

# THE Penn Street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth

AUGUST 2022 | Volume 22, Number 8

## YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK:

Through pledges and financial commitments FPC supports James L. West Center; Rev. Floyd and Dorothy Kinser Day Program Building Nears Completion; Day Program Scholarship named for Theresa Hocker

*Editor's Note: This article is a special contribution to The Penn Street Letter, by Cathy Neece Brown, VP of Mission Support, James L. West Center.*

It's an exciting time for the West Center's Day Program as the building continues to undergo construction and renovation! Although the timeline for the project has slowed a bit due to the permitting process with the city, construction, and other related delays, we are looking forward to celebrating the program opening with the First Presbyterian Church family on Monday, September 19 at 5 p.m. A formal dedication will be held at the Open House on September 19, followed by a reception and tours of the building. Please save the date and make plans to attend this special celebration.

The opening of the Day Program is significant for many reasons including the program's naming for the Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Kinser. As the leadership of the West Center reflected on the individuals and organizations that helped to create the Day Program, one especially significant volunteer came to mind... Theresa Hocker, the first Day Program director.



Theresa Hocker

Theresa's affiliation with the Day Program evolved over the years leading her to become the first executive director of the Alzheimer's Association of North Central Texas. This position was one that she held for more than two decades – touching countless lives of persons living with dementia and their care partners. Throughout her career and work within the Alzheimer's and dementia field she never lost sight of the need for affordable respite support for caregivers as well as life enrichment opportunities for those living with the disease. A passionate advocate, Theresa and the team at the Alzheimer's Association created dozens of scholarship opportunities within the West Center's Adult Day Program.

Looking forward, it is an honor for the West Center's board of directors to announce that the Day Program Scholarship Fund has been named in honor of the program's first program director, Theresa Hocker. "Honoring Theresa with the naming of the scholarship program is especially significant as the program continues to embody and embrace her leadership, compassion and love for persons living with Alzheimer's and related dementias. Never losing sight of the leaders who have created our organization and its programs is of utmost importance to our leadership and the board of directors," said Cheryl Harding, West Center President and CEO.

As we prepare for the opening of the program it is our hope that our First Presbyterian Church family will join us in celebration in support not only of the West Center, but also of these two truly amazing families who have shaped what we know today as the West Center Adult Day Program!



Signage installed on the Day Program's new home

## PENN<sup>St</sup> Arts

announces the

### 2022-23 CONCERT SERIES

#### HYMN FESTIVAL:

**Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 4 p.m.**

Featuring the choirs of First United Methodist Church, University Christian Church, St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, and First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth with renowned composer/organist Aaron Miller.

#### ADVENT AFTERNOON

##### ORGAN CONCERTS:

**Wednesdays during Advent  
at 12:30 p.m.**

*(30 minute program after the noon service)*

November 30: Yuri McCoy

December 7: Margaret Harper

December 14: Dalaie Choi

December 21: Grant Wareham

**FORT WORTH OPERA WINTER  
CONCERT: Saturday, December 17,  
2022 at 2 p.m.**

**LENT AFTERNOON ORGAN  
CONCERTS, Wednesdays during Lent  
at 12:30 p.m.**

*(30 minute program after the noon service)*

March 1: Jonathan Gregoire

March 8: Joshua Boyd

March 15: Clive Smith

March 22: Jin-ah Yoo

March 29: Jared Cook

**FPC ENSEMBLE CONCERT,  
Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 3 p.m.**

**ORGAN RECITAL BY  
AHREUM HAN CONGDON:  
Friday, May 12, 2023, at 7 p.m.**

For more information, visit  
**FPCFW.ORG/PENNSTREETARTS**



# PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

Have you ever noticed the Hebrew word "*selah*" in some of the Psalms before? It occurs over 70 times and serves as a break, a musical transition from one part of the psalm to the next. It reminds the readers and hearers to stop and listen, to breathe.

As we wind down summer, we may also benefit from a *selah* ourselves. We transition to different rhythms and routines as students and teachers gear up for school. Suitcases from vacations and camp trunks from summer adventures are packed away and, in their place, we find alarm clocks and schedules.

