



FEBRUARY

First Presbyterian Church EPISTLE

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Ginger Hertenstein,
Pastor

Jennifer Johnson
Administrative Asst

Ross Shipman
Youth Director

Nyadia Thorpe,
Choir Director

Brittany Haywood,
Accompanist

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Ana Ortiz
Nursery

From your Session

Hide it under a bushel? No!

Can you believe February is already here? Time sure does fly. How are you keeping up with your New Year's resolutions? This year I decided to make a few myself ... realistic and simple goals with major ROI. Keeping up with my one year Bible—so far so good! Doing a word of the day—January had adjectives like genteel, Panglossian, and antithetical—it was fun trying to use them throughout the day. Last but certainly not least, I decided to memorize a Bible verse every month, word for word. For the month of January, I decided to learn Matthew 5:14-16 NLT:

“You are the light of the world— like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand where it gives light for everyone in the house. In the same way let your good deeds shine out for all to see,

so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”

The imagery in the first two verses appeal to me emotionally, but the second half of the last verse sort of stumbled me. I just could not understand how my good deeds would bring praise to God. As many of you might know, I'm a manager at a women's jewelry and accessory retailer, and one day one of the sales associates was in shopping with her mother. She introduced us and I let her know what a pleasure it is to work with her daughter, who is very sweet and a hard worker. They both thanked me for my words, and later revisiting my verse, it hit me that I was praising the mother for the daughter's hard work and I could now relate to what the verse is saying!

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Hide it under a bushel? No! *(Continued from previous page)*

The King James' version says it like this: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Both versions remind me of the song we've sung in church that goes: "And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love", because that's what I think the verse is about—illuminating the love of Jesus through our actions. Through what we do and say day by day. Small acts of kindness can have major impacts, and every day brings opportunity to let your light shine.

Last month one of the girls from our impact youth, was sharing about her day at school. Some of the kids at recess were playing a supernatural game where they call on spirits, like using a Ouija board without the actual board, and they invited her to play. She said "no," and let them know they shouldn't play either. She saw it as an opportunity to let them know about Jesus. As she was telling her story she stopped and asked the group "like if you don't know about God or Jesus then who are you?" Ross then told her that they are people still in the dark waiting to learn the Good News and he commended her for shining her light for them to see.

As we enter Lent, I invite you all to reflect on how we let our light shine and I'll leave you with Kari Jobe lyrics:

We are the city on a hill
We are the light of the world
We gotta, we gotta
We gotta let the light shine

Vanessa



Welcome our new Deacons!



Jaime Cordova was born in El Salvador. In 1984, due to the Civil War, he moved to Los Angeles, CA. He married Lorraine on February 22, 1992. They are blessed with four beautiful children Vanessa 1992, Valerie 1994, Jaime II 1999, and Jason 2001. Both Lorraine and Jaime grew up in Catholic homes and started their family the same way.

With a move to Dallas in 2005, Jaime became the IT Manager of Famsa, Inc. Their next door neighbors brought them to this church. Jaime says, "One day, while elections were being held, we could not vote as we were not members. That was the moment when in my heart I knew I was ready to become member and with my family's agreement, we became members of the church."

Darlene Cowand was born in Concord, NC. Her family moved to Duncanville in 1961 and she married Eddie Cowand on October 20, 1973. They have two daughters, Sandy and Christy, who have blessed them with five loving grandsons, Brandon, Alex, Aiden, Beau, and Blake. She works in the Dallas area as an Accounts Payable Specialist. She loves watching movies, reading, working puzzles, and enjoying her grandsons. She is blessed to have a loving husband who is very supportive in all she does, and she looks forward to honoring her church family as a Deacon.





Mardi Gras also called **Shrove Tuesday**, or **Fat Tuesday**, in English, refers to events of the Carnival celebrations, beginning on or after the Christian feasts of the Epiphany (Three Kings Day) and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday. *Mardi Gras* is French for "Fat Tuesday", reflecting the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season.

Related popular practices are associated with Shrovetide celebrations before the fasting and religious obligations associated with the penitential season of Lent. In countries such as the United Kingdom, *Mardi Gras* is also known as Shrove Tuesday, which is derived from the word *shrive*, meaning "confess".*

Join us as we celebrate Shrove "Fat" Tuesday
Tuesday, February 13th at 6:30 p.m.
Pancake Supper
Fellowship Hall

This will be a time for us to prepare ourselves for Lent while enjoying fun and fellowship as we prepare ourselves for Lent

*Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mardi_Gras

For God so lo**V**ed the world
th**A**t he gave his
on**L**y
begott**E**n
So**N**,
tha**T** whoever
bel**I**eves
i**N** him should not perish
but hav**E** everlasting life.

