



February 2020

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## From the Pastor: Sermon Series on Prayer

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family, Earlier in January, the officers, trustees and church staff took time at the annual leaders' retreat to pray and plan together. Truly, it was invigorating to see the energy, joy and creativity your leadership has! I also deeply appreciate the prayerfulness of this group. The retreat began in a space of extended prayer as Joy Bedford, Dawn Bookert, Susan Isenhour, Penny Leone, Deb Pilcher and Kelly Ann Seaman creatively shepherded the leaders through a series of prayer stations. The retreat ended the following day in prayer—and that same theme will continue into the life of the church for much of this year.

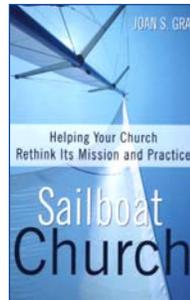
As you can read about it on page 3, there will be a sermon series on prayer during Lent (March 1 - April 5). As well, the leadership will be reading through *Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice* by Joan Gray (one chapter at a time, which will have us finishing in the fall). It explores the difference between what Gray calls "rowboat churches" that muscle their way forward and "sailboat churches" that harness the wind



and (often surprising!) direction of the Holy Spirit. As you might imagine, steady prayerfulness is central to being caught by the wind!

I am excited to see what God does in our midst as the leadership reads through this book and discerns how God is moving among us, and certainly you are more than welcome to read the book alongside the leadership. Who knows what conversations, insights and prayers might be generated among us! You can order a copy of *Sailboat Church* on your own, or you can contact the church office by February 10, and we will place a bulk order. Copies through the church will cost \$10, payable to First Presbyterian Church.

—Blessings in Christ,



TV station WQED in Pittsburgh, where "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" was taped, spent 2018 honoring Fred Rogers' legacy of 50 years of television. One TV spot, produced by Presbyterian Media Mission, explained a side of Fred Rogers not as well known as his famous children's television show—the fact that he was also an ordained Presbyterian minister. (page 10)

### FEBRUARY WORSHIP

8:30 a.m., Sanctuary

11 a.m., Worship Center-Fellowship Hall

Dr. Bobby Hulme-Lippert Preaching

**February 2: "The Foolishness of God"**

Communion/Home Communion

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31;

Micah 6:6-8

**February 9: "Repairer of the Breach"**

Scripture: Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 5:13-16

**February 16: "Coloring Outside the Lines"**

Scripture: Psalm 119:1-8; Matthew 5:21-26

**February 23: "Champions of the Faith"**

LOGOS Sunday: Both services in WCFH

**February 26: "Blow the Trumpet"**

Ash Wednesday: 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Scripture: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17;

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:1



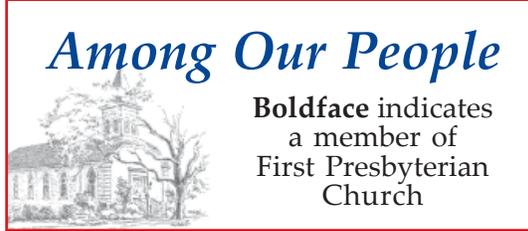


**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Katie Bradford & Keith Brainard
- 4 Radona & Jason Wagner
- 14 Karen & Ray Rayburn
- 18 Peggy & Tim Taylor
- 19 Jaime & David Cowan
- 27 Nancy & Bill Stramler
- 29 Terri & Dennis Borocz

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Cindy Shaner  
David Siekmeier  
Joyce Walden
- 3 Leo Hulme-Lippert
- 4 Collin Jones  
Parker Littleton  
Amy Pratt  
Tanner Walden
- 5 Ramona Kissner
- 6 Keith Smith  
Judy Thomson
- 8 Lou Brown  
Elaine Caskey
- 10 Kathy Jones
- 11 Dana Hall  
Anne Hoke
- 12 Carole Alsup  
Ruth McEntire  
Carolyn Stubblefield
- 13 Rob Fullinwider  
Cheryl Jenkins
- 14 Bob Albers  
Dave Harrison  
Jack Smithwick
- 15 Vivian Davis  
Willie Gibson  
Sarah Hulse  
Joe Porch  
Christina Unger  
Linda Walke
- 17 Margie Copsy
- 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
- 25 Jerri Jones  
Austin Moreno  
Ben Pilcher
- 26 Lynn Azuma
- 27 Nolan Pratt  
Courtney Root
- 28 Bob Duncan  
Jim Root, Sr.  
Patrick Tolbert



*Among Our People*

Boldface indicates a member of First Presbyterian Church

**In the hospital last month: Bob Albers (surgery), Bryan Bell, Gladys Brooking, Fred Cowen (surgery), Angie Harris (surgery), Bernie Lovejoy (surgery), Donna Nichols (surgery) & Joe Porch.**

**In memoriam:**

- ♦ **Sally Fortney** joined the Church Triumphant December 22. Services were held January 30. Sally had been a member of our congregation since October 1987.
- ♦ **Jay Shiffler** joined the Church Triumphant December 26. Services were held December 29. Jay had been a member of FPC since October 1996 and served as a deacon (1998-2000).
- ♦ **Sakkie Goss** joined the Church Triumphant December 31. Services will be held at a later date. Sakkie had been a member of FPC since October 2014.
- ♦ **Helen Douglass** joined the Church Triumphant January 11. Services were January 17. She had been a member of FPC since June 1985, serving as an elder (1990-92) and many years as Mission Advocate.

