First Presbyterian
MIDLAND

Life

news to grow on

Edition 20 - October 2011

Small Groups Offer Big Support

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Dear Friends,

Cover:
Cheerleaders from the past.

Years ago my mother taught me this little song that sometimes rings through my head:

The Spirit of God is my Helper and Guide giving me power to do what is right. (repeat)

He gives love, he gives joy, he gives peace, and he gives patience to both young and old. Kindness and goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, he even gives self-control.

Presbyterians don't seem to talk very much about the Holy Spirit - too bad. What do you know about the Holy Spirit? In what ways have you experienced the Holy Spirit? This Fall we are studying the Book of Acts which brings the Third Person of the Trinity front and center. Sometimes referred to as the "Acts of the Apostles", more accurately it should be called the "Acts of the Holy Spirit." As we read Acts, it becomes clear that disciples and apostles are in on God's action, God acting in them, God empowering them for service and witness, God living in them – the Holy Spirit!

Often, even without knowing it, we want a nice, tidy God. However, as Jesus reminded us, "the Spirit blows where he wills" (John 3:8). This is a great grace reminding us that God is not tame, cannot be managed or controlled. The Holy Spirit is alive and active in our world – sometimes behind the scenes, at other times spectacular through signs and wonders, and still other times working inside people, bringing about forgiveness, healing, a change of heart and mind. The Holy Spirit disrupts settled arrangements and orchestrates strange encounters with different people. The Holy Spirit comforts and convicts, then inspires and empowers individuals to conquer sin, to be bold in witness, to be courageous in suffering or sacrifice.

We were not meant to live life "under our own steam." By definition, the Christian life is a life in and through the Holy Spirit, a life better lived day by day in joyful surrender to the leading of the Spirit. Richard Foster says it is through the Holy Spirit that "we experience God as truly manifest and notoriously active in daily life." Jesus once said, "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for fish, will give him a snake instead? . . . If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:11-13).

Let's ask!

Steve

Prayers for...

Prayers of Intercession are requested for Jered Groner, Barbara Sledge, Marcus Huffer, Liz Russell, Bob Boone, Frances Matthews, Cris Kelly, Joyce Dellinger, Hilda Banister, Bob Bailey, Phil Carleton, Bob Hudson, Bill Porter, Joan Baskin, Nada Gates.

Please pray for military personnel deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq) and Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan): Michael, Casey, Daniel, Carlos, Megan, Drew McKelwaith, Chris Miles, Aaron French, David Thornhill, Hank Hortenstine, Adam Graham, Tom Wolters, Mike Neu, Jake Hall, Hunter D. Martin, Clayton Slover, Damon Darnell, Danny Wakefield, Dean Forest, Joe Banner, Stephen Clayman, Justin Galan, Stanley Najar, Steven Castellon, Dr. David Shepherd, Mason Jennings, Kyle Humphries, Justin Robinson, Josh.

Congratulations to...

Catherine and Greg Whiting upon the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Arwen Whiting, on August 23, 2011 in Austin; sister of Lucas Whiting; granddaughter of Gloria and Bill McGavran, now living in Georgetown, Texas.

Condolences to...

Aline Collins upon the death of her father, John Collins, on August 14, 2011, in Dallas.

The family of Lee Campbell upon his death on August 20, 2011.

The family of Evelyn Anderson upon her death on August 28, 2011.

Lissa Wagner and her family upon the death of her husband, Cy Wagner, on August 30, 2011.

Bob Hudson and his family upon the death of his wife, Sadie Hudson, on September 1, 2011.

Rick and Debbie Reese upon the death of Rick's father, Robert Glenn Reese, on August 19, 2011 in Morgan's Point, Texas.

Martha and Matt Manulik upon the death of Martha's brother, David Mims, on Sunday, September 11, 2011.

