

First Presbyterian Church

EPISTLE

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

October 2010

Vol. 18 , No. 10

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Ginger Hertenstein,
Pastor

Steve Netmiss,
Youth Pastor

Andrew Dittman,
Choir Director

Sandy Gaskins,
Administrative
Assistant/Bookkeeper

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Susan Seamans,
Accompanist

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School

Fall finds all of us at FPCD in full swing. The elders and leaders of the church work tirelessly to fulfill action steps for ministry. As leaders we strive to develop our ministry to youth and children, to continue the renovation on the building, to build much needed policies and procedures for employees, and to continue to lead us all, through worship and service, into a vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ.



Many of you have joined in through your ongoing commitment to work in the office, fulfilling the many tasks accomplished by Sandy Gaskins, Administrative Assistant, who continues to be out on medical leave. These are long-term commitments which you have graciously and sacrificially stepped into, to fill the need. On behalf of Jesus Christ, I thank you. You make Him smile with the pride of a teacher who has all “A” students.

I know Jesus is smiling because in Luke 10, when He sent out the 72 to share the good news and they returned with fabulous results, Jesus was ecstatic. In fact, what the text really says is “Jesus jumped up and down with glee.” Isn’t that cool? He began praising His Father because God had decided to use us – you and me – for this most important work.

Well, you are taking your calling to heart. But many in today’s culture do not yet hear the call of God on their lives. Our task is to reach out to them and invite them. So beginning this month we are going to do just that with a “1 + 1” effort. Through the rest of the year our goal is that each person brings one person to church. If all of us do that, the sanctuary will be full.

A salesman knows to get one sale it takes at least ten calls. Salesmen also know that people are inclined to say “no” at first, so you will need to think about creative ways to enthusiastically invite them. Let’s claim the Scripture that says “Ask and it will be given you” (Lk 11:9). That means we can pray about it. I am sure as you do so, God will then bring the right person across your path. See you Sunday!

Pastor Ginger



Words from Worship



Symbols of our Faith...Oil

In the Old Testament, oil symbolized consecration to God. The temple altar and king's heads were anointed with oil to set them apart as holy. In the New Testament, oil often represented the Holy Spirit. Jesus and his followers were anointed for their ministries (see Luke 4:18 and Acts 10:38)

New feature!



*Reading ahead...
(texts for October sermons)*

- 🕊 10/3 - Acts 3:1-13 (16), 9:32-41
- 🕊 10/10 - Acts 3:17-26
- 🕊 10/17 - Acts 4:13-31, Rev. Sophie Draffin preaching
- 🕊 10/24 - Acts 4:36-37, 9:27, 11:22-30, 12:24-25
- 🕊 10/31 - Acts 5:1-11

World Communion Sunday October 3, 2010



Ecumenical Observance Began in 1936

World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) originated in the Presbyterian Church (USA). In 1936, for the first time, the first Sunday in October was celebrated in Presbyterian churches in the United States and overseas. From the beginning, it was planned so that other denominations could make use of it and, after a few years, the idea spread beyond the Presbyterian Church.

World Communion Sunday -- celebrated the first Sunday in October -- is one of the most venerable of "special Sundays." The day has taken on new relevancy and depth of meaning in a world where globalization often has undermined peace and justice -- and in a time when fear divides the peoples of God's earth. On this day we celebrate our oneness in Christ, the Prince of Peace, in the midst of the world we are called to serve -- a world ever more in need of peacemaking.

So, on the first Sunday of October 2010, Christians around the world will do as Christians have done since the 1930s—celebrate World Communion Sunday. Gathered around the table in cities and towns, in countries near and far, we will affirm our oneness in Christ, with each other, and with the church in every time and place. Although this unity is integral to each celebration of every Lord's Supper, many churches place special emphasis on it on World Communion Sunday. Often prayers will be offered in languages other than English, special breads will be used at Communion, and hymns representing various ethnic traditions will be selected.

FALL FEST – October 23, 2010, 5-7 PM

"Who Will Be a Witness?"

spirituals and storytelling event

5:00 –Fun and games and *bouncy castle* for kids and *food* for everyone.

6:00—CONCERT & STORYTELLING

♫ FPCD choir under the direction of Andrew Dittman

♫ University of North Texas men's quartet

♫ Storytelling by Jim & Janet Stahl—and Lynn White*

INVITE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS, NEIGHBORS,...

