

First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

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

From our Session

Welcoming vs. Greeting

Growing up, I attended many different Catholic churches in different countries as well as different states here in the U.S., both Spanish-speaking and Englishspeaking.

They all were big churches and some were really big churches and cathedrals, with hundreds of parishioners in a single mass. I found common in all of them that you could be greeted by the end of mass, sometimes by the Priest or Father greeting people as you walk out. Other than that, no one else noticed you had attended a mass. Communication was via announcements and pamphlets. Some of them offered Saturday or Sunday classes, and if you didn't look for them you might not know they were offered. In my 30 plus years as a Catholic, not once did I received a Birthday card, nor a phone call to see how I was doing. No one from the Parish ever asked me how my family was doing.

When I first started visiting First Presbyterian Church of Duncanville it was a completely different story. First off, I was invited very kindly to attend an event or a service. In either case, the congregation made me feel welcome. A lot of people reached out to me to talk to me, to introduce themselves, to ensure I was comfortable. I was invited to potlucks and enjoyed a delicious and varied meals. I was invited to attend Bible study classes, to learn about the Bible, to fellowship. These things that someone might think are insignificant, I tell you these are acts of love, of compassion and they impact with a bang on people. I felt special, I wanted to belong here. Starting with our Pastor Ginger, she made everyone feel special and welcomed. To my surprise I was not the only one feeling this way. I have had the opportunity to hear testimonies from many of you and that is something that comes up every time. Whenever we ask new members why do they want to become members, that always comes up - how they were made to feel special and welcomed.

Greeting. Yes, many churches greet you either when you get there or when you are leaving. One of the definitions of greeting is "a polite word or sign of welcome or recognition" and that is it. On the other hand, the definition of welcoming is "behaving in a polite of friendly way to a guest or new arrival". Keep up the great work FPCD. You do an amazing job of making us newcomers welcome. That work you do has brought and keeps bringing new members to this congregation. I believe this has been done for many years. However, my time is when Pastor Ginger has been here and this behavior is clearly a representation of who she is. Thank you, Pastor Ginger, for everything that you have done for this congregation and for Duncanville. You have blessed so many lives. The way FPCD makes everyone feel welcome is part of your legacy. May God Bless You.

Taíme



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 543 East Freeman St.

FIRST

Duncanville, TX 75116 (972) 298-3043 fax: (972) 298-5312 info@fpcd.org <u>www.fpcd.org</u>

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

Inside ...

- 2 Church Calendar3 Worship Volunteer
- Schedule 4 - February Birthdays,
- Finances



The Epístle 3

Worship Volunteer Schedule February 2023

February 5	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant COMMUNION Servers COMMUNION Prep	Dudley Austin Lori Glover & Jaime Cordova Dennis Walters & Nancy Bergman Allen Conley Dub Guthrie & Lori Glover Jennifer McWilliams
February 12	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant	Jocelyn Bolles Brenda Everett & Linda Simons Jaime Cordova & Darlene Cowand Jimmy Cordova
February 19	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant	Connie Steger & Joan Brown Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis Lori Glover & Brenda Everett Jennifer McWilliams
February 26	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant	Sharon Ingram Joan Brown & Teresa Reed Brittany Haywood & Dudley Austin Jimmy Cordova

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

ROMANS 8:28, NRSV

Christian Education Worship Service

.m.s čľ:9 — .m.s 05:01 —

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

ΚΕΤURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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.

Glenn Favors, February 2 Candice Morris, February 2 Carol McKinney, February 4 Christy Favors, February 6 Triston Russell, February 8 Paul Griffith, February 12 Leo Skinner, February 15 Claudia Griffith, February 16 Lee Austin, February 21 Susan Walters, February 22 Gary Simons, February 26 Gary Morris, February 28



2023 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

 Receipts

 Dec 2022
 \$ 40,593

 Jan - Dec
 \$290,547

\$ 25,407 \$302,944

Expenditures