

THE Penn Street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth

OCTOBER 2022 | Volume 22, Number 10



The Stewardship Committee invited several church members to reflect on their spiritual practice of generosity. Over the next month you will read their reflections in each edition of the *Penn Street Online*. They are inspiring! As you read them, you are invited to reflect on your own practice of the spiritual discipline of generosity.

"Now that I'm retired, I've really enjoyed participating in ways that I wasn't able to before...all are opportunities to feel God's presence, to see the face of God in others, and to be God's hands and feet for others... Giving financially to our church is the best way I know to support this shared work."

Judith Kinser

"I can't think of a better place to spend my time, talent, and treasure than this church. So much money goes to Mission..."

Lisa Waldron

"Our retirement left us both with time... Our time is a part of our gift to God in the Clothing Room...our goal is to make each neighbor feel seen, heard, and cared about. When they leave with a smile and a bag of much needed clothes, we feel the joy of doing what God has called us to do."

Murray and Lynda Richey

"I've been serving at Community Crossroads for years... I feel like I get more out of serving than I give... I leave Community Crossroads each time feeling happy and appreciative that I was able to do some little thing to make someone else's day better."

Julie Henry

"Our church has so many ministries which inspire disciples and engage the world... Through my giving I am able to support ministries I would otherwise be unable to take part."

Ashley Parsons

"In trying to express for you why I am inspired to give, I ran across these words from Richard Rohr - '...The overwhelming experience of God loving us, of God radically accepting us, creates in us the deep desire to spend the rest of our lives trying to verbalize it, and invariably finding ways to give back that love through service, compassion, and non-stop worship. But none of it is to earn God's love; it's always and only to return God's love. Love is repaid by love alone.'"

Steve Christian

PENNStArts presents

HYMN FESTIVAL:

Sunday, October 23, 2022 | 4 p.m. | First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

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. This concert is free and open to the public.

For more information, visit [FPCFW.ORG/PENNSTREETARTS](https://www.fpcfw.org/pennstreetarts)



PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear friends,

Sarah Breathnach wrote this creative reflection a while back, and it is wonderful. She writes:

"Just before we come to earth to begin life, we are given a photograph of our futures – the divine plan – to get us excited about the adventure ahead.

As the photo pops out of the celestial camera, we are in such a hurry to get on with it, we grab the negative instead of the photograph.

Now...it's got the pattern of the fabulous life, but the perspective is reversed. What's white looks black. What's black looks white.

Yes, we have got the picture, but it's backward."

I like what she writes:

"So we cry when we should be laughing, are envious when we should be inspired, experience deprivation instead of abundance, do it the hard way instead of the easy way, pull back instead of reaching out.

And worst of all, we close our hearts so we won't get hurt, when opening them is the only way we'll ever know joy."

What a marvelous reminder that as disciples of Jesus, we are called to open our hearts anew to the Good News. Perspective is important. As my favorite theologian, Bob Dylan, puts it: "We always did feel the same. We just saw it from a different point of view." Ultimately, we believe the sting of death and the forces of evil are undone by the power of the Resurrection...therefore, shouldn't the way we live our lives reflect the love, mercy, and grace we know from our life together in this upside-down Kingdom of God?! My prayer today is that we would continue to ask God to give us new eyes to see what is really here...in Jesus.

Keep on keepin' on,

Rev. Dr. Josh Stewart
Associate Pastor – Youth

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the **NOVEMBER** issue of the Penn Street Letter are due **Wednesday, OCTOBER 26**. 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.

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

The Penn Street Letter is published monthly by First Presbyterian Church, 1000 Penn Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3496. Periodicals postage is paid at Fort Worth, TX and at additional offices.

Editor: Pam Burkholder

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Penn Street Letter at 1000 Penn Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3496.

BE INSPIRED...

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

SPIRITUAL FORMATION 'FOLLOW ME' CLASS

Jesus said, *I am the Way and the Truth and the Life*. And the invitation he extended, time and time again during his three-year ministry, was simply, "Follow Me."

What would happen if we took Jesus seriously, if we paid attention to how he lived his life on earth? How he managed to keep close to God and listen for God's word to him? How he managed to live out the purpose God had ordained for him?

