



First Presbyterian Church EPISTLE

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

April 2013

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

543 East Freeman St.
Duncanville, TX 75116
(972) 298-3043
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www.fpcd.org

CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Ginger Hertenstein,
Pastor

Sandy Gaskins,
Administrative
Assistant/Bookkeeper

Steve Netniss,
Youth Pastor

Andrew Dittman,
Choir Director

Deborah Titus,
Accompanist

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Susan Murphy,
Nursery

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From our Elders

Are We Caterpillars or Butterflies?

By Dub Guthrie

I recently received a copy of the book *Forgotten God: Reversing our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit* by Frances Chan. I want to share with you some thoughts I felt were interesting. As most know, the Holy Spirit is the part of our three-part God that dwells within us.

The author states his concern of a trend he saw begin in the 1980's. At this time many churches began to emphasize entertainment in the worship service. Their success is measured by the growth in attendance. He feels a better measure of a church's success is how spirit-filled the congregation is. A church needs a way to change people from an audience into active Christians filled with the Holy Spirit.

The reason some people do not have the Holy Spirit in their life is fear. Some fear that if they ask Him to come in He might not come. This can come from a feeling of unworthiness or be caused by past disappointments. The result is a life lived on the edge of Christianity and instead of its fullness. The Bible tells us we only have to ask and he will come into our life. Others fear that if they ask the Holy Spirit to come in He will. Most of us like to feel we are in control of our lives. If we ask Him and He comes in we won't have control anymore. He may direct us to change our job, to move, or to take on a role that we don't feel qualified to do. Doesn't that sound scary? Too many decide to ask God to be a part of their life not the center of their life. Again this leads to people being on the edge of Christianity.

Our pastor frequently tells us that we go nowhere by accident. Mr. Chan says when we are called somewhere it is not so we can settle in, get comfortable, and live our life in peace. He sent us there to do a job.

Speaking of being comfortable, the author says we are usually closest to God when we are uncomfortable. He gave an example of a group of South Korean missionaries who were captured by the Taliban. A few were killed but most were finally released after a period of time in harsh conditions. Later some of them said that sometimes they have wished they were back in captivity because that was when they were closest to God.

Mr. Chan says he sometimes wonders what a caterpillar thinks. He is living his life as a fat worm crawling on the ground. One day he takes a nap. When he wakes up, he has a small body, beautiful wings, and can fly. The author says this is how we should feel when we turn our life over to the Holy Spirit. Do you want to be a caterpillar or a butterfly?

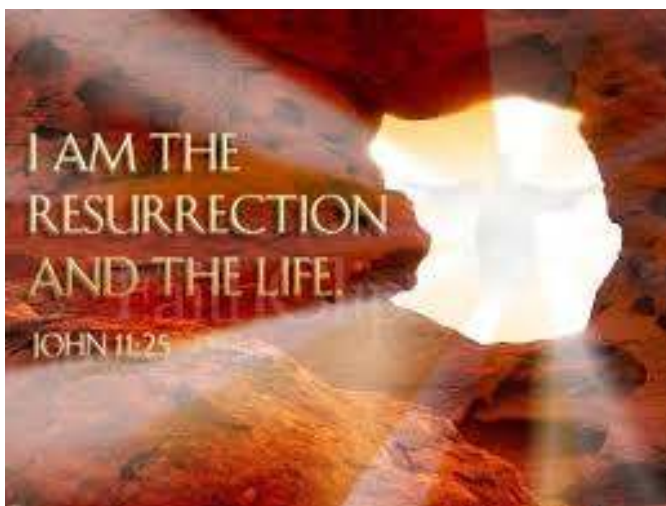


Words from Worship

The Lenten series of Conversations of God, with their telling of stories of Jesus' life with his disciples throughout his ministry—and our own stories of similar experiences we've had with Him over the years—was an extra blessing this season. Thanks to Pastor Ginger, and to Jim and Janet Stahl, and to the many who prepared our good Wednesday evening suppers! These stories of Jesus' conversations with his followers culminated in Holy Week with the children's moving multilingual procession of praise and skit on Palm Sunday, our Maundy Thursday focus on Jesus' last conversation with his followers,



and then on Good Friday, Jesus' "Seven Last Words" from the cross. Thanks to the children, Deborah, our choir, Andrew, and our visiting musicians for these graphic reminders of our Savior's last days and hours before His death! As we move into the vigil of Saturday and the triumph, power, and joy of Resurrection Morning, we anticipate God's Spirit speaking to us, and we pray that we will listen and respond in faith and love.