(John 3:16, NKJV)

The Agape Ladies Bible Study group will
hold its next meeting on
February 14 at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall
of the church. They will study Lesson 6 of
the PW/Horizons "Cloud of Witnesses."



FIRST Presbyterian Church

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <div> Jan 2018 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> Mar 2018 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 6:30 PM Worship Planning Mtg	2	3
4 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	5 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting	6	7 5:30 PM Impact Youth Group 6:30 PM The Closet Youth Group 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	8 8:30 AM Community Prayer Gathering at Ben Franklin	9	10
11 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service Congregational Meeting During Worship + Potluck Lunch	12	13 Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner 6 30 PM	14 5:30 PM Impact Youth Group 6:30 PM The Closet Youth Group 6:45 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	15 Newsletter Articles Due!	16	17
18 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	19	20	21 5:30 PM Impact Youth Group 6:30 PM The Closet Youth Group 6:00 PM Dinner followed by AWARE Bible Study 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	22 8:30 AM Community Prayer Gathering at Ben Franklin	23	24
25 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	26 The Sandwich Project Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless	27 6:30 PM Session Meeting	28 5:30 PM Impact Youth Group 6:30 PM The Closet Youth Group 6:00 PM Dinner followed by AWARE Bible Study 7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal			

FPCD ^{monthly} PRAYER CALENDAR

Remember each other in daily Prayer

FEBRUARY 2018

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 Jack & Diane Pegues Dean & Ginger Hertenstein Brittany & Joseph Haywood	2 Charles Tyer Eddie & Brenda Everett Grant	3 Jaime & Lorraine Cordova Vanessa, Valerie, Jimmy & Jason
4 Connie Steger Joan Brown Christy & Brandon Cowand	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 Carol Orwing	8 Scott & Kathleen Hartless J.R. David Hertenstein & Evelyn	9 Bobby & Teresa Reed Matthew & Rylee Pat Sparr Glenn Favors	10 Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe Vincent & Caden Albert Teel
11 David & Sandy Gaskins Alexander, Aiden Beau & Blake Ana Ortiz	12 Miguel & Fanny Penaloza Susan Murphy Anna Murphy	13 Doris Metzger Ross Shipman Clint Benfold	14 Billie Cowand Gary & Nita Malone Barbara Notari	15 Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz	16 Bob Harrison Darrell & Sharon Ingram Julia McConnell	17 Gary & Linda Simons Dick & Nancy Bergman
18 Paul & Claudia Griffith Jennifer Johnson	19 Roy & Wendy Jensen Gary & Candice Morris	20 Dennis & Susan Walters Dale, Evelyn & Andrew	21 Kent & Lori Glover Charlie Sam & Charlotte Fithian	22 David & Katherine Liddle Caleb & Jonathan	23 Sean & Lucy Russell Lucy, Sydney, Logan, Weston, & Tristan	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 Jocelyn Bolles Donna To Steve & Marna Bayless			



Worship Volunteer Schedule February 2018

February 4	Greeters Ushers Tellers End of Service Ministry Communion Servers	Vanessa & Jason Cordova Dub Guthrie & Eddie Cowand Lori Glover & Brenda Everett Sean Russell & Edelmira Ruiz Eugene Jimmerson, Joan Brown, Darrell Ingram, Lori Glover, Dub Guthrie
February 11	Greeters Ushers Tellers End of Service Ministry	Jocelyn Bolles & Janet Stahl Eugene Jimmerson & Irving Kezar Teresa Reed & Joan Brown Anna Murphy & Doris Metzger
February 18	Greeters Ushers Tellers End of Service Ministry	Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz Jack Pegues & Albert Teel Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis Sharon Ingram & Connie Steger
February 25	Greeters Ushers Tellers End of Service Ministry	Youth Youth Darrell Ingram & Anna Murphy Dub Guthrie & Joan Brown

**IN THE BEGINNING
WAS THE WORD,
AND THE WORD
WAS WITH GOD,
AND THE WORD
WAS GOD.**

JOHN 1:1

February 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.

Candice Morris, February 2	Leo Skinner, February 15
Carol McKinney, February 4	Claudia Griffith, February 16
Christy Cowand, February 6	Susan Walters, February 22
Triston Russell, February 8	Nadine Daum, February 23
Helen Barton, February 10	Gary Simons, February 26
Billie Cowand, February 10	Gary Morris, February 28
Paul Griffith, February 12	28



2017 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
December	\$16,962	\$24,976
Jan - Dec 2017	\$244,168*	\$251,913

*\$30,550 for roof fund, \$213,618 for budget

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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