Even for those of us not in school, we notice this different time, too, as ministries in our congregation begin again after a summer pause. After these years of a pandemic, many of us find ourselves exhausted from all the changes and transitions and pivoting and rewiring we have experienced.

Sometimes, these transitions can seem stark and abrupt. Maybe a *selah* can help us appreciate the moment we are in, breathing in God's presence, even as the seasons change and the world around us seems to shake with uncertainty. I invite you to read all of Psalm 46 and read aloud the *selahs* in the passage, giving yourself permission to take a breath and, remember, that no matter all the changes, God is our refuge and strength. Here's one excerpt:

Psalm 46.1-3:

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.  
*Selah*

Peace,

P.S. Women, notice the Presbyterian Women Bible study theme of Sabbath advertised in this issue, an invitation for a year long study of *selah*!

## HELP WELCOME A REFUGEE FAMILY TO FORT WORTH!

Welcome teams (6-10 people) help set up an apartment, provide the first week of groceries, prepare a welcome meal, and mentor the family for 3 months after their arrival, in partnership with Refugee Services of Texas.

**Orientation and Training: Tuesday, August 9, 5:30-7 p.m.**  
**Please register at [fpcf.w.org/refugeewttraining](https://fpcf.w.org/refugeewttraining) to attend.**

Questions? Contact Robyn Michalove ([robyn@fpcf.w.org](mailto:robyn@fpcf.w.org) or 817.335.1231)

## SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the **SEPTEMBER** issue of the Penn Street Letter are due **Wednesday, AUGUST 24**. 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@fpcf.w.org](mailto:pamb@fpcf.w.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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# WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

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



**Joann Johnson** joined FPC by transfer of membership on Sunday, June 26. Joann comes to FPC from The Woodlands, and now resides at Trinity Terrace. She has been visiting First Pres for several months and is actively engaged in worship and educational activities.



**Nesha and George Morey** joined FPC by transfer of membership on Sunday, July 17. The Moreys have been longtime visitors to FPC in worship, choir, and church school, and are active in the local nonprofit community.



**Toby and Erin Owen** joined FPC by transfer of membership on Sunday, June 26. They have been worshipping with First Pres for several months. Toby is CEO of the Presbyterian Night Shelter, and Erin is a stay-at-home mom. They have two adult children, Natalie and

James, and three at home: Andrew (11th grade), Levi (2nd grade) and Luke (1st grade).



**Garrett Schleier** joined FPC by reaffirmation of faith on Sunday, July 17. Garrett is an independent petroleum landman. He and his wife Hian Carla have a six-month old son Garrett Martin who will soon be baptized at FPC.



**Babs and Julia Sloan** joined FPC by transfer of membership on Sunday, June 26. Mother and daughter, they have been worshipping with First Pres for a while, and are engaged in many aspects of church life. Babs is a retired elementary school principal, and Julia is a middle school art teacher in Fort Worth ISD.

## GET OUT THE VOTE: Circles of Christ sponsors Nonpartisan Letter-Writing Events

Nonpartisan letter-writing efforts encouraging Texans to vote are an effective way we as Christians can positively make a stand for our democracy. First Presbyterian Church and Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church are leading a letter-writing initiative to engage churches throughout Tarrant County. With just two letter-writing events so far, 600 nonpartisan letters have been prepared. Letters are aimed at Texans who have voted in the past, but not in recent elections. The next event will be Saturday, August 13 at 10 a.m. at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church. Future events will be September 13 and October 4 at 6 p.m. at Blue Mesa Grill. To register, visit [fpcfw.org/circlesofchrist](http://fpcfw.org/circlesofchrist).



## TAI CHI

Tai Chi is a graceful form of exercise that can reduce stress and promotes general physical and mental health. Often described as meditation in motion, tai chi promotes serenity through gentle, flowing movements.

MONDAYS, 10 A.M.

BEGINNING AUGUST 1

REGISTER AT [FPCFW.ORG/Wellness](http://FPCFW.ORG/Wellness)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FAMILY GATHERING

AUGUST 7, 5-7 P.M.

