



Faith United  
Presbyterian  
Church  
in Farmers Branch

# Words of Faith

May 2019

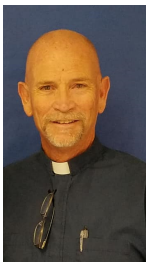
Volume IX, Issue 5

*Glorify God, grow disciples, and  
meet the needs of our neighbors.*

## From the Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie

*We need to know and to live the truth of resurrection  
in our lives and in the life of the church.*



Easter is not over! The holy season of Easter continues until Pentecost (June 9) and invites us to dig deeper into the meaning of Jesus' resurrection – not just as a historical event in the life

of Jesus of Nazareth to which we assent intellectually. Resurrection is not just a mysterious event that once happened long ago. We need to know and to live the truth of resurrection in our lives and in the life of the church.

However, understanding resurrection for our everyday lives, here and now, in this place and time, is not always clear. Yet, the story of the early church in Scripture speaks of an empowered fellowship of believers that left the confines and security of their upper room to go into their world to make disciples of all nations, and to announce good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the time of God's love and grace. It was the resurrection that changed everything for a group of overwhelmed, discouraged, fearful,

and powerless followers of Jesus. So, the resurrection does for us as well.

Years ago, I saw a Facebook post from a church conference that said, "most of our churches have more memories than dreams." This quote is fascinating and intriguing. It is always easier to reminisce about yesterday than it is to navigate through the travails and challenges of today and tomorrow. Doing and being church was a lot easier when people came to us. Not too many people are coming to us these days, and it might seem that all we have left are memories.

However, resurrection allows us to dare to dream – not just for our own lives, but for the church. Yet, we do not dream disengaged from reality, we dream God's dream and actively engage in God's reality! Resurrection announces that God is not through with humanity; God is not through with the church – God is not through with our church! A new day lies ahead, even for those whose bones are brittle and whose souls are tired. God is not through with the people of our neighborhood and community!

But, how do we move forward in this new day? First let's give ourselves permission to dream. Dreaming is risky, because dreams invite a new way of being and doing. Second, let's ask this basic question – how do the people of our neighborhood/community know that we love them? Third, if people are not coming to us to be loved, then we will need to go to them. Fourth, we are not left to our own resolve and resources – the Holy Spirit fills us, flows through us, and surrounds around us!

The Book of Acts tells the story of the Holy Spirit filling, flowing through, and surrounding the early church. Over the coming weeks and months, we will listen to these stories as we seek to discern the Spirit's movement in our lives, homes, relationships, church, and neighborhood.

Easter is not over! Let's keep our memories – but let's do some dreaming and see where and to whom it takes us!

In Christ's Love,  
*Pastor Ken*

Ken@FaithUnited-pc.com

## Words of Faith

### Easter Egg Hunt & VBS!

The Christian Education team is happy to report that our Annual Easter Egg Hunt was a success with over 40 children in attendance! After painting eggs, packing seed balls, and bounding through an obstacle course, the children sang and danced in the Sanctuary before settling in to hear the Easter Story from Pastor Ken. When the story was finished and the Easter Bunny had distributed the eggs around the church grounds, the children were set loose on the hunt! In the end, the smiling faces said it all. We are very grateful to the congregation for donating so many treats, eggs, and snacks to make a truly memorable event.

Also, we would like to extend a special thank you to the volunteers at the event: Lois Duell, Frank Fehmel, Linnie Hinkle, Courtland Lewis, Katie Miller, Lois Norton, Debbie Rainier, Barbara Ritchie, Ken Ritchie, Diane Royer, Scarlett Silva, Patti Sloey, Dave Sloey, Terry Stottlemeyer, Lee Ann Wendland.

### Jessica Stottlemeyer

Without these volunteers and all those who donated items and helped stuff eggs, we could not have shared the Easter Story with so many children! We would like to make sure the event is just as much fun next year, so if you have any feedback for us, please feel free to contact Jessica Stottlemeyer.

Next up, we will begin planning for Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is Hero Central and is set to take place Monday, June 24th thru Thursday, June 27th from 8am-12pm each day. Children will have awesome adventures alongside favorite Bible heroes such as Samuel, David, and Abigail. Using music, crafts, recreation, and Bible stories, kids will discover the qualities that make us truly heroic in God! Keep your eyes peeled for volunteer sign-ups and ways to help for this event! We will need at least 8-10 people in order to put on this great event. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Jessica Stottlemeyer, (214) 534-8232 or [jess.stottlemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:jess.stottlemeyer@gmail.com).



## Happy Birthday!

### May 1

- \* Nathan Miller

### May 2

- \* Anne Kirchmeyer
- \* Mary Marxer

### May 3

- \* Charlie Cole

### May 4

- \* George Mills

### May 6

- \* Jan Cole

### May 9

- \* Bobbie Jones

### May 11

- \* Fiona Coughenour

### May 15

- \* Joan Nelson
- \* Grace Stottlemeyer

### May 16

- \* Linnie Hinkle

### May 17

- \* Cathy Marxer

### May 30

- \* Steve Nelson



### Directory Updates

Please remember to notify the church office if your information changes.



