



March 2019

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ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE March 6 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary

As we begin the Season of Lent in prayer, penitence and reliance on God's grace, you are invited to join us for a special service of scripture, meditation and the imposition of ashes.

A thank you from the PNC

Dear Church Family,
Thank you, thank you, thank you. You never fail to come through for us. The responses we received to the survey and in focus groups are encouraging and inspiring. It is comforting to know that everyone was so open and excited about our future in Christ's church.

The next step is finishing the Ministry Information form, getting it approved by Session and posting it on the PCUSA site. Then we can begin the process of getting candidates.

Your prayers are welcome.

— Your Pastor Nominating Committee

MARCH WORSHIP

8:30 a.m., Sanctuary

11 a.m., Worship Center-Fellowship Hall

Dr. William C. Poe Preaching all month

March 3: LOGOS Musical, "We Like Sheep"

Both services in WC-FH

LOGOS Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 23

March 6: *A Meditation on Ash Wednesday*

Ash Wednesday service

6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

March 10: "Temptations and Choices"

1st Sunday in Lent/Communion

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-11;

Luke 4:1-13

March 17: "Repent?"

Scripture: Philippians 3:17-4:1;

Luke 13:31-35

March 24: "Blood in the Sanctuary"

Scripture: Psalm 32; Luke 13:1-9

March 31: "A Father and Two Sons"

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21;

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32



Meet the FPC Scholarship Singers who will perform with the Elijah choir, page 12.



ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Ann & Jim Hindman
- 7 Becky Hesson-Smith & Tim Smith
- 14 Cathy & Charles Shirley
- 19 Celeste & Sid Frost
- 27 Barbara & Roger Nelson
- 28 Elaine & Jim Caskey
- 31 Denise & Mark Ferguson
Helen & Sam Matthews

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 David Ramsey
Tim Smith
Laniece Thomas
- 2 Doug Kienitz
Susan Moreno
- 3 Inok Downing
- 4 Hudson Kennedy
Emily Kirkpatrick
Libbie Ragan
Jim Wilhite
- 6 Addison Kozak
- 7 Jonathan Leloux
Kelly Miller
Sherralyn St. Clair
- 8 Jennifer Gunn
Kim Peel
Roscoe Seaman
- 9 Ruth Henning
Nancy Stramler
- 10 Rita Snyder
Steve Wilson
- 12 JoJo Hermann
- 14 Yvonne Beverly
Rusty Bristow
- 15 Sherry Beattie
- 16 Zachary Kirkpatrick
- 17 Juliet Lee
Marcia Ness
Sydney Sorenson
- 18 Robert Gowdy
Tricia Osborne
- 20 Joyce Joiner
Travis Walden
- 21 John Eric Elder
- 22 Jean Allison
Glen Kaiser
- 23 George Harwell
David Martin
Ethan Poe
- 24 Cade Basey
Sophie Bedford
Charles Dennis
Judy Hindelang
Kelly Seaman
Jettie Sherrier

(continued on next page)

From the Transitional Pastor's Study

A friend once commented to me that she enjoyed the Season of Advent so much that she wished we could have it twice a year. In one sense, the Season of Lent fulfills her desire. Lent is to Easter what Advent is to Christmas—a time of preparation. The liturgical color of both seasons is purple.

At that point, however, the similarities end. The atmosphere of Lent is radically different from Advent. Since it is in the crucifixion of Jesus that human sin is most clearly revealed, Lent has an atmosphere of humility and repentance, rather than the expectant joy of Advent. In Lent, we walk with Jesus the road that led him to the cross. Jesus walked that road for our sakes, and for our salvation, and we are humbled by such a sacrifice of love. Of course, the triumphant joy of Easter awaits us at the end of this road, but it is important for us to experience the way of the cross together before we get to Easter.

I would like to make some suggestions that may enrich your observance of the season. First of all, and perhaps most important, *make worship a part of your Lenten observance*. Plan to be in worship each Sunday during the season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday, March 6, and culminates on Easter Sunday, April 21. In addition, place these special worship opportunities on your calendar:

♦ **Ash Wednesday evening, March 6**, we will gather in the Sanctuary at 6:30 for a service that will include Scripture, prayer and the Imposition of Ashes.

♦ **The First Sunday in Lent, March 10**, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

♦ **The evenings of March 30 & 31**, our choir and the choir of Wellspring United Methodist Church will jointly present Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

♦ **The Fifth Sunday in Lent, April 7**, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.



♦ **Wednesday, April 10, at 5:30 p.m.**, adults, youth and children will experience the Seder, the Passover meal.

♦ **Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14**, we will remember and celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and take our first step into the week of his Passion.

♦ **Maundy Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m.**, we will gather around the Communion Table in the Sanctuary to share the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

♦ **Good Friday, April 18**, we will gather in the Sanctuary at noon, remembering that Christ was lifted up on the cross as a sign of God's great love for the world. The paradoxical name of the day reflects the paradox of salvation coming through sacrifice and suffering.

♦ **Easter Sunday, April 21, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**, we will gather for glorious and joyful worship on the Lord's Day in the Worship Center-Fellowship Hall to share the glad good news of resurrection!

