



The Good News

Weekly Edition

No. 23

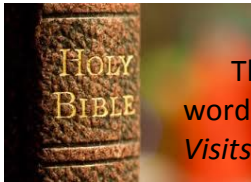
December 19, 2014

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Don't Forget Our Christmas Eve Worship Service

FPC's annual Christmas Eve worship Service will put you in the true spirit of Christmas—if you aren't there already. There will be lots of familiar Christmas carols and a message of hope and joy. Invite your friends and bring the whole family and prepare to be blessed.

The service starts at 5:30 p.m.



Sermon Focus

This Sunday is the fourth Sunday in Advent. Rev. Rasco will use the New Testament words of the Gospel in Luke for her sermon. In Luke 1:39-56, the subheads are "*Mary Visits Elizabeth*" and "*Mary's Song of Praise.*"

Assisting with Worship This Sunday

Those assisting in Sunday's worship service are: Monty Howard, Head Usher; the Presbyterian Women's Circle, Candlelighters; and Dennis White, Liturgist. Catherine Klassen will be the featured soloist.

Don't forget to stop and thank them for their service. If you feel the calling to help out, you can join these folks. Whatever it is you would like to help with, please let us know.



Christmas Gathering at Rev. Rasco's house

You are invited to stop by Krista and Jason Rasco's home (3007 Tanglewood) from 6-9 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19 for a come and go Christmas gathering.

Prayers at Work

A note received from Tina Fletcher had the good news that Sammy Elwell is out of the hospital and doing much better.

In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

Our Troops	Diane Little	Gordon Hunter	Jace Carrington
Bruce Campbell	Sara Grace Pullen	Melba Blount	Amy Lopez
Billy Marshall	Barbara Leonard	Riley Isom	Joe Yeakley
Todd Shinn	Bill & Lisa Rhoades	Sammy Elwell	Paula Elliott

All those who are struggling through the holidays

An invitation to a Longest Night Service at FPC in Bonham

Christmas can be a painful time for some. The happiness of the season can remind people of what they have lost or have never had. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, or the pain of isolation can be magnified at this time of the year.

To provide encouragement for those who are feeling discouragement, **First Presbyterian Church of Bonham (818 N. Main St. a special “Longest Night” 21 at 6 p.m.**



First Presbyterian Church of Bonham, TX) will conduct service on Sunday, Dec.

Everyone is invited to sharing and hearing music that acknowledge those who mourn or Word comes to shine Everyone is welcome.

come out, and join in prayers, scripture, and that God’s presence helps struggle - and that God’s light into our darkness.

Pastor Rasco will be going to this service and will offer carpooling if wanted. Plan to meet in the parking lot of FPC in Commerce at 5 p.m. Departure will be at 5:10 p.m.

Time to Pucker Up!

Well, it’s kissing time! We could not get a complete compilation, but it looks like a neck and neck race between Rev. Rasco and Joe Fred Cox, with Dr. Rick Selvaggi and Sherry Johnson following in that order. After Sunday’s final tally, we will know who is puckering up.

The Dec. 21 kissing ceremony after church may have to be held outside. (Please bring your cameras to the stew luncheon.)



Sir Little Bacon is no longer a piglet!

A stew luncheon will be held in conjunction with the kissing ceremony. Although the stew will be provided, breads, salads, veggies, or desserts to accompany the stew are requested. Thanks to all who donated to this project!

If you don’t know, all the money raised will help send our youth to SHY-C in late January. SHY-C is a gathering of about 600 Presbyterian High School kids from our Grace Presbytery. They meet at Austin College for Bible study, singing, games, and worship.

Photo A Day

Response has slowed to the Photo A Day Project. Please get your pictures in. You don't have to take a picture. You may have one already, or you may find one in a newspaper or magazine.

You can bring them by the church office or email them to revkristarasco@gmail.com. She will do the rest.



Advent 2014 Photo-A-Day

Use each day's word or verse as a starting point for an image, poem, song journal entry, or something that speaks to you.

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|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 30 Hope (Ps. 80:3) | 13 Righteousness (Ps. 85) |
| 1 Presence (Is. 64:1) | 14 Joy (Ps. 126) |
| 2 Angels (Mk 13:32) | 15 Justice (Is. 61:8) |
| 3 People (Is. 64:9) | 16 Rejoice (1 Thes. 5:16) |
| 4 Shepherd (Ps. 80:1) | 17 Testify (Jn 1:7) |
| 5 Awake (Mk. 13:39-37) | 18 Good News (Is 61:1) |
| 6 Fellowship (1 Cor. 1:9) | 19 Give Thanks (1 Thes. 5:18) |
| 7 Peace (Ps. 85:8,10) | 20 Go (2 Sam. 7:1-11) |
| 8 Comfort (Is. 40:1) | 21 Love (Ps. 89:1-2) |
| 9 Patience (2 Ptr. 3:9,15) | 22 Mystery (Rm 16:25) |
| 10 Prophet (Mk. 1:2-4) | 23 Holy (Lk. 1:35,49) |
| 11 Prepare (Is. 40:3) | 24 Light (Is. 9:2-7) |
| 12 Wait (2 Ptr. 3:13) | 25 Life (Jn. 1:4) |

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 [@FpcCommerce](https://twitter.com/FpcCommerce)  facebook.com/fpccommerce
#FpcCommerceAdvent # "word" i.e. #hope #advent

Happy 96th Birthday!

Bennie Neve at Country Home Estates will turn 96 this Christmas Eve. If you would like to send her a birthday card (tell her you are from First Presbyterian), her address is:

Benita Neve
Country Home Estates
Room 37
2927 Monroe
Commerce, Texas 75428=



Food Pantry Will Be Open for the Holidays

If anyone asks you, the Commerce Food Pantry will be open on Christmas Day and New Year's Day from 2-4 p.m.

This week, the third Sunday of the month, is a day to bring a box of cereal or oatmeal with you to church as a donation to the Commerce Food Pantry.

In this time of giving, the food pantry has been blessed with numerous donations. But the number of people seeking help is also going up.

The food pantry's staff is a beautiful example of Christ in the world. We can be very proud of the work they do, the message of hope they send and the good will they spread to the community about Commerce and First Presbyterian Church.

Christmas CDs Help PW Help Others

Our Presbyterian Women still have Christmas CDs available for a donation of \$15 to support the Birthday Offering and Living Waters of the World (LWW). The CDs feature familiar Christmas songs and carols (vocal and instrumental).



Things You Should Know

- **The FPC office will be closed** Dec. 24-26 for the Christmas holiday and from Jan. 1-2 for the New Year's holiday. If you have items for the church newsletter or any other church business to take care of, keep these dates in mind.
- Reminder: There will be no Teach the Preacher on Dec. 22 and Dec. 30.



And



Don't forget to let us have your news items as soon as possible!

