



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

Dameron Growe
Brittany Haywood
Accompanists

Sean Russell,
Sound Room Technician

Ana Ortiz
Liliana Ortiz
Nursery

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From your Session

In John 8:32, Jesus said: "And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

Jesus was speaking of the truth about himself, but isn't it true that knowing and sharing the truth can be freeing in other situations? It can help us put things in perspective. We can discover the things that are most important. The truth is worth pursuing.

As a child I learned, from the catechism, the description of God. The last characteristic listed is truth. Truth is part of who God is.

I remember something I witnessed several years ago, when Steve and I entered a store in a shopping mall. There at the entrance door, perched to pounce, was a window salesman. We saw that he had captured a young couple and their 6-year-old son. They were listening to the sales pitch . . . double pane glass, sound and temperature proofing, breakage resistant (baseballs and hail), available in tinted glass. As he mentioned the last feature a small voice, barely audible, came from the little boy:

"But are they good for looking out?"

The boy spoke up about the important truth for him. He saw through the fluff to that truth. Being able to discard the fluff and find the real truth describes the task of a Christian.

In the Garden of Eden, we find the serpent distracting the residents from enjoying God and their peaceful, beauti-

ful garden. He was spewing untruths. Adam and Eve fell for it. If a small boy had been there, I imagine he would have said the obvious to the serpent, "You don't look like much fun!"

We can hear distracting voices as we try to be faithful in response to God's love and care for us. We are tempted when we don't have proof. We can hear, "It's ok. Everybody's doing it." Or, "People say it's bad for you just to scare you."

We need wisdom and skepticism as we search for truth; wisdom to trust God and skepticism about ourselves as we make choices.

The story in John 8:1-11 begins as the teachers of the law bring a woman caught in adultery to stand in front of Jesus saying, "The law says she should be stoned. What should we do with her?" After a pause for a few moments, Jesus said, "Let anyone of you without sin throw the first stone." One by one, her accusers left. After a time, Jesus asked the woman, "Where are they? Has no one condemned you?" "No one, sir." "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus said. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

Experiencing the truth of God, can set a person free.

Marna



Baby Bottle Project—Celebrating the Ripples

Hello FPCD Family and Friends,

We received a testimony from one of you recently regarding the Baby Bottle project we took on this summer for Prestonwood Pregnancy Center Southwest and got permission to share it with you all.



The Story:

Recently the congregation was asked to take a small baby bottle bank and fill it with funds for Prestonwood Pregnancy Center Southwest (formerly Southwest Pregnancy Center), an agency that gives support for women who find themselves with an unexpected pregnancy but choose to have their baby rather than seek an abortion. A member of FPCD put two of the baby bottles in their office where clients could see them. They felt that God had placed on their heart a desire to make a small monthly donation to the pregnancy center and they wanted to make it available for others as well. A client's assistant came in one day, saw the bottles and asked about them. Our member told the woman what they were for. She shared that she had been an unwed mother at the age of 19 and the small monthly amount the business owner wanted to give was the exact amount of her rent with the housing assistance that she was receiving. She said there were a few months when she didn't even have that small amount to pay and a center helped her. She asked to have one of the bottles and would bring it back when it was time to turn them in.

She returned the bottle with a huge bag of pennies from two young boys in her family. (They wanted to keep the silver coins for their ice cream money, but wanted the pregnancy center to have the rest.)

Another client came to the office and kept the slip of paper that was inside the bottle to pass on to her church to offer the same kind of outreach that FPCD did for the Prestonwood Pregnancy Center Southwest. Perhaps God will put it on her heart to give as well. Who knows?

We wanted to share the ripples that can go out from any kind of ministry outreach. Thank you so much, FPCD, for your heart for others, especially woman who want to give their babies life.

Hope you are encouraged,
Jennifer

There's a Place for You!

Please consider joining one of these ministry opportunities.

FPCD Ministry Opportunities

Adult Ministry

- Teach Adult Sunday School
- Lead a Bible Study

Children & Youth Ministry

- Teach Sunday School
- * Volunteer in Nursery
- * Provide Meals for Youth Groups
- * Volunteer with Youth Groups

Facilities

- Keep tabs on/help re-stock supplies
- * Coordinate building maintenance

Music Ministry

- Join the Choir/Community Chorus

Worship Service

- * Be a Greeter
- * Be an Usher
- * Make/refill Kids worship boxes
- * Coordinate Volunteers

Technology

- * Help run slides
- * Help with social media
- Help with website

Outreach

- * Put together gifts for visitors and make sure they feel welcomed
- * Put together bags for homeless who come to church for help
- Coordinate new outreach projects

An asterisk (*) indicates an area of greatest need.

