



First Presbyterian Church EPISTLE

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

Pastor's Corner

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

543 East Freeman St.
Duncanville, TX 75116
(972) 298-3043
fax: (972) 298-5312
info@fpcd.org
www.fpcd.org

CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Ginger Hertenstein,
Pastor

Sandy Gaskins,
Administrative
Assistant/Bookkeeper

Steve Netniss,
Youth Pastor

Matthew Lee,
Choir Director

Sami Froncek
Accompanist

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Susan Murphy
Nursery

This month marks the completion of six years with you at FPCD. It seems long and short all at the same time. From eleven sermons when we first met to 320 under my belt now, I think of all the preachers and preaching that has gone on over the years. How many sermons, songs, anthems, church bells, and invitations to know God have been extended? Perhaps billions!

To be part of a church is a wonderful thing. To be involved with other Christians is the mandate of God. We gather first and foremost to worship God. Why does God use such a simple thing as a person standing up and proclaiming His Word to call people to Him? This one aspect hasn't really changed. If you look back at Moses' story, the people worshiped with a song, a choir, musical instruments, bringing their tithes, and the Word of God proclaimed. It's amazing, isn't it? Simple enough for a child, yet profound enough to carry God's people for thousands of years.

God said, Your gathering together is important to learn the Word, and tell it to your children. Whether you have children of your own does not matter—it's simply an intergenerational effort! The children who receive it are personally prepared for life, as well as the adult who shares the story of God with them. Even if they walk away for a while, they are all blessed.

So continue in your faith; in your worship; in your support of the ministry of FPCD in this community. Nothing could be more important. The world has lost sight of that, but your steady commitment calls them back. You may very well be the link reconnecting them to the long line of God's people, a line which will continue on—and we want this generation to be there. God allows us the privilege of inviting them. Let your faith shine, for the good of the next generation.



Inside . . .

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- 8 – April Birthdays, Finances

Blessings,

Ginger



Easter Egg Hunt Needs Donations

Part of our celebration on Easter Sunday is an Easter Egg hunt for the Sunday School children. Your donations of plastic eggs and wrapped candies will make this possible. Please bring them to the church office by Palm Sunday. Your help will make a special memory for the children involved.



Property Work Day Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 8 a.m. until noon

Join us on Saturday, April 12 from 8 a.m. to noon for our annual spring clean-up. We'll have coffee and donuts for the early-birds and hot dog/chili dog lunch at noon. We have some annual chores to do, some of which are noted below:

Inside (classrooms, Fellowship Hall, and the Sanctuary):

- Windows washed
- Blinds cleaned
- Tables and chairs cleaned as needed
- Closet clean-out if necessary
- Kitchen -- oven and refrigerator cleaning
- Sanctuary chairs vacuumed

Outside:

- Trash pick-up
- Bushes/trees trimmed
- Lawn edging and mowing
- Gardens readied for planting



