



# THE GOOD NEWS

**The Good News is published twice each month by the First Presbyterian Church of Commerce, Texas.**

**April, 2016**

## Inside this Edition:

A Message from the Pastor  
In Our Prayers  
Sunday Bible Readings  
FPC Is Online!  
Presbyterian Women's News  
Weekly Bingo and Lunch for Seniors  
Fish Fry Fundraiser  
April Worship Leaders  
April Calendar  
Share Your Talents  
Food Pantry Items  
Got News?  
Upcoming Community Events  
FPC Staff, Session and Committees  
April Birthdays and Anniversaries  
Holy Humor Items

## Worship with us this Sunday!

"A Christian Community of Faith"

**9:45 a.m.**

**Sunday School for all ages**

**10:50 a.m.**

**Sunday Worship**

**Rev. Krista Rasco – Pastor**

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## A Message From the Pastor

**Dear friends,**

*I was sitting down to write this column when I was notified via registered letter that I had won one of the Texas lotteries—good for \$5,000.*

*Needless to say, I immediately thought this must be another Easter miracle—because I had not even bought a ticket. So I went down to the store where my “ticket” was purchased (not by me).*

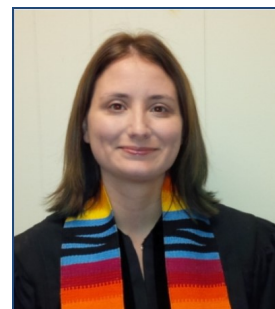
*How it happened I don't know, but I picked up my \$5,000 (within the store limit of payouts) and I bought a scratch-off ticket. Imagine my surprise when I discovered I won a all-expenses paid trip.*

*I said to myself. “Krista, you are on a roll, girl.” So I bought another scratch-off with the thought that if I won, I would do something outrageous.*

*Let's just say, I'm doing something outrageous. I'm giving away my trip and \$5,000 to one of you because I can live on my last prize of \$1,000 a week for five years.*

*I had a hard time deciding who to give my bounty to. All of you are deserving. But I have decided and all you have to do to find out who I picked is to read this newsletter completely and search for a name that is upside down. Happy Hunting! (Hint: it is not a familiar name.)*

*By the way, I did not nor will I buy any more scratch-offs. I would probably never win again anyway, and I didn't want to go tempting fate and the Creator any more than I already did.*



## 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
John Paul Rhodes		Kade D. Campbell
Grace Byrd	Charles Rogers	Gayle Shumate
Gladys Gray		Family of Christopher Cosby
Ken White		Family of Dennis White
Family of Adam Ward		Family of Michael Walker

*If you have anyone you would like to add to the Prayer List, please contact the church office.*

### Bible Readings for this Sunday and Next Sunday



**This Sunday (April 3) is the  
Second Sunday of Easter.**

**Communion Sunday**

**Holy Humor Sunday**

**New Testament: Acts 5:27-32** *The Apostles Are Persecuted*

**Psalter: Psalm 150** *Praise for God's Surpassing Greatness*

**Gospel: John 20:19-31** *Jesus Appears to the Disciples / Jesus and Thomas / Purpose of This Book*

**New Testament: (sermon focus) Revelation 1:4-8**  
*Introduction and Salutation*

**Next Sunday (April 10) is the  
Third Sunday of Easter.**

**New Testament: Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)** *The Conversion of Saul*

**Psalter: Psalm 30** *Thanksgiving for Recovery from Grave Illness*

**Gospel: John 21:1-19** *Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples*

**New Testament: (sermon focus) Revelation 5:11-14** *The Scroll and the Lamb*

## FPC Is Online!

[www.facebook.com/fpcccommerce](https://www.facebook.com/fpcccommerce)

[www.facebook.com/group/fpcccommerce](https://www.facebook.com/group/fpcccommerce)

<https://twitter.com/fpcccommerce>

[www.fpc-commerce.com](http://www.fpc-commerce.com)



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

### **PW Circle Meeting, Monday, April 11**

PW Circle will meet for Bible study at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 11, in the Fellowship Hall. Participants will be discussing Lesson 8 (The Hospitality of Living Water—Compassion) in the Horizons Bible study book. Please bring an item or two for the Food Pantry. Hostess for the meeting is **Nancy McFarland**. A business meeting will also be conducted. All women are invited to attend.

