

# FIRSTWORD

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GEORGETOWN, TEXAS

ROOTED. REFORMED. RELEVANT.



February 2018

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## Save the date: March 25!

For more than 20 years the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders have participated in a scripted Seder meal on Palm Sunday. This year we are trying something new. We invite our whole church family to come together for a **Seder Meal on Sunday, March 25**, from 5 - 6:30 p.m. (*Childcare provided for 4 years and younger.*) This special congregational meal is in place of a Maundy Thursday soup supper. The Education/Nurture Committee and Fellowship Committee will join forces and ask for volunteers to ensure this night is one of learning and celebrating as we begin Holy Week together. *We hope you will come. And for more about Passover and Seder see page 4.*

*"Just think, you're here not by chance, but by God's choosing.*

*His hand formed you and made you the person you are.*

*He compares you to no one else – you are one of a kind.*

*You lack nothing that His grace can't give you. He has allowed you to be here at this time in history to fulfill His special purpose for this generation."*

—Roy Lessin

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP

8:30 a.m., Sanctuary

11 a.m., Worship Center-Fellowship Hall

### February 4: "The Gift of Life"

Dr. Thomas Currie Preaching  
Scripture: Isaiah 40:21-31; Mark 1:29-39

### February 11: "Salt and Light"

Dr. Michael Roberts Preaching  
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/Home  
Communion  
Scripture: Matthew 5:13-20

### February 18: "Calming the Storms"

Dr. Michael Roberts Preaching  
First Sunday in Lent  
Scripture: Mark 4:35-41

### February 25: "Taking Up the Cross"

Dr. Michael Roberts Preaching  
Scripture: Mark 8:27-38

*Volunteers needed: Two persons to help set up chairs and stands in the Sanctuary for Service of Wholeness at 11 o'clock occasionally on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. Contact George Biggs, 512-863-2837, or Polly Nelson, 512-422-7229, to volunteer.*



## ANNIVERSARIES

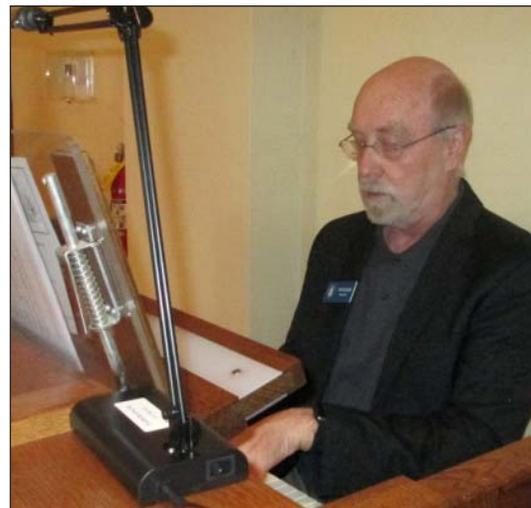
- 2 Keith Brainard & Katie Bradford
- 4 Jason & Radona Wagner
- 14 Ray & Karen Rayburn
- 18 Tim & Peggy Taylor
- 19 David & Jaime Cowan  
Jay & D. Ann Shiffler
- 26 David & Carly Stump
- 28 Emory & Helen Douglass
- 29 Dennis & Terri Borocz

## BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Cindy Shaner  
David Siekmeier  
Joyce Walden
- 3 Juanita Kirby
- 4 Collin Jones  
Parker Littleton  
Amy Pratt  
Tanner Walden
- 5 Ramona Kissner
- 6 Judy Thomson
- 8 Lou Brown
- 10 Kathy Jones
- 11 Addison Castañon  
Dana Hall  
Anne Hoke
- 12 Carole Alsup  
Ruth McEntire  
Carolyn Stubblefield
- 13 Pam Hines  
Cheryl Jenkines
- 14 Jeanine Albers  
Dave Harrison  
Jack Smithwick
- 15 Vivian Davis  
Willie Gibson  
Sarah Hulsey  
Joe Porch  
Christina Unger  
Linda Walke
- 17 Margie Copsey  
Mary A. McKenna
- 18 Chris Spruiell
- 20 Philip Smith
- 21 Marty Brown
- 22 Gail Butler  
Chessa Rizzotto
- 23 Chrystal O'Rourke  
Nancy Robohn  
Judy Turnbull
- 24 Jeremy Bailey  
Bridget Chapman

*(continued on next page)*

## Spotlight on new staff:



## Pianist and organist join FPC staff

CHURCH STAFF WELCOMED TWO NEW members with the new year, Chad Hansen, organist, and Marianna Underwood, pianist, both with years of experience in their fields.

According to Music Director Philip Smith, having both an organist and a pianist, instead of one organist/pianist, opens up a new realm of musical possibilities, including piano and organ duets as well as piano and organ accompaniment on hymns and choral music.

"Chad and Marianna each have experience with both organ and piano. While Chad's focus is organ and Marianna's is piano, each has the ability to substitute and assist each other," he said.

