



First Presbyterian Church

EPISTLE

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

Easter News from your Pastor

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

Jeffrey Thorpe
Youth Director

Nyadia Thorpe,
Choir Director

Brittany Tucker,
Accompanist

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Ana Ortiz
Nursery

During the past three months' study of James and the Conversation with God study of each person in "The Prodigal Son," I have learned something significant. Something has jumped out at me in blazing colors, bringing new richness to my faith. The Conversation with God approach is to simply *listen* and allow the Holy Spirit to speak. The approach is not to study so as to gain more knowledge, but to learn by discovery and conversation. As we each bring our life experience to the text and share what we "heard," incredible lessons come out of it and each person is enriched. We are all a vital part; we each have something to offer which, when withheld, handicaps the rest of us. Thus, the congregation limps when you are not involved.

'Why would God want me involved,' you might ask? *You belong.* Both James and the story of the Prodigal have helped us understand that we are all sinners, and yet we are all loved by our Father. We all need to enter into fellowship together without embarrassment—no matter our problems—for *we are all invited.* We are all a part of the family of God. But no one will force you. It is a willing commitment.

James, the brother of Jesus, was

once terribly embarrassed by his preacher brother. He didn't believe in him. He wanted to tell him what to do. But after the resurrection, James so strongly believed in Jesus that he stepped up and put his all into growing in the faith. It paid off. His letter greatly helps us grow in wisdom so that we are able to handle life's curveballs and support one another in the truth when we need a steadying hand.

On the morning of the Resurrection, one of the most memorable statements outside the tomb was what the angels told the women, "He is going ahead of you to Galilee. Go tell his disciples he will see you there." Jesus would be there before them! Whenever you come here, whenever you attempt to be involved, you not only come with other believers, but Jesus is already here ahead of you, waiting for you. Do you share the excitement of those first believers? With fear and **GREAT joy** they ran to meet him. Faith happens in community. Jesus is here, waiting for you. The congregation limps when you are not here. So now, it's Easter. HE IS RISEN! Run to Him.

Pastor Ginger



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Duncanville Community Chorus Presentation

The Living Last Supper

A Dramatic
Musical
Experience



Children's Easter Egg Hunt!

All children, toddlers through Sixth Grade, are invited to Children's Sunday School at 9:15 am and the Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00. There will be designated areas for each class to hunt.

Children should bring an Easter basket.



The Duncanville Community Chorus, invites friends, visitors, and the community to join them at First Presbyterian Church for "The Living Last Supper." Written by Ruth Elaine Schram, the event is a dramatic musical reenactment of the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples the night before his death. This event takes place at 7 p.m. on April 2.

Using Leonardo da Vinci's beloved painting, "The Last Supper," the cantata retells the happenings of Jesus' final dinner, with the characters actually discussing the main question that took place that night: "Is it I who will betray you?"

Under the direction of Choir Director Nyadia Thorpe, the Duncanville Community Chorus, along with a drama team, portrays the story of the last night of Jesus' arrest. Join us as the 12 disciples display very human emotions associated with the story of Jesus' ministry and its impact. Don't miss this powerful presentation. Childcare provided.

About Duncanville Community Chorus

First Presbyterian Church sponsors The Duncanville Community Chorus. This new choral group grew out of an effort to bring the community together for seasonal celebrations in Duncanville. The chorus hopes to expand in the future. If you sing, we would love to have you! We do four performances per year. Rehearsals are held about six weeks prior to each performance on Mondays.

Holy Week Events

Invite your friends and acquaintances to Holy Week activities.

MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7:00 pm – The Living Last Supper
Good Friday, April 3, 7:00 pm

PRAYER WATCH

April 4, 6:00 am – midnight – Sign up in the sanctuary.

EASTER

Youth hosted Sunrise service, 7:00 am on the patio

Pancake breakfast, 7:45 am in Fellowship Hall Sunday School

for all ages & Easter Egg Hunt for children, 9:15 am
(Candy donations needed—please leave in the church office)

Worship Service, 10:30 am



Youth News

As we approach April, we want to remember that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and made it possible for us to enter the New Jerusalem.

We have now been reconnected with our Heavenly Father, who is patient and jealous for us, with a passionate heart. This connection would not have happened unless Jesus was planted here on earth to do the will of God.

