



Pastor's Letter

November 2022

Beloved Ones,

Can you believe how the year has passed? I can't. Halloween is past. All Saints Day is upon us. Then the election and Thanksgiving hard on its heels.

Right after turkey, we'll have Hanging of the Greens here and enter the season of Advent.

Christmas, here we come!

It's been a busy fall season. Last Sunday I led—count them—four worship services: beach worship, sanctuary worship, Blessing of the Animals, and the Lemley wedding.

Let me say again—we are NOT a dying congregation!

Last Sunday we welcomed a new family to worship and the Christian Ed Committee leapt into action, identifying a nursery attendant and beginning Sunday School classes.

Many thanks to Donna Barksdale for teaching and Kallieste McKinzey and Kya her dog for providing the nursery!

HOWEVER, Kallieste has just accepted a new job that involves work on some weekends, so we need an alternate nursery attendant. Could YOU fill that position? If we had several volunteers, it might only be once a month or every few months.

Choir welcomed a new singer, and the Handbell Choir is practicing for the holiday season. Expect lots of great music, and good fun and carols at Hanging of the Greens!

This week, Mission Committee is again hauling necessities to share with the homeless, whose dogs will benefit from the leftover pet treats at the blessing service. Computer classes are still going strong, and the committee reminds us

about the Coastal Day of Giving on Nov. 8, and that Timon's especially needs our support this year.

Building and Grounds Committee has been swamped dealing with the fruitbasket-upset of moving groups using our annex into the sanctuary in order to facilitate early voting. To complicate things, we've been springing leaks left and right—out in the landscape; at the air conditioners, and in the bathrooms. But God has blessed us with volunteers oversee those repairs.

Many thanks to Marshall Lochausen for dealing with all these issues and to Debbie Marchant for painting prior to installation of new flooring in the bathrooms. They are looking so very good!

I'm taking two weeks of much needed vacation beginning Nov. 2. I'll take my office hours on Tuesday, Nov. 1, rather than the usual Thursday time, and I'll be back in the office on Thursday, Nov. 17.

And because beach worship is officially over now, I'll resume Friday office hours on Nov. 18, 10-noon.

Pastor Anne will be pulpit supply on Nov. 6 and will share communion with everyone. And Rev. Sam, an Air Force chaplain living in San Antonio who visited us last spring, will hold the pulpit down on Nov. 13. I almost wish I could be there both Sundays—almost!

I will be on Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 20, when we enable all these good things to happen.

Without your gift of a pledge, we can't budget for day-to-day expenses, never mind the maintenance issues that come up.

Without your gift of being with us in worship, we would be so much less.

Without your gift of serving one another, we could not be God's church in the world.

You are needed. And you are loved. And THAT is the Good News at Island Presbyterian Church!

Peace and grace, Pastor Kris

