



# Words of Faith

Faith United Presbyterian Church

Volume VIII, Issue I

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends of FUPC,



By the time you read this newsletter, the holidays will have come and gone. I sincerely hope

everyone had a good, safe, and Merry Christmas as well as a good, safe, and Happy New Year celebration. We are into a New Year with all the dreams and hopes that always accompany the beginning of a New Year. With that in mind, I want to share with you a few goals I have for Faith United for the coming year.

Estimating the tenure of an interim minister is always a little tricky. Only the Good Lord knows how much longer Terry and I will be at this church. But as long as I am here, the good folks at Faith United are going to hear my vision and recommendations for this church. That's part of what I believe an Interim minister should do.

But before I offer any suggestions, let me also say that I am thankful for the dedication and faithfulness of this congregation. Though you are a relatively small congregation, I see the same faces every Sunday and I so appreciate the faithfulness you have shown in attending worship and in your service to Jesus Christ. But that

doesn't mean we rest on our laurels. A healthy church is a church that continues to look for new and better ways to worship and serve the Lord. I am not being critical of anyone's work or faithfulness to the church. I only want to share my experience as an interim minister and offer some suggestions. Space will only allow me to offer three suggestions which I feel are important to the future of this church.

First, like most of you, I would like to see our church draw younger families into our fellowship. We cannot do this at the expense of neglecting our faithful older members but like our denomination, our church has become grayer. One thing I firmly believe is that this congregation wants this church to live beyond the lifetime of its current members. If we are to continue to be the church of Jesus Christ, we need to reach out to families with children and make them aware of the joy of worship, fellowship, and serving Christ. This year we reinstated Vacation Bible School, the Easter Egg Hunt, and Trunk or Treat. We need to continue these activities so people outside the church can see who we are and what we believe.

## Rev. Dr. Jim Johns

Secondly, I would like to see more people take advantage of the opportunities we have to get involved in what we do as a church. This time of the year especially, our committees are looking for new members and fresh ideas. I know we are an older congregation. But age shouldn't keep anyone off a committee. A goal I hope the church adopts is to make an intentional effort to enlist more people on committees who can contribute to the many activities and programs we offer.

Finally, a goal I hope every member of this church makes is to give your new minister the support and confidence you have given me. I may be here next month or next year, but my job is to work myself out of a job which is going to happen sooner or later. Be flexible, be courageous, be prayerful, and most of all be supportive so that he or she can help this church continue to glorify God, grow disciples and meet the needs of our neighbors. Have a great month and a super year.

Joy in Christ, *Pastor Jim*  
James@FaithUnited-pc.com

### Inside this issue

- From the Pastor's desk
- Presbyterian Women
- FUPC in the community
- ...and more!

### Next newsletter is

**February 2018.**

**Deadline for articles, Friday,**

**1/19/18.**

**Contact church office or Brenda**

**Swindle via email to submit articles.**

## Presbyterian Women

FUPC Presbyterian Women Bible studies/ Circles meet monthly. Feel free to contact Mary Marxer if you need more information or contact a circle leader. The 2017-2018 Bible study is *Cloud of Witness*, books are available for purchase at \$11 each.

**Tuesday Morning Circle**-2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. Next meeting, 1/9. Circle moderator, Linnie Hinkle.



## Mary Marxer

**Thursday Morning Circle**-2nd Thursday, *NEW TIME*, 10 am at the church, Next meeting, 1/11. Co-Moderators, Patsy Craig and Sharon Meurer.

**Tuesday Evening Circle**-3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm in members homes. Next meeting, 12/19, Circle moderator, Irene Simpson.

The Starboard Stitchers will no longer meet on a monthly basis. See the article below to see what this ministry has accomplished through the years. Our gratitude and thanks to all who have participated!

## Starboard Stitchers no longer meeting monthly!

The Starboard Stitchers was formed in the early 1990's when an interim minister encouraged us to form mariner's groups based on common interests. It started out as a fairly good size group and met monthly to work on our own projects. For a number of years we sponsored a Silent Auction and raised money for needed items in the church. From the proceeds, we purchased the American and Christian flags, the green antependia, the wooden bench and chair, refinished the communion set, pitchers for the kitchen, and seed money for painting the sanctuary in lighter, more updated colors from the 60's antique green. We have also made helmet liners for the troops, the ornaments for the Chrismon tree, the wall quilt in the Fellowship Hall, the banners in the Fellowship Hall, 40 quilts for the Ronald McDonald House, tee shirt bags and over 1000 animals for NDSM's clinic.

