



THE GOOD NEWS

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

August 2017

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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
www.facebook.com/krista.rasco

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A Message From the Pastor

SCAMP 2017 has just concluded and, like its first two iterations, it was a big success. In lieu of my normal column this month, I'm allotting my space to SCAMP pictures. Most of them were taken by Lily Selvaggi. A big thanks to her and all those who worked so hard—from Walt Davis and Kim Wheelock, who guided things, to the teachers/staff and volunteers who provided the muscle.

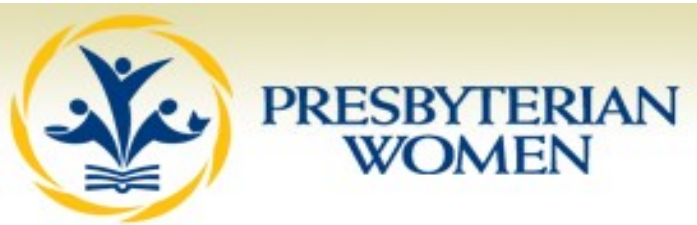
*Grace and peace be with you all,
Rev. Krista Rasco, pastor*



At left, Kim Wheelock leads SCAMPers in song. Below, art was a big part of SCAMP activities.



More SCAMP pictures on page 5



By Toni Deaton

SCAMP

Susan Reeves created a charming array of puppets for the SCAMP music instrument class. The students presented a puppet show entitled *"The Rabbits, the River and the Crocodile."* The children



Susan's puppet stars were a big hit at SCAMP.

presented a folk tale through singing, playing melody instruments, waving "fire" streamers, creating the "conversations" between the animals with percussion instruments, and providing the sound of river currents with a large rippling strip of blue cloth! Thank you, Susan, for your creative contribution!

Many thanks to all women in the church who provided food for our "scampers" this year. We especially appreciate all those who brought food for the final day, July 21, when the children presented their program for their families and then stayed for lunch. Also, thanks to **Brenda Estes** for preparing the menus and organizing the kitchen help for each day. The children really enjoyed the days that included hotdogs, sloppy joes and pizza!

Ric Estes played a big role in making sure the food was hot as he transported crock pots to the church.

Thank you, Ric!



Grace Presbyterian PW Coordinating Team Meeting

FPC-Commerce hosted women throughout Grace

Presbytery as the PW CT met on Saturday, July 29, in our fellowship hall. Plans were made for the upcoming Fall Gathering at FPC-Mesquite on Saturday, Oct. 14. A luncheon was provided by our local PW. Thanks to all who brought food.

(*Note: A more detailed account of the meeting by **Bettina Zvanut** is included on this page in a separate story.*)



Upcoming PW Events

Monday, Aug. 7, at 10 a.m. – PW officers will meet in the fellowship hall to decide on plans for the new year which begins Sept. 1.

Tuesday, August 29: PW members are once again invited to attend what has become an annual event which is looked forward to each year. We will travel to FPC-Ft. Worth to hear Melissa Bane Sevier, author of our 2017-2018 Horizon's Bible Study, *Cloud of Witnesses*.

Deadline for registration is Monday, Aug. 21. Please notify me if you plan to go. The program starts at 10:30, followed by lunch (cost is \$7) at noon. We will meet at the church parking lot and leave at 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, September 9, at 12:00 noon – The annual PW Fall Covered-dish Luncheon will be held in Fellowship Hall. Mayor Wyman Williams will be the guest speaker and will inform us about the proposed plans for our City. All women are invited and guests are welcome.

Grace Women Gather at FPC

By Bettina Zvanut

Planning for the Fall Gathering and Spring workshops began last Saturday (June 29) as Grace Presbytery PW officers from across North Texas met at our church. **Toni Deaton** is the Grace Presbytery PW Moderator and leader of the team and I serve as the Moderator for Programming.

Several members of our First Presbyterian Church PW graciously helped provide a delicious salad luncheon for the women. **Helon Razniak, Nila McQuary, Martha Clevenger, and Nancy McFarland** are greatly appreciated for contributing their lovely salads.

The women were very impressed with our new flooring and asked many questions about where it was purchased. The meeting was successful, and everyone enjoyed their visit.