Keep the Flags Flying

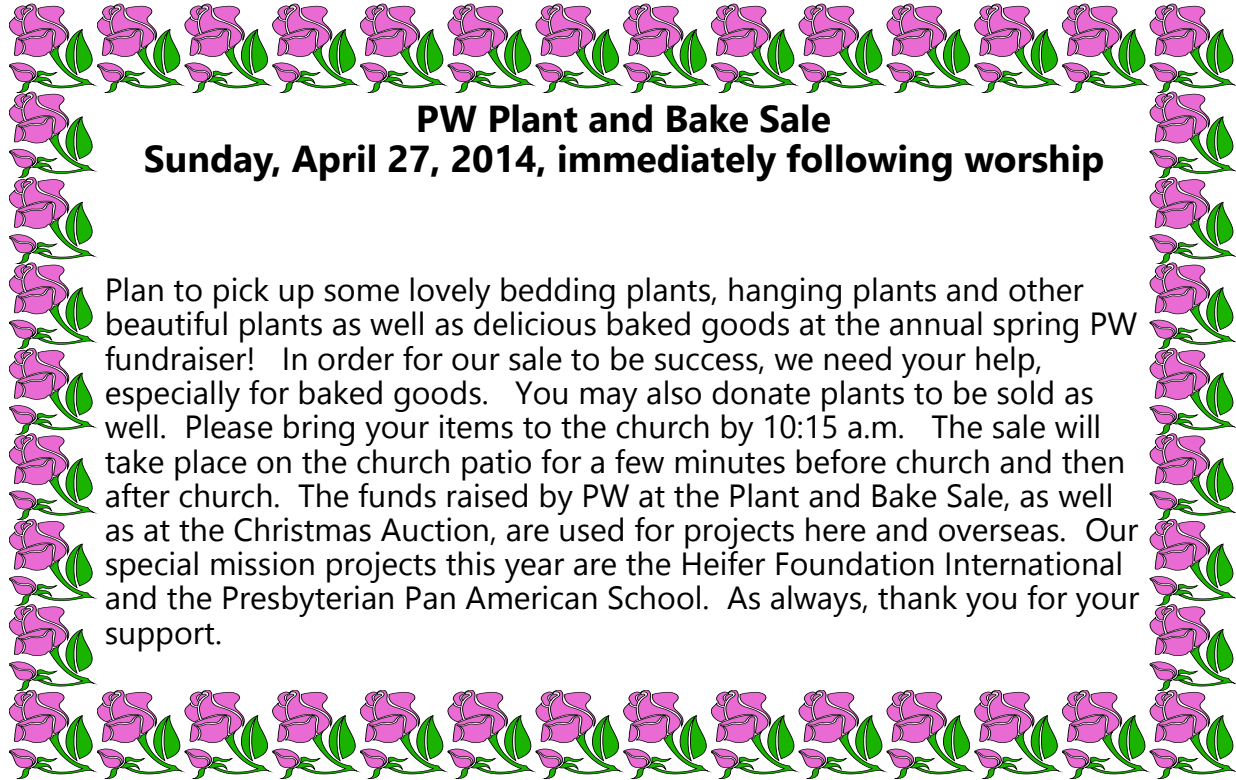
Thank you to the following sponsors of Rotary Flags on the church property. They will fly on the following holidays: Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Veterans Day.

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Jimmerson
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Hertenstein
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Lewis
Ms. Billie Cowand
Susan & Anna Murphy



Proceeds from the Rotary Flag program are used to support the many Rotary programs, such as DOM, school supplies for ISD students, Project Graduation, and Special Olympics. If you would like to sponsor a flag at the church, please contact Anna Murphy.

News from PW Women



PW Plant and Bake Sale

Sunday, April 27, 2014, immediately following worship

Plan to pick up some lovely bedding plants, hanging plants and other beautiful plants as well as delicious baked goods at the annual spring PW fundraiser! In order for our sale to be success, we need your help, especially for baked goods. You may also donate plants to be sold as well. Please bring your items to the church by 10:15 a.m. The sale will take place on the church patio for a few minutes before church and then after church. The funds raised by PW at the Plant and Bake Sale, as well as at the Christmas Auction, are used for projects here and overseas. Our special mission projects this year are the Heifer Foundation International and the Presbyterian Pan American School. As always, thank you for your support.



PW Women April Circle Meetings

Agape Circle will meet at FPCD at 1:00 pm Thursday April 10. We welcome all women who would like to attend a Bible study during the day. All are welcome to join us for prayer, fellowship and learning. No background or experience necessary.

Connie

Sarah Circle will meet in the home of Nancy Bergman 1063 Fairmeadows Circle, Duncanville at 7:30 pm Thursday April 10. We welcome all women who would like to attend an evening circle. We continue to study An Abiding Hope, The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy.





