

# THE Penn Street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth

JULY 2022 | Volume 22, Number 7



## Christmas in TOY DRIVE

# July

Sundays,  
July 10, 17,  
24, and 31

Help us start stocking up for FPC's annual Christmas Toy Store with the Christmas in July Toy Drive! We're planning for the store to be open for our friends and neighbors from Community Crossroads on December 10. The annual outreach event provides parents and guardians the opportunity to "shop" through a donation-provided store of new children's toys and books for a small fee per child. The store benefits people connected to FPC ministries through Community Crossroads and offers parents and guardians both dignity and choice in selecting gifts for their children. Each year, over 300 children are served!

#### Items needed in July:

- Scooters and helmets
- 18 inch dolls
- Monetary donations (gift cards to toy retailers or checks made out to FPC with "Christmas Store" in the memo line)

Please bring unwrapped donations to the tables outside worship spaces on Sundays, July 10, 17, 24, and 31. Thank you for helping us kick off another great year of the Christmas Toy Store!



The Church Office, Early Education Center, and Community Crossroads Outreach Center  
are CLOSED on Monday, July 4 for Independence Day.



# PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

Brian is preaching on the fruit of the Spirit this summer. (Galatians 5.16-25) Recently he preached an inspiring sermon on Love. Using 1 Corinthians 13 as the foundational text, he explored what *Love Is*, what *Love is Not*, and the reality that *Love Never Ends*. Reflecting together as a congregation on the fruit of the Spirit has been rich and meaningful and I'm looking forward to our continued reflection together this summer.

Recently, I have been inspired to reread a spiritual classic that has had a profound impact on my own life of faith and experience of Love. Henri Nouwen's *Life of the Beloved* was written to a friend of Henri's and others who struggle with the spiritual life in a secular age. The opening lines of the book set the tone for the conversations and reflections that follow:

"Ever since you asked me to write for you and your friends about the spiritual life, I have been wondering if there might be one word I would most want you to remember when you finished reading all I wish to say. Over the past year, that special word has gradually emerged from the depths of my own heart. It is the word 'Beloved,' and I am convinced that it has been given to me for the sake of you and your friends."

Nouwen spends the rest of the book inviting us to reflect on living as God's Beloved. For him it is the essence of the spiritual life. He says:

"...being the Beloved is the origin and fulfillment of the life of the Spirit. I say this because, as soon as you catch a glimpse of this truth, we are put on a journey in search of the fullness of that truth until we can rest in that truth. From the moment we claim the truth of being the Beloved, we are faced with the call to become who we are. Becoming the Beloved is the great spiritual journey we have to make. Augustine's words: 'My soul is restless until it rests in you, O God,' capture well this journey."

As the summer continues, as we reflect on Love and the fruit of the Spirit, and as we seek to be faithful disciples, I am so thankful for God's claim and call on us to live as God's Beloved. I am also thankful and grateful that God has called us together in First Presbyterian Church as we make this journey together.

God's peace to you,

*Michael*

## SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the **AUGUST** issue of the Penn Street Letter are due **Wednesday, JULY 20**. Submissions for the weekly Penn Street Online emailed newsletters are due the Wednesday prior to each week's issue. Please send to Pam Burkholder at [pamb@fpcfw.org](mailto:pamb@fpcfw.org).

## FOLLOW US

Do you follow First Presbyterian on social media? If not, find us on the following sites and follow along for photos, reminders, encouragement, and more.



@firstpresfw



@firstpres\_fw

## PUBLISHER INFO

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## Children's Ministry Family Gathering: Picnic & Bubble Party, July 10



We will meet on the church lawn from 5-7 p.m. for a big family picnic and bubble party. Bring your own picnic dinner (we will provide dessert!) and the Bubble Truck will be in the church parking lot from 6-7 p.m. Kids should wear a white t-shirt (and other clothes that can get messy), some kids might want to wear goggles and wear swim/water

shoes. Questions? Contact Ann Nielsen (anielsen@fpcfw.org or 817.335.1231).

## What are Parish Visitors?



I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you during my first month on staff at First Presbyterian. During these conversations many have asked, "just what is a Parish Visitor?"

The Parish Visitor position has been a feature of First Presbyterian Church since the 1950s. Parish Visitors extend Christian community to those who are unable to physically participate in the church's community due to age or illness. Through phone calls, in person visits, and faithful prayer, the Parish Visitors provide friendship and pastoral care. The Parish Visitors also maintain a repository of resources for aging members and their families.