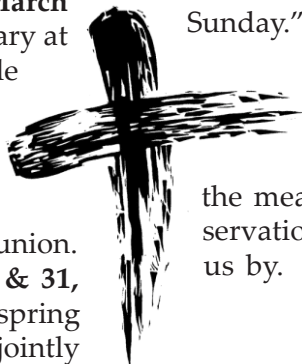
Finally, I invite you to make a personal commitment to participate in the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**, which will be received on April 14, Palm/Passion Sunday. This special "over and above" offering, shared by Christians all over the world, goes especially to fight world hunger, to disaster relief and to the self-development of people.

One writer has said, "So many of us seem to sprint through Lent, hurdle Holy Week and fall down exhausted on Easter Sunday." Not a pretty picture of a people

who are supposed to be making an intentional effort to prepare for the celebration of the resurrection. Let's try to find

the meaning of the Season in our observation of it, and not allow it to pass us by.

—Yours in Christ, Bill



Among Our People



Boldface indicates a member of First Presbyterian Church

Serving in the military: Josh Bengé, **Sturdy & Tammy Wanamaker's** nephew; Maj. Brian Berlakovich, **Ouida Henderson's** grandson-in-law; Lt. Col. Brian Burk, **Larry Burk's** son; Col. Joeff Childs, **Helen Douglass'** 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**; 1st Staff Sgt. Matthew L. Johnson, son of **Glen & Ann Kaiser**; 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 - January 2018 General Operating Fund

	Actual	Annual Budget	YTD % Annual Budget
Income			
Pledges	\$130,628	\$857,928	15%
Other	8,330	82,072	10%
TOTAL	\$138,958	\$940,000	15%
Expenses			
Validated Mission	8,461	58,971	14%
Local/Other Mission	1,050	25,992	4%
Ministry of the Word	11,630	154,072	8%
Program/Support Staff	37,026	436,538	8%
Christian Education	979	33,350	3%
Music and Worship	1,175	19,927	6%
Evangelism/Care	131	7,700	2%
Property	6,491	84,800	8%
Stewardship/Finance	1,634	18,000	9%
Other Oper Expenses	3,943	42,820	9%
Debt Retirement	7,531	90,370	8%
TOTAL	\$80,051	\$972,540	8%



LOGOS Sunday is set for March 3

LOGOS children will lead in worship on Sunday, March 3, at both services. This year they will present the musical "We Like Sheep" by Kathie Hill. This musical tells the story of the lost sheep from Luke 15.

Highlights from January 29 Session meeting

The Session met January 29 for the first Stated Meeting of the year. Among other business, the Session approved:

- ♦ The Annual Statistical Report to be sent to Mission Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- ♦ Using \$1,490 from the Education & Library Account at Texas Presbyterian Foundation in support of our youth and advisor's registration costs for the Youth Triennium at Purdue University this summer.
- ♦ The Mission Committee selling tickets for the February 23 Pancake Breakfast fundraiser at Applebees' to benefit Meals on Wheels.
- ♦ The celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for ReyLynn Elizabeth Littleton, daughter of Shane and Emily Ramsey Littleton, on February 17 at the 11 a.m. worship service.
- ♦ The collection of a love offering at the choir's presentations of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, to benefit the Special Music Fund.

Georgetown's annual Chase the Chief 5K and this year's new Hammerlun Fun Run are March 3 at East View High School. Money raised benefits the PE departments of local schools. For more information, go to <https://hellogeorgetown.com/chase-the-chief-5k-and-fun-run/>.



BIRTHDAYS

(continued from previous page)

- 26 Cliff Snyder
Ron Weaver
- 27 Tim Harris
Cathy Tucker
- 28 Frank Beam
Marilyn Mehaffey
- 29 Ron Becker
Teri Helmig
Terri Stubblefield
- 30 Dennie Decker
Helen Matthews
Don Mehaffey

Flowers in Worship/ March

- 3 Ann & Jim Hindman
- 10 Jones/McClure/Staller Family
- 17 Charles & Cathy Shirley
- 24 Judy Hindelang
- 31 Roger & Suzy Taylor

Most people donate their arrangement after the service to be used in our Flower Ministry, which divides the arrangement into bud bases and re-gifts them to our shut-ins and members in the hospital. If you intend to take your arrangement home, please contact either Kathy Jones (512-863-3012) or Betty Smith (512-869-6925).

Head Deacon/ March

- 8:30 Thomas Isenhour
Judy Bond
- 11:00 Betty Anne Poe
Minta McIntosh

Joy Bedford
Education Director
jbedford2321@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Lifelong faith formation was the focus

A report from APCE (Association of Presbyterian Church Educators) from Joy Bedford

Thank you for the opportunity to attend APCE February 5 - 9. Some 700 educators gathered in Galveston. They came from seven different countries and many different denominations. Our theme was based on Isaiah 55: "everyone who thirsts, come to the waters." The focus was on lifelong faith formation—from baptism to the fulfillment of baptism, from birth to death.

Most of the classes and speakers were centered around how we as a church answer the call to provide opportunities for forming our faith throughout all of life, through worship, teaching and service. I attended several classes and workshops: "Welcome to the 2020s: Envisioning the

Future of Faith Formation" with John Roberto; "Baptism and Beyond" with Anne Apple and Kathy Dawson; "The Language of Faith Formation" with Lisa Kimball; "Finishing School for Young Adult Faith Formation" with Brian Frick; "Faith Formation through Worship" with Hugh Donnelly and Tom Long; and "Change Is Hard: Navigating Transitional Ministry as Educators" with Holly Inglis and Joe Reggin.

My brain is full of good facts and good ideas to share with the Education/Nurture Committee. Once again, I am reminded how blessed we are as a congregation.