FPCD PRAYER CALENDAR

APRIL 2014

Remember each other in daily prayer.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Roy & Wendy Jeanes The Bunch's George & Mary Hunter	2 David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander, Aiden Benn & Blake	3 Scott & Kathleen Hardless J.R. Jack & Diane Paguen	4 Jim & Janet Stahl Dennis To Leo & Marlene Skinner	5 Bob Harrison Dorrell & Sharon Ingram
6 Susan Murphy Anna Murphy Mickey & Betty Jepersen	7 Charles Tye Jim & Pam Loyd Wanda Shipman	8 John Aboop Joan Brown Keith & Gail Haynes Julia McConnell	9 Carol Oryig Christy Covered Brandon Evelyn Pike	10 David & Katherine Liddle Caleb, Jonathan Malcolm Parrault	11 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tinaam	12 Paul & Helen Barton Miguel & Fanny Penelope
13 Paul & Claudia Griffith Dorothy Cleary Ruth Young	14 Carlos & Carmen Bentley Andrea & Rachelle Bob Moore	15 Kent & Lori Glover Taylor & Charlie Sam & Charlotte Fithian	16 Connie Steger Dudley Austin Eric & Erin McGinnis Ashlee & Michael	17 David Harsenstein Evelyn Eddie & Darlene Covered	18 Dennis & Susan Walbert Dale, Evelyn, & Andrew	19 Madeline Davis Ariel Leah, Aria & Benjamin Carol McKinney
20 Janis & Lorraine Cordova Vanessa, Valeria, Jenny & Jason	21 Eugene & Arnelia Innocencia Adeline & Edelmira Rosa	22 Billie Covered Gary & Nita Malone Barbara Night Tom & Lois Harmon	23 Irving & Peggy Kasper Angel, Brandon, Cynthia, Devon, & Elyssa	24 Steve & Merna Burdess Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant	25 Doris Metzger Dub & Gwen Guthrie Neal Bill & Nungie Jackson	26 Gary & Linda Simoes Albert & Sara Teal Dick & Nancy Bergman
27 Steve Nearing Dave & Jocelyn Bolles Pat Scott	28 Winifred Cook Larry & Margaret Lentis	29 Paul & Jan Schaefer Caleb, Micah, Josiah, & Sarah	30 Dean & Ginger Hesterstein Morgan Hall	31 Bobby & Teresa Reed Matthew & Rylee		

April 2014

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
		1 2:00 PM "New Beginnings" Grief Support Small Group	2 6:00 PM - 7:40 PM Conversation with God Lenten Series 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	4	5																																																																																											
6 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM The Daniel Plan Small Group Study	7 5:15 PM Deacons Meeting	8	9 6:00 PM - 7:40 PM Conversation with God Lenten Series 6:30 PM Youth Group 6:45 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 1:00 PM Agape Women's Fellowship 7:30 PM Sarah Women's Fellowship	11	12 8:00—Noon Property Work Day																																																																																											
13 Palm Sunday 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM The Daniel Plan Small Group Study	14	15 Newsletter Articles Due	16 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	18 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	19 6:00 am-12:00 am Prayer Vigil Day of Fasting																																																																																											
20 EASTER SUNDAY 6:45 AM Sunrise Service on Patio followed by Pancake Breakfast 9:15 AM Sunday School (including Easter Egg Hunt for kids) 10:30 AM Worship	21	22	23 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 6:30 PM Session Meeting	25	26																																																																																											
27 PW Spring Bake & Plant Sale 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Help Support Duncanville Outreach Bring non-parishable items to donate	28 The Sandwich Project Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless Pastor Ginger at West Coast Pres. Conference	29	30 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	<div> <div>Mar 2014</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</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> </table> </div> <div> <div>May 2014</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1 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> </table> </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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Occasionally I come across an article that is special. This month I will share one by Catherine Rivard from Wycliffe's newsletter *Infocus*. It is called. . .

Pressing Questions

"How do I pray?" "How do I know God hears me?" "What do I say?"

