



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

Church Staff:

Rev. Rachael McConnell
Pastor and Head of Staff

Nyadia Thorpe
Director of Worship & Music

Dameron Growe
Brittany Haywood
Susan Walters
Accompanists

Sean Russell
Sound Room Technician
Jaime Cordova
Sound Room Volunteer

Ana Ortiz
Kira Sewell
Nursery

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Advent Message from the Director of Worship & Music

Dear FPCD Family,

Advent arrives like a soft candle in the dark, asking us gently, "What do you fear?" In a world groaning with both global ache and personal heartbreak, we find ourselves waiting — much like God's people of old — for light to break through the cracks. We hold our breath for hope, trusting that God has not forgotten us.

This season reminds us that even when our efforts seem small or unseen, God is moving in quiet, steadfast ways. Like Isaiah naming good news for weary souls and Jesus revealing God's work in unexpected places, we, too, are invited to lift our eyes and notice the subtle signs of grace around us.

Advent also redefines courage. It is not always loud or heroic; often it is a trembling "yes," whispered like Mary's in the stillness. It is Joseph choosing love over fear, protection over pride — reminding us that our callings are

woven together and strengthened in community. We grow braver when we stand with one another.

And in a world where fear often shouts, we join the angels in proclaiming the louder truth: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!" As we cross into a new year, we remember that fear does not get the final word. God's light leads on.

May this Advent fill your spirit with courage, wonder, and hope.

p.s. Don't forget to join us on Sunday, December 28 for a special Brunch Church Service in Fellowship Hall.

Nyadia Thorpe





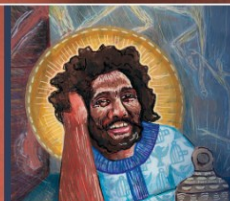
FIRST
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DUNCANVILLE



Insisting on
hope this
Advent

03-07

DEC JAN



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday @ 6pm (not including 24th & 31) join us for a warm meal and an Advent Bible Study lead by Minister Jeff Thorpe. All are welcome to listen and engage with God's word as we prepare our hearts and minds for the King!

05

DEC



MULTI CHOIR CONCERT

Featuring Choirs from Life School Waxahatchie, Everman, Arlington, and First Presbyterian Duncanville, prepare you hearts for the season and receive the joy of Christ through song!

21

DEC



LESSONS & CAROLS

A Special tradition of receiving the Word of God and the Gospel of Christ through familiar songs and stories. Worship begins at 10:30am!

24

DEC



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

The light of Christ shines bright this night! A meaningful service that brings forth praise for the birth of our Savior and our hope for His return!

28

DEC



BRUNCH CHURCH

Fellowship and worship brought together. This Sunday we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for worship around the Brunch table.



What do
you fear?

INSISTING ON HOPE THIS ADVENT

FOR MORE INFO:

972-885-8867

pastor@fpcd.org

WORSHIP 10:30am Sunday

543 E. Freeman St.



FIRST
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CHURCH DUNCANVILLE

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 Friday, December 5 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

Angel Tree Donations

Many children in our area will go without much of a Christmas this year and Duncanville Outreach Ministry is there to help. Each year DOM finds children who are in need and finds out what they want to make their Christmas special. Last year, FPCD provided gifts for 12 area children and has the opportunity to bless another 12-17 children this year.

On the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 30, you will have an opportunity to take an angel from our Angel Tree and make Christmas a lot happier for that child or children that you choose. Please consider picking one of these children to bless:

