



August 2019

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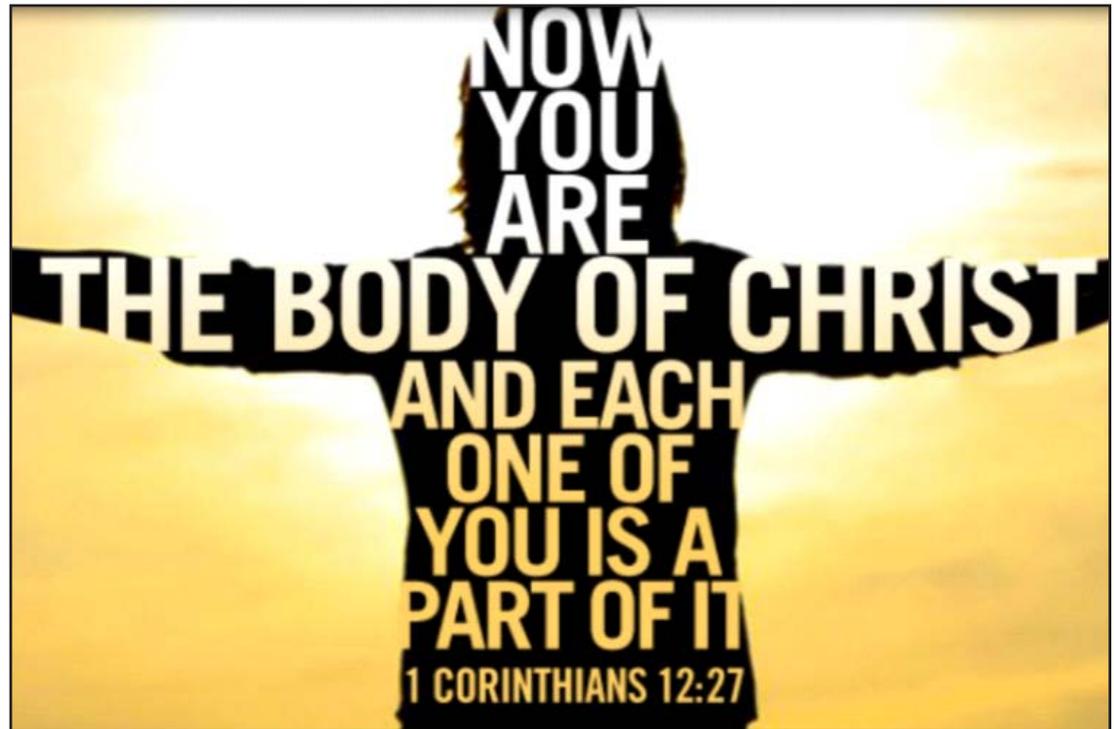
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## Sunday School Kick-off 9:40 a.m. August 25 Worship Center

*Singing, promoting,  
honoring, praising!*

Our theme this year is "One Body, One Purpose"! (See the great image above that illustrates the theme.) Come join us as we kick off a year of learning to be mindful of what it means to be one in Christ: how that shapes our purpose, how it changes the way we do mission, the way we play, the way we worship! Each week there will be classes for all ages so we can all grow up in Christ!

*Sunday School for all ages  
begins September 1!*

## AUGUST WORSHIP

8:30 a.m., Sanctuary  
11 a.m., Worship Center-Fellowship Hall  
Dr. William C. Poe Preaching all month

**August 4:** "The Trouble with Bigger Barns"

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
Scripture: Luke 12:31-21

**August 11:** "How About Some Good News?"

Scripture: Luke 12:32-40

**August 18:** "Running Through the Flames"

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-2, 12-14;  
Luke 12:49-56

**August 25:** "This Is God Calling"

Sunday School Kick-off  
Scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-10



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Barry & Florence Gould  
Craig & Ashley Riley
- 3 Doug & Jamie Arnold
- 4 Marcus & Kayla Collick
- 6 Bill & Lois Stanley
- 7 Marv & Sandy Hulshizer
- 8 Larry & Helen Burk  
Tracy Jackson & Jullee Mapes
- 9 George & Linette Harwell
- 11 Jim & Kaye Bishop
- 13 Conley & Cathy Leloux
- 14 John & Sue Rose
- 15 Guy & Cynthia Guidici
- 18 Jay & Jean Allison
- 19 Eric & Anne Hoke  
Bill & Betty Anne Poe  
Hubert & Evelyn Syler
- 20 Rick & Shirley Galloway  
Jim & Courtney Root
- 23 Dustin & Sarah Hammit  
Greg & Amy Hunt
- 24 Bob & Ramona Kissner
- 25 Mark & Ruth DeRuyter
- 27 Keith & Sue Renard
- 28 John & Elizabeth Decker
- 30 Fred & Martha Cowen  
Dave & Alison Harrison
- 31 Mike & Kathleen Wenzel

