



THE GOOD NEWS

**The Good News is published weekly and monthly by
the First Presbyterian Church of Commerce, Texas.**

June 2017

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Keep Us Informed

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

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A Message From the Pastor

Dear family and friends of FPCC,

Being your pastor during this busy season of Lent and Easter has been a great joy and a blessing-filled journey. I am so glad to be here with you all.

I've been incredibly busy this past half year, and I wanted to share with you what I have been doing. These are in no particular order of importance.

This past Sunday, we dedicated and blessed a stole woven by Tina Selvaggi and given to me. This may be one of the best gifts I have ever received. It has so much meaning and, if you have a chance, I encourage you all to read the booklet that she and Lily made to go with the beautiful stole.

I also had the great opportunity to participate as a speaker in the Commerce High School Baccalaureate service.

This summer I'm focusing on my skills as a preacher. A few weeks ago I went to a conference in San Antonio called the Festival of Homiletics (a conference on preaching). I came back from that conference with a lot of inspiration and ideas that I'm still processing. In July, I plan to go to The Young Clergy Women's Group conference in Vancouver, B.C. The theme this year is on storytelling, which I hope will benefit my preaching.

Along with my pastoral duties, I have been taking a ceramics class at TAMU-C. In this class, I have learned



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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW officers will meet on Monday, June 19, at 9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. At this time, plans will be made for the upcoming year which begins Sept. 1.

Following the meeting, a kitchen clean-up will take place in preparation for SCAMP. We will also re-organize and replace any kitchen items that are needed.



In a church-wide effort of a Presbyterian Women Project held on Sunday evening, May 21, **Tina Fletcher Selvaggi** reported the following:

Fourteen Presbyterians took on the job of cutting a mountain of plastic milk cartons and blue jeans into usable shoe parts for children in Africa who

suffer from painful foot inflammation as a result of parasite infestations.

The shoe pieces will be sent to Africa soon, but we've got enough blue jean denim to make another batch so we're going to hold off just a bit.

*If you are interested in participating in our next event, watch for upcoming dates. We worked two hours, ate some great food, and had a good time being together. Special thanks to **Matthew McFarland** for entertainment during our cobbling!*

If you would like to contribute, we are still collecting smooth sided plastic water and milk jugs but we don't need any more blue jeans.

See Toni's Column and Enjoy the PW Innovator

If you are reading this online, here is a link to download the Second Quarter, 2017 Innovator. [Click here to download the Innovator.](#)

To read previous issues of the Innovator, [click here](#) to visit the PW page on the Grace Presbytery website.



Hands were busy, but the work was enjoyable on Sunday, May 21, as volunteers cut denim and plastic into shoe parts.

Out with the Old, In with the New

FPC's Russ Garmon watches as the flooring expert begins removal of the carpet in Fellowship Hall. At right, he is all smiles as he inspects the finished job. The flooring effort was hastened by the hard work of volunteers who moved furniture out and then

moved it back when the work, which included installation of this wood like vinyl in Fellowship Hall and a re-stretching of the carpet in the church parlor, was done in mid-May.



A Message From the Pastor Continued from page 1

more about being a student on this particular campus, made friends, and learned a lot from the professor, FPC's Barbara Frey, not only about ceramics but about being an artist and about life in general. I have made coffee mugs, tumblers, bowls, plates, teapots, vases, and a few abstract pieces.

I have also taken part in the Commerce Leadership Institute (CLI) where I have also made some friends and learned more about the city of Commerce and Hunt County. I learned how vital (and fun) it is to be an active participant in the city you live in, not only as a volunteer; and also how important it is to stay informed about what is going on around your city.

Who knew that this little town of Commerce, Texas, and First Presbyterian Church of Commerce could provide the opportunities and the means to participate in so many wonderful classes, conferences, and other events? I appreciate and have deep gratitude for all these incredible opportunities.