**Serving in the military:** Col. Brian Burk, **Larry Burk's** son; 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.

# ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 26  
6:30 p.m. Sanctuary

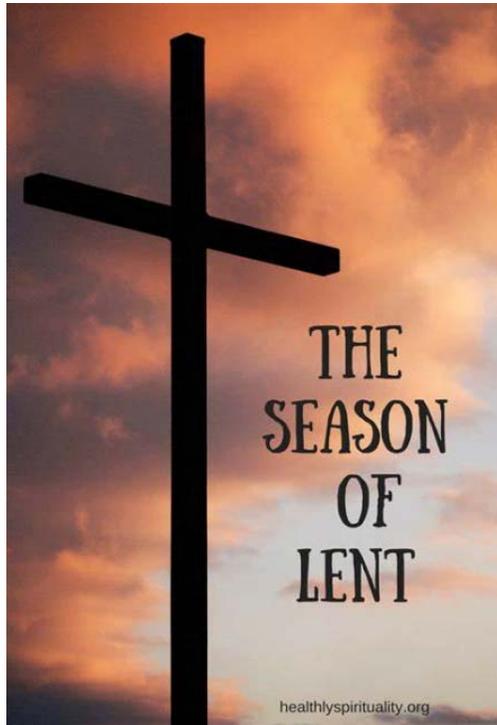
As we begin the Season of Lent in prayer, penitence and reliance on God's grace, you are invited to join us for a special service of scripture, meditation and the imposition of ashes.

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

	Actual	Annual Budget	YTD % Annual Budget
<b>Income</b>			
Pledges	\$883,428	\$857,928	103%
Other	\$82,035	\$82,072	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$965,463</b>	<b>\$940,000</b>	<b>103%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Validated Mission	\$59,028	\$58,771	100%
Local/Other Mission	\$25,604	\$25,992	99%
Ministry of the Word	\$161,202	\$154,072	105%
Program/Support Staff	\$446,640	\$436,538	102%
Christian Education	\$33,407	\$33,350	100%
Music and Worship	\$19,717	\$19,927	99%
Evangelism/Care	\$5,050	\$7,700	66%
Property	\$104,743	\$84,800	124%
Stewardship/Finance	\$18,069	\$18,000	100%
Other Oper Expenses	\$39,202	\$42,820	92%
Debt Retirement	\$92,765	\$90,370	103%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,005,427</b>	<b>\$972,340</b>	<b>103%</b>

**FPC has started a podcast!** It allows us to share audio recordings of weekly sermons and special services such as the cantata. We will also occasionally share special music recorded in worship. These audio recordings can be accessed from your computer, smart phone or personal device such as iPad or tablet. Find and subscribe to our podcast at [fpceorgetown.buzzsprout.com](http://fpceorgetown.buzzsprout.com) or by searching for FPC Georgetown, TX on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify, etc. These are also available under the Worship "Sermons" tab on the church website. If you have questions or need help accessing, contact Jaime Cowan at the church office.

# Prayer During Lent



*To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world.*  
—Karl Barth

*I am always impressed by the fact that it is recorded that the only thing that the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to do was to pray.*  
—Howard Thurman

*Prayer is taking a chance that against all odds and past history, we are loved and chosen, and do not have to get it together before we show up.*  
—Anne Lamott

These three insightful quotes on prayer, taken together, tell me this: Prayer is powerful, prayer is mysterious, and prayer is full of grace. Or, perhaps more precisely, prayer is all those things because God is all of those things. And yet, as remarkable a gift as communication with our Lord and Savior Jesus is, we are ever-like the disciples: in need of learning and growing in it. This is especially true in seasons of active discernment when we seek to discern and

follow how the Holy Spirit is leading us. Certainly we are in just such a season!

To this end, we will have a sermon series focused on prayer during the six Sundays of Lent. Each week we will explore a scripture that helps us appreciate a different aspect of prayer, and most truly, a different aspect of Christ and his call on our lives.

- ♦ March 1—Prayer as Seeing (Ephesians 1:15-19)
- ♦ March 8—Prayer as Listening (Ecclesiastes 5:1-3; 7)
- ♦ March 15—Prayer as Lament (Mark 15:33-39)
- ♦ March 22—Prayer as Mission (Luke 10:1-11)
- ♦ March 29—Prayer as Petition (Matthew 7:7-11)
- ♦ April 5—Prayer as Praise (Luke 19:37-40)

Notably, each Sunday a member of the congregation is providing an artistic interpretation of that week's scripture-and-theme via the medium of their choice. I am grateful for Kelly Ann Seaman, Robert Cravens, Eric Seaman, the Sewing Ladies, Rachel Bondesen and Betty Smith for their creative offerings, and you can look forward to their art being shared in the church lobby area during the season of Lent!

Finally, know that throughout the series we will have ways for you and your family to grow in the practice of prayer—both in worship and throughout the week. Some of those options include weekly take-home bulletin inserts to guide you through prayer each week, a prayer labyrinth and musical offerings that invite prayerful openness and reflection. More details will follow as we get closer to the series!

*Bobby*



**Sunday, February 2,** is the last day for you to bring your food items and monetary donations to help our youth compete in Mission Presbytery's Souper Bowl Smackdown—a contest to see which church collects the most by the day of the Super Bowl, February 2.