*Grace Presbytery sent Presbyterian Women leaders from throughout the Presbytery to FPC for a Coordinating Team meeting on July 29, which was led by our own **Toni Deaton**. Some of them are shown above enjoying a break from planning at a lunch prepared by FPCers.*
Photo by Bettina Zvanut

Upcoming Community Events



Cook for a Day, Eat for a Week & Save Money, Too!

—Class Rescheduled for Aug. 26—

The date for the second of two free food classes offered by C-CAP, AgriLife Extension Service, and the Commerce Community Garden Project of the First United Methodist Church of Commerce has been changed. Originally, the cooking class on meal preparation was set for Aug. 5. That date has been cancelled and a new date of Aug. 26 is now scheduled, giving attendees plenty of time to sign up for the class at FUMC.

Time is an important topic of that class, which will be held from 9 a.m. to noon. That's because the course is aimed at saving time and money when it comes to food preparation. Attendees will get hands-on experience in preparing food for a whole week ahead. Spending just a few hours in the kitchen can thus save you more hours during the week as you enjoy prepared ahead of time meals. The course will also provide tips on how to save at the grocery store using this prepare ahead of time plan.

You will want to sign-up fast because the class size will be limited due to space and its hands-on focus. All materials will be provided. A sign-up sheet is on the FPC bulletin boards in the hall next to the

kitchen. You can also register by calling the FUMC office at 903-886-3220.

If you need more information, call FPC's **Dr. Bob Johnson** at 903-468-2659.

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Classical Conversations Homeschool Forming Informational Meeting Set for Aug. 3

Note: The following is part of an email received at FPC. Without knowing anything about this organization, it is presented for information only, without endorsement.

Hello!!!

...I am writing to let you know that Commerce is going to have its very own Classical Conversations homeschool community!! This is a Christian-based, 24-week program that teaches classically. The community meets once a week to learn new grammar, have a science lab, learn about composers and artists and have lunch together....there will be an information meeting at the Commerce Public Library this Thursday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m.

Peace & Joy,

Michelle Lee

**Dir. of Classical Conversations of Commerce, TX
 214-673-2807**

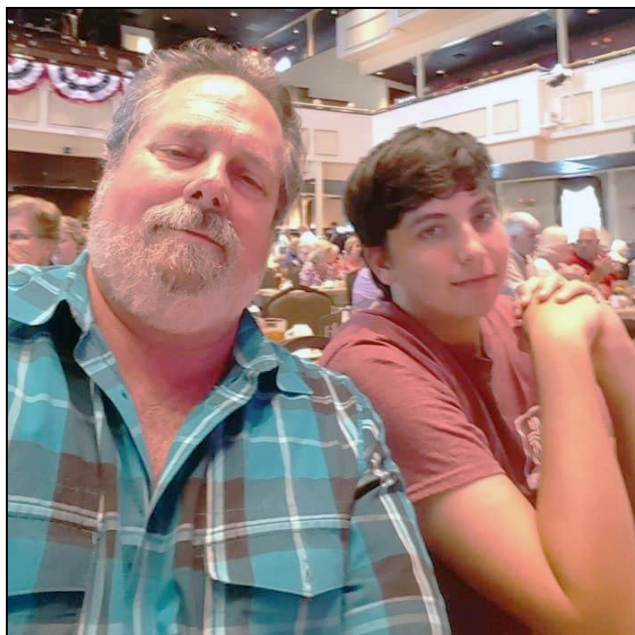
Thanks

For Being Awesome!

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to Monty and Mason Howard for all they do for the First Presbyterian Church-Commerce. On the Sundays that I am Head Usher, Mason always helps me by making sure the back doors are locked. He also assists with taking up the offering and keeping me on track for closing the doors and counting attendance.

Monty and Mason are by the back doors of the sanctuary during every Sunday service, insuring that the congregation can feel safe and focus on the service. I appreciate their dedication to the church and the congregation. They are a blessing to all of us.

Petra Strassberg



FPC Is Online!

www.facebook.com/fpcccommerce

www.facebook.com/group/fpcccommerce

<https://twitter.com/fpcccommerce>

www.fpc-commerce.com

August Calendar

Worship Schedule

- 6** Morning Worship service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Matthew 14:13-21
- 13** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Matthew 14:21-28
- 20** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Matthew 15:21-28
- 28** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on Exodus 1:8-2:10

Note: August will continue the 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. This takes the place of Teach the Preacher on Tuesdays.

