



THE GOOD NEWS

**The Good News is published weekly and monthly by
the First Presbyterian Church of Commerce, Texas.**

February 2019

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Did We Forget Something?

Worship with us this Sunday!

"A Christian Community of Faith"

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages

10:50 a.m.

Sunday Worship

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A Message from the Pastor

Going into February we are continuing to focus on 1 Corinthians. It just so happens that the verses for this Sunday are well known as I will preach on 1 Corinthians 13:1-13. These are the verses that state what love is and isn't. For example, "Love is patient, love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude."



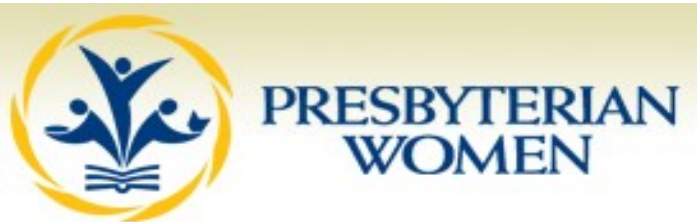
These verses are used extensively in weddings and they seem quite relevant as we head into the month that includes Valentine's Day. As some of you may know, Paul wasn't talking about romantic love or marriages when he wrote these words. Instead he is writing about a love that is grounded in God, a love for one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, the family of God.

Just as anyone can tell you how hard marriage is, or how hard staying in relationship with someone is after there has been some type of divide or breach of trust, Paul is saying love in and of the people of the Christian church is also hard. As humans we make mistakes; we mess up even as we strive to love like Paul describes. It just isn't possible.

Sometimes we get hurt and sometimes we hurt others, whether intentionally or not. This happens because there are things in this world that try to distract us from what truly matters. Paul says here that it doesn't matter who you are, what you have, or what you do, if you do not act with and in love it means nothing. Yet again, this is not acting with a superficial, romantic love, but a tough love. It is a love that was and is first given to us before we could say or do or choose anything. It is the love of God for us.

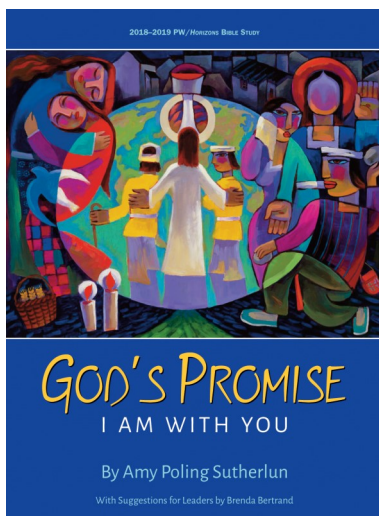
Although we may mess up love, love for others, and even love of ourselves, and never quite get it right, God's love is perfect and whole and is not based on anything we can say, do, or be, but it is based on who we are as God created us in the first place, and that is good. God sees the whole person, inside

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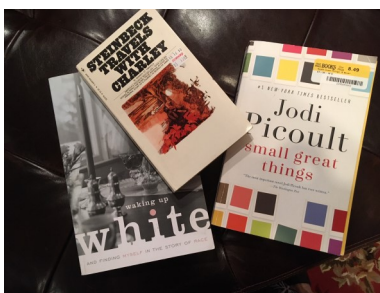
February Circle Meeting - PW Circle will meet for Bible study on Monday, Feb. 11, at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Nancy Green will lead the lesson, Chapter 6, *God with Us Through Our Trials*, from the Horizons Bible Study for 2018-2019. Jane Cox is hostess. All women are invited to attend.

Remember to bring a food item for the Food Pantry such as a can of chili without beans,



PW Mission Project - The PW group is sewing baby caps for the Newborn Nursery at Hunt Regional Medical Center in Greenville. In keeping with Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, red fleece caps will be donated.

PW Book-Share Night - On Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m., all women are invited to the home of Toni Deaton for informal fellowship and book-share time. You are invited to tell about an interesting book you have read and enjoyed. If you don't have a book to recommend, please join us anyway. Light refreshments will be served and guests are welcome.