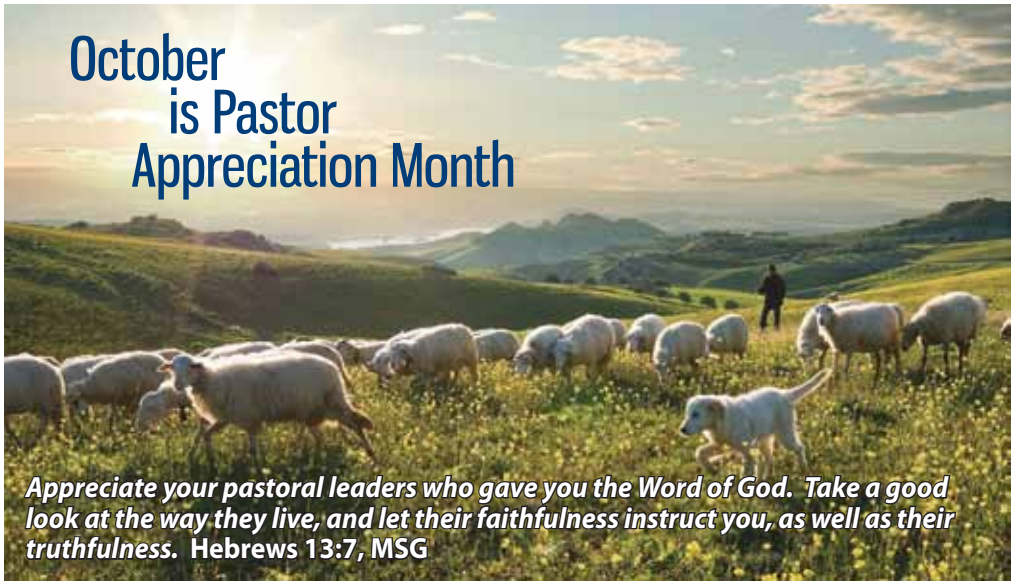
Jo Berner and her family upon the death of her husband, Leo Berner, on September 18, 2011.

Thank you for your nice letters...

Please stop by the information center at the Texas Street reception area to read the notes we received from Bill McIntire, Polo Park Estates, First United Methodist Abilene Youth Ministry.

The Child Development Center is off to a great start this year! We are thrilled to see our children's happy, shiny faces as they stream through Children's Day Out and the Preschool. Every year, we have families who, during hardship, have difficulty paying their tuition to the CDC. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, you may do so by contacting Donna Cannon in the church office. If you have questions, please speak with Pastor Shannon Weisenfels at 684-7821 or Goldie or Jane in the CDC at 683-0851. We thank you for your generosity in the past, and your future support will be greatly appreciated.

Becca Heidelberg, *Early Childhood Ministry*



Worship

Traditional Worship Music Schedule for October

Oct 2
Guitarist Doyle Dykes will play at both services (and give a concert at 7:00 p.m. that evening), and the Sanctuary Choir will bring The Word with Egil Hovland's stunning interpretation of the calling of Paul on the Damascus Road, titled *"Saul"*, at 11:00 worship.

Oct 9
The Jubilate Singers will sing Ralph Johnson's *"Thee, We Adore"* at 8:15 worship, and the Sanctuary Choir will sing the joyful setting by Richard Nichols of *"This is My Father's World"* and Jack Halloran's *"Witness"* at 11:00 worship.

Oct 16
The Agape Ringers, assisted by the Lone Star Brass, will present works of Bach and Holst at both services.

Oct 23
The Sanctuary Choir will share works by Eric Whitacre and Malcolm Archer at 11:00 worship.

Oct 30
The Celestial, Cherub, Carol, Elementary, Junior, and Sanctuary Choirs will sing at 11:00 worship.

Compassion Demands Solidarity

"If you would ask the Desert Fathers why solitude gives birth to compassion, they would say, 'Because it makes us die to our neighbor.' At first this answer seems quite disturbing to a modern mind. But when we give it a closer look we can see that in order to be of service to others we have to die to them; that is, we have to give up measuring our meaning and value with the yardstick of others. To die to our neighbors means to stop judging them, to stop evaluating them, and thus to become free to be compassionate. Compassion can never coexist with judgment because judgment creates the distance, the distinction, which prevents us from really being with the other."

The Way of the Heart by Henri J.M. Nouwen

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back." Luke 6:37-38

Henri Nouwen's writings almost always make me stop and think deeply about what I believe and what I don't. His words above are no exception and, in fact, have helped me reconsider the way I think about the children for whom we pray in Faces of Children.

For years, I'd been thinking of at-risk children in a very specific way, certain that I held much compassion for these precious little angels. It was pretty jarring to realize how misguided I'd been. Nouwen's words revealed to my self-satisfied brain that I'd just been repeating a pattern of behavior over and over…one that, on close examination, had trapped me in a barren, compassion-free zone.

The woman who proclaims to detest labels had been labeling the children for whom she prayed. I had been judging children in need, perhaps not in the conventional sense, but categorizing them nonetheless. I thought of them as vulnerable, suffering little darlings; when in reality, the children for whom we pray are living, breathing, God-creations, as complex as my own children.