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Barbara Caudle  
Marietta Mugford  
Riley Spruiell
- 2 Jim Briggs
- 3 Elizabeth Decker
- 4 Susan Bell  
Linda Stephenson
- 6 Lexa Crenshaw  
Tim Lewis  
Bill McKenna
- 7 Chuck Helmka
- 9 Guy Guidici  
Luke Miller  
Linda Morgan
- 10 John Rose
- 11 Thomas Isenhour  
Maya Spruiell
- 12 Dawn Bookert
- 13 Richard Dorr
- 14 Paul Gipson
- 15 Cassie MacClean
- 16 Ben Butler  
Sue Renard  
Bonnie Stump
- 17 Katie Bradford  
Tristan Hammit
- 18 Faith Baechtel  
Jennifer Vara

*(continued on next page)*

**Among Our People**



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

**In the hospital last month: Rusty Bristol** (surgery).

**Congratulations to:**

- ♦ **Larry & Helen Burk** on the birth of two great-grandchildren: Nolan Charles, Edinburgh born June 10, and Alivia Grace Piskorik, born July 8.
- ♦ **Wanda Wallace** on the birth of her great-grandson, Eli James Sukhendra, born June 25. Proud grandmother is **Randa Toungate**.
- ♦ **Margaret Sunkel** on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Ann Margaret Olden, born July 10.

**In memoriam: Yvonne Beverly** joined the Church Triumphant July 14. A graveside service was held July 19 at the Presbyterian Cemetery in Georgetown. Yvonne had been a member of our congregation since July 1984.

**Income and Expense Report  
Year to Date - June 2019  
General Operating Fund**

	Actual	Annual Budget	YTD% Annual Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Pledges	\$503,729	\$857,28	59%
Other	\$30,244	\$82,072	37%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$533,973</b>	<b>\$940,000</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Validated Mission	\$259,627	\$58,971	50%
Local/Other Mission	\$14,145	\$25,992	54%
Ministry of the Word	\$78,103	\$154,072	51%
Program/Support Staff	\$210,548	\$436,538	48%
Christian Education	\$13,666	\$33,350	41%
Music and Worship	\$9,658	\$19,927	48%
Evangelism/Care	\$1,533	\$7,700	20%
Property	\$43,240	\$84,800	51%
Stewardship/Finance	\$10,091	\$18,000	56%
Other Oper Expenses	\$20,750	\$42,820	48%
Debt Retirement	\$45,185	\$90,370	50%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$476,546</b>	<b>\$972,540</b>	<b>49%</b>

**Our sympathy to**

- ♦ **Jeff & Amy Pratt** on the death of Jeff's father, Richard Pratt, July 11. A service officiated by Dr. William Poe was held July 18 in Cedar Park.
- ♦ **Virginia Reid** on the death of her husband, David Reid, July 12. A private family service is being planned for the end of summer in Michigan.

**Thank you:** "Our special thanks to the members who provide flowers for the Sanctuary and to Kathy Jones and Betty Smith, who make bouquets of them that are taken to folks who are ill or house-bound. We think the members of the congregation would like to know the message that accompanied the flowers that were brought to us by Jenny Carswell after Lloyd's surgery. It was a heartening word."

—Lloyd & Vivian Davis

*"These flowers graced the Sanctuary and Worship Center at FPC Georgetown this past Sunday. They were present when the hymns were sung, when the sermon was preached and when the prayers were offered. Now, they come to you as a reminder of God's love and healing power. They come to you with the prayers of the members of this church that you will be blessed with faith, health, hope and happiness."*

**Serving in the military:** Maj. Brian Berlakovich, **Ouida Henderson's** grandson-in-law; Lt. Col. Brian Burk, **Larry Burk's** son; Col. Joef 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**; 1<sup>st</sup> 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. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Paul Rayburn**; Nicholas Stamos, **Larry & Helen Burk's** grandson; and Christian Winckel, grandson of Sandy Hayes.

## From the Pastor's Study

Dear First Friends,

As we look forward to school starting again, and Sunday School resuming, and fall programming getting under way, we should also begin preparing ourselves for another "watershed" event in the life of our church. Sometime soon, our Pastor Nominating Committee will be asking the Session to call a Congregational Meeting, and they will present us with their nominee for the person to serve as the new Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Georgetown.

For some long-time members of this congregation, this will be the first pastoral change we have experienced, since Mike Roberts served here so many years. For others who have experienced pastoral changes in other churches, this will be similar, but not exactly like, those experiences.

