

# The Good News

Weekly Edition

No. 18

November 7, 2014

Published (almost) weekly by the First Presbyterian Church of Commerce, Texas

## Mark Your Calendars

FPC is a busy place this week. Here are some of the events and dates you need to know about:

- **Monday, Nov. 10, 10 a.m.** – Presbyterian Women's Circle meeting.
- **Monday, Nov. 10, 6 p.m.** – New Beginnings Leadership Training meeting.
- **Tuesday, Nov. 11, 9 a.m.** – Teach the Preacher resumes and will continue on Nov. 18 & 25,
- **Wednesday, Nov. 12, 6 p.m.** – Session Meeting

Later in the month, there is the monthly Grace Presbyterian meeting, which will take place on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21-22, at Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church in Richardson.

On Saturday, Nov. 22, the Presbyterian Women are hosting a field trip to Farmersville, Tx. More details on this trip will be forthcoming. Among other things, the visit will include shops for antiques, jewelry, art, and "collectibles" and lunch at the Sugar Hill Cafe.

## Sermon Focus

Rev. Rasco is back and as we move toward Advent, she is continuing to examine the Old Testament. In her sermon on Sunday. She will be using **Joshua 24:1-3a; 14-25**. In these verses, Joshua confronts the people with their straying from God and they respond by renewing their covenant to serve the Lord.

## Assisting With Worship This Week

Those assisting with worship this week are: Jim Norwood, Head Usher; Lily Selvaggi, Candlelighter; and Keith McFarland, Liturgist.

Thanks to all those who give of their time and talents at FPC.

## Kiss the Pig Contest

The race is about halfway over. Is your favorite winning. If not, cast another vote or two for either Dr. Rick Selvaggi, Joe Fred Cox, Sherry Johnson, or Rev. Krista Rasco.

All the votes (dollar bills) will help FPC youth attend an upcoming trip to SHYC, an annual get-together for Grace Presbytery high schoolers held at Austin College in Sherman in late January. Please tell friends and family about the fundraiser and make sure you vote.

The pig the winner will have to kiss is Sir Little Bacon. He belongs to Mason Howard, part of his agriculture project at school. By the way, we inadvertently referred to Mason as Mason McFarland recently. We are sorry Mason.



### This Sunday's Food Pantry Items

Over 40 families were helped at last week's food pantry. The second Sunday of the month calls for a bag of pinto beans or rice. Your donation can assist people who need some help. Place your items in the box at the back of the sanctuary, and thank you for your donation.

### Community News

**Community Thanksgiving Service**—There will be a Community Thanksgiving Worship Service on Sunday, Nov. 16, at 6 p.m. at Disciples of Faith Church, located at 1015 Bois d'Arc in Commerce.

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner**—For those who can't or choose not to cook on Thanksgiving Day (or for those who missed the Hunt County Gives sign-up for holiday food baskets) there is still a hot, delicious Thanksgiving dinner in your future. All you have to do is take advantage of the free Community Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by the First United Methodist Church and Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (with help from the Commerce faith community).

Dinner includes turkey and dressing, green beans, sweet potatoes, and pie.

It will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27, at the First United Methodist Church, 1709 Highway 50 (across from the Texas A&M-Commerce campus).

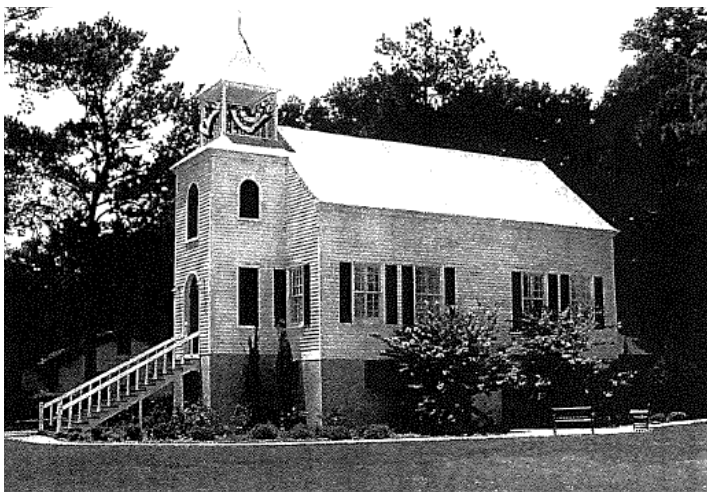


Volunteers can provide transportation to the church or home delivery of the meal. If you would like to help with this project contact, the FUMC office at 903-886-3220

**Candlelight Tour of Christmas Homes for senior citizens**—Sherry Johnson will be taking a group of senior citizens to Jefferson on Dec. 11 for this special and colorful tour. "We will pick up in Commerce at the Farmers Market at 10:30 a.m. and return back to Commerce/Greenville after the festivities have ended," she said.