So many children about whom we pray have impossibly difficult, dangerous lives. They've suffered trauma or abuse and can react violently or inappropriately. They may survive life on the streets by sniffing paint thinner or selling their bodies. Abandoned or neglected children aren't often known for their table manners, clean hands, or fresh clothes. And children who've been "recruited" into armies are forced to use weapons—are taught to kill.

It isn't easy to like (much less pray for) living, breathing, God-created children with more emotional baggage than most adults. Praying for those who act inappropriately, talk back, or who are stubborn or headstrong is tough. It's a challenge to embrace in prayer children whose body odor is sewer-fresh or whose appearance can frighten the hardiest horror movie-goer. It's downright difficult to lift in prayer those who are cruel to themselves or others. And talk about demanding…praying for children who steal, cheat, lie, or murder is rough.

No, it isn't easy to pray for children with real problems and the day-to-day struggles of life lived on the edge. I'd been taking the easy, not-so-compassionate route by lumping real children into tidy categories I called "precious angels" or "poor little babies" and praying over those. I stripped these children of their individuality, the characteristics that make them unique, by slapping slick, advertising-quality labels on them.

Nouwen has challenged me to surrender my sanitized version of children experiencing lives of hardship and struggle…to drop the labels and judgments…to "die to my neighbor" by moving closer in prayer and compassion to these real children, no matter their outward appearance or behavior. It is a work in progress.

Chris Laufer
Director, Faces of Children

"Compassion can never coexist with judgment because judgment creates the distance, the distinction, which prevents us from really being with the other."

Faces of Children…a ministry of prayer for children at risk
www.facesofchildren.net

Faces of Children prayer group meets at 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Bride's room at FPC Midland.

Small Groups Offer Big Support

There was a collegiate tennis tournament in Midland recently, and several members of the community hosted young athletes in their homes, feeding them meals, doing their laundry and sitting up late at night visiting. During the weekend, tennis fans rallied at the courts to cheer on "their" players.

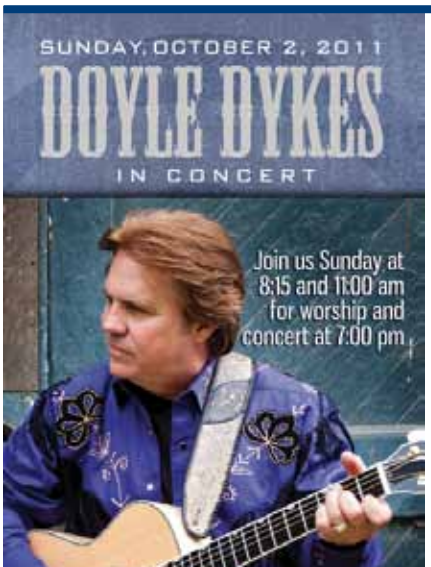
Interestingly, avid, typically borderline-obnoxious college supporters were not always rooting for their school. Al Spinks, a graduate of Texas A&M, was heard rooting for a Rice Owl, of all things. And Jan Goree, a Texas Tech Red Raider, was cheering for Davidson College. Why? Because those players were living in their homes.

The same phenomenon occurs in small groups. When you meet week after week with people who might otherwise have been strangers or mere acquaintances, there develops a familial connection that supersedes backgrounds, legacies and loyalties. We find ourselves rooting for the people who "do" life with us; the people with whom we share our concerns, our sorrows and our joys. These people may be longtime friends, but they may also be new to our lives. The small group connection allows us to dig into our faith with fellow believers who are rooting for us to grow deeper in our life with Jesus Christ.

New small groups, "KOIN groups", are forming now. Don't miss this opportunity to join a group that meets your needs. There are couples' groups, women's groups, men's groups, day groups, night groups and everything in between.

Love means nothing in tennis, but it means everything in the body of Christ!

Call Shannon Weisenfels, 684-7821, to join.



Doyle Dykes Concert

As part of our 125th anniversary celebration, we are pleased to host internationally-known musician and author Doyle Dykes on Sunday, October 2. Doyle will play at both morning services and will give a free concert in our Sanctuary at 7:00 pm. Please plan to join us for this special event, as Doyle shares not only his musical gifts, but also his testimony, much of which can be found in his newly-published autobiography, *"The Lights of Marfa."*

Worship

The Bridge "sermon only" CDs are available

Order forms are available at the church reception area or call Rhondy at 684-7821 to place an order.

DVDs now available upon request

of 11:00 am worship in the Sanctuary.
Cost of each DVD is $5.

