



Words of Faith

Faith United Presbyterian Church

Volume I, Issue 9

The Way it Looks From Here

Hello Friends,

Here it is – our first Advent Season as Faith United Presbyterian Church. This is an exciting time in the life of our new congregation. As we prepare to receive the Christ Child, I hope that we will consider



what God has in-store for us? What purposes and opportunities will appear within our view? God always promises to do a new thing among those who attempt to follow Him.

Recently, our sermon text for worship was taken from the last part of Matthew 25, where the Lord sorted between the sheep and the goats. On the one hand, the goats were severely chastised for ignoring the presence of Jesus in the marginalized of the world. On the other hand, the sheep were recognized and praised for their generosity of spirit which resulted in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the sick and imprisoned. It seems from this passage that the purposes of God are worked out in

the new kingdom with people of compassionate and generous hearts. When God is in charge, those who give of themselves to the least of God's children make up the citizenry of the Kingdom.

As we look toward Bethlehem and the star, know that we will see Jesus in those around us who are suffering.

On Sunday November 20, I announced that my wife Kay and I will be taking a much needed Leave of Absence from our duties at the church. This will begin on January 1 and continue through January 31. This leave will be in addition to vacation which is part of my terms of call. The purpose of this leave will be to seek rest and revitalization of our ministry among you. With the hard work to accomplish the merger and the significant losses in our family over the last year or so, we have great need of this time. We are grateful to the session for agreeing to this leave. During my absence, all duties of

Pastor Terry McLellan

preaching, leading worship, administering the sacraments, moderating the Session, any special services needed such as funerals or weddings and some pastoral care duties will be borne by the Rev. Harry Meissner. Rev. Meissner is a long-time pastor in Grace Presbytery. He is also very familiar with merged congregations and our particular history in this regard. Most recently Harry has served as Interim Senior Pastor at Canyon Creek Presbyterian in Richardson. I believe Harry will provide excellent leadership during this brief period. Rev. Meissner's pastoral care efforts will be supplemented by our own Stephen Ministry team. I have no doubt that you will be well cared for as God's people in my absence. Thanks again for allowing us this time away.

We look forward to returning in February rejuvenated and ready to resume our journey with you here at Faith United Church.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Terry
Terry@FaithUnited-pc.com

Inside this issue

- Pastor's article
- Stephen Ministry
- Presbyterian Women
- FUPC in the community
- Calendar of Events
- ...and more!

The next newsletter is January 2012.

The deadline for articles is December 19.

Words of Faith

Training continues!

Six Stephen Minister Trainees and their three leaders continued training with the topic “Distinctively Christian Caring—Part 2” after a Thanksgiving break. This topic is based on the book that each student reads “Christian Caregiving – A Way of Life” by Kenneth Haugk. Other training in December will include “Process versus Results in Caregiving,” and “Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly—Parts 1 and 2” (these are based

on the book “Speaking the Truth in Love—How to Be An Assertive Christian” by Ruth N. Koch & Kenneth C. Haugk.

During the December 3 training, Kay McLellan and Dottie Cogar, Faith United’s Parish Nurses, will explain their role in the congregation and how



Jane Ingebritson

Stephen Ministers can use the resources that Dottie and Kay have at their fingertips.

Stephen Ministry is a ministry in our congregation in which trained and supervised lay persons, called Stephen Ministers, provide one-to-one Christian care to individuals facing life challenges or difficulties.

Presbyterian Women

Jeanne Sawyer, Publicity

Our three circles are continuing to flourish with excellent participation, inspirational bible study and great fellowship and food.

The 2nd Thursday Morning Circle will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the church on December 8. On December 13, the 2nd Tuesday Morning Circle will meet at the church at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will follow the

bible study led by Lois Duell. Hostesses for the day will be Linnie Hinkle and Patsy Craig.

On December 15, the 3rd Thursday Evening Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Betty Laney.

The Starboard Stitchers will not meet in December but will resume meeting on



the first Tuesday in January and continue with their projects.

Looking forward to our Retreat on February 11, 2012, we will continue our baby blanket project benefiting Presbyterian Children’s Home and Services.

The PW Coordinating Team will meet on Tuesday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m.

From the editor

Brenda Swindle

It is hard to believe that we are fast approaching the year 2012. I have now been with FUPC for close to six months. Where does the time go?

Several dedicated volunteers constantly strive to have the most up to date information available in the newsletter and on the website. Please let us

know if you notice an event that needs to be updated or adjusted before the next newsletter is published or on the website.