The two also have experience as church music directors. They bring with them a wide repertoire of musical abilities and great possibilities for the church's Music Ministry and worship, Philip pointed out.

Plans call for both to be in each Sunday service, with Marianna focused on accompanying the choirs and playing other piano music. Chad's focus is organ accompaniment for hymns and congregational singing and, as needed, the choirs.

"But from time to time, the congregation may see Chad at the piano bench and Marianna at the organ bench," Philip added, "and they may occasionally substitute for each other. Sandy Hayes, Assistant Organist/Pianist, will substitute for them as well, and she will continue to accompany the youth and children's choirs."

### Marianna Underwood

Marianna and her husband recently moved to this area from Houston for him to start a new job. Since 1992 she has played the organ and piano and directed choirs for several Houston churches. Before that, and after graduating from Southwestern University in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in music, she was instructor in private piano and piano pedagogy at Houston Baptist University until 1992. She also holds a master's degree in music from Texas Woman's University.

When she saw the job listing, Marianna applied because she "wanted to move back to this area, and get back to my Presbyterian roots. I've been working mainly for the Catholic Church, but I was raised Presbyterian."

In addition to teaching private piano lessons, Marianna has directed choirs and

*(continued on page 11)*

## Among Our People



**Boldface** indicates  
a member of First  
Presbyterian Church

**In the hospital last month: Shelby Brainard, Sugie Maxfield, Debbie Pilcher** (surgery), **Jim Root, Sr., Nancy Spivey** and **Helen Trentch** (surgery).

**Thank you:** "Just imagine, on answering a knock at the door two days after Christmas, there stood David Lee, poinsettias in hand, surrounded by smiling FPC youth, each bearing poinsettias for others! Remembering this touching greeting will continue to bring joy long after this holiday season is over!"

—In appreciation, *Joyce Joiner*

**Thank you:** "Dear First Church Family, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the lovely reception and all the kind words on Sunday, January 7. I want to especially thank Ms. Joy and Pastor Mike for helping to make it extra special. The past 18 ½ years have flown by. I have had the privilege and joy of caring for your children. I hope I have been able to teach them how special they are and how much they are loved by Jesus. It has been a wonder watching them grow from the nursery to college. My heart has overflowed with love and happiness in watching them blossom and see the incredible journey God is taking them on. When I started working here neither of my children were married. They have both married and blessed me with six grandchildren between them. I have seen many changes but the one thing that has not changed is the steadfast love of our Lord, the commitment of this church to further His Kingdom and the love the congregation has for each other. I am excited to see what path He will lead me down but know that I will miss First Presbyterian greatly. You will always be in my heart and prayers. As we always close the

prayer in Children's Church each Sunday: 'Bless this Church and ALL who are in it, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.'"

—*In Christ's Love, Suzanne Gumpf*

**Our sympathy to: Ben Butler** on the death of his father, James Butler, January 6. Services were held in Georgia.

**Serving in the military:** Josh Benge, **Sturdy & Tammy Wanemaker's** nephew; Maj. Brian Berlakovich, **Ouida Henderson's** grandson-in-law; Lt. Col. Brian Burk, **Larry Burk's** son; Major Joeff Bartholomay, **Helen Douglass's** grandson; Maj. Josh Daleiden, **Betty Bradford's** grandson-in-law; **John Decker**; Jared A. Gross, **Robert Bedford's** nephew; **Brian Hall**; Capt. Daniel Hammond, **Keith & Sue Renard's** grandson-in-law; **Garrett Herbst**; Lt. Ian Hines, grandson of **Dr. Jake Hines**; Brandon Keith, **Phil & Jeanne Smith's** son-in-law; **Nicolaas Leloux**; Tech. Sgt. Robert McClanahan, grandson of **Minta McIntosh** and nephew of **Lee McIntosh**; **Sgt. 1st Class Paul Rayburn**; Nicholas Stamos, **Larry & Helen Burk's** grandson; and Christian Winckel, grandson of Sandy Hayes.

### Income and Expense Report Year to Date - December 2017 General Operating Fund

	Actual	Annual Budget	YTD% Annual Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Pledges	\$876,865	\$862,463	102%
Other	116,779	11,2264	104%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$993,644</b>	<b>\$974,727</b>	<b>102%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Validated Mission	60,145	59,100	102%
Local/Other Mission	30,399	30,600	99%
Ministry of the Word	159,651	159,581	100%
Program/Support Staff	419,327	421,444	99%
Christian Education	34,822	34,900	100%
Music and Worship	20,229	20,914	97%
Evangelism/Care	8,186	10,360	79%
Property	80,085	90,245	89%
Stewardship/Finance	19,664	21,600	91%
Other Oper Expenses	35,126	43,300	81%
Debt Retirement	90,371	90,370	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$958,005</b>	<b>\$982,414</b>	<b>98%</b>

### BIRTHDAYS

(continued from previous page)