This is an exciting time, even with the obvious unknowns. You will be welcoming (warmly, I'm sure!) a new Pastor, and



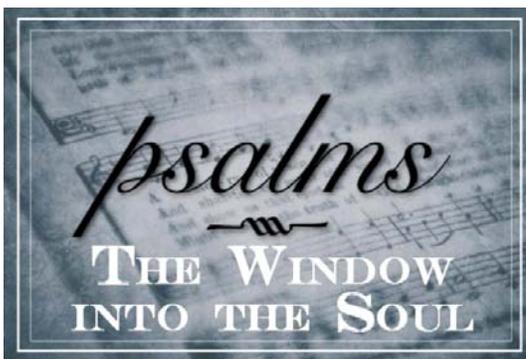
perhaps a new Pastor's family. The new Pastor will be bringing us his or her own wealth of experience in other congregations and ideas that will enhance our life together. We can offer open hearts, joyful smiles and helping hands, as well as the enthusiasm for which this church is known.

As the time grows near, we need to be thinking about and planning all the ways we will extend our welcome. After the Congregational Meeting and until the new Pastor's arrival, we can send cards and letters of welcome. I'm sure that the Pastor Nominating Committee will have ideas for welcoming events that will happen.

As your officers and representatives of Mission Presbytery planned toward this transitional year, it was our hope that it would be a time of stability, health, happiness and preparation. I believe that this has been our experience together. The life of our church goes on. We have welcomed new members, celebrated baptisms and lives well lived, remained in good financial condition, and continued important ministries, both close at hand and far away.

Betty Anne and I are deeply grateful for the warm friendship and support you have given to us during this transitional time. I know that you will offer the same to your new Pastor. We look forward eagerly to the beginning of a new pastorate for First Church!

—In Christ, Bill



## All-Church Retreat September 13-15 at Mo-Ranch

There will be no Sunday School, and only one worship service on September 15 here at the church. Dr. David Evans is leading our retreat this year on the Psalms.

If you have not registered and would like to attend, call Joy at 512-863-3381.



School starts this month!  
Watch for children  
boarding buses!

## BIRTHDAYS

(continued from previous page)

- 19 Emily Littleton
- 20 Helen Burk
- 22 Jacob Pilcher  
Steve Robinson
- 23 Brian Hall
- 24 Alex Wagner
- 25 Jamie Arnold  
Garrett Herbst
- 27 Julie Culver
- 28 Kailyn Bailey
- 29 Jim Caskey
- 31 Bill Caudle  
Linda Johnson



## Flowers in Worship/ August

- 4 George & Linette  
Harwell
- 11 Chris & Cari Spruiell
- 18 Bill & Faith Baechtcl
- 25 Mike & Kathleen  
Wenzel

Sign up to provide flowers  
in worship!

If you intend to take your arrangement home after the Sunday services—and NOT donate it to the Flower Ministry to be re-gifted to shut-ins and members in the hospital—contact either Kathy Jones (512-863-3012) or Betty Smith (512-869-6925).

## Head Deacon/ August

- 8:30 Gail Butler  
Suzy Taylor
- 11:00 Suzy Taylor  
Kathy Jones

Joy Bedford  
Education Director  
jbedford2321@gmail.com

## LOGOS Fall Dates

**August 28**  
5:30 p.m.  
LOGOS Parent  
Orientation

**September 4**  
5 - 7:15 p.m.  
LOGOS Begins

I teach  
Sunday School  
what's your  
superpower?



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### LOGOS to begin year with parent meeting August 28

We hope everyone is having a fabulous summer so far. It's hard to believe that school will be starting in a few short weeks, though. We want to get a few dates on your calendar as you begin planning for the fall. LOGOS will kick off the semester with our annual parent meeting and orientation at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 28. We will have a quick program refresher as well as review plans for the fall semester.



—Jaime Cowan



We still need five teachers and several assistants to complete our team! If you can give a month or two or three to teaching or helping another teacher please call Joy. You are supplied with all you need: God calls, we equip, you teach young followers of Christ—staying mindful about our purpose. You can reach me at 512-863-3381 or jbedford2321@gmail.com.

—Joy

### Sunday School teachers and LOGOS Bible study teachers and assistants to meet August 24

We meet from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday, August 24, in Room 101 to make ourselves ready for the new year.

♦ 8:30 - 10: We will have coffee, juice and donuts together while we focus on important information for all teachers (even teachers of adults). We will also have information to pass on from the Safety and Security Committee.

♦ 10 - 11: We will focus on the needs of the teachers of children and youth.

