

...said, "Let the waters swarm with fish
of every kind. Let the skies be filled with birds
of every kind and every living thing that
moves upon the earth."
1:1 Or: In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth.
1:26 Or man; Hebrew reads adam. 1:27 Or: the male and female

LIFE Old Testament

OPENING OUR TREASURE

Winter 2012

New Year, New Commitment

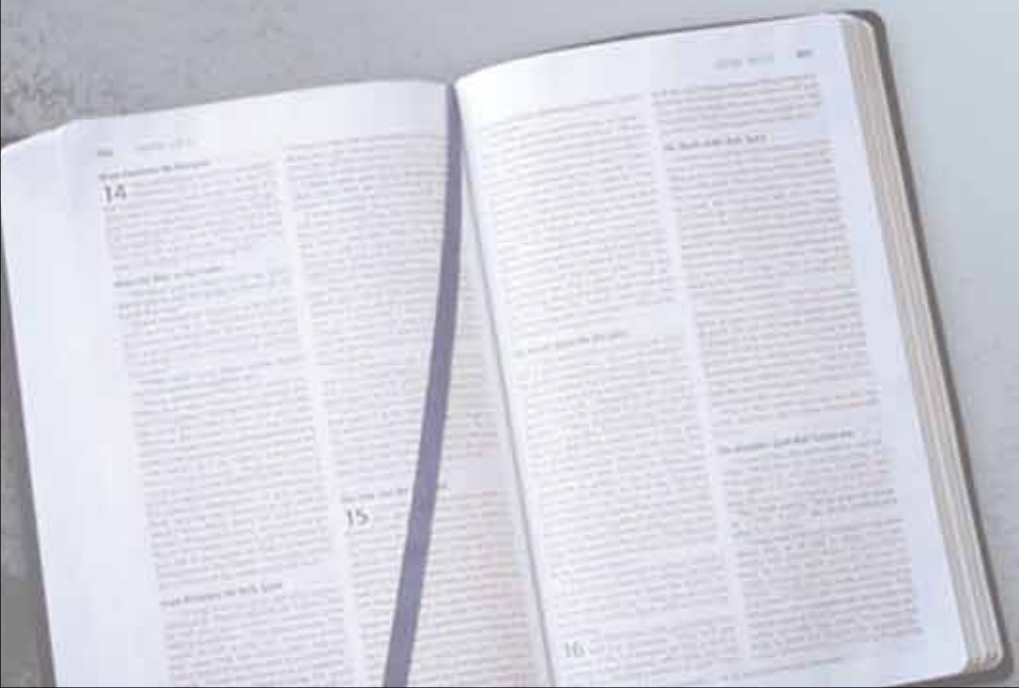
We live in a day and age where it is hard to find positive examples of commitment. As people who worship a God who binds himself to us for eternity, we ought to be the best examples of commitment. Start the New Year off right. Pick one small group or one Bible study or one Sunday school class and commit to it for the duration of the semester.

Commit to be there.

Commit to participate fully.

Commit to care for the people involved.

You are a priceless treasure. Giving yourself fully to God and to others is the perfect way to worship our newborn King.



OPENING OUR TREASURE

Our winter term at FPC begins with an Epiphany Celebration. Epiphany is the day the wise men arrived from the East to worship Jesus. The Scripture says, “On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh” (Matt 2:11). I hope in the pages of this brochure, you’ll find at least one opportunity to open your treasure, one commitment you can make that will help you discover anew God’s good gifts and give you the opportunity to respond by laying those gifts at the feet of Jesus in worship and thanks. Our time, our minds, our hearts, our relationships with one another, our amazing ability to engage with the King of Kings through his Word and through this community, are priceless treasures. So bring your family on Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights, or to someone’s home for a Koin group. No matter what our age, the only real treasures we have that will last are the treasures of the Kingdom of God. Our mission here at FPC is to love and lead all people to deeper life in Jesus Christ. In other words, to help everyone discover the treasure of Jesus and his community. Let’s begin by treasuring our treasure. Join us for worship, for a class, for a Koin group, as we take the journey the wise men took all those years ago, to find Jesus and open our treasure and kneel in worship to the King of Kings.

