



# Words of Faith

Faith United Presbyterian Church

Volume III, Issue I

## The way it looks from here...

Pastor Terry McLellan

Dear Friends,

As I am writing this, the nation is reeling from the tragic and senseless deaths of 27 people in Connecticut. They died at the hand of a profoundly disturbed young man armed with two 9 mm. semi-automatic pistols and a Bushmaster .223 caliber semi-automatic assault rifle.

The grief experienced by the families of those killed must be unimaginable to those of us who have not experienced the sudden, unexpected death of a loved one at the hands of another. We have just been reminded how broken our world is. Though the incidence of violent crime overall is trending downward over recent years, the ability for deranged people to perpetrate killing on a mass scale continues unabated. This is the fourth mass-shooting incident that has occurred in as many years. This fact begs the question, "How many of these have to happen before somebody takes action to curb gun violence?"

Once again, we have just celebrated the coming of the Incarnate Word of God, Jesus Christ, a baby, the Prince of Peace. And we, as Christians, followers of

this Baby King, look at the world and are reminded, that though the Kingdom of God is nearby, it has not fully taken hold. There are still places in our hearts and minds where God's dream of

reconciliation does not hold full sway. There is a culture of violence loose in the land that threatens to sweep over us. It is at work many places, not the least of which is in the hearts and minds of those who call themselves followers of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. I heard a commentator repeat a statistic that boggles my mind. On Black Friday, November 23, 2012, almost 300,000 background checks were done for the purpose of purchasing firearms, the most in the history of the federal background check requirement. Black Friday, as you know, is the day after Thanksgiving and is said to be the busiest Christmas shopping day of the year. I am certain that many of those 300,000 people consider themselves Christians. But, what disturbs me most about the statistic is that, in the melee that is our run-up to celebrating the arrival



of Jesus, so many people see it as appropriate to purchase a Christmas present that can do so much damage. Though hunting is no longer one of my favorite pastimes, as it once was, there is a place for sporting arms

used in recreational or hunting activities. But, the more guns available in circulation, the more they are likely to fall into the hands of those who are mentally deranged or criminally inclined.

Until we have leaders in this country who are willing to endure the political heat to do what is right, we will continue to experience the grief and pain which comes with the criminal or deranged person wreaking wholesale havoc with firearms. Firearms which are intended to give the owner extended ability to deliver a high rate of fire of high caliber bullets are designed for one thing and one thing only – the taking of human life. Assault rifles and large caliber hand guns should not be available to the general public. They should only be made available for military and law enforcement purposes.

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### Inside this issue

- News from the pastor
- Presbyterian Women
- FUPC in the community
- Calendar of Events
- ...and more!

The next newsletter is February 2013.

The deadline for articles is Friday, Jan. 18.

## Presbyterian Women

Our circles will be continuing their study of "Dispatches to God's Household—The General Epistles."

**Tuesday Morning Circle**-will meet at 10:30 a.m. on January 8. The Tuesday & Thursday Morning Circles both meet at FUPC.



**Thursday Morning Circle**-will meet at 9:30 a.m. on January 10.

**Thursday Evening Circle**-will meet at 7:00 p.m. on January 17, Lois Norton will host.

The PW coordinating team will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 2.

## Jeanne Sawyer

The Starboard Stitches will not meet in January. Our Presbyterian Women's Retreat is scheduled for Saturday morning, February 23. At that time we will hold a "kitchen shower" for the new house at the Children's Home in Itasca. We will also have a "Blessing of the Hands" worship. Mark your calendars—you will not want to miss this years' PW retreat.

## From the editor

Wow—2013 is here? With each new year comes our resolutions. I simply resolve to find the Joy in each day with each person I encounter. I wish the same for each of you. Happy New Year!

