

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

# First Presbyterian Church EPISTLE

July 2011

Vol. 19, No. 7

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

543 East Freeman St.  
Duncanville, TX 75116  
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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

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## **From our Pastor**

Many guests have visited FPCD in recent weeks. You are truly reaching out to the neighborhood and people are coming to worship. Have you chatted with someone new? Or, have you considered inviting them to coffee or taking them out to lunch after church? Your hospitality is contagious; your love of fun a delight. Summertime couldn't be more perfect to let that joy bubble over on our guests.



This year on July 4th perhaps you could invite someone to watch fireworks in the church parking lot. Maybe a group can have a tailgate barbeque? FPCD does food well – better than the best! The choir plans to sing, too. Nothing beats watching the fireworks from the FPCD parking lot, especially with food and music, and it is even more fun when we bring our friends and invite our visitors.

Then, on July 6th we go to Rangers Stadium together to watch the “top of their game” Texas Rangers, another opportunity to take a guest who has visited the church. Most people who visit a church and then settle in, becoming a part of the church, do so because someone in the church reached out to them and included them. That has been true in my life, and I bet most of you would agree.



Summertime. What a wonderful time for being together and making new friends. I hope to see you many times in July, doing just that.

Blessings,

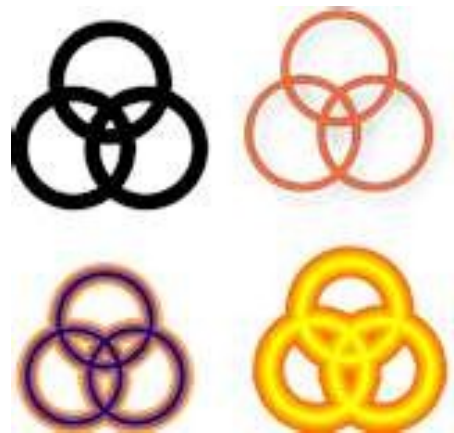


*Ginger*

# Words from Worship

## Symbols of our Faith

The circle, without a beginning or an end, stands for eternity. Three interwoven circles of equal size is a popular symbol of the Trinity. These represent the equality, unity, and eternal nature of each of the three persons of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



## Be a Lively Christian



A man once told a pastor that he wanted to become a member of the church. "But," he said, "I'm very busy, so don't ask me to join a committee, teach a class or sing in the choir. Spare me from anything that would take up my time, and don't be surprised if I'm not in worship very often."

The pastor thought for a moment, then replied, "I believe you're at the wrong church. The church you're looking for is 10 blocks down the street."

The man followed the pastor's directions and soon came to an abandoned, boarded-up church building.

It was a dead church—out of business.

We hope you will:

- Worship with us often
- Join with us in fellowship times
- Volunteer your time working in the office or with our children in Sunday School and Youth activities



May each of us always be alive to the ministry of the Lord's church. Remember that lively Christians make churches that are alive.

## Missions News

We received another letter from the Shaefer's this spring – in April – and though delayed, we will pass on their news to you this month. **Please see bottom of page for prayer request just received (June 21)!**

Dear Friends,

Paul made a visit to Gbenfu today, a remote Safaliba Village, of the people group we serve. He went with two Safaliba co-workers, Amaaliya and Iddi, to launch literacy classes there.



Amaaliya had made several trips to Gbenfu in the previous month in preparation for this, and took Iddi with him on one of the trips. Gbenfu is a small town of several hundred people. There are only a very few Christians there, and their church activity has been very intermittent over the years because it is such an out-of-the-way place that outside pastors and evangelists don't get there regularly.

**Pray** that this literacy outreach will be effective and that the small gathering of Christians will grow once they have and can read the scriptures.

On one of his recent trips to Gbenfu, Amaaliya took copies of the Safaliba scripture booklets published recently: Judges 2 and 13-16 with the story of Samson, and the book of Ruth. According to what he told us, there are about 40 people in Gbenfu who are very eager to start learning to read and who are waiting to meet with us.

We've also been working on the translation of the last bit of Genesis, chapters 1 through 11. Please **pray** as we finish the process of checking through these chapters.

Thank you for praying for our family. We are all doing well\*, and the kids are making good progress on their schoolwork. This past Saturday we, as we often do, took a hike back behind our house to "the big rocks" (granite outcroppings). Everybody was excited to see that the recent rains had left pools of water in which there are now tadpoles and frogs at various stages of development!



Your partners in sharing God's love with the Safaliba people,

*Paul and Jennifer Schaefer*

with Caleb, Micah, Josiah, and Sarah

\*But see prayer request here  
about sickness!

Please **pray** for us as we prepare for Jen and Caleb's trip back to the US next week. There continue to be sicknesses and unexpected events amongst our close friends and among our family as well. We ourselves have all had some sort of intestinal flu, or maybe malaria, over the last 5 days, but are much better now. This week Jen needs to finish reading the books for her course and prepare her notes and first assignment. Caleb needs to take the final exam for his English course and finish up the last lessons in his other courses.

## From Our Youth

The **Dallas Stewpot Mission Trip** is getting closer: July 16-24! Like last year, we will be hosting the Idaho Falls Youth group here at church for the weekend. It would be greatly appreciated if anyone could donate **sleeping bags** and their **homes for showers** for the students of Idaho—that way they will not have to bring sleeping bags with them on the plane.

