

First Presbyterian Church

EPISTLE

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

March 2010

Vol. 18 No. 3

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**

**Steve Bayless,
Choir Director**

**Sandy Gaskins,
Administrative
Assistant/Bookkeeper**

**Sean Russell,
Soundroom Technician**

**Susan Seamans,
Accompanist**

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Pastor's Message for Lent

We know that “church as usual” doesn’t cut it today in America. Book after book written about the modern church says this. But, knowing God makes all the difference in the world. Notice I didn’t say “knowing about God” or being some kind of theological or Biblical expert. What really makes a difference is having that close connection because that’s what builds our faith.



Have you ever had a mentor who influenced you greatly? One mentor who comes to mind is Merlin. He deeply influenced King Arthur in the story of Camelot. Arthur relied on Merlin from the time he was a nervous groom, so shy he hid in a tree from fear of his pending marriage. But he listened to Merlin’s counsel and grew wise; and eventually formed the Knights of the Round Table, who fought for “right not might.” Merlin so significantly impacted the king’s life that even after Merlin died, Arthur still sought and followed his advice. Of course you cannot gain advice from a dead person, but Arthur had grown so close to Merlin that he knew Merlin’s ways and they continued to impact his decisions.

That’s the kind of closeness we need with our Lord Jesus. We need to be so close that we hear His voice guiding us at all times. We gain that closeness by time spent with Him, listening and anticipating His actions. During this Lenten season we will begin doing just that together. We are going to explore some scripture passages to see what Jesus is like; to observe how He lives; to join the circle of His friends; to become a disciple ourselves. The Psalmist says as we draw near, God encamps around us and allows us to see Him (Ps 34).

I’m looking forward to that Presence. Let’s explore it together. Wednesday nights, 6:30-7:15 in the sanctuary. If you would enjoy a light dinner beforehand, it’s provided at 6:00. Let your faith be built.

Blessings,
Ginger

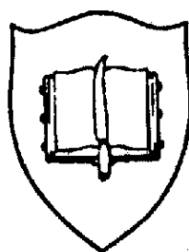
WORDS FROM WORSHIP

Words from Worship

The sound room is looking for helpers.
If you have the knowledge or would like to gain the knowledge of how to run the sound board, power point or our new handy-dandy video equipment, please contact Dub Guthrie, Anna Murphy, Steve Bayless, Scott Hartless or our sound room guru, Sean Russell.
Your help is appreciated.

SYMBOLS of our faith...Symbols of the Twelve Apostles

The twelve Apostles chosen by Jesus to be His special representatives were “Peter, James the son of Zebedee, John the brother of James, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot” Mark 3:16-19. They are frequently represented by symbols.



Very little is written about this apostle. Many scholars believe Nathanael and Bartholomew are one and the same. The name Bartholomew occurs in every New Testament list of the twelve. In researching a Biblical name it is important to study the name itself. "Bar" means "son of." Bartholomew probably means "son of Tolmai." One legend suggests that this apostle was of royal lineage. There is mention in 11 Samuel of a Tolmai who was king of Geshur. If this is true, it is of great interest. Imagine royalty living in perfect fellowship with the humble Master.

Tradition says that Bartholomew preached the gospel in India and Greater Armenia. When he had converted many people to the faith he was flayed alive by the Barbarians. The single flaying knife is the symbol given to Bartholomew's shield.

De-Con-Go Life

De-Con-Go Life

Thank you for gathering round Nadine Doura and daughter Leah and family after the death of little Nicholas Kauffmann. Following the funeral the family and friends came to FPCD for a reception hosted by Dea-Congo Life. Let us continue to pray for Christ's comfort for the family in their grief.

It is time to update our church directory. By now, you have been contacted to make sure your addresses, phone numbers, emails and family names are up-to-date. If you have crucial information you would like the church directory to have, or to delete, please call or email Sandy at info@fpcd.org or contact your deacon.



Prayer requests. As Pastor Ginger often says, 'We are a praying church.' We are honored to pray for one another. Write your requests on the blue prayer cards in the pews, put them in the offering plate on Sunday mornings; or put your requests on the church prayer website, www.fpcd.org, or phone the church. We will send out prayer requests and news for praise to the congregation, with your approval. The church honors your confidential requests.

Back to Basic Seminars

Concerned about food costs and nutrition?

These workshops offer helpful suggestions, ideas and insight on nutrition. Seminars will be held on the following evenings from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of First Presbyterian Church. Child Care provided.

In **March**, we'll turn our attention to **Nutrition**—Cheaper than eating out!?



Tuesday, March 2— Assessing the situation

Tuesday, March 9— Planning a menu

Tuesday, March 16— Shopping/budgeting

Tuesday, March 23— Tasting

Contact Anna Murphy if you want to help lead the discussions, or have information to share.