With the new year will come new events, classes, meetings, etc. Please let me know the “news” of FUPC.

You may submit articles in writing to the church office or via email to

Brenda@FaithUnited-pc.com

The next issue will be January 2012. The deadline for articles is Monday, 12/19. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office if you or your group has information to share.

**Next newsletter is
January 2012.
Deadline for articles,
Monday, 12/19.
Contact church
office or Brenda
Swindle via email to
submit articles.**

Opportunity to Donate to Worthy Charities

Donating to a charity at Christmastime has become part of the traditions of many families. It is a wonderful way to honor friends and family members and help those who are less fortunate at the same time. Our church helps to support several charities throughout the year including Austin Street Shelter, North

Dallas Shared Ministries, and Presbyterian Children’s Homes and Services. This year members of Faith United will also have the opportunity to donate to Heifer International. Information and donation cards will be available at the Family Christmas Dinner on December 10.



North Dallas Shared Ministries

The average income of NDSM clients this fall was \$800-1200/month. Imagine yourself in their shoes – how could you support your



family on that. NDSM helps by supplying food up to 3 times in a 6 month period, rent or utility assistance once a year if needed, 2 outfits of clothing per person 3 times a year, and they are eligible for our free clinic if they do not have insurance and live in our zip code area. We also have job counselors available each day, income tax assistance during tax season,

3 times a week a counselor is available to help with food stamps and government utility assistance applications, and every Friday a bag of groceries is provided to any senior or disabled person on a fixed income (around 375 bags per week). I invite you to come down and look over our operation. Those who have come are amazed at the size and breadth of it. The Dallas Morning News

has again chosen NDSM as one of their charities, along with Family Gateway and Austin Street Shelter, which Faith United also supports. Please consider donating time, goods, and/or money to this worthwhile charity which serves 20 zip codes in the Dallas area and only has 2 ½ paid workers, the rest are all volunteers: doctors, nurses, interviewers, counselors, computer people, stockers, order fillers – whatever your talent, there is a place for you.

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Faith United Christmas Card



Members of Faith United Presbyterian Church will have the opportunity to send Christmas greetings to others in the church by adding their own Christmas card to the Christmas bulletin board located in the “long hall”. Look for the display just outside the work-room door. Bring your own card, or chose one from those provided, write

Terrie Russell & Kay McLellan

your greeting and sign it, then tack it to the board. You may also write your greeting directly onto the board background and add any pictures or stickers that will help convey the message of the season to others. This will be a wonderful way to share the joy of the season with others while saving cards and postage.

Words of Faith

Word on the Street

Austin Street Centre has undergone management change but we are still scheduled to serve the residents on the first Monday of every month. When we had the garage sale on Josey, the stove and large pots were sold to a local restaurant. This results in a sandwich meal all year unless someone steps up to cook for us. As a result, we need all hands on deck to help: we need 20 people to make 2 loaves of sandwiches plus help supplying all the rest of the meal. An anonymous angel is supplying potato salad and chips. If you have never seen the amazing "campus" at ASC, you need to plan to go some first Monday. Transportation is provided.

Eight from the CSI congregation helped serve the November meal and they are very enthusiastic about this ministry. They supplied food and brought eight gallons of milk which is always well received. I am excited about the interac-

tion of the two congregations (FUPC & CSID) and hope to see more ways we can share God's Grace serving others.

There is always a need for coats, gloves, and blankets this time of the year. If you are doing any fall cleaning, this would be a great place to recycle. There are empty receipts in a pocket on the Shelter Board for income tax purposes. Bring any of these donations on the first Monday, place them in the area of the coolers, and we will deliver them when we go.

Your continued devotion to the homeless and their needs is proof of God working through you. God Bless your faithfulness.



Remember our service members!

Kay McLellan & Cleo Sherrard

Remember our service members and their families this season by contributing to the Military Ministry. We need your help with the packaging and shipping on December 7 at 10 a.m. There is a list of

needed items on the table in the main hall. You can also donate money for the postage and gift cards. Help us to remember and honor those who sacrifice so much for our freedoms.

FUPC Family Christmas Party!

Church Life Committee



All are welcome!

On Saturday, December 10, 5 p.m. we will have a Family Christmas Party at FUPC. It will be a pot luck dinner, so bring your favorite pot luck dish to share. Also, bring your favorite holiday dessert and save some for the tasting room! Bring sweets or chocolate concoctions along with a dozen or so copies of the recipe to share. We will have pictures with Santa and sing Christmas Carols. Invite your family, children and/or grandchildren for this joyous occasion.