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly". Matthew 6:6
(King James version)

The Prayer Closet is there for YOU. PLEASE feel free to step in and close the door and PRAY.

Spirit Walk

Vineyard Patterns by Robin Purcell

Dot Delay

I am directionally challenged; always have been.

So you can imagine my excitement when the first consumer-friendly GPS systems came on the market. In fact, I was determined to get our daughter, then a recent high school graduate, a talking directional device before she hit the road for college.

"We did just fine with a paper map in college, " husband Craig said, sounding like a crotchety, old curmudgeon. "Besides, she would probably have a wreck trying to operate the stupid thing."

Having put the kibosh on my great graduation gift idea, I equipped her glove compartment with a new, never-before-unfolded Texas map, along with another one of the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Little did I know that the iPhone – complete with a built-in map system -- was soon to be a staple in the purse of every female TCU Horned Frog, making the flat, paper map obsolete. Being low mom on the totem pole, I was the last family member to get an iPhone – and even then, it was Craig's outdated 3GS hand-me-down. It took weeks for me to master the texting and calling functions alone, and only recently have I attempted to make use of the map App.

"Just follow the blinking green dot," my technologically advanced older sister instructed me during a Spring Break trip to Florida. "If the blinking dot goes off the highlighted path, you know you've gone the wrong way."

Seemed simple enough, although the wallet-sized screen made it difficult to get an overview of an area, and I never felt quite confident in my comings and goings in strange towns. Enter the iPad. Now that screen was a relief to my aging eyes!

On an anniversary trip to Napa Valley this summer, we chose the cheap flight, which put us into Oakland, California, not exactly a tourist attraction. Nonetheless, Craig procured a convertible rental, under the auspices of "treating his bride." I doubt if there is a wife of 28 years alive who would feel that a topless rental car was a bonus to the vacation, excepting the rare few who have movie star-like silky straight hair. All the same, I was a good sport, and we headed out from the airport, passing smoke stacks and greyish factories on our way to the nearest Starbuck's, from which I was officially given full navigational authority for our hour-long trip north.

With the first winery appointment creeping close, Craig set up the map App and plopped his iPad in my lap.

"Keep watching the green blinking dot and tell me if I'm going the right way," he said, obviously overconfident in my directional dexterity.

"So which way do I turn out of the parking lot?" he asked, as I turned the pad first one way and then the other, desperately trying to make sense of the scene before me.

Finally making our way onto the highway that appeared to take us all the way to our destination, I allowed the iPad to "sleep," something I was apparently not permitted to do as co-pilot.

"Do I exit here?" Craig asked frantically as a huge green sign loomed ahead.

"No!" I said with great confidence as I punched the iPad awake. "We just stay on this highway all the way."

He verbally doubted my directions, but at 65 mph, he had little choice but to trust me. Within minutes, we were in a crawl of cars inching towards a bank of tollbooths. At the reduced speed, Craig took the iPad from me and determined that we had indeed missed our exit and were now in a one-way funnel to a bridge towards San Francisco!

Grief Relief Class

Grief Relief is a four-week program where you will learn how to deal with grief and loss in a such a way that you will begin to experience God's healing through your grieving. Please join us as we share and care for one another in a time of need. The instructor will be Ron Ellison, Communication Facilitator of Hospice of Midland. We are meeting in the church parlor on Wednesdays through October, 5. Lunch will be served for a fee of $5. Everyone is invited to attend.

"But the green dot still says we are on the right road," I protested, confused. Craig determinedly maneuvered between lanes, attempting to jockey over to the far tollbooth in hopes of an exit. As we crept along, the green dot suddenly skipped ahead to our present location, clearly past the correct exit, making us realize that periodic satellite changes must temporarily delay the dot. This would have been good information to know.

After much ado, we managed to get back on the right highway, only to miss the turn-in to the winery with one minute to spare, once again thanks to the dot delay.

At dinner that night, Craig was determined to tutor me on the finer points of using the map App. Much to my surprise, I learned that there are written, step-by-step instructions at the bottom of the map, very carefully spelling out every veer, turn and loop! Now that was helpful!

I became a master of the map by the time our trip was over, only occasionally allowing Craig to pass an exit or turn, and I blamed those mishaps on the strands of hair blowing violently in my eyes.

Back home in Midland, a friend asked if I would ride with her to a tennis tournament in Big Spring, Texas. She admitted having no idea where the town was, and I assured her that I was a pro on the map App. However, as I plugged the information into my phone (the iPad belongs to the king of all gadgets --Craig), my friend said, "Hold on. Let me call Natasha and find out how to get there," pointing to the GPS screen on the dash of her car, which she had affectionately anthropomorphized.