Thank you for submitting articles to the newsletter. No matter how big or small the event, send the information so that it can be included

## Brenda Swindle

in the next issue of **Words of Faith**. You may submit articles in writing to the church office or via email to

[Brenda@FaithUnited-pc.com](mailto:Brenda@FaithUnited-pc.com)

The next issue will be February 2013. The deadline for articles is Friday, 1/18. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office if you or your group has information to share.

**Next newsletter is February 2013. Deadline for articles, Friday, 1/18/13. Contact church office or Brenda Swindle via email to submit articles.**



## Session & Such

The Session has a Called Meeting once a month for the purpose of meeting and receiving prospective new members. This month's Called Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 13 at 10:15 a.m. They meet in the Library/Resource Room across from the coffee/fellowship area.

The next stated session meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 13 after worship.

**From the Finance Committee**—the Stewardship Season has come and gone. Thank you to all who have submitted their commitment to FUPC for 2013. Contribution envelopes for 2013 are

located on the table near the office and are in Alpha/Numeric order for your convenience. Pledge cards for 2013 are also available if you wish to complete one and return to the office. Please contact the church office if you are unable to pick up your box and we will arrange delivery.

## Word on the Street

Ann Walden



Opening soon in Casa Linda Plaza is the new, upscale resale shop, Hope's Clothing and Consignment. It is 3 doors down from Starbucks at the southwest corner of Garland Road and Buckner. The proceeds support the Austin Street residents and offers on the job training as well. It will feature gently

used: clothing, jewelry, accessories, home furnishings, and furniture. Donations are always needed. John Bruce is in charge and can be reached at 214-923-7787 or

[john.bruce@austinstreet.org](mailto:john.bruce@austinstreet.org).

Home pick-ups can be scheduled.

## The way it looks from here...

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Though there will never be a perfect law or set of laws which will eliminate gun violence, we can also contribute to progress against gun violence by boycotting violent media and video games. We should also work toward public policies which provide for the identification of and mental health care for those who might be liable to violence. More available mental health care services could offer some hope that there might be that one encounter or one word to a person with mental issues before a full-blown expression of violence occurs.

In the coming days, I encourage each one of you to pray for our political leaders as new policies and laws are formulated – that they be given the courage and the will to move beyond

self-serving agendas and do what is right for the common good, not beholden to any special interest whose purpose is profit in the sale of firearms. Also, please pray for the families of those lost, that peace of mind may return to them. The final prayer is for each of us to be given God's vision of a world full of peace and goodwill towards one and all. We are called to be agents of reconciliation – reconciliation of humankind to God and us to one another. May we live into that calling.

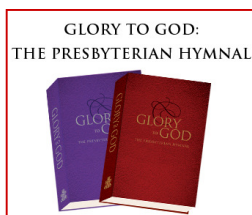
Blessings and peace,  
Pastor Terry

[Terry@FaithUnited-pc.com](mailto:Terry@FaithUnited-pc.com)

## New Presbyterian Hymnal in 2013!

Nancy Smith

The new Presbyterian Hymnal will be coming out in the fall of 2013. Faith United has pre-ordered 200 hymnals. Since we ordered and paid prior to December 31, 2012, we will get free shipping which saved FUPC a considerable amount of money. The cost of the new books is \$15 each. If you would like to purchase one or more of the new hymnals



we will put a nameplate in each hymnal with your name. You may also dedicate that book in honor or memory of someone. Please consider helping Faith United with the cost of the new hymnals. Order forms are available in the Narthex on Sundays.

If you have any questions ask Teresa Nelson, David Pierce or Nancy Smith.

# Words of Faith

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## Notes & News from the Pews



### Thank you!

I am truly blessed to be employed by Faith United. It is so hard to believe that I have now been here through two Christmases. I wish to thank everyone who bestowed me with gifts and/or food during the holidays. My three children, John & Sarah, 22 and James, 20 were all here for Christmas and greatly enjoyed the edibles that were prepared and given in love.

Brenda Swindle & family

## Directory updates

Please remember to notify the church office if your contact information changes so it can be published in the next newsletter.

