

**Our Mission:**  
Connecting with  
God and sharing  
the Good News of  
Jesus Christ with  
the community.

# First Presbyterian Church EPISTLE

November 2011

Vol. 19, No. 11

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

543 East Freeman St.  
Duncanville, TX 75116  
(972) 298-3043  
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info@fpccd.org  
www.fpccd.org

### **CHURCH STAFF:**

**Rev. Ginger Hertenstein,**  
Pastor

**Sandy Gaskins,**  
Administrative  
Assistant/Bookkeeper

**Steve Netniss,**  
Youth Pastor

**Andrew Dittman,**  
Choir Director

**Deborah Titus,**  
Accompanist

**Sean Russell,**  
Sound Room Technician

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## **From our Pastor**

The Fall Fest choir and storytelling concert was a resounding success. Those who attended enjoyed outstanding music by the choir, and delightful stories by Jim and Janet Stahl and Kathy Culmer. One hundred and twenty-eight people joined us, the majority of them from the community. We drew them because you all talked about it, wrote articles for the newspapers, advertised online, hung posters around town, and handed out fliers. You did a fabulous job enthusiastically promoting the event.

The choir outdid themselves singing Andrew Dittman's arrangements because they committed themselves to practicing and developing their craft. Other folks planned the ice cream social, making the patio festive and inviting. Steve Netniss and Sean Russell worked hard to ensure all mikes worked flawlessly (and they did!). Sandy Gaskins did a wonderful job designing and printing dozens of posters, fliers, and follow-up cards. Don't we have the most talented staff and congregation?

Others have underwritten the financial cost, making the event possible. As you can see, it takes time, talent, and money to make all these things happen. All these things are an investment that brings the good news of Jesus Christ to this community. Everything each one of you contributed played an important part, and your fruitfulness is evident.

The study of Genesis has been fruitful as well. We've experienced these stories not only in song and storytelling, but in contemporary skits and artwork. All of these things "preach" the message. As we are learning in Genesis, we are all called to do just that, spread the Good News. Together we can accomplish it, as each of us give ourselves to God. Amen?  
Amen!

Blessings,  
*Ginger*



## Words from Worship

We on the Worship Team want to add our thanks to what Pastor Ginger has said on p. 1 to the many people, named and unnamed, who contributed to the success of our Fall Fest! FPCD has a GREAT team that always makes events happen. We received over \$270 in donations. To God be the glory!

### Symbols of our Faith: Harp

This multi-stringed musical instrument is associated with David, who played to soothe King Saul, and later wrote many psalms, many accompanied by stringed instruments. The harp also represents praise music in general, as well as all the instruments people use to glorify God (see Psalm 71:22—*I will praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praise to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.*). The idea that angels play harps may have come from Revelation 14:2 (“And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of...harpists playing on their harps”)—although in the next verse it turns out that the sound like many harpists is the singing of redeemed people like us, not angels. Psalm 150 unites harps and lyres with other instruments and dance as we join all creation in praise to God.



Advent, and the new Church Year, begin November 27! Join us the morning of the 26th for the “hanging of the greens” to decorate our sanctuary and fellowship hall for this momentous season!

### Bible Quiz

Many new parents choose “Bible names” for their babies. Of the following names, which two (one boy’s and one girl’s) are not found in Scripture?

- |              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| A. Eunice    | E. Derek  |
| B. Priscilla | F. Obed   |
| C. Judith    | G. Reuben |
| D. Clara     | H. Joel   |

Answer: D & E



**Church Family  
Thanksgiving Dinner  
Sunday, November  
20, 6:00 p.m.**

*Missions News ~ From Paul and Claudia Griffith*

Well, these pictures do not look so exciting, do they? Just a guy helping another guy (Arnulfo Prado, a speaker of the old Aztec language and a national Bible translator for his own language) with a computer that needs fixing and a lady with a stack of books in the library. What is going on? And how do they relate to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the whole world? That is just the point that excites us a whole lot!

We believe that the point is that God can use just ordinary folks like us—our talents, our interests, our education, our life experience—in the missions endeavor. We are pleased as punch, so to speak, that God has a place for us in helping people in Mexico know that Jesus loves them and that God has made



provision for their salvation for eternity through Christ and that He has told that story in a precious Book—the Bible, of course. And we strongly believe that every person on the face of this earth has the right to hear God's Word in his own heart language. That is why we are so pleased to be part of Wycliffe Bible Translators, whose #1 goal is exactly that.



