

The Good News

Mid-Month Edition

No. 19

October 19, 2016

Published twice monthly by the First Presbyterian Church of Commerce, Texas

Hurricane Matthew Leaves Devastation, Death in its Wake

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support for those affected by Hurricane Matthew. The category 4 hurricane has been blamed for hundreds of deaths and millions of dollars in damage following its path from southwestern Haiti, eastern Cuba, and the east coast of the United States toward the southeastern US coast. PDA was already active in the area, doing long-term recovery work related to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti and Superstorm Sandy of 2012.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

PDA is working alongside established partners to respond to this latest crisis, providing essential food, water, and supplies for impacted communities and villages in its immediate response. As long-term recovery needs are determined, PDA will continue to support those in impacted areas to help ensure a comprehensive recovery.

PDA is continuing to update storm-related recovery needs and information to keep the church apprised on the emerging disaster response.

Financial support for PDA's relief efforts can be designated to DR000148 with reference to Matthew. Gifts can be made online, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check, which can be mailed to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

P.O. Box 643700

Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Chamber's 'Halloween on the Square' Provides a Safe Place to Trick or Treat

It wasn't that long ago that Trick or Treating on Halloween was problematical for many parents of young children. If you want a safe way to have the Halloween fun of

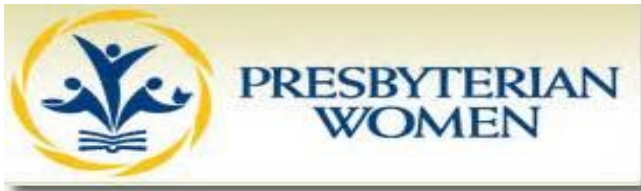


Trick or Treat



Trick or Treating with your young children, the Commerce Chamber of Commerce is offering 'Halloween on the Square' from 5:30-7 p.m. on Halloween. It's primarily for kids 12 and under and their parents.

Local businesses, churches and other organizations will have tables with Trick or Treat goodies set up around the Commerce downtown square. There will also be games and a bounce house.



Four members of the FPC PW Circle (three of them pictured at right) took part in Grace Presbytery's annual PW Fall Gathering held Saturday, Oct. 15, at Flower Mound Presbyterian Church in Flower Mound. Keynote speaker was Rev. Angie Mabry-Nauta, development officer at the Presbyterian Pan American School. Attendees pictured are Moderator **Toni Deaton**, **Martha Clevenger**, and **Brenda Estes**. **Bettina Zvanut** also attended, but is not pictured.



BABY CAP PRODUCTION LINE—We caught the action (but not all the fun and comradery) at the PW Circle's Baby Cap Cut and Trace session on Oct. 17. Pictured are (above, left) **Nancy McFarland** and **Martha Clevenger** (tracing), (above, right) **Toni Deaton** (cutting), (bottom left) **Brenda Estes** (packaging) and **Nila McQuary** and **Helon Razniak** (cutting). The caps will be sewn and given to a local hospital to help keep little heads warm.



In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

Our Troops	Gordon Hunter	Jace Carrington	Bruce Campbell
Sara Grace Pullen	Melba Blount	Amy Lopez	Billy Marshall
Joe Yeakley	John Paul Rhodes	Grace Byrd	Gayle Shumate
Gladys Gray	Pat Skaug	Mildred Miller	Amanda Swanson
Gaye Furry	Preston Helton	Loretta Kibler	Joyce McCord
Joan Walvoord	Brad Rollins	Family & friends of Diane Little	
Odeana Stewart	Donald R. Smith	Catherine King Robertson	

Assisting with Worship

Our worship leaders this Sunday (Oct. 23) are: **Monty Howard**, Head Usher; **Sally Walker**, Candle lighter; and **Bettina Zvanut**, Liturgist.

Next Sunday (Oct. 30) our worship leaders will be **Wendell Linton**, Head Usher; **Cal Conner**, candle lighter, and **Neal Stewart**, liturgist.

If you would like to be a worship leader like these volunteers or if you would like to help FPC in some other way, contact Rev. Rasco or the church secretary. Don't forget to let our worship leaders know how much you appreciate them.

Upcoming FPC Events

- **Friday, Oct. 21, 5:15 p.m.**—PW Progressive Dinner
- **Tuesday, Oct. 25, 5 p.m.**—Commerce Food Pantry board meeting
- **Wednesday, Oct. 26, 6:30 p.m.**—Christian Education Committee meeting

Upcoming Community Events

- **Sunday, Oct. 23, 2-4 p.m.**—Commerce Masonic Lodge #439 will host an open house for all the citizens of Commerce.
- **Mondays, Oct. 24 & 31, 6 p.m.**—GriefShare at First Baptist Church in the Church Parlor.
- **Monday, Oct. 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**—Chamber of Commerce's *Halloween on the Square*.
- **Saturday, Nov. 5, 9-11 a.m.**—Recycle Day, at the University parking lot at Campbell and Walnut.

Home Alone for the Holidays?

Petra Strassberg is inviting anyone who will be by themselves on Thanksgiving Day and/or Christmas Day to have dinner at her house on those holidays. Dinner will be from 12-2 pm on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Please contact Petra at 903 274-9444 or at petrakirsten1@gmail.com.



