



Faith United
Presbyterian
Church
in Farmers Branch

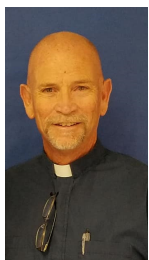
Words of Faith

June 2019

Volume IX, Issue 6

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

From the Pastor



A few years ago, Barbara and I saw the movie, "Tomorrowland." It is a science fiction mystery adventure film that tells the story of Frank, a former boy genius

(George Clooney – a

former heartthrob playing a cranky middle-aged man!), and Casey, a gifted teenager (Britt Robertson), who set out on a dangerous mission to unearth the secrets of "Tomorrowland," an enigmatic utopia-like location caught between time and space. Frank is jaded by disillusionment and Casey is a bright optimistic teen bursting with scientific curiosity. Barbara and I found the movie entertaining – especially as two baby boomers who grew up with Disneyland's innovation-inspired Tomorrowland.

Frank's disillusionment has led him to become a recluse. Yet, within his home is a high-tech room surrounded by monitors that project all of the world's problems. One can imagine that there wouldn't be enough monitors to show all of the problems, but the visual powerfully reflects the many challenges, issues and calamities facing the world. Frank seems to spend his life reinforcing his disillusionment and bitterness trapped in hopelessness and despair. It is obviously the sum of his thoughts. This scene alone is enough to question

our addiction to the 24 hour news cycle. Casey is the protagonist who seeks to draw Frank out of his self-imposed bondage by offering a vision of hope.

The problems facing the world, our communities, our church, our families and relationships, can be intimidating and overwhelming. It is easy to identify and diagnose problems; it is harder to find and enact solutions. It is easy to allow disillusion and bitterness to define our lives; it is harder to allow hope to lift us up into a new day. It is easier to be critical; it is harder to risk change. In the process we allow a cheap imitation of hope, hope of returning to a day or time gone by, to deceive us. But hope is not the promise of going back to an idealized recollection; it is the promise of going forward into a new day, despite the presence of challenge and problem.

Jesus offers us this hope. In the life, death, resurrection, and reign of Christ, the kingdom of God is bursting into our midst, not as an enigmatic utopian-like mystery, but as the concrete reality of God's will. Our hope is not based on what we can do to get our act together, on the world stage, in our church, or in our lives; our hope is based upon what Jesus has done, is doing, and will do.

The movie leaves the message that those who dream of a better world

Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie

are the ones who can connect with the hope of tomorrowland. Our connection to the hope of God's kingdom is through a life of following Jesus in faith, love, and joy. As a youth I remember singing, "Let There Be Peace on Earth." "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me." The Bible calls for us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds, so that we can discern the will of God. (Romans 12:2) I am not suggesting that we embrace a privatized inner faith of retreat as a response to challenge and problem. On the contrary, I am suggesting that we are best prepared for and most effective against those challenges, whether on the world stage, in the church or in our families and relationships, by allowing Christ to continually form us into his likeness through prayer, study, worship, community, and service. In this is the resurrection of hope that empowers, guides, delivers, and lifts up.

The challenges in the world, for the church, and of our lives are many. A hope of naivety will not do, nor will the resignation of disillusionment or bitterness. However, the hope born of God through Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit is a whole other matter!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Ken

Ken@FaithUnited-pc.com

Words of Faith

Presbyterian Women

Mary Marxer

The Presbyterian Women Circles will take a break for the summer months.

Tuesday Morning Circle-2nd Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. at the church. Circle moderator, Linnie Hinkle. Next meeting Tuesday, September 10.



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

Meet in member homes. Circle moderator, Irene Simpson. Next meeting, Tuesday, September 17.

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, June 8, 8 to 10 a.m. Join us as we share food and fellowship with our neighbors and each other.

Metrocrest TP Drive—Wow! We did it, we collected 626 rolls of TP during the month of May for Metrocrest Services. Thanks to all who donated, Metrocrest was very appreciative. Also, thanks to Wayne Saunders for making the delivery.



Home Communion Training & Organization

Ken Ritchie

The service for celebration of the Lord's Supper with those who are homebound, in a hospital or care facility, or in other circumstances that prevent them from attending worship is crucial to the church's ministry. It is time to reorganize home communion in our church. So, Pastor Ken will be leading a training and organization meeting at the church:

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 10 AM - NOON

If you are currently serving or have served home communion and would like to continue, or, if you are interested in learning more about this ministry opportunity, you are encouraged to attend. Part of the meeting will be forming the two person teams of servers. If you are unable to attend, but are interested in this ministry, please let Pastor Ken.