So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the
good of all...

from Galations 6:10

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
1 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	2 Office Closed for Labor Day 	3	4 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Closet Youth 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	6	7																																																																																				
8 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	9 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting	10 7 PM Sarah Circle 	11 1 PM Agape Circle 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Closet Youth 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal	12	13	14 																																																																																				
15 Newsletter Articles Due! 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 3rd Sunday Potluck	16 6:30 PM Seamless Study at Panera 	17	18 10 AM Finance 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Closet Youth 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal	19	20	21																																																																																				
22 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	23 The Sandwich Project Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless	24	25 5:30 Confirmation 6:30 Closet Youth 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 6:30 PM Session Meeting 	27	28																																																																																				
29 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	30	<div> <div> Aug 2019 <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>31</td></tr> </table> </div> <div> Oct 2019 <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </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	31	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	
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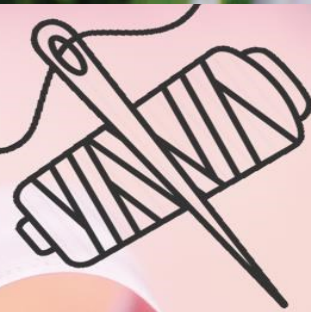
Ladies Bible Study

Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments is the name of the Bible study which will be used by First Presbyterian Church Duncanville Ladies' Bible Study Groups for the coming 2019-2020 year beginning in September. If learning more about this sounds intriguing to you, and you would like to study with a group of women who as friends support, pray and study together, please consider joining either the Sarah Circle which meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. or the Agape Circle which meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm. Contact Joan Brown, 972.742.7997, if you are interested in the evening group, or Connie Steger, 972.741.7932, if you are interested in the afternoon group. All ladies, whether members of the church or not, are invited.

TEEN & LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Seamless

Understanding the Bible as One Complete Story



Meets 3rd Mondays at 6:30 PM
at Panera Bread in Cedar Hill

Meets Monday, September 16

Study for ages 16 and up!

Required Book: "Seamless" by Angie Smith

Book Cost: \$13

Sign up online at:

www.fpcd.org/seamless-bible-study

Or by calling: (972) 298-3043



Worship Volunteer Schedule September 2019

September 1	Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery End of Service Ministry Communion Servers	Leo Skinner & Billie Cowand Jack Pegues Brenda Everett & Linda Simons Jocelyn Bolles Jocelyn Bolles & Nancy Bergman Jack Pegues, Doris Metzger, Jocelyn Bolles, Darrell Ingram, Jeff Thorpe Lorraine Cordova
September 8	Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry	Candice & Gary Morris Eugene Jimmerson & Irving Kezar Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis Doris Metzger Paul Griffith & Dub Guthrie
September 15	Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry	Connie Steger & Joan Brown Dub Guthrie Joan Brown & Teresa Reed Sharon Ingram Sean Russell & Darlene Cowand
September 22	Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry	Youth Youth Lori Glover & Jaime Cordova Jocelyn Bolles Vanessa Cordova & Brenda Everett
September 29	Greeters Ushers Tellers Nursery Volunteer End of Service Ministry	Eugene & Armelia Jimmerson Larry Lewis & Jaime Cordova Brenda Everett & Linda Simons Doris Metzger Marna Bayless & Connie Steger

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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 — 6:00 p.m.

September 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.

Charlotte Fithian, Sept 1	Caden Thorpe, Sept 21
Cyleigh Kezar, Sept 7	Sharon Ingram, Sept 22
Billy Doyle, Sept 8	Beau Gaskins, Sept 26
Ana Ortiz, Sept 11	Aiden Gaskins, Sept 26
Ginger Hertenstein, Sept 14	Marlene Skinner, Sept 26
Jack Pegues, Sept 14	Margaret Lewis, Sept 28
Edelmira Ruiz, Sept 19	Gary Malone, Sept 30
Tori Favors, Sept 20	



2019 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
July	\$35,513	\$30,377
Jan - July	\$154,769	\$154,142