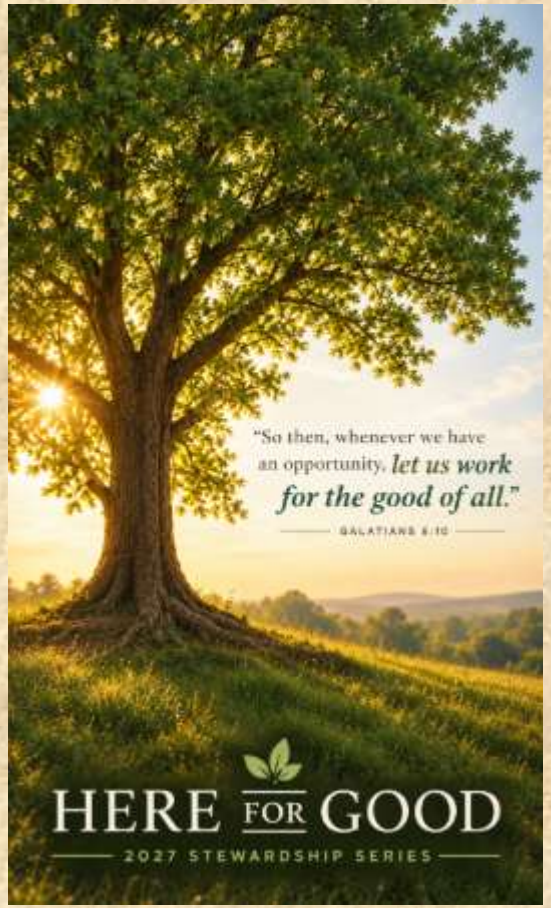
First Presbyterian Church

November 22, 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

Matthew Laletas

Today's Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Jean Heasley, Leah, Jeffrey and Keding, in loving memory of Kellye and Scott Heasley.

Last Week's Attendance, November 15

8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 12

11:00 a.m. Worship Service - 116

Online Worship Attendance - 37

Total Attendance – 165

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Lift up the gates of your heart and open the closed doors of your mind.
That the King of Glory may enter in!
The earth, the land, the seas, and trees; all belong to God.
From east to west, north and south, all people belong to God!
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Let us praise Christ the King!

***Hymn #559 We Gather Together**

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
   He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
   The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,
   Sing praises to His name; He forgets not His own.

2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
   Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
   So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
   Thou, Lord, wast at our side; All glory be Thine!

3. We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,
   And pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.
   Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
   Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

*Please stand if able.

***Call to Confession**

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Through Jesus Christ, our risen and reigning king, sin and death have been defeated. In him, we are forgiven, restored, and welcomed into the kingdom of God.

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 25:31-40; Ezekiel 34:7-16**

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon **"*The Shepherd King*"**
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 #554 Let All Things Now Living**

1. Let all things now living
   A song of thanksgiving
   To God our Creator triumphantly raise;
   Who fashioned and made us,
   Protected and stayed us,
   By guiding us on to the end of our days.

   God's banners are o'er us,
   Pure light goes before us,
   A pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
   Till shadows have vanished,
   All fearfulness banished,
   As forward we travel from light into Light.

2. By law God enforces.
   The stars in their courses,
   The sun in its orbit obediently shine;
   The hills and the mountains,
   The rivers and fountains,
   The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.

   We, too, should be voicing
   Our love and rejoicing
   With glad adoration, a song let us raise:
   Till all things now living
   Unite in thanksgiving,
   To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Preparing to Receive God's Word

Opening Music

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Introit V* *Folts*

Call to Worship

Lift up the gates of your heart and open the closed doors of your mind.
That the King of Glory may enter in!
The earth, the land, the seas, and trees; all belong to God.
From east to west, north and south, all people belong to God!
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Let us praise Christ the King!

***Hymn #559** **We Gather Together**

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
   He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
   The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,
   Sing praises to His name; He forgets not His own.

2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
   Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
   So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
   Thou, Lord, wast at our side; All glory be Thine!

3. We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,
   And pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.
   Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
   Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

*Please stand if able.

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious Lord, on this Christ the King Sunday we boldly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord. We are called to place our trust and hope in Him, but far too often we place our faith in earthly powers. You call us to be citizens of heaven and to work for your reign. We pray, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Forgive us for when we take these words as a platitude instead of a pledge of allegiance. Forgive us for when we try to regulate your kingdom to an hour on Sundays and nothing more.

Rescue us, O Lord, from all powers that claim dominion over us. Redeem us and all of creation until every creature under heaven declares your sovereignty, so that we all may be faithful and loyal servants. Amen.

***Silent Prayer of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Through Jesus Christ, our risen and reigning king, sin and death have been defeated. In him, we are forgiven, restored, and welcomed into the kingdom of God.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:
Because of Christ's great love for us, we are forgiven!

***Gloria Patri**

Moment for Stewardship

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory
***Doxology**
***Prayer of Dedication and the Lord's Prayer**
***Choral Response**

The Word

Children's Time

Anthem *A Humble Song of Thanks* *Martin*

Scripture Reading **Matthew 25:31-40**

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Hymn #551** **Come, Ye Thankful People, Come**

1. Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.

3. For the Lord our God shall come,
And shall take the harvest home;
From each field shall in that day
All offenses purge away;
Give the angels charge at last
In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store
In God's garner evermore.

