



The Good News

MID-MONTH EDITION

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How Did You Get to FPC?

Editor's note: Not all of FPC's members are lifelong area residents. This is the first of what we hope will be a series of articles about our members who took an unusual path to the Commerce and/or its surrounding area and thus to First Presbyterian Church. It is a clever story idea that was suggested by Nancy Green. That is why we are starting with Bart and Nancy Green's journey to FPC. We need you to help us keep this going. Let us hear from you so we can make you a part of our series. Just contact the church secretary.



Bart and Nancy Green were living in Marietta, a suburb of Atlanta, Ga, in 1981 right before they came to this area. The move was prompted by a phone call the Greens received concerning Bart's great-aunt, Juanita Green.

Juanita was living on a farm in Cumby when she died at age 90, having outlived all her siblings.

Since the Greens' marriage, Nancy and Bart (thanks to Nancy) had exchanged Christmas cards with his great-aunt. The connection stuck and resulted in Bart's inheritance of the Green family farm. Thus, in 1981, Bart and Nancy and their two sons, four-year-old Ryan and one-year-old Carson, moved to Cumby.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Partial Solar Eclipse Coming to North Texas on Monday, Aug. 21

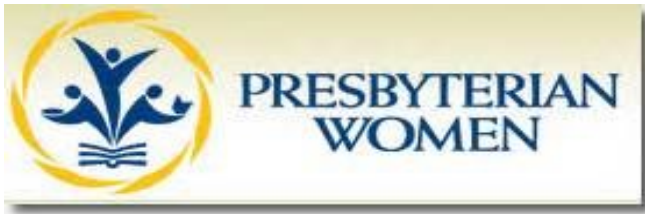
A total solar eclipse (when the moon crosses in front of the sun) will be visible on Monday in much of the United States. Here in North Texas, the eclipse will be a partial one, starting at around 11 a.m. and hitting its maximum coverage shortly after 1 p.m. starting to wane until it is finished just after 3 p.m.

The Bible lists many instances that have occurred or will occur in which the sun's light is taken away. It is not up to us to say if eclipses are involved. God, however, was and is in control, as always.

However, LIVESCIENCE senior writer Tia Ghose has written the following in an article titled "The 8 Most Famous Solar Eclipses in History."

"The Christian gospels say that the sky was darkened for hours after the crucifixion of Jesus, which historians viewed either as a miracle or a portent of dark times to come. Later historians used astronomy to pinpoint the death of Christ based on this eclipse mention. Some historians tie the crucifixion to a total solar eclipse lasting 1 minute and 59 seconds that occurred in the year 29 C.E.; others say a second total eclipse, blocking the sun for 4 minutes and 6 seconds, in 33 C.E., marked Jesus' death.

Warning: Do Not Temp Fate by Viewing Monday's Solar Eclipse without Proper Eye Protection



**Presbyterian Women?
Aren't they the women
in sensible shoes?**



Be Sure to Read 'The Innovator'

You won't want to miss the latest Innovator. FPC's own Toni Deaton is, as you probably know, the moderator for Grace Presbytery's Presbyterian Women's organization.

The Innovator is the organization's newsletter. Each issue contains "A Note from Toni." Her article in the third quarter issue is about the beautiful stole woven by Tina Selvaggi for Rev. Rasco. It includes a picture of both FPC women.

The Third Quarter 2017 Innovator is available for download.

[Click here to download the Innovator.](#)



**Yes, sometimes, but that's not all that's
sensible about Presbyterian Women!
They collected more than 4,000 pairs of
shoes and socks for children's agencies at
their 2006 Churchwide Gathering.**

**Think you know Presbyterian Women?
Think again and prepare to be amazed!**

Here Are Some More Good Online Reads

Grace eNews

While you are reading online, click [here](#) to go to a copy of the Grace eNews, Grace Presbytery's monthly newsletter.

Among interesting articles, you will find a story about Cathy Chang, mission worker in Manila, Philippines, tell how she came to help churches and other organizations address issues of migration and human trafficking.

You can also take the Grace Presbytery Website Survey.

Presbyterian Mission

There are a lot of good reasons to attend church. But did you know attending church is good for your health?

Click [here](#) to read a Presbyterian Mission article by Yonat Shimron that references a study by researchers from Vanderbilt University. It is one of a long list of studies that show a church attendance link to longer life.

However, "religion is incredibly complex" the article quotes one expert on public health. By way of contrast, this expert points out some exceptions to the church attendance-health connection.

