

The Good News

Mid-Month Edition

No. 6

Mar. 16, 2016

Published twice monthly by the First Presbyterian Church of Commerce, Texas

FPC Mourns Loss of Dennis White

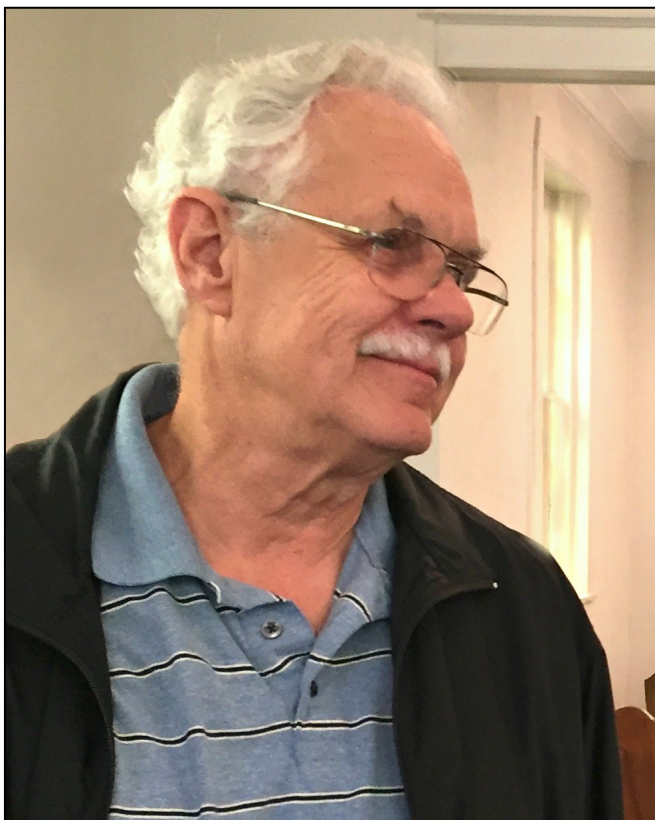
The following email was sent out by FPC Pastor Krista Rasco on Saturday, Mar. 12, to church family and friends.

Dear First Presbyterian Church of Commerce, TX family and friends,

It is with deep sadness to share with you all the news that Dennis White, member and dedicated servant of FPCC, passed away yesterday morning, Friday, March 11, 2016.

There will be a graveside committal with full military honors at Rosemound Cemetery in Commerce, TX on Friday, March 18th at 11:30 a.m. and a memorial service at First Presbyterian Church of Commerce at 2:00 p.m. on the same day.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers donations to the Commerce Community Food Pantry housed at FPCC would be the best way to honor Dennis and all the hard work and dedication he put into the food pantry.



God's grace and peace be with you all during this time.

Rev. Krista Rasco

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In God's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." -John 14:1-4

Dennis was struck by a vehicle as he attempted to cross a street in Austin, Tex. He died at the scene. He was there to visit his brother who was being treated in a local hospital. The driver of the car did stop to try and render aid.

This photograph of Dennis was taken the Sunday before his accident here at FPC by Lily Selvaggio.



Obituary for William “Dennis” White

November 11, 1943 - March 11, 2016

William “Dennis” White, 72, of Commerce, Texas, passed away on Friday, March 11, 2016 in Austin, Texas.

Dennis was born in San Mateo, CA on November 11, 1943, to Peggy Jeanne Kennedy White and William Jasper (Bob) White. He married Susan Allison White on September 1, 1979 in Dickinson, Texas. A veteran, he served in the United States Army in Vietnam as a medic.

Dennis and Susan moved to Commerce in 2010. In 2012, they joined the First Presbyterian Church where he was an Ordained Elder. Dennis was President of the Board of Directors of the Commerce Community Food Pantry, where he also worked. Called to do God's work, he took Jesus' instruction to Peter to "feed my lambs" literally.

Dennis could do anything, he never stopped learning or trying new things. He had a love for gardening, cooking and helping others.

Dennis spent most of his life saving people. During the Vietnam conflict he was a medic instructor with the United States Army at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio. He was called up to be a medic in a MASH unit at the front lines. He saved many lives during that time. There were many times he even saved the lives of some of his own family members.

Dennis had a commanding presence, yet he was gentle and soft spoken. He had a gift of staying calm in any kind of situation and that always helped others. He was a blood donor and a tissue and organ donor, so even now he continues to save lives. Dennis served his God, his country, his family, his church and his community. He is loved by so many and will be missed by all.

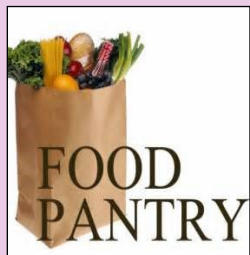
Committal services with full military honors will be held on Friday, March 18, 2016, at 11:30 a.m. at Rosemound Cemetery.

A Celebration of Life/Memorial Service will be held on Friday, March 18, 2016, at 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Commerce.



Don't Forget Food Pantry Items

The **Commerce Food Pantry** serves between 35-45 different families in need each week—over 150 families each month. Donations, both food and money, are a major source of its ability to help these people. Remember to help out the food pantry with a donation of food each Sunday.



1st Sunday—Peanut butter and/or jelly

2nd Sunday—Bag of pinto beans and/or rice

3rd Sunday—Box of cereal or oatmeal

4th Sunday—Cans of tuna, spam, chicken

5th Sunday—Cans of fruit: peaches, fruit cocktail, etc.



Easter Is Fast Approaching!

