

MAY 2026

The Presbyterian Proclaimer

2026 Committee Chairpersons:

Building & Grounds:
George Loader ('28)

Christian Education/
Personnel: Ben Flores ('26)

Congregational Care:
Carol Petersen ('26)

Finance:
TBD ('27)

Outreach & Mission:
Carolyn Barclay ('27)

Worship:
Aaron Ansari ('28)

Session Clerk:
Ronnie Mullen ('28)

Treasurer:
James Bounds

First Presbyterian Church

2216 Avenue H

Bay City, TX. 77414

(979) 245-8327

fpcbc@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday

8:30am-4:00pm



A Word from Pastor Charley

Summer is upon us. Yes the calendar isn't just there yet, but in this part of the world we are hitting 90 outside with 80 percent humidity, we are in summer! That lastly brings us closer to storm season which may mean bad weather. I am not superstitious but I won't say the main name of the storm. Yet, all too often we treat things in our lives that are trials, temptations, and burdens the same way.

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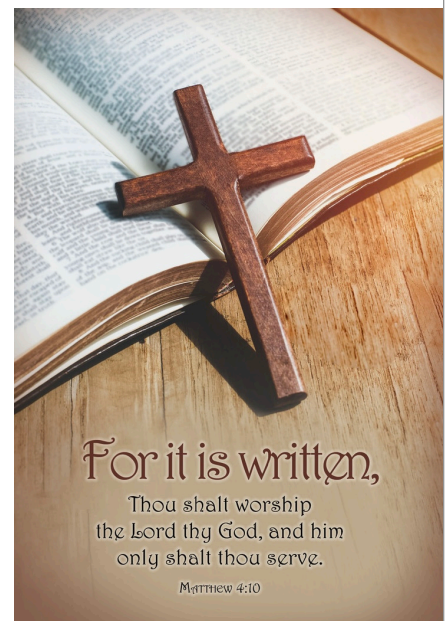
Words from Pastor Charley continued...

We don't name them because that somehow makes us face them more. It also means we show the world that we are walking through tough times. We often feel ashamed or embarrassed during these times, though we should not. Storms in life test us and we sometimes think "oh Lord why, why me?" Yet the scriptures say trials and troubles in life test your faith and increase your patience. When your faith has been tested and purified it brings great reward. One of those is a renewing of our hearts.

Ezekiel 36:26 & 27: says, *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.* The closer we come to the Christ, who is Jesus, the more our hearts are in tune with the Spirit of God, the more we can serve God.

During this year think of how you serve God? In what way can you give and do more for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ? Yes storms come but Jesus will never leave us alone in them. May the Lord be with you always.

Charley Shurtz, Pastor, FPC
clawrence923@icloud.com

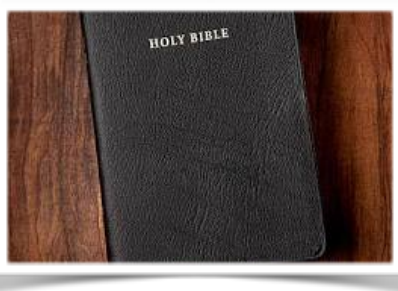




Happy Birthday:

May 8: Rick Hangman

May 19: JayE Shurtz



Volunteers & Ushers:

May Sermon Titles:

May 3:

In the Beginning

May 10: In the Garden



May 17:

In the Dispersal

May 24: Pentecost Sunday(RED)

In the Return

May 31: Trinity Sunday(WHITE)

In Eternity

May Lectionary

Readings:

May 3:

Genesis 1:1-5, Malachi 4:1-6,
John 14:1-4

May 10: Mother's Day

Genesis 2:15-18 & 21-24,
1 Peter 4:12-17, John 14:15-20

May 17:

Genesis 3:8-13, 1 Peter 4:12-17,
John 17:1-5

May 24:

Malachi 3:2-5, 1 Corinthians
13:8-13, John 20:19-23

May 31:

2 Corinthians 13:11-13,
Revelations 22:1-5 & 14-20

Lay Reader:

5/03: Cody Longoria

5/10: George Loader

5/17: Doreen Bounds

5/24: Melissa Guynes

5/31: Will Guynes

Light Bearer:

5/03: Violet Loader

5/10: Nadia Flores

5/17: Jim Bounds

5/24: Will Guynes

5/31: Violet Loader

Ushers:

**5/03: *Jim Bounds
+Ben Flores
George Loader
Will Guynes**

**5/10: *Carol Petersen
+Chris Jones
Cody Longoria**

**5/17: **Ronnie Mullen
Rayne O'Brien
Priscilla Obermeyer**

**5/24: **Doreen Bounds
Melissa Guynes
Mia Mullen**

**5/31: **Dave Mayer
George Loader
Peggy Loader**

***Lead Usher
+Scripture Reader**

Communion Prep:

5/03: Denise Frazier & Donna Baskin

Greeters, Ushers and Session members can answer any questions you may have or point you in the direction of who can help.