"Hello. Where would you like to go today?" an actual human, albeit male, voice greeted.

Having given this real person the address of the courts in Big Spring, Natasha lit up with a map before us, and began speaking oh-so-calmly, giving warnings prior to every exit or turn.

"Does Natasha freak out if we don't go the way she tells us?" I inquired along our way. My friend assured me that the system would simply re-calculate the route based on our current location. Pretty nifty.

When our dear friend, Patrick Wayland, died suddenly during a military training exercise, we were fresh from our trip to Napa. Amid all the unanswered questions, I thought of that blinking green dot and took great comfort in the fact that God doesn't have to switch satellites – He is always up to speed, never delays and knows where we are at all times. He undoubtedly hovered over Patrick even as he took his final breath, never leaving or forsaking him, simply offering him a shortcut to his final destination.

While we will never understand why the Lord chose to direct Patrick home early, we would be well-served to read and remember the handy written instructions He has provided in the paper life-map of His Word. Isaiah 30:21 reminds us, *"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'"*

God can and will speak to us clearly and calmly, if only we will call upon Him and ask for direction. In my 50-plus years, I have only heard God's voice distinctly on a couple of occasions, but I am unable to count the times I've heard His whisper, calmly and gently nudging me back on the path of righteousness. Our problem is that we are much more likely to tune in to the phone or iPad than into the infallible Word of our God. Blaring radios and rushing wind, busy minds and busier tongues may blot out the still, small voice of the only One who truly knows the way when push comes to shove, and His dot never delays.

I'm glad I'm not in the driver's seat!

– Susan Atchison

Cooking for One

Join us for a four-week course open to anyone interested in preparing simple foods.
Wednesdays 10:30 am to noon through October 12, in the Koinonia Room

Session 1: Introduction and ice breaker with cinnamon rolls and omelet preparation.
Session 2: Cooking class with Angels in Aprons
Session 3: Lindy Tefteller, M.S. Counseling with Texas AgriLife Extension Service,
will discuss nutrition, food safety and healthy snacks
Session 4: Social with speaker Ron Ellison, Communication Facilitator for Hospice Midland.
Make and share your favorite casserole or salad. Bring a copy of your recipe.

This fun and informative workshop series is presented by HospiceMidland and First Presbyterian Church. Please call Susie Mauldin at HospiceMidland to reserve your spot, 686-6101.

From Mee to You

Children's Ministry Newsbrief

We are already off to a great start this school year! The curriculum that your child is experiencing is intentionally geared for their age group. The teachers are excited about walking beside you and your child. The spiritual growth of each child is developing as they get to know our Lord and Savior a little more each week.

In the TRU curriculum from David C. Cook that our 3 year olds through our 2nd graders are using there is a wonderful reminder for all of us: "God designed us to live in community and to experience Him in ways that can only happen in proximity to one another.

A faith community serves to create an environment to equip and disciple parents, to celebrate God's faithfulness, and to bring a richness of worship through tradition and rituals, which offer children an identity. Our love for each other reflects the love we have received from God." This is true no matter what the age. If you haven't found a small group to join, contact Pastor Shannon and join a Koin Group. These are small groups that help you grow in your faith community.

Bring your child to Sunday school, choir, and 5:55 Club to allow them to build friendships here at church (their community) and allow their teachers to become part of the web of adults that will continue to support and nurture your child into a deeper life with Jesus Christ.

Last of all, there are two movies out that I strongly recommend all of you go to see, they are *Seven Days in Utopia* and *Courageous*. You will not be disappointed by the stories!

His,
Chrissie Mee
Director of Children's Ministry

Music Ministry Notes

Your Top Ten Hymns

As part of our 125th anniversary celebration, we are most interested in your list of top ten favorite hymns. A ranking of the top ten (or at least top five) would be appreciated, and the results will be compiled and revealed in the November issue of LIFE. All entries must be postmarked (or emailed) by October 5, and should be emailed to gpysh@fpcmid.org, or sent to Greg's attention at the church, 800 W. Texas. Soli Deo Gloria!

