



First Presbyterian Church EPISTLE

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

From our Pastor

Our mission statement reads:

*CONNECTING WITH GOD,
AND
SHARING THE GOOD
NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST
WITH THE COMMUNITY*

How are we doing? The elders have been studying the book *Called*, by Mark Labberton. In it we have pondered the question, "What does God call me to do?" We have learned that "call" is about who we are and how we live all the time. The believer's faith must permeate every aspect and minute of normal life. It is not that Jesus makes us weird (although some of us may be a little weird!), it is that we have a particular lens through which we view the world. We are being formed by Jesus' view of the world. Then we share, through our own spiritual growth, the good news with others in a variety of ways.

This musical and storytelling event is a culmination of several years of "telling God's story" both here at FPCD and in public places. The enthusiasm for this event is spreading throughout all the churches who are involved. So our "internal spiritual formation" is breaking through to other churches and the community as we commit ourselves to share this good news.

What a relevant message for a culture that is laden with disunity, division, and worry about the future. We have a powerful message and we are energized to share it. Let's each pray that God would speak hope to those who hear His story. Let's be about the work of inviting 600 people to fill the seats at Shine Performance Hall. Let's trust God to be at work through us. This is our call.

Happiest Easter,

Pastor Ginger



This month brings the celebration of Jesus' victory for us through His death and resurrection. His victory involved the intense suffering of the cross and the extraordinary miracle of being raised. As you may know, we are going to tell the story of Good Friday along with nine other churches on March 25 at Duncanville High School Shine Performance Hall, 7:00 pm.

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 . . .

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Mission News

Carol Orwig, who wrote our article today, is a woman of many talents. She sings in the choir, sometimes directs our chorus time in the morning service and brings her coveted needlework to the Christmas auctions. She also works at the International Linguistic Center as Consultant for Language and Culture Learning for SIL International. When she travels overseas she teaches the subject she shares here with us.

How Can We Serve Others in Love?

Christ says the second great Commandment is to love our neighbors as ourselves, and he told the story of the Good Samaritan to demonstrate that our neighbors are not always people just like us. How do we go about loving and serving people very different from us?

We have many cultural and ideological divides in our own city and country. A book I highly recommend is Cross-Cultural Servanthood, by Duane Elmer (InterVarsity Press). Elmer talks about the importance of humility and how he discovered in himself a feeling of superiority he didn't know he had, which was hindering his ministry. He then describes several steps involved in learning to serve others. To SERVE others we need to UNDERSTAND them. To understand them we need to listen and to LEARN about them, from them, and with them. To learn from them we need to have formed a RELATIONSHIP with them and have established TRUST.

How do we relate to and trust people different from us? Our world is so polarized, and many of us are afraid of people different from us, whom we see as enemies and aliens who need to be kept away from us and our families, so we can be safe. Brothers and sisters, we can't serve people from a safe distance. We need to WELCOME people into our presence, by being OPEN to them. We need to ACCEPT them as fellow-bearers of God's image, and RESPECT them as such, even if we can't always approve of their actions or agree with their ideas. We cannot emanate disapproval before we even get to know people. That will drive them away from us and from God. Anyway, God says he is the judge, not us, and he knows their hearts. We can share what we believe to be right and true, once we get to know people and they know we care about them.

Brothers and Sisters, it isn't easy, but these are Christ's commands: Love one another. Love your enemies and do good to them. Serve others in love and humility.

Circle Meetings

The Agape Women's Circle will meet on Wednesday, March 9 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Sarah Circle will meet March 10 7:30 pm in the home of Nancy Bergman, 1063 Fairmeadows Circle, Duncanville. We are on Lesson 7 of our study Come to the Waters. We welcome any visitor.

Spring Forward!

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00am on Sunday, March 13, so don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour Saturday evening so you can make it to church on time!



Good Friday Musical Event

We'd like to invite everyone out to join us in the choir. We're hosting roughly 10 churches in Duncanville to form a mass choir for our Good Friday Community Musical. It's free to the public and we also invite everyone to bring family and friends - even co-workers, too!

Rehearsals for this event are Mondays at 6:30 PM at FPCD.

Our songs and overall message is that of God's love by sending his Son, Jesus for us - because he loves us so much! We will walk through the day that Jesus was crucified and hopefully leave with a deeper understanding of his love and sacrifice.

Free Storytelling and Musical Presentation

In English & Spanish!

T.G.I.F.

A GOOD FRIDAY EVENT

A Story of Agony & Hope

March 25, 2016
7:00 pm

Did you ever wonder why the hero died?

