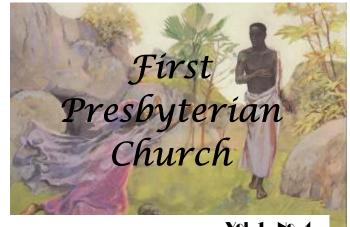


Our Mission: Connecting with God and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with the community.



April 2011 Vol. 1 , No. 4

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

Andrew Dittman,

Choir Director

Deborah Titus,

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As Lent begins we draw aside to be with our Savior. Our subject throughout Lent and up to Holy Week is the kingdom of Jesus. When you belong to Jesus, you do belong to a kingdom – a marvelous one – which begins now, and extends forever. So, let's explore it. We began with Jesus, the Good Shepherd. A real live sheep in our yard, "Skippy," gave us the image. Thanks to Charlie Glover who made that image real for all of us as he shared what it means to care for, provide for, and protect his own sheep.



We explore what Jesus' kingdom is like because the more we know about it, the more able we are to trust the goodness of God and the plan of God for our lives. God gives us purpose in all things, both good and bad, when we entrust our lives to Him. So each week we gather in the sanctuary to have a "Conversation with God," where we listen for God's voice in a passage of Scripture. God can indeed speak to us through the Holy Spirit, and as we share what we heard, we learn from each other. We've also got a special blessing in that Julie Bayless leads us each week in songs of praise and hymns on the guitar.

Then Holy Week centers around music and drama as we experience the last two days of Jesus' life on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. The Worship Ministry Team has worked hard on writing and planning these services, as has Choir Director, Andrew Dittman. And, throughout the day and into the evening Friday (except for the hours of the service) we will have a prayer vigil.

All of these things invite us to open our lives to Jesus Christ, who opens His life to us. The church is a place of invitation, of hope, and of newness of life. Use some of those words as you invite your friends and neighbors.

Easter Sunday morning begins at 6:30 am. we'll gather on the patio for a casual sunrise service led by Steve Netniss to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Breakfast follows, and then the regular worship service at 10:30. The choir will sing the "Hallelujah Chorus, A Soulful Celebration," accompanied by instrumentation.

What a blessing to seek Jesus together. May your faith be encouraged more than ever.

Blessings,

Ginger

Words from Worship

The Legend of the Dogwood



There's a legend that the dogwood was once the size of the oak and other forest trees. It was so strong and firm that it was chosen as the timber of Christ's cross. This greatly distressed the tree. Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed the tree's regret and told it, "Because of your sorrow for my suffering, never again shall the dogwood grow large enough to be used as a cross. It shall be slender, bent and twisted. Its blossoms shall form a cross-two long and two short petals. And at the outer edge of each petal will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red. In the center of the flower shall be a crown of thorns. And all who see it will remember."

There's More!

On the first Easter morning, three women found an empty tomb. The discovery left them trembling and afraid. They didn't know there was more-a resurrected Lord. Later that day, the risen Jesus appeared. As happy as the disciples were about this miracle, they didn't yet know there was more-a gift of the Holy Spirit that would make their joy complete. Early Christians in Corinth were so delighted by the gift of baptism that they could scarcely imagine here was more—the resurrection of the body to eternal life. As great as Easter is, it's only the "first fruits" of what lies ahead. Celebrate the fact that Christ is risen, but remember that the best is yet to come!

Reading ahead (sermon texts for April)

April 3 ~ John 12:20-26 ~ Jesus' Kingdom is for All Nations ~ Gentiles seek Jesus

April 10 ~ John 10:22-42 ~ Jesus' Claims the Kingdom ~ Jesus says he is the Messiah

April 17, Palm Sunday \sim John 18:33-19:16 \sim Kingdom Against Kingdom \sim Jesus' conversation with Pilate

April 21, Maundy Thursday \sim (see p. 3)

April 22, Good Friday \sim (see p. 3)

April 24, Easter! ~ John 20 and Hebrews 11:10, 13-16, 32-40 ~ The Kingdom of Jesus Christ ~ We look forward to a kingdom that lasts forever Lord, teach us to number our days!

BRRTIDAYS

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.

