



# 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  
(972) 298-3043  
fax: (972) 298-5312  
info@fpcd.org  
[www.fpcd.org](http://www.fpcd.org)

### **Church Staff:**

**Rev. Rachael McConnell**  
Pastor and Head of Staff

**Nyadia Thorpe**  
Director of Worship & Music

**Jennifer McWilliams**  
Admin & Media Specialist

**Katherine Hurlin**  
Admin Assistant

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

**Sean Russell**  
Sound Room Technician

**Ana Ortiz**  
**Kira Sewell**  
Nursery

### ***Inside . . .***

- 2 - Lenten Events
- 3 - Church Calendar
- 4 - Puzzle & Humor Page
- 5 - Worship Volunteer Schedule
- 6 - February Birthdays, Finances

### ***From Our Session***

True confession time. How are you doing with those 2024 New Year's resolutions? Are you exercising more? Are you eating healthier? Have you managed to slim down the spare tire at your waistline? Truth be known – the answer may be “not so well”. Resolutions are great and could be life changing, but often only impact our physical life. That begets the question of “How are your 2024 spiritual New Year's resolutions going? Hopefully, your spiritual resolutions are going better than the physical ones may be going. If you neglected to make any spiritual resolutions for 2024, it's not too late!

Take a look at your spiritual health and see what can be improved. Do you need to spend a little more time alone with God? Would a word study on gratitude or hope or confession or faith be a blessing to you in 2024? Perhaps a study on the names of God or on great characters of the Bible would be a special blessing. What about joining one of FPCD's Sunday School classes, small groups,

Presbyterian Women's Sarah Circle or the Men's Fellowships? Maybe you have an idea for our church that could grow our congregation's faith and unity. Have you thought about stepping out of your comfort zone to lead a Sunday School class or to be a part of the Parking Lot Ministry or to help with the new Reed Middle School Teacher Breakroom ministry? I guarantee you that the spiritual resolutions will be **AS** life changing or **MORE** life changing than the physical resolutions.

Please continue your physical health resolutions and also continue or begin your spiritual resolutions, and 2024 will be a blessing to you and to others.

Here's to a physically healthy and spiritually healthy 2024!

*Sharon Ingram, Elder*



## Lenten Events for February

### February 14 Ash Wednesday

7 to 9 AM Drive Thru Prayer & Ashes

4 to 6 PM Drive Thru Ashes

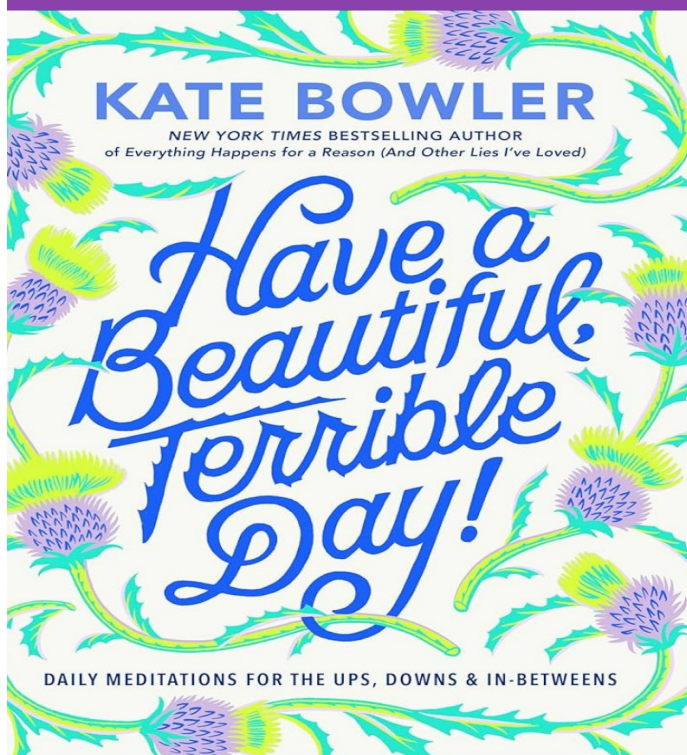
7 PM Ash Wednesday Service

### February 21 to March 27

6 PM Lenten Study Series

## Join Our Lenten Study Series!

Every Wednesday at 6PM,  
from Feb 21 - Mar 27th



Dinner and Discussion start at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall

### Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent!

Lent is full of hard truths. And it is a perfect moment for spiritual honesty. We can look on this tragicomedy with love and bemusement as we wait for the someday that will be God's promised future. There, God's kingdom comes. God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. And in the meantime, there's this . . . our beautiful, terrible days.

This is a devotional for the rest of us—which is to say, the people who don't have magical lives that always work out for the best. As she composed these meditations during a season of chronic pain, Bowler understands how every day can be an obstacle course. She encourages us to develop our capacity to feel the breadth of our experiences. The better we are at identifying our highs and lows, the more resilient we become.