"We Like Sheep"

LOGOS prepares for Sunday, March 3, musical

The LOGOS family has been hard at work these last couple of months preparing for a big event. On Sunday, March 3, the LOGOS children will lead in worship, presenting the musical "We Like Sheep" by Kathie Hill. It tells the story of the lost sheep from Luke 15. This will be during the 8:30 and the 11 a.m. services, both to be held in the Worship Center-Fellowship Hall. We hope you will join us! Also this month, LOGOS (3rd - 6th grade) plans to attend the special Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 6, at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. We encourage our families to join us.

In February, Joy and I were fortunate to have attended the 2019 APCE (Associa-

tion of Presbyterian Church Educators) convention in Galveston. This was my first time to attend and what an amazing experience it was! To be in the presence of more than 700 other Christian educators was awe-inspiring, to say the least. We attended several beneficial workshops and were motivated and rejuvenated by the keynote speakers during the plenary sessions as well as the phenomenal music leaders! I am so appreciative to have been able to attend and bring back my enthusiasm and excitement for the future of our church and our amazing church family!

—Jaime Cowan, Director

LOGOS Themes for March

Date	Theme	Attire	Game/Activity	Menu
*06	Ash Wednesday	LOGOS T-Shirt	Ash Wednesday	Fish sticks
13	NO LOGOS	GISD Spring Break		
*20	Feeling Lucky	Bright Colors	Dice Game	BBQ sandwiches
27	Picnic Night	LOGOS T-Shirt	Outside Games	Fried chicken

*Youth eating with us

Sunday School for Children & Youth

9:40-10:40 a.m.

Sunday School is offered for all ages every Sunday.

Join us for a time of learning about who we are as God's people through the stories in the Bible.

Save the dates

- ♦ **March 3**
LOGOS Sunday
- ♦ **April 10**
Congregational Seder Meal, 5:30 p.m.
(scripted)
- ♦ **June 10-14**
Vacation Bible School
- ♦ **September 13-15**
All-Church Retreat at Mo-Ranch

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

Adult Elective, Room 113

Adult Elective

♦ *"Get Ready for Elijah"*

Through March 24, Room 113

Cynthia and Guy Guidici

It's happening! Choirs from FPC and Well-spring combine to sing Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, with symphony, in March. Get ready for the performances by joining us to review the stories of Elijah, learn about Mendelssohn's composition process, and preview the oratorio.

Week 1: Elijah's Story in 1 Kings

Week 2: Elijah's Story in 2 Kings

Week 3: Mendelssohn's *Elijah*

Week 4: Get Ready to Listen

Week 5: TBD

Read up before class: 1 Kings 17-19 and 2 Kings 1-2

(No, there won't be a test. Read anyway.)

♦ *"Old Testament Personalities "*

March 31 - April 14, Room 113

Dr. William Poe

As we complete the Season of Lent, the Adult Elective Class will be meeting *A Trio of Old Testament Characters*, and studying their fascinating stories.

March 31: Samuel

April 7: Ruth

April 14: Jonah

Come join us, and bring your Bibles!

Surveyors

♦ *"Who is This Man?"*

Through March 17, Room 207

Bill Stanley

Surveyors continue their series on this book by best-selling author John Ortberg and the unpredictable impact of the inescapable Jesus. On the eve of his crucifixion it seemed like Jesus' influence on the world had ended. On the contrary, it had just begun. This video-based study reveals how Jesus and Christianity came to have an inescapable influence on our world, and how we as Christians can make an inescapable influence, too.

♦ *"Book of James"*

March 24 - April 28, Room 207

Celeste Frost

This book is a letter from James to all believers. It provides practical wisdom and guidance for Christian attitudes and behaviors. Come study with us.

Homebuilders

"Enough: God's Blessings in Abundance"
Through March 24, Room 112

Karen Jones

In this six-session study of the book by Laura Mendenhall, the Homebuilders class explores dimensions of "enough" through the parables and other scripture. Homebuilders is a discussion-oriented class for adults that covers topics in Christian living, scripture and church history. Formed to meet the needs of adults in the family-building stage of life, Homebuilders welcomes all.

Crossroads, Room 107

"Wired Word"

Amanda & Patrick Tolbert

From Nobel Prize winners and government surveillance to rock and roll, no week is ever the same. This class uses stories in the 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. Whether you're at the crossroads of an expanding family, new career or wondering what's next in God's plan for you, Crossroads is the place for you.



Vacation Bible School June 10 - 14, 9 a.m. - noon

"To Mars and Beyond" is our theme for VBS this summer and we are planning for an out of this world experience for all who attend! Registration opens in mid-April. We'll start looking for volunteers over the next few weeks. If you would like to be a part of this amazing experience, contact Jaime Cowan, VBS Director, jcowanfpc@gmail.com, or call the church office, 512-863-3381.

Other Education 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 Hulsey (512-863-3381, dhulsey63@gmail.com) or Cliff Snyder (512-468-2877, 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 currently studying Genesis.

**Ladies' Lunch Bible
Study**

The group concludes its study of *Elijah* March 6. Starting March 13, the group begins a study of the Apostle Peter, his life and ministry. Bring your lunch and join us at noon each Wednesday in Room 207. Call Joy at 512-863-3381 to sign-up for the class so enough materials can be ordered.