Speaker fom Thailand coming to FPC

Come hear about what God is doing in Thailand! Our good friend, Faa (Sumitra Choemue) is coming to visit Midland again. First Presbyterian has been partnering with Faa to help needy children in Chiang Mai, Thailand for many years. She now runs her own children's home there called G.R.O.W. (Grace Refuge Outreach Worldwide). Faa is not only doing amazing things for God's Kingdom as she serves the "least of these," she has quite an interesting story of her own. Please join us for lunch on Friday, September 30, at 11:30 am in the Koinonia Room to hear Faa personally speak about this and more! Contact Pastor Walter for more information.

Sunday School

Join us every Sunday at 9:30 am, *SHARP,* for Sunday School in room 228! This is a great place to dig into Scripture and life and how they intersect. Bring a friend…bring 10 friends…and join some awesome, loving adults who are crazy about Jesus and you!

JOLT

All youth meet together with guys or girls your own age in a small group environment where it is safe to share, ask questions, and simply "do life" as a family together. This is a great place to grow in your faith while growing in relationships with others.

Most groups will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm. For specific details, contact Becky Holmes at 684-7821.

Presbyterian Women at FPC

The Presbyterian Women of Palo Duro Presbytery and Tres Rios Presbytery will be having a Women's Retreat at First Presbyterian Church of Midland on November 11-12, 2011. The program, *"Growing Towards God in Prayer,"* will be lead by Amy Allen Parker and Carol Toombs from First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth, Texas. Carol will lead participants through Dr. Corrine Ware's model for spiritual growth, a model which will show you how you are naturally open to God, as well as how you may be closed off. Also, this session will provide a growth plan for deepening and widening your experience of God. Amy will take the group through spirituality centers in which participants will be able to experience the prayer forms that are natural to them, as well as those that stretch them to a new understanding of ways to be with God. Brochures and registration forms are available at the front desk. This is a wonderful opportunity to nurture your spiritual self. Please join us.

Invite

Welcome New Members:

Van and Carol Rodgers
Jan and Susan South

Date Change

FPC Men's Retreat is back!

Jim Houston-Hencken and Steve Wilkins will be our featured speakers February 17-19, 2012 at the Warren Ranch.

Cost will be $125 per person, scholarships available. Registration will begin later in the fall. If you would like be a part of the planning team, please contact Jamey Lucas

Primetimers Events

Men's Lunch Out

Tuesday, October 11, 11:30 am. We will meet at On The Border on Loop 250 and Midland Drive. Come for the good food, fun and fellowship with good friends.

Primetimers Mission project

Wednesday, October 12, at 2 pm in the Koinonia Room. The items we would like to include are: toothpaste, toothbrush, bar of soap, combs, small bottles of shampoo, conditioner and hand lotion. If you would like to contribute any of these items for this project, please drop by the reception desk. Come help and plan to stay and watch the movie at 3:00 p.m.

Movie Matinee

Come and get out of the heat, relax and enjoy the Movie Matinee scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, at 3:00 pm in the church parlor. The movie this month is *The Conspirator*. In the wake of Abraham Lincoln's assassination, seven men and one woman are arrested and charged with conspiring to kill the President. Against the ominous backdrop of post-Civil War Washington, war hero Frederick Aiken reluctantly agrees to defend the lone woman charged, Mary Surratt, before a military tribunal. As the nation turns against her, she is forced to rely on Aiken to uncover the truth and save her life. The critics write this is "Mesmerizing" and "Brilliant! Riveting and Suspenseful". Come and see a great movie, enjoy the fellowship and stay for the gathering meal.

Scrapbooking and Jewelry making/repair

Thursday, October 13, at 10 am, Koinonia Room. Bring your photographs to organize, crop or just visit about them. Come and work until 2 pm, and we will pick up something for lunch. Joyce Watts will help with jewelry ideas and repair. Sharla Somers will show you fast and easy shortcuts to get your pictures in albums ready to enjoy. All ages are welcome.

Lunch Out

Red Lobster, Tuesday, October 18. We will travel to Odessa on the minibus for lunch out! The minibus will leave from the church parking lot at 10:45 am. Call Mary Margaret at the church office to reserve your seat on the bus.

Primetimers Lunch

Sunday, October 23, at 12:15 pm in Lynn Hall after worship service. We offer a splendid spread at the Primetimers Sunday Pot Luck Luncheon. Your ticket for admission is a salad, vegetable or dessert to share. Or if you're not into heating up your kitchen, there's nothing wrong with something whipped up by your local grocery store. The church will provide the meat.

Ladies Lunch

Tuesday, October 25 at 11:30 am at On The Border on Loop 250 and Midland Drive. This will be a Dutch treat event with lots of opportunities for fellowship.