*J. Lynn White is a biblical storyteller who has led biblical storytelling ministries in various church settings for the past twenty years. He currently serves as Immediate Past President of the Network of Biblical Storytellers International. An ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), he holds a Bachelor of Arts from Transylvania University and Doctor of Ministry from Lexington Theological Seminary. Dr. White has served pastorates in Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia prior to his current position as Senior Minister of Trinity Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Fort Worth, TX.



In addition to his long-term involvement in the Network of Biblical Storytellers International and leadership on its Board of Directors, Dr. White is also a member of the Network of Biblical Storytellers Seminar, a scholar's seminar made up of college & seminary professors, professional storytellers and clergy who make biblical storytelling a central dimension of ministry. He is also co-founder of Sacred Story Journeys, a travel ministry featuring biblical storytelling as part of scripture-based "pilgrimages."

From Our Missionaries—the Stahls

Jim and Janet Stahl have been circling the globe this summer in their work with The Seed Company, an affiliate of Wycliffe Bible Translators. They started off with a time of learning at the Network of Biblical Storytellers in North Carolina, then travelled to Cordoba, Spain, for a conference to train other missionaries in the basics of Biblical story telling. From there they returned to the South Pacific, to Alotau, Papua New Guinea, to be exact.

This trip was a follow-up to a trip four months earlier and they wondered if the participants had continued to improve the Bible stories they had worked on before. They were impressed by what they found. Members of the ten language teams they had worked with were using biblical storytelling in their communities. One woman had been visiting the elderly and shut-ins who can't get to church and telling them Bible stories. Another group had been telling Bible stories in informal Sunday afternoon services at their church. Those who don't read love to hear the stories in their own language. They identify with the characters in the stories and their lives are impacted for good.

Storytelling in these cultures is an important part of their lives; it is a way to pass on knowledge and history from one generation to the next. Stories are even used to determine land ownership. Biblical stories fit well in their culture. Jim and Janet were encouraged that some experienced participants are taking leadership roles in teaching their communities as well.

Jim and Janet are thankful for your prayers for their work.

Presbyterian Women News



2010–2011 *Horizons* Bible Study. Illustrations by Martha Kally

2010–2011 *Horizons* Bible Study *Journeys Through Revelation* *Apocalyptic Hope for Today*

by Barbara R. Rossing

What comes to mind when you think of the book of *Revelation*? Scary images? The four horsemen come to unleash destruction? Mysterious numbers such as “666”? The endtime battle of Armageddon? In recent years, an enormous prophecy industry has marketed frightening images of *Revelation*, leaving many people intimidated by this amazing and often misunderstood book. Although brimming with mysterious symbolism, *Revelation* ultimately is a book of hope that throughout history has sustained people who are oppressed. It is a wonderfully Christ-centered book, full of worship and praise.

In the 2010–2011 *Horizons* Bible study, *Journeys through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*, Barbara Rossing guides us on a journey to meet the crucified Lamb, Jesus. In a journey reminiscent of the ancient Israelites’ exodus from slavery, we are led from an unjust empire and its system of domination, through mythic battles and plagues, until, ultimately, we find ourselves in a renewed creation where God comes to live with us on earth. This brilliantly hope-filled vision speaks to us in the midst of the urgent crises of our day. In a time when all of creation stands at a turning point, a *kairos* moment, *Revelation* can help guide the choices we make each day as we seek to live into the renewal that God has for the whole world. *Helen Barton*

Circle Gatherings for October:

Agape Circle will meet Thursday, October 14 at 1 p.m. at the home of Connie Steger, 960 Cedar Hill Road, Cedar Hill.

Sarah Circle will meet Thursday, October 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the home of Helen Barton, 6820 Shalloway Drive, Grand Prairie.
We are studying Lesson 2.

Ladies’ Nite Out coming soon! Please join us on Thursday evening, October 28 at 7 p.m. at the Olive Garden in Duncanville for an evening of good food and fellowship.

DeaConGoLife

“Build Your Own Taco/Tortilla” & Memories Night

The Deacons and DeaConGo Team hosted their annual dinner on September 11th. For some reason, no one went away hungry... The Deacons want to THANK EVERYONE who came, brought food, and brought their singing voice. We had a really good time singing some wonderful old songs together after the dinner. Steve Netniss particularly appreciated ‘*When the Saints Go Marching In*’ - for some reason... See you again at this event next year! *Nancy Bergman*



From the Stewardship Team

This is the first of several communications you will read in the coming months regarding Stewardship. The two of us have “volunteered” to head up this campaign for 2011. The great part about this team is we have each and everyone one of you on it.

