

The Good News

MID-MONTH EDITION

No. 2

January 19, 2017

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

CHANGE THE GAME

WITH SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

And Help Local Food Pantries

MORE THAN 25 YEARS AGO, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game,
help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since that day, more than \$125 million has been raised for local charities across the country through the Souper Bowl of Caring. Be a part of this movement that is sharing God’s love with those in need. Churches and the community are invited to break bread together at a potluck luncheon and give generously on Super Bowl Sunday.

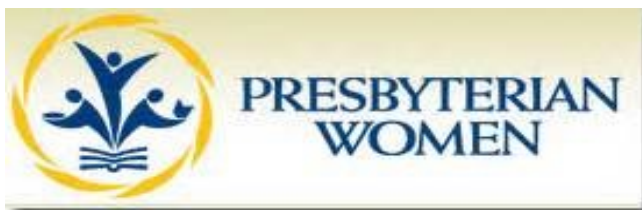
SOUPeR Bowl Potluck Luncheon **Sunday, February 5, at Noon**

First United Methodist Church of Commerce
1709 Highway 24 across from Texas A&M University - Commerce

Bring Your Favorite Soup, Stew, Bread or Dessert to Share

Dollars Dropped in the Soup Pot Will Support
Commerce Food Pantry
Bread of Life Food Pantry





PW "Book Share"

On Friday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m., all ladies of FPC-C are cordially invited to attend a "Book Share" at the home of Toni Deaton.

Each person will have an opportunity to share information about a book that she has read and enjoyed. Guests are welcome.

Please RSVP to Toni so she will know how many to expect.



Sunday School News

Intergenerational SS Class to be held Jan. 29

By Toni Deaton

The Christian Education Committee has voted to present Intergenerational Sunday School Sessions on each 5th Sunday of this year. Each session will have a particular theme or focus. The first one will be Sunday, Jan. 29.

The focus will be *Discovering (or 'uncovering') Our Mission* Involvement in Our Community. There are many ways that our congregation is a "force" in our local community and beyond! The committee is asking you to give this some thought and be prepared to share in the discussion.

Most of us volunteer by sharing our talents and providing leadership throughout our community, but we may not be aware of all the roles held by our fellow members. As we "uncover" what we do, we will have a better picture of the impact we are making locally and who we are!

At the session on Jan. 29, a colorful wall chart

will "unfold" as we discover how active we, as a congregation, really are. The youth of our church will also be included and involved as the chart is constructed.

Please join us promptly at 9:45 a.m. to give us plenty of time to share and document all the missions in which members of FPC-C are involved. Donuts, coffee and juice will be available!



Congratulations to **Bart and Nancy Green** and their son **Carson**, who has won the U.S. Attorney's Office *Award for Exceptional Law Enforcement* for the District of Minnesota. The award is open to all federal law enforcement members in Minnesota.

An FBI agent for seven years, Carson is 36-years old. He was presented the award today (Jan. 19).

♦ ♦ ♦

FPC'ers were in plentiful supply in the January, 2017 issue of the Commerce Connection, a publication of the Commerce Chamber of Commerce. **Jim and Toni Deaton, Ann Julian, and Keith McFarland** were all prominently pictured in a story (written by **Ann**) about the annual TAMU-C Alumni Party.

Dr. Barbara Tucker, who heads the university's nursing program, was also quoted in a story noting the program was ranked in the top 50 residential Bachelor of Nursing Programs in the country.

Finally, the issue featured a story (again written by **Ann Julian**) about the Retired Teachers Holiday Luncheon held Dec. 12. **Bettina Zvanut**, who is president of the teachers' group, conducted the meeting and issued a "Merry Christmas" to all. Also attending were more FPC'ers—**David Zvanut, Hoyle and Ann Julian, Jim and Toni Deaton, and Nancy and Bart Green**.

Upcoming Community Events



**2017 COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
FILL THE FIELD HOUSE**



Scholarships and other great prizes given away!

**Saturday, January 21, 2017
Lions vs. West Texas A&M
Women: 2 p.m. | Men: 4 p.m.
THIS IS YOUR TICKET!**

SEE YOU AT THE GAME

More information at www.LionAthletics.com



SHYC Celebrates 40 years

Do you know a high school student who wants to grow in their faith while having fun with their peers? There is still time to register for the *Senior High Youth Connection* at Austin College sponsored by the Grace Presbytery. (See poster on our bulletin board)

For more information and late registration for the Jan. 27-29 event, contact Gary Holloman at gary@gracepresbytery.org.

GriefShare Returns Feb. 6

The GriefShare support/recovery group hosted by First Baptist Church of Commerce will

begin its spring semester on Monday, Feb. 6,

Nationally-recognized grief experts teach those attending via the video-based curriculum developed by a non-denominational group, Church Initiative.