Installation of Elder Class of 2021

During the worship service on Sunday, Feb. 10, Rev. Rasco will preside over the installation of new elders **Jim Deaton, Eddie Fuller, and Scott Stewart**. Together, they form the new Elder Class of 2021.

In addition, Eddie Fuller will also be ordained.

“ FAITH is taking the first step, even when you don't see the staircase. ”

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



FPC Pictures



This is a great picture of **Hoyle and Ann Julian** in front of their home. Big supporters of the TAMUC Lions, this picture was supposed to go along with a “Newsmakers” piece on the Hoyles in last month's newsletter. They were among the largest group honored by the university as Distinguished Alumni in May, 2018. Unfortunately, the picture did not arrive in time for us to use it in the article. It is so good, however, that we are using it now. Thanks to Rachel Mitchell with TAMUC for sending it to us.

**Got a picture for
The Good News?**



Email it to
fpc-commerce@embarqmail.com



February Worship Leaders

February 3

Host Elder: Tina Fletcher Selvaggi
 Head Usher: Russ Garmon
 Candle Lighter: TBD
 Liturgist: Barbara Tucker
 Elements: Jim Deaton

February 10

Head Usher: Monty Howard
 Candle Lighter: TBD
 Liturgist: Martha Clevenger

February 17

Head Usher: Monty Howard
 Candle Lighter: TBD
 Liturgist: Keith McFarland

February 24

Head Usher: Bob Johnson
 Candle Lighter: TBD
 Liturgist: Nancy Green

Make the Knot, Too

As a follow-up and a continuation of its efforts to provide adult mentors to young students at Commerce Middle School, the Commerce Community Action Program (C-CAP) is launching "Tie the Knot, Too." This past year, its initial effort, "Tie the Knot" was aimed at getting adult men to mentor male students by initially teaching them to tie a tie.

The "Tie the Knot, Too" effort now underway, is similar in its approach—getting adult women to mentor female students by teaching the female students how to tie a scarf. Volunteers are being sought to make a three-hour commitment.

An informational meeting will kick things off with an orientation and the assignment of students. This meeting will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 4:30 p.m. in the Commerce Middle School Library.

A week later, on Feb. 13, adults and students will get together for a meet and greet and scarf tying practice. Then two weeks later, on Feb. 27, a lunch and new scarf presentation to students will be held.

By introducing mentors into the lives of the students, C-CAP hopes to build a stronger sense of community in Commerce. If you would like to be a part of this effort, come to the CMS Library and take the first step.

February Calendar

Worship Schedule

- 3** Morning Worship service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- 10** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
- 17** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
- 24** Morning Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sermon focus on 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Other February events

- 5, 12, 19, 26 Tuesdays, 9 a.m.**—Tai Chi class
- 11 Monday, 10 a.m.**—PW Circle meeting
- 13 Wednesday, 6 p.m.**—Session meeting
- 23 Saturday, all day (starting at 9 a.m.)**—Stated Presbytery Meeting at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church, Dallas.
- 26 Tuesday, 5 p.m.**—Food pantry board meeting.

Food Pantry Donation Items

The Commerce Food Pantry typically serves between 30-40 different families in need each week—over 120 families each month. Donations remain an important source of its ability to help these people. Remember to help out the food pantry with a donation of food each Sunday.

Here are suggested donations. There is a box just inside the sanctuary for your donation.

1st Sunday—Instant Oatmeal

2nd Sunday—Ranch Style Beans

3rd Sunday—Spaghetti sauce (in cans)

4th Sunday—Chili without beans

5th Sunday—Canned pineapple

In addition to the above, the Commerce Food Pantry is always in need of grocery paper bags with handles (Braum's paper bags are perfect). If you have any spare paper bags, please consider donating them at any time.