Questions about any of these opportunities? Contact Pastor Shannon Weisenfels, 684-7821 or sweisenfels@fpcmid.org



Sunday Mornings

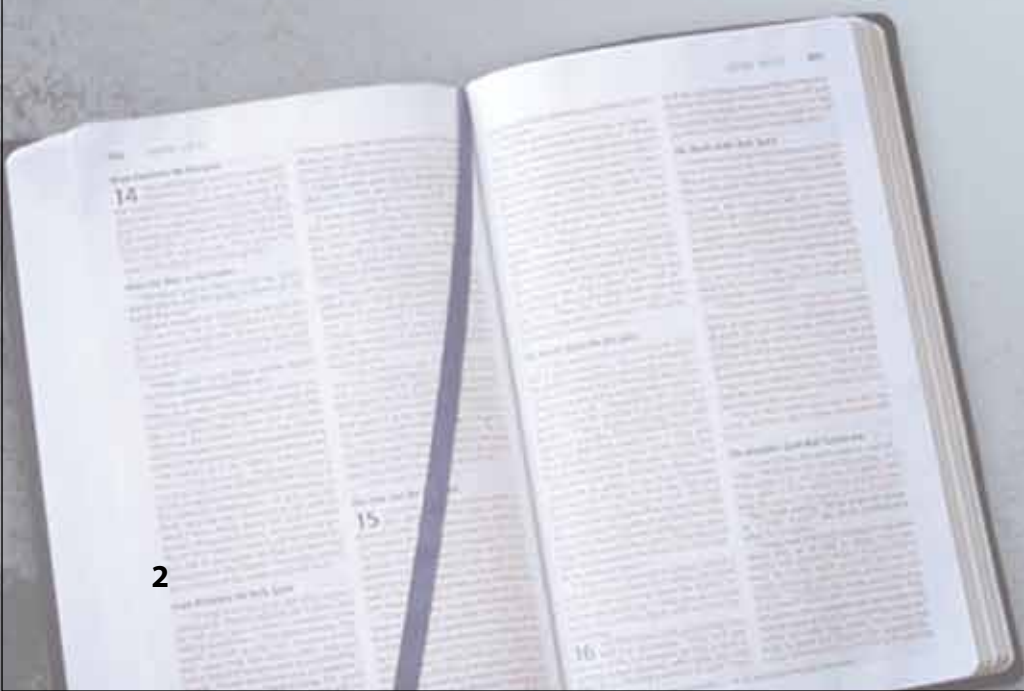
All classes meet from 9:30 – 10:30am beginning January 8th

Anchor: facilitated by Mary Beth Anton in Room 216. We'll be studying the prophet Isaiah. Please come join in the discussion. Everyone is welcome!

Compass: facilitated by Greg Bartha, Jerry Gahr, and John Kennedy in the Koinonia Room. We are a lively community of senior adults who will be studying God's covenant with Abraham and what it teaches us about faith using The Present Word Bible study. Please join us!

Covenant: Facilitated by Walter Thompson and Class Members in Room 214. We are a thriving group of mostly empty-nesters with room for whoever would like to join us as we continue digging into the Gospel of John.

Hot Topics: Facilitated by class members in the Art Room (218). Karl Barth is famously attributed with saying, "read the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other". Join us as we discuss current issues and events in conversation with the Bible as we seek to live faithful lives in our present world.





Sunday Mornings

Old Boys: facilitated by Harper Estes and Clay Gaston in Room 217. Men of all ages are welcome to join us for a study of faith and God's covenant with Abraham using The Present Word Bible study.

Partners in Christ: facilitated by Dan Hart in Room 208. In the gospel of Matthew, we encounter a teaching and touching Messiah who issues us a challenge not only to trust him but to try to live according to his word. Join us as we encounter Jesus in the depths of Matthew's gospel. Everyone is welcome!