What would happen if we listened attentively to what he taught his disciples, the crowds, the Pharisees, and the downtrodden?

And what would happen if we were to take the disciplines he followed in his own life as a template for faithfully living out our lives "in God" and "with others?"

In this new course, Martha Newman and Carol Toombs will identify nine life disciplines Jesus lived by, and will borrow the wisdom of modern spiritual thinkers to learn how we can best incorporate these disciplines into our own lives. As part of the School for Spiritual Formation, the course will meet for 1.5 hours (10-11:30 a.m. Sunday mornings) and will covenant to worship together at the 9 a.m. service. The course runs from October 9 through December 12. Visit fpcf.org/spiritualformation to register.

CIRCLES OF CHRIST COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: OCTOBER 15

Let's Circle Up for Coffee! Circles of Christ invites you to an hour of coffee and fellowship on Saturday morning, October 15 at 9 a.m. We will gather at Black Coffee (1417 Vaughn Blvd., 76105, near Texas Wesleyan University). Come share a cup of coffee and your ideas for loving and learning together!

NEXT TEAM FPC RACE: OCTOBER 15

FPC's Wellness Committee invites you to join Team FPC for the Tunnel to Towers 5K Run and Walk on Saturday, October 15. The race begins at 8 a.m. and the cost is \$30 for adults, \$25 for military/first responders, and \$15 for children. Get more information and register at fpcf.org/wellness.

ENNEAGRAM WORKSHOP: NOVEMBER 5

FPC's Spiritual Formation Committee is pleased to offer you a unique and free 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! Registration is open on the FUMC website (fumc.org) - click on the events tab and enter "enneagram" in the search box) or call 817.336.7277. Seating is limited and registration closes on October 28.

SAVE THE DATE! ALL CHURCH PICNIC NOVEMBER 6

On Sunday, November 6, you're invited to a day of fun and wellness at First Pres! The Fellowship Committee is hosting the All Church Picnic in the Great Hall 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the Wellness Committee is hosting the Carter Blood Drive mobile donation bus from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The picnic will include a bounce house, face painting, balloon artist, Billy Buttons, and the Texas Ice Cream Truck. Heath is catering with a 'Fall Fresh menu' including soup, salad, grilled cheese, and fruit. Mark your calendars!



WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAYS!
AT COMMUNITY CROSSROADS

WOW! OCTOBER SCHEDULE

This fall Worship on Wednesdays enters its 17th year of ministry, offering weekly worship, a community meal, and activities for all ages at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at Community Crossroads (1516 Hemphill Street). Everyone is invited to participate in some new activities this fall:

- **October 5: Spirituality Stations & Balance Class**
- **October 12: Adult Bible Study Groups & Mission Project**
- **October 19: Safe Haven Presentation & Open-mic Poetry**
- **October 26: Trunk or Treat!** Bring some spooktacular fun to children and adult neighbors at Worship on Wednesday, October 26 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Decorate your trunk, wear a non-scary costume, and bring some treats to hand out as neighbors of all ages trick or treat through the Community Crossroads parking lot! Register at fpcf.org/trunkortreat
- **November 2: Spirituality Stations & Tai Chi**



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

Inspiring Disciples... Engaging the World...

Presbyterians are part of a remarkable tradition. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s four church-wide Special Offerings help share Christ's love with millions of people around the world. First Presbyterian participates in all four special offerings throughout the year. This month, First Presbyterian participates in the Peace & Global Witness special offering.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils (presbyteries and synods) retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. For 2022, First Presbyterian's Session has designated 25% of the special offering received for This Child Here – a ministry in Ukraine that First Presbyterian has long supported.

To participate in the special offering you can visit fpcf.org/give/ online-giving or place a check in the mail or offering plate made out to First Presbyterian with Peace and Global offering in the memo line.

NOMINEES FOR ELDER CLASS OF 2025

This issue of The Penn Street Letter includes the annual publication of biographies of members nominated for the next class of Elders, as well as at-large members of the Nominating Committee and at-large Trustees. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 9, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of electing officers (elders and trustees) and the Nominating Committee members at large.