Communications



Website Training!
March Mini-Sessions

Have you wanted to post a church event, article, or photo for your team, Sunday School, PW group, etc., but didn't know exactly how? Each Sunday in March, David Liddle will lead us in website training sessions that will help to take away your fear of posting.

These training sessions will be in the sanctuary each Sunday after worship and will take about 20-30 minutes. Here are some of the topics that we'll cover in the weeks ahead.

- * Logging in and browsing the admin side of the site
- * Creating a new post
- * Editing an existing post
- * Editing an existing page
- * Adding pictures to a post
- * Uploading audio files
- * Adding audio files to a post
- * Approving comments to posts

If you have any questions or additional suggestions, please contact Brenda Everett.

ATTENDANCE

BOOKKEEPER'S REPORT

January 2009

4-January-73

11-January-89

18-January-70

25-January-85

January 2010

3-December-86

10-December-82

17-December-75

24-December-78

31-December-82

January 2010

Receipts

\$17,385

Expenditures

\$11,121

FPCD Seminars

Communications

Attendance

Bookkeeper's Report

PW NEWS

PW NEWS

Bible Study and Fellowship

If you do not currently attend a Circle, please consider doing so. The Circles meet in different homes each month and enjoy Bible study, prayer, good discussions, desserts and fellowship. There is a daytime and an evening Circle. For more information, please contact Helen Barton or Joan Brown.



In the nine lessons of *Joshua: A Journey of Faith*, Mary Mikhael invites us to explore the challenging, sometimes heartrending, book of Joshua. Pursuing such themes as leadership, the promise of land, the concept of "holy war," and outsiders becoming insiders, we learn ultimately to find rest in the justice and mercy of God.

Sarah Circle: Meeting Thursday evening, March 11 at 7:30 pm at the home of Joan Brown, 810 Rock Canyon Drive, Duncanville, 972-298-9836. Katherine Liddle is co-hostess; we will be studying Lesson 7 in the study books. ***Please note that Sarah Circle has changed its meeting night to the second Thursday of each month.***

Agape Circle: Meeting Thursday, March 11 at 1 p.m. at the home of Connie Steger, 960 N. Cedar Hill Road, Cedar Hill. We will be discussing Lesson 4 in the study books.

PW MISSIONS



PW Mission emphasis for the coming year is helping to care for vulnerable children in Kamwenge, Uganda by donating funds for educational needs and school supplies.

Kamwenge Vocational School is a community school in the heart of rural Uganda with a vision to transform this poor community into a self-sustained and responsible one with a high sense of integrity and accountability in a Christian transforming environment.

The school is located on 20 acres of land in the district of Kamwenge, western Uganda. This area has a population of 300,000 people, mostly refugees from neighboring countries, and is considered one of the poorest in Uganda. Parents cannot afford to send their children to school and do not understand the importance of education. This illiteracy has increased the cycle of HIV/AIDS and poverty. The Kamwenge School aims to equip individuals with skills for sustainable socio-economic development, a holistic approach of building the Kingdom of God.

How You Can Help! We will be accepting donations toward this cause at our Circle Meetings through the year and also designating a portion of our PW fundraisers toward this project. Our two PW fundraisers are the Spring Plant and Bake Sale and the PW Family Spaghetti Supper and Christmas Auction. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining with us to help these Ugandan families build a better life through education and hopefully to see the love of Jesus Christ through our generosity and concern.



PW NEWS continued

2010 Mini Retreat



Plan to join us on Friday evening, March 12 and Saturday morning, March 13 at the Holiday Inn Express in Waxahachie. The program and discussions will be based on several DVD messages by the very powerful and entertaining speaker, Joyce Meyer. Joyce Meyer is the best-selling author of dozens of books and Bible studies, and speaks to thousands of women each year at her live events. She is passionate about the life-transforming power of God, and her messages are straight from God's Word. She has helped millions of people find hope and restoration through Jesus Christ.

There's a war going on and your mind is the battlefield. If you're one of millions who suffer from worry, doubt, confusion, depression, anger or condemnation, you are experiencing an attack in your mind. Overcoming negative thoughts that come against your mind brings freedom and peace. Find out how to recognize damaging thought patterns and stop them from influencing your life. In this powerful conference DVD, Joyce Meyer guides you through an honest self-appraisal by sharing the trials, tragedies and ultimate victories of her own marriage, family and ministry, including the truth she learned about what she was thinking and feeling every step of the way. You'll gain insight into how Joyce won the battle in her own mind, and how you can as well. These resources will expose wrong ways of thinking, help you renew your mind with the truth of God's Word and help transform your thinking.