Missions News



Dear FPCD Family,
Greetings from the (in mid-March!) snowy valley of the ‘Hickengrund.’ It looks more like Christmas than Easter outside, but we are preparing to celebrate Christ’s resurrection nonetheless. We still love living here in Germany. The beauty of the surroundings more than makes up for the sometimes imperfect weather.

At work, David has been encouraged by some recent major accomplishments. He has spent much of the past year on a set of related projects that will help the Wycliffe offices throughout Europe simplify their technology infrastructure, making them more efficient with their limited resources. The projects are now nearing completion. As he finishes, please pray for clear thinking and planning, and for a good understanding of the different pieces of the puzzle he is assembling. You can also pray for him to be wise in balancing his time between responding to immediate calls for computer help and working on the long-term projects.

I (Katherine) wrote you last year about my new role as Prayer Coordinator for the Europe Area. I am struggling with many aspects of that job and feeling discouraged. A conference I’m attending in Slovakia in April will hopefully put me on a better footing to continue with it. Please pray for renewed vision and motivation. Also, pray for David (and the boys) as he takes over all the home responsibilities for the week I am gone.

Both boys are still doing well in school and enjoying their various activities. And they certainly don’t mind all the snow! This fall, Caleb will join Jonathan in secondary school. We are thankful he got a recommendation to the same school, so they can be together and on the same schedule. We thank God every day for his care and blessing of our family.

And we pray this Easter season for you, “that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope God has given to those he called, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.” (from Ephesians 1:18-20)

In His Love,
Katherine, David, Jonathan and Caleb

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

April 2013
10:30 A.M. SERVICE



April 7 Greeters: Eddie Cowand, Sharon Ingram
 Ushers: Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues
 Liturgist: Dave Bolles
 Nursery Volunteer: Darlene Cowand
 Tellers: Paul Barton, Tom Harmon
 Communion Servers: Paul Barton, Anna Murphy, Jack Pegues, Diane Pegues, Bill Jackson, Lois Harmon

April 14 Greeters: Janet Stahl, Jocelyn Bolles
 Ushers: Albert Teel, Eddie Cowand
 Liturgist: Joan Brown
 Nursery Volunteer: Lois Harmon
 Tellers: Teresa Reed, Joan Brown

April 21 Greeters: Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz
 Ushers: Albert Teel, Irving Kezar
 Liturgist: Dub Guthrie
 Nursery Volunteer: Jocelyn Bolles
 Tellers: Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis

April 28 Greeters: Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson
 Ushers: Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues
 Liturgist: Adelmo Ruiz
 Nursery Volunteer: Anna Murphy
 Tellers: Darrell Ingram, Leo Skinner



February 2013

Receipts	Expenditures
\$12,152	\$19,028

JAN-FEB income:	\$56,580
JAN-FEB expenditures:	\$35,850
Total Annual Budget:	\$240,342



Anna Murphy	April 2	Evelyn Walters	April 15
Weston Russell	April 2	Sandy Gaskins	April 16
Bob Harrison	April 7	Andrew Dittman	April 20
Jim Hull	April 8	Leah Jordan	April 20
John Alsop	April 12	Brandon Mullican	April 27
Adelmo Ruiz	April 13		

Lord, teach us to
number our days!

If we've missed your birthday and you would like us to include you in this section of the newsletter, please contact us at (972) 298-3043 or info@fpcd.org. Thank you.

