

The Window

First Presbyterian Church of Stockton's Monthly Newsletter



November 2026

Dear Congregation,
As I was considering what to share with you all for this November 2026 issue of our church newsletter, my mind and heart drifted to gratitude. My time as your pastor started on November 1st, 2019, seven whole years ago! I am so grateful that God brought me here to be in fellowship and ministry with this congregation, a call which has changed my life in so many ways! In this month when we celebrate Thanksgiving we are all drawn to consider gratitude as we prepare to gather with family and friends. Sometimes the noise in our world can get very loud. It can feel like we are constantly bombarded with heartbreaking news, complex problems, and the difficulties of life. Gratitude can be an invitation to let our nervous systems find some rest. It urges us to look around and notice the light which the dark could never extinguish. Gratitude connects us to the source of life which is present with us always. Romans 8:38-39 reminds us that there is nothing that could ever separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. We can always find our footing on the solid ground of that truth as we are led through the days we are given to live. Because it can be difficult to focus on gratitude in today's climate, I wanted to offer the following questions. Feel free to write here on your Window if it is printed out or to jot down the answers in a journal. Perhaps you feel led to simply think and consider them. May this season of gratitude root you ever further in the unconditional love of God which holds us throughout the year.
With gratitude,
Pastor Ashley

Questions for reflection:

1. Reflect back upon your day so far. Where do you see God's grace? What has nurtured your body, mind, heart, and soul?

2. Reflect on the people in your life. Who helps you? Who do you have the joy of helping? Who is your emergency contact? If it is appropriate, take a few moments to tell these people what they mean to you.

3. Reflect on your life. What moments and gifts bring you a sense of gratitude? Have there been times you were carried when you didn't know how you would make it? Have there been surprises of sweetness or hope? How have these shaped you? Consider the lessons have you learned or strength have you gained.

4. Anything else come to mind for which you want to give thanks?

DECEMBER WINDOW

The deadline for submission of articles for the December 2026 Window is **November 25th.**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Julie Yanes November 18

Hospitality after Worship Setup/Cleanup
November 8 – Carol Dietrich
November 15 – Jane Knoop
November 22 – Sylvia Cavanaugh
November 29 – Jane Knoop

Worship Assistants
November 8 – Kimberlee Roider
November 15 – Craig Holmes
November 22 – Bill Alessio
November 29 – Carol Dietrich

Sunday School Volunteers
November 8 – Tola Eley
November 15 –
November 22 –
November 29 --

If you are interested in serving with Hospitality, as a Worship Assistant, or as a Sunday School Volunteer, please contact the Office.

Meetings This Month:
Nov. 8 Thanksgiving Potluck
Nov. 9 Spiritual Growth Meeting 4pm on Zoom
Nov. 10 Presbyterian Women 12pm
Nov. 11 Food Pantry
Nov. 15 Dedication of Pledges for 2027
Nov. 17 Hospitality 10:30am
Nov. 26 Thanksgiving!
Nov. 30 Session

Weekly:
Bible Study at 10 am Thursdays
Evening Bible Study Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 5 pm