Youth Calendar

- 3
Bread Breakers
- 6
Ash Wednesday Service
- 13
Gathering @ Pratts'
- 20
Bible Study
- 24
G2G: Get Your Game On!
- 27
Bible Study

The Wholeness Wheel



The Wholeness Wheel is a trademark of Portico Benefit Services. Used with permission.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Looking back on DNOW weekend

The last weekend in February was DNOW when our youth and several other church youth groups gathered to worship, serve and grow as disciples. Throughout the weekend, there were three small group sessions for students to read scripture and reflect on the keynote speaker's message. One of those sessions also included a "story time" where the students sat down to read Max Lucado's *You Are Special*.

It's a wonderful story that I have actually read to my children at home. It's a story of a village of wooden puppets who label each other with stickers of golden stars (the good kind) or gray spots (the bad kind).

The main character struggles with his identity because he's only ever received gray spots. But then he meets Eli, the wood carver who made all the puppets. And Eli tells him that he is special because he was made by Eli and because he belongs to Eli.

As we covered the theme of "identity" over the weekend, my continuing prayer is that our students, and all of us, would remember our identity is in Christ! And we are made special because God made us His Children, and we belong to Him.

—God bless, David Lee Hulsey

STEWARDSHIP

A holistic approach to stewardship

When we reaffirmed our baptismal covenant at our "Baptism of the Lord" service on January 13, we were reminded that through the waters of baptism we are called to live as whole and holy people of God. We are gifted, named and claimed to steward all God has given us. What does it look like to live well as whole people of God?

Living well means knowing who you are and remembering whose you are. It is God's desire that we honor, celebrate and share with delight and wonder the unique creation we each are for the sake of ministry in the world. Wholeness (as illustrated by the Wholeness Wheel) reminds us that we are multi-dimensional people: physical, emotional, social/interpersonal, intellectual, vocational and financial; in, around and throughout each dimension is our holistic spiritual well-being.

As whole people, the choices we make in one dimension shape another and yet another area of our lives. We are a community—the body of Christ. Each member of the body is vital to the health and well-being of the whole.

Might stewarding begin with our relationship with God and God's invitation to live centered lives?

Might Christ be asking us to consider a holistic approach to stewardship? An approach like the Wholeness Wheel considers how we explore the profound concept of stewarding our God-given gifts in many dimensions: our gifts of time, talent, work, body, mind, treasure, spirit, technology and more.

When we are in right relationship with God we are much more able to live well and be attentive to God's desire for us, our congregation, community, and world.

Holistic stewardship begins with our spiritual well-being and moves throughout the various areas of our lives where God is inviting, even nudging, us for the sake of sharing our God-given gifts with others. One small step at a time we grow in stewarding what God has given us—so that we can be Christ's hands and feet in the world. —*That it may be well with you!*

Gary Cox, Member,
Stewardship & Finance Committee

MISSION

John Knox Ranch welcomes new leadership

Henry Owen is humbled and honored to serve as the new Executive Director of John Knox Ranch (JKR). He grew up in the Presbyterian Church (UPC, San Antonio) and graduated from Austin College. After college, he taught 2nd grade in Austin for a few years before moving with his wife to Charlotte, North Carolina, where he established a nonprofit, Friendship Gardens. He has spent the last four years as Executive Director of the Nature Discovery Center in Houston.

His wife, Emily, is a JKR alumna, an ordained Presbyterian pastor, and has practiced ministry in a church setting and as a hospital chaplain. They have two boys, Jack Henry, 8, and Ross, 5, who might be the most excited in the family about living at the ranch.

As a camper, counselor and upper leadership staff, Henry has experienced firsthand a transformational, loving Christian community of JKR. It is a space where all are welcome; where identity is formed through self-awareness and service not competition and comparison; where differences are celebrated, not used to divide; where children grow into counselors, counselors become leaders, and leaders bring patience and inclusion to their own communities. It is a place where love, acceptance and grace flow freely.

Look for more information about JKR on the Mission Committee bulletin board in March.

—Minta C. McIntosh
JKR Advocate



Henry Owen & family

Summer Camp Rally Day at JKR

*A drop-in event.
Come for all or part.*

**10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday, March 23**

♦ **10 a.m. - noon**—Walking tours of camp; sports and games at the outdoor pavilion

♦ **Noon**—Lunch and welcome from Henry Owen, new Executive Director

♦ **12:30 p.m.**—Silly camp songs and singing

♦ **1 p.m.**—Camp activities open! Camp staff will run the following activities:

Blue Hole family

photos

Hay rides

Archery

Canoeing

Screamer (Big Swing!)

Registration for camp at the office

♦ **3 p.m.**—Activities conclude

Rally Day is a perfect way for you and your family to get to know John Knox Ranch before summer camps begin!



6th Annual Art Auction/ Showered with Grace

7 p.m. Friday, March 8

Sheraton Georgetown Hotel

One of a kind art-food-drinks-music!

Buy tickets for this Brookwood in Georgetown fundraising event at \$100 each online (www.brookwoodingeorgetown.org) or in the shop at 905 N. Church St.



Food Pantry needs this month:

Cereal

Tuna

Canned Pasta

Chili

Healthy Snacks

Tomato Products

Assorted beans, not green beans

Baking mixes

Jell-o/pudding

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.



Mission Sewing

Thank you:

- ♦ Lenice Smithwick for delivering 18 stuffed animals, blankets and books to the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center.
- ♦ Linette Harwell for delivering eight comfort pillows to St. David's Hospital.
- ♦ Alison Harrison and Debbie Chase for the knitted hats for the Cancer Center and the Christ Child Society
- ♦ Jaime Cowan for donating stuffed animals
- ♦ Mary Ellen Burton for the generous donation of yarn

Our next meeting will be at 10 a.m. Friday, March 8, in Room 111.



