



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. Ginger Hertenstein,
Pastor

Sandy Gaskins,
Administrative
Assistant/Bookkeeper

Steve Netniss,
Youth Pastor

Steve Bayless,
Choir Director

Sami Froncek
Accompanist

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Susan Murphy
Nursery

From Session— Dub Guthrie

The start of a new year is a good time to look back at what has occurred in the last year and look forward to the new year. I would like to look back a little further. I have been on Session six years out of the last seven. There have been some dramatic changes during that period.

When I came onto Session in January, 2007, the church's situation was not good. The expenses were exceeding income by about \$2,000 a month. We had enough money to last at most 2 more years. During the previous year we had lost several families. We considered yoking with the Desoto church to cut expenses. The congregation was against this with some even suggesting we go ahead and close the church. Shortly after that, the pastor was asked to resign. This was all in the first six months.


We then starting working to be sure the church survived. Presbytery furnished a minister to moderate Session meetings. We had different ministers fill the pulpit on Sundays. The Session members took the pastoral duties. After a few months we selected Ginger Hertenstein to serve as Stated Supply and moderate the Session. We didn't feel we could afford a full time pastor at that time. The optimism and enthusiasm of the congregation began to improve. About a year late we felt we were stable enough and could afford to hire a full time pastor. After a search and following the steps required by Presbytery, Ginger was selected to be pastor.

Since that time many positive things have occurred in the church. Our music has continued to be outstanding thanks to the 2 choir directors we have had and the talent of the choir members. We improved the tech portion of the services and have gone online. The youth group has grown and has impacted the lives of those who attend. Storytelling has been incorporated into the worship services. The last three years we have had a budget that bordered on being unrealistically optimistic. We have met them all and even reached the income portion of our budget by the end of November in 2013. We have had the Conversation with God series to help us to connect with God. We saw the miraculous recovery of Tristan Russell. In 2012, we had a live nativity that was well attended even having cars stop on the street to see what was happening. A new Sunday school class on the basics was started. Then came the Festival of Hope last October that through the hard work of the entire congregation we were able to raise over \$50,000 for Duncanville Outreach Ministry. This activity had a positive impact on the whole community.

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- 7—January, Finances, Birthdays



When you compare the last paragraph with the situation in 2007, the contrast is amazing. The question now is what do we do next? The Session has been energized to be God's light to this community. As a result of the festival, a group of community leaders want to have a series of meetings to discuss ways to improve the Duncanville community. This is the work of the church and each of us individually, to reach into the community with God's hope. We will continue some of the successful activities of the previous years. To me the biggest challenge is growing the church, especially with younger members. Our present congregation has its largest age group between 60 and 80 years of age. It is obvious if we don't get younger we have a limited life span. We would ask you to pray for God's continued support, to give any suggestions for church growth, and to help us to work toward this goal.

We have come a long way, but in the church there is always more to do. We appreciate your help in the past and look forward to what God has in store for us in the future.

Dub Guthrie

Words from Worship

Gracias, Merci, Danke...Thank you
to those who helped with setting up and
removal of Advent decorations. The numbers
were few, but the work got done, and you are
greatly appreciated.



Keep the Flags Flying...

Tom Harmon got the Flags flying at the church through Duncanville Rotary. Just because Tom is no longer here in Duncanville, doesn't mean we can continue to fly the Flags on the following 5 major holidays...**Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Veterans Day.**

The Rotary flag program gives Duncanville residents an opportunity to show their pride and love for our country. The proceeds from this project help support the following Duncanville Rotary projects: Literacy programs, the DISD Foundation, teacher and student recognition, scholarships, scouting, DOM, Rotary youth leadership camps of Camp Enterprise and RYLA, Inbound and Outbound Youth Exchange programs, school supplies for DISD students, ESA Cancer Walk, Special Olympics, Project Graduation, Rotary Park Improvements and many more worthwhile projects.



Cost is \$35 for the year. If you want to continue your current subscription or sign up for a new one or need information, please contact Anna Murphy.

