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### 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**

Email: [revkristarasco@gmail.com](mailto:revkristarasco@gmail.com)  
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E-presence

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

### A Message From the Pastor

Dear family and friends of FPCC,

I have recently returned from the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s national bi-annual meeting, called General Assembly. This year it was in St. Louis, MO, and had over 2,300 participants. I served as one of the ten elected commissioners for Grace Presbytery.



This past week 538 commissioners, and about 200 advisory delegates met to discern and seek the will of Jesus for the church and for the world in this moment in time. To do so, we hoped to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit through worship, prayer, Bible study, singing, meeting in committees and all together in plenary to discuss and perfect motions that could either direct or guide the church in word or in deed through ways such as making public statements, amending our Book of Order and Confessions, divesting, or staying at the table, and a lot of other ways.

There were quite a few issues before us, which I will delve into at a later date. Although one of my favorite parts of attending General Assembly is the profound fellowship that takes place, there is also a great amount of work that the commissioners and attendee's take quite seriously.

*Continued on page 6*

### Fourth of July Celebration Is Sunday Night



Don't miss the **Bois d'Arc 4th of July Celebration** at Centennial Park/Eddie Moore Sports Complex this Sunday night. This year, the event will take place on Sunday, July 1,

beginning at 6 p.m.

There will be music, food, bounce houses, vendors, and fun for the whole family! The fireworks show will take place at dark (around 9:30)! This year we will be selling armbands for \$5. These will allow your child access to the bounce house, obstacle course, and rides on the Bash Bug.

*Note: Please bring a non-perishable food item for entry. This will benefit the Commerce Food Pantry.*



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

## Circle Bible Study to Resume in September

By Toni Deaton

The PW officers will meet soon to make plans for the 2018-2019 calendar year. On Sept. 10, at 10 a.m., our regular monthly meeting day, our Circle will begin the 2018-2019 Horizons Bible study, *God's Promise: I am With You*, written by Amy Poling Sutherland.

The author was reared in Texas and New Mexico, the middle child of a 6th-generation pastor. She has a master's degree in education from Austin College and briefly taught school in intercity Dallas.

She did mission work in Malawi and served churches in Texas and Oklahoma before heading to Princeton Theological Seminary. After her ordination she came to San Marcos, Texas, where she currently co-pastors its First Presbyterian Church. She and her husband Joshua are the parents of four children ranging in age from 5 years to 11 years.

### Thanks for PW Hospitality

Thanks are in order for all the women who prepared and helped to serve lunch following Joyce McCord's funeral. The family expressed their gratitude and appreciation.



- ♦A "Thank You" card from Lily Selvaggi at the U.S. Air Force Academy to FPC's Presbyterian Women. It included the correct title to and address to use if you send anything to Lily in Colorado. She asks everyone to use the title "Basic Cadet" followed by her name to help avoid extra push-ups!
- ♦A "Thank You" card from Wanda Westmoreland (Kenneth McCord's sister) to the Women of First Presbyterian Church.
- ♦A card with two checks to FPC enclosed—one honoring the ladies of FPC and the other in memory of Beverly Murphy—from her daughters Sharon Anderson and Annette Taggart.

## Come Sing the Grand Old Hymns

On the fifth Sunday this month (July 29), FPC will have a special hymn sing. Music will be provided by FPC's Jim Deaton and his friend Joe Knight. Everyone is invited to join in a worship service featuring the grand old hymns.

According to Jim, "Joe will be taking hymn requests from the audience and we're betting nobody can stump him, not even Neal Stewart." The Sunday worship service starts at its normal 10:50 a.m. time.

\*\*\*\*\*

### About Jim and Joe

*Editor's note: Many FPCers and others may know, but for those who don't, here's some background information about Jim and Joe.*

**Jim Deaton** is retired from the Music Department at Texas A&M-Commerce, where he served as Professor of Clarinet and Department Head. He holds a Doctorate in Clarinet Performance from the University of Texas at Austin. He served as Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church in Commerce for 25 years.



Jim's other interests include writing poetry and music composition. His creative efforts include two plays and a musical, all performed on stage in the TAMUC theatre.

**Joe Knight** is a talented pianist and arranger and has several original compositions to his credit. He holds degrees in divinity and sacred music.

Joe served as Music Pastor at Family Fellowship Church in Greenville, Texas, for 20 years before entering a two-year traveling ministry.

Previously, Joe worked in Branson, Missouri, as a published ASCAP songwriter, creating his own solo albums and producing recording sessions for Branson artists.

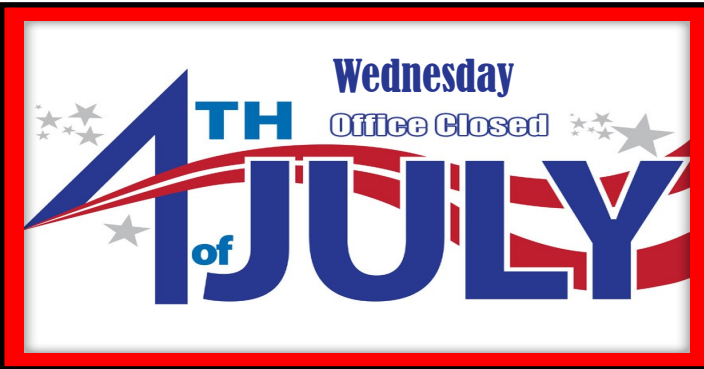




Dear Volunteers of the Summer Food Program at FPC,

Thank you so much for helping with the summer food program.