We are in need of volunteers to help with set-up at 1 p.m. on December 10. Please contact Ann Kirchmeyer if you are able to assist with decorating and set-up for this "All-Church" event.

Grand Recycling Festival @ Faith United

Scarlett Silva

Saturday, January 7, 2012, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring items that you cannot place in the city's recycling bins and are often more difficult to recycle. These items include:

Electronic products, or "e-recycling" (all that run on electricity)

Styrofoam (Place in bags. Clean Styrofoam that has not contained food will be accepted)

Paper for shredding (A truck will shred your paper and you can actually see it shredding through a video screen).

Most e-recycling is free, but there will be fees for items containing cathode ray tubes (\$5 - \$10). Paper will be shredded at \$5 per box, and a \$3 contribution for any amount of Styrofoam you bring to cover the vendor's pick-up fees will be appreciated.

NOTE: If you have items other than those listed above, please contact the church office to make sure they will be accepted. Furniture, hazardous waste, and heavy items will be turned away.



More than recycling at this event!

Rummage Sale: Find treasures at bargain prices.

Give to your community: Nonperishable food items and gently used clothing will be collected for donation to Metrocrest Social Services.

Also, launch of a new discussion course, beginning January 12, 2012

The recycling festival will kick-off the seven-week discussion course: **Healthy Children—Healthy Planet**. The discussions will be based on readings from the Northwest Earth Institute's publication by the same name. Objectives of the course include to understand how the pervasive effects of advertising, media, and our consumer culture can influence a child's view of the world; to discover ways to create meaningful family times and healthful environments for children; and to explore ways to develop a child's connection to nature, and to foster creativity. The course will take place Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., starting January 12 at Faith United. Please look for the sign-up table at the recycling event. Or, you call the church office at (972) 620-2251 to reserve your place in the discussion group.

Schedule: Thursday evenings, starting January 12, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., with optional brown-bag supper at 6:30 pm. The course runs for seven weeks, with a celebration on the 8th week.

Location: Faith United Presbyterian Church, 12717 Marsh Lane, Farmers Branch, TX 75234. Meeting room TBD.

Resource: Session discussions are based on weekly readings from the book *Healthy Children-Healthy Planet*, published by the Northwest Earth Institute (NWEI). The cost of the book is \$21.

Your move: Space is limited. If interested, please register and order your book by December 23. For additional information, please contact Scarlett Silva at scarlettsilva@sbcglobal.net, or Faith United Presbyterian Church, (972) 620-2251.



Special Worship Service—Sunday, 12/18/11

The choir is preparing "Tapestry of Light" for a special worship service on December 18. Plan to attend for a wonderful blend of scripture, worship and music on the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

Words of Faith

Happy Birthday!

December 1

* Steve Laclede

December 3

* Ellen Toliver

December 6

* Robert Lively

* Grant Sedberry

December 8

* Bob Hinkle

December 12

* Clay Danford

* Jerry Dunaway

December 13

* Miranda Rodriguez

* Don Spiegel

* Bennie Tillack

December 16

* Dena Knight

* Gail Dunaway

December 17

* George Nabor

December 20

* Annette Shepard

December 21

* Ray Butler

December 22

* Ruth Yost

December 23

* Eder Teizeira

December 25

* Trish Nabor

December 26

* Bob Howell

* Kelli Bechly

December 28

* Louise McKissick

December 31

* Dottie Cogar



Prayer Concerns



Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me.

Psalm 86:6-7

Prayers for:

- ♥ Charley Furr
- ♥ Eberhard & Kähte Kashuge
- ♥ Pam & John Moynagh
- ♥ Adam Rowden
- ♥ Charles Sooby
- ♥ The congregation of FUPC as they experience the wonder of their first Advent season.

Rehab/At Home:

- ♥ Phil & Marilyn Beaubien
- ♥ Glenn Craig
- ♥ David Daly
- ♥ Betty Donoho
- ♥ Harvey & Marian Garoutte
- ♥ Kathie Heffler
- ♥ Ruth Innes
- ♥ Ken Quevreaux
- ♥ Don Spiegel
- ♥ Mary Steinmetz
- ♥ Hugh McWhorter

Service Personnel:

- ♥ SGT Kevin B. Cuiksa
- ♥ CPT Brian Gaddis
- ♥ LT Ben Garoutte
- ♥ Sr A Jaron Garoutte
- ♥ SPC Chad Manis
- ♥ 1st LT Joshua Montero
- ♥ LT COL Thomas Pentecost
- ♥ SFC Adam Reno
- ♥ Ronnie Rogers
- ♥ USAF 1st LT Andre Silva
- ♥ LCPL James C. Spencer
- ♥ SPC David Wheat
- ♥ Marshall Dobbs
- ♥ David Crossley
- ♥ Robert Hall
- ♥ Andrew Moore

Austin Street Meal—January 2

The January meal day will be Monday, January 2. Due to the holiday season and the church office being closed on January 2, please plan ahead for your food donation. The additional refrigerator for cold food storage is down the hall from the Fellowship Hall kitchen. Thank you for your faithfulness to the homeless.