Upcoming Bible Readings

Sunday (Feb. 3)) Is the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Old Testament: Jeremiah 1:4-10 *Jeremiah's Call and Commission*

Psalter: Psalm 71:1-6 *Prayer for Lifelong Protection and Help*

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30 *The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth*

Epistle (and sermon focus): 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 *The Gift of Love*

Sunday (Feb. 10) Is the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Old Testament: Isaiah 6:1-8 *A Vision of God in the Temple*

Psalter: Psalm 138 *Thanksgiving and Praise*

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11 *Jesus Calls the First Disciples*

Epistle (and sermon focus): 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 *The Resurrection of Christ*

New Additions to the Prayer List

Alfredo Muniz, Patricia Welch, and Shirley Lamb have been added to our prayer list since our previous newsletter. Alfred, who works for the Huffman's at their feed store here, suffered a stroke recently. He is recovering. Patricia, who is 84, is the grandmother of Rev. Rasco. She is in declining health. Shirley is the wife of a former FPC pastor. She is battling cancer. Please pray for them, their families, and all those on our list.

In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

Our Troops

Amy Lopez

Gladys Gray

Catherine King Robertson

Audrey Hucks

Jim Calvert

Joe Dipiazza

Family of Freda Lambert

Joe Tinch

Patricia Welch

Gordon Hunter

Joe Yeakley

Mildred Miller

Bennie Neve

Larry Ratliff

Tammi Fucci

Deryl McKenzie

Nancy Smith

Layne Rylander

Shirley Lamb

Sara Grace Pullen

Grace Byrd

Gaye Furry

Ron Davis

Jack Gray

Adele Reeves

Danny Spruel

Gary and Melba Strobel

Eddie Fuller

Melba Blount

Gayle Shumate

Preston Helton

Jan Burns

Jean Angotti

Bob Wilkins

Kristen Anderson

Pat Skaug

Alfredo Muniz



If you have anyone you would like to add to the Prayer List, please contact the church office.

A Message from the Pastor Continued from page 1

and out, before, through and past time.

As Paul says, what we see in the mirror is not the whole truth. Looking in a mirror we may judge ourselves in ways that society does but God does not, and we should strive to do and be the same. I will leave you with a conversation that I had with my daughter (who was 6 yrs old at the time). Sometimes the pure and simple wisdom of a child can help us understand what we ourselves make complicated.

With tears in her eyes, she said to me one day, "Wishes don't come true, mommy. Wishes

don't come true because everything I wish for never comes true. Like you and daddy not getting back together."

After a conversation about how wishes are kind of like prayers and sometimes they don't turn out the way we want them or expect them to, she replied, "Well one wish has come true. Love. Love came true the day I was born. No that's not right. Love came true before time."

No words have ever held more truth. Love. Love has always been here, is here with us now and always will be. We can trust in love. And there is no greater thing than love. So this month (and always), believe in love, act in love, show love, be loved, because that is what you are—a beloved, gifted, child of God.

Grace and peace be with you all,

Love, Rev. Krista Rasco

First Presbyterian Church Staff, Session, and Committees

Staff

Pastor Rev. Krista Rasco
Clerk of Session Wally Tucker
Music Director Micah Krajca
Pianist David Vergara
Nursery Attendant Carolyn McFarland
Secretary Roger McKenzie

Session Members

2019	2020	2021
Brenda Estes	Nancy Green	Nancy Green
Tina Fletcher	Bob Johnson	Bob Johnson
Russ Garmon	Neal Stewart	Neal Stewart

Session Committees

Worship:
Chair Jim Deaton
Co-Chair Nancy Green

Christian Education:
Chair Nancy Green
Co-Chair Tina Fletcher Selvaggi

Membership and Pastoral Care:
Chair Brenda Estes
Co-Chair Tina Fletcher Selvaggi

Mission/Evangelism:
Chair Bob Johnson
Co-Chair Eddie Fuller

Buildings and Grounds:
Chair Russ Garmon
Co-Chair Neal Stewart

Stewardship and Finance:
Chair Scott Stewart

Personnel:
Chair Bob Johnson
Co-Chair Russ Garmon

Note: Some committees do not have co-chairs.