The Commerce group will meet every Monday night, beginning Feb. 6, in the church parlor from 6 to 8 p.m. for thirteen weeks.

Books are provided free of charge to participants in our local group. For more information, contact Jim or Teena Ayres at 903-886-8600 or 214-729-7525. More information and resources are also provided at www.GriefShare.org.

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



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	Grace Byrd	Gayle Shumate	Gladys Gray
Pat Skauge	Mildred Miller	Amanda Swanson	Gaye Furry
Preston Helton	Loretta Kibler	Joan Walvoord	Brad Rollins
Donald R. Smith	Catherine King Robertson	Family of John Paul Rhodes	Odeana Stewart
Bennie Neve	Family of Edwin Chambers	Frieda Branom	Ron Davis
Janice Sigur	Family of Don Acker		

Please Pray

- For the people on our prayer list.
- This week please send up an extra prayer for the recovery of FPC's Odeana Stewart. She will undergo surgery on Jan. 26 around 1 p.m. to remove a spot on her lung.
- And let us know if you have a special prayer request. Tell the church secretary or Rev. Rasco.



Next Issue of *The Good News*

The next issue of *The Good News* is our monthly edition on Feb. 1 (or Feb. 2). If you get your news and pictures in as soon as possible, we can meet our deadline. If not, we will be late or your item may have to wait.

Last minute news is understandable, but try to get your news in as soon as possible after it occurs.

Assisting with Worship

Our worship leaders this Sunday (Jan. . 22) are: **Mason Howard**, Head Usher; **Cal Conner**, Candle lighter; and **Martha Clevenger**, Liturgist.

Next Sunday (Jan. 29)) our worship leaders will be **Walt Davis** , Head Usher; **Evie Conner**, candle lighter, and **Susan Reeves**, liturgist.

Remember to tell these people how much you appreciate their service and what they add to the worship experience.

If you would like to be a worship leader like these volunteers or if you would like to help in some other way, contact Rev. Rasco or the church secretary.



Bible Readings for this Sunday and Next Sunday

This Sunday (Jan. 22) is the Third Sunday after Epiphany

Old Testament: Isaiah 9:1-4 *The Righteous Reign of the Coming King*

Psalter: Psalm 27:1, 4-9 *Triumphant Song of Confidence*

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 *Divisions in the Church / Christ the Power and Wisdom of God*

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23 *Jesus Begins His Ministry in Galilee / Jesus Calls the First Disciples*



Next Sunday Sunday (Jan. 29) is the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Old Testament: Micah 6:1-8 *God Challenges Israel*

Psalter: Psalm 15 *Who Shall Abide in God's Sanctuary?*

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 *Christ the Power and Wisdom of God*

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12 *The Beatitudes*





WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN—Yep, the Chrismon Tree didn't take itself down. It took a team effort. Above, Jim Deaton moves an empty tree to the floor for disassembly. At right, he and Wally Tucker bind the bulging box containing the tree, while Martha Clevenger and Jim Calvert take a break from "undecorating."



Grace eNews Is Here

The Jan. 13 edition of Grace Presbytery's monthly newsletter is out. It contains news and information about upcoming events, such as:

- A mission study trip to Thailand.
- An invitation to Trinity Presbyterian Church in Denton for their fourth annual Israel/Palestine Film Festival, including the chance to meet and ask questions of one of the film makers.
- Adjusting to Life as a Grace Presbytery YAV—A story about three Young Adult Volunteers and their first few months into their year of service.
- And much more.

If you are reading this online, and you would like to read more about upcoming events and news from Grace Presbytery, you may be able to read the Jan. 13 edition by clicking on the following link:



G213ZDFD.htm

Better yet, to subscribe to Grace eNews, go to www.gracepresbytery.org/about-us/join-our-newsletter/ and fill out the form there.

Upcoming Events

- **Sunday, Jan. 22, 10:50 a.m.**—Don't miss this Sunday's worship service. It will feature the baptism of William Garrison Stewart, son of Scott and Kimberly Stewart, and grandson of Neil and Odeana Stewart. Also a part of the service will be the recognition of outgoing Ruling Elder Class of 2016 and the installation of the incoming Ruling Elder Class of 2019.
- **Tuesday, Jan. 24, 5 p.m.**—Food pantry board meeting.
- **Sunday, Jan. 29, 9:45 a.m.**—Intergenerational Sunday School, focusing on Mission Involvement
- **Wednesday, Feb. 1, 6 p.m.**—Caring Committee meets (slippers and robes).
- **Wednesday, Feb. 8, 6 p.m.**—Session meeting

Did We Forget Something?

Whatever it is, let us know. If you forgot, remember to remember next time!