While we would like to continue with the tee shirt bags used for those without cars at NDSM and animals for the children getting shots at NDSM's clinic, we have decided to stop the monthly meetings since there are only 4 attending. We have placed patterns and items needed for finishing the animals in the credenza in the front of the Adult Sunday School room. We would like to encourage others to help by sewing or stuffing the items as they are much appreciated by the nurses and children. Pick up a pattern and just sew around the outside, leaving an opening for stuffing or pick up one of the sewn animals and stuff it - good to keep your hands busy while watching TV! Return finished animals to bottom of credenza and we'll be sure to get them down to the clinic.



**Starboard Stitchers** (featured 1/2014)  
Photo credit: Caitlin Harrison, Dallas Morning News  
(Left to right) Nancy Bond, Doris Rose, Lorna Acker, Til Rathbun, Margaret Jones, Lois Duell, Jeanne Sawyer



## Happy Birthday!

### January 4

\* Jim Laclede

### January 6

\* David Kirchmeyer

### January 7

\* Janet Marxer Rodriguez

### January 9

\* Dick Nelson

### January 10

\* Ralph Miller

### January 11

\* Doris Rose

### January 22

\* Quinn Moser

### January 27

\* Tracy Tiemann



## Prayer Concerns

### Prayers for:

- ♥ Dale Durcholz
- ♥ Elizabeth Hendricks
- ♥ Roger Jones
- ♥ Ray Kirchmeyer  
(David's brother)
- ♥ Lilas Kinch
- ♥ Sugie Maxfield
- ♥ Sherrard Family
- ♥ Glen Sparks
- ♥ Alan Swope
- ♥ Dennis Van Deventer
- ♥ Margaret Plunkett

### Rehab/At Home:

- ♥ Bobbie & J.R. Jones
- ♥ Margaret Jones
- ♥ Joanne McKnight
- ♥ Anne Mobley
- ♥ Wanda Mosher
- ♥ Freddie Simmons
- ♥ Jack Walden (*Austin with daughter, Morgan McFall, 401 W. Liveoak Street, Austin, TX 78704*)

## Outreach & Evangelism

**Pancake Breakfast**—Our next Community Breakfast is Saturday, January 13, 8 to 10 a.m. Join us as we share food and fellowship with our neighbors and each other.



## Notes & News from the Pews



### Email address update

Mary Marxer new email address  
MarySMarxer@aol.com

### Meet 2 new grandbabies!

**Benjamin Lee Kosa**, born 11/1/17, 8 lbs. 4 oz., 19½ inches. Parents, Lauren & Erik. Big Sis: Genevieve "Evie." Washington D.C.

**Carson Alexander McCotter**, born 12/14/17, 7 lbs. 8 oz., 21 inches. Parents, Brian and Susan. South Africa

Proud grandparents are Dick and Nancy Smith. They were able to visit and meet both newborns. They return from their travels on Friday, January 12.



**Benjamin Lee Kosa**



**Carson Alexander McCotter**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <b>Church Offices &amp; LTCDS Closed</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> 7:30 GA-Room #2	<b>2</b> <b>LTCDS Closed</b> 7:00 GA-Rm #2 7:00 OA-Fellowship #1	<b>3</b> 6:00 PNC #4 7 pm FUPC Choir	<b>4</b> 6:30 ABA-Room #4 7:00 GA-Room #1	<b>5</b> 9:00 LTCDS #1	<b>6</b> 9:00 Work Day 11:00 GA-Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1
	<b>7</b> 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 Communion Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd & Following Jesus	<b>8</b> 7:30 GA-Room #2	<b>9</b> 10:30 PW Circle #4 7:00 GA-Rm #2 7:00 OA-Fellowship #1	<b>10</b> 6:00 PNC #4 7 pm FUPC Choir	<b>11</b> 10:00 PW Circle #2 6:30 ABA-Room #4 7:00 GA-Room #1	<b>12</b> 9:00 LTCDS #1
<b>14</b> 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 Worship/Music 11:00 Good Shepherd & Following Jesus 12:30 FUPC Session	<b>15</b> 7:30 GA-Room #2	<b>16</b> 7:00 GA-Rm #2 7:00 OA-Fellowship #1 7:00 PW Circle	<b>17</b> 6:00 PNC #4 7 pm FUPC Choir	<b>18</b> 6:30 ABA-Room #4 7:00 GA-Room #1	<b>19</b> 9:00 LTCDS #1	<b>20</b> 11:00 GA-Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1
<b>21</b> 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd & Following Jesus	<b>22</b> 7:30 GA-Room #2	<b>23</b> 7:00 GA-Rm #2 7:00 OA Fellowship #1	<b>24</b> 6:00 PNC #4 7 pm FUPC Choir	<b>25</b> 10:00 LTCDS #1 6:30 ABA-Room #4 7:00 GA-Room #1	<b>26</b> 9:00 LTCDS #1	<b>27</b> 11:00 GA-Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1

**Complete calendar of events may be found on the website—[www.FaithUnited-pc.com](http://www.FaithUnited-pc.com)**



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**On the Web!**  
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