FPCD PRAYER CALENDAR

2014



Remember each other in daily prayer.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Billie Coward David & Katherine Liddle Caleb, Jonathan	Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant Don & Edie Burquest	Sam & Charlotte Firthian Steve & Marna Boyless	1 Dennis & Susan Walters Dale, Evelyn, & Andrew	2 Doris Metzger Keith & Gail Haynes Steve Nequis Charles Tyer	3 Bob Harrison Malcolm Perrault Dean & Ginger Hertenstein	4 Joan Brown Larry & Margaret Lewis Ruth Vagst
5 Billie Coward David & Katherine Liddle Caleb, Jonathan	6 Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant Don & Edie Burquest	7 Sam & Charlotte Firthian Steve & Marna Boyless	8 Irving & Peggy Kezar Angel, Brandon, Cyleigh, Devon, & Elyssa	9 Bobby & Teresa Reed Marthrew & Rylee Gary & Nita Malone	10 Scott & Kathleen Hartless J.R. Julia McConnell	11 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan
12 Wanda Shipman Julia McConnell Sheri Trask Jim & Janet Stahl	13 Paul & Helen Barton Tom & Lois Harmon Albert & Sara Teel Roy & Wendy Jensen	14 David Hertenstein Evelyn Darrell & Sharon Ingram	15 Burd Murphy Susan Murphy Anna Murphy Nicholas	16 Jamie & Lorraine Cordova Vanessa, Valerie, Jimmy & Jason	17 Nadine Dawn Ariel, Leah, Aria & Benjamin Donna To	18 Gary & Linda Simons Rachel Jim & Pam Loyd Morgan Hall
19 Mickey & Betty Jeppesen Boyd Roberts Josue & Alan Peralta	20 Kent & Lori Glover Taylor & Charlie Miguel & Faury Peralta	21 Dub & Gwen Guthrie Neal Adelmo & Edeltra Ruiz	22 Leo & Marlene Skinner Eddie & Darlene Coward	23 Dick & Nancy Bergman Nicole Martinez Bill & Vargie Jackson	24 Eric & Erin McGinnis Ashlee & Michael Christy Coward Brandon	25 Connie Steger The Bruck's Bob Moore Andrew Watts
26 Carlos & Caryn Benitez Andrés & Rachelle Carol McKinney	27 George & Mary Hutter Pat Sparr Jim & Andrea Hull John Alsop	28 Jack & Diane Pegues Evelyn Pike Dave & Jocelyn Bolles Winifred Cook	29 Dorothy Cleary T.J. & Eugene Dudley Austin Carol Orwig Barbara Notari	30 David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander, Aiden Beau & Blake	31 Eugene & Amelia Jimmerson Paul & Claudia Griffith The Schaefer's	

January 2014

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div>Dec 2013</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>		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					<div>Feb 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></td></tr> </table>	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		1 <i>New Year's Day</i> Office Closed No Youth Group or Choir Rehearsal	2	3	4
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5 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	6 5:15 PM Deacons Meeting	7 2:00 PM "New Beginnings" Grief Support Small Group	8 6:30 PM Youth Group 6:45 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	9 1:00 PM Agape Women's Fellowship 7:30 PM Sarah Women's Fellowship	10	11																																																																																				
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12 <i>Deacon Installation</i> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion	13	14	15 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal Newsletter Articles Due	16	17	18																																																																																				
19 <i>Potluck Sunday</i> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	20 6:30 PM Thinktank Meeting 6:30 PM Session Meeting	21	22 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	23	24	25																																																																																				
26 <i>Poverty Awareness Sunday</i> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	27 The Sandwich Project ----- Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless	28	29 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	30	31																																																																																					

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE January 2014

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

January 5	Greeters: Ushers: Nursery Volunteer: Tellers:	Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues Valerie Cordova Darrell Ingram, Leo Skinner
January 12	Greeters: Ushers: Nursery Volunteer: Tellers: Communion Servers:	Wendy Jensen, Donna To Albert Teel, Eddie Cowand Darlene Cowand Lori Glover, Brenda Everett Steve Bayless, Erin McGinnis, Jack Pegues, Sharon Ingram, Darrell Ingram, Doris Metzger
January 19	Greeters: Ushers: Nursery Volunteer: Tellers:	Darlene Cowand, Anna Murphy Albert Teel, Irving Kezar Jocelyn Bolles Teresa Reed, Joan Brown
January 26	Greeters: Ushers: Nursery Volunteer: Tellers:	Eddie Cowand, Doris Metzger Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues Anna Murphy Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis

January 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.

Jocelyn Bolles January 1
Andrene Hull January 2
Gwenn Guthrie January 4
Dorothy Cleary January 5
Jim Stahl January 5
Jason Cordova January 13
Connie Steger January 16
Logan Russell January 25
Don Burquest January 28



	Receipts	Expenditures
November 2013	\$12,332	\$19,751
YTD 2013	\$230,061	\$242,357

Total Annual Budget: \$240,342

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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.