



First Presbyterian Church

EPISTLE

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

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. Dr. Ginger Hertenstein,
Pastor

Sandy Gaskins,
Admin Asst/Bookkeeper

Vanessa Cordova
Interim Youth Director

Nyadia Thorpe,
Choir Director

Brittany Tucker,
Accompanist

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Ana Ortiz & Tricia Reiman
Nursery

Inside . . .

- 2 - Angels...continued
- 3 - Mission News
- 4 - PW News and Cook's Corner
- 5 - Prayer Calendar
- 6 - Church Calendar
- 7 - Worship Volunteer Schedule
- 8 - April Birthdays, Finances

Sometimes you come across a story that has a special meaning or tugs at your heart. Here is one concerning angels:

Angel on the Highway (author unknown)

I just had one of the most amazing experiences of my life, and wanted to share it with my family and friends. Here it is:

I was driving home from a meeting this evening about five, stuck in traffic on Colorado Boulevard, and my car started to choke and sputter and died.

I barely managed to coast, cruising, into a gas station, glad only that I would not be blocking traffic and would have a somewhat warm spot to wait for the tow truck. It wouldn't even turn over. Before I could make the call, I saw a woman walk out of the "quickie mart" building, and it looked like she slipped on some ice and fell into a gas pump! So I got out to see if she was okay. When I got there, it looked more like she had been overcome by sobs than that she had fallen. She was a young woman who looked really haggard with dark circles under her eyes. She dropped something as I helped her up, and I picked it up to give it to her. It was a nickel.

At that moment, everything came into focus for me: the crying woman, the ancient Suburban crammed full of stuff with three kids in the back (one in a car seat), and the gas pump reading \$4.95. I asked her if she was okay and if she needed help, and she just kept saying

"I don't want my kids to see my crying," so we stood on the other side of the pump from her car. She said she was driving to California and that things were very hard for her right now.

So, I asked, "and you were praying?" That made her back away from me a little, but I assured her I was not a crazy person and said, "He heard you, and He sent me."

I took out my card and swiped it through the card reader on the pump so she could fill up her car completely, and while it was fueling walked to the next door McDonald's and bought two big bags of food, some gift certificates for more, and a big cup of coffee. She gave the food to the kids in the car who attacked it like wolves, and we stood by the pump eating fries and talking a little.

She told me her name, and that she lived in Kansas City. Her boyfriend left two months ago and she had not been able to make ends meet. She knew she wouldn't have money to pay the rent January 1st, and finally, in desperation, had called her parents, with whom she had not spoken in about five years. They lived in California and said she could come live with them and try to get on her feet there.

So she packed up everything she owned in the car. She told the kids they were going to California for Christmas, but not that they were going to live there.

(Continued on next page)

Angel on the Highway

(Continued from first page)

I gave her my gloves, a little hug and said a quick prayer with her for safety on the road. As I was walking over to my car, she said, "So, are you like an angel or something?"

This definitely made me cry. I said, "Sweetie, at this time of year angels are really busy, so sometimes God uses regular people."