Music! It's not what I do,
it's who I am.

From the Music Stand...

Gracious, it's time for the school year to wind-up; Pre-K and Kinder and college graduations, high school proms, senior pictures and plans for summer. May is a big time for many folk. The end of major times and the beginning of new circumstances.

Remember back to these special times in your life and then your children's. The excitement, the pressure, the wondering what will be coming next? Some may remember the song, "School's Out for Summer" by Alice Cooper. This is a theme song for the last 2 weeks of May and it's one that is played a lot during this time of year. It talks of making plans and these do not always work out. It's loud and bombastic, an example of the freedom kids can feel.

In our lives we come to times when an ending of life or situations is in sight. We have to make a choice as to how we are going to process the change. Tears and fears may or may not be a part of how we deal with things. We just were reminded of the initial ending of Christ's earthly ministry during Easter. He was not a fan of what he was going to endure. Yet, He did endure it for our sakes for this was His purpose.

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“Jesus in the Garden” by Joseph M. Martin is a heart-wrenching telling of Christ’s prayer while in Gethsemane.

*Jesus, praying in the garden, in the shadow of a tree
Jesus, calling to his Father, all alone on bended knee.
“Father, Father, let this cup pass by me.”
Jesus, looking to the heavens, in Gethsemane.*

*Jesus, praying in the garden, in the shadow of a tree
Jesus, calling to his Father, crying out in agony.
“Father, Father, let this cup pass by me.”
Jesus, looking to the heavens, in Gethsemane.*

*O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Love that chooses shame and suffering, love that chooses Calvary.
Tears are falling, shadows calling, in that quiet sacred place.
Jesus rises in the darkness, lifting high the cup of grace.*

*“Father, Father, thy will be done! “Father, Father, thy will be done!”
Jesus, alone in Gethsemane.*

Our Lord faced a crucial time in His life, one that He knew He was not guilty of the horrible, humiliating end that was chosen for Him, yet He willingly came to this end for He knew what was coming. He knew he would not be held by death’s grip but He did have to go through the pain to come out on the other side. We come out of our circumstances and we make the choice as to how we will deal with the things that occur to us. When we have the faith that God is in control, we can cry due to our humanness, but we can know that our God will carry us through if we but get out of His way and allow God to use us.

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In the scriptures, God is revealed as the "Alpha and Omega," the beginning and the end. This signifies His control over all time, creation, and purpose. Endings in the Bible often represent new beginnings, divine transitions, or God's ultimate plan, with Jesus existing before all things and controlling the final outcome.

I challenge you to look at whatever situation you find yourself in. What can you do to change it? What can happen when the same situation is given over to the Lord, by your getting out of His way? Most likely, the outcome will be better than your solution.

Your Sister in Christ,
Donna Baskin

**Make a joyful noise unto
the Lord.**



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our Bible study is held in the conference room of the office every Tuesday morning from 10:30-11:30am and is open to anyone that would like to attend. We are currently studying the book of Psalm. You do not need to call ahead of time to reserve a spot, just come on over to the office and join us!!!

Calendar Scheduling

To prevent any scheduling conflicts, get with April in the office when planning any events using the church building. Should you need to schedule something for 2027, let the office know and we will write it down. You do not have to wait; as soon as you have your date(s) give them to April in the office. We already have a list of items to add to the 2027 calendar beginning in January 2027. You can call the office or email at fpcbc@sbcglobal.net to request your date(s) needed.

Rummage Sale Update

On Saturday, April 18 we held a **SUCCESSFUL** rummage sale in Robbins Hall. Proceeds are for Crucible Ministries which is a local men's home where former addicts can go for help to reset their lives. Scott Patten, Director of the home, helps to provide faith based counseling and support to the men that stay in the home. For the first six months of their stay, they stay within the home where they work, and attend Bible studies. After that, they can go out and apply for jobs and work within our community.

Travel Plans?

Let us know when you plan to be traveling and we will pray for travel mercies for you and your family.

Upcoming Events in May:

National Day of Prayer

On Thursday, May 7 @ 9:00am, please stop what you are doing and say a prayer for our leaders.

Second Sunday Lunch/Mother's Day

Join us for our second Sunday lunch on Sunday, May 10 at 11:30am. Bring food and eat until you can't eat anymore!

Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, May 24, wear red.

Trinity Sunday

Sunday, May 31, wear white.