Don't Forget Food Pantry Items

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**—Can of tuna, spam, chicken
- 5th Sunday**—Can of fruit: peaches, fruit cocktail





Wedding Bells

Sarah Howard, daughter of FPC's **Monty Howard**, married **Cory Coombes** in Incline Village, Nevada, on Oct. 15.

Congratulations to the newlyweds!



Cory and Sarah Coombes



FISH Working to Brighten Holidays with Dinners

During last year's distribution of holiday dinner boxes, Hunt County Shared Ministries (FISH) was in desperate need of turkeys. They were some 600 short to fulfill their anticipated needs. Fortunately, the need was publicized and the public came through.

This year FISH reports that it is in much better shape when it comes to turkeys. However, a spokesperson for the group said when contacted that it always helps to have the public's support.

If you would like to help FISH with a turkey or a donation, you can visit its office at 2815 King Street in Greenville or call 903-455-0545 to find out how you can make a difference.

Oct. 27 is the last of several dates for meeting FISH requirements for its holiday food boxes. Clients of the Commerce Food Pantry who meet the criteria are being signed up now. The Thanksgiving food box distribution date is one day only—Saturday morning, Nov. 19, while the Christmas distribution date is Saturday morning on Dec. 17.



FPC Treasurer's Report

By Susan White

Income for the nine months through September totaled \$95,643.57. This is 8.11% below the budget for nine months of the year. Expenses for the nine months through September were \$101,808.43. This is 2.19% below our budgeted expenses.

Year-to-date expenses have exceeded income by \$6164.86. The budgeted income and expense for each month is \$11,564.92.

September saw some very large once-a-year expenses, for example insurance, which ran the month's expenses up to \$15,936.87 against receipts of just \$8,538.39.

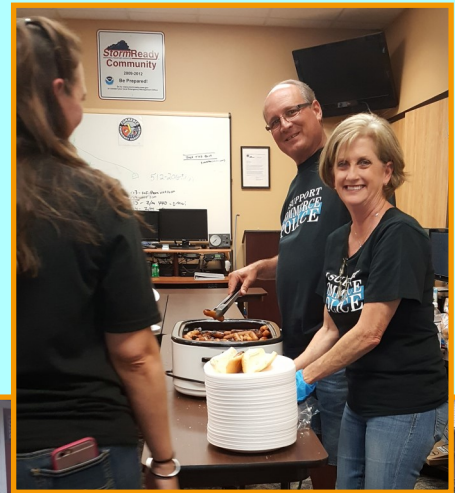
In summary, we have cut our expenses slightly at this point, but we are currently over budget thanks to some one time big ticket expense items.



Fall Pictures



The **National Night Out** pictures evoke the fall season. The **baby shower** pictures occurred in the fall, so we are counting those as well. Keep those pictures coming.



*National Night Out, held in Commerce on Oct. 4, was a lot of fun, some of it had by FPCer's. Above left, **Bettina Zvanut** mans the FPC table. Above right, **Ken and Kathy Miller** serve food. At right, **Jason Rasco and daughter Kaitlynn** ride the caboose of the jolly green train.*



*Above, **Kimberly Stewart** holds baby **William Garrison Stewart** during the Oct. 2 baby shower held here for **Kim and Scott's** new arrival. Standing with her is Kim's daughter, **Jojo Weiss**. Both Mom and Big Sis are beaming. Garrison just seems to be wondering where Dad is.. Below, the crowd waits patiently at the introduction, hoping to get their share of cuddle time, we bet.*





Bible Readings for this Sunday and Next Sunday

This Sunday (Oct. 23) is the 23rd Sunday after Pentecost.

Old Testament: Joel 2:23-32 *God's Response and Promise (to A Call to Repentance and Prayer)*

Psalter: Psalm 65 *Thanksgiving for Earth's Bounty*

Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 *Paul's Charge to Timothy / Personal Instructions*

Gospel (and sermon focus): Luke 18:9-14 *The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector*

Next Sunday (Oct. 30) is the 24th Sunday After Pentecost.

Old Testament : Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 *The Prophet's Complaint / God's Reply*

Psalter: Psalm 119:137-144 *The Glories of God's Law*

Epistle: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4; 11-12 *Salutation / Thanksgiving / Judgment at Christ's Coming*

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10 *Jesus and Zacchaeus*



Writer's Corner

This is a new, not every issue, section of The Good News. If you are an aspiring writer and you feel moved to submit something in good taste, it will be considered for inclusion here. Be prepared to have your work edited, if needed.

By-Ways of Living

(A Short List – In Random Order)

By Richard Smith

To be glad of life, and to love life.
To be governed by admirable behaviors, not by bad behaviors.
To think often of your family and friends.
To study your soul, while spending more time with nature.
To worship God, and do "good works."
To look up at the heaven's universe of stars; and to wonder.
To wish for fresh blossoms of wisdom.
And to keep yearning for the truth.

Deadlines for The Good News

The November monthly newsletter will come out on Nov. 1. Please have any stories or pictures turned in as soon as possible, but no later than 10 a.m. on Oct. 28.



Did We Forget Something?

Don't Forget, You Have to Do Your Part

Maybe we forgot an event you are organizing for FPC or a committee report you wanted to get in The Good News. Whatever you notice is missing, let us know. And if you forgot, remember to remember next time! We can't be informative without you and your input.