



First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Stewardship

Of all the things in life that I look forward to the most, writing the letter introducing the start of Stewardship Month at FPCD this year is not one of them. My mind goes completely blank as I try to write this and all of my clever insights fly away. I think the reason is because for me the definition of giving is so hard to define when taking into consideration all of the words like tithes, first fruits, cheerful giving and trying to mix in servant giving that shows care and compassion. All of this can sometimes seem like just so much church speak that I am not sure what I have just said. Luckily, Peter reminds us to be prepared to explain our faith so I'll try to give it shot by talking about my thoughts of some of the above referenced terms.

Tithing- This is one that seems to be more prevalent in Old Testament scriptures. Abraham gave a tithe, ten per cent, to Melchizedek. God later instructed His people to give ten per cent of their production each year.

First Fruits- This is the first and best of your production. It is the amount that was given and in return the base for your blessings.

Cheerful giving- This seems to be primarily talked about in the New Testament and is an example of what you cheerfully give. Christ points to the fact that each of us should give according to what he or she wants to

and can give. At the same time, He also warns that whoever sows sparingly reaps sparingly.

Servant giving- This is one that I coined myself as a play on 'love your neighbor as yourself.' It is how we show care and compassion for our fellow man through all of our actions. Christ tells us the times we do for others, we do for Him.

Now, what does all of that mean with regards to Stewardship Month? Well, to me, it seems that at Stewardship time, we are asked, no, challenged, to look within ourselves and take an accounting of what we want to give back. This thought seems so foreign in our world today.

For me, this time is when I truly try to find out who I am. It is the time that I ask what do I have and, realistically, how did I get any or all of it. I have to admit that what I have has to be a gift from a very benevolent God. I was always taken by the story of the manna in the desert when God instructed the Israelites to take only one day's needs at a time except for the Sabbath. This reminded them to daily depend upon God. I have tried to maintain this thought in just about everything that I do. Not only has God provided, but I have learned that dependence on Him lightens my daily burdens.

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Early in my accounting practice, things were not exactly robust. One time, I knew that my mortgage payment was past due and would be counted late if I could not make the payment by the end of the following week. I felt that I had nowhere to go so I called good old mom. I told her the amount that I needed. She said fine and that she would be right over. I was completely relieved and as she walked up the steps I couldn't wait to get my hands on that check. The check she gave me was for exactly ten percent of what I needed to pay the mortgage. You can imagine the empty feeling I had when I looked at the check. Mom asked me to kneel with her and pray and told me to give this money to FPCD the next Sunday morning. Thinking what the heck, I did just that. By the next week, enough money had come in to pay the mortgage, but more importantly my life was totally transformed.

So, what is Stewardship? It is the opportunity for me to show God and remind myself of my love and devotion to Him. Is my offering a few loose coins or bills each week from my pocket, or is it the core of my life that demands that I show the same love for Him that He has for me?

Darrell Ingram



Scam Avoidance Workshop

Join us Wednesday, November 12 & 19 at 6:00 PM for a two-part Scam Avoidance Workshop, and learn how you spot scams and how to avoid them.

Dinner will be provided, so please let us know you will be joining so we have enough! Contact Brenda Everett or Jocelyn Bolles.

Protect Yourself From Fraud



Church Thanksgiving Dinner

The church Thanksgiving Dinner will be on Sunday, November 23, 2025, at 6 PM.

We will provide turkey, rolls and beverages. We need you to bring side dishes and desserts! Sign up in the narthex with your name, what you will bring and how many folks will be with you. It's going to be a great time of expressing our thankfulness to God for all the blessings He's given us this year, especially our fellowship with one another.

2025 PW Christmas Auction Online

It's time again for our annual Christmas Auction online. We hope you will continue to support our endeavor by either donating items to auction or bidding on the items presented. Auction will begin on Tuesday, December 3 and close on Sunday, December 14 at midnight. Winners (highest bidder) may pick up their items from the church beginning Monday, December 15 and thereafter. Where feasible, auction items will be displayed in Fellowship Hall during this time period so that you may come and peruse in case you want a first-hand look!