Anna Murphy—4/2
Weston Russell—4/2
Bob Harrison—4/7
Jim Hull—4/8
John Alsop—4/12
Adelmo Ruiz—4/13
Evelyn Walters—4/15
Sandy Gaskins—4/16
Andrew Dittman—4/20
Leah Jordan—4/20

SPECIAL LENTEN AND EASTER EVENTS

Wednesday nights, April 6-April 13 Lenten Series: Dinner 6:00 (dinner)

Conversations with God 6:30-7:20

April 17Palm Sunday Service10:30April 21Maundy Thursday Service7:00April 22Good Friday Service7:00

*Good Friday prayer vigil throughout the day

April 24 ~ EASTER! Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m.

Breakfast (following Sunrise Service)
Sunday School 9:15

The FPCD choir is preparing wonderful music that parallels and reacts to the drama and theology of Holy Week. The music for Maundy Thursday will be paired with dramatic readings that follow the journey from Gethsemane to the cross. Good Friday will be a simpler, more contemplative service with violin, organ, solos, and choir. Then, for Easter Sunday, the choir will sing a rousing "soulful" rendition of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" from *Messiah*. We hope to see you at all of these unique services sitting next to someone you have invited!





Maundy Thursday:

Love and Destiny in Dark Gethsemane

A Dramatic Musical Experience of Jesus' Last Night

Good Friday:



Both of these services are interactive experiences of the last night and day of Jesus' life.

*You may sign up in the narthex for one or more 30-minute prayer vigil periods throughout Good Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and 8:00 p.m. to Midnight.

From Our Youth

The Youth Group would like to welcome Hugo and Luis to our church family! Please make them feel welcomed here at church, the Youth Group is excited to have them with us. Anthony just had a birthday on March 19, so a big shout out to him! The leaders are planning some events for the Youth this summer including a mission trip with the Idaho falls gang.

Steve is going to be teaching a confirmation class on Sundays starting from 3:30pm until 4:30pm. This will be for the students who really want to take their walk with Christ to the next level. We hope to have all of our students join the class. The Youth Group and leaders are also giving up something that means a lot to them for lent. The leaders thought it would be a good idea to start a blog to help each other get past the frustration of wanting what each person has chosen to give up. The blog will encourage each other to stay committed to our goals.

We would like to have more volunteers during our Youth Group time. Especially more male volunteers, but we will have anyone who is willing to come! If you would like to be a volunteer or provide a snack for our Youth you can contact Steve Netniss.

In Christ, Allison Jackson

February 2010

ATTENDANCE

7 February – 84 6 February – 71 14 February – 78 13 February – 73 21 February – 71 20 February – 90 27 February – 83

February 2011



February 2011							
Receipts	Expenditures						
\$21,829	\$24,063						
YTD income:	*\$35,861						
YTD expenditures	\$52,817						
Total Annual Budget: *This includes memorial giving.	\$225,000						
Renovation Receipts	\$23,165						
Total Renovation Cost	\$30,640						

We come, Malcomand David



On Sunday, March 13 we welcomed Malcolm Perrault (left) and David Hertenstein (holding daughter Evelyn, 4) into our church family, and promised to support and nurture them as members of our congregation.

As members of our FPCD choir, Malcolm and David are both men of note! Malcolm comes to us from Monrovia, CA, and David from Coppell, TX.

Sacred Inspirations...the stories behind our Hymns

Christ the Lord is Risen Today....Charles Wesley and his brother John formed a religious 'Holy Club" while at Oxford because they were dissatisfied with spiritual lethargy. Their fellow students jokingly called them "Methodist" because of their methodical habits of living and studying. After an unsuccessful ministry in America, they returned to London where both had profound conversions while meeting with Moravian believers at Aldersgate. Both brothers traveled on horseback throughout Great Britain conducting more that 40,000 public services. Charles wrote over 6,500 hymn texts with hardly a day or experience passing that didn't make its way into verse. The brothers started their first Wesleyan Chapel in London, England in 1739 in a deserted iron foundry. Charles Wesley wrote Christ the Lord is Risen Today for the first service in his chapel that came to be called the Foundry Meeting House. Originally this hymn was called Hymn for Easter Day and had 11 four line stanzas. Wesley wrote the hymn one year after his dramatic Aldersgate conversion and the hymn was later published in a collection entitled Foundry's Collection. He chose a tune for this hymn that had first appeared anonymously in the Lyra Davidica hymnal published in 1708. The joyous Alleluia was not written by Wesley, but was added by an editor to make the test fit the tune. Alleluia ("Praise Yahweh!"), from ancient Hebrew worship, was a common expression of praise in the early Christian Church.