Pilgrims and Seekers: facilitated by Class Members in Room 209. Please join us as we take a deeper look at the sermon text each week. Everyone is welcome to join in the discussion!

Discover First: January 23 – February 6 in the Parlor. Facilitated by Steve Schorr. Anyone interested in membership at First Presbyterian Church is welcome to join us for this short course introduction to our Presbyterian tradition and to the mission of our particular church.

New this Winter!

The Table: We are a new community of adults in our 20s and 30s, facilitated by class members in Room 210. We're seeking to explore our world from Jesus' perspective with the help of Nooma. Please bring your voice to the Table and join the discussion!



The Gathering

Wednesdays January 4-March 28

Dinner 5:30pm in Lynn Hall

Classes and Koin Groups for Adults 6:30-7:30pm

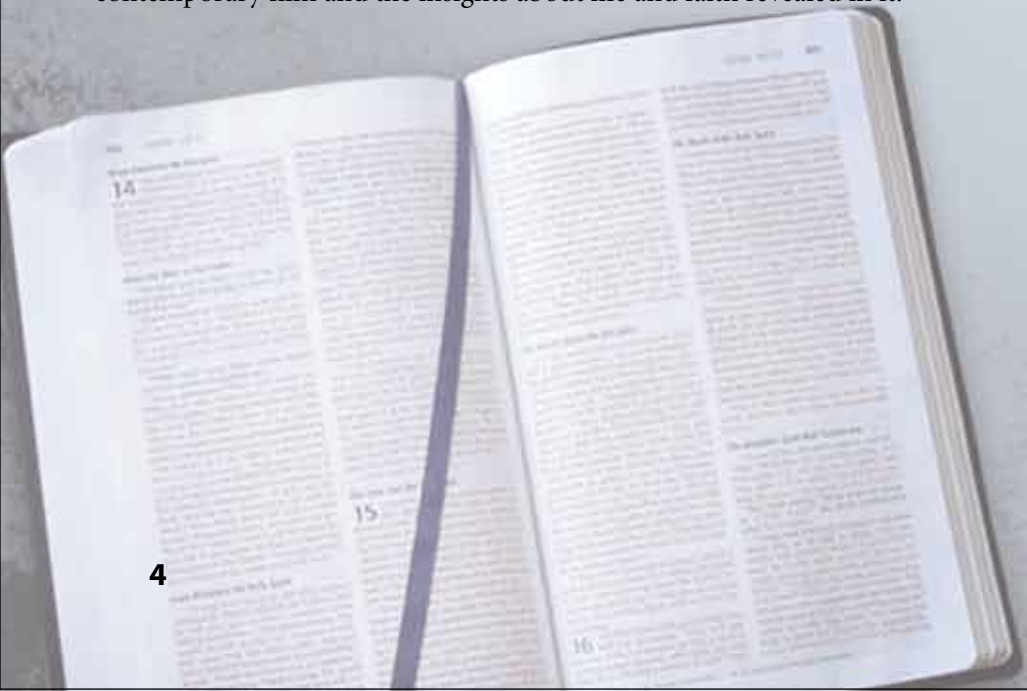
Winter Gathering kicks off with an Epiphany celebration. Bring your family and join us at 5:30 for dinner, complete with king's cake and prizes. At 6:30pm, we'll worship together in the chapel, bowing our hearts before the newborn King and presenting our lives to him as the Magi did so long ago.



Spirituality and Film

Facilitated by Gerry and Shannon Weisenfels, Koinonia Room

Movies are one of the most popular forms of entertainment in our culture today. Are they just a fun way to spend a couple of hours or might more be going on? What if God uses movies to reveal things to us about God and ourselves? Join us each week as we discuss a different contemporary film and the insights about life and faith revealed in it.