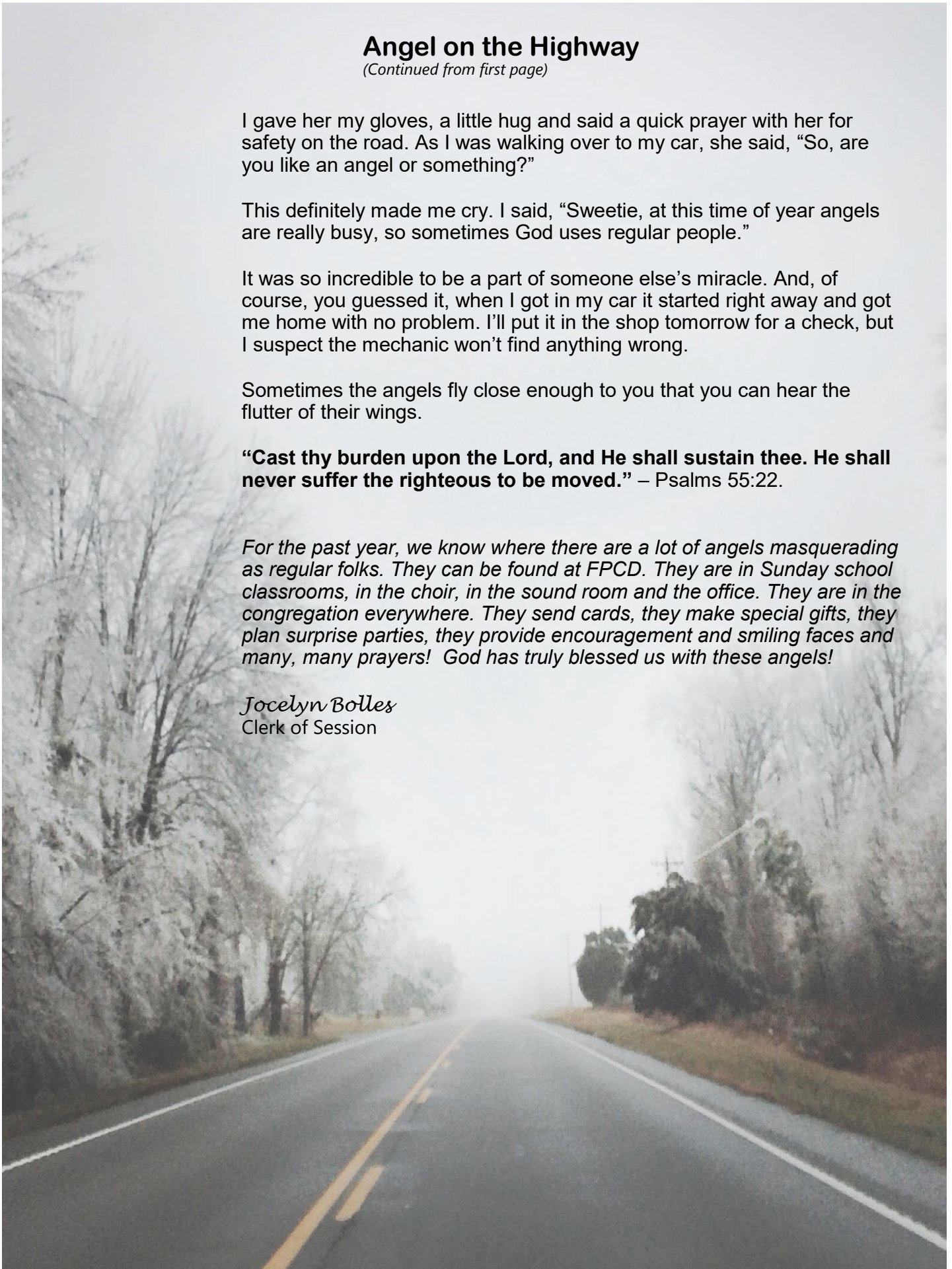
It was so incredible to be a part of someone else's miracle. And, of course, you guessed it, when I got in my car it started right away and got me home with no problem. I'll put it in the shop tomorrow for a check, but I suspect the mechanic won't find anything wrong.

Sometimes the angels fly close enough to you that you can hear the flutter of their wings.

"Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee. He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." – Psalms 55:22.

For the past year, we know where there are a lot of angels masquerading as regular folks. They can be found at FPCD. They are in Sunday school classrooms, in the choir, in the sound room and the office. They are in the congregation everywhere. They send cards, they make special gifts, they plan surprise parties, they provide encouragement and smiling faces and many, many prayers! God has truly blessed us with these angels!

Jocelyn Bolles
Clerk of Session



Mission News

Hi Friends,

We received an update from Mimi and Abang, the coaches for the Esther storytelling project, this morning that may have the most compelling evidence that Bible storytelling is an effective strategy for reaching all kinds of people. They visited one of the Esther storytellers in her home area this week. And as they usually do, they went with the storyteller to visit the various groups that she meets with regularly. In the morning they went to one village where 50 people of the lowest segment of society, 'the untouchables,' gathered to hear the Bible stories. Three women from the group shared stories that day, which is evidence that the Esther storytelling is passing on what she is learning. One of those three women shared her vision for telling the Bible stories to everyone in their village so that the whole village might believe in Jesus.

Immediately afterward, Mimi and Abang went with the Esther storyteller to her next group in a different village where 10 people were gathered. They found out that most of the group was missing that day because of a wedding. These people are all members of the highest status in their society and are generally more wealthy and able to afford education. Even this group of people have come to faith in Jesus through the storytelling.

Mimi and Abang typically ask the members of these groups two questions and often the answers are similar. Here is what they reported from this trip regarding the questions:

1. And we ask what did you learn from the stories in your life? They said that by hearing and learning Bible stories we got healed of our sickness and got peace in our family and also in our life.
2. Again we ask after hearing and learning Bible story, what did you do? And they said we are sharing to others what God has done in our life and also told them Bible stories and the love of God.

Thank you all so much for praying for the Esther project.

Blessings,
Janet and Jim Stahl

Circle Meetings

Sarah Circle will meet April 14 at 7:30 pm in the home of Jocelyn Bolles, 619 Athenia Way, Duncanville. We will be on Lesson 8 in our study book.

The **Agape Women's Circle** will hold their April meeting on Wednesday the 13th at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The lesson will be from the Horizons Bible Study called "Come to the Waters." It is #7... "Streams of Mercy - Forgiveness." Call Connie at 972.741.7932 if you would like to attend and need a copy.

Cook's Corner

Sausage and Egg Casserole

From Kathleen Ryan Hartless

6 eggs
2 cups milk
1 tsp. salt

Mix these three ingredients together in a bowl.