News from the Buucks

It has been a while since the Buucks were regularly here in our midst. Brian sang in the



choir at that time and children were still in their future. They were studying at the Linguistic Center in preparation for serving in Mexico as Bible translators. Since August 2009, the Buucks, Brian and Anja with their children, Damaris, Jonah, Talitha and Keilah, have been living in Blaine, Minnesota, where they are close to Brian's side of the family. God has used their prolonged stay here to demonstrate His love and presence to them in ways they were not expecting. It has been a very full and profitable time for them,

both spiritually and emotionally. Finally, they sense a "green light" from God to return to southern Mexico at the end of this year and resume their work in the areas of Bible translation, language analysis and literacy in the Chinantec language where they have served since 2004. Moreover, Brian has felt God leading him to organize seminars to provide biblical training to pastors in indigenous communities around the city of Tuxtepec, Oaxaca, and to this end he has been attending ACTS Bible College at Way of the Lord, the church where the family is involved in Minnesota.

Besides preparing for their Mexico ministry, Brian has been doing various odd jobs to pay the bills, including translation (German) and interpreting (Spanish). For her part, Anja

home schools Jonah (3rd grade) and Talitha (1st grade) well as keeps the home running smoothly. Damaris tends 4th grade at Northside Christian School (also on the Way of the Lord campus) and is fast becoming an complished knitter. Jonah enjoys reading and drawing and helps Brian with certain jobs. Talitha takes delight her first year of school and is Anja's willing helper. Keiis growing, babbles incessantly (mostly in a language her own!) and is very generous with slobbery kisses. Although they have enjoyed the snow of Minnesota well as participating in activities such as team soccer and swimming lessons), the children are now ready for warmer climes and are looking forward to returning to Mexico!



The Buucks are now working through a mission agency named Mountain Movers International (based in Corinth, TX) and have taken a name for their ministry: Cloudburst Ministries. They can be reached by e-mail at: brianjabuuck@gmail.com and would enjoy hearing from friends they knew while here.

They are grateful for your prayerful support as they prepare for the next phase of their ministry.

Trans.
PRA INER

						TOTAL
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday
	PRAYERS OF A STREET		THERS STATES	oined in Prayer	1 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan	2 Paul & Claudia Griffith Dean & Ginger Hertenstein Lenora Dalton
8	4	2	9	7	8	6
Carol McKinney	Dorothy Cleary	Nadine	Joan Brown	Eugene & Ar-	Dub & Gwen	Eunice Pike
Ryan & Marjorie	T.J. & Eugene	AbuMarkhia	Malcolm Perrault	melia Jimmerson	Guthrie	Robert & Cathe-
Ochs, Colvin &	Dudley Austin	Ariel & Leah	James & Beth	Carlos & Caryn	Melisa, Carol,	rine
Georgia	Allen & Wanda	Dick & Nancy	Ann Black	Benitez	& Neal	Eagle
Burle Murphy	Shipman	Bergman	Jack & Diane	Andrés &	Leo & Marlene	David Hertenstein
	Reid Bunger	Doris Metzger	Pegues	Rachelle	Skinner	Evelyn
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Kevin & Tonya	Scott & Kathleen	Bobby & Teresa	Eddie & Darlene	Gary & Nita	Roy & Wendy	Eddie & Brenda
Jespersen	Hartless	Reed	Cowand	Malone	Jensen	Everett
Mickey & Betty	J.R.	Matthew &	Christy Cowand	Darrell & Sharon	Don & Edie	Jocelyn, Na-
Jespersen	David & Kathe-	Rylee	Brandon	Ingram	Burquest	talie,
Winfred Cook	rine Liddle	Bob & Nancy	Pat Sparr	Jay & Jessica	Dave & Jocelyn	& Grant
	Caleb, Jonathan	Harrison			Bolles	Steve Netniss
17 PALM	18	19	20	21 MAUNDY	22 GOOD FRIDAY	23
SUNDAY	Evelyn Pike	Carol Orwig	Stan & June West	THURSDAY	Dennis & Susan	Albert & Sarah
Jim & Janet Stahl George & Mary	George & Mary	Tom & Lois	Sara & Mat-	Irving & Peggy	Walters	Teel
Gary & Linda	Huttar		thew	Kezar	Dale, Evelyn,	Savannah
Simons	The Schaefers	Billie Cowand	Adelmo &	Steve & Marna	& Andrew	Bob & Liz Moore
Rachel Simons			Edelmira Ruiz	Bayless		Gail Haynes
24 EASTER	25	26	72	28	53	30
Susan Murphy	Don & Sheri	David & Sandy	Ruth Yingst	John Alsop	Larry & Margaret	Jim & Pam Loyd
Anna Murphy	Trask	Gaskins	Donna To	Kent & Lori Glov-	Lewis	Paul & Helen
Nicholas &	Jim & Andrene	Alexander,	Andrew & Ashley <mark>e</mark> r	er	Boyd Roberts	Barton
Heather	Hull	Aiden, Beau	Dittman	Taylor & Charlie Connie Steger	Connie Steger	



