



First Presbyterian Church

EPISTLE

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

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

Jennifer Johnson
Administrative Asst

Ross Shipman
Youth Director

Nyadia Thorpe,
Choir Director

Brittany Haywood
Accompanist

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Ana Ortiz
Nursery

Samuel anointed the king (David) who began the ancestral line of Jesus, the King of kings. But it would be 1,000 years before Jesus arrived. Over the years, many prophets continued to proclaim him, even though they would never fully understand the message God gave them. In the same way, we don't fully understand all the prophecies which are future to us. Yet we wait expectantly. We recognize the life-changing opportunities in Jesus which have already been fulfilled, and even more so within those prophecies to come.

When our choir was asked to sing Handel's *Messiah* in New York City, they were being asked to proclaim the whole history of prophecies of God's plan of redemption through Jesus. In hearing *Messiah* from beginning to end, the overwhelming message is that God's plan was not an accident, but intentionally set, whether we are able to grasp it or not. On Sunday Brittany sang it, "There is a Redeemer, Jesus God's own Son . . ." and indeed there is! He is sent because God loves us. That is not a trite statement, but an entirely costly one.

This Christmas, think about how the fulfillment of those prophecies has affected your life. How does it feel to have Jesus to talk to? How does it matter to be able to turn to him?

What's it like to be guided by the light of Jesus? C. S. Lewis describes his entry into our world like this: He stooped down in order to lift, he must also disappear under the load before he is, incredibly, able to straighten and then he marches with the whole load swaying on his shoulders. Now does that remind you of a prophecy? *"For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"* (Isaiah 9:6).

May you live in the light of redemption, and at the same time, be a light to someone this season, sharing the ongoing prophecies of Christ Jesus. Merry Christmas!

Pastor Ginger



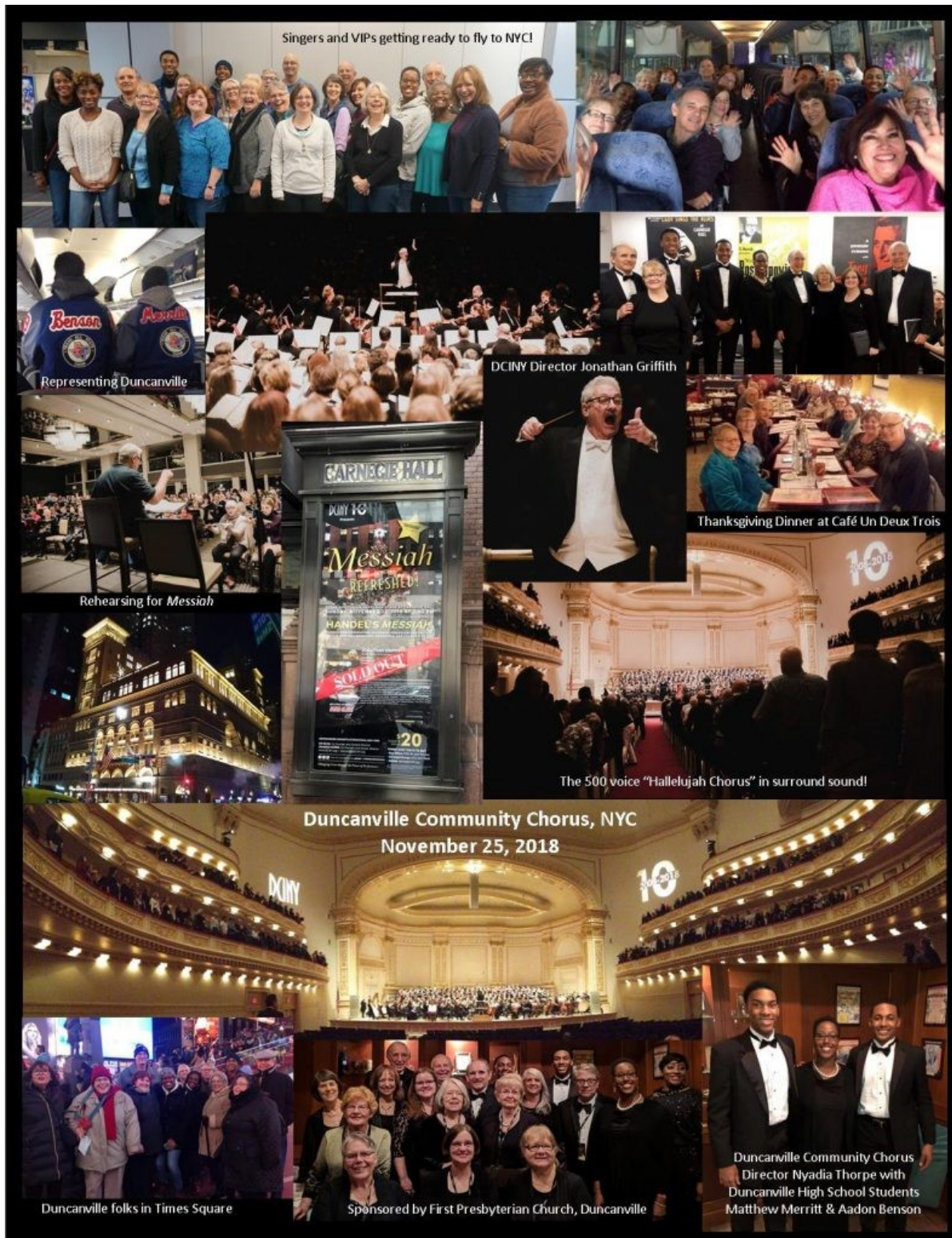
Inside . . .