If you have an item or items to donate for auction, please let us know (email the church office at info@fpcd.org) as soon as possible so that we have everything in place before the auction begins. Items can be handmade, home-baked, store-bought, brand new or gently used. Gift certificates are welcome as well. Please bring your items to the church office by December 1. If you are offering a service (washing windows, for instance, or baking an item), a card with the appropriate information will suffice. Please also provide a photograph of your item via email if possible. You may include an opening bid if you so desire.

Folks, **remember this is a fundraiser**. PW supports a number of wonderful charities including the following:

- Heifer International
- PW National Mission USA
- Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville TX
- Bridges Safe House, Cedar Hill TX
- Duncanville Outreach Ministry
- Mission of Good Shepherd Children's Home, Belize
- And, of course FPCD!

Thanks for your support.
Jocelyn Bolles for PW

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DUNCANVILLE
CALENDAR

November 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1 9AM Men's Fellowship
2 9:15 AM Sunday School, Choir Reh. 10:30 AM Worship Service, 12:15 PM Worship Planning	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Youth Sunday 12:15 PM Choir Reh.	10	11 7:00 PM Sarah Circle @ Diane Pegues's home	12 Scam Avoidance Worship @ 6 PM	13	14 Newsletter articles for December due!	15 9AM Men's Fellowship 6:30 Prayer Night at the Thorpe's
16 9:15 AM Sunday School, Choir Reh. 10:30 AM Worship Service Session Meeting after church	17 7:00 PM MCT	18	19 Scam Avoidance Worship @ 6 PM	20 3:45 PM Parking Lot Ministry (PLM)	21	22
23 9:15 AM Sunday School, Choir Reh. 10:30 AM Worship Service; GF The Stahls Thanksgiving Dinner 6PM	24 Sandwiches Due!	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:15 AM Sunday School, Choir Reh. 10:30 AM Worship Service						

**As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another,
as good stewards of God's varied grace.**

Special Anniversaries in December 2025

Linda and Gary Simons will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on December 25!! They would like to invite the congregation to be their guests and celebrate along with them at a catered luncheon in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, December 21**, immediately following the worship service. This luncheon will take the place of our usual "Third Sunday Potluck".

First Presbyterian Church, Duncanville, also celebrates a milestone in its history in December, celebrating our 60th anniversary.

Organization of "The Presbyterian Church of Duncanville TX" (original name) took place by formal action of the Presbytery of Trinity (now Grace Presbytery) on December 12, 1965. By-laws were presented and adopted at that time and the first meeting of Session was held on December 29, 1965.

We will celebrate both of these special anniversaries together at the luncheon on December 21, 2025.

November Volunteer Schedule

Nov 2	Greeter	Jocelyn Bolles
	Tellers	Jaime Cordova & Volunteer needed
	End of Service Prayer	Jimmy Cordova & Brenda Everett
	Communion Service	Jimmy Cordova & Nancy Bergman
	Communion Preparer	Teresa Reed
	Liturgist	TBD
Nov 9	Greeter	Connie Steger
	Tellers	Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis
	End of Service Prayer	Nyadia Thorpe & Connie Steger
	Liturgist	Youth
Nov 16	Greeter	Sharon Ingram
	Tellers	Brenda Everett & Linda Simons
	End of Service Prayer	Dub Guthrie & Nancy Bergman
	Liturgist	TBD
Nov 23	Greeter	Dudley Austin
	Tellers	Darlene Cowand & Teresa Reed
	End of Service Prayer	Sharon Ingram & Darlene Cowand
	Liturgist	TBD

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to Him and praise His
name.

Psalm 100:4 (NIV)

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. Thank you.

- Scott McWilliams, November 4
- Teresa Reed, November 6
- Dub Guthrie, November 9
- Thomas Bibeau, November 9
- Rylee Reed, November 16
- Clara Barton, November 17
- Willie McConnell, November 23
- Rachelle Benitez, November 25
- Stephan Nzoundja, November 28



2025 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
September	\$ 42,704	\$ 18,406
Jan-Aug	\$ 173,277	\$ 192,256