**Amanda Norman**  
4931 Stony Ford Drive  
Dallas, TX 75287

**Bennie Tillack**  
6410 Erskine, Rm 40  
Lubbock, TX 79416

**Bob & Joy Williams**  
Sunrise of Hillcrest  
13001 Hillcrest Road  
Dallas, TX 75240

**Fiona Coughenour**  
General Delivery  
BELIZE  
501-662-8757  
(please note: phone # is an international number and additional charges may apply)



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## Winter Break?

Looking for a perfect spring tonic and Lenten retreat? Why not consider North Texas Presbyterian Pilgrimage? This is a 4-day weekend at Lake Lavon Christian Camp in Princeton: just east of 75 and north of the George Bush Turnpike. It will be held from Thursday, February 28 at 5 pm till Sunday, March 3 at about 6 pm. If you fondly remember the church camps of your youth or adult retreats, you are a good candidate for a Pilgrimage weekend.

There is a lot of worship, singing, good food (calorie-free for the weekend), and fellowship plus 15 short talks which build upon each other leading to a more complete idea of what a Christian is and does. The idea of talks may sound dull, but I can assure you they are anything but that: they are more like



## Lois Duell

testimonials on set subjects and very inspiring. There is time after each talk for discussion or a team project. Ten of the talks are given by lay people (which actually run the weekend) and 5 by spiritual advisers (pastors) who are there as a support team. The cost of the weekend is \$200, but there are scholarships available to help if needed. The accommodations are in motel style rooms close to the meeting room (2 to a room with 2 double beds and a bath). A golf cart is available to help those who have trouble walking, so don't let your mobility stop you. I can almost guarantee you will feel so much love that you will not want to leave. Why not treat yourself to this wonderful experience.

## SHYC 2013 Youth Mission Project

Brenda Burkham

# Kids Against Hunger®

Feeding families around the world...and around the corner.

This year at **SHYC 2013**, youth in our presbytery will participate in a one-of-a-kind mission project. Together we will package nutritious, low-cost meals for our brothers and sisters around the world. [Kids Against Hunger](#) is a humanitarian food-aid organization that provides food around the world. Their mission is to significantly reduce the number of hungry children in the USA and to feed starving children throughout the world.

**Our goal is to package 50,000 meals in 3 hours using over 600 youth and adult volunteers.** We hope to not only provide a needed service but to raise awareness of the issue of hunger and give all who attend a more hands-on experience of mission!

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** To meet our goal of 50,000 meals, we need to raise \$15,000. Several churches have already ex-

pressed their interest in donating. But additional funds are greatly needed!

We need generous donations from congregations LIKE YOURS in order to make this a reality and give our youth an opportunity to make a difference. Any amount is gladly accepted!

This mission work will be accomplished during SHYC at Austin College, February 1-2, 2013. FUPC members Brenda and Samantha Burkham will be attending and participating in this year's mission project. You may make checks payable to: Grace Presbytery or Faith United Presbyterian Church with [Kids Against Hunger](#) in the memo line. Either way your donation will be forwarded to benefit the mission project. Contact Brenda or Samantha Burkham if you have in questions. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## A Big Thank You from the Santa Store!



The personnel at the Metrocrest Santa Store were very excited to receive the gifts from Faith United. Ann Walden, Courtland Lewis and Nancy Smith gathered the 120 gifts to be delivered. With

your help and generosity we were able to help others to live with fewer worries. You show them by your acts of love and care that God's love is the answer to their worry or fear. Thank you.



