

First Presbyterian Church of McAllen

956-682-2836/fax: 956-664-2711 www.fpcmcallen.org

email: fpchurch@sbcglobal.net

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Tue—closed; Wed-Thurs, 8:00 am—3:00 pm; Fri, 8:00 am—1:00 pm

Church Staff

Rev. Kathryn Escandell Pastor	Cam Henry Treasurer	Lucy Snearley Pianist
Michael A. Pullen Church Administrator	Roberto Garza II Choir Director	Adela Zamora Custodian / Nurse
Dana Friedman Clerk of Session	Beverly Bradburn Organist	

The Session

Rev. Kathryn Escandell — Moderator
Dana Friedman — Clerk

Class of 2018 Spud Brown Mike Hudler Dottie Palmer Dee Treviño	Class of 2019 Kathryn Henry Henry McElmurray Bob Simpson Sher Wilkes	Class of 2020 Tom Ball Maria Colvin-Lopez Dana Friedman Cristina Garfield
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Stated Session meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Session meetings are open unless in Executive Session.

Ministry Chairpersons

Fellowship—Henry McElmurray
Finance/Stewardship—Bob Simpson
Nominating—Dottie Palmer
Personnel—Dee Treviño
Property—Doug Schneider

Calling Chairpersons

Christian Education—Cristina Garfield
Congregational Care—Kathryn Henry / Mike Hudler
Evang. & Mission—Maria Colvin-Lopez
Worship—Tom Ball

Trustees

Class of 2018—Maria Colvin-Lopez
Class of 2019—Nadine Force-Macey
Class of 2020—Vinson McLeod

All are welcome to join in the ministry of the church.

Children are welcome in worship. Childcare is provided for infants through kindergartners. Preschoolers may leave for an extended children's session in the nursery after "Time with Young Disciples." All children are invited to take advantage of the Children's Worship Bags located in the Narthex.



Like us on Facebook: *First Presbyterian Church, McAllen, TX*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Kathryn Escandell, preaching
Nadine Force-Macey, liturgist
Rev. Kathryn Escandell, children's time
Roberto Garza II, choir director

MUSICIANS

Beverly Bradburn, organist

USHER

Dana Friedman, captain
David Rowland

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN PRAYER:

Alice Adams, Emelia Alaniz, Ric Backstrom, Samantha Bailey, Bill & Anna Bohart, Joseph Castellanos, Gretchen Chapa, Carole Collins, Mary Ann Cummings, Bonnie Daniels, Estelle Davenport, Kyler Deveney, Andres Fuentes, Andrew Garcia, Vicki Garcia, Betty Garner, Steve Gonzalez, Tyson Goodenbaur, Elisha Griffith, Laura Hale, Charles & Lou Helt, Lores Hochstetler, Ruth Hodge, Rev. O'Quin Kelly, Dick & Gwyn Kozma, Dr. Kenneth & Carolyn Landrum, Andy Lentz, Shannon Leonard, Shirley Leonard, Eric Longoria, William (Bill) Macecevic, Earl & Nadine Force-Macey, Larry & Jean McDonald, Dolores Munoz, Kelly Nicholson, Bernice Norton, Rusty Noser, Daniella Olivarez, John Parks, Cindy Payne, Elpidio Perez, Raymond E. Peterson, Bob Pippin, Robert & Carol Pippin, Rene & Diana Provencio, Marty Pullen, Barry Rock, Laurie Rock, Daniel Salkinder, Ruben Sanchez, Susan Cowie-Serres, The Session of FPC-McAllen, Nancy Shepard, Scott Shipley, Barbara Stevens, Lindsay Terry, Alan & Joy Tittle, Rick Trager, Anthony Treviño, Sopphey Vance, Harry Vorbach, Eric & Lety Walborg, Jessica Watt, Joseph Watt, Addisyn Whitsell, John Wright, Draven Trent Zamora. **CELEBRATION:** Dottie Palmer & Neil Kohl announce their engagement (no date set). **MILITARY/OVERSEAS:** Derek Emter, Nathan & Glenda Mesta, Jason Schneider, Taylor Wimberley, Justin Zeller. **MISSIONARY:** Dre Atkins. **SHUT-INS:** Lois Clark, Gladys Law, Dale Miller, Lupe Weir. (NOTE: *If you would like to add a name to the list, please fill out a card located in the "Ritual of Friendship" book or back of the pew and drop it in the offering plate.*)

Our Mission Statement

Join the Journey!
Love and Serve God and Others.

Our Vision Statement

Respond to God's grace and build upon the strength of our Reformed tradition through worship, evangelism and leadership training. We will become a church of ministers who carry out the Great Commission and meet the needs of one another. We will build safer communities and glorify the name of Jesus Christ in the city of McAllen, Texas.

We will ...

Proclaim the Good News revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We will accomplish this through activities such as festivals and concerts, and through various means of communication as social and international programs.

We will ...

Live as a community of faith in worship, prayer, study and fellowship. This will be done through programs, including Sunday School, Bible Study, Sunday Worship; and activities, including church meals, as well as support for individual worship.

We will ...

Actively serve our community with love, compassion, respect, mercy and justice. We will accomplish through peace, unity and purity through Christ-like behavior, corporate and personal responsibility, and hospitality toward all.

May God empower us by the Holy Spirit to fulfill our call to be God's people.