Presbyterian Women News

PW Circle Gatherings are on Thursday, April 14. We continue through the 2010-1022 *Horizons* Bible study, *Journeys through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*. Newcomers are always welcome!

Agape Circle will meet at 1 p.m. at the home of Ruth Yingst ~ 926 Springwood Lane, Duncanville. We will be studying lesson 7.

Sarah Circle will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Jocelyn Bolles ~ 619 Athenia Way, Duncanville. We will be studying lesson 8.

THE PW PLANT AND BAKE SALE IS COMING!! WAY 1

Plan to pick up some lovely bedding plants, other beautiful plants, and delicious baked goods at this annual spring Presbyterian Women's fund raiser!

So that that can happen, we ask that you donate plants and/or baked goods that your fellow-members can't resist! Bring your items by 10:15 a.m. please. The sale will take place on the church "patio" for a few minutes before church and definitely after church.





Please remember that the PW uses funds raised at the Plant and Bake Sale as well as at the Christmas Auction for projects here and overseas. Our special mission project this year is the Home of Hope in Harare, Zimbabwe. This is a mission to street children and their families. (Hmmmm...would you say Zimbabwe is in east, west, or south Africa? Check out your March newsletter, p. 7!)

April 2011

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	friiay	Saturday
	0000000	T F 5 5 M 3 4 5 1 2 10 11 12 6 9 17 18 19 15 16 24 25 26 22 23	10 11 12 13 14 17 18 19 20 21 3 24 25 26 27 28		1	2
3 15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion 3:30 PM 4:30 PM Confirmation Class 4:30 PM -6:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Evening Small Group Study	4:00 PM Deacons' Meeting 7:30 PM Congo Life Meeting	5	6:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM -7:20 PM Lenten Series with Ginger 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	8	9
9 15 AM Sunday School 10 30 AM Worship 3:30 PM -4:30 PM Confirmation Class 4:30 PM -6:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Evening Small Group Study	11	12	6:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM -7:20 PM Lenten Series with Ginger 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	1:00 PM Agape Circle 7:30 PM Sarah Circle	15 Newsletter Deadline	16
9-15 AM Sunday School 10-30 AM Worship 3-30 PM -4-30 PM Confirmation Class 4-30 PM -6:00 PM Youth 6:00 PMEyening Small Group Study FOOD SUNDAY PALM SUNDAY	18	19	20 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	7:00 PM Good Friday Service Froyer Vigil 6:00an-5:00ps, 8:30pn-Widnight	23
24 T 00 AM Surrise Service on Patro followed by Pancake Broadfast 9:15 AM Sunday School (Easter Egg Hurt) 10:30 AM Worship EASTER	25	26	27 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	28 6:30 PM Session Meeting	29	30

10 The Epistle

Dear Media Promotion & Outreach Team,

I have a friend who lives in a cave and eats locusts and wild honey all day, and can't possibly get out to church on Sunday, but, surprisingly, has internet access. I've invited him to our service but he's a little on the shy side. A little birdie told me that our Sunday worship service can be viewed "live" online through our website. How does that work?