Vic Letbetter (Elder/Trustee) says “as a pastor’s kid, it seems my entire life has been surrounded by my church family.” At First Pres, he has come to enjoy the Confirmation process and its culmination in and celebration on Confirmation Sunday. Vic prays it is very memorable for the confirmands as they embark on their marvelous journey. He loves the First Pres people and describes them as compassionate and caring.

Vic works as a Lockheed Martin Cyber Security

Engineer by day, but by night is a bona fide geek and weather nerd as well as a Rangers Baseball fan.



Amy Ryan (Elder/Trustee) has two favorite memories of life in the church. As a youth in the 1970s at First Pres, she participated in “Amahl and the Night Visitors”, a musical program presented to the congregation at Christmas – playing the part of a dancing shepherd. As an adult, Amy has served Presbyterian Woman in many different roles, getting to develop friendships with women of all different ages, stages and experiences, and gaining wisdom from these relationships has helped to define

her life of faith up to this point, and she feels these relationships will continue to influence her as her faith evolves. Amy says, “What I love about First Pres is the many opportunities to use your talents, interests and abilities to serve our amazing God!” Amy is retired but serving the community in a variety of volunteer roles. Outside of her church time, she enjoys hiking, walking, weight training, and cooking.



Mary Susan Farrar (Elder) has been a member of this church since 2009. She currently serves on the Finance Committee and is active in Presbyterian Women, currently serving as Treasurer. She is also involved in Room in the Inn and the Boomers Fellowship. Mary Susan loves the dedicated members of First Pres that make her and her husband, Scott, feel welcomed and loved. Mary Susan says, “The first time I walked into FPC, I was welcomed by many people with smiling faces that made me feel that I wanted to be a part of it. The pulpit was the first draw and as I continued to visit, I knew this is where I needed to be. The Presbyterian Women of FPC have helped me grow as a Christian and learn to serve our own community.” Outside of her church time, Mary Susan likes cooking, reading, traveling and quality family time.



Brian Cunningham (Elder) joined First Pres in 2012. He loves being part of a Sunday School class here at First Pres that was formed when a large group of young adults all had children that were newborns or infants, and now nearly 10

years later, as parents, they have forged relationships through the shared blessings and battles of raising children. And all the while, their children have been raised in a great community of loving adults and formed great friendships with each other. Brian loves our wonderful pastoral staff and the loving family environment that is felt everywhere throughout the church. Brian’s day job is in the energy industry. When away from work, he likes the outdoors and spending time with his amazing wife and children.



Jimmy DeFoor (Elder) joined our church in 2011 and has been a faithful member over the past 11 years. He loves the First Pres people, the opportunities for service, and the in-depth study of Christianity, both theology and contextual history. Jimmy’s favorite church memory is watching his daughters sing together in church. He has spent his years here serving in multiple capacities, as a member of the Mission and Outreach Committee, the

Spiritual Formation Subcommittee, and the Adult Christian Nurture Committee. Currently, he is volunteering at Community Crossroads as a Divine Driver and as a worker for the Monday Choice Pantry. He recently retired from the banking industry and loves traveling, reading, and visiting children.



Linda Northern (Elder) has been a member of First Pres since 2005. She is a retired school teacher and organizer and pet sitter. Linda loves many things about First Pres – friendliness, spiritual growth opportunities, programs for health and wellbeing, worship services, community outreach, and the amazing pastoral and support staff. Her fondest memory in church is as a child, feeling a sense of awe while attending church. At First Pres, again, her fond

memories are many and include the Moravian Love Feast last year and the Taize service combined with a labyrinth walk. Hearing the Chancel Choir sing and Ahreum play are top favorites, as well as the concert by Mark Miller. This year’s PW High Tea was also very special. When not doing what she loves at the church, she likes to travel, read, gather with friends, enjoy movies and art galleries, walk, do all things music, and especially spend time with her grandkids.



Lynda Richey (Elder) has many favorite memories of church – teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir, and serving on the Congregational Care Committee. She has especially enjoyed being involved in Presbyterian Women. When asked what she loves about First Pres, she easily answers “the friendly people and the church’s involvement in making a difference in our world through mission.” Lynda retired after 22 years at The

Container Store. Now she has eight grandchildren to play with. And as always, Lynda loves volunteering at Community Crossroads.