Presbyterians Today

Most of us think we can say things more concisely. How about summarizing all of Paul's letters in eight words? Click [here](#) if you want to read the *Presbyterians Today* article by Chip Hardwick that makes that claim.



MORE PICTURES

Summer Creative Art & Music Program

SCAMP
For Kids



MORE
SCAMP
pictures on
the next
page!

Wrap-up

Summer Creative Art & Music Program

SCAMP

For Kids



**See Ya
Next Year!**



Upcoming Community Events



- **Saturday, Aug. 19, 6 p.m.**—The Thalian Culture Club Foundation Auction. The silent and live auction is again being held at the Sand Hills Country Club in Campbell. The annual event is the organization's only fundraiser of the year, and supports numerous local charitable efforts, as well as provides scholarship opportunities for eligible seniors from Commerce High School. A detailed news item about the auction is on the bulletin board in the hallway next to the FPC kitchen.
- ♦ **Sunday, Aug. 27, 2-4 p.m.**—The "Topping Out" ceremony at St. Stephen Presbytery Church in Fort Worth. The ceremony celebrates the re-opening of the church's Christian Education Building after it was extensively damaged by vandalism on Jan. 8. The church is located at 2700 McPherson Ave. (Phone: (817) 927-8411)

Bible Readings for this Sunday and Next Sunday

This Sunday (Aug. 20) is the 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Old Testament: Genesis 45:1-15 *Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brothers*

Psalter: Psalm 133 *The Blessedness of Unity*

Epistle: Romans 11:1-2a; 29-32 *Israel's Rejection Is Not Final / Israel Will Be Saved*

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28 *The Canaanite Woman's Faith*



Next Sunday (Aug. 27) is the 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20 *Peter's Declaration about Jesus*

Psalter: Psalm 124 *Thanksgiving for Israel's Deliverance*

Epistle: Romans 12:1-8 *The New Life in Christ*

Old Testament: Exodus 1:8-2:10 *The Israelites Are Oppressed / Birth and Youth of Moses*



Congrats to **Paul and Rose Selvaggi**. Their new baby is due in February



*Got a summer picture?
Send it to us!*



At right are some gorgeous pictures of the azaleas on the road to **Helon Reznick's** home.

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
Jordan Moore	Janice Hale	Dub Holcomb	Family of Bob Lube
Family of Chris Hubbert	Jackie Book	Martha & Don Reynolds	Ruth Green

Additions to Prayer List

We've had several recent additions to the FPC Prayer List.

- **The family of Chris Hubbert**, whose memorial service was held at FPC on Aug. 10.



- Petra Strassberg's 91-year-old mother, **Jacqueline (Jackie) Book**. She has cancer, but does not want surgery. She is in hospice care at the Wesley House.

Petra says her mom told her she "is ready to go." Petra added that "My sisters, our children and the extended family appreciate your thoughts and prayers."

- **Martha and Don Reynolds**, good friends of Keith and Nancy McFarland, whose son Wayne died recently.

- **Ruth Green**, Joyce McCord's sister, who is recovering from dehydration and has moved from the hospital to rehab in Comanche, Tex.

Please pray for all those (and their families) on our list.

Assisting with Worship

The following people are assisting with worship the next two Sundays.

August 20

Head Usher:**Bob Johnson**

Candle Lighter: **TBD**

Liturgist: **Wally Tucker**

August 27

Head Usher:**Walt Davis**

Candle Lighter: **TBD**

Liturgist: **Bettina Zvanut**

Please remember to let our worship leaders know how much you appreciate them. If you would like to help with worship in some capacity, please contact Rev. Rasco or the church secretary.

Congratulations, David!

FPC's pianist, **David Vergara**, graduated from TAMUC in ceremonies held Friday, Aug. 11. He was awarded a Master's Degree in Piano performance.

Way to go, David!

Search for New Choir Director Begun



FPC bid farewell to its choir director, **Kim Wheelock** in an announcement made in the Sunday, Aug. 13, worship service.

Though we are sad to see Kim go, we are joyful that she is continuing her service to God as the children's choir director at the First Presbyterian Church in Grapevine, Texas.

Thanks for your service. We will miss you.



Card of Thanks

FPC has received Thank-You cards (on the bulletin board by the kitchen) from:

- **Michael and Karen Hubbert** for the luncheon and memorial celebration of life service held here on Aug. 10 for their son, **Christopher**. They also made a donation to FPC.
- **Matthew McFarland** for FPC's financial support of his Boy Scout project.