### **Upcoming PW area meetings in April:**

- **Saturday, April 9:** 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
*Spring Workshops at FPC, Tyler*
- **Saturday, April 16:** 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
*Spring Workshops at Oak Cliff PC, Dallas*  
*(Toni Deaton plans to attend both meetings. Please let her know if you would like to go.)*

### **PW News Churchwide/Worldwide**

(Articles from the *Horizons* magazine, Jan/Feb 2016)

Did you know .....

- The 25<sup>th</sup> of each month has been declared "Orange Day" by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, a day when people worldwide wear orange to raise awareness of the UNiTE to End Violence Against Women (and girls) campaign. Learn more at [www.un.org/en/women/endviolence](http://www.un.org/en/women/endviolence).
- Presbyterian Women is supporting the PSC (USA)'s *Educate a Child, Transform the World* initiative in this triennium and beyond. Through this initiative, the church hopes to improve education for one million children in the U.S. and around the world, focusing particularly on strengthening early childhood education and decreasing drop-out rates. You can find more information by going online at [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/call-mission/globalpoverty](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/call-mission/globalpoverty).) Presbyterian women pledge, through the Purpose, to work for justice and peace. You can be sure you are working for peace and justice at the most fundamental level when you work with children,

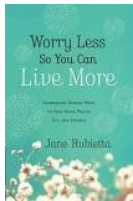
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## *Presbyterian Women . . . .continued*

the most vulnerable and easily exploited members of society.

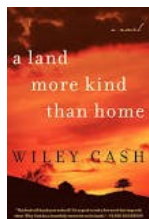
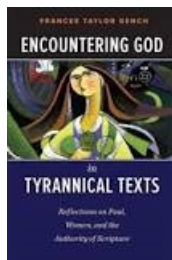
**(Note: FPC-Commerce's SCAMP program supports this effort!)**

### **PW Reading Suggestions: Books Recommended in Horizons magazine January/February 2016**



*Worry Less So You Can Live More: Surprising, Simple Ways to Feel More Peace, Joy and Energy* by Jane Rubietta; Bloomington, MN: Bethany House Publishers, 2015

*Encountering God in Tyrannical Texts: Reflections on Paul, Women and the Authority of Scripture* by Frances Taylor Gench; Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2015



*A Land More Kind Than Home: A Novel* by Wiley Cash; New York: William Morrow, 2013

## **Weekly Bingo and Lunch for Seniors in Commerce!**

A Saturday, April 2, kick-off is planned to introduce area seniors to a new offering by Hunt County's



Senior Center Resources and Public Transit (The Connection). Everyone is invited to the kick-off at the Hunt Regional Emergency Medical Center, which will start with bingo at 11 a.m. and lunch at noon in the ER center's Community Room.

Following Saturday's kick-off, *Bingo and Lunch* will thereafter be held in the Community Room on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Following bingo at 11 a.m., the noon lunch for seniors 60 and over is free (although a donation would be nice). For those under 60, lunch is a modest \$4.

Reservations are suggested and transportation can be provided if attendees call *The Connection* well in advance.

### **Bingo and Lunch in Commerce**

**Meals Start Tuesday, April 5th, 2016 at NOON**



Over 60 - Free Lunch

Under 60 - \$4.00

Anyone is welcome!

Reservations would be nice –

call **903-454-1444**



**Senior Center Resources  
and Public Transit**

*Serving Hunt County Since 1976*

[www.scrpt.org](http://www.scrpt.org)

**Location:** The Community Room (south end) at the  
Hunt Regional Emergency Medical Center at  
Commerce, 2800 Hwy. 24, Commerce, Texas 75428

**When:** Every Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday at Noon



Bingo with give aways starts at 11: a.m.!

## Fish Fry Fundraiser Set for April 24

FPC's Membership Committee and the Christian Education Committee are combining efforts to put on a fish fry this

Summer Creative Art & Music Program



month to raise funds for SCAMP, the Summer Creative Art & Music Program for Kids, which

was an unqualified success this past summer.