Signed, Fred's Friend

Dear Friend of Fred,

That sounds like a great idea. Perhaps once Fred experiences our service via Live Stream, and sees how much joy we find in "Connecting with God and sharing the Good News of Jesus," he may decide to join you one Sunday.

He can view our worship service live each Sunday, at 10:30 a.m. CT one of three different ways.

- By going directly to http://live.fpcd.org/ OR
- By going to our website <u>www.fpcd.org</u> and clicking on LIVE Stream, located at the top on the menu picture. (top circle in the picture)
- By going to our website www.fpcd.org and clicking on the link located below "Join us LIVE on Sunday mornings at 10:30!" (bottom circle in the picture)

Once the FPCD Live Stream Player opens, if you don't see the live feed right away, please be patient, it may take a few moments to begin.

Hope to see your friend real soon.

Your friends on the Media Team



Bible Quiz

During his last supper with the Twelve (John 13), Jesus took off His outer robe, poured water into a basin and began washing His disciples' feet. One disciple, however, protested having the Lord wash his feet. Jesus told the reluctant man that unless he let Jesus wash his feet.

he really had no share in Christ's leadership. The disciple then relented. He asked Jesus to wash not only his feet, but his hands and head as well. Choose the name of the disciple from the list below:



Notes from Your Deacons

Your Deacons are Sandy Gaskins, Chairman; Irving Kezar, Betty Jespersen, and new Deacons Edelmira Ruiz and Connie Steger. We meet on the first Monday of each month, except the summer months. However, your Deacons are available to you all year, so please contact us if you have any concerns that need our attention.

We Deacons are focusing just now on assisting the Dea-Con-Go Life committee with the Lenten Dinners and Conversations With God Series led by Pastor Ginger (see p. 3)., and on Easter activities: we will honor our elder or homebound members with a personal visit to deliver Easter baskets filled with items they may enjoy. Also, Deacons will sponsor an Easter egg hunt for the children during Sunday School on Easter Sunday (see p. 12). Watch for notices about when your child's group will be participating, so no one will miss the fun!

We Deacons wish you a blessed Easter season, as we celebrate this most joyous time in our Church's life, and in a Christian's life.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

April 2011 10:30 A.M. SERVICE

April 3 Greeters: Helen Barton, Bob Moore

Ushers: Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues

Janet Stahl Liturgist: Children's Church: Helen Barton

Vanessa & Valerie Cordova Nursery Volunteer: Tellers: Mickey Jespersen, Leo Skinner

Scott Hartless, Lori Glover, Paul Barton Communion Servers:

Mary Huttar, Tom Harmon, Marna Bayless

April 10 Greeters: Lori Glover, Bob Harrison

Ushers: Bob Moore, Eddie Cowand

Liturgist: Dave Bolles Children's Church: Gail Haynes Sharon Ingram Nursery Volunteer:

Lori Glover, Bob Harrison Tellers:

Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz April 17 Greeters:

> Ushers: Albert Teel, Bob Moore

Scott Hartless Liturgist: Children's Church: Lori Glover Nursery Volunteer: Jocelyn Bolles

Tellers: Paul Barton, Tom Harmon

April 24 Greeters: Eddie Cowand, Sharon Ingram

> Ushers: Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues

Helen Barton Liturgist: Children's Church: Anna Murphy Nursery Volunteer: Helen Barton

Tellers: Teresa Reed, Joan Brown

.m.s 21:9 — .m.s 06:01 — .m.q 00:0-06:4 Christian Education Worship Service Youth Group

SOUDAY SCHEDULE

KETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

12 The Epistle

Pre-school and Elementary Spring Activities

Jesus Walks on Water
Linda Simons
Meet our hungry caterpillars
Sunday School ~ March 27 and April 3
at 9:15

Bell Ringer Sunday ~ Marna Bayless Check progress of Caterpillars Children rehearse during Sunday School Play the bells during Worship Service April 10 at 9:15, then 10:30

Palm Sunday Parade skit ~ Connie Steger
 Singing, Palm Branches and Hosannas
 Many activities during Sunday School
 April 17 at 9:15

Easter
Celebration
Marna Bayless



Visit a real Bunny, Butterfly release (if the butterflies are ready!),
Easter Egg Hunt by Deacons during Sunday School
April 24 at 9:15

Story video, interactive play, games and crafts
Learn how the resurrection of Jesus brings new life!