First Presbyterian
Church
web page:

www.fpcgeorgetown.org

FELLOWSHIP

Men's Fellowship Dinner

Speaker was pilot for U.S. presidents' travel

"One Man, One Aircraft: How Complicated Can It Be?"—describing the details required to support presidential international travel—will be the topic of the speaker for the Men's Fellowship Dinner meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, March 18, in Fellowship Hall. All men of the church are invited to attend. The meeting begins with conversation and fellowship followed by a catered dinner at 6:30 and a guest speaker at 7:00.

Denny Borocz, FPC member and retired U.S. Air Force colonel, is the speaker. Denny graduated from Purdue University in 1967, was commissioned in the U.S. A.F. and entered pilot training at Williams Air Force Base in Arizona. After earning his wings in June 1968, he became a transport pilot, then a combat rescue pilot in Vietnam until he returned to the states in 1972. Denny then became involved with the purchase of numerous Air Force aircraft including the current aircraft known as Air Force One. He went on to the Pentagon to become Director of Presidential Air Missions and flew presidential and other dignitary missions for 16 years.

During his service, Denny earned the Legion of Merit, Silver Star and Distinguished Flying Cross as well as numerous other medals. He retired in 1994, then worked another 10 years for private industry in Waco.

Contact Marv Hulshizer (512-818-2094 or marv.mcf@suddenlink.net) no later than March 16 to make your dinner reservation. Cost of dinner is \$10 per person.



Denny Borocz

Presbyterian Women plan 2019 spring gathering and mission project for children served by PCHAS

When a committee of the FPC Board of Presbyterian Women looked at planning a spring gathering event, it was only natural that we first considered a speaker from the agency that we give the most money to each year from our PW mission budget: Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS).

Luckily, Allison Harris from PCHAS was available on Sunday, April 7, to talk to us about how our monies help the agency serve children and families.

Members of PW circles, please see the display ad on the next page and put April 7 on your calendar. Then join us

for Allison's talk and help put together Easter baskets for 20 PCHAS children, in the central Texas, ages 1 to 15.

Allison suggested the Easter baskets as a way to add to our yearly mission support of PCHAS.

All women of the church: You are invited to attend and participate in donating candy and other age-appropriate items for the baskets. You are also invited to wear an Easter hat: one you have on hand or a creative one that you make.

Contact Judy Bond at tazmaniandogs@hotmail.com or 512-868-3487 for more info.

All women of the church are invited to...

PW's Spring Easter Hat & Dessert Gathering

3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7
Room 101



Speaker at 4 p.m.: Allison Harris,
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services

- ◆ Wear your favorite Easter hat or make one!
You could win a prize for most creative hat!
- ◆ Hear Allison speak about PCHAS!
- ◆ Have some ice cream and cookies!
- ◆ At 3:30, before Allison's talk, help us assemble 20 Easter baskets for children served by PCHAS in central Texas, ages 1 to 15. The baskets are a project that Allison suggested, and we are glad to make that part of the gathering!



The PW Board will provide cookies and ice cream as well as some items other than candy for baskets for the toddlers.

Your PW Birthday Offering envelopes can be brought to the gathering or given at your March circle meetings!

PW March Circle Meetings

Circle	Date	Time	Hostess	Phone	Address
Elizabeth	3/5	6:30pm	Theresa McKenna	512-930-3751	3601 Brangus Road
Esther	3/6	2:00pm	Nadine Tanner	512-240-5005	FPC Room 107
Sarah-Ruth	3/11	10:00am	Peg Kingsbury	512-864-3498	143 Melissa Court
Lydia	3/13	1:00pm	Barbara Caudle	512-259-0956	240 Silverstone, Cedar Park
Martha	3/20	9:30am	Terri Borocz	512-869-1715	307 Cassidy Drive
Rachel	3/20	9:30am	Ann Pearson	512-868-3116	107 Vinca Drive
Hannah	3/20	11:00am	Marty Curtis	501-517-3503	FPC Room 112

PW Circle Members are asked to donate chocolate and other candy for Easter baskets for the older children. The Board also will send circle leaders a list of items appropriate for baskets for the toddlers and the other children if you would also like to donate those. All items would need to be at the church prior to 3:30 p.m. April 7.

2019 PW Birthday Offering Recipients

- ◆ \$100,000—Disaster Response Team, Presbytery of Charlotte, NC
- ◆ \$100,000—Inclusive Playground, Effingham (IL) Child Development Center
- ◆ \$119,000—Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky, Good Shepherd Community Nursing Center, Phelps, KY
- ◆ \$120,000—Wings of Refuge, Restoration Home, Iowa Falls, IA



The Blue Star Service Banner was designed and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Capt. Robert L. Queisser of the 5th Ohio Infantry. Queisser's two sons served on the front line.

His banner quickly became the unofficial symbol for parents with a child in active military service.

Seeking information on families with members serving in the military

WANTED: Families who have a loved one serving in the U. S. Armed Forces. The Georgetown American Legion Post #174 is continuing the tradition of presenting families who have loved ones in the U. S. Armed Forces with Blue Star Service Banners to be displayed in the front window of their homes. The Blue Star Banner tradition began in 1917, during WWI, as a symbol for parents with a child in active military service. We are planning a blue Star Presentation Ceremony in the next few months and are looking for families with loved ones currently serving in the U. S. Armed Forces. Please contact Chet Scheibel at 512-863-5078 or aggiedad_99@yahoo.com for more information.