NOMINEES FOR ELDER CLASS OF 2025 (CONTINUED)

This issue of The Penn Street Letter includes the annual publication of biographies of members nominated for the next class of Elders, as well as at-large members of the Nominating Committee and at-large Trustees. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 9, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of electing officers (elders and trustees) and the Nominating Committee members at large.



Sarah Clingman (Elder) joined the church through the Confirmation Class in 2020 and is currently a junior in high school. She loves the sense of community and fellowship that First Pres has to offer. Sarah's fondest memories of her life in the church are all the opportunities where she has been able to serve. In her words, "From Mission on the Move, family/youth mission trips, and at FPC children's events, the

opportunities that this church has given me to serve others have shaped the person I am today." In Sarah's free time, she enjoys running, swimming, and hanging with friends and family.



Lillie Doze (Elder) joined the church through Confirmation in 2021. She is currently a sophomore at Young Women's Leadership Academy. She loves the hospitality and community of First Pres. A place that holds a lot of memories for Lillie is Mo-Ranch. Some of her fondest memories are worshipping on Chapel on the Hill looking over the beautiful view, admiring God's creation. Lillie loves to make art!



Herd Midkiff (At-Large Trustee) joined First Pres in 2012, and he has previously been ordained as an elder and served as a Trustee and on the Finance Committee. Over the years, he has also been active in Spiritual Formation, Virtual Faith Formation, and the Growing Families of Faith class. Herd loves the people and the community that are First Pres. His fondest memories about the church focus around discovering God through the Bible and growing in his faith through worship and

fellowship.



Scot Pierce (At-Large Trustee) joined FPC in 2003. Scot works as an attorney. In his years at FPC, he has served on the Stewardship, Children's Christian Nurture, and Nominating committees and worked with the Capital Campaign. He has been an At-Large Trustee for two years. When asked what he loves about First Pres, Scot said, "I like that we use actions more than words to show people who we believe God is." Scot's fondest memory of FPC

life is the comfort of attending church on Sunday mornings with people who generally approach religion the same way he does, even though we do not all come to the same conclusions.



Liz Stepp (At-Large Trustee) has been a member at First Pres since 2011. Here at the church, Liz loves the warmth of the people and the humility of their service; as well as FPC's commitment to serving the community with our time, talents and resources. She describes her fondest memory of her life in this church when she was so warmly welcomed into church membership by Martha Zaborowski, our Discipleship Coordinator at the time. Liz has

previously served as a Trustee as well as on the Finance and the Communications committees. She is also active in Presbyterian Women and has served as a Circle Chair and as PW Treasurer. When she's not spending time on church work, she enjoys traveling, reading, art projects, taking long walks, and being "Gigi" to two adorable grandsons.



Steve Christian (At-Large Nominating Committee) joined FPC in 1979. He was previously ordained as an elder and is currently serving on the Mission and Outreach Committee, as well as an at-large member of the Nominating Committee. Steve is also a Steering Committee member for the church's Circles of Christ covenant partnership with Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church. In addition, Steve serves as Board Chair for New

Leaf Community Services, a nonprofit developing permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless and disabled adults in Fort Worth, and he is a board member for DRC Solutions, a nonprofit which provides case management and housing services for homeless individuals and families in Fort Worth. What Steve loves about First Pres is our heart for mission, compassion, and inclusion. Some favorite memories of the church are the Hemphill Presbyterian Fellowship youth group and running club and the Circles of Christ partnership with Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church. His time away from church events includes traveling with family and friends.



Raymond Daniel (At-Large Nominating Committee) joined First Pres in 2003. What he loves about First Pres is how we respond to the least of these in our community – through Room in the Inn (his favorite ministry), our support of Habitat for Humanity, and the many services we offer at Community Crossroads. Raymond's favorite memory at our church is when he and Kathi were married in the Sanctuary before a couple of hundred family

and friends. Raymond has spent his years here at FPC serving on Session, as Clerk of Session, and on many committees – Mission and Outreach, Nominating, Evangelism, and Communications. Outside of his church work, Raymond enjoys reading history, watching baseball, and attending the theatre. Spending time with the grandchildren, however, is at the top of his list.