- 25 Jerri Jones  
Austin Moreno  
Ben Pilcher
- 26 Lynn Azuma  
John Ness
- 27 Nolan Pratt  
Courtney Root
- 28 Bob Duncan  
Jim Root, Sr.  
Patrick Tolbert



### Flowers in Worship/ February

- 4 *This could be you!*
- 11 *Thomas & Susan Isenhour*
- 18 *This could be you!*
- 25 *Ray & Karen Rayburn*

### Sign up to provide flowers in worship.

A sign-up sheet is posted outside the church office. As you sign up, remember to indicate whether you will donate your arrangement after the service to be used in the Flower Ministry. Contact either Kathy Jones (512-863-3012) or Betty Smith (512-869-6925).

### Head Deacon/ February

- 8:30 *Mona Andersen  
Susan Bell*
- 11:00 *Susan Bell  
Mona Andersen*

Joy Bedford

Education Director

jbedford2321@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## LOGOS Sunday

*Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!*

*Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!*

*Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!*

*Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!*

*Praise the Lord!*

—Psalm 150:3-6

## Sunday School for Children & Youth:

9:40 - 10:40 a.m.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### March 4: LOGOS Sunday (but not a musical)

Sunday morning March 4 will not be a LOGOS musical, but it will be *LOGOS Sunday*, and LOGOS kids will be worship leaders for both services. The focus of the service will be selections from the book of Psalms. During January and February, the kids are spending LOGOS Worship Arts time studying these psalms and putting them into the worship service. They are rehearsing songs, readings and a little drama. There may be some art: a scene painted with sound, boomwhackers, a ukulele, a trumpet and a marimba. Join them in worship March 4 to *praise God* with Psalm 150, *pray* with Psalm 13, and *be comforted* by Psalm 139.

—Amy Pratt

### LOGOS offers four activities each Wednesday

LOGOS is off and running, with lots of fun plans for the semester ahead! For those who aren't familiar with this program, LOGOS is a mid-week ministry open to preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Every Wednesday night, the kids participate in four activities, offering a "whole child" approach to Christian nurture: Bible Study, Recreation, Family Time (dinner with the church "family") and Worship Arts. The

goal of LOGOS is to bring Christ to children, bridge the gap between church and community, and bridge the gap between children and adults (all while having tons of fun). If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, please contact me at [jcowanfpc@gmail.com](mailto:jcowanfpc@gmail.com). *Remember, you do not need to have a child in the program to help; you need only to love God, and love children!*

—Jaime Cowan

### LOGOS Themes for February

Date	Theme	Attire	Game	Menu
*Feb. 7	5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday (Winter Olympics)	Red/white/blue	Olympic Games	Hot dogs
Feb. 14	Valentines	Red/pink	Valentine Cards	Spaghetti
*Feb. 21	Crazy Sock Night	Crazy socks	Cup Stomp	Baked potato/salad bar
Feb. 28	Dr. Seuss	Dr. Seuss character	Bingo	Pancakes
* Youth join us at dinner				

**Celebrating Passover:** This is from an "Introduction to *A Christian Seder*" by Dennis Bratcher.

Passover is the oldest and most important religious festival in Judaism, commemorating God's deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt and His creation of the Israelite people. It's composed of two festivals, The Feast of Unleavened Bread and Passover. The focal point of Passover is a communal meal, called the Seder (meaning "order" because of the fixed order of service), which is a time of rejoicing and celebration at the deliverance for the Hebrews that God accomplished in the exodus. The Seder involves all members of the family since they all have a Haggadah (Heb: "telling," the printed order of service) and are called to share in reading and singing the story. While the father is usually the leader of the service, others have roles as well, even the children. Passover is really more than a festival. It is an elaborate teaching experience. By using all of the senses, the Passover Seder tells the story of God's grace in history and calls

the participants to experience and share in the story as their own story. Passover becomes more than simply a service or a time; it becomes a way to confess faith in the One who has acted in history, and for Jews, expresses the hope that He will continue to act in bringing deliverance to all people everywhere.

Our goal here in presenting a Christian adaptation of Passover is to retain the theological, confessional and educational dimensions of the service. It is presented as a way for people of Christian faith to express that faith in the context of a gathered community by participating symbolically in the story of salvation. There is a deliberate attempt to preserve the spirit of the Jewish traditions and experience and respect the faith journey of Israelites and Jews across the centuries. For that reason, the Christian dimension will come at the end of the service. After all, that is really how God chose to work in history: to the Jew first, and then also to the rest of us. (For more information go to: <http://www.criovoice.org/seder.html>.)