Mark your calendar and come and enjoy fried fish and all the fixin's on Sunday, April 24, at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

"Proceeds will support SCAMP, which is open to the community," said **Walt Davis**, chairman of FPC's Christian Education Committee.



SCAMP's goal this *Fun at last summer's SCAMP.*

year is to duplicate the success of last year with less financial burden to FPC.

"We have found ways to reduce the cost per student this year by half," Davis said, "but we still need financial support. It will cost \$50 per child to put on a quality program. Tuition of \$20 covers only part of the cost and we will need to raise another \$30 per student to be successful. We want to accommodate 30 children this year."

So come out, eat fish, fellowship with your friends, and know that you will be helping to provide community children with an opportunity that will encourage their artistic creativity in a Christian atmosphere of love.

### April Calendar

#### Worship Schedule

- 3** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.  
*Sermon focus on Revelation 1:4-8*
- 10** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.  
*Sermon focus on Revelation 5:11-14*
- 17** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.  
*Sermon focus on Revelation 7:9-17*
- 24** Morning Worship Service, 10:50 p.m.  
Sermon Focus on Rev. 21:1-6

#### Other April events

- 5, 12, 26 Tuesdays, 9 a.m.**—Teach the Preacher
- 6 Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.**—Christian Education Committee meeting
- 9 Saturday, 8:30-2:30 p.m.**—PW Spring Workshop at FPC in Tyler
- 11 Monday, 10 a.m.**—PW Circle meeting
- 13 Wednesday, 6 p.m.**—Session meeting
- 16 Saturday, 8:30-2:30 p.m.**—PW Spring Workshop at Oak Cliff PC in Dallas
- 23 Saturday, 10-2 p.m.**, Grace Presbytery New Beginnings Event in Irving

### April Worship Leaders

#### April 3

Host Elder:..... Ric Estes  
Head Usher:..... Monty Howard  
Candle Lighter: ..... Jack Walker  
Liturgist: ..... Susan Reeves  
Elements: ..... Scott Stewart

#### April 10

Head Usher:..... Bob Johnson  
Candle Lighter: ..... Carrigan Oats  
Liturgist: ..... Wally Tucker

#### April 17

Head Usher:..... Nancy McFarland  
Candle Lighter: ..... Cal Conner  
Liturgist: ..... Keith McFarland

#### April 24

Head Usher:..... Monty Howard  
Candle Lighter: ..... Sally Walker  
Liturgist: ..... Martha Clevenger

*Please thank these volunteers to let them know you appreciate what they do. If you would like to assist at FPC, please contact Rev. Rasco or the church secretary.*

### Share Your Talents

Thanks to all those who lead worship, our elders and committee members who work to improve FPC, and volunteers who make our events successful.

If you would like to fill a larger role in the life of FPC, please contact Rev. Rasco or someone you see working hard for FPC.

We would like to use your talents!



## 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 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**



You can't see it all in the picture above, but this is part of a large food donation collected by the folks from Greenville's FSTI (**Susan White's** place of work) in memory of **Dennis White**. The Commerce Food Pantry has benefitted greatly in food donation and financial ones made in an outpouring of love for Dennis.



FPC was a popular place on Good Friday, when the Stations of the Cross were on display for viewing and meditation. Above, Brenda Estes discusses the stations with children in Fellowship Hall. Below, Rev. Krista talks with children and adults in the Sanctuary.



## Got News?

If you have a submission (news, an event notice, pictures, a blessing, etc.) for *The Good News*, please email it to us at [fpc-commerce@embarqmail.com](mailto:fpc-commerce@embarqmail.com). We only publish twice a month, so please bear in mind our deadlines and send submissions in early. We reserve the right to edit.

We would love to hear from you.

## Upcoming Community Events

### Artists' Studio Tour on April 9

Proceeds from this unique tour benefit public art projects in Hunt County. Tour the studios of 10 area artists, including FPC's own **Walt Davis and David Zavanut**. Call 903-886-1123 or 903-456-5518 for ticket information. A flyer with more information is on the bulletin board near the church kitchen.