- 2 - Thank you from the Duncanville Community Chorus
- 3 - Christmas Events Schedule, Women's Bible Study
- 4 - Church Calendar
- 5 - Worship Volunteer Schedule
- 6 - December Birthdays, Finances

Thank You to All Who Made Our Trip Possible!

Our trip to New York and performance at Carnegie Hall with DCINY was one we will never forget. We are extremely grateful to all who gave donations, both monetary and of their time, to make this possible for us. Below are a few pictures shared from our experiences - you can see the excitement on our faces at the beginning as well as at the end of our journey.

Duncanville Community Chorus



FIRST Presbyterian Church *Christmas Events Schedule*

Saturday, Dec. 1

Choir Caroling at Ben Franklin at 1:00 PM

PW Annual Christmas Auction & Dinner at 6:00 PM

Sunday, Dec. 9

Children's Christmas Program at 10:30 AM

Sunday, Dec. 23

Christmas Choir Concert at 10:30 AM

Monday, Dec. 24

Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 PM

Tuesday, Dec. 25

Merry Christmas!



We are partnering with Help to Heal to bring joy to Senior adults this Christmas season. We are collecting soft stuffed animals, blankets, socks with grippers on the soles and gift cards ranging from \$5-\$25. Drop off in our donation box or bring by the church office.

FIRST Presbyterian Church *presents a* *Christmas Choir Concert*

featuring
the FPCD Choir
*singing well-known
Christmas carols along with
some sing-along selections
for audience participation*

RESCHEDULED!

Sunday, December 23, 2018, 10:30 AM
at First Presbyterian Church
543 E. Freeman Street, Duncanville

Childcare provided.

info@fpcd.org | www.fpcd.org | 972.298.3043 | Ginger Hertenstein, Pastor

Women's Bible Study Groups

Thanksgiving Season has come and gone. We are ever so grateful for the abundant blessings our Lord has bestowed upon us. The greatest of these, of course, was the promise of sending his Son, Jesus Christ, whose birth we so joyously celebrate this month. We remember, too, that God promised over and over to be with us, and throughout 2018, we have seen this promise fulfilled in the lives of our FPCD family and friends. The ladies of the Sarah and Agape groups will continue to study this promise at their December meetings. Each will be reading Lesson 4 from *God's Promise: I Am With You* by Amy Poling Sutherlun. The Sarah Circle will hold their next meeting on December 11 at 7:00 pm at the home of Joan Brown. The Agape Circle will meet on December 12 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the church. If you'd like to join them or have any questions, please call Joan Brown (972.742.7997) about the evening group or Connie Steger (972.741.7932) about the afternoon group.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <div> <div>Nov 2018</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>Jan 2019</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> | | | | | | 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 | | 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 | | | 1 1:00 PM Choir Caroling at Ben Franklin PW Annual Christmas Auction & Dinner 6 PM |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 9:15 AM Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Program 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service | 3 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting | 4 | 5 5:30-7:30 PM Youth Groups 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 6 6:30 PM Worship Planning Mtg | 7 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 9:15 AM Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Program 10:30 AM Children's Christmas Program during worship 9:15 AM Sunday School | 10 | 11 7 PM Sarah Circle | 12 1 PM Agape Circle 5:30-7:30 PM Youth Groups 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 13 | 14 | 15 Newsletter Articles Due! | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 3-5 PM Choir Christmas Party | 17 6:30 PM Session/Dacons Christmas Party | 18 | 19 10 AM Finance 5:30 - 8:30 PM Youth Christmas Party 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 20 | 21 | 22 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service & Choir Concert The Sandwich Project -- Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless | 24 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Service | 25 Merry Christmas! | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 10:30 AM Hymn Sing | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Worship Volunteer Schedule December 2018

| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| December 2 | Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery End of Service Ministry Communion Servers | Adelmo & Edelmira Ruiz Dub Guthrie & Eddie Cowand Darrell Ingram & Anna Murphy Anna Murphy Vanessa Cordova & Doris Metzger Irving Kezar, Lori Glover, Adelmo Ruiz, Joan Brown, Dick Bergman |
| December 9 | Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry | Youth Youth Lori Glover & Brenda Everett Jason Cordova Marna Bayless & Connie Steger |
| December 16 | Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry | Leo Skinner & Billie Cowand Jack Pegues & Albert Teel Teresa Reed & Joan Brown Logan Russell Jeff Thorpe & Joan Brown |
| December 23 | Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry | Candice & Gary Morris Eugene Jimmerson & Irving Kezar Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis Candice Morris Jocelyn Bolles & Nancy Bergman |
| December 30 | Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry | Connie Steger & Joan Brown Larry Lewis & Jaime Cordova Darrell Ingram & Anna Murphy Jocelyn Bolles Paul Griffith & Jaime Cordova |

...a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

from Luke 2:11

— 6:00 p.m. Youth Group

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

www.fpcd.org
info@fpcd.org
(972) 298-3043 / (972) 298-5312
DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116
543 EAST FREEMAN STREET
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 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.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Darrell Ingram, December 4 | Darlene Cowand, December 25 |
| Eddie Everett, December 21 | |
| Valerie Cordova, December 22 | Joan Brown, December 26 |
| | Lucy Russell, December 26 |
| Dean Hertenstein, December 22 | Janet Stahl, December 28 |



2018 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

| | Receipts | Expenditures |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| October | \$53,026* | \$24,117** |
| Jan - Oct | \$242,877*** | \$247,573**** |

*\$4,763 for Carnegie Hall Trip, \$48,263 for budget
 **\$2,142 for Carnegie Hall Trip, \$21,975 for budget
 ***\$54,486 for Carnegie Hall Trip, \$188,391 for budget
 ****\$50,141 for Carnegie Hall Trip, \$197,432 for budget