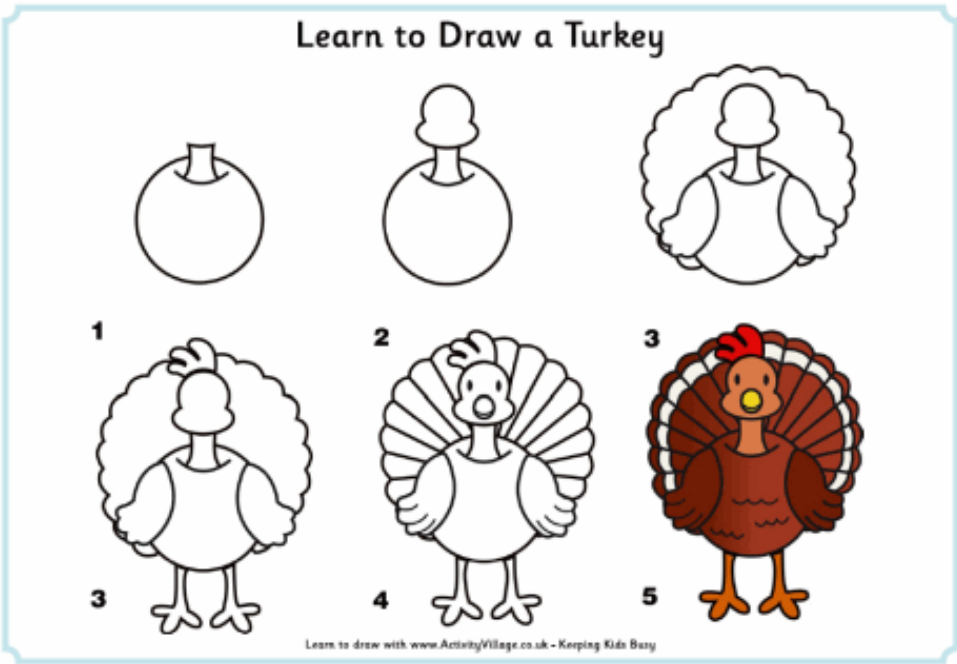
No, we are not the ones actually doing Bible translation into one of the nearly 300 indigenous languages of Mexico. We are the helpers, so to speak. Our particular roles are for Paul to keep the translators' (both the nationals and the missionaries) computers in good repair, to help train them in using their computers, to trouble-shoot network and telephone problems and fix them; and for Claudia to provide a useful library that will enable our translators to study the cultures and languages in the areas where they work and to provide resources for our linguist/translators who are doing research and writing published scholarly papers. And so we have come full circle... because these are jobs for which we are well suited and gifted by God. We can honestly say that we have a role to play in the task of Bible translation and that we are so glad to be doing it here in Mexico.

We left Duncanville in July 2007 to work with Wycliffe Bible Translators here in Mexico. How do we like living here after four years? It has been an easy adjustment for both of us. We have very much enjoyed living among the Zapotec people here in Mitla, Oaxaca. They are a very friendly, polite, and kind people. And their culture is very different from American culture. We are always learning new and interesting details, which we greatly enjoy. For example, when a person dies the family hosts a burial or funeral feast for the guests. This is generally the next day after the death. But the spirit of the dead person sticks around for another 8 or 9 days. And when that spirit leaves to go to the spirit world, the family hosts a second funeral feast.

In many respects living in this community is reminiscent of life in the USA in the 1950's when we were children. People walk everywhere about town, and there is a lot of friendly visiting among folks on the streets. Women shop daily for the food that they will cook that day. There are no automatic dishwashers. We live in a community of about 10,000 people, but it is still very rural. Men and their dogs—and sometimes women—

(continued on p. 8) →

# Kids Korner



Mark your calendars for early December: Saturday, December 3, 6:00 p.m., and come to the

## **CHRISTMAS AUCTION AND SPAGHETTI SUPPER**

PW will provide a delicious dinner of meatballs, spaghetti, salad, bread and dessert. Afterwards we will enjoy bidding on items you'll want to select as gifts and possibly for yourself! Everyone is invited to participate in the auction, by bringing items to be auctioned, such as decorative or edible treats or other possible gift items. Home made gifts are always welcome! Even if you have no gift to bring, come for the fun, and shop! Proceeds will benefit Presbyterian Women's projects here and far away (see p. 6).



Lord, teach us to number our days!

Mary Huttar—11/3  
 Albert Teel—11/3  
 Tonya Jespersen—11/4  
 Steve Netniss—11/5  
 Teresa Reed—11/6  
 Dave Bolles—11/9

Dub Guthrie—11/9  
 David Hertenstein—11/10  
 Armelia Jimmerson—11/11  
 Charlie Glover—11/15  
 Rylee Reed—11/16  
 Bob Moore—11/28

If we've missed your birthday and you would like us to include it in this "birthday" section of the newsletter, please contact us at (972) 298-3043 or info@fpcd.org. Thank you.



## WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

November 2011 ~ 10:30 A.M. SERVICE

	<b>November 6:</b>	<b>November 13</b>
<b>Greeters:</b>	Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson	Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz
<b>Ushers:</b>	Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues	Bob Moore, Eddie Cowand
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Sean Russell	Dub Guthrie
<b>Children's Church:</b>	Kathleen Hartless	Margaret Lewis
<b>Nursery Volunteer:</b>	Joan Brown	Anna Murphy
<b>Tellers:</b>	Lori Glover, Bob Harrison	Paul Barton, Tom Harmon
<b>Communion Servers:</b>	Eugene Jimmerson, Mary Huttar, Tom Harmon, Jocelyn Bolles, Mickey Jespersen, and Helen Barton	

	<b>November 20</b>	<b>November 27 (1st Advent)</b>
<b>Greeters:</b>	Donna To, Wendy Jensen	Janet Stahl, Burle Murphy
<b>Ushers:</b>	Albert Teel, Bob Moore	Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Leo Skinner	
<b>Children's Church:</b>	Savannah Teel	Anna Murphy
<b>Nursery Volunteer:</b>	Sydney Russell	Susan & Evelyn Walters
<b>Tellers:</b>	Teresa Reed, Joan Brown	Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis

# ATTENDANCE

September 2010	September 2011
5 September 88	4 September 90
12 September 80	11 September 92
19 September 72	18 September 89
26 September 88	25 September 92
average 82	average 91



September 2011	
Receipts	Expenditures
\$18,709	\$15,967
YTD income:	*\$166,029
YTD expenditures	\$179,306
Total Annual Budget:	\$218,200
*This includes memorial giving.	
We're behind in our giving:	<\$ 13,277>

## Presbyterian Women News

### Our PW 2011 Mission Focus

Our PW mission focus this year is in southeastern Africa. It is the Home of Hope, in Harare, Zimbabwe, a country with a wide variety of economic problems. The government's land reform program characterized by chaos and violence, has badly damaged the commercial farming sector, the traditional source of exports and foreign exchange and the provider of 400,000 jobs, turning Zimbabwe into a net importer of food products.



*The ongoing political crises and violence in Zimbabwe have made efforts to reach out to vulnerable children and the destitute a nightmare. Home of Hope is struggling to make the situation more bearable for street children and their families. Security for children and ministries, project staff, and network staff has been a concern.*

Mission workers, Joan Trevelyan and her team, including her son Craig, faithfully serve and bear witness to the love of Christ there. In addition to feeding and training at the Home of Hope, Joan provides breakfast six mornings a week to over 200 people living in the streets. She also provides scholarships and uniforms to over 100 school children and medical aid to many in need. Home of Hope remains a life saver to many in the city of Harare, where neither land nor employment are available to the street people and the widows.

One third of the proceeds of the December 3 PW Christmas Auction (see p. 4) will be sent for the work of Home of Hope. If you would like to give additional support to this work, go to [www.theoutreachfoundation.org](http://www.theoutreachfoundation.org), the website of the Outreach Foundation (of the Presbyterian Church).

**Thank you to each of you who supported the Grace Presbyterian Village Bazaar by purchasing tickets for the quilt raffle. You all contributed \$76 to the Grace Presbyterian Village Caring Fund.**

*You're invited for a good visit with friends, and to study the Beatitudes, in Matthew 5 and Luke 6.*



**Sarah Fellowship and Agape Fellowship** groups will meet on **Thursday, November 10: Agape Fellowship at 1 p.m.** at the home of Connie Steger, 960 N. Cedar Hill Road, Cedar Hill, **972-291-0922**, and **Sarah Fellowship at 7:30 p.m.** at the home of Diane Pegues, 302 N. Venice Drive, Duncanville, **972-298-4097**.