Beginning October 1, the session will be tasked to develop the budget for the upcoming year and as always, your participation is vital.

We know we all have been reading about the “Doom & Gloom” of the economy and it is true. There are many who are just getting by. For others, it is business as usual. For the First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, it appears to be managing. Pledges were up last year, income from that and gifts have allowed us to complete a number of wonderful projects, i.e. the renovation of the Sunday School area, new doors, outside lighting and signage, roof repair, camera and video streaming of our worship services and a load of other little things that were necessary for us to remain a viable church. There is still much to be done! See “Property News” on page 8 for several specific items needing our attention.

We have been blessed in the past with your wonderful generosity. We hope to enjoy that going forward, but the Team will also be looking into new and innovative ways to bring grants, gifts and other income into the church. We would welcome your suggestions and participation in this area. “Scott and Dave” cannot do it alone. We will make ourselves available to discuss any ideas you may have.



Thanking you in advance for your consideration in making 2011 a banner year,

Dave Bolles & Scott Hartless



ATTENDANCE

August 2009		August 2010	
2 Aug	82	1 Aug	76
9 Aug	92	8 Aug	105
16 Aug	79	15 Aug	73
23 Aug	99	22 Aug	92
30 Aug	90	29 Aug	78

BOOKKEEPER'S REPORT—August 2010

Receipts	Expenditures
*\$16,883	\$20,298
YTD income:	\$146,654
YTD expenditures:	\$149,633
YTD deficit:	< \$2,979>
Total Annual Budget:	\$203,100
* This includes memorial giving.	

Hands Of God Youth HAPPENINGS

Every Sunday in October:

HOGY Sunday School class—9:15

HOGY Youth Group—4:30

From the Youth Pastor

Boy oh boy, time flies when you're working in student ministries. An entire month has already passed since I first arrived here at FPCD. Over the last month I've been pondering anew, "What might God do with these students?" We've got a bit of a motley crew going with all the different students and backgrounds that they bring to the table.

My initial observation has been that this congregation is very giving of their resources. That has been a source of encouragement since students are often times forgotten. I was surprised when the youth group was able to gather at the Bolles's house for pizza and swimming a couple weeks ago with just a simple request. This week the group was given 10 tickets to the Rangers game and a few of us went to the Detroit game on Wednesday night (Sept. 15).

During Sunday school and also Sunday night youth meetings we have been studying the grand story of the Bible. Particularly we've been studying the themes of "Creation, Fall, Re-creation". I have found that this is an easy way for students to begin getting a grasp on what the Bible is all about.

The leadership team is still brainstorming about what ministry will look like in this youth group and that process is about to get some more steam. We are still hopeful that others from the congregation will step up and join our team. The most important thing for students is NOT a good program, fun trips, or relevant messages. The most important thing for students is relationship, first with Jesus and then with His followers. Students need mentors, coaches and parents who are encouraging them in all the different areas of life. Please email me if you feel inclined or would like more information about where you fit in with this leadership team. I guarantee you won't regret it and you may actually really enjoy it.

Youth Pastor Steve
Steve Netniss
snetniss@fpcd.org





From the Flock



A Wonderful Life

George Cowand celebrated his 90th birthday this past September 11th. George was born in Dallas, of course in 1920...the beginning of the roaring 20's. He came in with a bang! George's life can be summed up with two words--Music and Billie. After serving with our armed forces in Europe, George graduated from SMU with a degree in Music in 1949. He played in the Mustang Band. He was the co-owner of a music shop for 21 years, taught music at a high school, and owned and managed a mobile home park for 9 years. George met Billie in Temple, Texas when they both went there to play with a band one weekend...George to play the clarinet or saxophone and Billie to sing. They were married soon after—64 years ago! George has been a Shriner for 50 years and is a member of the Shriner Band Hall of Fame. 30 years ago he started the dance band, "Nobles of Note". He says that he wanted to preserve the "big band sound". Over the years, the band has played for many kinds of events, including balls, conventions, birthday parties, weddings, anniversaries, senior citizen events, etc. Billie sang and sang with the band! Oh, and by the way, George and Billie and the band have contributed at least \$300,000 to Scottish Rite children's burn units. What a wonderful and worthwhile life!