### Play Bridge and Help the Children's Museum

The annual "Friendship Bridge" event, benefitting the Northeast Texas Children's Museum, is

scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2016, at 1:30 p.m. at the Museum. Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased from **Toni Deaton and Nancy McFarland**,

Co-Chairs of the event. So come join with friends in our community, and beyond, for an



afternoon of bridge. Desserts will be served and cash prizes awarded. Two levels of play are available: Seasoned and beginners. You may come as an individual or with a group. Tickets may also be purchased by phone with credit card by calling the Museum at 903/886-6055. Make checks payable to NETXCM. FPC's own Nila McQuary will be the instructor for beginners. All ladies are invited.

### First Presbyterian Church Staff, Session, and Committees

#### Staff

**Pastor**..... Rev. Krista Rasco  
**Clerk of Session** ..... Wally Tucker  
**Music Director** ..... Jim Deaton  
**Organist**..... Toni Deaton  
**Nursery Attendant**..... Carolyn McFarland  
**Secretary** ..... Roger McKenzie

#### Session Members

##### 2016

Ric Estes  
Rick Selvaggi  
Scott Stewart

##### 2017

Walter Davis  
Helon Razniak  
Petra Strassberg

##### 2018

Martha Clevenger  
Jordan Conner  
Wally Tucker  
Bettina Zvanut

#### Session Committees

##### **Worship:**

**Chair**..... Helon Razniak  
**Co-Chair**..... Martha Clevenger

##### **Christian Education:**

**Chair**..... Walt Davis  
**Co-Chair**..... Jordan Conner

##### **Membership and Pastoral Care:**

**Chair**..... Ric Estes  
**Co-Chair**..... Bettina Zvanut

##### **Mission/Evangelism:**

**Chair**..... Bettina Zvanut  
**Co-Chair**..... Petra Strassberg

##### **Buildings and Grounds:**

**Chair**..... Scott Stewart  
**Co-Chair**..... Rick Selvaggi

##### **Stewardship and Finance:**

**Chair**..... Jordan Conner  
**Co-chair**..... Scott Stewart

##### **Personnel:**

**Chair**..... Wally Tucker

### April Dates to Remember

#### **Happy Birthday to:**

**2** - Lily Selvaggi

**5** - Walter Sanders

**8** - Rebecca Madewell

**10** - Monty Howard

**13** - Mark Keahey

**14** - Larry Towne

**15** - Charlene Linton

**15** - Evan Shatney

**16** - Ric Estes

**16** - Meredith Meighen Champion

**20** - Lance Wells

**25** - Barbara McCoy

**29** - Nila McQuary

*Help us make sure our birthday and anniversary information is up to date. If we forgot you or you have not given us the birthday and anniversary information for your family, please let us know so that in the future we can include your dates to remember in our monthly newsletter.*



# HOLY COW, IT'S HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

**April 3**

Submit jokes  
now or share  
them then, but  
do show up to  
bask in the JOY  
of the  
Resurrection!



Email jokes to Rev. Krista Rasco at [revkristarasco@gmail.com](mailto:revkristarasco@gmail.com)



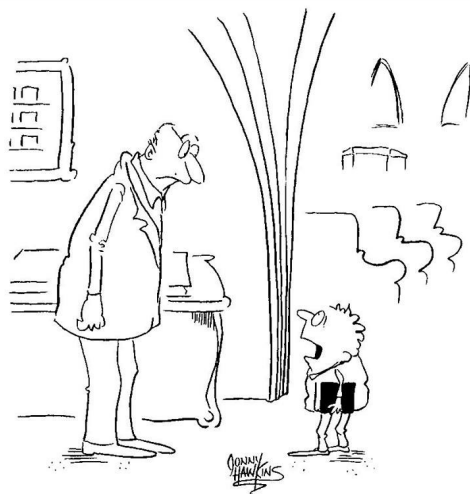
"I'm enrolling in seminary college so I can learn about miracles, like how to pay off my student loans."

April Fool

Pastor Rasco graciously gave up her column in the spirit of April Fool's Day and the upcoming Holy Humor Sunday and I took advantage to write a fake column to get you to thoroughly read this issue.

—Roger McKenzie

**Thanks for  
reading *The  
Good News*.  
If there is  
something  
we left out,  
let us know.**



"I slept in church because I'm striving to be more like God, and on the seventh day He rested."