There is a flyer on the church bulletin board. You can also call her at 903-886-1123 to obtain more information, including cost.

**Employment opportunity**—If you are looking for a part-time job, Sherry also noted that Byron Taylor, general manager of the Magnuson Hotel in Commerce is looking for a new **breakfast bar attendant**. The hours are primarily 6:30-10:30 a.m. five days a week. The pay is minimum wage @ \$7.25 /hr. If anyone is interested they need to call 903-886-4777.



### Letter from the McIntiers

Joe and Jody McIntier have sent a letter to all their friends at FPC. The letter is posted on the bulletin board by the kitchen.

The letter—to touch base and let everyone know how they are doing—includes a health update for Jody and a bulletin from a Presbyterian Church they visited. The church building in St. Marys, Georgia, was first built in 1807.

However, the building was not designated

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as a Presbyterian Church until 1822. It became The First Presbyterian Church of St. Marys, Georgia, in 1828 by an act of the Georgia legislature.

Jody wrote that it was “beautiful looking out the windows at moss covered trees. Tell (Jim) Deaton the choir doesn’t come close to ours.

She also asked the congregation to keep their son Joel in its prayers.

“We count on you to help him since we aren’t there to help him.

“Hope we see you again. We think of you everyday,” she continued. “You will always be in our hearts.”

### **Youth Camp Out**

Nov. 22 is such a busy day that we didn’t have room for this item previously. Here it is now. The Selvaggi's have graciously invited the church middle school and high school youth to camp out on their land that Saturday. Tents are scheduled to start going up at about 3:30 p.m. We will start at 3:30 in order to have time to put up the tents and light the fire. There will be lots of food, a campfire, and Bettina promises quizzes about Biblical plagues. Bring a friend!

### **Volunteers needed**

While registration for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets ended Oct. 31, Hunt County Shared Ministries (FISH) still needs volunteers to help distribute an estimated total of over 1,600 food baskets during the holiday season. Here in Commerce, the Thanksgiving distribution will take place on Saturday, Nov. 22, to those families who registered and qualified for the program.

Those families will be mailed a confirmation card with their assigned pickup location. There are five distribution sites in Hunt County. The Commerce site is the First United Methodist Church.

The original applicant or another person living at the address who was designated on the registration form may pick up the basket. A photo ID and the original confirmation card sent out by FISH must be brought to the distribution site. No photo copies of either document will be accepted.

The Christmas basket confirmation cards will be mailed separately. Saturday, Dec. 20 is set as the Christmas pick-up date.

If you would like to volunteer for distribution or for food basket assembly (which will take place at the GEUS loading dock area in Greenville, or if you would like to make a donation to this worthwhile cause, call Hunt County Gives (the name of the program) at 903-455-0545.

### **Grace Presbytery News**

On Thursday, Nov. 6, Grace Presbytery announced on its website the settlement of a lawsuit brought by Highland Park Presbyterian Church. The announcement said:

“On November 3, 2014, Highland Park Presbyterian Church paid \$7,800,000 to Grace Presbytery under the parties' October 8 settlement agreement. One day later, the parties jointly moved to dismiss the lawsuit Highland Park filed against its denomination just over a year ago.

“Grace Presbytery is pleased that the parties were able to resolve the dispute out of court, with the assistance of former federal judge Jeff Kaplan. The facts and law demonstrated that a party's signed, written commitments to its denomination matter under neutral principles of Texas law, and this settlement reflects that.

“Highland Park has now sought and received Grace Presbytery's ecclesiastical dismissal, so that Highland Park can join its new denomination, ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.”

### Young Presbyterian Scholarship

Nominations for a \$74,000 Young Presbyterian Scholarship to Westminster College are being accepted until Dec. 1. FPC can nominate up to two member students who have a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.5 or better.



If you know a student who is a Presbyterian Church (USA) member, nomination forms are in the church office. Westminster College is located in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania. If you would like more information, contact Rev. Jim Mohr, College Chaplain, at [mohrjr@westminster.edu](mailto:mohrjr@westminster.edu) or call him at 724-946-7116.

A flyer about the Young Presbyterian Scholarship and Westminster College is on the church bulletin board by the kitchen.

### Don't Forget

We are only as informative as you make us.

We forget, too. Help us remember important things that should be in each week's newsletters. We need get your information as early as possible to make our Friday publication date.

Please let us know of important items as soon as possible.

We can't print what we know about. Also, if you know of someone who would like to get our church newsletters, send us their email address and we will put them on our mailing list.