## Flowers in Worship/ February

- 2 Katie Bradford & Keith Brainard
- 9 Karen & Ray Rayburn
- 16 Jaime & David Cowan
- 23 Marcia Ness

## Sign up to donate flowers for worship in 2020!

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/ February

- 8:30 Thomas Isenhour  
Judy Willett
- 11:00 Betty Anne Poe  
Cheryl Dorothy



*"We have prepared and are rehearsing songs, some hand chime and instrumental accompaniment for hymns, a skit, a 'sound story,' photos and art for the service," said Amy Pratt.*

*Roscoe Seaman (below) was among the LOGOS kids and volunteers who enjoyed exploring their superpowers at LEGO Superhero Night in January.*



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### LOGOS Sunday features music and children

"Champions of Faith" is the theme for this year's LOGOS Sunday, February 23, when LOGOS children will lead in the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services, both of which will be held in the Worship Center-Fellowship Hall.

The theme is based on Hebrews 12:1-2: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."



Amy Pratt, Children's Choir Director, said LOGOS has been studying eight Bible champions: David, Joseph, Samuel, Deborah, Esther, Daniel, Mary and Martha, and Barnabas.

Through songs and musical activities during the service, the children will help the congregation experience the rich spiritual legacy of these champions whose lives of obedience provide worthy examples for children to follow.

"This year, instead of presenting a musical, the kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> graders are using their unique talents to lead in a more normal service of worship," she said. Pastor Bobby will preach as usual, and the LOGOS 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be liturgists.

### LOGOS: FPC's midweek ministry for children

LOGOS has started our spring semester with a bang! We're having tons of fun during our regular Wednesday evening programming, as well as planning for LOGOS Sunday on February 23. Be sure to read the article above from Amy Pratt, our Worship Skills Coordinator, to learn a bit more about this day.

For those who aren't as familiar with this program, LOGOS is a midweek ministry open to preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade children. Every Wednesday night, the kids participate in four parts offering a "whole

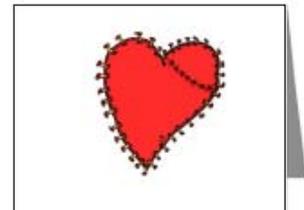
child" approach to Christian nurture: Bible Study, Recreation, Family Time (dinner with the church "family") and Worship Arts. The goal of the program is to bring Christ to children, bridge the gap between church and community, and bridge the gap between children and adults (all while having tons of fun). Remember, you do not need to have a child in the LOGOS program to help; you need only to love God and love children! If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, please contact me at [jcowanfpc@gmail.com](mailto:jcowanfpc@gmail.com).

—Jaime Cowan

### LOGOS Themes for February

Date	Theme	Attire	Game/Activity
2/05*	Sports Night (5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday)	Sports Attire	Sports Games
2/12	Valentine's Night	Red & Pink	Make Valentine Cards
2/19*	Stuffed Animal Night	Bright Colors	Stuffed Animal Portraits
2/26	Ash Wednesday	LOGOS T-Shirts	Ash Wednesday Service

\*Youth eating with LOGOS



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

## Adult Elective

### ■ "Three Influential Places in Early Christianity"

February 2 - 16, Room 113

Dr. Andy Dearman

♦ **Feb. 2: *Caesarea Maritima*.** A magnificent port built on the Mediterranean coast by Herod the Great, the city was the primary setting for Roman administration in Palestine, the place of Paul's two-year imprisonment, and the home of two of the most influential early Christians (Origen and Eusebius).

♦ **Feb. 9: *The Temple Complex in Jerusalem*.** Herod the Great refurbished and expanded the sacred precinct in Jerusalem, making it the largest sacred complex in the known world. It is central to the ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem and a primary institution through which early churches understood his death and their corporate identity.

♦ **Feb. 16: *Masada and the First Jewish Revolt against Rome*.** Not only was the revolt against Rome decisive for Jewish identity, the tensions between Rome and Judaism influenced how the early church spread and was itself persecuted by political authorities. The last stand against Roman soldiers at Masada illustrates the political and theological issues facing both Jews and Christians in the 1<sup>st</sup> century.

### ■ "Three 20<sup>th</sup> Century Confessions"

February 23 - March 22, Room 113

Guy & Cynthia Guidici

On many Sundays, we stand together as a congregation to confess what we believe, using excerpts from the *Book of Confessions*. The confessions, Jack Rogers writes, "point us to Christ and to the great themes of the Christian faith." Join us to explore three recent Confessions. What do they say? What is their relevance for us? We'll look at the history, content and interpretation of the Confession of 1967, a Brief Statement of Faith, and the Confession of Belhar.

Week 1: Overview of the Confessions

Week 2: The Confession of 1967

Week 3: A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

Week 4: A Brief Statement of Faith

Week 5: The Confession of Belhar (1986/2016)

## Surveyors

### ■ "Soul Keeping" by John Ortberg Through February 9, Room 207

Bill Stanley

This video-based study explores the soul from the perspective of someone who has struggled to understand and care for his own. Ortberg shares his honest, funny, moving, insightful and tender journey so that we can better care for our souls. The author has helped many Christians rediscover their soul—the best connection to God there is—and find out why it's hurting and why neglecting it has set back so many believers spiritually.