Rev. Krista Rasco continues her Lenten series of sermons on tables. Three more tables remain to be examined. Don't miss this chance to learn more about Jesus and his journey to the Cross.

Be sure to mark your calendar and invite your friends for the **Maundy Thursday Service** on Mar. 24 at 5:30 p.m. and **Stations of the Cross on Good Friday** (Mar. 25) from 5-8 p.m.

Finally, celebrate with us the resurrection of Christ Jesus on **Easter Sunday**, Mar. 27, at our regular worship time. Come early, however, since the **Membership Committee and helpers** will serve **breakfast** that morning at 9:45 a.m..

You are invited to experience
and meditate on the

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



At First Presbyterian Church in Commerce, TX
A come and go event

Good Friday (3/25/16): 5pm-8pm

Lenten Sermon Series

eight TABLES

3/20 *An Overturned Table* Matthew 21:1-17 (Palm Sunday)

3/24 *A Passover Table* Luke 22:7-23 (Maundy Thursday, 5:30 p.m.)

3/27 *An Easter Table* Luke 24:1-35 (EASTER!)

***On Good Friday, 3/25, The Stations of the Cross will be available from 5-8pm**

We Have Reduced the Frequency of *The Good News*.

We are now producing two newsletters a month. So if you have news, a blessing, or a photo to share, please keep our new schedule in mind and be sure to send it in early!

The next newsletter is the monthly edition. It will be published April 1.



Bible Readings for this Sunday and Next Sunday

This Sunday (Mar. 20) is the Palm Sunday.

Old Testament: Isaiah 55:1-7 *An Invitation to Abundant Life*

Psalter: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 *A Song of Victory*

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11 *Imitating Christ's Humility*

Gospel: (and sermon focus) Matthew 21: 1-17 *Jesus' Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem / Jesus Cleanses the Temple*

Next Sunday (Mar. 28) is Easter Sunday.

Old Testament: Isaiah 65:17-25 *The Glorious New Creation*

Psalter: Psalm 146 *Praise for God's Help*

New Testament: Luke 24:1-13 *The Resurrection of Jesus*

Gospel: (and sermon focus) Luke 24:13-35 *The Walk to Emmaus*

Assisting with Worship

Our worship leaders this Sunday (Mar. 20) are: **Monty Howard**, Head Usher; **Sally Walker**, Candle lighter; and **Walt Davis**, Liturgist.

Next Sunday (Mar. 27) our worship leaders will be *(to be named)*, Head Usher; **Cal Conner**, candle lighter, and **Martha Clevenger**, liturgist.

These volunteers help make each worship service meaningful. Please thank them when you see them. If you would like to assist at FPC, please contact Rev. Rasco or the church secretary.

Additions to Prayer List

The **Family of Dennis White**, who passed away on Friday morning, and his brother, **Ken White** (who was mentioned in this past Sunday's bulletin), as well as **Adam Kelly Ward, his family, and the family of Michael Walker**, have been added to the FPC Prayer List.

Dennis was struck by a car, as was his brother in a separate accident. Dennis was in Austin visiting his brother, who is still recovering.

Adam Ward, a former member of FPC, is scheduled to be executed on Mar. 22, at 6 p.m. by the Texas Department of Corrections for the 2005 shooting death of Michael Walker of Commerce.

Please pray for the White families and Ken, Adam Ward and his family, and the family of Michael Walker, as well as all of the others on the FPC Prayer List.

In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Our Troops | Diane Little | Gordon Hunter | Jace Carrington |
| Bruce Campbell | Sara Grace Pullen | Melba Blount | Amy Lopez |
| Billy Marshall | Joe Yeakley | Randy Roberts | Barbara Frey |
| John Paul Rhodes | Kade Daniel Campbell | Grace Byrd | Family of Virginia Holley |
| Family of Joe Fred Cox | Dana Ryer | Family of Frances Robinson | |
| Family of Kathleen Dickerson Smith | | Charles Rogers | Gayle Shumate |
| Gladys Gray | Family of Christopher Cosby | Kenyon White | Family of Dennis White |
| Adam Kelly Ward and his family | | The family of Michael Walker | |

Upcoming FPC Events

- **Tuesdays, Mar. 22 & 29, 9 a.m.**—Teach the Preacher.
- **Thursday, Mar. 24, 5:30 p.m.**—Maundy Thursday Service
- **Friday, Mar. 25, 5-8 p.m.**—Good Friday, Stations of the Cross (come and go event)
- **Sunday, Mar. 27, 9:45 a.m.**—Easter breakfast, followed by the Easter Worship Service at 10:50 a.m.

**Got a committee meeting or church event on your schedule.
Put it on ours so everyone can know about it!**



Help Celebrate a Birthday!

FPC's **Petra Strassberg** and her sisters are planning a birthday party. She wrote the following to *The Good News*.

*Our Mom, **Jacqueline Book**, will be 90 years old on March 17th. My sisters, **Jerry Ann Harris and Barbara Blanton**, and I are planning a small family party at 6 p.m. on March 17th at the Wesley House.*

If you would like to send Mom a birthday card, her address is 1044 Church Street Apt 8, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482. If you would like to call Mom, her cell number is 903-513-9789.

Look for Easter Lily Order Form in This Sunday's Bulletin Or Use This One!

If you would like to place one or more Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the following form and either place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office by Tuesday, March 22. The cost is \$8.50 each



I am ordering _____ Easter lily/lilies. That makes the total cost _____.

PLEASE PRINT

IN MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

DONATED BY _____

Your flowers may be picked up following the Easter Sunday service.