Nancy Green



### Food Pantry Donation Items

Use of the Commerce Food Pantry seems to be growing. Donations remain an important source of its ability to help these people. Remember to help out the food pantry with a donation of food each Sunday.

Here are suggested donations. There is a box just inside the sanctuary for your donation.

**1st Sunday**—Saltine crackers

**2nd Sunday**—Ranch Style Beans

**3rd Sunday**—Spaghetti sauce (in cans)

**4th Sunday**—Spam, chili without beans

**5th Sunday**—Canned pineapple

In addition to the above, the Commerce Food Pantry is always in need of grocery paper bags with handles (Braun's paper bags are perfect). If you have any spare paper bags, please consider donating them at any time.

## Summer Activities

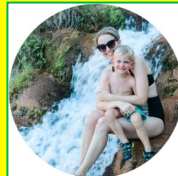
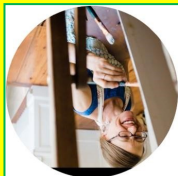
### SCAMP!

FPC's popular Summer Creative Arts & Movement Program returns from July 16-20 for students entering grades 1-6. It is a week of instruction in singing, instruments, creative movement and art, from 8 a.m. to noon daily. The \$20 fee includes lunch daily and a SCAMP T-shirt.

Registration is limited and ends July 9. You can register online at [www.fpc-commerce.com](http://www.fpc-commerce.com). You can also reserve your space by calling the church office at 903-886-3781 (from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.) and register the day SCAMP starts.

### Links to Upcoming Programs at Mo-Ranch

*Control click on each of the circles below to get more information (you may have to select open hyperlink)*



### Still Another Choice for Summer Activities



Another choice for fun summer activities is Gilmont. **Camp Gilmont** is certainly a lot closer, with a location on 400 acres near Gilmer.

To get information about this Presbyterian-related camp, and its offerings, go online to <http://www.gilmont.org> or call the phone number in the logo shown.

## July Calendar

### Worship Schedule

- 1 Morning Worship service 10:50 a.m. (  
*Sermon focus on Mark 5:21-43*)
- 8 Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.  
*Sermon focus on Mark 6:14-29*
- 15 Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.  
*Sermon focus on Ephesians 1:3-14*
- 22 Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.  
*Sermon focus on Ephesians 2:11-22*
- 29 Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.  
*There will be a hymn sing—no sermon.*

### Other July events

- 11 **Wednesday, 6a.m.**—Session Meeting
- 16-20 **Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. —noon—**  
SCAMP



## July Worship Leaders

### July 1

Host Elder: ..... Neal Stewart  
 Head Usher: ..... Bob Johnson  
 Candle Lighter: ..... TBD  
 Liturgist: ..... Walt Davis  
 Elements: ..... Bettina Zvanut

### July 8

Head Usher: ..... Jordan Conner  
 Candle Lighter: ..... TBD  
 Liturgist: ..... Toni Deaton

### July 15

Head Usher: ..... Monty Howard  
 Candle Lighter: ..... TBD  
 Liturgist: ..... Susan Reeves

### July 22

Head Usher: ..... Ric Estes  
 Candle Lighter: ..... TBD  
 Liturgist: ..... Brenda Estes

### July 29

Head Usher: ..... Russ Garmon  
 Candle Lighter: ..... TBD  
 Liturgist: ..... Nancy Green

### Addition to the Prayer List

Gary Smith, Jason Rasco's step-father, passed away on Monday, June 25. We have added **the family and friends of Gary Smith** to our list. Please keep them and all of those on our list in your prayers.

### In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

Our Troops	Gordon Hunter	Bruce Campbell	Sara Grace Pullen
Melba Blount	Amy Lopez	Joe Yeakley	Grace Byrd
Gayle Shumate	Gladys Gray	Mildred Miller	Gaye Furry
Preston Helton	Catherine King Robertson	Bennie Neve	Ron Davis
Jan Burns	Audrey Hucks	Larry Ratliff	Jack Gray
Jean Angotti	Jim Calvert	Tammi Fucci	Adele Reeves
Brandon & Kate Pullen Hall	Bob Wilkins	Joe Dipiazza	Deryl McKenzie
Danny Spruel	Kristen Anderson	Family of Beverly Murphy	Family of Donald R. Smith
The Chang Family in Atlanta and China	Family of Freda Lambert	Family of Joyce McCord	
The family and friends of Gary Smith			



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

**Deadline for the mid-July edition of the Good News is Tuesday, July 17, at noon so that it can be emailed to our readers by July 19.**

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

**Staff**

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

**Session Members**

<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Martha Clevenger	Brenda Estes	Nancy Green
Jordan Conner	Tina Fletcher	Bob Johnson
Wally Tucker	Russ Garmon	Neal Stewart
Bettina Zvanut	Lily Selvaggi	