C.S. Lewis

Facilitated by Jeff Hewett and Mary Beth Anton

Join us as we discuss the work of the great 20th Century theologian, scholar, apologist, prolific writer and Christ-follower.

Officer Training

Facilitated by Steve Schorr in Room 214

All newly nominated elders and deacons, please join us as we prepare for a new term of office to begin in June. Returning elders and deacons are welcome to join us for a refresher as we seek to be equipped to lead FPC further into its mission to love and lead all people to deeper life in Jesus Christ.

Jubilate Singers and Instrumental Ensemble Choir Room.

*Play/Have Played/Haven't played an instrument since high school?
Sing/Like to Sing/Sang in high school/Sing in your car?*

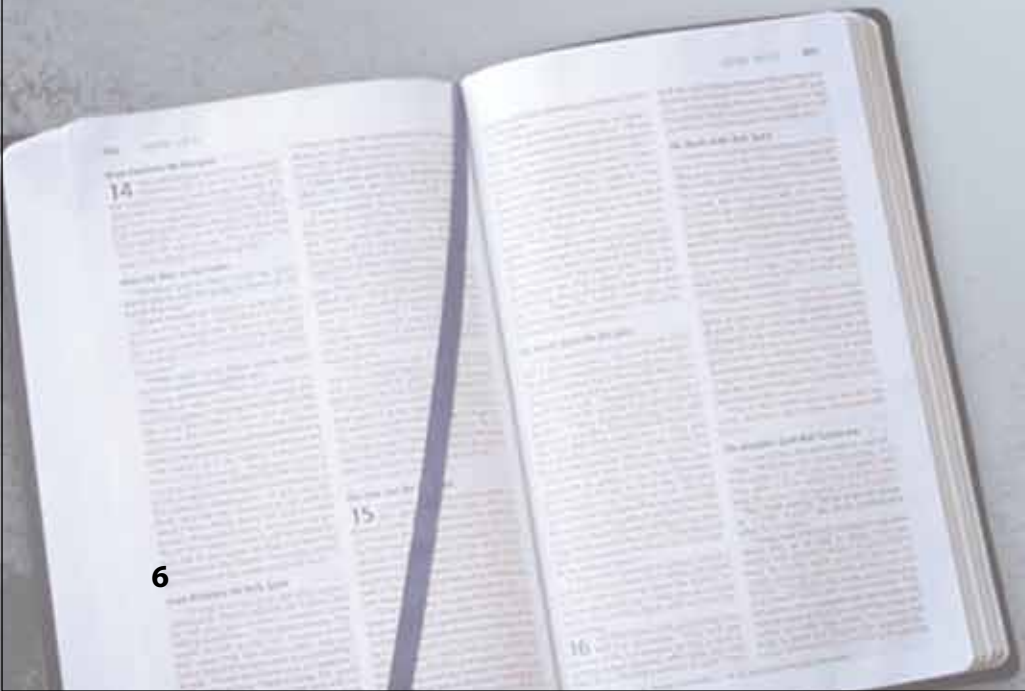
This ensemble is for you! We play and sing at 8:15 worship and occasionally at 11:00 worship in the sanctuary. We will rehearse on Wednesday evenings during the Gathering. The repertoire will be anthems that not only enhance our worship, but that you will be able to sing or play, regardless of your current skill level, in thanksgiving and praise to God.

For more information, please contact Greg Pysh at gpysh@fpcmid.org or 684-7821 x 139.

Gathering Schedule

- 5:30 Dinner in Lynn Hall**
- 5:55 5:55 Bible Club for 4 years – 6 grade**
- 6:30 Adult Classes and Children's Choir**
- 7:30 Sanctuary Choir**

Nursery is provided for all children kindergarten and under beginning at 6:00 pm.





“They devoted themselves to the apostle’s teaching and to fellowship (koinonia), to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

FPC offers a wide variety of small groups, called Koin groups. They meet throughout the week, some in homes, some at the church. We have a place for you! Contact Shannon Weisenfels sweisenfels@fpcmid.org or 684-7821 to sign up.



