



THE TOWER

First Presbyterian Church, Waco, Texas
Volume XLX, Number 1

January 1, 2012

From my heart to yours . . .

With the coming of 2012, I recommend we all avoid being tranquilized by the trivial. Here's what I mean. Too much of our time is spent in avoiding being real with ourselves. Distractions like entertainment, fascination with celebrity, gadgetry, even gossip where we take joy in the suffering of others are all trivial pursuits. Make sure you make time for deep thinking, deep reflection, and for being honest with yourself and God.

On January 8, we will renew our baptism vows. What an excellent opportunity to go deeper in the living of our days. To live in the words of Jesus "more abundantly". He's not talking about increasing our wealth and possessions. He is inviting us into the deep end of the pool of life where God swims and calls out for us to join. How about making the new year the Year of Going Deeper. Living more profoundly in touch with the image of God within us all. That's what I want for my heart and yours.

—Pastor Jimmie

New Opportunities in 2012

First Fellowship Returns

On Sunday, January 15, we will have our First Fellowship kick-off at 5pm. Our regular class will resume, taught by church missionaries, professors, and PhD students throughout the spring. We will also have a few new options. Wes Eades, a Christian counselor, will teach an additional course, Parenting with Love and Logic. This will run for six weeks, costs \$10 per session for a couple, and is a great resource and learning experience for any parent. Feel free to invite friends and neighbors! Jimmie Johnson will also teach a seminar: The Christian Funeral, Presbyterian style. This is to help us look forward and prepare funeral wishes to make the hard times a bit easier for our loved ones. Following the classes, at 6pm, we will have a kick-off dinner for the whole family! Bring your kids

to the nursery or children's choir, drop your teenagers at youth group, and enjoy a class for yourself before we all gather for dinner. Join us for this great kick-off!

New Outreach Opportunities

Save the Date: There is a lot of work to be done on Saturday, February 4, and Sunday, February 5. We will serve food at Church Under the Bridge on Sunday morning, and anyone is welcome to participate. On Saturday, we will have two ways to serve. You can either join us in the kitchen to prepare the food we will take to Church Under the Bridge on Sunday, or you can join our team that will go to the Rapoport Academy to build picnic tables for this special school. Mark your calendars and plan to spend part of your day with us!

January Service Assignments

Parlor Flowers

Edgar & Beth Jablonowski

Sanctuary Flowers

Jan. 1—Charles & Geneva Gamble

Jan. 8—Don & Natalie Risinger

Jan. 15—Charlie & Lou Armstrong

Jan. 22—Mike & Bridget

Humphrey

Jan. 29—Timothy & Corrie Logan

Coffee Fellowship Hosts

Jan. 8—Carolyn & Jim Maxwell

Jan. 15—Sara & Sam Odajima

Jan. 22—Sarah & Jordan Ochel

Jan. 29—Jeff & Michelle Sanders

Sanctuary Guild

Corrie Logan, Chair

Patsy Norman, Sherry Johnson

New Sunday school class

For people in their 20s, 30s, and 40s we'll begin a new class on January 29! This class will focus on the lectionary Scriptures, with a lot of in-depth discussion about the Scripture of the day. This is a great way to start thinking about the text before heading to worship and hearing the sermon. All are welcome, so don't be shy even if you don't find yourself in the Young Adult category. This fun and lively class will be taught by Brandon Frick, Ben Arbuckle, and Jessica Stewart. Join them for this new adventure!



January Calendar

Sunday, Jan. 1

- ❖ No 8:30 a.m. service, no Sunday School
- ❖ Worship at 10:30 a.m., Jimmie Johnson preaching

Monday, Jan. 2

- ❖ Office closed for holiday

Wednesday, Jan. 4

- ❖ Take down Christmas decorations, 10 a.m.
- ❖ Coffee Moms, 10 a.m.
- ❖ St. Cecilia Bell Choir, 6 p.m.
- ❖ Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 7

- ❖ Session budget meeting, 10 a.m.

Sunday, Jan. 8

- ❖ Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Jimmie Johnson preaching
- ❖ Youth activities, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Coffee Moms, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Joyful Notes, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Confirmation class, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 9

- ❖ Presbyterian Women 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 10

- ❖ The Players, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

- ❖ Coffee Moms, 10 a.m.
- ❖ St. Cecilia Bell Choir, 6 p.m.
- ❖ Youth Bible study, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 15

- ❖ Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Jimmie Johnson preaching
- ❖ St. Sidonius handbells, 4 p.m.
- ❖ First Fellowship, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Youth activities, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Coffee Moms, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Joyful Notes, 5 p.m.
- ❖ First Fellowship Meal, 6 p.m.
- ❖ Confirmation class, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 16

- ❖ Session meeting, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 17

- ❖ Church Ladies, 11:30 a.m. at World Cup Café, 15th & Colcord

Wednesday, Jan. 18

- ❖ Coffee Moms, 10 a.m.
- ❖ St. Cecilia Bell Choir, 6 p.m.