# Adult Sunday School: 9:40 - 10:40 a.m.

## Adult Elective

### ♦ "Parables"

February 4 - 18, Sanctuary

Dr. Thomas Currie

Three weeks on the parables of Jesus:  
4<sup>th</sup>, The Parables of the Kingdom  
11<sup>th</sup>, The Parables of Judgment  
18<sup>th</sup>, The Parables of Grace

### ♦ "Sunday School Lessons from History (cont'd)"

February 25 - March 18, Room TBD

Dr. Ken Peters

## Surveyors

### ♦ "The Problem of Pain"

Thru February 11, Room 207

Gary Nelon

A six-week series led by Gary Nelon using C.S. Lewis's book, *The Problem of Pain*, well regarded as a Christian classic that deals with pain and a broad array of faith issues.

### ♦ "Pleasing God"

February 18 - March 25, Room 207

Phil Smith

We begin the Christian life with passion and intention of living in such a way as to please God. But we encounter obstacles that present conflicts between what pleases us and what pleases God. In a very real sense the Christian life is a struggle. This six-session class will use R.C. Sproul video clips to guide study and discussions.

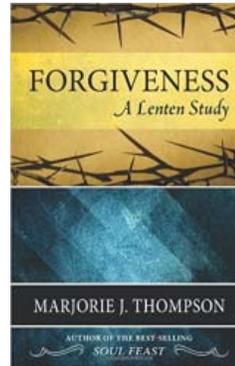
## Homebuilders

### "The Four Tendencies"

Starting February 18, Room 112

Karen Jones

The class wraps up its study of *The Four Tendencies* by Gretchen Rubent, then on February 18 begins *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study* by Marjorie J. Thompson. Using biblical examples and real-life situations, Thompson takes a close look at our understanding of forgiveness.



## Crossroads

### "Wired Word"

Room 107

Amanda & Patrick Tolbert

From Nobel Prize winners and government surveillance to rock and roll, no week is ever the same! The Crossroads class uses stories making headlines to make God's work in our lives more apparent. Each week brings a different discussion topic designed to confront the news with scripture and hope so that we may identify the intersection of faith in our daily lives.

## Stephen Ministry sponsors program on how to support those experiencing loss from suicide



Erin Spalding, LCSW, Program Director of the Christi Center, will offer a presentation at FPC on Monday, February 19, on how to best support those who have experienced a loss due to suicide. The Christi Center is a local nonprofit grief support agency. The presentation at 7 p.m. in Room 101 is sponsored by the Stephen Ministry, but the program is open to all interested persons.

Erin will provide information on what to say (and not say) to those who have experienced the trauma of loss to suicide. There will be time for discussion about the spiritual aspects of loss to suicide and how communities of faith can promote healing through personal understanding and connection.

## Other Educational Opportunities

### Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Meets every third Friday to study and reflect on the scripture readings for the coming Sunday sermon. RSVP to David Lee Hulseley (512-863-3381, [dhulseley63@gmail.com](mailto:dhulseley63@gmail.com)) or Cliff Snyder (512-468-2877, [c\\_rsnyder@yahoo.com](mailto:c_rsnyder@yahoo.com)). Time and place will be e-mailed to you.

### Men's Lunch Bible Study

Meets at 12 noon each Wednesday in Room 107 to study scripture and eat lunch together. The men are studying the book of John, led by Sturdy Wanamaker.

### Ladies Lunch Bible Study

Meets each Wednesday at noon in Room 207 for a "brown bag" lunch and Bible study. On February 7 the women will end their study of *Answering God: The Psalms as Tools for Prayer*, by Eugene Peterson. On February 14 they will begin a study of *John: The Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton.

Call Joy at 512-863-3381 if you would like a book.



**Sunday,  
January 28  
& February 4**

The youth of  
First Presbyterian  
Church will accept  
donations of  
nonperishable food  
items for  
The Caring Place  
and monetary  
donations  
for the  
Presbyterian  
Children's Homes  
and Services

## Church Library News

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Selecting curriculum for Youth Ministry

Something that I have consistently enjoyed in Youth Ministry is Bible study. I love getting to talk with youth about a passage of scripture, a theological theme or how a current issue relates to God's Word. And the neat thing about selecting the material we will cover for a semester is that God always seems to guide/help/reveal to me when I'm selecting the curriculum.

But I'll admit that I was a little worried about the series that God led me to for the start of this semester. *Outreach* from a larger series (*Deep Discipleship*) focuses on such themes as spiritually lost/found, a Christian's burden for the lost, evangelism and God's purpose vs. our preferences. Now I know and agree that we should "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15), but I'll admit that going out and sharing the Gospel is not my strongest gift. And I would bet that most of our youth would say the same about themselves. But maybe most Christians might say that as well.

Evangelism isn't easy for 99.98% of Christians; nor is it comfortable. It takes us out of our comfort zones and puts us in

situations where the chance of conflict is high. What if we say the wrong thing? What if we don't know what to say? What if people make fun of me, criticize me, despise me, hurt me? But if it were only about us, then we'd be doing it for all the wrong reasons.

Regardless, we *are* called to go out, spread the Good News, and make disciples of all nations. . . because of who God is and what He has done for us. And, so, I pray that our youth will gain a deep and rich understanding of *Outreach*, and hopefully I will, too.