♦ 11 - 12: You will meet with your teaching teams, plan your fall calendars and make your room ready. During this time, I will meet with those who have not used our curriculum before.

I cannot wait for us all to be together again. Don't forget to be praying for those who will be coming to your classes this fall and for your fellow teachers. Questions? Call me at 512-863-3381. —Joy

### Enjoy the new windchimes in the breezeway

If you haven't heard them yet, take time to go stand out on the breezeway. They have a beautiful sound. Or you can sit on the bench which has been placed to remember Lacey Unger and Cole Cassens while you gaze at the stained glass window in the children's church room which is of Jesus with his arms around Lacey and Cole. Or you can sit at one of the picnic tables and have a cup of coffee while watching children play on the playscape. The windchimes have been given in honor of our amazing Liz Keith, who is still fighting her cancer and getting better each day. It will make her happy to know we are pausing and praising God for all of creation as we listen to the beautiful tones the chimes make. Continue to keep her and her family in your prayers.

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

Adult Elective  
"Hospitality"

September 1 - October 6, Room 113  
Cynthia & Guy Guidici

Surveyors  
"Holy Spirit"

September 1 - 22, Room 207  
Gary Nelson

Homebuilders  
TBD

Beginning September 1, Room 112  
Karen Jones

Crossroads  
"Wired Word"

Beginning September 1, Room 107  
Amanda and Patrick Tolbert



Save  
these  
dates!

**August 18**  
9:40 a.m.  
Youth/Parent Meeting

**August 24**  
8:30 a.m. - 12 noon  
Teacher Orientation

**August 25**  
9:40 a.m.  
Sunday School Kick-off!  
Let's come back together  
as one body, for one purpose

**August 28**  
LOGOS Parent Orientation

**September 1**  
Sunday School begins:  
"One body, One purpose"

**September 4**  
First LOGOS

**September 13-15**  
All-Church Retreat (if you  
missed registration, call  
Joy, 512-863-3381)

## LOGOS collects 10 boxes of school supplies for CUPS

Earlier this year LOGOS spearheaded a school supply drive for CUPS as one of our mission projects for the spring.

CUPS (Comunidades Unidas Pro Salud, Communities United for Health) is a Christian ministry focused on improving the educational and health environments in rural communities along the U.S.-Mexico border.

We're excited to announce that our church collected 10 **LARGE boxes** full of notebooks, clip boards, markers, folders, pens, tape, scissors, paint, book covers, notebook paper, paper tablets, coloring books, stickers, note cards, note pads, crayons, pencil boxes/bags, glue, binders,

water bottles and lots of backpacks and lunch boxes. We also filled a large tote with craft supplies, puzzles, games and bubbles. Great job, everyone!

—Jaime Cowan



CUPS file photo

## 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 Hulse (512-863-3381, dhulse63@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, beginning September 4, in Room 101 to study scripture and eat lunch together.

**Ladies Lunch Bible Study**

Bring your lunch and join us at noon Wednesday, beginning August 7, in Room 207. Our first book this year is Philip Yancey's *What's So Amazing About Grace?*

This study will help us better understand what grace is, why it is so precious, and how to integrate it into our lives. Engaging questions, provocative Bible studies and lively discussions are just part of the study. We'll also be challenged to look for grace where it counts most: in our character and personal life. We'll explore grace as more than just a fluffy concept and take a journey to the heart and soul of Christianity.

Let Joy Bedford (512-863-3381) or Karen Rayburn (512-913-6111) know if you plan on joining us so we have enough books.

## Youth Calendar for August/ Early September

### August 18

Sunday, 9:40 a.m.  
Parent Meeting

### August 25

Sunday, 5 - 8 p.m.  
Youth Kick-Off Party

### August 28

Wednesday  
Youth Family Fellowship

### September 4

Wednesday,  
Youth Bible Study Begins



First Presbyterian  
Church

web page:

[www.fpcgeorgetown.org](http://www.fpcgeorgetown.org)

*Photo:  
Katy Bedford joins  
FPC's group for a photo  
at Triennium in Indiana:  
Connor McClure,  
Miles Azuma-Hall,  
Kyle Chapman and  
David Lee Hulsey.*

## YOUTH MINISTRY

# A busy summer for FPC youth activities

I love it when members of the Church remind themselves and others that the youth in our congregations are not the future of the Church; they *are* the Church—*right now*. I agree! Our youth are the Church right now *and* the future Church. Perhaps a physical reminder of that, Dr. Poe has made sure we see these current and future members of the Church up front, leading in worship this spring and summer. What a blessing!