**All women of the church are welcome to visit either of these groups!**

# FPCD PRAYER CALENDAR

(November 2011 - Remember each other in daily prayer.)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Andrew & Ashley Dittman Winifred Cook Jackie Walke	<b>2</b> Paul & Helen Barton Ruth Yingst Doris Metzger Jack & Diane Pegues	<b>3</b> David & Katherine Liddle Caleb, Jonathan Lenora Dalton	<b>4</b> Joan Brown Carlos & Caryn Benitez Andrés & Rachelle	<b>5</b> Boyd Roberts Connie Steger Sam & Charlotte Fithian
<b>6</b> Larry & Margaret Lewis David Hertenstein Evelyn Malcolm Perrault	<b>7</b> Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan Don & Sheri Trask	<b>8</b> Paul & Claudia Griffith Dean & Ginger Hertenstein	<b>9</b> Carol McKinney Ryan & Marjorie Ochs Colvin & Georgia Jim & Pam Loyd	<b>10</b> Dorothy Cleary T.J. & Eugene Dudley Austin Allen & Wanda Shipman	<b>11</b> Nadine Doura Leah Dick & Nancy Bergman	<b>12</b> Billie Coward David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander, Aiden & Beau
<b>13</b> Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Leo & Marlene Skinner	<b>14</b> Kent & Lori Glover Taylor & Charlie Dub & Gwen Guthrie Neal	<b>15</b> Pat Sparr Don & Edie Burquest Bob & Liz Moore Charles & Laura Tyer	<b>16</b> Mickey & Betty Jespersen The Buuck's Steve Netniss	<b>17</b> Scott & Kathleen Hartless J.R. Dave & Jocelyn Bolles	<b>18</b> Bobby & Teresa Reed Matthew & Rylee Reid & Betty Bunger	<b>19</b> Tom & Lois Harmon Christy Cowand Brandon James & Beth Ann Black
<b>20</b> Gary & Nita Malone Darrell & Sharon Ingram Barbara Notari	<b>21</b> Roy & Wendy Jensen Robert & Catherine Eagle Jimmy & Jason Cordo- va	<b>22</b> Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant Allison Jackson Andrew Watts	<b>23</b> Jim & Janet Stahl Donna To Gary & Linda Simons Rachel	<b>24</b> Evelyn Pike George & Mary Huttar Jim & Andrene Hull The Schaefers	<b>25</b> Bob & Nancy Harrison Eddie & Darlene Cowand Carol Orwig	<b>26</b> Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz Mike Bacon Anthony Jennings
<b>27</b> Irving & Peggy Kezar Steve & Marna Bayless Miguel & Fanny Penaloza	<b>28</b> Albert & Sara Teel Savannah Keith & Gail Haynes Bill & Vangy Jackson John Alsop	<b>29</b> Burle Murphy Susan Murphy Anna Murphy Nicholas Deborah Titus	<b>30</b> Dennis & Susan Walters Dale, Evelyn, & Andrew Julia McConnell			



**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
Christian Education  
Worship Service  
Youth Group

— 9:15 a.m.  
— 10:30 a.m.  
— 4:30-6:00 p.m.

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
543 EAST FREEMAN STREET  
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### *Missions News* (continued from p. 3)

herd small flocks of animals: goats, sheep, turkeys on the loose, skinny cows. If you are old enough, do you remember cars with big speakers on top driving slowly down the streets making public announcements or advertising? I had not seen this for years, but they are everywhere here. This is just a glimpse of how we live and why we like it so much.

Are we experiencing any of the tensions that exist because of the drug wars? We are indeed! First of all, let us say that Oaxaca is not experiencing nearly as much terror as what exists along the border states. That is why we can remain. But we have had training in coping with security issues. We have learned how to be much more aware of our surroundings. The administration has just this year made the policy that we cannot drive to the border (praise God that it seems to be safe enough to drive down here in the interior of Mexico as long as we stay out of certain cities). There is the tension of always being aware that things could change and that we might have to leave Mexico at a second's notice. Still there is the joy of seeing the good things that are happening in the Bible Translation movement down here and having a part in all of it. We are glad that God has called us to be here. *Paul and Claudia*



# November 2011

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
		1	2 6:00 PM - 7:20 PM "Conversation with God" Fall Series 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	4	5 Daylight Savings ends tomorrow Remember to set your clocks back one hour.																																																																																											
6 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Youth 8:00 PM Small Group Study	7 4:30 PM Deacons' Meeting 7:30 PM Congo Life Meeting	8	9 6:00 PM - 7:20 PM "Conversation with God" Fall Series 6:45 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 1:00 PM Agepe Women's Study 7:30 PM Sarah Women's Study	11	12																																																																																											
13 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Youth 8:00 PM Small Group Study	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 6:00 PM - 7:20 PM "Conversation with God" Fall Series 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	17	18	19																																																																																											
20 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Thanksgiving Dinner <b>FOOD SUNDAY</b>	21 6:30 PM Thinktank Meeting	22	23 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>THANKSGIVING DAY</b>	25	26 9:00 AM Hanging of the Greens																																																																																											
27 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Small Group Study 1st Sunday in Advent!	28 Sandwiches for Austin Street Centre	29	30 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Oct 2011</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Dec 2011</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2 3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div> </div>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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