—God bless, David Lee

### Youth February Calendar

4	Souper Bowl II
11	G2G: Game On!
14	Ash Wednesday Service
18	Bread Breakers
21	DNOW Kick-Off
23-25	DNOW

### Member donates magazine subscription



Many thanks to member Peggy Currie for donating a new subscription to *The Presbyterian Outlook* magazine to the church library. Asked what she likes about the publication, Peggy said, "In a way the *Outlook* is the glue that holds the church together reporting on the Presbyterian Church globally, nationally and locally — from General Assembly issues and personnel to updates on Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to Mexican Border Outreach to articles entitled "What's Right about My Church" submitted by local congregations. It's a great resource for Christian education, Bible study and Presbyterian Women. It also has wonderful book reviews and editorials. There are event calendars for

Austin Seminary, Mo-Ranch and Montreat as well as listings of CE events, youth events and Next Church Gatherings. I find it educational, informative and spiritually enriching." Current issues of the magazine are found on the wall above the computer in the library. Please be sure to come by and enjoy a good read-through of this valuable resource.

—Monica Koenig

## MISSION

## Meals on Wheels fundraiser set for Saturday, March 3

Meals on Wheels of Georgetown will benefit from a Saturday, March 3, flapjack fundraiser hosted by Applebee's at 350 South IH-35 in Georgetown. Tickets to the event, which runs from 8 to 10 a.m., are \$10 each and may be purchased at the door. Half of each purchased ticket, \$5, goes directly to Meals on Wheels of Georgetown. Previous fundraisers at Applebee's have raised from \$1,200 to \$2,000 for each event.



During the two-hour buffet event, members of 10 Georgetown churches will volunteer their time to greet customers, sell tickets and bus tables.

Please let your friends and neighbors know about this fundraiser and invite them to attend or, better yet, pick them up and bring them with you! Contact Dave or Alison Harrison at 512-388-1812 for tickets or any questions. Please leave a message.



### Needs for this month in the TCP food pantry:

- ♦ Cereals, all types
- ♦ Cake mixes
- ♦ Mustard, ketchup and mayo
- ♦ Canned pastas, beans and soups
- ♦ Canned tomatoes
- ♦ Spaghetti

## Exceeding goal for hunger food drive

Each year The Caring Place sets a goal for the Hunger Free Holidays Food Drive campaign. In 2017, that goal was to collect 200,000 pounds of food. Through an amazing community effort that goal was exceeded.

On January 2, when staff came back to work, David Earl, the Food Pantry and Facilities Director, did the final count. The Food Pantry at The Caring Place collected 208,377 pounds of food from October 1 to December 31, 2017. Part of this food was collected through business, church and individual food drives. A little more than \$32,150 was collected in monetary donations during the campaign time period.

"Through Central Texas Food Bank and H-E-B, we are able to purchase 3.5 pounds of food for every dollar donated, so monetary donations make quite an impact in the Food Pantry," according to David.

How many meals can The Caring Place provide from the campaign? This is enough food for about 173,647.5 meals. The Caring Place provides a 10-day supply of food once a month to families in financial crisis through its Food Pantry.

Each year, the number of individuals served increases according to Executive Director, Ginna O'Connor. She said, "We promote the Hunger Free Holiday Food Drive each year because of the need we see in our community. We are always looking for innovative ways to meet those needs. We are so grateful for the community support we witnessed. Many organizations joined the cause and shared their accomplishments on social media. It was exciting to see their efforts and the fun they were having helping their neighbors."

The Food Pantry is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and until 6 p.m. on Thursdays. The Caring Place Food Pantry is one of four food programs offered by the nonprofit, including Our Daily Bread, Healthy Options Program for the Elderly (HOPE) and Fresh Food For Families.

## Mission Sewing

*Thank you, Polly Nelon, for teaching us how to make plastic yarn, "plarn," recycling plastic grocery bags by using them to crochet water-resistant mats.*

*Around the U.S. and in other countries, children and adults of all ages are working on plarn sleeping mats for people who are homeless.*

*Thank you, Lenice Smithwick and Barbara Caudle, for the stuffed animals and blankets.*

*Thank you, Alison Harrison, for the crocheted baby booties.*

*Thank you, Judy Willett, for the fleece pillow.*

*Our next meeting will be Friday, February 9, at 10 a.m. in Room 111.*



*Plarn plastic mat*

*"Singing in the Rain"*



Many workshops are being offered at the April 6-8 PW Spring Gathering. Most are centered around the theme, "Singing in the Rain." Saturday night's event will be "Praising God in the Storms," and all are encouraged to come in their rain gear, prepared for a storm!

Cost of registration and meals is \$130. Housing for the weekend ranges from \$56 to \$237 depending on the number of women to a room and the building. Several scholarships are available to our church women. Special scholarships for "younger women" (ages 15 - 25) are also available, and scholarships can be combined.

