

## From the Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie



What is the future for Faith United Presbyterian Church? This is an anxious question to raise. We are getting older and smaller. The church friendly culture and society has been pulled out from underneath us. In recent surveys nearly 1/3 of the people surveyed indicated no religious preference and were not looking to change that status.

We are continuing our partnership with Iglesia Emmanuel, Grace Presbytery, and 1001 New Worshiping Communities to explore bilingual, multicultural Hispanic American ministry in our neighborhood. Nearly 60% of our neighbors self-identify as Hispanic. What lies ahead?

Whenever I think about such a question, I find myself being drawn back to call and mission. Why are we here? What is our mission? Each week in worship we affirm that we will glorify God, grow disciples, and meet the needs of our neighbors.

This month I feel led to begin a special sermon series, “Seven Marks of a Vital Congregation.” On the second Sunday of each month, I will offer a message from Scripture that speaks to one of the seven marks. By offering the series on the second Sunday of each month that will be coordinated with the Session meeting for the month. The mark to be addressed on September 11 will be Lifelong Discipleship Formation. I hope and pray you will attempt to connect for worship that day in-person or online.

There is something I would specifically ask of each one of you – prayer. Please be in intentional prayer for our church and the ministry partnership exploring Hispanic American ministry. Let me offer a seven-day cycle for prayer that ask you to use during the week prior to and the week following the second Sunday each month.

*Living God, we give you thanks and praise for the new things you are doing among us . . .*

Sunday: *for the transforming presence of Christ*

Monday: *for your call to follow the way of Jesus*

Tuesday: *for the gift of your Word made flesh*

Wednesday: *for the good news of your holy realm*

Thursday: *for Jesus’ example of humble service*

Friday: *for your great love for all the world*

Saturday: *for our common ministry in Jesus’ name*

(Other joys and thanksgiving may be added)

*Living God, by the gifts of your Spirit, help us to bear witness to the risen Lord . . .*

Sunday: *proclaiming the good news of salvation*

Monday: *growing in the image of Christ*

Tuesday: *offering your grace to others*

Wednesday: *sharing the hope that is within us*

Thursday: *loving and serving one another*

Friday: *extending your compassion to all*

Saturday: *building up the body of Christ.*

(Other concerns and petitions may be added)

*Living God, in the great mystery of our faith receive us each night and revive us each day, that we may be dead to sin and alive to you, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

I hope you will join me in prayer!

# Words of Faith

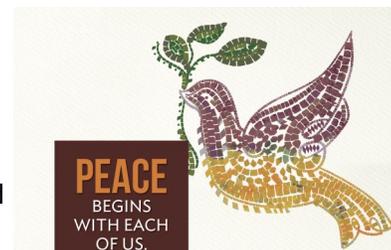
## Outreach & Evangelism

Courtland Lewis

**North Dallas Shared Ministries**—During September we will collect coats for North Dallas Shared Ministries. Check your closets for those gently worn coats and jackets that will keep others warm during the coming winter months.



**Peace & Global Witness—Special Offerings** The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church of our time to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God’s mission with those around the corner and around the world, as active peacemakers—at all times in all ways. September 4 to October 2 (World Communion Sunday). **How is my gift used?** A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the entire church to collaborate in our proclamation of Christ’s peace. 25% of the Offering stays with FUPC to be donated to a peacemaking organization of our choosing and 25% with mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions. 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe. You may donate directly via check, please note **“PGW offering”** in the memo section. If you give online please note, “for PGW offering” when you designate your gift to the “General Fund.”



### Homebound or Recovering:

- ♥ Charley Rae Furrh (Terri Russell’s cousin)
- ♥ Freddie Simmons

### Prayers for:

- ♥ David Duell
- ♥ Dale Durcholz
- ♥ Mike Jones
- ♥ George & Mozelle Mills and their son-in-law, Greg Kaut
- ♥ Dennis Van Deventer

Worship services are available In-Person, via Facebook Live, or on our YouTube channel.

Worship resources available at [www.FaithUnited-pc.com](http://www.FaithUnited-pc.com)



## From the Pastor—cont.

I look forward to seeing you on a Sunday soon, either online or in-person! Let me know of any needs or concerns. If you would like to visit with me, let me know and we can arrange a time to meet.

Let’s continue to choose kindness, compassion, and love; let’s do justice and make peace; let’s welcome the stranger; let’s persevere in prayer, as we glorify God, grow disciples, and meet the needs of our neighbors.

In Christ’s Love, *Pastor Ken*  
Ken@FaithUnited-pc.com

## Happy Birthday!

### September 3

\* Jessica Stottlemeyer

### September 5

\* Patsy Craig

### September 8

\* Phil Kretchmar

### September 10

\* Nadine Moser

### September 13

\* Stephanie Booth

### September 17

\* Ila Post

### September 26

\* Katie Miller

\* Debbie Rainier



## Midweek Devotional / Praying the Ten Commandments

The mid-week video devotional series Praying the Ten Commandments will have its final two offerings, September 7 and 14. The entire series is available through the church's Facebook page and YouTube channel. You can go back and view the offerings you were not able to watch. Suggest the entire series to others! Pastor Ken will begin a new series of praying the Scriptures later in fall. Look for that announcement!



## Weekly Bible Study class

Rich Lewis

The class is currently led by Rich Lewis. They meet from 9:30 to 10:30 in classroom #4. The class continues its series of video-based lessons from "The New Testament You Never Knew, Exploring the Context, Purpose, and Meaning of the Story of God" by N. T. Wright and Michael Bird. Each session includes a video of 20 to 25 minutes.



**September 4:** *The Early Christians and the Church*

**September 11:** *The Mission of the Church*

**September 18:** *The Creation of the New Testament*

## Sunday Morning Fellowship Returns

As we navigate through the continuing presence of COVID and work towards a new normal, the Session has approved the return of fellowship before worship at 10:30 am. Plan to arrive early and enjoy a cup of coffee, a breakfast treat and great community. If you would like to bring a treat to share, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. The Weekly Bible Study class has returned to their weekly time of 9:30 a.m. in classroom 4.



## Online Giving

Online giving is now available. Just scan the QR Code to the right with your smart phone or go to our website and click the "Give Now" button. [www.FaithUnited-pc.com](http://www.FaithUnited-pc.com) You will have the option to set up your giving profile. This will make it easy to login anytime you are ready to give, even designated giving for Building Repairs or Special Offerings that occur throughout the year. **You can also select to donate the 2% fee so Faith United does not incur it.**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>SEPTEMBER</b>			31 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	1	2 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship #1	3 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4
4 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 Communion Worship 11:00 Iglesia-Fellowship Hall	5 <b>Labor Day</b> <b>Offices closed</b> 7 pm GA-Room #2	6	7 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	8	9 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	10 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4
11 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Iglesia-Fellowship Hall 12:30 FUPC Session	12 7 pm GA-Room #2	13	14 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	15	16 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	17 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4
18 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Iglesia-Fellowship Hall 3:00 RYLA-Fellowship #1	19 7 pm GA-Room #2	20	21 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	22	23 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	24 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4
25 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Iglesia-Fellowship Hall	26 7 pm GA-Room #2	27	28 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	29	30 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	1 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4



**Faith United  
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