Senior Empowerment Event set for April 8

Save this date in April! The first annual *Vibrant Living! A Senior Empowerment Event* will be held on Monday, April 8.

Vibrant Living! is a one-day, one-stop event where seniors, caregivers and families can gain practical advice and learn about a multitude of resources that make planning and decision-making easier so that aging doesn't get in the way of living your best life. More information next month! Registration and additional information are available online at VibrantLivingGTX.org.

LOGOS children put together "Blessing Bags"

The LOGOS program spent part of the evening on February 20 assembling and packing "Blessing Bags." These bags contain basic necessities for those who come to FPC looking for assistance. The children stuffed 27 bags, which will be kept in the church office to be handed out as needed. In addition to snacks, personal hygiene and first-aid items, there is a card with information for the recipient to help him or her find more assistance or resources in the community. Thank you to all who donated items for the bags as well as our LOGOS families for helping assemble them.



COMPASSIONATE CARE MINISTRY

The Hardest Gift:

Points from Parish Nurse Penny

Years ago, Rev. Jack Ware was a retired pastor in our congregation. For many years he donated his time and talent of visiting, praying, teaching and preaching to this congregation.

During that time, Jack came to make a pastoral care call at my home because my family and I were going through a tough time. Like many, I thought I could “do it all.” In fact, I thought it was even my Christian duty to keep on “keeping on.” Jack acknowledged the difficulty to allow others to help even though my load had become a burden.

That day Jack, in a gentle voice, asked, “Penny, do you remember the parable of the ‘Good Samaritan’? When I acknowledged that it was one of the first stories I learned back in Sunday School in Illinois, he went on to ask, “Who do you think got the ‘most’ in the story? Do you think it was the man in need beside the road or the good Samaritan?” I stared somewhat dumbfounded at him as an “ah-ha” began to creep into my mind and heart. Jack went on, “I think it was the good Samaritan; he was blessed and enriched because he was able to help the man. Will you find it in your heart to allow others to be good Samaritans to you?”

That time has passed but I will always carry Jack’s words with me. I will also always remember how hard it was to give the gift of allowing people to be good Samaritans to me. It wasn’t easy but the thought that I was doing a “service” to others helped me to let go of my pride. Allowing others to help carry my burden was humbling but it is also what got me through that time.

Sometimes we are called to be a good Samaritan, but sometimes we are the man beside the road, and then we have to let God help us give the hardest gift of all.



Penny Leone, RN
Parish Nurse
 pnurse5@aol.com

Office Hours:

All day Tuesday

Other hours
 by appointment

Seniors Living Smarter Seminar

“Reducing the Overwhelm and Simplifying Your Move” is the topic for the next Senior Seminar, March 21, from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. These seminars are free and fun and provide information that can be helpful to you and your friends. So while you might not need this right now or ever, consider coming and bringing a friend! Register by calling 512-818-0988.

Hospice Austin to give March 18 presentation

“Hospice Care and Palliative Care: What’s the Difference?” is the topic of a presentation to be given by a Hospice Austin representative at 7 p.m. Monday, March 18, in Room 113 as part of the Stephen Ministry’s continuing education programs. It is open to all interested persons.

The discussion will focus on how our current health care system, our longevity and our culture are impacting quality of life at the end of life, as well as information on advance directives. Other re-



sources that can give help and support caregivers will also be discussed.

Caregivers of loved ones who have pain and discomfort because of a terminal illness are often confused about the type of care offered for their loved ones, and it can be difficult to make a decision.

Many people think that hospice care is only for people with cancer. But hospice and palliative care are also for people with heart, lung or kidney disease, as well as those diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

— Sandie Kienitz

SPOTLIGHT



*Three SU
students
fill
Scholarship
Singer
positions
at FPC*

MUSIC MINISTRY

FPC's Scholarship Singers will perform with *Elijah* choir

YOU NO DOUBT HAVE SEEN THE THREE of them each Sunday, singing in the Chancel and Sanctuary choirs, but their faces may not be familiar to you. They are FPC Scholarship Singers and all are majoring in some area of music at Southwestern University.

Emily Barham, soprano, is a junior from Flower Mound, majoring in vocal performance, with a minor in psychology. Daniel Winkler, bass, is a sophomore from Pflugerville, majoring in music and communication studies, with a minor in theatre. A sophomore from Georgetown, Clayton Arnold, also a bass, is majoring in music education.

All three are part of the 75-member choir (with orchestra) that will present Mendelssohn's oratorio, *Elijah*, on Saturday and Sunday, March 30 and 31, in Fellowship Hall. The choirs of FPC and Wellspring United Methodist Church of Georgetown are combining for the concert, conducted by FPC Music Director Philip Smith. Singing the role of Elijah is SU music faculty member Dr. Bruce Cain, tenor, who gave Emily, Daniel and Clayton information about the Scholarship Singers program and urged them to apply. Dr. Cain was Philip's voice teacher at SU.

(continued on next page)

The combined choirs of FPC and Wellspring United Methodist Church, joined by guest artists, together present

Mendelssohn's

Elijah

7 p.m. Saturday, March 30, & Sunday, March 31

Free admission. Donations accepted. No tickets, no reservations. Seating limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. Arrive early.