For more information, contact Judy Bond at 512-868-3487 or tazmaniandogs@hotmail.com.

## FELLOWSHIP

### *PW Spring Gathering set for Mo-Ranch*

"Singing in the Rain" is the theme of the April 6-8 PW Spring Gathering at Mo-Ranch. Registration starts February 5 and all women of the church are invited to attend. The Bible verse in support of the theme is Philippians 4:4: "Rejoice in the Lord always!" The Presbyterian Church of Gonzales is host for the gathering, and keynote speaker will be Diana Whitley, its pastor.

Plans are under way for our FPC churchwide spring gathering. We are currently reviewing results of a recent PW survey of our circle members to determine the best day and time for the event. We hope to have a speaker, as many expressed an interest in a program at the event. Some other survey results:

- ♦ Spring and fall were equally preferable seasons for the event, with many saying they would attend an event at both times.
- ♦ Weekdays were the most popular choice for a day, and afternoons the most popular time.
- ♦ Some topics mentioned for a speaker and a program were: reviews of inspirational books and speakers from local charities such as Hope Alliance Crisis Center, our Christmas project designee.

Comments touched on topics such as the importance of circles meeting together once or twice a year to share a meal and participate in a program. More specific information will follow in March's newsletter on both of these upcoming spring events. —Judy Bond, PW Co-moderator

### **Men's dinner is set for Monday, February 19**

Mr. Blaine Bull, Managing Partner of Vianovo management and communication consulting firm, will speak at the Men's Fellowship Dinner Monday, February 19, in the Fellowship Hall.



All men of the church are invited to attend. The meeting begins with conversation and fellowship

followed by a catered meal at 6:30 p.m. and Blaine's presentation at 7.

Early in his career, Blaine worked for former U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen and managed his 1988 re-election campaign, then became Sen. Bentsen's Legislative Director in Washington D.C. Since then, he has been a principal founder of two large consultancy companies. Vianovo has offices in Austin, Dallas, Washington and Mexico City.

The speaker will share his predictions of the mid-term election results and explain the factors behind his predictions. He will also present his thoughts on what will happen on the political scene for the rest of this year.

Contact Marv Hulshizer (512-818-2094 or marv.mcf@suddenlink.net) no later than February 17 to make your meal reservation. Cost of dinner is \$10 per person.

### *February Circle Meetings*

Circle	Date	Time	Hostess	Phone	Address
Elizabeth	2/6	6:30 p.m.	Theresa McKenna	512-930-3751	3601 Brangus Rd.
Esther	2/7	2:00 p.m.	Shirley Nash	512-863-8098	Room 107, Church
Hannah	2/21	11:00 a.m.	Marty Curtis	501-517-3503	Room 112, Church
Lydia	2/14	1:00 p.m.	Wanda Brune	512-819-9595	615 Whispering Wind
Martha	2/21	9:30 a.m.	Kay Cox	512-868-1821	225 Trail of Flowers
Rachel	2/21	9:30 a.m.	Betty Smith	512-869-6925	603 Friendswood Dr.
Ruth	2/12	10:00 a.m.	Jean Fisher	512-868-2793	106 Village Dr.
Sarah	2/19	10:00 a.m.	Susan Poteete	512-863-6303	1711 Shinnecock Hills

## COMPASSIONATE CARE MINISTRY

### *The Church Health Center: Model for Healthy Living*



**FAITH LIFE:** Building a relationship with God, your neighbors and yourself.

**MOVEMENT:** Discovering ways to enjoy physical activity.

**MEDICAL:** Partnering with your healthcare provider to manage your medical care.

**WORK:** Appreciating your skills, talents and gifts.

**EMOTIONAL:** Managing stress and understanding your feelings to better care for yourself.

**NUTRITION:** Making smart food choices and developing healthy eating habits.

**FAMILY & FRIENDS:** Giving and receiving through relationships.

## Points from Parish Nurse Penny

It has now been more than 20 years since this church embraced the concept of parish nursing. The idea of parish nursing is actually a small part of a much larger concept: Jesus cared for not just the spiritual part of people but also for the mind and the body. As followers of Christ, we, too, act as the church to promote and care for the whole person. To be good followers of Christ, we are charged with being good stewards of what God has given us: our minds, our bodies and our spirits.

As you look at the pie chart above, consider using it as a self-assessment to discover where your life is most out of balance. I propose that you work on that particular area for yourself, be it movement, work or any of the other categories. If you would like a copy of this self-assessment tool or would like to talk about your thoughts on it, give me a call Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. I'd like to help!

By the way, the graphic is a tool developed by Church Health. Church Health is a nonprofit in Memphis, Tennessee, and has many parts that promote reclaiming the church's commitment to care for the whole person. One of those parts is the Westburg Institute for Faith Community Nursing. Granger Westburg conceived the idea of parish nursing (now called faith community nursing) in 1985.