### ■ "Hosea & God's Love"

February 16 - March 8, Room 207

Phil Smith

In Hosea's message to Israel, we see God's amazing mercy, grace and love for his people, even in the face of constant unfaithfulness. We will consider the relevance that the prophet's message has for us and our nation today.

## Homebuilders

### "All the Places to Go" by John Ortberg Through February 16, Room 112

Karen Jones

The author opens our eyes to the countless doors God places before us every day, teaches us how to recognize them, and gives us the encouragement to step out in faith and embrace all of the extraordinary opportunities that await. (On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Homebuilders will have fellowship time.)

## 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! The Crossroads class uses stories from 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 just wondering what's next in God's plan for you, Crossroads is the place for you.

## 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](mailto:dhulsey63@gmail.com)) or Cliff Snyder (512-468-2877, [c\\_rsnnyder@yahoo.com](mailto:c_rsnnyder@yahoo.com)). Time and place will be e-mailed to you.

### Men's Lunch Bible Study

Meets at 12 noon each Wednesday in Room 101 to study scripture and eat lunch together. They are studying Jeremiah, led by Sam Matthews.

### Women's Lunch Bible Study

Bring your lunch and meet on Wednesday at noon in Room 207 as we study Lent in Plain Sight, A Devotion Through Ten Objects by Jill Duffield, beginning February 26.

God is often at work through the ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects, ordinary grace. In this devotional for the season of Lent, Duffield draws readers' attention to 10 ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem: dust, bread, the cross, coins, shoes, oil, coats, towels, thorns and stones. In each object, we will find meaning in the biblical account of Jesus' final days.

Let Joy know if you are coming by calling her at 512-863-3381.



## for DNOW

Drivers, meal providers and prayer partners are needed.

If you're interested in helping, contact David Lee, dhulsey63@gmail.com.

## February Youth Calendar

2

Last day to donate for Souper Bowl Challenge; Super Bowl Party at the Pratts'

16

BreadBreakers: Mac&Cheese Bar & Dodgeball

19

DNOW Kick-Off

21 - 23

DNOW Weekend

26

Ash Wednesday Service

## YOUTH MINISTRY

# FPC youth set their sights on DNOW

DNOW 2020 Theme: *Seeing Beyond*  
2 Corinthians 4:16-18  
February 21 - 23  
FUMC, Round Rock

Before the new year even began, a group of youth leaders (including myself) were working on the vision for DNOW 2020. You might call it 2020 vision (I only have this year to use the "vision" pun as many times as possible!). And it seemed all too easy to use the theme of vision for this year's DNOW. So of course, we had images of eye charts, clip art of glasses and plenty of Scripture referencing "sight."

But we kept getting drawn away from the "perfect vision" idea. Instead, we were drawn to the message of 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, which focuses on what Paul describes as the "unseen, which is eternal." And so we now have our theme for this year's DNOW, "Seeing Beyond," where we will focus on how we see ourselves, how God calls us to see Him, and how we are called to see beyond this material world in front of us.

I look forward to this event every year because it allows our students a chance to experience an event they can recall as a step-



ping stone in their faith. It is an experience that encompasses worship, service, Bible study, fellowship and fun, and it crams it all into one weekend. Is it a ton of work? You bet! Is it worth it? Absolutely! I look forward to seeing beyond DNOW and how God will use this event to impact the faith of our students and continue to bring about His Kingdom.

—God bless, David Lee

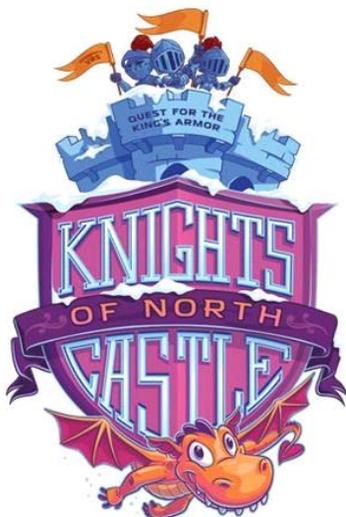
## Your opportunity to pray for a "LEGO Kid"



We had an amazing Leader Retreat. On Friday evening, we participated in several different prayer stations. At my station, I had LEGOs—86 of them. On each LEGO was the name of a child or youth on our roster here at FPC. Each leader was given a LEGO and a guided prayer card so they could continue to pray for their "LEGO Kid." I have 34 more LEGO kids to be prayed for. A basket in the lobby has envelopes that each contains a LEGO Kid and guided prayer.

If you would like to pray for a child or youth, stop by and pick up an envelope. I pray that the children and youth are blessed through your prayers. I know you will be blessed for lifting them up in prayer. I told the leaders there is no ending: Their LEGO Kid will need prayers for the rest of their lives. Thank you for taking good care of your LEGO Kid.

(LEGO kids should not be confused with DNOW Prayer Partners: they are two different things.)  
—Mrs. Joy



*Be strong in the Lord and  
in the strength of his power.*  
—Ephesians 6:10

Come with us on a  
Quest for the King's Armor!

Vacation Bible School  
Kinder - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
June 8 - 12, 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Registration begins April 1.

Contact Joy Bedford for information: 512-863-3381, jbedford2321@gmail.com.