If you would like to receive home communion, or you know someone who might be interested, please contact Pastor Ken, or Brenda in the church office.



Happy Birthday!

June 1

* Annali Reyes

June 2

* Dalia Menendez

June 5

* Ralph Moser

* Samuel Sparks

June 11

* Mozelle Mills

June 12

* Kathleen Ferguson

June 14

* Ade Reyes

June 18

* Logan Burkham

June 19

* Rich Lewis

June 21

* Susie Wing

* Claire Stottlemeyer

June 22

* Dave Sloey

June 23

* Mary Silva

June 27

* Alex Shepard

June 29

* Freddy Simmons

* Patti Sloey



Directory Updates

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



Rehab/At Home:

♥ Margaret Jones
♥ Anne Mobley
♥ Wanda Mosher
♥ Freddie Simmons

Prayers for:

♥ Dale Durcholz
♥ Kathie Heffler
♥ Elizabeth Hendricks
♥ Linnie Hinkle
♥ Roger Jones
♥ Sugie Maxfield
♥ Betty Runkel
♥ Barbara Stein
♥ Craig Ritchie
♥ Dennis Van Deventer

Christian Education

Wow! Summer and school is out already? Where does the time go? Due to some unforeseen circumstances VBS has been postponed. Stay tuned for new dates possibly in late July.



Christian Education

News from Katie Miller and Brenda Burkham on the **Following Jesus** and **Good Shepherd** children's Sunday school classes. Their school year came to an end on Sunday, May 26. They will take a break for the summer and resume classes on Sunday, September 8.

Jessica Stottlemeyer

The **Searchers** Adult Sunday school class meets in the Resource Room/Library at 9:30 each Sunday morning. The class is currently using Jill Duffield's commentary on the lectionary scriptures each Sunday. Alison Meier is leading the class.

Adult Sunday school class, **Weekly Bible Study**, is led by Rich Lewis. This class will not meet on June 2 or June 9. On June 16 they will begin a six week study of "Pursuing God's Love, Stories from the Book of Genesis." They meet at 9:30 on Sunday mornings in Double Classroom #4.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm. 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 Communion Worship 12 to 4 pm GSKPC	3 7:30 GA-Room #2	4 7:00 Gam-Anon #2 7:00 GA-Rm #4 7:30 OA-Fellowship #1	5 9:30 LTCDS #1 1:30 GSKPC #4 7:00 FUPC Choir	6 7:00 GA-Fellowship #1	7 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	8 6:30 GSKPC #4 8:00 FUPC Breakfast #1 11:00 GA Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1
9 9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm. 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 12:30 FUPC Session #4 12 to 4 pm GSKPC	10 7:30 GA-Room #2	11 10:30 PW Circle #4 7:00 Gam-Anon #2 7:00 GA-Rm #4 7:30 OA-Fellowship #1	12 9:30 LTCDS #1 1:30 GSKPC #4 7:00 FUPC Choir	13 7:00 GA-Fellowship #1	14 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	15 6:30 GSKPC #4 11:00 GA-Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1
16 9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm. 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 12 to 4 pm GSKPC	17 7:30 GA-Room #2	18 7:00 PW Circle 7:00 Gam-Anon #2 7:00 GA-Rm #4 7:30 OA-Fellowship #1	19 9:30 LTCDS #1 1:30 GSKPC #4	20 7:00 GA-Fellowship #1	21 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	22 6:30 GSKPC #4 11:00 GA Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1
23 9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm. 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 12 to 4 pm GSKPC	24 7:30 GA-Room #2	25 7:00 Gam-Anon #2 7:00 GA-Rm #4 7:30 OA-Fellowship #1	26 9:30 LTCDS #1 1:30 GSKPC #4	27 10:00 LTCDS #1 7:00 GA-Fellowship #1	28 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	29 6:30 GSKPC #4 11:00 GA Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1
30 9:00 Prayer-Resource Rm. 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 10:30 Coffee/Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship . . .	1 7:30 GA-Room #2	2 7:00 Gam-Anon #2 7:00 GA-Rm #4 7:30 OA-Fellowship #1	3 9:30 LTCDS #1 1:30 GSKPC #4	 Church Offices closed 7/4 & 7/5	5	6 6:30 GSKPC #4 8:00 FUPC Breakfast #1 11:00 GA Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Fellowship #1



Faith United Presbyterian Church

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