**Thursdays Beginning January 5th
9:15 am FPC Parlor**

Our study will be *“Blessing of a Skinned Knee”* by Wendy Mogel.

Come grab coffee and relax with other moms as we gather to study and encourage each other toward deeper life in Jesus Christ. All Moms are welcome!

Childcare is available for children kindergarten and under.

For more information, Contact Pastor Shannon Weisenfels, 684-7821 or sweisenfels@fpcmid.org



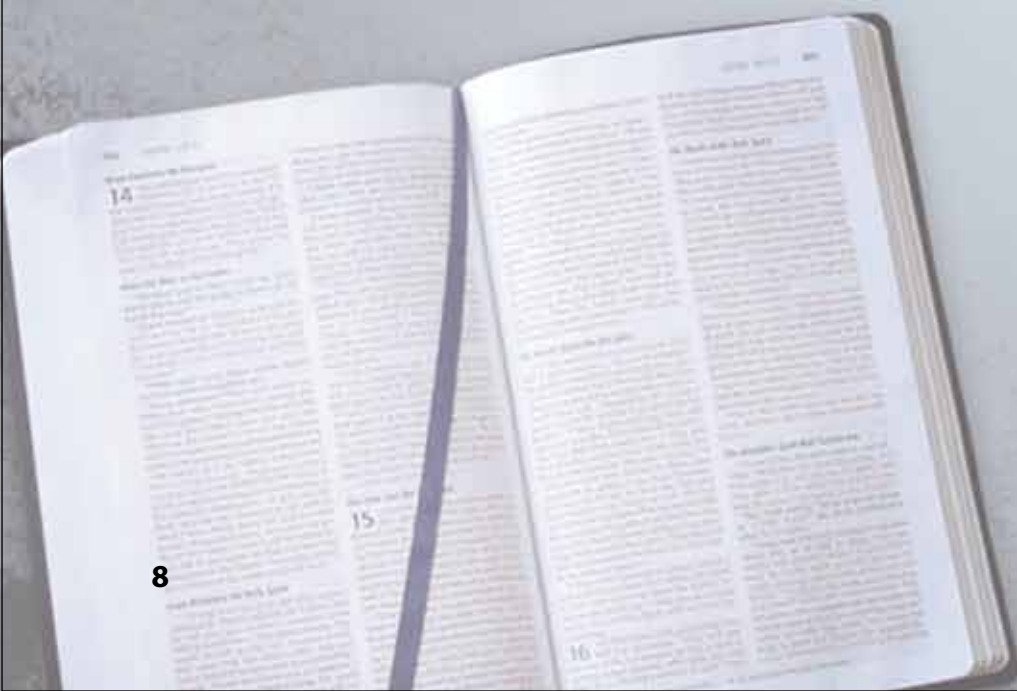
Weekday Bible Studies

Monday Morning Bible Study: facilitated by Shannon Weisenfels will begin Monday, January 23 at 10:00am in the Parlor. Did you know that the instruction “give thanks” appears thirty times in the Scriptures? We’ll be studying the theme of “*Giving Thanks*”, particularly in the Psalms and New Testament, in an effort to be more attentive to the good gifts God gives to us. Everyone is welcome!

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: facilitated by Steve Schorr will begin Tuesday, January 17 at 6:30am in the Koinonia Room. Everyone is welcome!

Women’s Bible Study: facilitated by Amanda Ellis will begin Monday, January 23 at 9:30am in Room 214. We’ll be studying Beth Moore’s *James: Mercy Triumphs*. Women of all ages are welcome to join us!

Presbyterian Women’s Circles: meet monthly for Bible study and fellowship. This year’s study is Confessing the Beatitudes. For more information contact the church office 684-7821.



*Loving and leading all people
to deeper life in Jesus Christ*



First Presbyterian
MIDLAND

800 West Texas
Midland, Texas 79701

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MIDLAND, TX 79711
PERMIT NO. 185