### Rehab/At Home:

- ♥ Margaret Jones
- ♥ Dalia Menendez
- ♥ Anne Mobley
- ♥ Wanda Mosher
- ♥ Freddie Simmons

### Prayers for:

- ♥ Seth Davison
- ♥ Dale Durcholz
- ♥ Kathie Heffler
- ♥ Elizabeth Hendricks
- ♥ Roger Jones
- ♥ Sugie Maxfield
- ♥ Betty Runkel
- ♥ Margaret Plunkett
- ♥ Barbara Stein
- ♥ Craig Ritchie

## Presbyterian Women

Mary Marxer

The Presbyterian Women Circles continue the *Horizon's* Bible Study, "God's Promise: I am with You."



### Tuesday Morning Circle-2nd

**Tuesday**, 10:30 a.m. at the church. Circle moderator, Linnie Hinkle. Next meeting Tuesday, May 14.

### Tuesday Evening Circle-3rd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Meet in member homes. Circle moderator, Irene Simpson. Next meeting, Tuesday, May 21.


**Stuffed Animals Project**, materials remain available in classroom #4. Contact Lorna Acker or Lois Duell if you have any questions about this project.

## Outreach & Evangelism

Debbie Rainier

**Pancake Breakfast**—Our next Community Breakfast is Saturday, May 11, 8 to 10 a.m. Join us as we share food and fellowship with our neighbors and each other.



| Sun   | Mon                             | Tue   | Wed  | Thu                                | Fri  | Sat   |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|--|---|
|   | <b>29</b><br>7:30<br>GA-Room #2 | <b>30</b><br>7:00 Gam-Anon #2<br>7:00 GA-Rm #4<br>7:30 OA-Fellowship #1                       | <b>1</b><br>9:30 LTCDS #1<br>3:30 GSKPC #4<br>7:00 FUPC Choir  | <b>2</b><br>7:00 GA-Fellowship #1  | <b>3</b><br>9:00 LTCDS<br>Fellowship<br>Hall #1  | <b>4</b><br>6:30 GSKPC #4<br>11:00 GA Double Rm #4<br>11:00 OA-Fellowship #1                            |
| <b>5</b><br>9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm.<br>9:30 FUPC Sunday School<br>10:30 Coffee/Fellowship<br>11:00 Communion Worship<br>11:00 Good Shepherd &<br>Following Jesus<br>12:30 FUPC Session #4<br>11 am to 4 pm GSKPC | <b>6</b><br>7:30<br>GA-Room #2  | <b>7</b><br>7:00 Gam-Anon #2<br>7:00 GA-Rm #4<br>7:30 OA-Fellowship #1                        | <b>8</b><br>9:30 LTCDS #1<br>3:30 GSKPC #4<br>7:00 FUPC Choir  | <b>9</b><br>7:00 GA-Fellowship #1  | <b>10</b><br>9:00 LTCDS<br>Fellowship<br>Hall #1 | <b>11</b><br>6:30 GSKPC #4<br>8:00 FUPC Breakfast #1<br>11:00 GA Double Rm #4<br>11:00 OA-Fellowship #1 |
| <b>12</b><br>9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm.<br>9:30 FUPC Sunday School<br>10:30 Coffee/Fellowship<br>11:00 FUPC Worship<br>11:00 Good Shepherd &<br>Following Jesus<br>11 am to 4 pm GSKPC                              | <b>13</b><br>7:30<br>GA-Room #2 | <b>14</b><br>10:30 PW Circle #4<br>7:00 Gam-Anon #2<br>7:00 GA-Rm #4<br>7:30 OA-Fellowship #1 | <b>15</b><br>9:30 LTCDS #1<br>3:30 GSKPC #4<br>7:00 FUPC Choir | <b>16</b><br>7:00 GA-Fellowship #1 | <b>17</b><br>9:00 LTCDS<br>Fellowship<br>Hall #1 | <b>18</b><br>6:30 GSKPC #4<br>11:00 GA-Double Rm #4<br>11:00 OA-Fellowship #1                           |
| <b>19</b><br>9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm.<br>9:30 FUPC Sunday School<br>10:30 Coffee/Fellowship<br>11:00 FUPC Worship<br>11:00 Good Shepherd &<br>Following Jesus<br>11 am to 4 pm GSKPC                              | <b>20</b><br>7:30<br>GA-Room #2 | <b>21</b><br>7:00 PW Circle<br>7:00 Gam-Anon #2<br>7:00 GA-Rm #4<br>7:30 OA-Fellowship #1     | <b>22</b><br>9:30 LTCDS #1<br>3:30 GSKPC #4<br>7:00 FUPC Choir | <b>23</b><br>7:00 GA-Fellowship #1 | <b>24</b><br>9:00 LTCDS<br>Fellowship<br>Hall #1 | <b>25</b><br>6:30 GSKPC #4<br>11:00 GA Double Rm #4<br>11:00 OA-Fellowship #1                           |
| <div> <b>Complete calendar of events may be found on the website—<a href="http://www.FaithUnited-pc.com">www.FaithUnited-pc.com</a></b> </div>  |                                 |   |  |                                    |  |   |



## Faith United Presbyterian Church

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