## MISSION

## Amplify Austin: Support FPC missions

Amplify Austin Day is March 5-6, when it's possible for you to make a donation to your favorite cause, charity and/or FPC-supported mission.

Amplify Austin provides an easy-to-use digital marketplace connecting local donors with area nonprofits all year long at AmplifyATX.org. It inspires people in communities surrounding Austin to make a difference by connecting them with causes they're passionate about.

As we have done in recent years, our church hopes to schedule some donations to eligible charitable organizations that FPC supports. This will be during the Amplify Austin fundraising day, from 6 p.m. March 5 to 6 p.m. March 6. In this way, we hope to take advantage of the partial matching funds



from the St. David's Foundation and corporate sponsors.

Local organizations supported by our church that can be found on the Amplify Austin website include Austin Seminary, Brookwood in Georgetown (BiG), CASA of Williamson County, Faith in Action Georgetown, Hospice Austin, The Caring Place, Manos de Cristo, Meals on Wheels (WBCO), and Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services.

Individuals can donate to one or more of these and many other worthwhile causes by going to the AmplifyATX.org website, using the Search Box to find the desired organization, and following the menus to pay by Credit Card, Apple Pay, Google Pay or Microsoft Pay.



March 5 - 6

24 hours to crank up the giving

### Mission Sewing

*Special guest Cindy Bausch last month accepted our donation of four crocheted afghans for C.U.P.S., an ecumenical Christian ministry that strives to improve the educational and health environment in rural communities along the Mexico-U.S. border.*

Thank you to:

- ♦ Betty Smith for the stuffed animals
- ♦ Linette Harwell, Barbara Caudle and Lenice Smithwick for the stuffed animals, blankets, and hats.

*Ten sets of stuffed animals, blankets and books were donated to the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center.*

*Special thanks to Marianne Welch for her generous financial contribution to Mission Sewing. It will help provide many weighted blankets to residents at the Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services.*

*Our next meeting will be at 10 a.m. Friday, February 14, in Room 111.*

## Thanks for Hunger Free Holidays donations

Well, friends, we are now in a brand new year and a brand new decade. So I want to mention a couple of things. First, you are due thanks for helping with the Hunger Free Holidays at The Caring Place. The goal was 300,00 pounds of food, and the actual amount received was 421,263 pounds. That is spectacular! However, we must not sit back and enjoy it since there are many more months to go in this new year. As I have said before: As this community grows so do the needs, so keep up the good work, please.

Here's a little bit of information that I thought was interesting: 1,860 or 25% of dispatched calls are to homes of individuals age 65 and older. And the calls pertain to falls and helping them up off the floor. We have a lot of people in that age category in our community. With this in mind, The Caring Place is offering "A Matter of Balance" class in the spring and fall for people age 60 and older. Many in our congrega-

tion have taken the class and found it helpful. The thing to remember is that you need to keep practicing at home what is taught in the class.

You might have heard that St. David's Foundation has given \$200,000 to The Caring Place for the third year in a row, demonstrating that this is a well run organization that fulfills its mission.

Volunteering is a worthwhile use of your time not only because it fills a need but also because research has shown that volunteering impacts positively on your mind and body. Why not try it. Call The Caring Place at 512-869-4735, talk to Rita Turner and offer your free time. You will meet many wonderful people there.

—Jenny Carswell

**Food Pantry Needs:** Canned pasta, rice/pasta mixes, baking mixes, juices, ketchup/mustard/mayo, shampoo/deodorant, laundry/dish soap and feminine hygiene items.



*Greetings to all of you wonderful PW ladies.*

As I write this, the weather has been a little cooler, but spring is just around the corner. The PW board has begun planning for our local PW Spring Gathering. Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 19. The board is still working on details, but we hope you will save the date. I will share an update on our progress next month.

We are also busy with plans to host the PW Austin Cluster Fall Gathering here at FPC Georgetown on Saturday, September 12. There is a planning committee for the event headed up by PW Co-Moderator Beverly Jones. It's still open to anyone who is interested in serving on the committee with us. Just contact Beverly at 956-873-2641 or beverly.jones54@gmail.com.

—Blessings!  
Becky Hesson-Smith

## FELLOWSHIP

### *PW Circle Meetings for February*

Circle	Date	Time	Hostess	Phone	Address
Elizabeth	2/4	6:30 p.m.	Theresa McKenna	512-930-3751	3601 Brangus Road
Sarah-Ruth	2/10	10:00 a.m.	Marietta Mugford	512-865-3954	1409 Olive Street
Lydia	2/12	1:00 p.m.	Alison Harrison	512-388-1812	3506 Citrine Place, RR
Martha	2/19	9:30 p.m.	Babs Cape	512-635-5431	104 Chickadee Cove
Rachel	2/19	9:30 p.m.	Mary Jean Thorp	512-948-5460	115 Daisy Path
Hannah-Esther	2/19	11:00 a.m.	Judy Bond	512-868-3487	402 South Ridge Circle

## Bradley to speak at Men's Fellowship Dinner

"The Fine Tuning of the Universe: Evidence for the Existence of God?" is the title of the presentation for this month's Men's Fellowship Dinner. The group will meet the fourth Monday (February 24) because of President's Day being observed on the third Monday. All men are invited to attend the meeting, which starts at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, with dinner at 6:30, followed by the program at 7.