Cross legged on the veranda, I leaned against the cinderblock of our classroom. Our flash-light beams cast more shadows than light, and the other women sitting with me were only glimmers of teeth and eyes. Toddlers crawled into their mother's laps as incense from the smoldering mosquito repellent coil drifted upward. "Please," they asked again, "How do we pray?"

I was serving on staff at a month long literacy course held in Saidor village, Papua New Guinea, where twenty-one participants from eight local languages were learning a variety of skills, including curriculum development, storytelling, leadership, disease prevention, and Bible study methods. One night after devotions, several of the women approached me. They nudged each other shyly until Betty stepped forward, her voice soft. "We have questions. Would. . . would you help us?"

I smiled. "Let's sit down together." Excited grins darted across their faces as they snatched up their *bilums* (string bags) and hustled me out of the classroom.

"She's here to answer our questions!" Lillian announced. Tossing aside the typical pleasantries, the five women immediately pulled out scribbled lists and began eagerly firing questions.

"How do I get the Holy Spirit and where does He reside? Explain baptism. What does it mean when Jesus said, 'It is finished'? What is the kingdom of God? Why do bad things happen in my life? If I try to follow God and fail, will God still punish me? Did the stories in the Bible really happen? How do I memorize Scripture? How do I share about God with others?"

Every night for a week, I pulled out my Bible and prayed fervently for wisdom and the language ability to respond to their hunger. Without God's Word in their own languages, Jesus had always sounded like an unintelligible foreigner shouting through a pillow, far removed from their own lives and desperate questions. . . .

?????

Do you ask yourself some of these same questions? Do you know the answers so that you could tell another person who might ask?

If you can't are you as eager to learn? If that is so, make knowing the answers your goal, because when you drive out of our church parking lot, you are entering your own mission field.

Submitted by Doris Metzger



WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

April 2014
10:30 A.M. SERVICE

April 6	Greeters:	Vanessa Cordova, Jason Cordova
	Ushers:	Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues
	Nursery Volunteer:	Jocelyn Bolles
	Tellers:	Lori Glover, Brenda Everett
	Communion Servers:	Scott Hartless, Lori Glover, Irving Kezar Sandy Gaskins, Sean Russell, Edelmira Ruiz
April 13	Greeters:	Jocelyn Bolles, Janet Stahl
	Ushers:	Albert Teel, Eddie Cowand
	Nursery Volunteer:	Anna Murphy
	Tellers:	Teresa Reed, Joan Brown
April 20	Greeters:	Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz
	Ushers:	Albert Teel, Irving Kezar
	Nursery Volunteer:	Erin McGinnis
	Tellers:	Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis
April 27	Greeters:	Billie Cowand, Leo Skinner
	Ushers:	Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues
	Nursery Volunteer:	Sydney Russell
	Tellers:	Darrell Ingram, Leo Skinner

Thank you to our church family for all your thoughts, prayers and support during the past couple of years and the recent loss of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Burle.

A special thanks to the Deacons for organizing the reception following her Celebration of Life service, allowing us time to visit with friends that attended. It's amazing how many people were a part of mother's brief 25 years in Duncanville.

Again, thank you and may God continue to bless each of you

Susan, Anna & Paul Murphy & family

April Birthdays

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.

Anna Murphy, April 2
 Weston Russell, April 2
 Bob Harrison, April 7
 Jim Hull, April 8
 John Alsop, April 12
 Adelmo Ruiz, April 13
 Evelyn Walters, April 15
 Sandy Gaskins, April 16
 Leah West, April 20
 Brandon Kezar April 27



	Receipts	Expenditures
February 2014	\$13,396	\$17,626
Jan-Feb	\$35,641	\$35,571
2014 Total Annual Budget:		\$243,607
Budget per month		\$ 20,301

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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 543 EAST FREEMAN STREET
 DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116
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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Christian Education
 Worship Service

— 9:15 a.m.
 — 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Youth Group — 6:00 p.m.