



2023

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Chan's Corner

In consideration of what I wanted to highlight from this month's activities at FPC, for some reason I was drawn to also look at the 'connectional calendar' of our 'mother ship,' the PC(USA). Which, admittedly, in my own daily 'calendar activities,' I rarely do. And I felt like I was looking at a 'Hallmark' ad featuring a LOT of events that I had never heard of. Here's a few:

World Interfaith Harmony Week. Presbyterian Media Day. Remember Our (Pres. Federal) Chaplains Day. Camp and retreat Sunday. PDA Blue Shirt Sunday. Forgiveness Sunday. Whew! I got tired just *reading* about them! Let alone thinking about scheduling them...

In consideration of the diversity of all these observances, it occurred to me that perhaps there was a common bond associated to the February event familiar to most everyone in our country: Valentine's Day. That 'Hallmark' occasion on which we are to make a special effort to do what we should be doing every day: 'Showing the LOVE' to those whom we care about.

Here on the 'Homefront,' we have a number of opportunities to 'show the love' to one another, to the larger body of believers, and to our neighbors. We can enjoy food and fellowship with our fellow church members by gathering at Tony's for **Lunch with Friends**. Or 'feasting' with 'bread, cup, and cupcakes' on the **Communion Sunday**. The day before that will be an opportunity to consider **Small Church Options** being presented by the Committee on Ministry of our Presbytery, celebrating the 'connectional wisdom' of the larger church. That 'celebration' will continue about 10 days later at the 'winter' **PSL meeting** at Jefferson Presbytery. The following week the season of Lent begins with our **Ash Wednesday service**, preceded by our newest 'tradition,' "**Ashes to Go**," at which we carry the message of God's forgiveness of sin 'to the streets.' While also being a visible 'witness' to this 'hidden gem' on Corbina Rd.

The central nature of 'forgiveness' to our Christian faith brings us back to my initial comments on our denominational calendar. If you would like to know more about any of these days, or perhaps to consider observing them more formally at our church, let me know. At least, may we think about how they encourage us to 'show the love' to others. During this 'month of love' may we engage in conversation someone of another faith tradition. Express appreciation to a chaplain or faith leader. Give thanks, and support, for relief organizations like PDA, Eight Days of Hope, SWLA Responds, etc. Demonstrate forgiveness by addressing unresolved conflict with a friend or family member.

Above all, don't wait for one day out of 365 to express your love for others. TODAY, may your life bear witness to the 'truth that will set you free' ... "**God so loved the world that he gave...**" (John 3:16) He gave us His Son... not just some greeting card...

Love in Christ always, *Chan*



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Nurture -- Sally Taylor, moderator; Barbara Bailey, vice-moderator

Operations -- Lenn Knapp, moderator; Edie Ausmus, vice-moderator

*If you would like to help on a specific committee, please let us know.



February 5 Angie Dilmore
February 11 Kaki Brown
February 12 Emily Fenet Parker
February 13 Pat Swift
February 21 Tommy Kerr
February 22 Mark Judson
February 23 John Ryan Hood



2/16 Andy and Caroline Sharp

Calendar Events: Did you KNOW? You can check the Church Calendar on the website... <http://www.firstpres-lc.org/>.

Saturday, February 4th, 10am – 12:30pm, Church Options Conference in the Worship Center

Sunday, February 5th, Communion Sunday & Celebrate February Birthdays.

Sunday, February 12th, Lunch with Friends @ Tony's following 11am Worship Service.

Monday, February 13th, 5:30pm, Session Meeting

Tuesday, February 14th, 9am-3pm, PSL meeting @ Jefferson Presbyterian Church, Jefferson, LA, Lenn Knapp, Commissioner

Wednesday, February 22nd, 4:00pm, Ashes to Go & Ash Wednesday Service @ 6pm.



Joys & Concerns

Inci Glover, will be receiving cancer treatment and is in Baton Rouge with her family.

Barrie Willis's uncle, Lawrence Stirling, passed away last week. Memorial was held Monday, Jan. 30th.

*"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer."
Psalm 17:6 (NIV)*

*Please contact us if you would like to place something specific in the newsletter. It can be an announcement, a prayer, a picture, an event, etc.

A Note from the Treasurer...

2019 Contribution Statements

Your 2019 contribution statements have been mailed.

Please let the church office know if you have any questions about your statement or you do not receive it by February 15th.

Thank you for your financial support of First Presbyterian Church.

Worship, Sundays @ 11:00am

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