Tom Harmon

Property News

Dear Members and Friends of FPCD:

As most of you know, we are currently making an appeal to raise money for further improvements at the church. These include renovation of the restrooms in the Fellowship Hall to be handicap-accessible. The total cost of this project is \$16,685, and we have started a fund with \$2,500 already contributed. The need for handicap-accessible restroom facilities has been brought to our attention many times over the years and most recently as we have seen some of our aging members in wheel chairs dealing with this problem. Let's remember what Jesus said in Matthew 25, verse 40:

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Another need that we have in the Fellowship Hall is the replacement of the heavy brown chairs with lightweight chairs that can be folded and stored more easily, taking less room to store. The brown chairs are old and many are worn out, besides being very difficult to handle and move around. It will cost approximately \$2,500 to purchase new, lightweight folding chairs.

We would like to construct a permanent closet in the Fellowship Hall to replace the accordion door partition. The new closet would be built on the opposite side of the Fellowship Hall which would make the windows visible again, letting in light and making the room more attractive. The cost of building the new storage closet for our tables and chairs is \$2,400.

The Fellowship Hall, Entryway and Kitchen also need to be painted. The cost for painting these areas including all labor and materials is \$2,410. This includes painting the ceiling and repairing all water damage, etc on the walls.

The last need we have is replacing the flooring in the Fellowship Hall, Kitchen and Utility Room, as well as the classrooms off the Fellowship Hall. We plan to remove the carpet in the main Fellowship Hall area and replace it with tile which will be much easier to keep clean. The cost of tile for the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen is \$2,694. The cost for new carpet for the 3 classrooms off the Fellowship Hall is \$1,174.50. There is an additional cost of \$432 for the new baseboard for the entire area which includes the Fellowship Hall, Kitchen and all classrooms.

We would ask that you prayerfully consider these needs. There may be one particular area that you would like to sponsor. Our goal is to update our facilities, making them more comfortable and accessible for all. We sincerely feel that God will be honored with these endeavors. *Helen Barton*

Birthdays



BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

If you think we might not have a record of your birthday and you would like us to include it in the "birthday" section of the newsletter, please contact the office (972) 298-3043. Thank you.

Diane Pegues—10/3
Lenora Dalton—10/4
Grant Everett—10/9
Burle Murphy—10/13
Sean Russell—10/14

Doyce Smith—10/15
Jonathan Liddle—10/18
Barbara Notari—10/19
Bob Eagle—10/20
Taylor Glover—10/21

Sherri Trask—10/23
Brandon Cowand—10/24
Mackenzie & Mikaela
Harkins—10/24
Edie Burquest—10/30

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October 2010

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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3 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion 4:30 PM -8:00 PM Youth Group 8:00 PM Evening Small Group Study	4 4:30 PM Deacons Meeting 7:30 PM Congo Life Meeting	5	6 6:30 PM -7:15 PM Prayer Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal Rev Ginger In Atlanta @ Leadership Convention	7 6:30 PM Worship Team Meeting	8	9																																																																																				
10 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 4:30 PM -8:00 PM Youth Group 8:00 PM Evening Small Group Study	11	12	13 6:45 PM Finance Team Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 7:30 PM Sarah Circle	15 Newsletter Deadline Rev Ginger @ PineCove Retreat Ctr	16																																																																																				
17 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Rev. Sophie Draffin Preaching 8:00 PM Evening Small Group Study Foot #UNDAY	18	19	20 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 1:00 PM Agape Circle 7:00 PM Session Meeting	22	23 5:00 PM -7:00 PM A Spirituals Concert and Storytelling Event "Who'll Be A Witness?"																																																																																				
24 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 4:30 PM -8:00 PM Youth Group 8:00 PM Evening Small Group Study	25 Sandwiches for Austin Street Centre	26	27 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	28	29	30																																																																																				
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WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