Important Dates:

Sunday School: Every Sunday @ 9:15am Youth & Adults

Choir Rehearsal: Every Sunday @ 9:45-10:15

Worship: Every Sunday @ 10:30am

Children's Church: Every Sunday during worship

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting: Every Tuesday 10:30-11:30am

Foundation Academy: Every Thursday @ 10:00am

Session Meeting: May 3 @ 11:30am

National Day of Prayer: Thursday, May 7 @ 9:00am

Second Sunday Lunch/Mother's Day: May 10 @ 11:30am

Outreach & Missions Meeting: Wednesday, May 20 @ 1:30

Pentecost Sunday: Sunday, May 24 wear red

Wednesday Night Supper: Wednesday, May 27 @ 6:00pm

Trinity Sunday: Sunday, May 31 wear white





Emergency Preparedness



Storm season is upon us and hurricane season is rapidly approaching. It is never too late to be prepared and have supplies that will be needed on hand.

Below are lists of various items you should have readily available to you should there be an emergency.

Basic Disaster Supplies:

- Cash or travelers checks
- Important family documents such as insurance policies, identification cards (DL/SS), bank account records saved in a waterproof/portable container
- Water-one gallon per person per day for at least 3 days for drinking and sanitation
- Food-at least a 3 day supply of non-perishable food
- Prescription medications
- Over the counter medications-pain relievers, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids or laxatives
- Prescription eye glasses and contact lens solution
- Pet food and water for your pet(s)

Emergency Preparedness continued...

Less than \$3,000:

- Portable generators

Less than \$300:

- Emergency ladders
- Hurricane shutters

Less than \$75:

- Axes.
- Batteries, single or multipack (AAA cell, AA cell, C cell, D cell, 6 volt or 9 volt).
- Can openers - nonelectric.
- Carbon monoxide detectors.
- Coolers and ice chests for food storage – nonelectric.
- Fire extinguishers.
- First aid kits.
- Fuel containers.
- Ground anchor systems and tie-down kits.
- Hatchets.
- Ice products - reusable and artificial.
- Light sources - portable self-powered (including battery operated). Examples of items include candles, flashlights and lanterns.
- Mobile telephone batteries and mobile telephone chargers.
- Radios - portable self-powered (including battery operated) - includes two-way and weather band radios.
- Smoke detectors.
- Tarps and other plastic sheeting
- Medical masks and face masks.
- Antibacterial hand sanitizer
- Soap

- Wipes-baby and antibacterial
- Feminine Supplies and hygiene products
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Cleaning supplies, such as disinfectants and bleach wipes.
- Gloves, including leather, fabric, latex and types used in healthcare.
- Toilet paper
- Batteries for automobiles, boats and other motorized vehicles.
- Camping stoves.
- Camping supplies.
- Chainsaws.
- Plywood.
- Extension ladders.
- Stepladders.
- Tents
- Sleeping bag per person or a warm blanket per person
- Repair or replacement parts for emergency preparation supplies.
- Services performed on, or related to, emergency preparation supplies.



All of these items listed above and shown below are suggestions. Consider the needs of each family member. Plan and build your disaster supply kit according to the individual needs of your family.



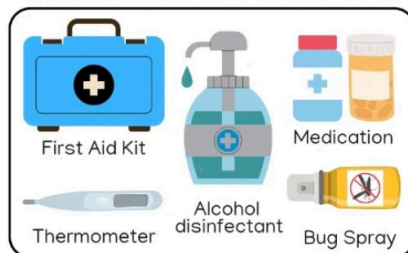
EMERGENCY DISASTER KIT

What to pack in your emergency kit

FOOD AND WATER



MEDICINE & FIRST AID



PERSONAL ITEMS



EMERGENCY TOOLS



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS



RightNow Media Reminder

Scan the QR code Below

Scan the QR code attached. When scanned with a phone camera, it will open your church's registration page for easy sing-up.

Text Code

Text BCFPC to 49775 to receive the link invite directly on your phone.

Download the App

Download the RightNow Media app from your mobile device's App Store for easy access anytime, anywhere.

RightNow Media is a Christian based media outlet. They offer Bible studies, church leadership videos, parenting videos, "how to cope" videos that can help with a variety of everyday issues we face. There is also a children's series that can be watched and discussed as a family.

This is a gift from our Church available to you through this year. Sign up today and explore the thousands of tools available to you. Please give feedback to Ben Flores or Donna Baskin, we would love to hear from you!





Seasons of Hope

Bereavement Support Group

Grief Support Groups

Grief support groups offer a safe environment where you can share your story and express your feelings openly. By establishing connections with others in an understanding, non-judgmental setting, you can reduce feelings of isolation, confront emotions, learn new coping skills, explore your grief and begin to heal.

On Going Grief Support Groups at Houston Hospice-El Campo

Dates: 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month

Time: 5:30-7:00pm

Location: First Presbyterian Church
2216 Ave. H
Bay City, TX. 77414

AND

Dates: 2nd and 4th Monday of each month

Time: 1:00-2:30pm

Location: Houston Hospice-El Campo
1102 N. Mechanic St.
El Campo, TX. 77437

***There is no need to register. Call (979) 578-0314 for more information.**