It is a joy being your pastor and to be able to do ministry alongside you all. I appreciate the flexibility you allow me to do all of these things as well as being a mother to a lively five-year-old and a wife to a wonderful husband. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. God bless you all, as God has blessed me with all of you and this wonderful town of Commerce.

Grace and peace be with you all,

Rev. Krista Rasco

Planning for SCAMP Underway

As you may already know, our Third annual SCAMP (Summer Creative Art/Music Program) for our community children is being planned for the week of July 17 through 21. One of the things SCAMP does is make sure the students, teachers and assistants, have a healthy lunch each day.

There will be approximately 30 students attending each day plus around 14 staff members/assistants. On the last day, Friday, July 21, we will also be providing lunch for the parents and any siblings who come to the "Show & Share" final assembly!

Brenda Estes is in charge of the menu but will need lots of help from our congregation as we strive to provide meals each day. Here is information about the daily menus and what will be needed:

On **Monday, July 17**, we will serve sandwiches, chips, fruit, cookies and drinks. Volunteers are needed to bring all of these items.

On **Tuesday, July 18**, hot dogs and buns (provided by the Estes family) will be served. Volunteers are needed to provide chips, vegetables (carrot sticks/celery sticks/tomatoes, cucumber slices, etc.), cookies and drinks.

On **Wednesday, July 19**, sloppy joes & buns (provided by the Estes family) will be served. Volunteers are needed to provide chips, fruit, cookies and drinks.

On **Thursday, July 20**, the Presbyterian Women Circle will provide pizza for all. Other items needed are chips, vegetables/salads, cookies and drinks.

Final Day, Friday, July 21: Friday's menu is sandwiches, chips, fruit and vegetable trays, cookies and drinks. Volunteers are needed to provide all these items. *Remember, this is the day that we will also serve the parents and any siblings who are there.*

Kitchen Helpers/Lunch Servers Needed on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the first 3 days of SCAMP

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, we need volunteers to be in charge of serving food, since Brenda will not be available to help those three days. We need at least two (2) people serving food each of these days.

Please don't forget to sign up if you can.

There will be a **sign-up sheet** in the sanctuary beginning Sunday, June 11. If you would like to help,

please sign your name beside the item/items you will bring on the specific days, and/or on the day(s) you can volunteer to help serve lunch. *This will be an "all-church" effort! If you have questions, please contact **Brenda or Toni Deaton**.*

Special thanks go to **Brenda and Rick Estes** for providing and preparing the hot dogs/buns and the sloppy joes/buns. And to all of volunteers who step up. Your spirit of volunteerism is greatly appreciated!.

Upcoming Bible Readings

Sunday (June 4) Is the Day of Pentecost

Gospel: John 20:19-23 *Jesus Appears to the Disciples*

Psalter: Psalm 104:24-34 *God the Creator and Provider*

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 *Spiritual Gifts / One Body with Many Members*

New Testament (and sermon focus): Acts 2:1-21
The Coming of the Holy Spirit / Peter Addresses the Crowd

Sunday (June 11) Is Trinity Sunday

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13: *Final Greetings and Benediction*

Psalter: Psalm 8 *Divine Majesty and Human Dignity*

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20: *The Commissioning of the Disciples*

Old Testament (and sermon focus): Genesis 1:1-2:4 *Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath*

FPC Is Online!

www.facebook.com/fpccommerce

www.facebook.com/group/fpccommerce.

<https://twitter.com/fpccommerce>

www.fpc-commerce.com.

June Calendar

Worship Schedule

- 4** Pentacost
Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Acts 2:1-21
- 11** Trinity Sunday
Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Genesis 1:1 - 2:4
- 18** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Genesis 18: 1-5; 21:1-7
- 25** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Matthew 10:24-39

Other June events

- 4** Sunday morning before worship—
Children's Music
- 14** Wednesday, 6 p.m.—Session meeting
- 19** Monday, 9 a.m.—PW officer's planning
meeting and kitchen cleanup
- 22** Thursday, 5 p.m.—Food pantry board meeting

Note: There will be no Teach the Preacher in June. In its stead will be a combined Sunday School which will have participants being led by Rev. Rasco in candid conversation about the scriptures she will focus on for her sermon the following Sunday.