Contact the church office if you would like to order a copy of the book.  
It is available in hardback, Kindle, and Audiobook form.

Together, let's embrace the beauty and challenges of life with God's presence and help.

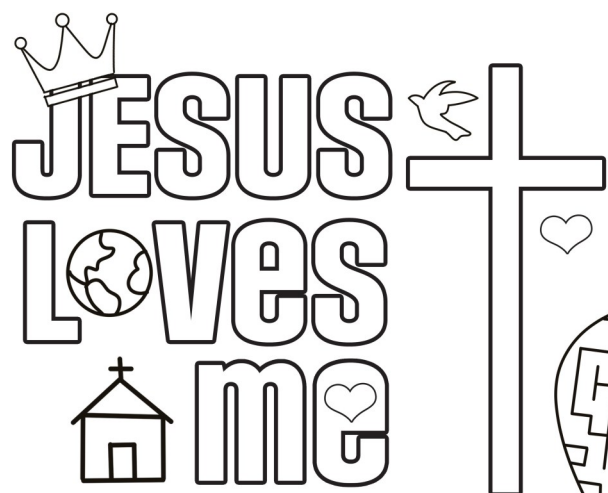


# FIRST Presbyterian Church

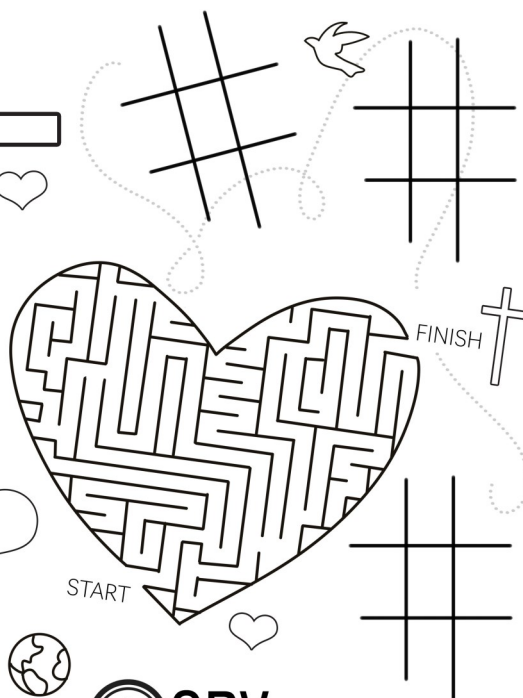
February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																													
<div>Jan 2024</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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></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				<div>Mar 2024</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</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></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							1	2	3
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																																																																																																			
<div></div> <div>Men's Fellowship 9 AM</div>																																																																																																			
4 9:15 AM Sunday School (All Ages) 10:30 AM Worship Service	5 <div></div> <div>10:30 AM Worship Planning Meeting</div>	6	7 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10																																																																																													
11 9:15 AM Sunday School (All Ages) 10:30 AM Worship Service Pancake Celebration (Mardi Gras) youth Sunday	12 <div></div> <div>7:00 PM Member Care Meeting</div>	13 6:30-8:30 Writer's Group Meeting 7 PM Women's Fellowship	14 7-9 AM Drive Thru Prayer & Ashes 4-6 PM Drive Thru Ashes 4:00 PM Parking Lot Ministry 7 PM Ash Wednesday Service	15 Newsletter Articles Due!	16	17 <div></div> <div>Men's Fellowship 9 AM</div>																																																																																													
18 9:15 AM Sunday School (All Ages) 10:30 AM Worship Service 3rd Sunday Potluck	19	20	21 6 PM Lent Bible Study 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	22 <div></div> <div>6:30 PM Session Meeting</div>	23	24																																																																																													
25 9:15 AM Sunday School (All Ages) 10:30 AM Worship Service Annual Meeting after service	26 <div><div>The Sandwich Project</div><div>Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless</div></div>	27	28 6 PM Lent Bible Study 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	29																																																																																															

# Puzzle & Humor Page



REJOICE  
HEART  
LOVE  
FOLLOWS  
ANGEL  
HOPE  
GENTLE  
JESUS  
KIND  
JOY



Find & color the below images on the page



How many hearts can you find on the page?

