



Faith United
Presbyterian
Church
in Farmers Branch

Words of Faith

November 2020

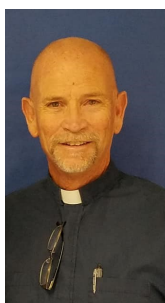
Volume X, Issue 11

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

From the Pastor

Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie

Continue to choose love, compassion and kindness.



Sunday, November 1, after having turned our clocks back one hour, we turn the calendar forward to November – November 1, All Saints' Day. All Saints' Day

began as a way to mark the anniversaries of the deaths of martyrs – their birthdays as saints through the completion of their baptism. Soon there were so many martyrs that it was difficult to give them all their due. All Saints' Day was established as an opportunity to honor all the saints, remembered and forgotten, known and unknown. It has been celebrated on November 1 since the ninth century.

In our Reformed tradition, the emphasis of this festival is on the ongoing sanctification of the whole people of God. While we may give thanks for the lives of particular luminaries of ages past, we also give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of believers in this and every age. Sunday is also the time to give thanks for those from our community of faith

who have died in the past year, having moved to the church triumphant.

I think of all the saints who have come alongside me on my journey to nurture and mentor me. Sunday School teachers who faithfully taught the stories of the Bible. Youth leaders who persevered through my immaturity to spark embers of faith and call. Pastors who preached, taught and prayed, and taught me to pray. Older adults who mentored and encouraged by investing time in a young buck's life. Friends who formed a community of unconditional welcome and grace. Leaders who set an example as they trusted in the Spirit's guidance. Covenant brothers and sisters who joined me in prayer, held me accountable in love, and demonstrated the faithfulness of God.

Our lives of faith have been and continue to be formed and shaped by all the saints. We do not live in isolation. We are connected to who have come before us, to those who are journeying with us, and to those who will come after us. To whom are

you called to be a mentor? This is the great multitude we call the church, the church on earth and the church triumphant, in which we are included, as God works out his good purpose in us, through us, and around us.

All Saints' Day points us to the faithfulness of God throughout all generations. In the victory of Christ the Lamb, hope is made real for the wilderness journey that continues. Even in the eye of the storm, we are able to commit ourselves to God's mission and ministry in the coming year as we dedicate our financial commitment. As the saints have done before us, and as those will do who come after us, we respond to the call of Christ to love God with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and, to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Continue to choose love, compassion and kindness. Make peace, do justice, hunger and thirst for righteousness. Stay connected to each other.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Ken

Ken@FaithUnited-pc.com

Words of Faith

Outreach & Evangelism

Debbie Rainier

Metrocrest Services Thanksgiving Food Drive - This year we will be accepting monetary donations for the food drive beginning on November 1 through November 15. Please note "Thanksgiving" or "Xmas" in memo section of checks.

Metrocrest Services Christmas Toy Drive Through Drop Off events will be on December 5th and December 12th, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. See below for more info.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and donations to these important Metrocrest Services events. For more information about the events please contact Debbie Rainier, 972-342-2652, debbierainier@yahoo.com.

Brighten a *child's holiday.*

TOY DRIVE

Each donated toy gives hope to a child of opening up at least one gift this holiday season.

Help by donating new unwrapped toys for children ages 1-18. Collect toys based on what you think a child or teenager would like or refer to our Most-Needed Toy list below.



MOST-NEEDED TOY ITEMS

Sports & college apparel
Electronics, video & board games
Gym bags & sports equipment
Wallets, jewelry, & watches
Leggos
Hair dryer, flat & curling irons
Nail & cosmetic sets
Perfume/cologne sets (AXE sets)
Wal-Mart & Amazon gift cards
Disney themed items
Marvel themed items

Metrocrest Santa Store 2020!

Bring your NEW unwrapped gifts to one of our "Drive through" events.

- * Saturday, 12/5,
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- * Saturday, 12/12,
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We will deliver the gifts to the Store on or before Monday, 12/14.

*Thank you for your
donations!*

metrocrest
 **services**
building a stronger community together

Congregational Meeting, 11/15!