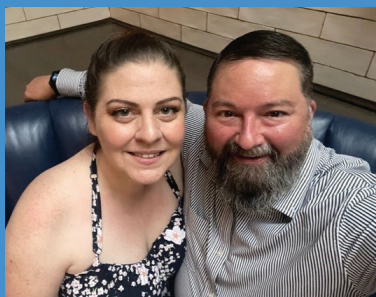
Over the next several months I will be using this space to introduce some of these resources that are available to families in Tarrant County and the Greater Fort Worth Area. As always, please reach out to either me or Jennifer Regen for additional information regarding the Parish Visitor ministry.

God's Peace,

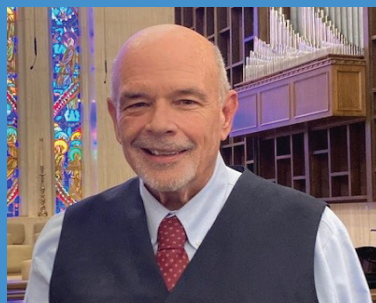
Matt McGraw, Parish Visitor

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Please join the Evangelism Committee in welcoming the following new members:



**Diane and Russell Crim**, who joined FPC by reaffirmation on Sunday, June 5. Diane and Russell and their children Russell Jr. (16) and Ava (12) have been worshipping at First Pres, and Diane sings in the Chancel Choir.



**Davie Jones**, who joined FPC by reaffirmation of faith on Sunday, June 19. Davie has been worshipping at FPC for a while and has a heart for mission. He is retired from the field of Human Resources.

## Inspiring Disciples...

## Engaging the World...



The mission and ministry of First Presbyterian is extensive as we *Inspire Disciples* and *Engage the World*. To enable ministry to flourish and engage with thousands of members and friends of First Presbyterian on Penn Street, at Community Crossroads, and in mission and ministry settings and experiences locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally, the Administrative and Office Support staff (pictured above during a lighthearted moment) are a true blessing to First Presbyterian Church. From ministry assistants supporting clergy, program staff, and congregational leadership to the Business and Accounting office staff, the work to support and enable ministry is done joyfully, with excellence, and in the humble spirit that characterizes First Presbyterian. For our Administrative and Office Support staff it is clear that they share a sense of call to First Presbyterian as many have served for over 20 years!

# BE INSPIRED...

Below are some upcoming opportunities for being inspired into a life of discipleship through church events and education opportunities.



## ADULT SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL

The Adult Christian Nurture Committee is excited to offer Adult Summer Church School classes during the Sunday 10 a.m. church school hour!

**Film Series** (Room 235) led by Dr. Steve Brotherton and Eric Varnon, July 10-14.

**Spiritual Formation Series: Boundless Compassion** (Room 236) led by Shirley Chambliss, July 10 - August 7. (See the article at right for more details and to register for this class.)

**General Assembly Conversation** led by Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski, July 17.

**Church History: Colonial Christianity** led by Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski, July 24-31.

**Book Study: (Women and) The Art of Aging** (Room 310) led by Rev. Dr. Robyn Michalove, July 31, August 7-14.



## Spiritual Formation: Boundless Compassion class

Boundless Compassion is "full immersion in the condition of being human." Joyce Rupp, the author of the book *Boundless Compassion*, shows us the way step by step. The course is a guide to creating a way of life that offers compassion as our response to all – all people, all of creation, all suffering in the world, and all of ourselves.

In the 5 weeks of class (July 10-August 7) we will immerse ourselves in Joyce's work, and discuss ideas and means to practice and live compassionate lives.

This class will meet on Sundays from 10-11 a.m. To register, call the church office (817.335.1231) or visit [fpcfw.info/boundless](http://fpcfw.info/boundless).



## SUMMER EVENTS

On Sunday, July 17 at 2 p.m. you're invited to see the new Kimbell Art Museum exhibit, *The Language of Beauty in African Art*, on this free admission day (also Family Festival Day with live performances, ice cream, and art).

Presenting over two hundred works of art, *The Language of Beauty in African Art* emphasizes concepts of beauty through the languages and perspectives of indigenous African communities. By exploring the original words and local evaluations of beauty associated with traditional or historical works, visitors can discover both their meanings and functions - revealing how art informed and reflected life in sub-Saharan Africa in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Visit [fpcfw.org/circlesofchrist](http://fpcfw.org/circlesofchrist) for more information and to register for this event.

## BE A HERO THIS SUMMER



We need a hero! Could it be you? Donut heroes sign up for one or more Sundays to pick up and bring the donut holes for the First Pres Community. The orders have already been placed and paid for - just sign up and follow the directions to pick them up from FunkyTown Donuts & Drafts. Be a Hero at [fpcfw.info/donuthero](http://fpcfw.info/donuthero).