4. Even so, Lord, quickly come
To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in,
Free from sorrow, free from sin;
There forever purified,
In Thy presence to abide:
Come, with all Thine angels, come,
Raise the glorious harvest home.

Scripture Reading **Ezekiel 34:7-16**

Sermon ***"The Shepherd King"***
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 #554 Let All Things Now Living**

1. Let all things now living
   A song of thanksgiving
   To God our Creator triumphantly raise;
   Who fashioned and made us,
   Protected and stayed us,
   By guiding us on to the end of our days.

   God's banners are o'er us,
   Pure light goes before us,
   A pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
   Till shadows have vanished,
   All fearfulness banished,
   As forward we travel from light into Light.

2. By law God enforces.
   The stars in their courses,
   The sun in its orbit obediently shine;
   The hills and the mountains,
   The rivers and fountains,
   The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.

We, too, should be voicing
Our love and rejoicing
With glad adoration, a song let us raise:
Till all things now living
Unite in thanksgiving,
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response** **A Celtic Thanksgiving**

Thank You, Lord!
Yours is the honor and praise.
Thank You, Lord!
Yours is the power and glory.
Thank You, Lord!
Yours is the honor and praise.

I will give thanks to the Lord!
This is my Father's world.
I will give thanks to the Lord!
This is my Father's world.
I will give thanks!

***Postlude**

Copyright Information

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"Let All Things Now Living"
by Katherine K. Davis
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CCL # 2714264

"A Celtic Thanksgiving"
By Joseph M. Martin and J. Paul Williams
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This Week's Scripture Readings

Matthew 25:31-40

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with
him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered
before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shep-
herd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his
right and the goats on his left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are
blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you
since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me some-
thing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a
stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I
was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit
me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you
hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When
did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe
you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the
least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Ezekiel 34:7-16

7 "'Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: 8 As surely as
I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, because my flock lacks a shepherd and
so has been plundered and has become food for all the wild animals, and
because my shepherds did not search for my flock but cared for them-
selves rather than for my flock, 9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word
of the Lord: 10 This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against the shep-
herds and will hold them accountable for my flock. I will remove them from
tending the flock so that the shepherds can no longer feed themselves. I
will rescue my flock from their mouths, and it will no longer be food for
them.

11 “‘For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for
my sheep and look after them. 12 As a shepherd looks after his scattered
flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them
from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and dark-
ness. 13 I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the
countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on
the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land.
14 I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will
be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and
there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself
will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign Lord.
16 I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the in-
jured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I
will shepherd the flock with justice.

Notes



Called Congregational Meeting November 29

We will have a Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 29, during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The purpose is to present the 2026 Officer Nominating Committee's slate of officers for the Class of 2029 and Class of 2027. We hope you will join us.

The Children's Christmas Pageant

The Children's Christmas Pageant is scheduled for Sunday, December 13th, during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We need lots of little angels, shepherds, sheep, and wise men to recreate the Holy Night for the congregation.

For those who would like to participate in the pageant, please contact Dena Sowden at (979) 255-2096 or DSowden@fpcconroe.org.

Financial Report

(2026 YTD as of 10/31)

	Budget	Actual
Revenue	$657,080	**$641,370**
Expenses	$657,120	$652,765

At the end of October, as you can see above, we now have a budget deficit of over $11,000. The deficit is entirely due to lower than projected revenue. Fortunately, there is still time to achieve a balanced budget by the end of the year. We have overcome budget deficits in the past and I am confident that we can do it again. However, it will require church-wide support. I would ask each of you to prayerfully consider what you can do to help. Remember that every little bit helps.

Fred Kate, Church Treasurer

Christmas
Upcoming Events



CLAP White Elephant Gift Exchange
December 4 • 6:00 PM
at the Saathoff Home



Choir Christmas Party
December 5 • 6:00 PM
at the Aldrich Home



Special Christmas Music Sunday
December 6 • 11:00 AM
in the Sanctuary



PDS Christmas Program
December 10 • 5:30 PM
in the Sanctuary



Children's Pageant
December 13 • 11:00 AM
in the Sanctuary



Youth Progressive Dinner
December 20 • 5:00 PM
meeting at the church



Saathoff Cookie Exchange
December 23 • 5:00 PM
at the Saathoff Home



Christmas Eve Service
December 24 • 6:00 PM
in the Sanctuary



Lessons and Carols
December 27 • 11:00 AM
in the Sanctuary

Saturdays with the Saathoffs

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

Please use the QR code to sign up.



Calendar of Weekly Events

Sunday November 22	**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 at randyjblanton@yahoo.com with questions or 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)
Monday November 23	**1:30 p.m. Monday Bible Study** (Parlor) **WILL NOT MEET THIS WEEK.**
Wednesday November 25	**9:30-2:00 p.m. Mission Sewing** (Rm. 105)

Happy Thanksgiving!



Sunday November 29	**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 at randyjblanton@yahoo.com with questions or 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)

Save the Date

November 23-26	PDS Thanksgiving break
November 26	Thanksgiving Day (Church office will be closed)
November 29	Called Congregational Meeting
December 4	Lifeline Screening Event at FPC
December 5	Youth Progressive Dinner and Lock-in
December 6	Special Music Sunday

Prayer List

Members: Alan Moore, Martha Haines, Dick and Carolyn Schack, David and Leigh Green, Susan Juhl, Virginia Tamborello, Tildon Hebert, John Lancaster, John Gutekunst, Ron Bailey, 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), 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

Physical Address:

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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Mailing Address:

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