Other August events

- 7 Monday, 10 a.m.**—Presbyterian Women planning meeting for officers and leadership members only
- 9 Wednesday, 6 p.m.**—Session meeting
- 24 Thursday, 5 p.m.**—Food pantry board meeting
- 29 Tuesday, 8:15 a.m.**—Presbyterian Women will leave the church parking lot going to First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth to hear **Melissa Bane Sevier**, author of the 2017-2018 Horizon's Bible Study, *Cloud of Witnesses*. Registration required by Aug. 21.

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.

Don't forget!

MORE PICTURES

Summer Creative Art & Music Program

SCAMP
For Kids



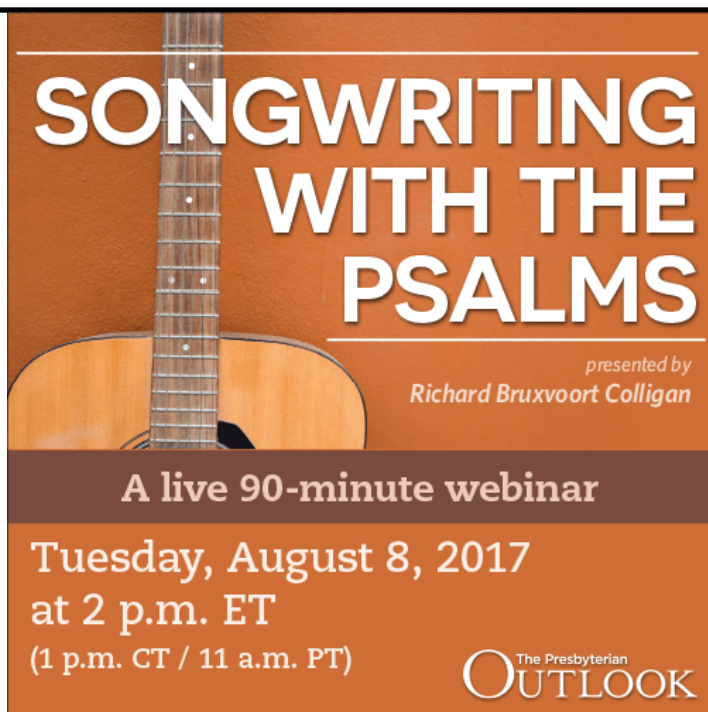
Look for **MORE**
SCAMP pictures
in the next
newsletter!

Are you a creative person
curious to try your hand at
songwriting for your
faith community?



Guided by psalmist **Richard Bruxvoort Colligan**, you'll look at three Psalm texts and write a simple community song for each of them: a song of celebration, a song of wonder and a lament.

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan is a full-time psalmist resourcing the wider church with adventurous community songs. His music has been published across denominations, including two pieces in the "Glory to God" hymnal.



SONGWRITING WITH THE PSALMS

presented by
Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

A live 90-minute webinar

Tuesday, August 8, 2017
at 2 p.m. ET
(1 p.m. CT / 11 a.m. PT)

The Presbyterian
OUTLOOK

This webinar will focus on the spirituality of the Psalms and the value of sung prayer.

In this webinar, you will:

- Learn the value of the Psalms for your worship context and in devotional practice.
- Create three songs reflecting on your experience of the psalm texts.
- Be connected to websites and books for further creativity.

What to bring with you to the webinar:

- Paper and writing instrument
- A recording device, like your phone (optional)
- A Bible open to the Psalms

Who will benefit from this webinar?

Worship leaders, church musicians, pastors, seminary students, Christian educators and lovers of the psalms. This is a great opportunity to be adventurous with something new that will serve your whole church. No experience necessary!

[Click here to
learn more and
purchase](#)

This webinar is a live broadcast with on-demand replay. Cost is \$29.95, which is good for 1-6 participants from the same church.

Summer Lunch Report and a Big



By Bettina Zvanut

The Summer Lunch Program continues until school starts on Aug. 7. Several of the children who eat lunch were able to attend Scamp week at the church and enjoyed our ladies' cooking and **cookies!**

I would like to thank **Martha Clevenger, Helon Razniak, Lily Selvaggi, and Keith and Nancy McFarland** for their help administering the lunch

program in the last few weeks.

During SCAMP, every inch of the church was in use because of the Food Pantry (which received some huge shipments from the North Texas Food Bank and surplus from the Food Pantry in Cooper), the United Way Summer Lunch Program, and all of the classes for SCAMP. The hall that threads the Sunday School classes was a huge traffic corridor for parents, kids, crates of food on dollies, and neighborhood children who walked and biked to eat lunch.