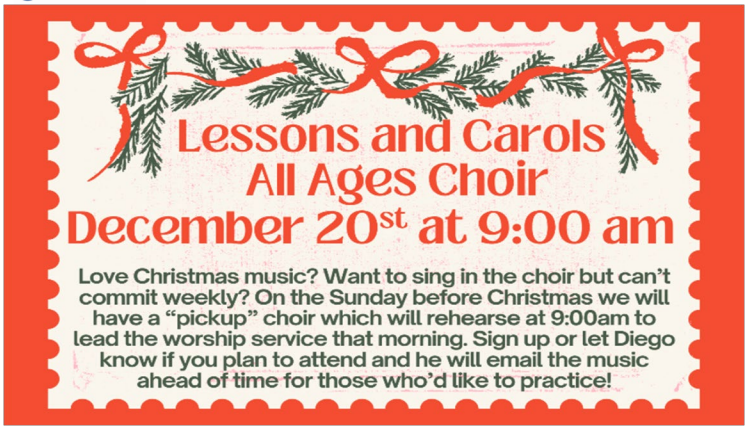


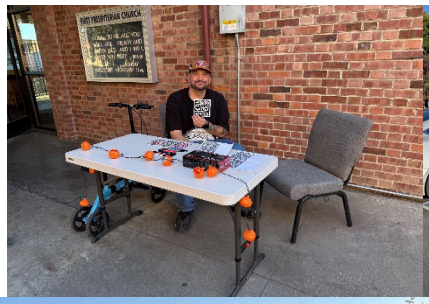
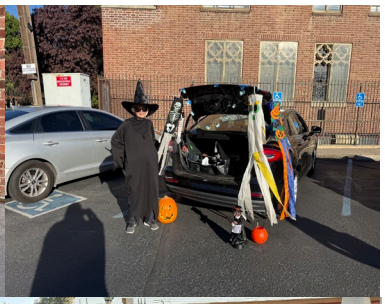




Food Pantry Notice For November!

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, our Food Pantry will only be open once this month on November 11, 2026. We appreciate your understanding and wish everyone a safe and blessed Thanksgiving!



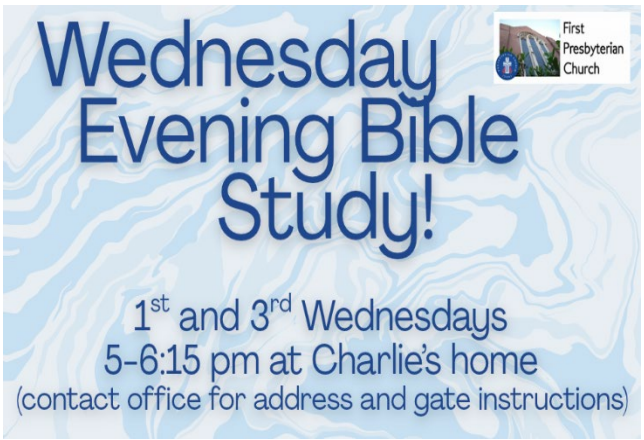


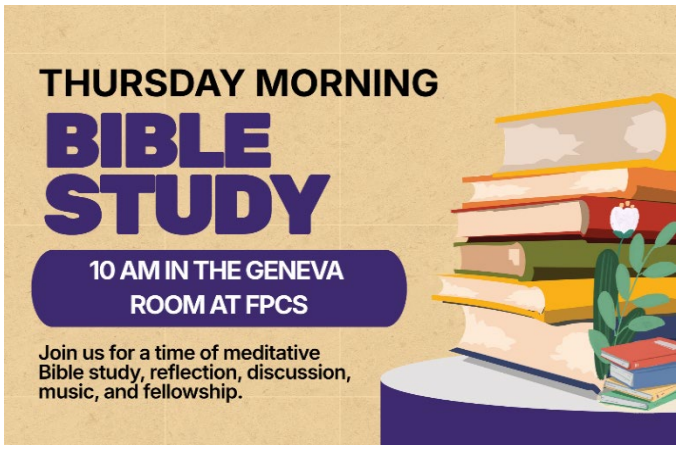





3rd Annual Trunk or Treat

On October 24, 2026, First Presbyterian Church of Stockton held our 3rd annual Trunk or Treat event in our parking lot area. We had 8 decorated trunks where candy and other treats were handed out to our visitors. There were games, facepainting and a fun butterfly hunting adventure where the kids had to find all the paper butterflies that were hung around the campus and if they found them all they got a cute halloween themed slap braclet. We also served nachos and apple juice. Thank you to all those who participated or donated to help make this event a success! A special thank you to our community partner Native Core for coming out to join in on the fun!





Hospitality Committee's Tour of St. Mary's Community Services

On November 3rd, a group of folks from FPCS toured St. Mary's Community Services here in Stockton. This amazing organization provides 3 meals a day for anyone in need, housing for families, singles, transitional aged youth, and an innovative program called Pathways that provides individual rooms where people can stay with a pet or an adult family member/unmarried partner. St. Mary's connects clients with medical services, dental services, clothing, blankets, and just about every resource you can imagine. Let us keep St. Mary's and their staff and service recipients in our prayers as we seek to support their work. They are currently especially in need of donations of men's clothing, unwrapped gifts for kids for Christmas, and turkeys and the fixings for their big Thanksgiving lunch.



First Presbyterian Church

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First Presbyterian Church is committed to loving and serving all people,
Including those from diverse generations, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, and life experiences.
Whatever your story, you are welcomed by Jesus Christ
And by his church family.