Featuring
"Via Dolorosa"
Joint choir
Soloists
Instrumentalists

Together 10 Duncanville churches tell the story of Good Friday,
a story of profound love and unparalleled commitment.

DHS Shine Performance Hall
900 W. Camp Wisdom Rd., Duncanville, TX 75116
For information, contact (972) 298-3043

Cook's Corner

This month's Easter offering comes to us courtesy of BettyCrocker.com

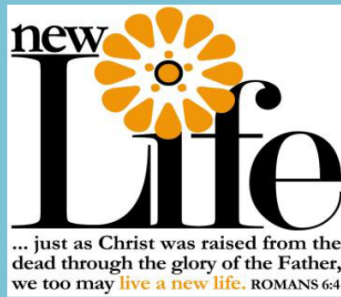
Bunny Bait Chex Mix

Ingredients

4 cups Rice Chex cereal
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
2 Tablespoons butter
2 Tablespoons corn syrup
1/4 cup pastel candy sprinkles
2 cups Vanilla Chex cereal
2 cups bite-size pretzels
1 cup miniature marshmallows
1 cup cashews (optional)
1 cup pastel candy-coated chocolate candies (such as M & M's)
1/2 cup butterscotch chips

Directions

1. Place Rice Chex cereal in large bowl.
2. In small microwavable bowl, microwave brown sugar, butter and corn syrup uncovered on high 1 minute, stirring every 20 seconds, until sugar is melted. Pour over cereal; stir until well coated. Stir in candy sprinkles. Spread on cookie sheet to cool.
3. In another large bowl, combine remaining ingredients; stir gently until combined.
4. Once Rice Chex cereal mixture has cooled, add to bowl with Vanilla Chex cereal mixture; stir gently to mix. Serve immediately or store in airtight container.



FPCD Prayer Calendar

March 2016

Remember each other in Daily Prayer!

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 Penaloza 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	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	31 Pray for the Pastor, Elders, and Deacons.		

March 2016

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<div>Feb 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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></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							1	2 6:00 PM - 7:20 PM Dinner & Conversation with God 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	4	5 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Stated Presbyterian Meeting - Sherman Austin College
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6 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	7 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting 6:30 PM Good Friday Performance Rehearsal	8 6:45 PM Finance Meeting	9 6:00 PM - 7:20 PM Dinner & Conversation with God 1:00 PM Agape Women's Fellowship 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 8:30 AM Community Prayer Gathering at Ben Franklin 7:30 PM Sarah Women's Fellowship	11	12																																										
13 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	14 6:30 PM Good Friday Performance Rehearsal	15 Newsletter Articles Due	16 6:00 PM - 7:20 PM Dinner & Conversation with God 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30 PM Session Meeting	18	19																																										
20 Palm Sunday 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	21 1:00 PM "New Beginnings" Grief Support Small Group 6:30 PM Good Friday Performance Rehearsal at DHS Theater	22	23 7:00 PM 4th Sunday Praise Team Rehearsal 6:30 PM Youth Group	24 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	25 7:00 PM Good Friday Community Event DHS Theater	26 6:00 - 12:00 AM Prayer Vigil																																										
27 Easter Sunday 7:00 AM Sunrise Service on Patio followed by Pancake Breakfast 9:15 AM Sunday School (including Easter Egg Hunt for kids) 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM Spanish Bible Study	28 The Sandwich Project Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless	29	30 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:45 PM Choir Rehearsal	31	<div>Apr 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></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</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	
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WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE **March 2016**

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

MARCH 6

Greeters: Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson
Ushers: Irving Kezar, Albert Teel
Nursery Overseer: Anna Murphy
Tellers: Lori Glover, Brenda Everett
Communion Servers: Dick Bergman, Lori Glover,
Dave Bolles, Sandy Gaskins,
Edelmira Ruiz