**Senior Seminars:** The topic for February 15 is "Is your Stuff Holding You Back from Moving On?" It will meet from 10 - 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary: This free, timely and helpful class is open to everyone in the community, so bring a friend. Please call 512-818-0988 for a reservation so we can have plenty of hand-outs available.

**Support Groups:** Several support groups for caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's or dementia meet in Georgetown on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All of the groups meet once a month. If you or someone you know might need that information, give me a call so I can get you a copy of the schedules.



### *To notify the church office if:*

- You change your physical or mailing address
- You change your e-mail address or add e-mail
- You change your home or cell phone number
- You add a new phone number

### **Save the Date:**

**Right Path Health Screenings nonprofit** will be at FPC on Saturday, May 19. It provides 11 different types of low-cost ultrasound testing for preventative screening. Look for more information in the March and April newsletters.

**RightPath**  
HEALTH SCREENINGS  
*Now you know.*

## Focus on Mission of the church

### Friends in Deed



**An FPC mission project helping members with routine home maintenance**

**Call the Church Office to schedule a visit from one of FPC's Friends in Deed**

### *The Mission Budget:* **How Presbyterian Mission budget is funded**

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is able to do its mission and ministry work thanks to the generous financial support of individual members, congregations such as FPC's, presbyteries and synods. In 2016, this financial support added up to almost \$78 million.

The gifts earmarked for mission make up the church's Basic Mission Support, which has two parts: *shared, or unrestricted gifts*, used wherever needed, and *directed, or restricted gifts*, used only for the purpose or program specified by the donor. Another smaller component of the budget is *per capita*, a way of sharing the costs that equitably belong to the whole Presbyterian community. Each presbytery is responsible for payment of per capita for the current year.

Figures for 2017 were not available by newsletter deadline, but here is what the budget of the Presbyterian Mission Agency looked like for 2016:

- Unrestricted Funds \$16,248,257 (21%)
  - Restricted Funds \$58,579,786 (75%)
  - Per Capita \$3,087,852 (4%)
- Total \$77,915,875**

### **PDA hires senior advisor on hurricane recovery**

As the hurricane season drew to a close, most of the work for the year's storm season had just begun for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), a mission program of the PC(USA). To help in that effort, PDA hired David L. Myers as senior advisor for PDA's hurricane recovery. The hurricane season left PDA with long-term recovery efforts in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico following Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.

Myers served for eight years as director of the Center for Faith-based & Neighborhood Partnerships within the Federal



Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). He was President Barack Obama administration's principal liaison with faith-based groups working in emergency and disaster preparedness, response and recovery. He deployed to more than 20 disasters and emergencies during his tenure. He will now coordinate PDA's community responses to the hurricanes with partners from National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster and the larger ecumenical and interfaith community.

### *PC(USA) News:* **New edition of Book of Common Worship to be released in May**

The *Book of Common Worship (BCW)*, 2018 edition, will be published in three editions this spring after five years of deliberations involving 200 people.

Why the need for a new *BCW*? A changing church needs a worship book that reflects contemporary concerns and offers new liturgies, fresh language and a good deal of flexibility, say the book's editors. The revised *BCW* tries to do that, making room for new ways of being church while staying grounded in the best of Reformed and ecumenical practices.

It has strong continuity with the 1993 edition, but the new edition offers an approach to worship that reflects how the church is continuing to grow and adapt. More and more PC(USA) churches have people who speak multiple languages. The revised *BCW* offers services that allow pastors and other leaders to conduct worship in both English and Spanish.

Three formats will be released this May—a desk edition, a pastoral edition and a daily prayer edition—ensuring that pastors and church leaders have everything they need for a variety of services and circumstances.

## New staff

(continued from page 2)

played the piano and organ for many different genres of church music: children's choirs, teen bands, Spanish choirs and adult English choirs.

"At my very first church where I was the director, I started out with five people in an adult choir and five years later, I took 82 people to Italy on their first international choir tour. Since then I've taken adult and children's choirs to Italy, Greece and the Greek Islands and Turkey on tours both as the director and the pianist/organist. It's quite a joy to watch choir members be so excited about their ministry!"

At one Catholic church, Marianna played for a children's choir and went on tour during which it sang for a Papal Beatification Mass in Rome. At another church she brought the organist for the Pope to Houston for a concert and planned Summer Concert Series at the church.

The new staff member was a solo artist with the Austin Symphony and directed, sang and played keyboards with her own country-western band. She also sang with the Houston First Presbyterian Church A Cappella Singers and was employed as the alto section leader.

### Chad Hansen

Chad is retired from a career in cybersecurity consulting at IBM. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse, with a double major in organ performance and chemistry. He did post-graduate work in pharmaceutical chemistry at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

His career as a church organist actually began at age 11 in his home church in Onalaska, Wisconsin. "I played the prelude for the choir director as he worked with the choir on Sunday morning at Onalaska Methodist Church." For almost six years he played for two services at the church, accompanying the choir and playing for funerals and weddings.