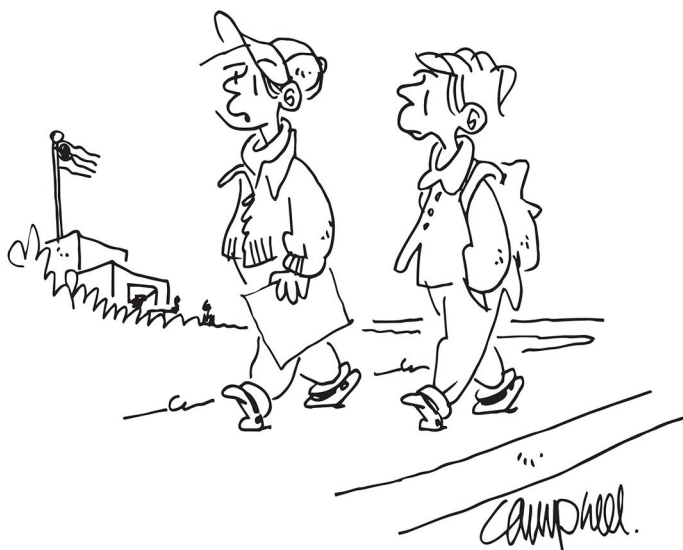
a. 12 b. 14 c. 9

AS THE FATHER HAS  
**LOVED ME,**  
SO HAVE I LOVED YOU.  
NOW REMAIN IN  
**MY LOVE.**

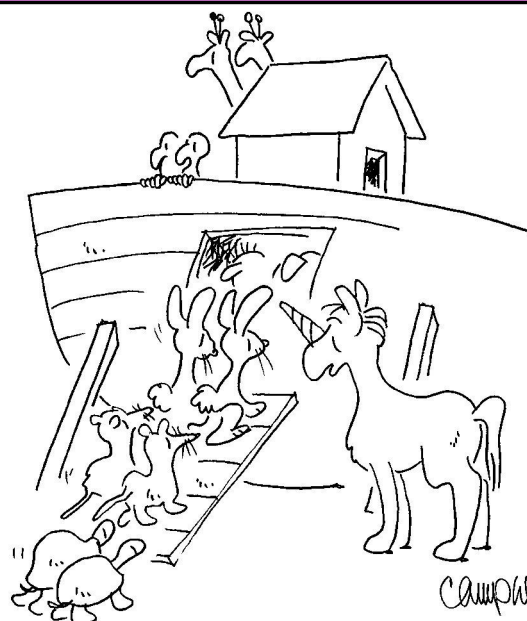
John 15:9, NIV



COLOR THE BOOKMARK  
& THEN CUT IT OUT.



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli.  
If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."



"Be my valentine .... Be my valentine ....  
Be my valentine ...."



## February Volunteer Schedule

**February 4**

Greeter  
Tellers  
End of Service Prayer  
Communion Service  
Communion Preparer

Dudley Austin  
Lori Glover & Jaime Cordova  
Sharon Ingram & Diane Pegues  
Darrell Ingram & Connie Steger  
TBD

**February 11**

Greeter  
Tellers  
End of Service Prayer

Jocelyn Bolles  
Brenda Everett & Linda Simons  
Jimmy Cordova & Nancy Bergman

**February 18**

Greeter  
Tellers  
End of Service Prayer

Connie Steger  
Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis  
Nyadia Thorpe & Darlene Cowand

**February 25**

Greeter  
Tellers  
End of Service Prayer

Sharon Ingram  
Darlene Cowand & Teresa Reed  
Dub Guthrie & Brenda Everett

For God so lo**V**ed the world  
th**A**t He gave His  
on**L**y

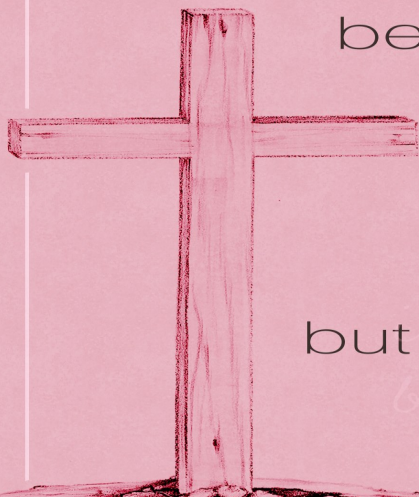
begott**E**n

So**N**,

tha**T** whoever  
belie**V**es

i**N** Him should not perish  
but hav**E** everlasting life.


*John 3:16, NKJV* ♥



## 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](mailto:info@fpcd.org). Thank you.

Glenn Favors, February 2	Claudia Griffith, February 16
Candice Morris, February 2	John "JJ" Barton, February 16
Mawusime Barton, February 3	Lee Austin, February 21
Christy Favors, February 6	Susan Walters, February 22
Greg Jones, February 7	CJ (Claudia) Francis, February 24
Triston Russell, February 8	Gary Simons, February 26
Paul Griffith, February 12	Gary Morris, February 28
Leo Skinner, February 15	

		
2023 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE		
	Receipts	Expenditures
Dec	\$ 29,500	\$ 23,081
Jan - Dec	\$268,900	\$ 268,954

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Christian Education  
Worship Service

— 9:15 a.m.  
— 10:30 a.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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