Let's close out the summer together at Fort Brewery (2737 Tillar Street, 76107). We will meet there for dinner and fellowship. There is plenty of space for the kids to play while parents catch up with one another. Appetizers will be provided.





# BE INSPIRED...

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

## Save the Date for an Enneagram Workshop: November 5

FPC's Spiritual Formation Committee is pleased to offer you a unique opportunity to learn about the Enneagram from a nationally recognized Master of this wisdom, Suzanne Stabile. On November 5, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Suzanne will present a "Know Your Number" seminar at First United Methodist Church (FUMC) in Fort Worth and First Presbyterian is invited to share that opportunity! This event will be free for the First Presbyterian Church community with pre-registration, which will begin in August. Watch for more details!

## NEW MUSIC ENSEMBLE COMING THIS FALL

A new opportunity to be musically involved at First Presbyterian is the Fellowship Ensemble. The new Fellowship Ensemble, led by Music Associate Laura Collins, will sing and play for the 9 a.m. worship service as they lead the hymns and songs to enhance congregational singing. The Fellowship Ensemble is intergenerational (6th grade through adult) and rehearses on Sunday mornings from 8:15-8:45 a.m. beginning August 21. For more information please contact Laura Collins at [lcollins@fpcf.org](mailto:lcollins@fpcf.org).



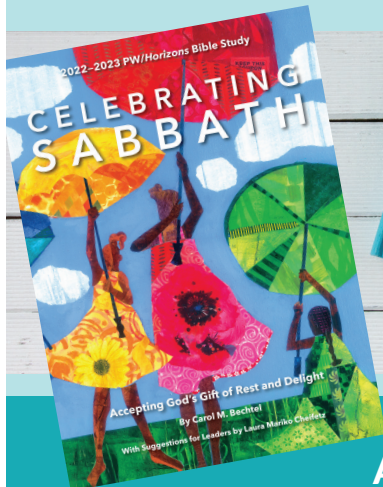
## CHOIR AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Singing engages the mind, the heart, and the body in ways that give energy and purpose to life! Breathing, relaxing the body, reflecting on texts, allowing music to touch our emotions, being part of a community... that's all part of the experience of singing in a choir.

The 60+ voice Chancel Choir is welcoming new singers into this multi-sensory spiritual practice. The Chancel Choir rehearses Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. and sings primarily at the 11 a.m. service. Rehearsals begin August 17 and childcare is available.

For more information or to make plans to join Chancel Choir, please contact the Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski in the church office (817.335.1231 or [michaelw@fpcf.org](mailto:michaelw@fpcf.org)).

## 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](https://fpcf.org/pw)**

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TEA PARTY

*Women Inspiring Women*



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



**[FPCFW.INFO/HIGHTEA](https://fpcf.org/info/hightea)**



# ENGAGE THE WORLD...

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

## WOW! Welcome Desk Needs You!



Every Wednesday evening at Community Crossroads, neighbors gather at WOW! (Worship on Wednesdays) for worship, fellowship, and dinner. Each week as they enter the building, neighbors are welcomed by volunteers and given a name tag.

WOW currently has openings for name tag greeters over the next several weeks. If you have a smiling face, enjoy extending hospitality and making others feel welcome, we're looking for you! Here's how it works:

- Come to the Community Crossroads dining hall around 5:15 p.m. on Wednesday.
- Place the table and welcome banner near the Hemphill Street door and put supplies on the table.
- As neighbors enter, welcome them with a smile and friendly greeting. Help them complete and attach name tags.
- At the end of the evening, put the supplies away and tidy up.
- Register at [fpcfw.info/wowgreeters](http://fpcfw.info/wowgreeters).

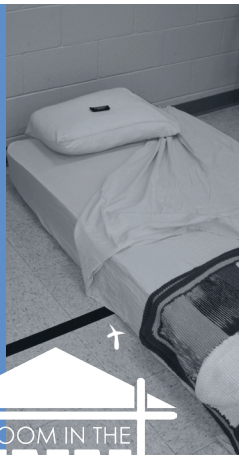
## Clothed In Love Current Needs

The Clothed in Love clothing ministry at Community Crossroads is currently in need of donations of men's and women's shoes (all sizes), and men's jeans and casual pants (all sizes). Donations may be dropped off at Community Crossroads on Monday mornings from 9-11 a.m. To schedule a different drop-off time, contact Dori Al Hammami ([dalhammami@fpcfw.org](mailto:dalhammami@fpcfw.org)).