This past June and July, thanks to David Lee's mother coming to town and holding down the fort with our children, I've been able to serve and play and grow alongside many of our youth during the In-Town Mission as well as the Fun in the Sun trip to Galveston. And what a FABULOUS bunch they are. These young folks have a lot on their schedules and before their eyes that contends with programing and involvement in ministry. I'm heartened when young members still give their time and energy and ideas to serve the Great Ends of the Church, as reviewed in the mission commissioning in June. For me, some of the highlights of youth in action this summer were the energy (responsible energy!) our young people brought to VBS, the leadership our older youth used to kindly guide and set the example for some of our younger youth on the InTown Mission trip, and the team attitude and thoughtfulness our group brought with them to Galveston in July.

To close out the summer, David Lee is with three of our FPC youth and a host of Mission Presbytery youth worshipping, learning, experiencing and fellowshiping with THOUSANDS of other Presbyterian youth at Triennium—the tri-annual conti-

mental gathering of PCUSA young people! How exciting! These youth applied, were accepted and prepared for a spot on this trip. I can't wait to hear their reports of this gathering. We plan to have them share with fellow youth and interested parties on August 28 at our first Wednesday youth gathering of 2019-20.

We can get some form of an answer to any question we ask and some form of nearly any item we seek thanks to modernized modes of communication and commerce, but we might not get the RIGHT answer or the BEST item. Sometimes such queries and quests require a little blood and sweat—some physical effort and flesh—to gain what we actually need. I think the incarnation of Christ underscores this idea, and I believe ministry at FPC, including youth ministry, reflects this truth. Relationship and being together in flesh are rich and life-giving. I hope our youth will continue to seek that Abundant Life and find it by knowing and growing in Christ during worship, study, fellowship and prayer—at our church and out in the Church Universal. Thank you, congregation, for keeping youth ministry a priority at FPC!

—Sarah Hulsey



## MISSION

## School kids benefit from Backpack Buddies

The Georgetown Backpack Buddy program provides a bag of food to school children who appear to be at risk of going hungry over a weekend or school holiday. Students who participate in the free or reduced-price school lunch program during the school week may also be eligible to become Backpack Buddies.

Backpack Buddies was started in 2009 as a pilot program in Georgetown by former pastor Dr. Jim Porter and John Carnes of First United Methodist Church and two others from the Georgetown Ministerial Alliance. It distributed a weekend food pack to 48 students in one grade at Williams Elementary.

Based on its success, the pilot program expanded. Peggy Taylor and other FPC volunteers got involved, and the Mission Committee started providing financial support. Over the past 10 years the program has grown to serve nine GISD elementary schools, four middle schools, two high schools and the GAP Alternative School. From the 48 students served and budget of \$5,000 that first year, Backpack Buddies has grown to serve an estimated 1,000 students in 2019 with a budget of \$100,000.

Donors to the nonprofit program are Chisholm Trail Communities Foundation, Georgetown Health Foundation, City of Georgetown, Seeds of Strength, Chaparral Women's Club, area churches, corporations and individuals. Volunteers are from 10 churches, including FPC.

More than 120 volunteers donated more some 6,000 hours of their time dur-

ing the 2018-19 school year: purchasing food in bulk from several sources, unloading it into storage and assembling it for pickup. Volunteer drivers deliver the food to schools each Wednesday. There, volunteers break down the bulk food packages into plastic bags containing six non-perishable items for each student, who takes the bag home for the weekend.

Since Backpack Buddies is an all-volunteer program with no paid staff, almost all operating expenses are for food purchase. For the 2018-19 school year, volunteers packed more than 36,000 bags of food for students to take home over 36 weekends.



In addition to financial support, FPC each week provides Backpack Buddy volunteers to pick up, unload and bag food for about 65 students at Pickett Elementary. Current FPC volunteers are Morris Fisher, Gene Gregory, Charles Shirley, Dave and Alison Harrison, Peg Kingsbury, Lenice Smithwick, Keith Smith and Bill McKenna.

Corey Bailey is the FPC mission advocate for Backpack Buddies and communicates information about planning and scheduling for the volunteers.

To learn more about the program, go to: [www.georgetownbuddies.com](http://www.georgetownbuddies.com).



### Food Pantry Needs

Tuna, chicken, canned meats  
Ranch-style beans  
Soups  
Cereal  
Toothpaste  
Deodorant  
Bar soap

### Mission Sewing

*In July we delivered 28 stuffed animals with blankets and books to the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center. Thanks to Lenice Smithwick for delivering 21 hats, two crocheted blankets and six receiving blankets to the Christ Child Society.*

Thanks also to:

♦ Demeree Jackson and Linda Gambell for the embroidered quilt, stuffed animal and book.