# ENGAGE THE WORLD...

*Below are a few ways we engage with others through church events and outreach opportunities.*



## Volunteers needed on July 19

First Presbyterian Church will host The Connect on July 19 at Community Crossroads Outreach Center. The Connect (formerly Homeless Connect) is a resource fair bringing area service agencies to a central neighborhood location.

Planned services available that day will include vision and medical screenings, pet services (companion pet sitting, vaccinations, food, spay/neuter services), haircuts, bus passes, and magistrate services, in addition to other service providers. A free lunch will be served in the parking lot.

Volunteers are needed in various capacities throughout the event between 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., serving in 3-hour shifts. To volunteer, visit [fpcfw.org/theconnect](http://fpcfw.org/theconnect).



Mission on the Move returns this summer for all rising 4th-8th graders. Upper Elementary and Middle School Youth are invited for a weeklong (Monday-Thursday, July 25-28) immersion experience focusing on housing in our community and working hands-on with local organizations.

Sunday, July 24: All Mission on the Move participants and their families are invited to attend 9 a.m. worship together and then head over to Quail Trail. We will enjoy lunch together with their residents, play games, and learn more about what Quail Trail is doing in our community.

During Mission on the Move we will take several off-campus field trips: Tuesday, July 26 to Habitat for Humanity; Wednesday, July 27 to Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services in Itasca; and Thursday, July 28 to Community Crossroads.

To wrap up the week, all Mission on the Move participants and their families are invited to the All Church Pool Party at Forest Park Pool on Friday, July 29 from 7-9 p.m.

Register at [fpcfw.org/kidsummer](http://fpcfw.org/kidsummer).

RECENTLY  
AROUND

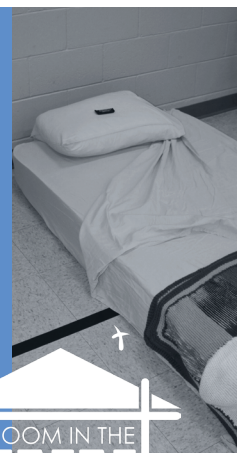


## ROOM IN THE INN

Mondays, July 11-August 29

Room in the Inn (RITI) provides hospitality for up to 14 men experiencing homelessness one night a week during the coldest and hottest months of the year.

[FPCFW.ORG/RITI](http://FPCFW.ORG/RITI)





# RECENTLY AROUND FIRST PRES...

From a Children's Ministry gathering at Steel City Pops, Vacation Bible School, a Civil Rights pilgrimage with Mount Moriah, a Boomers Fellowship gathering at Concerts in the Garden, and Pentecost worship, pictured here are some recent FPC happenings. If you have photos of an FPC event or gathering that you'd like to see included here, share them with Pam Burkholder at [pamb@fpcfw.org](mailto:pamb@fpcfw.org).





# JOYS & CONCERNS

Following are the joys and concerns as of June 23, 2022. To respect the privacy of those listed, names are included only when the individuals grant permission. Are you in the hospital or dealing with an illness? Let us know by contacting Parish Visitors Jennifer Regen or Matt McGraw in the church office. Let us keep the following persons in our thoughts and prayers this week...

## Our loving sympathy to...

Family and friends of **Sarah Graham**, who died May 30 in Fort Worth. Surviving FPC family is **Bob Graham**.

Family and friends of **Gordon Van Amburgh**, who died June 6 in Fort Worth. Surviving FPC family is **Brenda Van Amburgh**.

Family and friends of **Alice Gilbert**, who died June 7 in Fort Worth.

Family and friends of **Dick Landers**, who died June 8, in Fort Worth. Surviving FPC family is **Betty Landers**.

**Ken Garlington, Jr. and Jacqueline Bender** on the death of Ken's father, Kennie Garlington, on June 11 in Lufkin, Texas. Other FPC family are **Rachel Garlington** and **Grant Garlington**.

## Our loving thoughts and prayers are with...

**Bill Sommers, Gene Almy, Jody Buening, Kay Gunn, Janie Hart, Bob Parmelee, Velma James, Mike Bailey, Karl Kuipers, and Susie Kuipers**, who are recovering from surgery or injury. We also pray for their caregivers.

**Marilyn Love, Irene Howard, Dean Holloman, Chuck Sullivan, Lucy Redrow** (daughter of Leigh Ann and **Grant Redrow**), **Mike Bryan, Betty Dunham, Paul Campbell, Glynda Coffey, Jim Goble, Jerry Brownlee, Frank Stewart, Karl Travis, and Frances Blake**, who are dealing with illness or undergoing treatment. We also pray for their caregivers.