- ◆ Royalty, 2 years old wants a bike, Bluey and Peppa Pig, she wears size 3/4
- ◆ Edy, 7 years old wants a bike and a tablet, she wears size 7/8
- ◆ Rosaisela, 11 years old wants alphabet and musical toys, she wears size 14
- ◆ Logan, 5 years old wants a talking bird, hot wheels and action figures, he wears size 5
- ◆ Isabel, 12 years old wants makeup, a tablet, Walmart gift cards, she wears small
- ◆ Loey, 12 years old wants a black jacket, black backpack, hairbands and a volleyball, she wears 12/14
- ◆ Alison, 10 years old wants bracelets, blankets, paintings and a bike, she wears adult size 4 and medium
- ◆ Kailey, 4 years old wants a bike, kitchen toys, Paw Patrol, makeup, shoes, she wears size 6T
- ◆ Eduardo, 4 years old wants wood blocks, wood tools, he wears 5T
- ◆ Sophia, 11 years old wants arts and crafts, she wears size 13/14
- ◆ Joseph, 4 years old wants Spiderman, Dr. Seuss books and a tablet, he wears 4T
- ◆ Amanda, 4 months old wants baby stuff, she wears 6 mos.

If you want to bless any of those children, please take their angels from the tree and return the gifts (unwrapped) in a large trash bag **with the angel tree tag** attached to it **by December 15**. Please put your bags of blessings in the narthex.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
DUNCANVILLE
CALENDAR

December 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3 6 PM Advent Bible Study Fellowship Hall	4	5 PW Christmas Auction Begins	6 9AM Men's Fellowship
7 9:15 AM Sunday School, Choir Reh. 10:30 AM Worship Service, Communion 4 PM Session Budget Meeting	8	9 7:00 PM Sarah Circle @ Diane Pegues's home	10 6 PM Advent Bible Study Fellowship Hall	11	12	13
PW Christmas Auction Online >						
14 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Youth Sunday Children's Program PW Christmas Auction Ends at Midnight	15 7:00 PM MCT Newsletter articles for January due!	16 6:00 PM Session/Deacon Christmas Party	17 6 PM Advent Bible Study Fellowship Hall	18 3:45 PM Parking Lot Ministry (PLM)	19	20 9AM Men's Fellowship
21 9:15 AM Sunday School, Choir Reh. 10:30 AM Worship Service, Lessons & Carols 12 PM Anniversary Catered Luncheon	22 Austin St. Sandwiches Due!	23	24 6:30 PM Christmas Eve Service	25	26	27
28 9:15 AM Sunday School, Choir Reh. 10:30 AM Brunch Church in Fellowship Hall	29	30	31			

**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. Since the luncheon will be catered, we need to know if you plan to attend. Please send your **RSVP** to the church email: info@fpcd.org

Thank you.

December Volunteer Schedule

Dec 7	Greeter Tellers End of Service Prayer Communion Service Communion Preparer Liturgist	Connie Steger Brenda Everett & Linda Simons Jimmy Cordova & Connie Steger Dub Guthrie & Sharon Ingram Nancy Bergman TBD
Dec 14	Greeter Tellers End of Service Prayer Liturgist	Sharon Ingram Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis Nyadia Thorpe & Nancy Bergman Youth
Dec 21	Greeter Tellers End of Service Prayer Liturgist	Beau Gaskins Darlene Cowand & Teresa Reed Dub Guthrie & Darlene Cowand TBD
Dec 28	Greeter Tellers End of Service Prayer Liturgist	Dudley Austin Jaime Cordova & Volunteer needed Sharon Ingram & Lee Austin TBD

Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace on earth to those with whom he is
pleased!

Luke 2:14

Christian Education
Worship Service

— 9:15 a.m.
— 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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543 EAST FREEMAN STREET
DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116
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December 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.

Darrell Ingram, December 4	Darlene Cowand, December 25
Josh McConnell, December 8	Christiana Barton, December 25
James Barton, December 14	Lucy Russell, December 26
Caryn Benitez, December 15	Janet Stahl, December 28
Esmond McConnell, December 19	Caris Thorpe, December 29
Eddie Everett, December 21	Kira Sewell, December 29
Valerie Bibeau, December 22	Dameron Growe, December 30
Christian Laurent, December 24	



2025 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
October	\$ 17,297	\$ 20,425
Jan-Aug	\$ 190,574	\$ 212,671