NOMINEES FOR ELDER CLASS OF 2025 (CONTINUED)

This issue of The Penn Street Letter includes the annual publication of biographies of members nominated for the next class of Elders, as well as at-large members of the Nominating Committee and at-large Trustees. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 9, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of electing officers (elders and trustees) and the Nominating Committee members at large.



D'Anne Dorough (At-Large Nominating Committee) has been a member of the First Pres family since 1974. She has served on a Congregational Care Team, volunteered with our Food Pantry at Community Crossroads and as a Kids Hope Volunteer, and been active in Presbyterian Women. D'Anne has spent many years as a member of the Children's Christian Nurture Committee and especially enjoyed her time volunteering with the children's ministries

and programming where she got to be a part of her daughter's life in the church. D'Anne loves that the First Pres community is so supportive and genuine and says "it's a wonderful family to be a part of." Outside of church time, D'Anne likes to spend time at home and in the yard.



Mary Margaret Floyd (At-Large Nominating Committee) joined First Pres in 2002. When asked what she loves about First Pres, she responded with, "What I love about First Presbyterian is a long list! I love the people! Recently we sang 'They'll know we are Christians by our love,' and there is love all around and beyond in this church." Mary Margaret's fondest memory of her life in the church is being a part of the Chancel Choir –

it's a "constant joy." She describes working with fellow volunteers at Community Crossroads as a gift to her of enlightenment and inspiration. In addition to her love of music, when not at church or Community Crossroads, Mary Margaret loves gardening.



Sidney Goodfriend (At-Large Nominating Committee) has been at First Pres since 2012, and she and her husband Brian are raising two precious little boys here at First Pres. Sidney's involvement in the church includes serving on the Evangelism Committee. She actively participates in the Formula and Diapers (FAD) ministry at Community Crossroads, MOMS group, a PW circle, and Room in the Inn. Some of Sidney's fondest memories at First Pres have

been going to the women's retreat. When she's not at church, she likes to spend time with her family and reading.



Paula Hawpe (At-Large Nominating Committee) has been a member of First Pres since 2016 and very active in Presbyterian Women, serving as a circle chair and a Bible leader and this year as Moderator. Paula has also served on the Mission Outreach Committee. Paula "loves First Presbyterian Church so much." She loves seeing the special members focusing on Jesus and his agenda above their own. She describes First Pres as a

caring church, and she feels that the church members treat one another like family. Fondest memories at John Knox Presbyterian Church (where she grew up) included Sunday evening fellowship with the youth – meeting new people, great food, and bowling parties that were a blast.



Judith Kinser (At-Large Nominating Committee) has been a member of FPC since 1970 and is retired as the Director of Admissions at Trinity Valley School. Over the years at First Pres, Judith has been very active and served on many committees and activities including the Nominating and Children's Christian Nurture committees, Presbyterian Women, and Congregational Care Teams.

She currently sings in the Chancel Choir and volunteers in the Salt & Light dental clinic at Community Crossroads. Judith is an ordained elder and served as a Trustee. FPC is her second home, supporting her through a lifetime of growth and development even as it evolves as well. Judith's milestone events in life are her fondest memories in the church, her marriage, her children's baptisms, and serving communion to her parents when she first was ordained as an elder. Judith loves serving on committees because it's such a great way to get to know people.



Michael Martin (At-Large Nominating Committee) joined FPC in 1998. He has been active as a youth group sponsor and served on the Fellowship and the Worship and Music committees. Michael has also previously served on the Nominating Committee and has volunteered at the Presbyterian Night Shelter with the young adult playgroup. Outside of church, Michael is an avid golfer.



Ashley Parsons (At-Large Nominating Committee) has been a member of First Pres since 1998 and has served as an ordained elder. She has been part of the Nominating Committee as an at-large member collectively for 5 years. Ashley has worked as a middle school sponsor and confirmation mentor. She has also served on the Children's Christian Nurture and Stewardship committees and been active in Presbyterian Women. Ashley loves

the intergenerational relationships she and her family have with members at FPC. Her fondest memories in the church are actively participating in baptisms during the worship services – the commitment our congregation gives to everyone who is baptized is important to her life in the church. When not involved in church work, Ashley loves walking in her neighborhood looking for every hill she can find.