Prayer List Updates

Two of our prayer list folks are recovering after surgery. **Jerry Ann Harris**, the sister of **Petra Strassberg**, is at home and recovering after May 23 surgery. Petra expressed her appreciation for everyone's thoughts and prayers.

Walt Davis had surgery this week and is recovering in the hospital in Dallas.

Please pray all of those people on our list.



Sunday School News

Beginning this Sunday (June 4), Sunday School classes will be combined. Rev. Rasco will lead participants in a candid conversation about the scripture she will use for her sermon the following Sunday.

Be sure to come to Fellowship Hall and participate in the conversation.

June Worship Leaders

June 4

Host Elder: **Russ Garmon**
Head Usher: **Monty Howard**
Candle Lighter: **TBD**
Liturgist: **Tina Fletcher Selvaggi**
Elements: **Helon Razniak**

June 11

Head Usher: **Scott Stewart**
Candle Lighter: **TBD**
Liturgist: **Martha Clevenger**

June 18

Head Usher: **Mason Howard**
Candle Lighter: **TBD**
Liturgist: **Toni Deaton**

June 25

Head Usher: **Bob Johnson**
Candle Lighter: **TBD**
Liturgist: **Neal Stewart**

When you see one of our worship leaders, thank them for their service. If you would like to volunteer, let us know.

In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

Our Troops
Melba Blount
Grace Byrd
Mildred Miller
Donald R. Smith
Janice Sigur
Walt Davis
Joyce McCord

Gordon Hunter
Amy Lopez
Gayle Shumate
Gaye Furry
Catherine King Robertson
Aaron Senne
Jordan Moore
Deryl McKenzie

Bruce Campbell
Billy Marshall
Gladys Gray
Preston Helton
Bennie Neve
Jan Burns
Jerry Ann Harris
Janice Hale

Sara Grace Pullen
Joe Yeakley
Pat Skauge
Loretta Kibler
Ron Davis
Kristen Rueb
Kathryn Miller



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

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

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

3rd Sunday—Can of chili or beef stew

4th Sunday—Cans of tuna, spam, chicken

First Presbyterian Church

Staff, Session, and Committees

Staff

Pastor Rev. Krista Rasco
Clerk of Session Wally Tucker
Music Director..... Kim Nolen Wheelock
Pianist..... David Vergara
Nursery Attendant Carolyn McFarland
Secretary Roger McKenzie

Session Members

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Walter Davis	Martha Clevenger	Brenda Estes
Helon Razniak	Jordan Conner	Tina Fletcher
Petra Strassberg	Wally Tucker	Russ Garmon
	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-Chairs Rick Selvaggi
Wendell Linton

Stewardship and Finance:

Chair Jordan Conner
Co-chair Scott Stewart

Personnel:

Chair Wally Tucker

June Dates to Remember

Happy Birthday to:

3 - Brian Miguel Majera
5 - Eric Clevenger
7 - Mason Howard
8 - Sean McIntier
8 - Julian Rasco
8 - Carol Lee Parrish
10 - Rebecca Dickerson
11 - Robert (Bob) Johnson Jr.
13 - Walt Davis
16 - Linda Roosevelt
25 - Keith McFarland
27 - Deborah Deaton Wells
27 - Joyce McCord
30 - Tina Fletcher Selvaggi

Happy Anniversary to:

8 - Amber & Jay Porterfield
12 - Nancy & Keith McFarland

*If we forgot you or got a date wrong,
contact the church secretary.*

VOLUNTEER
all that's missing is U!

**Please keep us informed and
let us know about news items**



**we can use for our
next newsletter. Call
or email (we prefer
email) the church
office with your
news.**