Speaker is Dr. Walter Bradley, and his presentation addresses the very interesting question that a December 1992 *Time* magazine cover story asked: "What does science tell us about the existence of God?" Data presented in the article seemed to support the idea that the more scientists learn through their scientific investigations, the more their results seem to support belief in a creator God. Dr. Bradley believes that the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is full of scientific surprises often referred to as the "fine tuning" of the universe. He will highlight the scientific discoveries that constitute the "fine tuning" and the contemporary implications of a "finely tuned universe."

Dr. Bradley has a B.S. degree in engineering physics and a Ph.D. degree in materials science and engineering from the University of Texas. He has taught at the Colorado School of Mines, Texas A&M University and Baylor University. He has published many articles and received more than \$6 million for government-funded research projects. He co-authored *The Mystery of Life's Origin, Reassessing Current Theories* in 1984 and it was republished as a second edition update on the origin of life.

If you plan to eat at the dinner, contact me (512-818-2094 or marv.mcf@suddenlink.net) no later than February 22 to make a dinner reservation. Cost of dinner is \$10 per person.  
—Marv Hulshizer



**September 18 - 20**

**Mo-Ranch Hunt, Tx**

**Dr. Cindy Rigby**

**Guest Speaker & Worship Leader**

*We hope you will go with us.  
Registration begins April 15.*

*Visit [moranch.org](http://moranch.org) for more information about the Conference Center.  
Would you like to help plan the retreat?  
Contact Joy Bedford, 512-863-3381  
or [jbedford2321@gmail.com](mailto:jbedford2321@gmail.com).*

## COMPASSIONATE CARE MINISTRY

## Points from Parish Nurse Penny

### Some thoughts about February, Heart Month

Most people know that February is Heart Month because of love, cupids and the Heart Association naming it "Heart Month." Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the U.S. Every year, 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease. Have you had a check-up recently? Are you exercising?

Did you know that February 7<sup>th</sup>, the First Friday of February, is National Wear Red Day®? On this day, men and women are encouraged to wear red as a symbol of their support of women's heart health.

### Workshop on holistic self care for caregivers is set for February 17

Those of us who help others need to take excellent care of ourselves so we can keep being in a good place to care and to be who God is calling us to be in His world.

Eileen Priya, MS, MA, CAMQ, will present a mini-workshop at 7 p.m. Monday, February 17, in Room 101. This will focus on ways to care for ourselves through a variety of holistic techniques that can be used in multiple ways. Handouts will be provided and there will be time to address other issues with caregiving.

Eileen is passionate about supporting helping professionals and caregivers in taking care of themselves so they can serve others. She also has worked in the area of bereavement for many years, developing holistic healing techniques for traumatic grief. She has master's degrees in education and counseling and certifications in



And February 17-22 is Random Acts of Kindness Week ([www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)). "The positive effects of kindness are experienced in the brain of everyone who witnessed the act, improving their mood and making them significantly more likely to 'pay it forward.' This means one good deed in a crowded area can create a domino effect and improve the day of dozens of people!" This is from Jamil Zaki, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Stanford University, for *Scientific American*.

So this February, wear red, exercise your body, your soul and your spirit to spread God's love!

## Friends in Deed



**For help with routine home maintenance & repairs, call the church office to schedule a visit from one of FPC's Friends in Deed.**

yoga, chi gong and several types of energy healing. If you would like to read more about Eileen, go to her website, [www.glowenergyhealing.com](http://www.glowenergyhealing.com).

While this free event is sponsored by the Stephen Ministry program, everyone in the congregation and their friends are invited to this workshop that will last about an hour.



Penny Leone, RN  
Parish Nurse  
[pnurse5@aol.com](mailto:pnurse5@aol.com)



### Save the Date

April 20 is the Second Annual Senior Vibrant Living Conference here in Georgetown. It is a one-day opportunity to find out everything you need to know about living a vibrant life in Georgetown as a senior.

Last year there were speakers, break-out sessions, booths, food and fun. More information will be coming next month!

### Senior Seminar

The topic in February is "How Much Freedom Do You Give up with Independent Living Facilities?" It is set for 10 - 11:30 p.m.