The Session is calling for a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, November 15, 12:15 pm via Zoom for the purposes of electing new Elders to the Session and a presentation of the 2021 Budget, if available. The meeting can be accessed at www.zoom.com. Once on the home page, click Join Meeting at the top of the page. The Meeting I.D. is 7821511714. No password will be needed. You can also access the meeting via phone, 1-346-248-7799. Follow the prompts once connected. **Pastor Ken will be hosting a practice Zoom meeting** for those who might not be comfortable with or have never used Zoom. 12:15 pm, Sunday, November 8. Use the same meeting ID or phone number as above, and the same process as above. If you have any troubles logging in, call or text Pastor Ken, 972-249-6666, or Kurt Booth, 214-695-9737. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda or Pastor Ken at the church office.



Happy Birthday!

November 1

* Cheryl Sparks

November 9

* Margaret Jones

November 10

* Pepper Durholz

November 18

* Helen McKemie

November 20

* Sharon Meurer

November 21

* Jewell Haworth

November 23

* Betty Laney

* Wade Yost

November 24

* Teresa Nelson

November 30

* David Pierce



**Next newsletter is December 2020. Deadline
for articles, Friday, November 20.**

**Contact church office or Brenda Swindle via
email to submit articles.**



Rehab/At Home:

- ♥ Margaret Jones
- ♥ Marilyn Rose
- ♥ Freddie Simmons

Prayers for:

- ♥ Dale Durcholz
- ♥ Kathie Heffler
- ♥ Roger Jones
- ♥ Betty Runkel
- ♥ Barbara Stein
- ♥ Dennis Van Deventer

In the Eye of the Storm ... What is your commitment for 2021?

Glorifying God, Growing Disciples, Meeting the Needs of Our Neighbors

How do we be faithful in the call of Christ while on a wilderness journey in the eye of the storm? We trust in the Lord's presence and guidance. We will dedicate our 2021 pledges on All Saints Day. We remember those who have gone before us, lived faithfully, nurtured and mentored us in the faith, and now dwell in the heavenly mansion. These saints also remind us of the steadfast love and eternal faithfulness of God. *The angel of the lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.* (Psalm 34:7) When in the wilderness, we focus not on what we cannot do, but what we can do!



Please prayerfully consider your stewardship response to the mission of Christ through our church. If you have not yet returned your commitment card, we urge you to do so soon. The Finance Committee will begin budget discussions in early November.

Weekly Bible Study class

Rich Lewis

Our adult Sunday School class, **Weekly Bible Study**, is currently being taught by video. Links to these videos are included in the weekly News Brief.

The class is continuing it's study of Paul's letters. Nov. 1—Ist Timothy; Nov. 8—Ist Timothy (cont.); Nov. 15—2nd Timothy; Nov. 22—Titus and Philemon. Expect updates and links to be on the website: www.FaithUnited-pc.com or the Faith United YouTube channel.



Fall Worship @ Faith United Worshipping online

Sunday, 11/1 **Adult Sunday school class** at 9:30 a.m.

All Saints' Sunday, Communion Worship at 11 a.m.

Sunday, 11/8 **Adult Sunday school class** at 9:30 a.m.; **23rd Sunday after Pentecost**,
Worship at 11 a.m.; "Practice" Zoom meeting at 12:15 p.m. Stated Session meeting, via Zoom at 1 p.m.

Sunday, 11/15 **Adult Sunday school class** at 9:30 a.m.; **24th Sunday after Pentecost**,

Worship at 11 a.m. Congregational Meeting at 12:15 via Zoom

Sunday, 11/22 **Adult Sunday school class** at 9:30 a.m.; **Christ the King Sunday**, Worship at 11 a.m.

Sunday, 11/29 **Adult Sunday school class** at 9:30 a.m.; **1st Sunday of Advent**, Worship at 11 a.m.

All worship services and classes available via Facebook Live or on Faith United's YouTube channel.

Worship resources available at www.FaithUnited-pc.com



Online Worship Continues

You will find Worship Guides and resources on our website:

www.FaithUnited-pc.com



You will see the logos (right) on the website and can choose which method with which you would like to worship.



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On the Web!
www.FaithUnited-pc.com