Sign up with a roommate, in the Narthex, by Sunday, March 7. The cost is \$50 per person, with 2 people in a room. Breakfast will be provided at the hotel. Don't forget your Bible, a snack to share and a wrapped gift for our always fun White Elephant gift exchange. The Retreat will end at noon on Saturday and there are lots of fun things to do in Waxahachie if you wish to go into town.

H_{ands} O_f G_{od} Y_{outh} HAPPENINGS

Thanks to all who attended the Valentines dinner/movie evening. We hope this will become an annual event. We had 5 youth who acted as Matre'd and waitstaff (while Mrs. Glover and Ms. Anna attended to food prep), at what we now refer to as The HOGY Café. Each youth earned \$60 towards their individual accounts, to be used towards HOGY outings and/or mission trip expenses.

We continue to average 6-8 youth each week. Thank you to those who provided the youth with meals in January. If you would like to lead discussion, play a game or serve a meal, please sign up on the HOGY calendar, posted on the door of the Youth room. You may also contact Lori Glover or Anna Murphy. Remember we meet Sunday evenings from 4:30-6:00 in Fellowship Hall.

Our search for a Youth Pastor/Director continues. If you know of someone you think would be interested, please contact Lori Glover or Anna Murphy. This is a part-time position.

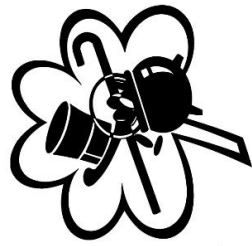
February Schedule

March 7- Moses
March 14-The Ten Plagues
March 21-Passover
March 28-The Ten Commandments



PW NEWS
continued

HOGY
Happenings



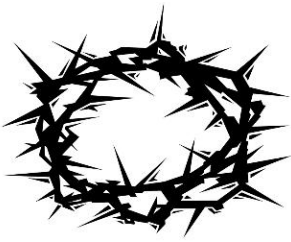
FPCD PRAYER CALENDAR

March 2010



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

MOVIE NIGHT



We are thrilled to offer "The Passion of the Christ" in honor of the Lenten Season for our Third Saturday Free Movie Event. This epic film focuses on the last twelve hours of Jesus Christ's life from His anguish in the garden to Judas' betrayal to His arrest and trials and death. We will show this great movie on Saturday, March 20 at 7:00 pm. Popcorn, lemonade and child care will be provided. Please make it a point to bring family and friends to this special event offered by First Presbyterian Church of Duncanville.

Movie
Night

The Lending Library

If you missed a "Movie Night" movie or want to see one of your favorites again, we have made them available to check out from our "Lending Library." Simply pick the movie that you would like to see, sign and date the index card from the envelope on the front of the DVD case and leave the signed and dated index card in the office. Return the movie to the office within two weeks so other members have an opportunity to watch as well. Currently the "Lending Library" is located in the office. If you have any questions please contact Sandy at 972-298-3043.

The movies that we have available to lend are:



- "Fireproof" - In Albany, the marriage of Caleb and Catherine Holt is in crisis and they decide to divorce. However, Caleb's father, John, proposes that his son delays their separation process for forty days and follow a procedure called "The Love Dare" to make them love each other again.
- "One Night With the King" - the Old Testament story of Esther who rises from orphan to queen who lives out her divine destiny to save her people.
- "Flywheel" - is the story of an unscrupulous used-car salesman who becomes disgusted with his lies and manipulations and sets out to live an honest life of love and faith.
- "The Nativity Story" - is the story of Mary and Joseph's faith as they are lead to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus.
- "The Second Chance" - is the story of a successful, mega-church pastor who learns the lesson of James 1 - to be a doer of the Word, not just a hearer and to reach out to all of his brothers when he assists in an inner city church.
- "The Last Sin Eater" - is a stirring movie about a young girl's quest for redemption from a painful secret. As she searches for the fabled sin eater, she learns that only the truth will set her and her village free.

*The
Lending
Library*

If you have previously borrowed one of the movies and have not returned it, please do so and we won't tell a soul!



Roy Jensen—3/10
Malcolm Perrault—3/10
Alexis Kay Cleary—3/12
Pat Sparr—3/12
Dudley Austin—3/17
Dick Bergman—3/23
Evelyn Hertenstein—3/24
Tom Harmon—3/27
Carol Orwig—3/31

Evelyn Pike—3/1
Bobby Reed—3/2
Marjorie Ochs—3/3
George Huttar—3/3
Dennis Walters—3/3
David Gaskins—3/5
Irving Kezar—3/5
Reid Bunger—3/6
Paul Barton—3/8
Nancy Bergman—3/9

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.

BIRTHDAYS

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Website: www.fpcd.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Christian Education
Worship Service
Youth Group

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