♦ Marlene Watts for the receiving blankets

♦ Alison Harrison, Judy Willett, Lenice Smithwick, Linette Harwell and Barbara Caudle for the stuffed animals, blankets and books

♦ Betty Smith for the zippered plastic bags

♦ Marty Curtis for the storage box and photographs

Our next meeting is at 10 a.m. Friday, August 9, in Room 111.



## Cynthia Guidici to teach monthly class for PW study leaders

A monthly class for Presbyterian Women Bible Study Leaders, taught by Cynthia Guidici on the 2019-20 *Horizons* study topic, begins Friday, August 30.

The class will meet at 11 a.m. in Room 101. It is open to all interested women, not just study leaders.

"Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments" is this year's study topic.

## FIRST WORD

published monthly by

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## FELLOWSHIP

# Horizons Bible study author to speak

Greetings to all of you, and hope all of you ladies are having a great summer. I wanted to make everyone aware of an upcoming event at the Austin Seminary. As part of its "Education Beyond the Walls" series, the seminary is hosting Eugenia Gamble, author of this year's PW *Horizons* Bible study "Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments." The event will be on Saturday, August 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost of registration is \$60 and includes lunch, but the good news is for groups of three or more, it is only \$30. (What a deal!) Our church is sending a group to the event, and we'd love for you to join us! Co-moderator Beverly

Jones is coordinating our group. If you're interested, contact her at 956-873-2641 or beverlyjones54@gmail.com.

There is another event to save the date for. Our Austin Cluster Gathering is set for 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, October 5, at Hope Presbyterian Church in Austin. I will hopefully have more details on this for the September *First Word*, so stay tuned.

Another more far-off date to mark on your calendar is the Mission Presbytery PW Spring Gathering in 2020. It will be March 27-29 at Mo-Ranch, and I hope you will consider attending.

I wish cool breezes and blessings to you all.  
—Becky Hesson-Smith

## Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments

This *Horizons* Bible study will help us reframe the way we look at and live in the world. What would it mean to consider the Ten Commandments not as a harsh list of what not to do but, instead, as a "love letter" from a loving God? A fresh embrace of the Ten Commandments (or Words), author Eugenia Gamble suggests, may ultimately contribute to the restoration of ourselves and our communities, and the furthering of the gospel in the world.

Each lesson begins with an exploration of one of the Ten Words in its biblical context. From there circles will, each month during the 2019-20 school year, consider a moment from Jesus' life that shows us how he lived out that Word. We will also consider the Word for our own lives and contexts.



Mission Presbytery youth at the Presbyterian Youth Triennium  
July 16-20 at Purdue University in South Bend, Indiana

## STEWARDSHIP



- ♦ Sunday School teachers **for all ages** are provided curriculum, supplies and room decorations for Sunday School classes.
- ♦ Our children get to carry palms in worship service on Palm Sunday to commemorate the final Sunday of Lent.
- ♦ Our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are provided their own bibles.
- ♦ Our high school graduates are celebrated with cake, punch and a gift.
- ♦ Our college-age members receive care packages to remind them they are still part of our church family—loved and prayed for wherever life is taking them.
- ♦ Our children and youth put on a show for the congregation at the beginning of December for Christmas Night Together.
- ♦ Biennially we celebrate all our Sunday School, LOGOS and youth volunteers at the Education Banquet.
- ♦ And much, much more!

Thank you for all you make possible for us to accomplish!  
—Education and Nurture Committee

## Church humor: one-liners

- ♦ *Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.*
- ♦ *Some people are kind, polite and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.*
- ♦ *Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.*
- ♦ *It is easier to preach 10 sermons than it is to live one.*
- ♦ *The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.*
- ♦ *When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.*
- ♦ *People are funny; they want the front of the bus, middle of the road, and back of the church.*
- ♦ *Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.*
- ♦ *Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.*
- ♦ *We're called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.*
- ♦ *God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?*
- ♦ *Some minds are like concrete: thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.*
- ♦ *I don't know why some people change churches. What difference does it make which one you stay home from?*
- ♦ *Be ye fishers of men. You catch 'em; He'll clean 'em.*
- ♦ *Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.*
- ♦ *Don't put a question mark where God put a period.*

## Session highlights

At its July 2 stated meeting, the FPC Session:

- ♦ Designated Babs Cape and Keith Brainard as Session representatives to the Officer Nominating Committee, with Keith to serve as Chair.
- ♦ Received a report from the Education & Nurture Committee that 85 children and 70 youth and adult volunteers enjoyed Vacation Bible School in June.
- ♦ Approved payment for improvements to the lighting in the Sanctuary
- ♦ Approved Dr. David Evans to administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the All-Church Retreat in September.
- ♦ Approved one service on Sunday, September 15, at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.
- ♦ Called a congregational meeting following the 11 a.m. worship service August 11 for the purpose of electing members to serve on the Officer Nominating Committee.



