

The Good News

The stone is rolled away and the tomb is empty because Jesus Lives!

MID-MONTH EDITION

No. 8

April 14, 2017

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

He Lives!

Holy Week concludes this Sunday. You are invited to come early Sunday for FPC's Easter breakfast and the children's Egg Hunt. Plan to be here about 9:30 a.m. so you can enjoy both. And if you get a chance, take a picture or two to submit for the next newsletter.

Easter worship begins at 10:50 a.m. Come celebrate the Savior's defeat of the tomb and death and the everlasting life He offers to those who believe in Him.



This colorful panoramic phot of FPC's Palm Sunday worship service was taken by Rev. Rasco with her Ipad. If you look closely, you can see palms being waved.

Laughing Together After Easter

Rev. Rasco will make us laugh next Sunday, April 23. For the third year, she will observe Holy Humor Sunday, a tradition that hasn't been widely observed but is making a comeback among Christian churches. The tradition of Holy Humor Sunday, or Laughter Sunday, has roots dating back to at least to the 15th century and several geographical regions.

It was part of the general good mood of celebration following Easter and part of its joking and good-natured joviality was the notion that God had played the greatest practical joke on Satan by raising Christ from death and the tomb.

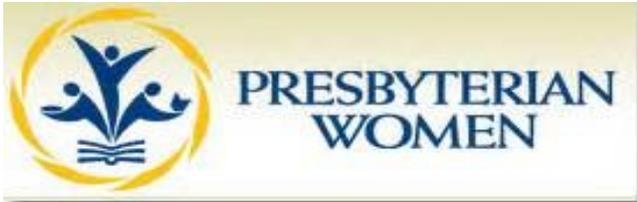
So if you have a joke suitable for Holy Humor Sunday, Rev. Rasco wants to hear it.

Here's a cartoon and a joke to get you started.

An overweight neighbor waved at his runner friend jogging down his street. The runner stopped and said, "Bill, I bet you'd lose weight if you worked out."

Bill replied, "I work out religiously—Christmas and Easter."

Cartoon removed due to accidental copyright infringement.



SOLE HOPE

Cutting Party for Sole Hope Set for May 21

The newest mission of the FPC Presbyterian Women's Circle is underway and picking up speed. Sole Hope is an effort to gather and cut material to make shoes for children and adults in Uganda in Africa.

In some areas of Uganda, the poor, who cannot afford shoes or who go barefoot in ignorance of foot-related diseases, fall victim to parasitic sand fleas, or jiggers, which can inflict painful and debilitating damage to their unprotected feet. Sole Hope's goal is to educate and provide sturdy, inexpensive shoes where needed to stop the scourge of jiggers.



The Sole Hope shoes are made from denim material and parts of the sole of the shoe are made from plastic gallon jugs. A plastic bin has been placed on the table in the hallway next to

the FPC kitchen. Denim from old, worn out, or otherwise unwanted jeans and jackets is being put there for collection.

On Sunday, May 21, at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, you are invited to bring denim and/or stay to cut out denim (using a pattern provided) for the shoe tops and heel inserts from plastic milk/water jugs. This is a church-wide event and food and drinks will be served. These parts of the shoe will

mailed to a designated place where the shoes will be constructed.

In the meantime, to learn more about Sole Hope, check online at solehope.org.



Movement on Another Front—Flooring

Toni Deaton sent out an email to some folks to keep them up to date on what is happening with getting new flooring for Fellowship Hall. Here is some of what she said.:

*"It was a fulfilling moment when **Helon (Razniak)** called...to say that our Session has approved the project for new flooring in the Fellowship Hall and stretching the carpet in the parlor. Helon said that the bid from Greenville Carpet had been approved."*

Toni thanked those involved in this project and added that she had contacted Kim Parrish at Greenville Carpet Center. The vinyl (Station Square Old Hickory) for the FH is being ordered and is expected to arrive next week. A date for installation has not yet been set.

Toni added that *"Helon mentioned that it is possible for us to avoid the expense for moving furniture if we can do this ourselves. When Kim gives us dates, we can make plans to move furniture out of the way, etc. if some able-bodied folks can be recruited to help with this."*

The volunteering spirit at FPC is already kicking in. **Russ Garmon** has volunteered to recruit help for moving the furniture. If you would like to be among those helping, contact Russ.