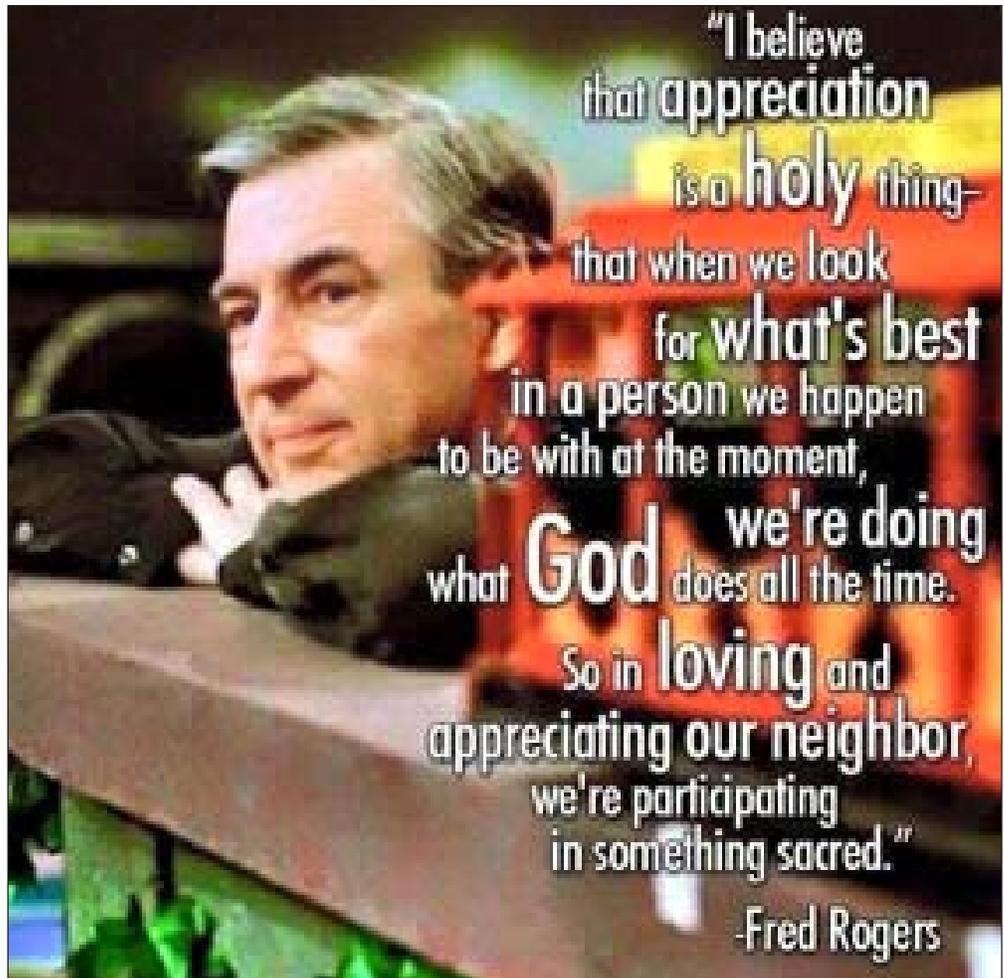
Thursday, February 20, in the sanctuary. Purpose of the Senior Seminars is to equip, educate and inspire seniors to make informed choices and empowered decisions concerning their lifestyle goals.

The event is free but you are asked to call 512-818-0988 to pre-register so there will be sufficient handouts.

## Fred Rogers: nontraditional minister

In 1962 the Pittsburgh Presbytery ordained Fred Rogers with a charge to continue his work with children and families through the media. He never served in the traditional role of pastor, but through television he brought his simple message of affirmation and acceptance to a “congregation” of millions.

Before taping a TV show, he always prayed to God: “Let some word that is said be yours.” He firmly believed in “holy ground,” which he described as “the space between the person who is offering his or her best and how the Holy Spirit translates that to help another person in need.”



## Fred Rogers, the Presbyterian Church and his unusual “ministry” to us all

As the film, “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,” plays in theaters around the country, audiences are celebrating the life of Fred Rogers (1928-2003). The beloved television personality, puppeteer, author and musician—dressed in a red sweater and sneakers—was best known for his program “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood” and asking, “Won’t you be my neighbor?” He talked frankly about feelings and invited children to be part of his TV “neighborhood.” Less known about Fred is his association with the Presbyterian Church. He was even approached by the church at one time about developing children’s TV programming for the denomination.

In the March 1998 edition of *Presbyterians Today*, editor Eva Stimson wrote about an interview she did with Fred, then 71, after his show had been on TV for some 30 years. The information in this story is based on her article.

Three generations of children grew up with “Mister Rogers.” What they might not have known is that, during his lunch break for eight years while working on children’s television programs, he took Bible and theology courses in the 1950s

at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. This was while working at WQED in Pittsburgh, the nation’s first community-supported public television station.

He planned to go to seminary after college but got sidetracked by a call to work in TV. A few years later seminary was a way of undergirding his call to minister to children and their families through TV. “I never in a million years thought I’d be on TV—that that would be part of what I was supposed to do.”

Instead of going to seminary after college as planned, Fred got a job in the early 1950s at a New York City TV station as floor manager for network music programs. Two years later in Pittsburgh he co-produced and was the organist and puppeteer for a daily TV program “The Children’s Corner.” The experience convinced Fred he had a future in children’s television. “I realized that’s where my talents were,” he believed.

In 1968 “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood” was born and it ran for 32 years on PBS, until 2001. It became the longest-running program on public television until “Sesame Street” overtook it.

In the early 1960s, media staff at the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. began talking to Fred about developing a children’s TV program as an outreach for

the denomination. But priorities shifted and money for the project evaporated.

Reflecting the personality of its creator, Fred’s TV show was a stark contrast to the quick-cut, MTV-style of other TV fare for children. Feelings—anger, fear, sadness, love and satisfaction—were the centerpieces of the program. While other children’s shows focused on building cognitive ability, Fred tried to encourage children’s healthy emotional development.

Nurturing children in the Christian faith is a challenge in today’s world, Rogers acknowledged. “There are so many forces against it.” He was appalled by many of the things kids were exposed to in the media. Particularly annoying to him were situation comedies in which the lines spoken by child actors were “smart-aleck remarks and put-downs.”