We have all been planted here on earth for the Glory of God, to fulfill His purpose for our lives and to help others.

The youth will be hosting the 4th Sundays program. We need all to come out and encourage the youth, for they are working hard and diligently to make this program happen. There will be a band, youth skits and youth doing the children's message. Everyone come and see!

Jeff Thorpe



Sarah Circle

Sarah Circle will be at Jocelyn Bolles's home 619 Athena Way on April 9th at 7:30 pm.

Presbytery sent a notice for the Spring Gatherings in April. These workshops are a good time to find out about next years' Horizon Bible Study,, assembling Presbyterian Disaster Assistance kits, Leadership training, Missions and meeting other women in the Presbytery.

COME TO THE WATERS is the name of the 2015-2016 study.

In this study, we consider the waters of chaos in Genesis, and the River of Life in the last chapter of Revelation, where chaos is no more. Water plays a central role in the stories of creation, the delivery of God's people (through the parting of the Red Sea and the crossing of the Jordan River), judgment of a people weak in faith, and the adoption of the people of God through baptism. Sometimes there is too much water (think Noah) and sometimes there is too little water (think drought in the desert). Together we will explore some of the Bible's 800 references to water. (from the P.W. Innovator).

Details for each of the Gatherings is posted on the P.W. bulletin board across from the church office. Talk about this at your March meeting and if a group would like to go to the one held at Northridge Presbyterian Church in Dallas on April 25, perhaps we could car pool.

Agape Women's Circle

Agape Women's Circle will meet on April 9, 2015 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the church. In lesson 7 we will explore the meaning of 2 Corinthians 8:1-15 and Paul's understanding of fair balance and an economy of grace. All are welcome and need no prior study. Come for friendship, learning and prayer.

Cook's Corner

This week's contribution comes to us from the recipe files of Anna Murphy.

Irish Nachos

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Irish Nachos

Cook Time: 40 Minutes

Serves: 6

Ingredients:

3 large red skinned potatoes, scrubbed and sliced
1 yellow onion, diced
Several tomatoes, washed & diced or well drained canned diced
1 pound ground meat
Salt
Pepper
2 Tbsp olive oil
1 cup cheddar cheese
Pkg Taco seasoning

Directions:

1. In a pan or cookie sheet, line the sliced potatoes making sure to cover as much of the bottom of the pan as possible. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and drizzle with olive oil; bake at 350° for about 35 minutes (or until tender). Once baked remove from oven & set aside.
2. Cook meat using directions of taco seasoning mix package. Once cooked, transfer to top of potatoes, add onions and tomatoes and sprinkle with cheese
3. Put back into the oven for 7 minutes or until the cheese has melted.



FPCD PRAYER CALENDAR

April

*Remember each
other in daily prayer*

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Kent & Lori Glover Taylor & Charlie Sam & Charlotte Fithian	2 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan	3 Jaime & Lorraine Cordova Vanessa, Valerie, Jimmy & Jason	4 Miguel & Fanny Penaloza Susan Murphy Anna Murphy
5 Doris Metzger Carol McKinney Tom & Lois Harmon	6 David Hertenstein & Evelyn Eddie & Darlene Cowand	7 Nadine Daum Ariel, Leah, Aeris & Benjamin	8 Carlos & Caryn Benitez Andrés & Rachelle Keanu Mahlum	9 Winfred Cook Larry & Margaret Lewis, Heather, Erin & Christian	10 Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe Bryan & Caden Jim & Pam Loyd Wanda Shipman	11 David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander, Aiden Beau & Blake
12 Billie Cowand Gary & Nita Malone Barbara Notari	13 Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz	14 Bob Harrison Darrell & Sharon Ingram	15 Gary & Linda Simons Albert & Sara Teel Dick & Nancy Bergman	16 Scott & Kathleen Hartless J.R. Bobby & Teresa Reed Matthew & Rylee	17 Paul & Claudia Griffith Dorothy Cleary	18 Roy & Wendy Jensen The Buuck's George & Mary Huttar
19 Dennis & Susan Walters Dale, Evelyn & Andrew Gary & Candice Morris	20 David & Katherine Liddle Caleb & Jonathan Paul & Helen Barton	21 Eric & Erin McGinnis Ashlee & Michael Mickey & Betty Jespersen	22 Dave & Jocelyn Bolles Pat Sparr Steve & Mama Bayless	23 Jack & Diane Pegues Ruth Yingst Dean & Ginger Hertenstein	24 John Alsop Joan Brown Julia McConnell	25 Charles Tyer Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant
26 Jim & Janet Stahl Donna To Leo & Marlene Skinner	27 Paul & Jen Schaefer Caleb, Micah, Josiah, & Sarah	28 Irving & Peggy Kezar Angel, Brandon, Cyleigh, Devon, & Elyssa	29 Dub & Gwen Guthrie Neal Bill & Vangie Jackson	30 Connie Steger Keith & Gail Haynes Dudley Austin	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Notes:



April 2015

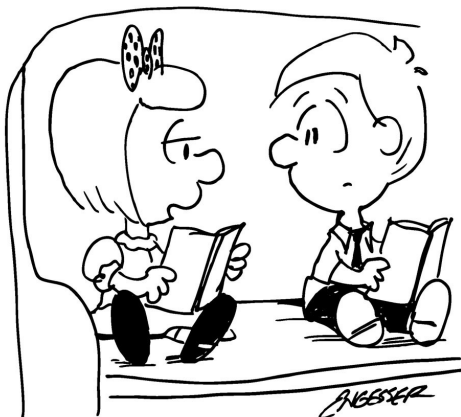
First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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<p>5</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p> <p>6:45 AM Sunrise Service on Patio followed by Pancake Breakfast</p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School (including Easter Egg Hunt for kids)</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship - Communion</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:00 PM Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 PM Youth Group</p> <p>6:45 PM Finance Meeting</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 AM Community Prayer Gathering - Location TBD</p> <p>1:00 PM Agape Women's Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting</p> <p>7:30 PM Sarah Women's Fellowship</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>																																																																																											
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<p>12</p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Guest Speaker Kevin Gandy</p> <p>11:30 AM Lemonade on the Lawn</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>2:00 PM "New Beginnings" Grief Support Small Group</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Newsletter Articles Due</p> <p>6:30 PM Youth Group</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>																																																																																											
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<p>19</p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Guest Speaker Gary Simons</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Help Support Duncanville Outreach — Bring non-parishable items to donate</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 PM Youth Group</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 AM Community Prayer Gathering - Location TBD</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>																																																																																											
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<p>26</p> <p>PW Spring Bake & Plant Sale</p> <p>9:15 AM Sunday School</p> <p>10:30 AM NEW!! 4th Sunday Worship with the Youth</p> <p>11:30 AM Lemonade on the</p> <p>Pastor Ginger</p>	<p>27</p> <p>The Sandwich Project</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30 PM Youth Group</p> <p>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 PM Session Meeting</p>																																																																																													

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE **April 2015**

10:30 A.M. SERVICE

April 5	Greeters:	Darlene Cowand, Anna Murphy
	Ushers:	Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues
	Nursery Volunteer:	Erin McGinnis
	Tellers:	Lori Glover, Brenda Everett
	Communion Servers:	Scott Hartless, Nancy Bergman, Irving Kezar
		Anna Murphy, Adelmo Ruiz, Diane Pegues
April 12	Greeters:	Eddie Cowand, Doris Metzger
	Ushers:	Eddie Cowand, Dub Guthrie
	Nursery Volunteer:	Sydney Russell
	Tellers:	Teresa Reed, Joan Brown
April 19	Greeters:	Vanessa Cordova, Jason Cordova
	Ushers:	Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues
	Nursery Volunteer:	Jocelyn Bolles
	Tellers:	Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis
April 26	Greeters:	Jocelyn Bolles, Janet Stahl
	Ushers:	Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues
	Nursery Volunteer:	Darlene Cowand
	Tellers:	Darrell Ingram, Leo Skinner



"No, Peter Cottontail was not an apostle!"



"I dyed your scrambled eggs for Easter."

April 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.

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



2015 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
February	\$20,832	\$18,785
YTD	\$32,693	\$38,993

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Youth Group
 — 6:00 p.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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