## ROOM IN THE INN

Mondays through August 29

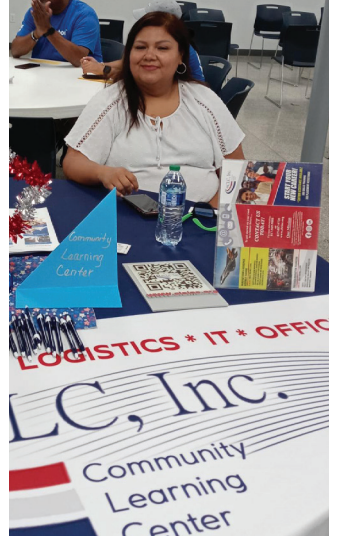
Room in the Inn (RITI) provides hospitality for up to 14 men experiencing homelessness one night a week during the coldest and hottest months of the year.



ROOM IN THE

INN

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



The Connect, a community-wide free resource fair, was held at Community Crossroads on Tuesday, July 19. Neighbors had access to vision and medical screenings, Covid-19 vaccines, pet services, haircuts, voter registration, bus passes, and more! A free lunch was also served in the parking lot. The Connect will be offered several times per year at different locations throughout Fort Worth, sponsored by different agencies.





## Inspiring Disciples... Engaging the World...

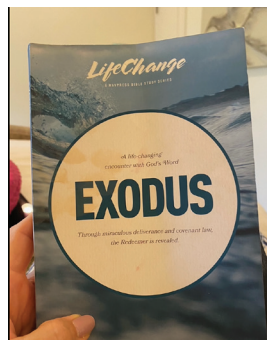
The mission and ministry of First Presbyterian is extensive as we *Inspire Disciples* and *Engage the World*. Several adult ministries help us live out healthy discipleship as we tend to mind, body and spirit while also nurturing supportive and encouraging relationships among the congregation.

Adult Christian Nurture provides Church School classes, Bible Studies, Spiritual Formation experiences and practices, retreats, trips, and more to nurture the integration of mind, heart, and spirit as we are equipped to bear Christ's love into the world. During any given week of the year well over 300 adults engage in ministries of Adult Christian Nurture.

The Wellness Committee provides a variety of experiences to help keep adults in the congregation whole and healthy. From organized walks and fun runs to seminars on healthy diet and nutrition, to contemplative and meditative practices, and more, adults of all ages are encouraged by the important ministry of Wellness.

Gathering adults for joyful and encouraging relationships across the congregation is the focus of the Fellowship Committee. Several events throughout the year – many intergenerational in nature – bring the First Presbyterian community together in ways that add a vibrancy and warmth to our common life together.

## BUSY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY ORIENTATION AUGUST 11



Busy Women's Bible Study is open to new members and you're invited! This is a great opportunity to expand your knowledge and dive deeper into the book of Exodus from a geographical, historical, and biblical perspective. This is a great way to meet other women passionate about studying and discussing the Bible, while also enjoying time for fellowship.

The study this fall will use the book *Exodus* by LifeChange (available on Amazon). The book is essential to bring to each meeting, and there will be optional homework each week.

We meet every Monday at 11:30 a.m. in Room 210, September 19 through November 14. We will have an orientation party and pre-meeting on August 11. Questions? Contact Lisa Waldron (817.239.3807) or Karen Steffler (817.924.1737).

## FPC'S PARISH VISITORS OFFER RESOURCES FOR OLDER ADULTS AND CAREGIVERS

Part of the Parish Visitor ministry is collecting and providing resources for aging members and their caregivers. One of the most comprehensive resources is the Health Resource Guide for Caregivers that is published annually by the United Way of Tarrant County. The Resource Guide for Caregivers contains an extensive list of service providers for older adults, those with disabilities, and for their caregivers.