MARCH 13

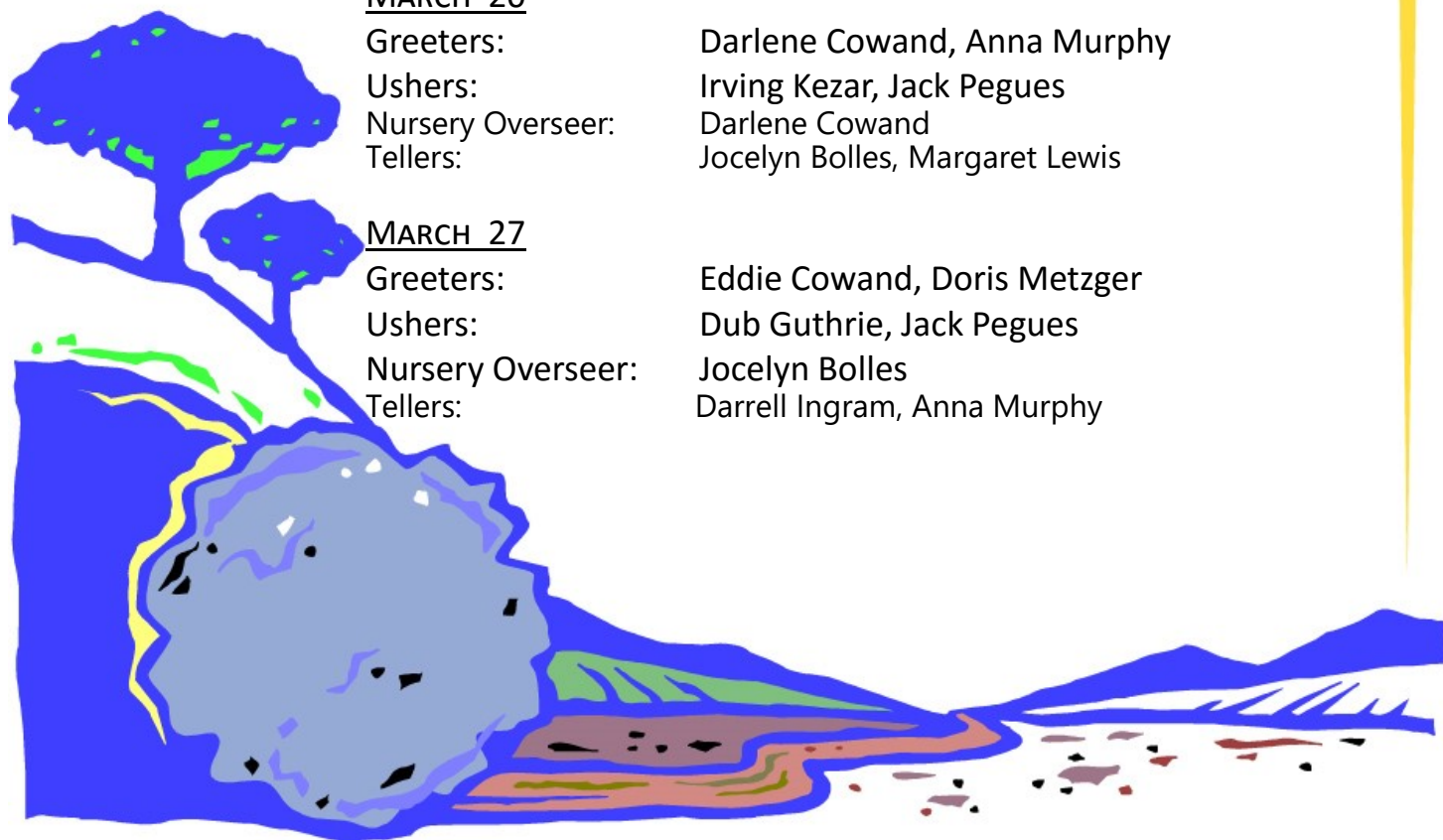
Greeters: Wendy Jensen, Donna To
Ushers: Eddie Cowand, Dub Guthrie
Nursery Overseer: Susan Murphy
Tellers: Teresa Reed, Joan Brown

MARCH 20

Greeters: Darlene Cowand, Anna Murphy
Ushers: Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues
Nursery Overseer: Darlene Cowand
Tellers: Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis

MARCH 27

Greeters: Eddie Cowand, Doris Metzger
Ushers: Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues
Nursery Overseer: Jocelyn Bolles
Tellers: Darrell Ingram, Anna Murphy



— 6:00 p.m. Youth Group

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

March 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.

Evelyn Pike, March 1	Roy Jensen, March 10
Bobby Reed, March 2	Vangie Jackson, March 12
George Huttar, March 3	Pat Sparr, March 12
Dennis Walters, March 3	Dudley Austin, March 17
Jimmy Cordova, March 4	Dick Bergman, March 23
David Gaskins, March 5	Evelyn Hertenstein, March 24
Irving Kezar, March 5	Tom Harmon, March 27
Paul Barton, March 8	Erin McGinnis, March 29
Nancy Bergman, March 9	Michael McGinnis, March 29
Vincent Thorpe, March 9	Carol Orwig, March 31
Blake Gaskins, March 9	



2016 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
January 2016	\$15,572	\$19,449
Jan - Dec 2015	\$238,812	\$225,979