April 2013

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																														
	1 5:15 PM Deacons Meeting 7:30 PM Congo Life Meeting	2 2:00 PM "New Beginnings" Grief Support Small Group	3 6:15 PM Girls Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM Prayer Gathering 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	5	6																																																																																																														
7 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion	8	9	10 6:15 PM Girls Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM Youth Group 6:45 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	11 1:00 PM Agape Women's Fellowship 7:30 PM Sarah Women's Fellowship	12	13 8:00 AM NEW Men's Ministry - Project Duncanville: Helping our Neighbors																																																																																																														
Rev. Ginger at West Coast Pastor's Conference																																																																																																																				
14 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	15 8:30 PM Thinkank Meeting Newsletter Articles Due	16	17 6:15 PM Girls Praise Dance Rehearsal 6:30 PM Youth Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	18	19	20 Presbytery Meeting at FPC Arlington																																																																																																														
21 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM Children's Sunday School Picnic at Cedar Hill State Park (coupled with Poverty Awareness Potluck) EVERYONE IS INVITED	22 Sandwiches for the Homeless	23	24 5:00 PM Youth Group - The Bridge Ministry 6:15 PM Girls Praise Dance Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	25 6:30 PM Session Meeting	26	27																																																																																																														
28 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship PW Spring Bake & Plant Sale	29	30	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Mar 2013</th> <th colspan="7">May 2013</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>				Mar 2013							May 2013							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2				1	2	3	4	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	31												
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Presbyterian Women News

PW Women's Fellowship Groups meet Thursday, April 11. We continue through the 2010-1022 *Horizons Bible study, Journeys through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*. Newcomers are always welcome!

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

Sarah Fellowship meets at **7:30 p.m.** at the home of **Jocelyn Bolles** ~ 619 Athena Way, Duncanville. We will be studying lesson 8.

THE PW PLANT AND BAKE SALE IS COMING !! **APRIL 28**

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. (Hmmm...would you say Zimbabwe is in east, west, or south Africa? Check out your March newsletter, p. 7!)



PRAYER CALENDAR

April 2013

Remember each other in daily prayer.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	FRIDAY	Saturday
	1 David & Katherine Liddle Caleb, Jonathan Larry & Margaret Lewis	2 Darrell & Sharon Ingram Sam & Charlotte Fithian	3 Jamie & Lorraine Cordova Vanessa, Valerie Jimmy, & Jason	4 Kent & Lori Glover Taylor & Charlie Dub & Gwen Guthrie Neal	5 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan	6 Ryan & Marjorie Ochs Colvin & Georgia Jim & Pam Loyd Carol McKinney
7 Dennis & Susan Walters Dale, Evelyn, & Andrew Jim & Janet Stahl	8 Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant Barbara Notari Carol Orwig	9 Tom & Lois Harmon Christy Cowand Brandon Andrew Watts Donna To	10 Steve & Marna Bayless Gary & Linda Simons Rachel	11 Nadine Daum Ariel, Leah & Aeris Dick & Nancy Bergman Malcolm Perrault	12 Eddie & Darlene Cowand Bill & Vangie Jackson Connie Steger	13 Miguel & Fanny Penalosa Eric & Erin McGinnis Ashlee & Michael
14 Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Leo & Marlene Skinner Bob Harrison	15 Mickey & Betty Jaspersen The Buuck's Steve Netniss Pat Sparr	16 David Hertenstein Evelyn Dean & Ginger Hertenstein Gary & Nita Malone	17 Carlos & Caryn Benitez Andrés & Rachelle	18 Irving & Peggy Kezar Angel, Brandon, Cyleigh, Devon, & Elyssa Deborah Titus	19 Burlie Murphy Susan Murphy Anna Murphy Nicholas	20 Bob & Liz Moore Charles Tyer Joan Brown Paul & Claudia Griffith
21 Roy & Wendy Jensen Billie Cowand Boyd Roberts	22 Paul & Helen Barton Ruth Yingst Doris Metzger Dudley Austin	23 Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz Don & Edie Burquest Sheri Trask	24 Evelyn Pike George & Mary Huttar Jim & Andrene Hull	25 Dorothy Cleary T.J. & Eugene Allen & Wanda Shipman	26 Bobby & Teresa Reed Matthew & Rylee The Schaefers	27 Andrew & Ashley Dittman John Winfred Cook
28 Albert & Sara Teel Keith & Gail Haynes Jack & Diane Pegues	29 David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander, Aiden Beau & Blake	30 Scott & Kathleen Hartless J.R. Dave & Jocelyn Bolles				

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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 — 6:30 p.m.