FPC Is Online!

www.facebook.com/fpccommerce

www.facebook.com/group/fpccommerce

<https://twitter.com/fpccommerce>

www.fpc-commerce.com

February Dates to Remember

Happy Birthday to:

2 - Susan Reeves

3 - Penny Belcher Muecke

5 - Joyce Isaacs

5 - Helon Razniak

8 - John Walvoord, II

14 - Danny Duncan

22 - Castleton Walker Porterfield

25 - Garrett Michael Chastain

Happy Anniversary to:

7 – Walt and Isabel Davis

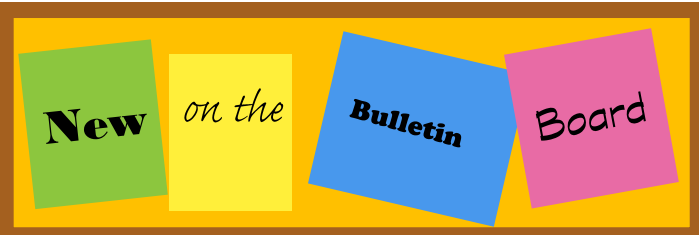
*If we forgot you or got a date wrong,
contact the church secretary.*

Community Health Care Input Sought

Carevide, formerly Community Health Service Agency, is looking for participants to help identify community health needs for residents of Hunt and several other counties. It is part of a newly launched needs assessment to identify existing health care services, barriers to and gaps in these services to medically underserved individuals in these counties.

To this end, Carevide is sponsoring a **lunch and consensus building workshop on Monday, Feb. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** at The Landmark on Lee Street, 2920 Lee Street in Greenville.

If you are interested in attending and contributing to this ongoing needs assessment, **RSVP** with your name, phone number and email address to: Kasey Smith at ksmith@carevide.org, or call her at 903-455-5986 by Feb. 11 to reserve your space.



♦A flyer publicizing a night of fun and food at the First Baptist Church in Commerce, set for Feb. 12, at 6 p.m. Bring a covered dish and enjoy entertainment by Christian comedian **Frank Cheek**.

♦A letter from **Carevide (formerly Community Health Service Agency)** seeking participants in a workshop to help build a community consensus for the health care needs of area counties, including Hunt County. The workshop and lunch is set for Monday, Feb. 18. Read the letter for more details. An RSVP is required.

♦A flyer from **Commerce Community Action Program (C-Cap)** seeking volunteer women to get to know and mentor student girls. The introduction is by teaching them how to tie a scarf. An informational meeting will be held in the **Commerce Middle School Library on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 4:30 p.m.**

Deadline for the mid-February edition of *The Good News* is Tuesday, Feb. 12. The issue will be published on Feb. 15.

Upcoming Community Events

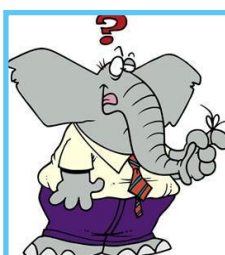


- 1-3 Friday through Sunday—Women's Retreat at Camp Gilmont**
- 2 Saturday, 6:30-9 p.m.—Unicorn Ball, Daddy-Daughter Dance** at Northeast Texas Childrens Museum in Commerce. For information, call 903-886-6055.
- 3 Sunday, noon—Souper Bowl of Caring** at the First United Methodist Church in Commerce. Donations support the Commerce Food Pantry and the Bread of Life Food Pantry.
- 4 Monday, 6-8 p.m.—Loss of a Spouse** seminar in the parlour First Baptist Church
- 6 Wednesday, 4:30 p.m.—Commerce Community Action Program** will hold an informational meeting in the Commerce Middle School Library for community women expressing a desire to help get to know and mentor young girls.
- 11 Monday, 6-8 p.m.—GriefShare** begins a series of Monday night meetings at the First Baptist Church. This series is led by Jim and Teena Ayres. Call 214-729-7575 or the First Baptist Church of Commerce for more information.
- 12 Christian Fellowship at First Baptist Church, 6 p.m.**—Bring a covered dish and have some fun as Christian comedian Frank Cheek provides clean entertainment.

Next time we'll add your monthly event if you tell us!

Grace Presbytery eNews

Interested in what's going on at Grace Presbytery? Click [here](#) to read its latest eNews edition.



Did We Forget Something?

Maybe we forgot an event you are organizing for FPC or a committee report you wanted to get in. Whatever it is, let us know.