- ❖ Youth Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 20

- ❖ Men's breakfast, 7:15 a.m.
- ❖ Tower deadline

Sunday, Jan. 22

- ❖ Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Jimmie Johnson preaching
- ❖ St. Sidonius handbells, 4 p.m.
- ❖ Diaconate meeting, 5 p.m.
- ❖ First Fellowship, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Youth activities, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Coffee Moms, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Joyful Notes, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Spaghetti dinner—youth fundraiser, 6 p.m.
- ❖ Confirmation class, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 23

- ❖ Presbyterian Women, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 24

- ❖ The Players, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 25

- ❖ Tower mailed, 9 a.m.
- ❖ Coffee Moms, 10 a.m.
- ❖ Confirmation class trip, 4 p.m.
- ❖ St. Cecilia Bell Choir, 6 p.m.
- ❖ Youth Bible study, 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 29

- ❖ Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Dee Dee Carson preaching
- ❖ St. Sidonius handbells, 4 p.m.
- ❖ First Fellowship, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Youth activities, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Coffee Moms, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Joyful Notes, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Confirmation class, 6:30 p.m.

**Please join us to un-decorate the church
Wednesday, Jan. 4 at 10 a.m.
More hands make the work easier!**

January Lectionary Readings

Jan. 1—Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Jan. 8—Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

Jan. 15—1 Samuel 3:1-10; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

Jan. 22—Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Jan. 29—Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

Milly's Corner

On January 14, 1917, the new church building at 11th & Austin Avenue was dedicated. The men of the church assumed the debt of \$11,000 which remained to be paid, leaving the church debt free so that it could be dedicated. Dr. King delivered a dedicatory speech.

—Milly Walker, Archivist

2012 Stewardship Update

To date, FirstPres members have pledged a total of \$487,392, which is 81% of our goal.

To assist the Session with planning, please send your pledge to the church office as soon as possible.

The Session will meet at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 7, to approve the final budget.

Take Note . . .

Welcome new member **Amy Davis**, who joined Dec. 4.



Our condolences to the family of **Randy Preddy**, who died Dec. 17.



Congratulations to **Krista (Kidwell) & Travis McBain** on the birth of their daughter, **Ashlyn Piper**, on Nov. 2.



Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, Jan. 9 at 1:30 p.m.. Dee Dee Carson will lead lessons 5 & 6.



A big thank you to all who helped decorate the church for Christmas! Your efforts were appreciated.

Sanctuary Guild

We are looking for 13 ready, willing and able women to serve on the Sanctuary Guild. The duties include delivering flowers after the Sunday worship service and helping to change the paraments if needed. While this is a three-year commitment, it only requires one or two Sundays one month out of the year. If you are interested, please contact Corrie Logan at 776-4007 or clogan1975@aol.com.



Save the dates!

*Friday, March 2—
Saturday, March 3*

*DuPuy Ranch in
Clifton*

*Leader: Dee Dee
Carson*

January

8: Sunday night youth resumes! 5pm

11: Bible study at 6:30pm

15: Youth at 5pm. First Fellowship Kickoff dinner at 6pm!

18: Bible study at 6:30pm

22: Youth fundraising Spaghetti dinner at 6pm. Join us to prepare the food at 4:30pm.

25: Bible study at 6:30pm

29: Youth group at 5pm

Youth Calendar

2012 First Pres Leadership

Session

Clerk of Session: Bob Lott

Personnel Committee: Alex Eichenberg, Mod, Helen Kovacs, Vice-Mod, Bob Lott, Lisa Bradfield, Eloise Frazier, Georgia Brady

Administration: Jim Diaz-Granados, Mod, Corrie Logan, Vice-Mod, Brian Aynesworth

Christian Education: Candy Swenke, Mod, Erin Arbuckle, Vice-Mod, Jay Black, Blake Palmer

Congregational Life: Greg Speegle, Mod, Henry Wright, Vice-Mod, LaRaine DuPuy

Facilities Management: Herb Cross, Mod, Joanne Heitmiller, Vice-Mod

Worship: Patsy Norman, Mod, Chuck Weaver, Vice-Mod, Michael Jacobson

Outreach: Dan Francis, Mod, Jason Lundquist, Vice-Mod, Sue Baker

Diaconate

Class of 2012:

Dana Williams, Austin Sterling, Eileen Turner, Eric Robinson, Loyd Hamilton, Carol Barrett, Sarah Aynesworth, Sam Odajima, Rachel Stern (Youth)

Class of 2013:

Joe Basquez, Carey Dalton, Ken Frazier, Marilyn Harren, James Hill, Dwana Nesbitt, Matt Rollins, April Wagner

Class of 2014:

Sharon Clark, Bob Grayson, Stephen Holze, Merryl Jones, Gale Kannwischer, Jackie Lott, Jere Neimer, Emily Stottlemire



The Tower
First Presbyterian Church
1100 Austin Ave.
Waco, TX 76701

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Office Hours: 9—12 and 1—4
Monday—Friday



Thanks to our Saturday Habitat for Humanity volunteers
October 29 and December 10!