## Wisdom from Fred Rogers

*“The connections we make in the course of a life: Maybe that’s what heaven is.”*

*“Discovering the truth about ourselves is a lifetime’s work, but it’s worth the effort.”*

*“Anyone who does anything to help a child in his life is a hero to me.”*

*“Little by little we human beings are confronted with situations that give us more and more clues that we are not perfect.”*

*“You rarely have time for everything you want in this life, so you need to make choices. And hopefully your choices can come from a deep sense of who you are.”*

*“Often when you think you’re at the end of something, you’re at the beginning of something else.”*

*“When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping’.”*

*“I’m fairly convinced that the Kingdom of God is for the broken-hearted. You write of ‘powerlessness.’ Join the club; we are not in control. God is.”*

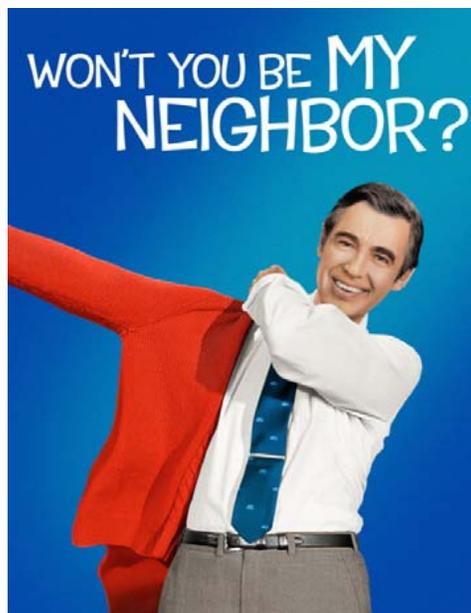
*“It’s a mistake to think that we have to be lovely to be loved by human beings or by God.”*

*“In the external scheme of things, shining moments are as brief as the twinkling of an eye, yet such twinklings are what eternity is made*

*of—moments when we human beings can say ‘I love you,’ ‘I’m proud of you,’ ‘I forgive you,’ ‘I’m grateful for you.’ That’s what eternity is made of: invisible, imperishable, good stuff.”*

*“One of my wise teachers, Dr. Orr, told me, ‘There is only one thing evil cannot stand, and that is forgiveness’.”*

*“If you could only sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to the people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person.”*



## Fred Rogers: on children and the church

*The most important thing the church can offer children, Fred Rogers said, is “a place where they know it’s OK to be a child.” This means allowing time in the worship service to “appreciate what children might have to give.”*

*Jesus welcomed children and so should the church, Fred believed. In fact, he said, “I think Jesus delighted in the presence of children.”*

*He based his work with children on the maxim, “Attitudes are caught, not taught.” The best way to cultivate faith in children, he believed, is to “share our own enthusiasm about what we believe.”*

*Presbyterian Historical Society archived article on Fred Rogers—<https://www.history.pcusa.org/blog/remembering-mr-rogers>*

## FIRSTWORD

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# FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>26</b> Dr. Bobby Hulme-Lippert Preaching 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm LOGOS Board Meeting 12:00pm Handbell Choir 5:00pm Congregational Dinner & Meeting	<b>27</b> 7:00pm PW Cluster Planning Meeting	<b>28</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Session	<b>29</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm Youth Bible Study 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>30</b> 2:00pm Sally Fortney's Memorial Service	<b>31</b> Church Office Closes at noon	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Communion/Home Communion Dr. Bobby Hulme-Lippert Preaching 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 9:40am New Member Class 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm Handbell Choir	<b>3</b> 11:00am PW Board 12:00pm Stephen Leaders	<b>4</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Elizabeth Circle	<b>5</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm Youth Bible Study 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Church Office Closes at noon	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Dr. Bobby Hulme-Lippert Preaching 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 9:40am New Member Class 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm Handbell Choir	<b>10</b> 10:00am Sarah-Ruth Circle	<b>11</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 6:45pm Executive Committee 7:30pm Committee Meetings	<b>12</b> 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 1:00pm Lydia Circle 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm Youth Bible Study 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 9:00am P.E.O. Meeting	<b>14</b> 10:00am Mission Sewing Church Office Closes at noon	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Dr. Bobby Hulme-Lippert Preaching 8:30am Worship-Sanctuary 9:40am Sunday School 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm Handbell Choir	<b>17</b> Church Office Closed – President's Day	<b>18</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Newsletter Deadline 7:00pm Diaconate	<b>19</b> 9:30am Martha Circle 9:30am Rachel Circle 11:00a.m. Hannah-Esther Circle 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm DNOW Kick-Off 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> 10:00am Senior Seminar	<b>21</b> Church Office Closes at noon 6:00pm DNOW weekend begins	<b>22</b> 9:00am LOGOS Sunday Rehearsal
<b>23</b> LOGOS Sunday 8:30am Worship-WCFH 9:40am LOGOS Brunch 9:40am DNOW Brunch 11:00am Worship-WCFH 12:00pm Handbell Choir 12:00pm LOGOS Board Meeting	<b>24</b> 6:00pm Men's Fellowship Dinner	<b>25</b> 10:30am Pastoral Care 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Session	<b>26</b> Ash Wednesday 12:00pm Ladies' Lunch Bible Study 12:00pm Men's Lunch Bible Study 5:00pm LOGOS 5:40pm Youth Bible Study 6:15pm Sanctuary Choir 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:15pm Chancel Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 11:00am PW Bible Leaders Meeting Church Office Closes at noon	<b>29</b>