



# First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

**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  
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fax: (972) 298-5312  
info@fpcd.org  
www.fpcd.org

### **Church Staff:**

**Dr. Ginger Hertenstein Conley**  
Pastor

**Jennifer McWilliams**  
Administrative Asst

**Nyadia Thorpe**  
Choir Director

**Dameron Growe**  
**Brittany Haywood**  
**Susan Walters**  
Accompanists

**Sean Russell**  
Sound Room Technician

**Ana Ortiz**  
**Liliana Ortiz**  
Nursery

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### ***From our Session***

## **Finding God in the Chaos**

At around 5:30 in the evening on December 10, 1914, a massive explosion erupted in West Orange, New Jersey. Ten buildings in the legendary inventor Thomas Edison's plant were engulfed in flames. Everything was a total loss. According to Edison's son Charles, he couldn't find his dad. Frantically looking for his father and thinking, where could his father be? He found his father looking at the fire and with excitement he told his son, "Go, find your mother and bring her here! She'll never see a fire like this!"

Wow! As a Christian what would your response be? Remember, there were no computers to back up files of his inventions. There wasn't a cloud to bring back important information. Again, everything was a TOTAL loss.

Around 640 BC, Jeremiah wrote the book Lamentations as he was an eye witness to the destruction of Jerusalem. Seeing his countrymen being taken captive, he was in despair, he was depressed, and he felt hopeless. "My strength and hope have perished from the Lord" (Lam. 3:18).

In the midst of chaos, in the midst of his anguish, Jeremiah does three things that are a good reminder for us today in 2022:

He remembers (Lam. 3:20-24). As his soul sinks, he remembers at the same time the faithfulness of God! Therefore, he finds hope in God!

He waits (Lam. 3:25). He knows the goodness of God and His character, therefore he trusts God to make a way.

He seeks God (Lam. 3:25b). Instead of allowing the pain and his emotions to run amok, he seeks God actively as he waits on God's deliverance.

Back to Thomas Edison. The damage was determined to be a loss of \$900,000 which would equal about \$23 Million in today's dollars. His response was, "We have an opportunity to erase our mistakes and start over." And he did, starting the very next day. Jeremiah in Lamentations, gives a reminder of God's faithful love for His people. "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions they fail not. They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness" (Lam. 3:22, 23).

Yes, even in the midst of chaos, we can find God's abiding presence, which comforts us, and empowers us to walk in victory despite our circumstances!

Speak life and live!

*Roy (Phat Pastor) Watson II*



## An Interview with Roy Watson

Excerpts from FPCD Interviews on Faith, Family, and Friends

*What is one of the most important lessons you've learned in life?*

Roy: If you are a Christian, and you say you trust God, you've got to trust God. That's the hardest thing for me to do, especially when I don't see it happening, or especially when I feel it should go the way I think it should go. I've learned from experience, that when I do things out of God's will, it has consequences, and sometimes those consequences last through your life. And that's just the facts. It doesn't mean God doesn't love me, and it doesn't mean God isn't going to use me, but there are just some things that you do in life that the consequences stay with you.

*On being who you are in church:*

God made us all different. Everybody's not going to raise their hands and shout "Amen!" Just be real. This is God we're worshiping. I love going to church. I spend my whole week on the battlefield of being beat down and tired and worn out. When I come to church, I look forward to seeing people. I want hug on them. This is where I want to be. I'm happy! I'm joyful! I want to get my praise on! I want to sing! I want to clap!

*Can you tell us about a time God answered prayer in your life?*

One of the most amazing stories in my life was when I first got saved. I was in the Infantry (Marine Corp), and we were always training to fight. We went to Bridgeport, CA to train, and you'd think it would be sunny, but it was one of the coldest places I've been to in my life. We had what's called Mountain Warfare Training, where you have to learn how to cross rivers and go from one mountain to another, all out in the elements. It was just cold, I mean cold, cold. I'm from Jersey, and I thought it was cold in Jersey. I'm telling you, it was just madness. We get over the com there's a storm was heading our way. Keep in mind, we're on top of the mountain. There's no way we can get down in time. We had to do the very best we could to cover ourselves because there was no way we could get out of this storm. Now, when you start seeing lieutenants, captains, and colonels being afraid, you know this is serious.

I was scared, and (my friend) Buchanan was with me and he said, "We gotta pray." Me, Buchanan, and Lance Corporal Jenkins went into this little shack to pray. Mind you, I just got saved, so I don't really know how to do this prayer thing. I don't know what happened, but the Holy Spirit came over me, and I took over and I started praying and yelling. I was drenched in sweat, and when we walked outside, it was lit (the sky). The storm, you could see it from a distance....it was gone.