First Presbyterian Church
of McAllen



104 SOUTH 12TH STREET
MCALLEN, TEXAS 78501
Serving this community since 1908

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 31, 2017

10:30 a.m.

1st Sunday after Christmas Day / New Year's Eve

(* - please rise in body or spirit. Congregation parts in **bold**.)

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements / Friendship Book

Prelude

Silent Preparation

We have made it. Somewhere amidst the Christmas parties and the family gatherings and the pile of cardboard boxes by the curb, Jesus came. Advent, though, does not come at the end of the Christian Year. It is the beginning. Now that we have started down this road, we have obligations like those of Simeon and Anna, Mary and Joseph. We are obligated to remember. We are obligated to honor God. We are obligated to gather and worship. We are obligated to recognize the darkness and carry the light.

— Rev. C. Joshua Villines, Virginia-Highland Church

GATHERING

- * Call to Worship
Praise the Lord!
Praise God from the heavens.
Men and women alike, old and young together!
**Let us praise the name of the Lord,
whose name alone is exalted above earth and heaven.
Alleluia!**
- * Opening Hymn *O Come, All Ye Faithful* No. 133 (Purple)
- Prayer of the Day
- Call to Confession
- Prayer of Confession
**Merciful God,
we confess that we have not lived as your faithful children.
We have kept silent in midst of prejudice and hatred.
We have been idle in the face of violence and injustice.
We have not been a light to the nations,
and our lives have not revealed your glory.
Forgive us, Merciful God.
Repair the ugliness of our sin
and restore us to your beautiful grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**
- Silent Confession
- Declaration of Forgiveness
Beloved of God, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
as a bride adorns herself with her jewels,
God covers us with the robe of righteousness.
**We give thanks that we are forgiven in Jesus Christ,
and we will live as God's beloved.**
- * Gloria Patri *Glory Be to the Father* No. 581 (Purple)
- * Passing the Peace of Christ
The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**
[In the same manner, turn and pass the peace of Christ to your neighbors.]

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

- Prayer for Illumination
- Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 61:10-11* (Inclusive Bible)
(This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God!**)
- Anthem

Time with Young Disciples

- Gospel Reading *Luke 2:22-40* (NRSV)
(This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God!**)
- Sermon Rev. Kathryn Escandell

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

- * Affirmation of Faith (from *Galatians 4:4-7*)
**When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman, born under the law,
in order to redeem those who were under the law,
so that we might receive adoption as children.
And because [we] are children,
God has sent the Spirit of the Son into our hearts,
crying, 'Abba! Father!'
So [we] are no longer slaves but children,
and if children then also heirs, through God.**
- * Reflection Hymn *Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple*
No. 148 (Purple)
- Prayers of the People / *Lord's Prayer* Purple Hymnal, Pg. 35
... Loving God, **hear our prayer.**
- Presentation of Tithes and Offering
- Invitation to the Offering
- Offertory
- * Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*
No. 606 (Purple)
- * Offertory Prayer
- * Closing Hymn *Love Has Come* No. 110 (Purple)

GO OUT INTO THE WORLD IN GOD'S NAME

- * Charge & Benediction
- * Congregational Response *Joy to the World* (v. 2) No. 134 (Purple)
- * Postlude



Announcements & Church Information

The **FLOWERS AT THE FRONT OF THE SANCTUARY** are presented to the glory of God by *Joseph & Renée Vorbach* in celebration of their daughter and son-in-law, Cassie & Erik Vose's wedding anniversary.

Please note: the **CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** January 1-2, 2018.

The **PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY MEEETING** scheduled for this coming Tuesday, January 2, 2018, has been cancelled. The Quilt Ministry will resume its regular meetings on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at 1:30 p.m.

2018 FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEETS ... If you wish to donate flowers for a particular Sunday Worship Service in 2018, please write in the information on the appropriate sheet located next to the church office. A reminder notice for your particular Sunday contribution will be mailed the week before. You can either mail a check to the church office for \$35 per arrangement or drop your check in the offering plate, designating "Flower Arrangement(s)" on the memo line.

The **2018 DISCIPLINES**, a book of daily devotionals for the entire year, is available in the church office at a cost of \$10 each. Please come by the office during regular business hours if you would like to purchase a copy.

ESPAÑOL WORSHIP SERVICES are offered each Sunday at 5 p.m. in the Parlor.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES FOR DEC. 31-JAN. 7, 2017

SUNDAY / 31st
(1st Sunday after Christmas Day / New Year's Eve)
10:30 am—Worship Service
5:00 pm—Spanish Worship Service (Parlor)

MONDAY / January 1st
(New Year's Day)
Church Office closed

TUESDAY / 2nd
Church Office closed

WEDNESDAY / 3rd
7:30 pm—Choir practice (Choir room)

THURSDAY / 4th
9:30 am—Space for God

FRIDAY / 5th
7:00 am—Prayer Breakfast meeting (@ Denny's, 401 E. Nolana, McAllen)

SUNDAY / 7th
(Baptism of the Lord)
9:00 am—Sunday School
10:00 am—Choir Practice (Choir room) / "The Gathering" (Parlor)
10:30 am—Worship Service / Holy Communion
11:30 am—Power of Hope Fund
Noon—Session Retreat (Fellowship Hall)
4:30 pm—Youth
5:00 pm—Spanish Worship Service (Parlor)