Your church was the place to be the week of July 17th-21st!

Upcoming Bible Readings

**Sunday (Aug. 6) Is the
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
And Communion Sunday**

Old Testament: Genesis 32:22-31 *Jacob Wrestles
at Peniel*

Psalter: Psalm 17:1-7, 15 *Prayer for Deliverance
from Persecutors*

Epistle: Romans 9:1-5 *God's Election of Israel*

Gospel (and sermon focus): Matthew 14:13-21
Feeding the Five Thousand

**Sunday (Aug. 13) Is the
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Old Testament: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 *Joseph
Dreams of Greatness / Joseph Is Sold by His
Brothers*

Psalter: Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22 *God's Faithfulness
to Israel*

Epistle: Romans 10:5-15 *Israel's Unbelief /
Salvation Is for All*

Gospel (and sermon focus): Matthew 14:22-33
Jesus Walks on the Water

In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

Our Troops	Gordon Hunter	Bruce Campbell
Sara Grace Pullen	Melba Blount	Amy Lopez
Billy Marshall	Joe Yeakley	Grace Byrd
Gayle Shumate	Gladys Gray	Pat Skauge
Mildred Miller	Gaye Furry	Preston Helton
Loretta Kibler		Donald R. Smith
Catherine King	Robertson	Bennie Neve
Ron Davis	Janice Sigur	Aaron Senne
Jan Burns	Kristen Rueb	Walt Davis
Jordan Moore	JerryAnn Harris	Kathryn Miller
Joyce McCord	Deryl McKenzie	Janice Hale
Dub Holcomb		The family of Bob Lube

If you have anyone you would like to add to

the Prayer List, please contact the church office.

August Worship Leaders

August 6

Host Elder:.....Petra Strassberg

Head Usher:..... Scott Stewart

Candle Lighter: TBD

Liturgist: Lily Selvaggi

Elements:..... Tina Selvaggi

August 13

Head Usher:..... Ric Estes

Candle Lighter: TBD

Liturgist: Keith McFarland

August 20

Head Usher:.....Bob Johnson

Candle Lighter: TBD

Liturgist: Wally Tucker

August 27

Head Usher:.....Walt Davis

Candle Lighter: TBD

Liturgist: Bettina Zvanut

August Community Events

7 School starts for Commerce ISD

19 Saturday, 6 p.m.—Thalian Culture Club
Auction at Sand Hills Country Club in
Campbell

28 Fall semester classes begin for TAMUC

Continuing Events

Every 2nd Wednesday, 1-4:30 p.m.—Silver Leos
Writers Guild meets at the TAMUC Alumni
Center, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Every Thursday evening, 6-8 p.m.—Family Night at
the Commerce Public Library.

Next time we'll add your monthly event if you tell us!

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 Martha Clevenger
Co-Chair Helon Razniak

Christian Education:

Chair Walt Davis
Co-Chair Bettina Zvanut

Membership and Pastoral Care:

Chair Brenda Estes
Co-Chair Tina Fletcher Selvaggi

Mission/Evangelism:

Chair Bettina Zvanut
Co-Chair Petra Strassberg

Buildings and Grounds:

Chair Russ Garmon

Stewardship and Finance:

Chair Jordan Conner

Personnel:

Chair Wally Tucker

Note: Some committees do not have co-chairs.

August Dates to Remember

Happy Birthday to:

4 – Donna Dickerson

5 – Odeana Stewart

6 – Jason Rasco

7 – Kay Davis

7 – David Duncan

17 – Nancy Humfeld

17 – Gaye Furry

20 – Rose Rhodes

23 – James Ballew

23 – Melissa Towne

29 – Rick Selvaggi

Belated Happy Birthday, Bart!

We missed yet another name in our birthday list for July. **Bart Green's** birthday is July 15.

Happy Anniversary to:

8 – Toni & Jim Deaton

31 – Mona & Larry Towne

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

What DO YOU WANT TO DO
AT FPC?

Grants and Scholarships

Do you have a ministry idea or an idea for church development that needs some seed money to get started? The Synod has money available. Check out the grant list to see if your idea fits one of our many categories.

Scholarships are available, too.

Click on the following link for [more information](#).