Upcoming Bible Readings

This Sunday (April 16) Is Easter Sunday

Old Testament: Jeremiah 31:1-6 *The Joyful Return of the Exiles*

Psalter: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 *A Song of Victory*

Epistle: Colossians 3:1-4 *The New Life in Christ*

Gospel: John 20:1-18 *The Resurrection of Jesus / Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene*



Next Sunday (April 23) Is the Second Sunday of Easter



Epistle: 1 Peter 1:3-9 *A Living Hope*

Psalter: Psalm 16 *Song of Trust and Security in God*

Gospel: John 20:19-31 *Jesus Appears to the Disciples / Jesus and Thomas / The Purpose of This Book*

New Testament: Acts 2:14, 22-32 *Peter Addresses the Crowd*

Last Sunday of April (April 30) Is the Third Sunday of Easter

New Testament: Acts 2:14a, 36-41 *Peter Addresses the Crowd / The First Converts*

Psalter: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 *Thanksgiving for Recovery from Illness*

Epistle: Colossians 3:1-4 *The New Life in Christ*

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35 *The Walk to Emmaus*



Newsmakers

The dynamic mother and daughter duo of **Tina Fletcher Selvaggi and Lily Selvaggi** made news recently.

Lily was pictured in the April 13 edition of *The Commerce Journal* as part of the Rotary Corner feature. She was among the Commerce High School students who were honored at a recent luncheon put on by the Rotary Club in cooperation with the Commerce Independent School District to honor the students in the TOP FIVE PERCENT at Commerce High School.

See if you can spot her in the picture below.



Yes, we know it is small, so we blew up the part she's in to help you out.

Can you find her now?



Meanwhile, Lily's mother, Tina Fletcher Selvaggi, and her students were showcased on the Texas Women's University website.

Fletcher, who is a TWU Occupational Therapy professor, was written up regarding the multi-sensory environments she and her students create to help Dallas are cultural and entertainment venues reach more people with sensory processing disorders, including autism.

For a lot more information about what the professor and her students are up to, see the complete article at <http://www.twu.edu/>.



Don't Forget Food Pantry Items!

In Our Prayers at First Presbyterian

Our Troops	Gordon Hunter	Bruce Campbell	Sara Grace Pullen
Melba Blount	Amy Lopez	Billy Marshall	Joe Yeakley
Grace Byrd	Gayle Shumate	Gladys Gray	Pat Skauge
Mildred Miller	Gaye Furry	Preston Helton	Loretta Kibler
Joan Walvoord	Donald R. Smith	Catherine King Robertson	Odeana Stewart
Bennie Neve	Ron Davis	Janice Sigur	Family of Jace Carrington
Family of Brad Rollins	Tina Fletcher Selvaggi	Aaron Senne	The Gao family
Jan Burns	Family of Amanda Swanson	Kristen Rueb	Walt Davis
Jordan Moore	Jerry Ann Harris	Kathryn Miller	Joyce McCord

Additions to Prayer List

The latest additions to our Prayer List are Jordan Moore, Jerry Ann Harris, Kathryn Miller, and Joyce McCord.

Jordan and Jerry are the daughter and sister (respectively) of FPC's Petra Strassberg. Jordan is struggling with the illness of her father (Aaron Senne, who is on our list), while Jerry is facing surgery to remove a hernia next month.



Kathryn is the mother of Carole McKenzie, wife of our secretary, Roger. Kathryn is hospitalized after breaking ribs and puncturing a lung in a fall.

FPC's Joyce McCord was sent to Hunt Regional Hospital in Greenville. She was having breathing problems.

Grace Presbytery Newsletter

There are a lot of interesting things to read about in Grace Presbytery's newsletter.

To see the new Grace newsletter, click [here](#) or sign up at www.gracepresbytery.org.



Assisting with Worship

This Sunday (April 16):

Monty Howard, Head Usher;
Sally Walker, Candle lighter;
Toni Deaton, Liturgist.

Next Sunday (April 23):

Monty Howard, Head Usher;
Cal Conner, Candle lighter;
Martha Clevenger, Liturgist.

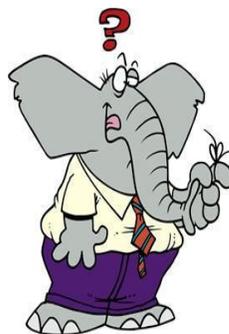
Sunday, April 31

Russ Garmon, Head usher;
Barbara Tucker Liturgist

Note: Even though they may not be listed, we will have candle lighters. They just won't be designated henceforth, allowing us to use whoever is available.

Also, please remember to let our worship leaders (and our candle lighters) know how much you appreciate them.

Did We Forget Something?



Maybe we forgot an event you are organizing for FPC or a committee report you wanted to get in The Good News. Whatever it is, let us know. If you forgot, remember to remember next time!