JOYS & CONCERNS

Following are the joys and concerns as of September 21, 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 **Fred Webb**, who died September 1. Surviving FPC family is **Carol Aughinbaugh**.

Kerby Haltom on the death of his aunt, Ellen Haltom, on September 4, Flower Mound. Other FPC family includes **Amelia Haltom**.

Our loving thoughts and prayers are with...

Kerby Haltom, Glenn Pense, Bill Sommers, Janelle Eklund, Gene Almy, Rosanne 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.

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, 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...

Walter Williams (husband of **Rachele Williams**), Caleb James Baker (great-grandson of **Betty Tillman**), 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 Spratt**).

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...

Jenner and Lisa Kizer on the birth of James Rollins on July 7, 2022. Proud FPC grandparents are **Jay and Shannon Kizer**.

Ryan and **Katie Cromwell** on the birth of Taylor Christine and Walker Lee on August 18, 2022. Proud grandparents are **Bart and Tina Phillips**.

Scott and Ali Haney on the birth of James Hutchinson on September 1, 2022. Hutch joins big sister Hazel.

Ryan and Ann Nielsen on the birth of Jack Bender Nielsen, on September 15. Jack joins big brother Connor. Ann is the church's Director of Children and Family Ministries.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Below are some highlights of events happening in October. For a complete calendar, visit fpcf.org.

SUNDAYS IN OCTOBER

- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 10 a.m. Church School for all ages
- 10 a.m. Bible In-Depth: Isaiah
- 11 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary & Livestream
- 11:15 a.m. WHAM Younger Children's Choir
- 2 p.m. WHAM Worship Arts Class
- 2:45 p.m. WHAM Older Children's Choir
- 3:30 p.m. Grief Group
- 3:30 p.m. WHAM Children's Bells
- 4:30 p.m. High School Bells
- 4:30 p.m. High School Study Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
- 5:30 p.m. All Youth Group Dinner
- 6 p.m. High School Youth Group
- 6 p.m. Middle School Bells

WEDNESDAYS IN OCTOBER

- 10:45 a.m. Bible In-Depth
- 5:30 p.m. WOW! Worship, Activities & Meal @ Community Crossroads
- 6 p.m. Grace Notes Rehearsal
- 7 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. High School Bible Study (off campus)

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!



Please join the Evangelism Committee in welcoming **Tammy Jensen**, who joined FPC by reaffirmation of faith on Sunday, September 4. Tammy and her husband Richard have been visiting FPC for some time, and are looking forward to getting involved in the life of the church.



THE penn street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

PERIODICALS POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to
The Penn Street Letter,
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Church Office
Ph: 817.335.1231
Fax: 817.335.5663

WWW.FPCFW.ORG

A Heart for Unity: First Presbyterian Church's long-awaited History Book is Now Available

First Presbyterian Church will celebrate our 150th anniversary in May 2023. In anticipation of that date, the History Committee is excited to announce that the long-awaited First Presbyterian Church history book, *A Heart for Unity*, is now available.

The history book project began several years ago during research for the church's history wall, and the first author was contracted in 2015. The History Committee includes Sue Barham, Mimi Benoist, Mary Alice Dobesh, Dalton Hoffman, Cecil and Ann Smith, Robert Smith, and Barbara Willis. Through mountains of research, a pandemic, and multiple challenges, the Committee persevered over several years to bring the book to completion. *A Heart for Unity* chronicles the history of First Presbyterian Church, which closely parallels the history of Fort Worth, from the congregation's beginning in a livery stable in 1873 through present day. As Brian Coulter noted in his foreword to the book, *"It is a story about a church. It is a story about this city... But more importantly, it is a story about God's people living into and out of God's mission time and time again throughout our history."*

The book is free to church members (1 book per household, additional copies are available for a suggested donation of \$25). If you did not pick up your copy on Sunday, September 25, or Sunday, October 2, you may pick it up at the church office. Copies are available for non-members for a suggested donation of \$25. The members of the History Committee hope that you will receive this book as their gift to you.

The book is also available as a free weekly podcast at anchor.fm/firstpresfw and on Spotify. Chapters are released each Tuesday and Thursday (September 27 through November 17).