Philip Smith, Conductor Bruce Cain, Baritone
Lori Fisher, Soprano Beth Everett, Mezzo-soprano Tai Collins, Tenor

The Scholarship Singers program began in 2011 and offers music experience and scholarships to music students enrolled at Southwestern. Those who apply, audition and sign a contract for these scholarship positions are participants in the church's music activities and lend their musical leadership abilities to music ensembles, including the two choirs. The singers are expected to sing solos and duets and participate in small ensembles.

Emily is familiar with *Elijah*, having performed part of it with the Southwestern University Chorale her freshman year. Before becoming a Scholarship Singer, she was employed as a soprano in the choir of another Georgetown church. As a vocal performance major, she said, "Singing in a church helps me in understanding certain concepts in music literature."

All three students sing in the SU Chorale. Daniel also has appeared in several Theatre Department shows and recently began an internship with the Georgetown Festival of the Arts. Clayton is one of several concert managers at SU and is "responsible for seeing that nothing goes wrong during a performance in the Alma Thomas Fine Arts Center."

Daniel and Clayton were involved in *Elijah* months before rehearsals began in January. After Philip completed markings for the choral music, the two would go to Philip's office or the music library room (when they had "free time or no homework") to transfer those markings to a

document. "We used an iPad and Apple Pencil," Clayton said. Although neither had ever done such work, they were familiar with the types of marks, Daniel added. He said he learned to master the "squiggle" mark that indicates a rest. The document they worked on was later duplicated and given to all choir members to transfer manually to their individual scores.

They used pencil and paper for another task Philip gave them: transferring "bowings" for first violin and second violin scores. Neither had ever played a string instrument. They thought some of the bowing markings were "weird," Clayton said.

"I think I accumulated 15 to 20 hours" working on transferring markings and bowings, Daniel said. Clayton

(continued on next page)



From left:
Daniel Winkler
Clayton Arnold
Emily Barham



“

Members of Wellspring United Methodist Church choir are blessed to have the opportunity to join First Presbyterian Church choir members and other singers to perform the oratorio Elijah under the direction of Philip Smith. This masterpiece is a challenge and yet an exciting learning experience as singers from varied backgrounds and levels of musical ability collaborate to offer this powerful biblical story as a musical gift to Georgetown.

”

—George Brightwell
Member, Wellspring United
Methodist Church & Choir

“
The Scholarship Singers program here is not intended to fill in any gaps or shortcomings in the Music Ministry. It is rather an opportunity to build on the solid foundation that's already laid, while reaching out and providing opportunities for local college students.
 ”

—Philip Smith
 FPC Music Director



Scholarship Singers

(continued from previous page)

figures he put in 10 to 15 hours doing the detailed work.

When they are not fulfilling their roles as Scholarship Singers, the three stay busy. Clayton and Daniel share a

job in the Office of University Relations, doing data entry and working on address lists. Daniel also writes articles for use in donor relations.

In addition to being a concert manager, Clayton is choir librarian in the Music Department.

Emily, Clayton and Daniel are members of Delta Omicron music fraternity. Emily also belongs to Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society. Daniel and she have presented solos and a duet as part of the FPC choir.

All three have performed with the choir for previous cantatas, but have not done a concert the length of *Elijah*, which is two hours and 15 minutes, with a brief intermission for the FPC concerts.

—Marty Curtis

Scholarship Singers program started in 2012

SCHOLARSHIP SINGERS PROGRAMS ARE fairly common, especially at large churches in college communities. “Our program is designed to support a college student who is preferably a music major or minor,” Philip explained. “He or she signs a contract and receives \$200 a month from January through May and September through December. That money is to be used for tuition, books and other educational needs.”

Such a program benefits both the singer and the church, Philip said. “The singer receives financial help for school, and he or she gains music experiences outside a university setting by participating in our choirs, singing solos and singing in small ensembles.”

Not long after joining the church staff in 2009, Philip observed the growth of the music programs and envisioned the future potential of the Music Ministry. He believed that one of the next steps for growth and expansion was to incorporate “scholarship” singer positions for college students who would sing in both Sunday morning choirs and participate in the annual cantata as well as Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday worship services.



The FPC Music Director personally was influenced by programs similar to the Scholarship Singers.

“I grew up in a church that had a Scholarship Singers program. It was a medium-sized congregation outside of Waco that was like First Presbyterian in many ways. While I was a student at SU, I served as the Scholarship Assistant Director of Choral Ministries at First United Methodist in Round Rock. In addition to singing in two adult choirs, I played bass for a blended worship service each week and was the assistant conductor for all of the choral and orchestral ensembles.”

—Marty Curtis

Music and choir: A family thing for the Koenigs

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THE CHANCEL CHOIR HAS A NEW MEMBER— THAT is, if you can see him through the first and second rows of singers! He is 8 ½-year-old, 4-foot 6-inch Henry Koenig, and he is singing next to his dad, Will, during the 11 o'clock worship service. His mom, Monica, is at the piano, fulfilling her role as church pianist.

How did Henry become the youngest choir member?

Monica said it all started by accident.

"On Christmas Eve, Henry had to go to choir rehearsal with Will to wait for Gram and Grampa (FPC members Marv and Sandy Hulshizer). Henry usually sits with them in the Worship Center at the Sunday service. But at the last moment, while Philip was counting choir members, he asked if Henry wanted to sing with the choir. Henry responded with a big 'Yes!' He had such a blast that we asked Philip if he could keep coming."