At our Sunday afternoon meetings we have been learning about relationships and how we encounter them on a daily basis, whether at school, work, or the store. We have been learning these lessons, and then having fun by going swimming at a few of the church members' homes.

If you would like to open your home up for **showers** or donate **sleeping bags** for this year's mission trip, please contact me.

*Steve Netniss*

### BIRTHDAYS



Lord, teach us to number  
our days!

Linda Simons - 7/2	J.R. Hartless - 7/14
Lois Harmon - 7/8	Matthew Reed - 7/14
Caleb Liddle - 7/8	Savannah Baker-Teel - 7/16
Peggy Kezar - 7/10	Neal Guthrie - 7/19
Deborah Titus - 7/11	Mickey Jespersen - 7/19
Larry Lewis - 7/28	

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.

## Bible Quiz

Followers of Christ are meant to be "doers" not bystanders or slackers. The Letter of James in the New Testament tells us, "But be doers of the word and not merely \_\_\_\_\_ who deceive themselves" (James 1:22, NRSV). Fill in the blank using one of the words below.

- A. observers      B. worshipers      C. hearers      D. followers

## WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

July 2011  
10:30 A.M. SERVICE

July 3

**Greeters:** Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson  
**Ushers:** Irving Kezar, Jack Pegues  
**Liturgist:** **Lori Glover**  
**Children's Church:** **Sharon Ingram**  
**Nursery Volunteer:** **Anna Murphy**  
**Tellers:** Teresa Reed, Joan Brown  
**Communion Servers:** **Mickey Jespersen, Lois Harmon, Dave Bolles**  
**Lori Glover, Tom Harmon, and Mary Huttar**



July 10

**Greeters:** Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz  
**Ushers:** Bob Moore, Eddie Cowand  
**Liturgist:** **Scott Hartless**  
**Children's Church:** **Sandy Gaskins**  
**Nursery Volunteer:** **Gail Haynes**  
**Tellers:** Jocelyn Bolles, Margaret Lewis

July 17

Donna To, Wendy Jensen  
**Albert Teel, Bob Moore**  
**Helen Barton**  
**Kathleen Hartless**  
**Sydney Russell**  
Mickey Jespersen, Leo Skinner

July 24

**Greeters:** Gail Haynes, Burle Murphy  
**Ushers:** Dub Guthrie, Jack Pegues  
**Liturgist:** Tom Harmon  
**Children's Church:** **Savannah Baker-Teel**  
**Nursery Volunteer:** **Jocelyn Bolles**

July 31

Mickey & Betty Jespersen  
Eugene Jimmerson, Jack Pegues  
**Joan Brown**  
**Margaret Lewis**  
Helen Barton



May 2010

May 2011

2 May	78	1 May	71
9 May	80	8 May	93
16 May	100+	15 May	88
23 May	103	22 May	91
30 May	79	29 May	96

May 2011

**Receipts**

\$28939

**Expenditures**

\$11023

YTD income:

\* \$95,454

YTD expenditures

\$99,904

Total Annual Budget:

\$218,200

\*This includes memorial giving.

Deficit

**\$4450**







## July 2011

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, Texas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <div> Jun 2011  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 </div> <div> Aug 2011  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 31 </div> </div>					1	2
<b>3</b> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship - Communion 3:00 PM Bible Blast Confirmation Class 6:00 PM Small Group Study	<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Parade <b>Independence Day</b> Join FPCD for FIREWORKS!!! Around Dusk	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00 PM Rangers Baseball Game & Night at the Ball Park 	<b>7</b> 6:30 PM Young Adult Small Group	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 3:00 PM Bible Blast Confirmation Class 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Small Group Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:45 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM Young Adult Small Group	<b>15</b> Newsletter Deadline	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 3:00 PM Bible Blast Confirmation Class 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Small Group Study	<b>18</b> 6:30 PM Leadership Team Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<b>21</b> 6:30 PM Young Adult Small Group 6:30 PM Session Meeting	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
July 16 - 24 Youth Mission Trip at the Stew Pot, Dallas						
<b>24</b> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting 3:00 PM Bible Blast Confirmation Class 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Small Group Study	<b>25</b> Sandwiches for Austin Street Centre 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<b>28</b> 6:30 PM Young Adult Small Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
Pastor Ginger Vacation till Aug. 7						
<b>31</b> 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 3:00 PM Bible Blast Confirmation Class 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Youth 6:00 PM Small Group Study						

# FPCD PRAYER CALENDAR ~ JULY

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

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Christian Education — 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service — 10:30 a.m.  
Youth Group — 4:30-6:00 p.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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## *8 The Epistle*

# Adult Christian Education



On June 19 we started studying Ephesians together, guided by John F MacArthur's book on that encouraging and challenging letter from Paul. Join us Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall (you don't have to have any coffee or doughnuts if you don't want to—**just don't miss Ephesians!**).



## *Presbyterian Women News*

### **Circle Gatherings:**

In both the Agape Circle and the Sarah Circle, we have finished up our 2010-2011 Horizons Bible Study, *Journeys through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*. We resume our monthly circles in **September**, when we will be starting a new study on the Beatitudes, and we encourage all women of the church to be part of one of our circles: Agape Circle meets in the daytime and Sarah Circle meets in the evening.

**All newcomers are welcome!**