# Words of Faith

## Happy Birthday!

### January 4

- \* Joyce Kastendieck
- \* Jim Laclede

### January 6

- \* David Kirchmeyer

### January 7

- \* Janet Marxer Rodriguez

### January 9

- \* Dick Nelson

### January 10

- \* Ralph Miller

### January 11

- \* Doris Rose
- \* Debbie Winters

### January 12

- \* Megan Stovall

### January 16

- \* James Lewis

### January 19

- \* Frank Luff

### January 25

- \* Henry Knight
- \* Isiah Taylor

### January 27

- \* Hannah Booth
- \* Tracy Tiemann

### January 29

- \* Emily Wing

### January 30

- \* Terry McLellan

### January 31

- \* Jaime Gonzalez



## Prayer Concerns

### Prayers for:

- ♥ John & Pam Bates
- ♥ Kaitlyn Davis
- ♥ Ken Patterson
- ♥ Edie Sapp
- ♥ Alan Swope



*Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.*

Psalm 86:6-7

### Homebound/Rehab:

- ♥ Phil & Marilyn Beaubien
- ♥ David Daly
- ♥ Lois Davenport
- ♥ Harvey & Marian Garoutte
- ♥ Ruth Innes
- ♥ Henry & Dena Knight
- ♥ Earle & Marge Krause
- ♥ Roc & Clarice Mitchell
- ♥ Ken Quevreaux
- ♥ Don Speigel
- ♥ Bennie Tillack
- ♥ Hugh McWhorter

### Service Personnel:

- ♥ Logan Burkham
- ♥ David Crossley
- ♥ SGT Kevin B. Cuiksa
- ♥ Marshall Dobbs
- ♥ MAJ Brian Gaddis
- ♥ LT Ben Garoutte
- ♥ Sr A Jaron Garoutte
- ♥ Robert Hall
- ♥ Billie Jones
- ♥ SPC Ryan Liggett
- ♥ SPC Chad Manis
- ♥ CPT Joshua Montero
- ♥ Andrew Moore
- ♥ LT COL Thomas Pentecost
- ♥ SFC Adam Reno
- ♥ Ronnie Rogers
- ♥ USAF CPT Andre Silva
- ♥ LCPL James C. Spencer
- ♥ SPC David Wheat

**Know of someone who is homebound & not on our list? Let us know, contact the church office.**

# January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Calendar Legend</b> G-21=Community Youth Group GA=Gamblers Anonymous ABA=Anorexic & Bulimics Anonymous OA=Overeaters Anonymous LTCDS = Little Treasures School PWCT=Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team CSID=Church of South India Dallas		<b>1</b>  <b>Church Offices Closed</b> 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:00 OA-Fellowship Rm	<b>2</b> 7:00 FUPC Choir 7:00 PWCT	<b>3</b> 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm 4	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Rm 4 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary
<b>6</b> 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd	<b>7</b> 6:00 Shelter	<b>8</b> 10:30 PW Circle 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:30 OA-Fellowship Rm	<b>9</b> 7:00 FUPC Choir	<b>10</b> 9:30 PW Circle 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm4	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary
<b>13</b> 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:15 FUPC Session 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd 12:30 FUPC Session 3:00 RYLA group	<b>14</b> 7:00 Vocal Majority Board Mtg.	<b>15</b> 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:30 OA-Fellowship Rm	<b>16</b> 7:00 FUPC Choir	<b>17</b> 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:00 PW Circle 7:30 ABA Group-Rm4	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Choir Room 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary
<b>20</b> 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd	<b>21</b> 6:15 LTCDS Staff	<b>22</b> 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:30 OA-Fellowship Rm	<b>23</b> 7:00 FUPC Choir	<b>24</b> 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm4	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary
<b>27</b> 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:30 OA Fellowship Rm	<b>30</b> 7:00 FUPC Choir	<b>31</b> 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm 4	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary
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**Please contact the church office with meetings, classes or events for the calendar to prevent conflicts.**



**Austin Street Meal**—The January meal day will be Monday, January 7. Looking ahead, the February meal will be February 4. Plan ahead for your food donation. Refrigerator for cold food storage is down the hall from the Fellowship Hall.



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**Faith United  
Presbyterian Church**

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