1 pound sausage---cook and drain. Mix with 1 tsp. dry mustard

3 slices bread—tear into pieces
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1 can mushrooms

Mix last two parts. Pour liquid mixture (eggs, milk, and salt) over dry mixture. Refrigerate overnight. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 45 -60 minutes making sure that the eggs are fully cooked and not soupy. When doubling the recipe, use 1-pound plain and 1 pound hot sausage.





First Presbyterian Church Duncanville

MONTHLY PRAYER CALENDAR - APRIL 2016

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1 Jack & Diane Pegues Ruth Yingst Dean & Ginger Hertenstein	2 Charles Tyer Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant
3 Jaime & Lorraine Cordova Vanessa, Valerie, Jimmy & Jason	4 Connie Steger Joan Brown Pat Sparr	5 Nadine Daum Ariel, Leah, Aeris & Benjamin Eddie & Darlene Cowand	6 Carlos & Caryn Benitez Andrés & Rachelle Carol McKinney	7 Larry & Margaret Lewis. Heather, Zephyr, Erin & Christian	8 Scott & Kathleen Hartless J.R. David Hertenstein & Evelyn	9 Bobby & Teresa Reed Matthew & Rylee John Alsop
10 Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe Vincent & Caden Wanda Shipman	11 David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander, Aiden Beau & Blake	12 Miguel & Fanny Penalzoza Susan Murphy Anna Murphy	13 Doris Metzger Tom & Lois Harmon	14 Billie Cowand Gary & Nita Malone Barbara Notari	15 Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz	16 Bob Harrison Darrell & Sharon Ingram Gary & Candice Morris
17 Gary & Linda Simons Dick & Nancy Bergman	18 Paul & Claudia Griffith Dorothy Cleary	19 Roy & Wendy Jensen George & Mary Huttar	20 Dennis & Susan Walters Dale, Evelyn & Andrew	21 Kent & Lori Glover Taylor & Charlie Sam & Charlotte Fithian	22 David & Katherine Liddle Caleb & Jonathan Paul & Helen Barton	23 Eric & Erin McGinnis Ashlee & Michael Mickey & Betty Jespersen
24 Jim & Janet Stahl Leo & Marlene Skinner	25 Paul & Jen Schaefer Caleb, Micah, Josiah, & Sarah	26 Irving & Peggy Kezar Angel, Brandon, Cyleigh, Devon, & Elyssa	27 Dub & Gwen Guthrie Neal Bill & Vangie Jackson	28 Dave & Jocelyn Bolles Steve & Marna Bayless	29 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan	30 Dudley Austin Julia McConnell Donna To

Remember each other in daily prayer

April 2016

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div><div>Mar 2016</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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr><tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div> <div><div>May 2016</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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr><tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr><tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></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					1	2
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																																																																																								
3 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	4 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting	5	6 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	8	9																																																																																				
West Coast Pastors Conference																																																																																										
10 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Guest Speaker Chief Robert Brown of NPD 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	11	12	13 6:30 PM Youth Group 1:00 PM Agape Women's Fellowship 6:45 PM Finance Meeting 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 8:30 AM Community Prayer Gathering at Ben Franklin 7:30 PM Sarah Women's Fellowship	15 Newsletter Articles Due	16																																																																																				
17 Potluck Sunday 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	18 1:00 PM "New Beginnings" Grief Support Small Group	19	20 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM 4th Sunday Praise Team Rehearsal	21 6:30 PM Session Meeting	22	23																																																																																				
24 PW Spring Bake & Plant Sale 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	25 The Sandwich Project Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless	26	27 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	28 8:30 AM Community Prayer Gathering at Ben Franklin	29	30																																																																																				
					Session Retreat																																																																																					

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

April 2016

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

APRIL 3

Greeters:	Vanessa Cordova, Jason Cordova
Ushers:	Irving Kezar, Albert Teel
Nursery Overseer:	Anna Murphy
Tellers:	Lori Glover, Brenda Everett
Communion Servers:	Scott Hartless, Connie Steger Irving Kezar, Margaret Lewis Adelmo Ruiz

APRIL 10

Greeters:	Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz
Ushers:	Eddie Cowand, Dub Guthrie
Nursery Overseer:	Susan Murphy
Tellers:	Teresa Reed, Joan Brown

APRIL 17

Greeters:	Billie Cowand, Leo Skinner
Ushers:	Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues
Nursery Overseer:	Darlene Cowand
Tellers:	Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis


APRIL 24

Greeters:	Jaime & Lorraine Cordova
Ushers:	Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues
Nursery Overseer:	Jocelyn Bolles
Tellers:	Darrell Ingram, Anna Murphy

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.

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



FINANCES

2016 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
February 2016	\$27,333	\$18,993
Jan - Feb 2016	\$42,904	\$38,441

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
543 EAST FREEMAN STREET
DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116
(972) 298-3043 / (972) 298-5312
info@fpcd.org
www.fpcd.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Christian Education — 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service — 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Youth Group — 6:00 p.m.