Crestview Baptist Cafe for lunch

Thursday, October 27 at 11:30 am. The cafe is located in the church building on the corner of Thompson and Loop 250. Park in the back of the building near the circular driveway and follow the signs to the cafe. Come check out this new concept for church buildings.

Angels in Aprons ministry

The purpose of this ministry is to provide ready to eat food in individual frozen servings for a small fee. The November menu will be turkey and dressing, sweet potatoes, broccoli rice casserole, cranberry salad and pumpkin dessert. Place your order by calling Rhondy at the church office. Your order must be placed by Thursday, October 20. The small individual portions can be picked up and paid for on Thursday, November 10 from 2 to 3:30 pm in the Family Life Center area foyer.

Fall foliage in Boerne

November 3-5, Primetimers will be taking a two-night trip in the minivan. We will be checking out the sights of Boerne and Comfort, visiting Kerrville, plus doing some shopping and eating at some great spots. Come enjoy the small town atmosphere. The cost for two nights in a motel will be $240 for a single or $120 per person for a double, plus your meals and anything extra you would like to purchase. This trip is filling up fast so get your check, payable to First Presbyterian Church, to Mary Margaret at the church office no later than Monday, October 24. Receipt of your check is your reservation and is nonrefundable. Come and join the fun on the minivan.

Bethlehem Production

We will see the matinee performance at the Ragtown Gospel Theater in Post, Texas, on Saturday, December 3. In a story that takes us from Heaven, before the throne of the Father, to a humble stable in Judea, the musical drama "Bethlehem" will forever change the way you look at the birth of our Savior. Enjoy a full hour of vibrant and uplifting southern gospel music featuring Chip Polk. This trip will be filled with lots of surprises. We will visit the OS Ranch Museum and you will be given the opportunity to check out a few Christmas gifts at the Post Trade Days activities. The cost will be $20 paid in advance for the theater ticket, reserving your seat on the minivan. You will need to bring money for your meals and any other purchases you may wish to make. We will leave from the church parking lot at 7:30 am.

Thanks for the Memories...

Looking back through the early years of this church has been both interesting and inspiring. I thank you for the opportunity to explore and share it with you. The history of the decades from the 1970s to the present is currently under construction. Pat Hunter and Barbara Koch are busy at work and will soon have those memories to share with us all.

We are honored to be woven into this history each and every day. You build it with your participation in this wonderful journey that God has given you to follow.

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." John 15:12

Blessings, Sherry Bell

FPC: Do You Know?
When was Midland County created?

Visit the FPC 125 Timeline in Lynn Hall to find the answer and more.

FPC's Church Camp Out – A Huge Success...

First Presbyterian
MIDLAND
800 West Texas
Midland, Texas 79701

Periodicals Postage
PAID
Midland, Texas

Thanks to the tireless "chain gang"
Martha Holton • Vera Osadchuk • Gladys Nickell • Carol Craig • Jackie Perry • The church staff

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Life Deadline:

The deadline for submissions is the **second Thursday of the month** for publication in the next issue.