## Our caring prayers for extended family include...

Terry James (nephew of **Rachele Williams**), Jo Gordon (daughter-in-law of **Pat and Bill Gordon**), Carolyn Brewer (sister of **Liz Barber**), Tahji Hoffman (great niece of **Rachele Williams**), David Sloan (father-in-law of **Murray Hilyard**), Cora McCoy (mother-in-law of **Lesley McCoy**), Paula Perkins (sister of **Susie Kuipers**), Audrey Hart (great-granddaughter of **Bob and Jane Trask**), Ann Welch (sister of **Andrea Frankenfield**), Nancy Hatfield (mother of **Sarah Haddock**), Lynn Prater (daughter of **Harlene Satterfield**); Bill Neil (brother of **Marilyn Love**), and John DeMore (son-in-law of **June Sprott**).

Prayers for peace in our world and for the safety of **Capt. Rolf Tilley** (son of **Katie and Jaret Tilley** and the grandson of **Janelle Eklund**), who is serving in the US Air Force in Japan. Prayers for the safety of Pape Russell (grandson of **Barbara Russell**), who is serving in the US Navy. Prayers for the safety of **Thomas Shelby** (son of **Ellen Buck** and the grandson of **Vance and Donna Laminack**), who is serving in the US Navy in Japan. Prayers for the safety of **Diego A. Saldivar** (son of **Becky and Renee Saldivar**), who is serving in the US Navy. Prayers for the safety of Nathan Gunter (nephew of **Russell and Vivian Norment**), who is stationed in Korea. Prayers for the safety of Cullen Cline (grandson of **Bill and Glinda King**) who is serving in the US Navy.

Prayers for those affected by the coronavirus pandemic including medical professionals and healthcare providers.

We pray for our mission coworkers: Cindy Corell in Haiti, Jed and Jenny Koball in Peru, Cathy Chang and Juan Lopez in the Philippines. We pray for our partner congregations: Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist in Fort Worth and for the congregations of Buen Pastor, Resurrection, and Cidra Presbyterian Churches in Cuba.



## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Below are some highlights of special events happening in July. For a complete calendar, visit [fpcf.org](http://fpcf.org).

### SUNDAYS IN JULY

- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 10 a.m. Summer Adult Church School
- 10 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal
- 11 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & Livestream

### MONDAYS IN JULY

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 5:30 p.m. Room in the Inn (begins July 11)

### WEDNESDAYS IN JULY

- 5:30 p.m. WOW! Worship & Meal (Community Crossroads)
- 7 p.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal

### MONDAY, JULY 4

- All Day Church offices, Early Education Center, and Community Crossroads closed

### FRIDAY, JULY 8

- 7 p.m. Young Adult Social Gathering

### SUNDAY, JULY 10

- 5 p.m. Children's Picnic & Bubble Party

### TUESDAYS, JULY 12 & 26

- 7 p.m. Young Adult Study & Discussion

### SUNDAY, JULY 17

- 2 p.m. Circles of Christ Kimbell Museum Tour
- 6:30 p.m. Taize Wholeness & Healing Service

### TUESDAY, JULY 19

- 9 a.m. The Connect at Community Crossroads

### MONDAY, JULY 25-FRIDAY, JULY 29

- 9 a.m. Pre-K Music & Arts Camp
- 9 a.m. Mission on the Move

### FRIDAY, JULY 29

- 7 p.m. All Church Pool Party



First Presbyterian Church  
1000 Penn Street  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

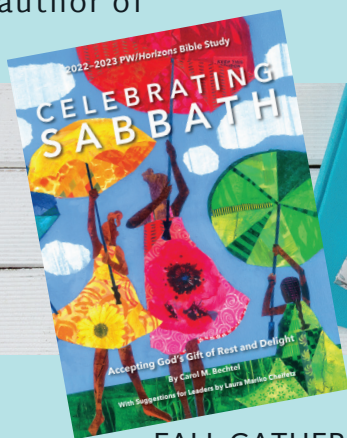
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# THE penn street LETTER

FPC Presbyterian Women present  
**CAROL M. BECHTEL**  
author of



FALL GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN & PRESENTATION OF  
HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022**  
10 a.m. Fellowship  
10:30 a.m. Program  
12 p.m. Lunch (\$8)  
**RSVP BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 5 AT**  
**[FPCFW.ORG/PW](http://FPCFW.ORG/PW)**

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA PARTY

*It's high time we all got together!*



*Refreshments, fellowship, and fun!*

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 30 AT 5:30 P.M.**

*Women Inspiring Women*

Register at [fpcfw.info/HighTea](http://fpcfw.info/HighTea)

Childcare (up to age 5) available by reservation before August 21