October 2010

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

October 3	Greeters: Ushers: Liturgist: Children's Church: Nursery Volunteer: Tech Team: Tellers:	Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues Doris Metzger Lori Glover Taylor Glover Sean Russell Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis
October 10	Greeters: Ushers: Liturgist: Children's Church: Nursery Volunteer: Tech Team: Tellers:	Donna To, Wendy Jensen Bob Moore, Eddie Cowand Dave Bolles Anna Murphy Sydney Russell Sean Russell Mickey Jespersen, Leo Skinner
October 17	Greeters: Ushers: Liturgist: Children's Church: Nursery Volunteer: Tech Team: Tellers:	Gail Haynes, Burle Murphy Albert Teel, Bob Moore Dub Guthrie Sharon Ingram Lois Harmon Sean Russell Lori Glover, Bob Harrison
October 24	Greeters: Ushers: Liturgist: Children's Church: Nursery Volunteer: Tech Team: Tellers:	Mickey & Betty Jespersen Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues Lori Glover Kathleen Hartless Sharon Ingram Sean Russell Paul Barton, Tom Harmon
October 31	Greeters: Ushers: Liturgist: Children's Church: Nursery Volunteer: Tech Team: Tellers:	Jocelyn Bolles, Dorothy Cleary Eugene Jimmerson, Jack Pegues Leo Skinner Savannah Baker-Teel Jocelyn Bolles Sean Russell Teresa Reed, Joan Brown



FPCD PRAYER CALENDAR October 2010

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday
31 Reformation Day John Alsop Anna Murphy Nicholas & Heather	 Joined in Prayer		 Joined in Prayer		1 Joan Brown Carlos & Caryn Benitez Andrés & Rachelle	2 Jack & Diane Pegues Boyd Roberts Connie Steger Malcolm Perrault
3 World Communion Sunday Larry & Margaret Lewis David & Evelyn Hertenstein Dudley Austin	4 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan	5 Paul & Claudia Griffith Dean & Ginger Hertenstein Dorothy Cleary	6 Carol McKinney Ryan & Marjorie Ochs Colvin & Georgia	7 Albert & Sara Teel Savannah Baker-Teel Allen & Wanda Shipman	8 Nadine Doura Ariel & Leah Dick & Nancy Bergman	9 George & Billie Cowand David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander
10 Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Leo & Marlene Skinner	11 Kent & Lori Glover Taylor & Charlie Dub & Gwen Guthrie Neal	12 Bill Farish Pat Sparr Don & Edie Burquest Burle Murphy	13 Kevin & Tonya Jespersen Mickey & Betty Jespersen Susan Murphy	14 Eddie & Brenda Everett Jocelyn, Natalie, & Grant Don & Sheri Trask	15 Bobby & Teresa Reed Matthew & Rylee Carol Orwig	16 Tom & Lois Harmon Eunice Pike Christy Cowand Brandon
17 Gary & Nita Malone Darrell & Sharon Ingram Jessica	18 Roy & Wendy Jensen Jim & Pam Loyd James and Beth Ann Black	19 Jim & Andrene Hull Dave & Jocelyn Bolles	20 Jim & Janet Stahl Donna To Robert & Catherine Eagle	21 Evelyn Pike George & Mary Huttar	22 Bob & Nancy Harrison Eddie & Darlene Cowand	23 Stan & June West Sara & Matthew Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz
24 Irving & Peggy Kezar Steve & Marna Bayless	25 Dennis & Susan Walters Dale, Evelyn, & Andrew Gary	26 Winfred Cook Scott & Kathleen Hartless J.R. Bob & Liz Moore	27 Gary & Linda Simons Rachel Simons Keith & Gail Haynes	28 Michelle Petersen Paul & Jen Schaefer Caleb, Micah, Josiah & Sarah	29 Paul & Helen Barton Ruth Yingst Doris Metzger	30 David & Katherine Liddle Caleb, Jonathan Lenora Dalton

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

Christian Education
Worship Service
Youth Group

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

12 *The Epistle*

What's going on in Children's Sunday School?

Every Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m., elementary age children gather at our church to hear and interact with Bible stories of people's adventures with God. They enjoy workshops, in which story-telling, drama, games, music and other activities make these Bible people, and the lessons they learned from God, real.

In August and September workshops were about Zaccheus and then about Jesus' Parable of the Prodigal Son. Since the workshops focus on each character for three Sundays, using different approaches, the children really remember these people!

In October, there will be workshops on Jesus' Parable the Good Samaritan and on Daniel, who Dared to be Different.

The Children's Planning Team thanks the leaders who have planned and lead workshops during this period: Susan Walters, Lois Harmon, Linda and Rachel Simons, Marna Bayless, Gail Haynes, and Connie Steger.

We urge you to let your children be involved in these Sunday morning workshops! Why not bring your young friends?