**Penny Leone, RN**  
*Parish Nurse*  
 pnurse5@aol.com

Office Hours:  
 All day Tuesday  
 Other hours  
 by appointment

## Senior Seminar

**"Living, Dying and  
 Leaving a Legacy"**  
 Thursday, August 15  
 10 - 11:30 a.m.  
 FPC Sanctuary

## Continuing Education program set for Monday, August 19

"Compassion Fatigue" is the title of an hour-long class by Penny Leone to be held on Monday, August 19, from 7 - 8 p.m. in Room 101. This program is sponsored by Stephen Ministry.

Anyone in the congregation, as well as your friends and family, are welcome!

## COMPASSIONATE CARE MINISTRY

# Points from Parish Nurse Penny

It's August! How did that happen so quickly? Do you ever feel that way, that life is moving so fast you can't keep up? August is a month that people think of as a time for vacation, rest, slower schedules. Does it feel that way for you? If not, perhaps you will think with me about Sabbath.

Sabbath is not simply the absence of work or taking a day off. It is the period of time you set aside to listen to what is most deeply beautiful, nourishing and true. Observance of the Sabbath is one of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:8). Rest is not simply a psychological convenience; it is a spiritual and biological necessity. GOD rested Himself and modeled it for us! Work is good but the purpose of work is not more work. The purpose of work is to live and glorify God. The purpose of rest is to live

healthy and balanced lives so we can glorify God. Sabbath time makes room in our lives for stillness, generosity, hospitality, worship, praise and celebration. Some thoughts on cultivating rest and renewal:

- ♦ Pick one heavily used device to set aside for a period. Cell phone, TV, computer...whatever you choose. And for whatever amount of time, use that time where you are not disturbed, seduced or responsive, to notice what God is inviting you to notice.
- ♦ Intentional Silence: Take a walk or hike or be alone with someone you love with mutual understanding that you both will refrain from speech. Saint Teresa of Calcutta said, "God is the friend of silence." Things are born in quiet that cannot be heard in the din of words and noise.
- ♦ Breathe: Be aware of the breath of life God gives you with every part of your being. As you take a breath in, think of a scripture like, "Be still and know that I AM God." As you let it out, feel the Now of eternity rippling through you. (Brother David Steindl-Rast)
- ♦ Stop and Play: Play is purposeless enjoyment. It is a time to stop being seduced by desires and wants, to simply be happy and laugh and have fun. You do not need to justify your existence. You are here because the God of the Universe made you to love and to be loved.

I like the analogy that not taking a rest is like riding on a speeding motorcycle. At high speed, even a small stone in the road can be a deadly threat. The faster we move, every detail and encounter inflate in importance and everything seems more urgent than it really is. Rest so that your work will be productive and your relationship with your loved ones and with God will renew continuously.



**STEPHEN  
 MINISTRY**

## Become a Stephen Minister

Does your heart break when you hear about the struggles of others? Do you sometimes feel, "I'd love to help but I don't know how or what to say?" If so, consider training to be a Stephen Minister. Bill Poe or any Stephen Leader or Stephen Minister would love to talk to you about the work and the commitment. Applications are being taken until August 15 for the class starting September 9.

## From the history of First Presbyterian Church

The Session of the church took seriously its charge to look after the spiritual welfare of the members. The May 11, 1884 Session minutes contain this entry:

Elder Seymour reported having conversed with Deacon Mel. W. Elson concerning the reports in circulation charging him with drunkenness, fighting, etc. Mr. Elson came before the Session—confessed the charges true, and professed earnest and sincere repentance, and asking forgiveness of the Session and of the church, and agreeing to make a full confession before the church of his sin, and profession of his penitence, as required by the Session. Closed with prayer.

The following report was made to Presbytery, for the year ending August 31<sup>st</sup> 1887.

- Attendance in sanctuary. Very good generally.
- Special outpourings of the Holy Ghost In the Spring 12 [?] sessions [?]
- Christian deportment and growth in grace of church members. Good.
- Sabbath School is progressing [?]
- 15 additions to the church, 6 from S. School
- Fidelity of church members in laboring in Sabbath schools and other church work. Good.
- Catechetical and Bible instruction in Sabbath Schools and families. A little.
- Family worship. Not general.
- Observance of the Sabbath. Generally good.
- Fidelity of God's people in worshipping the Lord with their substance Good.
- Intemperance, worldly amusements and other forms of sin, not prevalent.
- Nothing done in religious instruction of colored people.
- No destitute in our vicinity.
- Closed [Session meeting] with prayer.