The Health Resource Guide for Caregivers has a list of community agencies, including the Alzheimer's Association (see their upcoming Alzheimer's Education Seminar listed below), who offer information, support groups, and educational events throughout the year. Families can also find a list of legal resources, care facilities, and transportation services within this guide. This guide is an excellent starting point for anyone who is seeking resources related to aging and disability. If you would like a copy of this guide or simply want to talk to someone about your own experiences, please reach out to Jennifer Regen (jregen@fpcfw.org) or Matt McGraw (mmcgraw@fpcfw.org).

### ALZHEIMER'S EDUCATION SEMINAR: AUGUST 13

First Presbyterian's Parish Visitors invite you to the 7th Annual Tarrant County Healthy Lives Matter Alzheimer's Education Seminar on Saturday, August 13. This free event will provide insights into Alzheimer's disease progression and offer practical solutions for coping with challenging situations and will include Dementia Live Experience, which helps elevate empathy and improve the quality of visits with family members. For more information and to register, visit [tarrantcounty.com/alzevent](http://tarrantcounty.com/alzevent).

## FPC YOUTH EVENTS

Aug  
21

### FALL KICK OFF BOWLING PARTY

Come kick off the new school year! 2-3 p.m. at Cityview Lanes. Get more info & register at [fpcfw.info/bowlingkickoff](http://fpcfw.info/bowlingkickoff)

Aug  
28

### REVERSE PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Enjoy a "reverse" progressive dinner from dessert to appetizers as we get to know each other better over a shared meal. Get more info & register at [fpcfw.info/revprogndinner](http://fpcfw.info/revprogndinner)

Sept  
18

### THE POWER OF STORY

Local author Tim Madigan will speak about his book, *The Burning*, his friendship with Mister Rogers, and it's role in his journey exploring racial justice issues. Get more info and register at [fpcfw.info/timmadiganevent](http://fpcfw.info/timmadiganevent)



# JOYS & CONCERNS

Following are the joys and concerns as of July 20, 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...

Marty and **Lesley McCoy** on the death of Marty's mother, Cora McCoy, on June 26 in Shreveport, Louisiana.

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

**Bill Sommers, Janelle Eklund, Gene Almy, Jody Buening, 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.

**Jim Barber, Phyllis Propes, Kevin Bryan, 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**), 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.

## Our congratulations and best wishes to...

**Abbie Phillips Pilgrim** and Ben Pilgrim on the birth of Townes Phillips Pilgrim on June 28. Proud FPC grandparents are **Tina and Bart Phillips**.



## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

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

### SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

- 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 AUGUST

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10 a.m. Tai Chi
- 5:30 p.m. Room in the Inn

### WEDNESDAYS IN AUGUST

- 5:30 p.m. WOW! Worship & Meal (Community Crossroads)
- 7 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsals (begin August 17)

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

- 5 p.m. Children's Ministry Family Gathering

### TUESDAYS, AUGUST 9 AND 23

- 7 p.m. Young Adult Study & Discussion

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

- 10 a.m. Circles of Christ Letter Writing Event at Mount Moriah

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

- 10:30 a.m. PW Gathering with Horizons Bible Study author Carol Bechtel

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

- 10 a.m. All Church Breakfast
- 2 p.m. Youth Kickoff Bowling Party
- 6:30 p.m. Taize Wholeness & Healing Service

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

- 6 p.m. Care Team Reboot Dinner & Gathering

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

- 10 a.m. Christian Nurture Open House and Continental Breakfast
- 4 p.m. Youth Reverse Progressive Dinner

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

- 5:30 p.m. High Tea Gathering: Women Inspiring Women



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PERIODICALS  
POSTMASTER:  
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Church Office  
Ph: 817.335.1231  
Fax: 817.335.5663

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

Come learn more about Care Teams, groups of church members that gather for fellowship and to organize caring efforts. These teams provide practical, emotional, and social support to those who have either a long-term or short-term need for care.

# REBOOT



Dinner and Gathering  
Thursday, August 25  
6 p.m. in the Great Hall



*The Care Team model is flexible, so whatever your boot size or style, Care Teams has a good fit for you!*

Learn more and register at  
[fpcfw.org/careandsupport](http://fpcfw.org/careandsupport)