Chad had worked with Philip as a substitute pianist at Pflugerville First United Methodist Church, where Philip was the chancel choir director before being hired at FPC. At the Pflugerville church, Chad had been the choir director and music coordinator before Philip, and he later returned as pianist there. Chad said he was excited to apply for the organist position here "with a very active and vibrant program in a large, growing congregation." He has worked with many different churches and denominations in several states.

Over the years, Chad said, he has learned that he is "not there to perform, but to work within the church service to help provide a musical setting that adds to the service. I've done the great organ works but my mother always told me, 'Remember that there are people like me in the congregation'."

Since 2011, Chad has been accompanist, handbell choir director and organist at Crestview United Methodist Church in Austin. He has also been organist or substitute organist, choir director or other music staff member at Leander United Methodist Church, St. Augustine's Anglican Catholic Church in Pflugerville, Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin, and churches in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

He taught computer science at Austin Community College and was a member of the University of Texas's Computer Science Advisory Board and Round Rock ISD's Vocational Education Advisory Council. For several years he was Placement Director in Austin for the American Guild of Organists and Musical Director for the 3M Austin Chorus.

—Marty Curtis

## Humor

Actual announcements from church bulletins:

- ♦ *Coming Up: Theological Open House. We discuss thought-provoking topics. Your opinions are hardly welcome.*
- ♦ *All singles are invited to join us Friday at 7 p.m. for the annual Christmas Sing-alone."*
- ♦ *Thursday night potluck supper: prayer and medication to follow.*
- ♦ *Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and the community.*
- ♦ *This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.*
- ♦ *The service will close with "Little Drops Of Water." One of the ladies will start quietly, and the rest of the congregation will join in.*

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## FIRSTWORD

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# FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>28</b> Dr. Michael Roberts Preaching Souper Bowl of Caring I 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship-WCFH 5:30pm Annual Congregational Dinner & Meeting 6:30pm Service of Wholeness	<b>29</b> Dr. Michael Roberts on atudy leave through 2/5	<b>30</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting	<b>31</b> Penny Leone on vacation through 2/6 Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief Group 4:45pm LOGOS 5:15pm Youth Choir 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>1</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 7:15pm Jubilation Ringers	<b>2</b> Church Office Closes at Noon	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Dr. Thomas Currie Preaching Souper Bowl of Caring II 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship-WCFH	<b>5</b> Sarah Hulsey on atudy leave through 2/7 11:00am PW Board Meeting	<b>6</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm LOGOS Board Meeting 6:30pm Elizabeth Circle	<b>7</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief Group 2:00pm Esther Circle 4:45pm LOGOS 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>8</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 9:00am P.E.O. Meeting 7:15pm Jubilation Ringers	<b>9</b> Church Office Closes at Noon 10:00am Mission Sewing	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> Communion/Home Communion Dr. Michael Roberts Preaching 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship-WCFH 4:30pm Youth G2G Event 5:00pm Festival of the Arts Concert	<b>12</b> 10:00am Ruth Circle 11:00am P.E.O. Meeting	<b>13</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Newsletter Deadline 6:45pm Executive Committee 7:30pm Committee Meetings	<b>14</b> Ash Wednesday 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief Group 1:00pm Lydia Circle 4:45pm LOGOS 5:15pm Youth Choir 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>15</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:00am Senior Seminar 7:15pm Jubilation Ringers	<b>16</b> Church Office Closes at Noon	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> First Sunday in Lent Dr. Michael Roberts Preaching 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm Youth Bread Breakers	<b>19</b> Church Office Closed- President's Day 10:00am Sarah Circle 5:30pm Stephen Leaders Meeting 6:00pm Men's Fellowship Dinner 7:00pm Stephen Ministry Cont. Education	<b>20</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Diaconate Meeting	<b>21</b> 9:30am Martha Circle 9:30am Rachel Circle 11:00am Hannah Circle 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief Group 4:45pm LOGOS 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 6:30pm DNOW Kick-off 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 7:15pm Jubilation Ringers	<b>23</b> Church Office Closes at Noon DNOW Weekend 11:00am PW Bible Study	<b>24</b> DNOW Weekend 9:00am LOGOS Sunday Rehearsal
<b>25</b> Dr. Michael Roberts Preaching 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 9:40am Youth DNOW Brunch 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm LOGOS set-up 6:30pm Service of Wholeness	<b>26</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Session Meeting	<b>27</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Session Meeting	<b>28</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief Group 4:45pm LOGOS 5:15pm Youth Choir 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 6:30pm Youth Bible Study 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>1</b> 9:00am Treehouse Learning 7:15pm Jubilation Ringers	<b>2</b> Church Office Closes at Noon Presbyterian Meeting, Austin	<b>3</b> Presbyterian Meeting, Austin 9:00am LOGOS Sunday Rehearsal