While the above report is somewhat entertaining now, the next report, from 1888, is the first which provides us with many statistical details about the church:

The following Sessional Reports to Presbytery for the year ending Mar 31<sup>st</sup> 1888 were then made and approved, and ordered to be recorded.

Elders	5
Deacons	3
Communicants added on examination	2
Communicants added by letter	2
Total communicants	66
Adult Baptisms	2
Infant Baptisms	3
Baptized non-communicants	20
Scholars in Sab. Schools & Bible Classes	111
Teachers in Sab. School & Bible Classes	10
Funds Collected.	
Sustentation	9.75
Evangelistic	11.70
Invalid Fund	10.40
Foreign Missions	7.30
Education	9.10
Publication	5.40
Tuscaloosa Institute	5.55
Presbyterial	6.85
Pastor's Salary actually paid	1,236.95
Congregational	173.75
	<hr/>
	\$1,476.75
Report on Sabbath Schools	
Teachers, whole no.	10
Scholars, whole no.	111
Scholars average attendance	71
Teachers average attendance	8
Scholars admitted to communion	1
Contributions of school viz.	
For its own expenses	46.78
For other expenses	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$51.78

Elder Sidney Seymour died on August 16, 1889. He and his wife Mary Louisa joined the Georgetown Presbyterian Church in 1856. He was elected and ordained Elder on November 9, 1861. He appears to have been the main force in trying to prevent the church from rejoining the PCUSA in 1866. He was the only Elder when the Southern Presbyterian Church started and served as Elder and Clerk of the Session until his death. His memorial included this: "The venerable appearance of Brother Seymour with his white locks & long snowy beard never failed to impress those who met him in our Church Courts."



## Session minutes

Beginning in about 1875, the minutes of the Session become more prolific. However, most are recordings of Session meetings before or after church for the purpose of accepting new members or of dismissing members that had moved on. Not much is really found on the detailed operations of the church. The Session decided, in January 1891, not to send anyone to a February Presbytery meeting in Waco "on account of the prevalence of Small Pox at intermediate towns." In 1896, the Session adopted a resolution to "appoint a committee to district [?] the membership of the church to look after the spirituality of the church." It is interesting that the annual reports to Presbytery refer to the members as communicants and baptized nonmembers as non-communicants. In April 1896 there were 130 communicants and 54 baptized noncommunicants.

—Excerpts from "A History of the First Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, Texas, Sesquicentennial Edition, 1854-2004"

# AUGUST 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>28</b> 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 11:00am Worship-WCFH	<b>29</b> Stephen Ministry Supervision	<b>30</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting	<b>31</b> 10:30am Fellowship Committee	<b>1</b> Fellowship Committee	<b>2</b> Church Office closes at noon	<b>3</b> Church Office closes at noon
<b>4</b> Communion 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 11:00am Worship-WCFH	<b>5</b> 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	<b>6</b> Penny Leone on vacation thru 8/14 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Safety & Security Committee Meeting	<b>7</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study	<b>8</b> 9:00am P.E.O. Meeting 10:30am Administrative Committee	<b>9</b> 10:00am Mission Sewing Church Office closes at noon	<b>10</b> Mission Sewing Church Office closes at noon
<b>11</b> 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm Congregational Meeting 4:00pm LOGOS Board Planning Meeting	<b>12</b> 6:15pm Retreat Planning Meeting	<b>13</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Planning Meeting 6:45pm Executive Committee 7:30pm Committee Meetings	<b>14</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study	<b>15</b> 10:00am Senior Seminar	<b>16</b> Church Office closes at noon	<b>17</b> Church Office closes at noon
<b>18</b> 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Youth Parent Meeting 11:00am Worship-WCFH	<b>19</b> 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Supervision 7:00pm Stephen Ministry Cont Ed	<b>20</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Newsletter Deadline 5:30pm Mission Committee 6:00pm Evangelism Committee 7:00pm Diaconate	<b>21</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> Ladies' Lunch Bible Study	<b>23</b> Church Office closes at noon	<b>24</b> 8:30am Teacher Training
<b>25</b> Promotion Sunday 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School Kick-off 11:00am Worship-WCFH 5:00pm Youth Kick-off	<b>26</b> Stephen Ministry Supervision Stephen Ministry Cont Ed	<b>27</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care Meeting 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Session	<b>28</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 5:30pm LOGOS Parent Orientation 6:00pm Youth Family Fellowship	<b>29</b> 7:00pm Nominating Committee	<b>30</b> 11:00am PW Bible Study Leaders Meeting Church Office closes at noon	<b>31</b> PW Bible Study Leaders Meeting Church Office closes at noon