December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p>Calendar Legend <i>G-21=Community Youth Group</i> <i>GA=Gamblers Anonymous</i> <i>ABA=Anorexic & Bulimics Anonymous</i> <i>OA=Overeaters Anonymous</i> <i>PWCT=Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team</i> <i>CSID=Church of South India Dallas</i></p> </div>				<p>1 5:00 G-21-Sanctuary 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 10:00 Stephen Min.-Lounge 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Rm 4 11:00 CSID-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary 4:30 CSID Children's Christmas Program</p>
<p>4 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Youth class 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd 2:00 FUPC Reception</p>	<p>5 9:00 Ed's Helpers 6:00 Shelter</p>	<p>6 4:00 G-21 music 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 7:00 PWCT</p>	<p>7 10:00 Military Proj. 7:00 FUPC Choir</p>	<p>8 9:30 PW Circle 5:00 G-21-Sanctuary 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm4</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 8:00 FUPC Work Day 10:00 Stephen Min.-Lounge 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary 5:00 FUPC Family Christmas Party</p>
<p>11 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Youth class 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd 12:30 FUPC Session</p>	<p>12 9:00 Ed's Helpers</p>	<p>13 10:30 PW Circle 4:00 G-21 music 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:00 OA-Fellowship Rm</p>	<p>14 7:00 FUPC Choir</p>	<p>15 5:00 G-21-Sanctuary 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:00 PW Circle 7:30 ABA Group-Rm4</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 10:00 Stephen Min.-Lounge 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary 6:00 CSID Carol Worship 7:00 CSID Carol Meal</p>
<p>18 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Youth class 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC "Tapestry of Light" Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd</p>	<p>19 9:00 Ed's Helpers 7:00 Vocal Majority Board Mtg.</p>	<p>20 4:00 G-21 music practice 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:00 OA-Fellowship Rm</p>	<p>21 7:00 FUPC Choir</p>	<p>22 5:00 G-21-Sanctuary 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm4</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary 5:00 Christmas Eve Worship</p>
<p>25 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Youth class 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd 12:00 CSID Christmas Meal</p>	<p>26 9:00 Ed's Helpers Church Office Closed</p>	<p>27 4:00 G-21 music practice 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:00 OA Fellowship Rm</p>	<p>28 7:00 FUPC Choir</p>	<p>29 5:00 G-21-Sanctuary 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA Group-Rm 4</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 11:00 GA-Double Classroom 11:00 OA-Rm 4 11:00 CSID-Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir-Sanctuary 7:00 CSID Worship 8:00 CSID Meal</p>
<p>1 9:00 CSID Worship 9:00 FUPC Prayer Time 9:30 FUPC Youth class 9:30 FUPC Sunday School 11:00 CSID Sunday School 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Good Shepherd</p>	<p>2 9:00 Ed's Helpers 6:00 Shelter Church Office Closed</p>	<p>3 1:00 Starboard Stitchers 4:00 G-21 music practice 7:00 GA-Choir Room 7:00 OA-Fellowship Rm 7:00 PWCT</p>	<p>4 7:00 FUPC Choir</p>	<p>5 5:00 G-21-Sanctuary 6:30 GA-Choir Room 7:30 ABA-Group-Rm 4</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00 FUPC Recycle Event 10:00 Stephen Min. Lounge 11:00 GA Double Classroom 11:00 OA Fellowship Rm 2:30 CSID Choir Sanctuary</p>

Quarterly Work Day

Building & Grounds, David Bell

The next quarterly work day will be Saturday, December 10 from 8:00 a.m. until noon. After a light breakfast we plan to install Christmas decorations among other things.

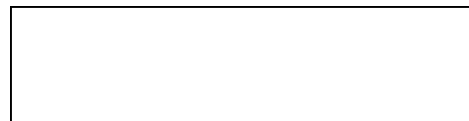


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