**Session Committees**

**Worship:**  
 Chair .....Martha Clevenger  
 Co-Chair ..... Nancy Green

**Christian Education:**  
 Chair ..... Bettina Zvanut  
 Co-Chair ..... Nancy Green

**Membership and Pastoral Care:**  
 Chair ..... Brenda Estes  
 Co-Chair ..... Tina Fletcher Selvaggi

**Mission/Evangelism:**  
 Chair ..... Bob Johnson  
 Co-Chair ..... Bettina Zvanut

**Buildings and Grounds:**  
 Chair ..... Russ Garmon  
 Co-Chair ..... Neal Stewart

**Stewardship and Finance:**  
 Chair ..... Jordan Conner

**Personnel:**  
 Chair ..... Wally Tucker

*Note: Some committees do not have co-chairs.*

**July Dates to Remember**

*Happy Birthday to:*

- 1 - Kent Norwood
- 4 - Jennifer Duncan Pierce
- 6 - Katy Miller Whitaker
- 11 - Lindsay Priest
- 15 - Kerri Norwood Costa
- 15—Bart Green
- 20 - Jeff Towne
- 22 - Kylie Towne
- 25- Ronda Vaughn
- 28 - Katherine Harrington
- 29 - Dean Calvert
- 31 - Jimmy Rhodes

*Happy Anniversary to:*

- 3 – Jody and Joe McIntier
- 3 – Sharon and Walter Sanders
- 19 – Kay & Ron Davis
- 24 – Tina & Rick Selvaggi
- 28 – Janet & Danny Duncan

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

**FPC Is Online!**

[www.facebook.com/fpccommerce](http://www.facebook.com/fpccommerce)

[www.facebook.com/group/fpccommerce](http://www.facebook.com/group/fpccommerce)

[fpccommerce.com](http://fpccommerce.com)

<https://twitter.com/fpccommerce>

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



## Upcoming Bible Readings

**This Sunday (July 1) Is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Old Testament: 2 Samuel 1:1; 17-27** *David Mourns for Saul and Jonathan*

**Psalter: Psalm 130** *Waiting for Divine Redemption*

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15** *Encouragement to Be Generous*

**Gospel (and Sermon Focus): Mark 5:21-43** *A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed*



**Next Sunday (July 8) Is the Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**



**Old Testament: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10** *David Anointed King of All Israel / Jerusalem Made Capital of the United Kingdom*

**Psalter: Psalm 48** *The Glory and Strength of Zion*

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10** *Paul's Visions and Revelations*

**Gospel ( and sermon focus): Mark 6:1-13** *The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth / The Mission of the Twelve*

**Sunday, July 15, is the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Old Testament: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19** *David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem*

**Psalter: Psalm 24** *Entrance into the Temple*

**Gospel: Mark 6:14-29** *The Death of John the Baptist*

**Epistle (and sermon focus) : Ephesians 1:3-14** *One in Christ*



## **A Message From the Pastor**

Continued from page 1

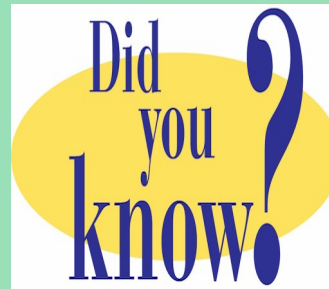
In fact, out of the eight days we were there, we were in meetings for a little over 61 hours. We would start somewhere between 8:30/9:30 a.m. and meet until 10:30 p.m. and on the last night the meeting lasted until midnight. We would usually get about a 2-hour lunch and dinner break. Needless to say, I was exhausted when I returned (I'm not sure I've quite recovered yet).

In the midst of all that, I ended up diagnosed with strep throat. I had to stay in bed for two days but as soon as I wasn't contagious anymore I was back in the meetings. There are so many wonderful, and difficult things that happened. Now that General Assembly is over the discernments made will be taken back to Presbyteries and home churches in hopes that we all will continue to do the hard, difficult, wonderful task of discerning the will of God for our church in this time and this place, and to use that discernment to take action and witness to God's 'kindom' come.

I look forward to sharing with you all the experiences that I had last week, and having conversations about how we might continue the work of the church in this world.

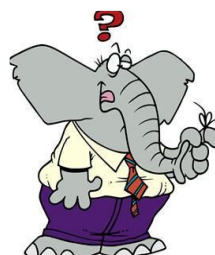
**Grace and peace be with you all,**

**Rev. Krista Rasco**



The Presbyterian Church has long been on the leading edge of issues and causes.

- England's King George referred to the American Revolution as "the Presbyterian Revolution" because so many Presbyterian ministers were influential in starting and supplying American independence. At least eleven of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence were Presbyterians.
- Presbyterians were active in the abolition of slavery and were at the forefront of the civil rights movement.



### **Did We Forget Something?**

**Maybe we forgot an event you are organizing for FPC or a committee report you wanted to get in The Good News. Whatever it is, let us know. If you forgot, remember to remember next time!**