*On Miracles*

I know for a fact that God does miracles. There's been times when me and my wife had no money. We had bills and we had this and we had that. My wife was a stay-at-home mom, and she said, "Roy, it's time for me to go to work". I said, "No, we made a deal that you were going to stay home and help raise the kids while I go out and work". She says, "This is not working, we're getting behind, we're getting in debt". I said, "Vonda, let's just pray, okay? And I promise you, when we get done praying, there's a knock at the door. I go to the door, and all I see is tail lights. So, I don't even know who it was. I look down and there's an envelope full of money, almost the exact amount of what we needed.

I've got plenty of stories like that I've seen firsthand, of what God can do.

# FIRST Presbyterian Church

November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
		1	2	3  6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	4	5  Men's Fellowship 9 AM																																																																																											
6 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service	7 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	8  7 PM Sarah Circle	9  7:00 PM Member Care Meeting	10	11	12  Men's Fellowship 9 AM																																																																																											
13 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service	14 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	15 Newsletter Articles Due!	16	17 4:00 PM Parking Lot Ministry  7:00 PM Session Meeting	18	19  Men's Fellowship 9 AM																																																																																											
20 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Thanksgiving Dinner	21 9 AM - 12 PM Hanging of the Greens	22	23	24  Happy Thanksgiving!	25	26  Men's Fellowship 9 AM																																																																																											
27 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service  1st Sunday of Advent	28 <div>The Sandwich Project  Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless</div> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	29	30	<div>Oct 2022</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></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <div>Dec 2022</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></td><td></td><td>1 2 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>			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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## *Highlighting Christian Education*

### *Kids Classes:*

**Nursery (Ages 0-4)** – Sundays, 9 AM-Noon in the Children's Wing, led by Ana Ortiz.

**Cajón Class (Kids of all ages)** – Sundays, 9:15-9:30 AM, in the Children's Wing, led by Susan Walters. After this, kids will go to their regular age group Sunday School classes.

**Grades K-3** – Sundays, 9:15 AM, join us in the classroom across from the nursery. Class led by Diane Pegues.

**Grades 4-5** – Sundays, 9:15 AM, join us in the Fellowship Hall classroom next to the restrooms. Class led by Linda Simons.

**Youth (Grades 6-12)** – Sundays, 9:15 AM, join us in the Youth Room off the Fellowship Hall. Class led by Jeff Thorpe

### *For Adults:*

**The Basics Class** – Sunday mornings, 9:15 AM, in the Library. The class is currently studying the Old Testament, led by Eddie Cowand

**Fellowship Hall Class** – Sunday mornings, 9:15 AM, join us in the Fellowship Hall for an interactive, inductive Bible Study led on rotation by Darrell Ingram, Dennis Walters, Roy Watson

**Women's Fellowship** – Meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 7:00 PM, in homes. For more info, contact Joan Brown.

**Men's Fellowship** – Saturdays, 9:00-10:30 AM. The group is using the book *The Measure of a Man* by Gene Getz. Breakfast & Book provided. Sign up in narthex! For info, contact Darrell Ingram.

**Sunday Evening Small Group** – Sundays, 6-7:30 PM in the Ingram's home. Dessert Provided. For more info, contact Sharon Ingram.

**Tuesday Evening Small Group** – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, 7:30 PM in the Walter's home. For more info, contact Claudia Griffith.

**Saturday Morning Virtual Group** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 10 AM-Noon, on Zoom. For more info, contact Jennifer McWilliams.

*Start children off on the way they should go,  
and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*



**Worship Volunteer Schedule  
November 2022**

<b>November 6</b>	<b>Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant COMMUNION Servers COMMUNION Preparer</b>	<b>Sharon Ingram Joan Brown &amp; TBD Jimmy Cordova &amp; Diane Pegues Allen Conley Jeff Thorpe &amp; Diane Pegues Jennifer McWilliams</b>
<b>November 13</b>	<b>Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant</b>	<b>Dudley Austin Lori Glover &amp; Jaime Cordova Dennis Walters &amp; Nancy Bergman Jimmy Cordova</b>
<b>November 20</b>	<b>Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant</b>	<b>Jocelyn Bolles Brenda Everett &amp; Linda Simons Jaime Cordova &amp; Darlene Cowand Jennifer McWilliams</b>
<b>November 27</b>	<b>Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant</b>	<b>Connie Steger &amp; Joan Brown Jocelyn Bolles &amp; Margaret Lewis Sean Russell &amp; Brenda Everett Jimmy Cordova</b>

**Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour  
into your lap a good measure—pressed down,  
shaken together, and running over. For by your  
standard of measure it will be measured to you  
in return.”**

*Luke 6:38*




## November 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](mailto:info@fpcd.org).

Thank you.

Scott McWilliams, November 4	Roy Watson, November 14
Teresa Reed, November 6	Charlie Glover, November 15
Dub Guthrie, November 9	Rylee Reed, November 16
David Hertenstein, November 10	Rachelle Benitez, November 25
Armelia Jimmerson, November 11	

		
2022 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE		
	Receipts	Expenditures
September	\$21,533	\$31,277
Jan - Sept	\$186,042	\$230,937

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Christian Education  
Worship Service

— 9:15 a.m.  
— 10:30 a.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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