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October Birthdays

McKenzie Carleton	10/1
Lillian Earl	10/1
Brady Locke	10/2
Jim Nelson	10/2
Russell Pritchett	10/2
Margy Tettleton	10/2
Rob Webb	10/2
Jacques Hyatt	10/3
Lynn Pace	10/3
Hal Rasmussen	10/3
Amy Bell	10/4
Maurine Cox	10/4
Marilyn Hightower	10/4
Cynthia Howard	10/4
Phyllis Roush	10/4
Kaden Rutherford	10/4
Lucy Bourland	10/5
Janice Bullock	10/5
Mary Hermann	10/5
Nick Neinast	10/5
Charlie Polk	10/5
Tanya Schaeffer	10/5
Bill Smith	10/5
Sophia Trevino	10/5
Dyan Agar	10/6
Tammy Smith	10/6
Jordan Stevens	10/6
Caroline Brown	10/7
Ellen Bryant	10/7
Nada Gates	10/7
John Hood	10/7
Anna Kate Morrow	10/7
Patty Zeigler	10/7
Sally Koch	10/8
Bill Marshall	10/8
Audrey Stevens	10/8
Jake Stimmel	10/8
Claytie Williams	10/8
Sigrid Coats	10/9
Dale Douglas	10/9
Chandler Hyatt	10/9
Cris Kelly	10/9
Don Thompson	10/9
Kip Agar	10/10
Rhonda Durham	10/10
Brayden Huffer	10/10
Betty Starnes	10/10
Becky Buffum	10/11
John Kennedy	10/11
Julia Lancto	10/11
Lynn Mashburn	10/11
Harrison Reese	10/11
Deanna Rutherford	10/11
Laura South	10/11
Emily Ware	10/11
Hayden Weisenfels	10/11
Sherry Bell	10/12
Emily Goodfellow	10/12
Mary Green	10/12
Jeri Johnson	10/12
Marc Nelson	10/12
Jackie Rendall	10/12
Matt Chalfant	10/13
Mac Starnes	10/13
Sharon Webb	10/13
Mark Wheeler	10/13
Sarah Gulick	10/14
Maxine Hannifin	10/14
Mary Sue Harrison	10/14
Abby Jones	10/14
Jeff Somers	10/14
Jim Stanton	10/14
Roger Ball	10/15
Allegra Boone	10/15
Megan Brignon	10/15
Russell Brown	10/15
Sue Chanofsky	10/15
Shannon Hardwick	10/15
Mitchell Meyers	10/15
Jennifer Hart	10/16
Nolan Hirsch	10/16
Andrew Lawson	10/16
Jack Purvis	10/16
Jon Thacker	10/16
Bob Bailey	10/17
Eric Burleson	10/17
Christine Hammit	10/17
Bobie McDaniel	10/17
Matt Nelson	10/17
Robert Ochsner	10/17
Ben Spinks	10/17
Emily Corbett	10/18
Wilkie Miller	10/18
Robert Cottrell	10/19
Noah Crumpler	10/19
Kendall Hall	10/19
Joe-Mac Stimmel	10/19
Shelby Blanchard	10/20
Elton Cole	10/20
Terry Hall	10/20
Frankie Kilgore	10/20
Rachel Ramsey	10/20
Gary Vandergriff	10/20
Kaki Gant	10/21
Mark Roush	10/21
Paul Scherzer	10/21
Krista Somers	10/21
Claire Williamson	10/21
Roger Allen	10/22
Hannah George	10/22
Kevin Hammit	10/22
Trace Morrow	10/22
Teresa Cain	10/23
Adrienne Coats	10/24
Bill Dillard	10/24
Horace Griffin	10/24
Susan Harmon	10/24
Susan Lucas	10/24
Bryan Vinson	10/24
Dan Wilkins	10/24
Sophia Brock	10/25
Ross Brown*	10/25
Kaye Cowden	10/25
Camille Dinger	10/25
Kate Latham	10/25
Charles Priddy	10/25
Van Rodgers	10/25
Chloe Roybal	10/25
Geoff Wheeler	10/25
Carter Petty	10/26
Phil Robb	10/26
Ben Strickling	10/26
Carolyn Tefteller	10/26
Bob Wood	10/26
Bob Cowan	10/27
Duke Roush	10/27
Roberta Aldridge	10/28
Jeff Armstrong	10/28
Barbara Hartwell	10/28
Matthew Hood	10/28
Pat McMullan	10/28
Rick Reese	10/28
Jad Rogers	10/28
Zack Sledge	10/28
Parker Wyrick	10/28
Susan Atchison	10/29
Michael Brown	10/29
Amber Chalfant	10/29
Sydney Gramentine	10/29
Gene Schafer	10/29
Jimmie Lou Bradley	10/30
Cole Locke	10/30
Elizabeth Douglas	10/31
Phil Hammond	10/31
KK Hanson	10/31
Adam Heck	10/31
Norma Parrish	10/31
Steve Pruett	10/31
Candyce Roybal	10/31

* Staff

First Presbyterian
MIDLAND

Primetimers October Calendar 2011 Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 x
2	3 9:30 AM Angels in Aprons Cooking	4	5 10:30 AM Cooking for One 11:30 AM Ron Ellison Class	6 2:00 PM Angels in Aprons Pick Up	7	8
9	10	11 11:30 AM Men's Lunch - On The Border	12 10:30 AM Cooking for One 11:30 AM Ron Ellison Class 2:00 PM Mission Hour *3:00 PM Movie - The Conspirator*	13 10:00 AM Scrapbooking	14	15 x
16	17 11:30 AM Primetimers Council	18 10:45 AM Lunch at Red Lobster	19 11:30 AM Ron Ellison Class	20 *Angels in Aprons Deadline*	21 Trip to Granbury	22
23 12:15 PM Primetimers Luncheon	24	25 11:30 AM Ladies Lunch - On The Border	26 11:30 AM Ron Ellison Class	27 Lunch at Crestview Baptist Church	28	29 x
30	31					

Sep 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Nov 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

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