Philip's policy for choir members, she said, is that a child under 16 may participate in adult choir if he or she is accompanied by a parent.

Monica added, "With Will in the tenor section and me at the piano, Henry was covered! Henry is so excited to be part of the choir. He and Will rehearse with the Sanctuary Choir but sing in the Chancel Choir. It is becoming a wonderful part of our family life as we practice together and all three of us look forward to rehearsal. We're grateful to Philip and our church family for the opportunity to worship God through singing!"

Will and Henry will not participate in the performance of *Elijah*, Monica said. "That's an awfully big project. We don't want to bite off more than we can chew!"

—Marty Curtis



Henry, mom Monica
and dad Will Koenig

To replace some "long-timers"

Fellowship Committee needs new members

Our church family is blessed with members who have faithfully served on the Fellowship Committee for years! One of the most faithful is Peg Kingsbury (and her late husband, John): 18+ years of service. A few other "long-timers" we appreciate are the Harwells, the Matthews, the Bonds, the Siekmeiers, the Andersens and the Galloways.

For the past few years only wives and single ladies have attended the meetings. We've really appreciated the husband manpower that has shown up for our events! This year we're in search of a few good men and women to join the ranks. We would love for a few couples to join us since some of our faithful are "hanging up their aprons" for good. A couple of events are on the calendar, one coming soon: the Seder meal (April 10). There's

Promotion Sunday, also, on the August schedule.

If you're not a part of a couple, and you're interested in helping at these events or between services during fellowship time, we don't want you to feel unwanted. We need you, we want you and we will welcome you with open arms. If you're feeling called to serve and enjoy a good time close to or in a kitchen, please contact one of us about your interest. Or better yet, come to our next meeting at 10 a.m. Friday, March 8, in Room 101.

—Fellowship Deacons: *Lea Ann Hutton, Cheryl Dorothy and Judy Bond*

FIRSTWORD

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24 Dr. William C. Poe Preaching 8:30am Worship 9:40am Sunday School 9:40am DNOW Brunch 11:00am Worship	25 David Lee out of town thru 2/27 6:00pm AGR Planning Mtg 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Training	26 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Session Meeting	27 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief group 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm PNC with Youth group 6:30pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel/Cantata Choir	28 9:00am Treehouse Learning 9:00am Sewing group 6:00pm Elijah Sectional	1 Church Office closes at noon Presbytery Meeting, Austin	2 Presbytery Meeting, Austin 9:00am LOGOS Dress 9:00am Rehearsal Elijah Rehearsal
3 LOGOS Sunday Commissioning Stephen Ministry 8:30am Worship – WCFH 9:40am Sunday School 9:40am LOGOS Brunch 11:00am Worship – WCFH 12:00pm Youth Bread Breakers	4 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	5 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 12:00pm LOGOS Board Meeting 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 6:30pm Elizabeth Circle 7:15pm Chancel/Cantata Choir	6 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief group 2:00pm Esther Circle 5:00pm LOGOS 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	7 Christina Bondesen out of the office thru 3/8 9:00am Treehouse Learning 6:00pm Elijah Sectional	8 Church Office closes at noon 10:00am Mission Sewing	9
10 Dr. William C. Poe Preaching 1 st Sunday in Lent/Communion DST begins/Spring forward 8:30am Worship – Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship – WCFH 12:00pm Youth to PanAm School	11 Kathi Davenport on vacation thru 3/15 10:00am Sarah-Ruth Circle	12 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm Mission Committee 6:45pm Executive Committee 7:30pm Committee Meetings	13 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief group 1:00pm Lydia Circle 5:30pm Youth @ Pratt's house 6:30pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel/Cantata Choir	14 9:00am P.E.O. Meeting 10:30am Administrative Committee 6:00pm Elijah Sectional	15 Church Office closes at noon 7:45am Men's Breakfast	16
17 Dr. William C. Poe Preaching 8:30am Worship – Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship – WCFH	18 6:00pm Men's Fellowship Dinner 7:00pm Stephen Ministry Cont Ed	19 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Newsletter Deadline 6:00pm Evangelism Comm 7:00pm Diaconate Meeting	20 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 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm Youth Bible Study 7:15pm Chancel/Cantata Choir	21 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:00am Senior Seminar 6:00pm Elijah Sectional	22 Church Office closes at noon	23
24 Dr. William C. Poe Preaching 8:30am Worship – Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship – WCFH 12:00pm Elijah set-up begins 4:30pm Youth G2G Event	25 6:00pm Elijah sound set-up	26 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Elijah Rehearsal 7:00pm Session Meeting	27 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief group 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm Youth Bible Study 7:15pm Elijah Rehearsal	28 9:00am Treehouse Learning 6:00pm Elijah Rehearsal	29 Church Office closes at noon 6:00pm Elijah Rehearsal	30 7:00pm Elijah Performance
31 Dr. William C. Poe Preaching 8:30am Worship – Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship – WCFH 7:00pm Elijah Performance	1	2 9:00am Treehouse Learning 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting	3 Dr. Bill Poe @ Mo-Ranch thru 4/6 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Grief group 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm Youth Bible Study 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel Choir	4	5 Church Office closes at noon	6
7 Dr. William C. Poe Preaching Communion 8:30am Worship – Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship – WCFH 3:30pm PW Spring Gathering						

M A R C H 2019