



*Give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good;
His steadfast love endures forever.*
Psalm 107:1

October
2018

The News

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The Missional Church and Football

Last month I was invited to attend the Texas vs USC football game in Austin. It had been years since I had been down there for a game. I had to go and I’m so glad I did!

Apart from the game being fantastic, I spent some hours in the backseat with a guy I didn’t know very well. During the drive down and up I-35, we got to know about each other’s families, faith, jobs, education, everything. He was really interested in learning more about the missional church as opposed to the attractional model. As we were pulling into Buc-ee’s, he asked, “Why aren’t more people doing this?”

My answer was, “I think it’s two things. Fear and we make it too complicated.”

When I shared the two questions I use in my daily study for discipleship (What is Jesus saying to me? What am I going to do about it?), he jotted them down and I could see the light switch in his mind.

How are you overcomplicating discipleship? This is one reason I’m thankful our study of *The Story*. Go tell someone to go read the entire Bible and few will take that up. But if we can learn to take small steps, the impossible becomes possible.

Hook ‘em,

Pastor Chris

Trunk or Treat is Coming Up!



Saturday, October 27

4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat is an outreach project to encourage our local community and families to get to know FPCA.

Please join us in providing a safe place for children and families to participate in a special shared activity.

Volunteers from FPCA are needed to:

- Decorate car trunks and pass out treats to children
- Donate candy for trunks and prizes for games
- Assist in monitoring activities and games
- Serve hot dogs and lemonade

Please sign up at church to help or call Sheri Quick at 817-451-8586.

Candy and prizes can be donated outside Kyle's office or near office entrance.

The Blessings of Consistent and Recurring Tithing and Giving

By Jeanne Chin

At FPCA, we are a group of committed Christians who are transforming life by glorifying God, following Jesus, and loving our neighbor! We have been engaged in mission and ministry, sharing the heart of Christ with the heart of the city of Arlington, since 1888. FPCA's impact can be seen in our local community as well as nationally and internationally. The Lord is using us to touch lives for Jesus Christ.

As we are looking forward to the upcoming months, we are thinking about ways to smooth the hills and valleys of our church's monthly cash flow so that our wonderful ministries can continue. One of the ways to do this is through regular, recurring giving of our tithes, gifts, and offerings. Regular giving is a huge help that enables the church to focus on our call to do God's kingdom work, rather than focus on financial needs and fund raising.

God has equipped nearly all of us with gifts of service and financial means, for the purpose of "the common good" and for "building up Christ's Body," the Church (1 Corinthians 12:7, Ephesians 4:12). You may be someone who is gifted in this way. If you would like to partner with FPCA and its ministries in a regular, recurring fashion, you can click on the **Serve & Give** button on our website at www.firstprestexas.org, and we can help you to establish a recurring financial giving pattern.

If you are called to come alongside FPCA and support its ministries financially, please consider automatic recurring giving. This is an easy and faithful way to give to the church that you love. You can set the automatic donations as large or small as you like. You can also cancel, pause, or change your monthly gifts any time. Automatic giving is perfect for people who need to watch their cash flow, but want to support FPCA’s ministries on an ongoing basis. It is also easily changed to reflect God’s blessings in people’s lives.

Automatic giving is easily set up through our website link mentioned above, or through your own bank’s online bill pay. You can also have us set up an EFT (electronic funds transfer) for you. Email Jeanne@firstprestexas.org for more information on any of these options.

Because of your prayers, service, and gifts, our church is able to provide incredible ministries, events, and outreach, and share Christ’s love with a needy world. *“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”* (2 Corinthians 9:8). Thank you for being such a blessing.

Children’s Ministry

Serving Ideas for Preschool and Elementary

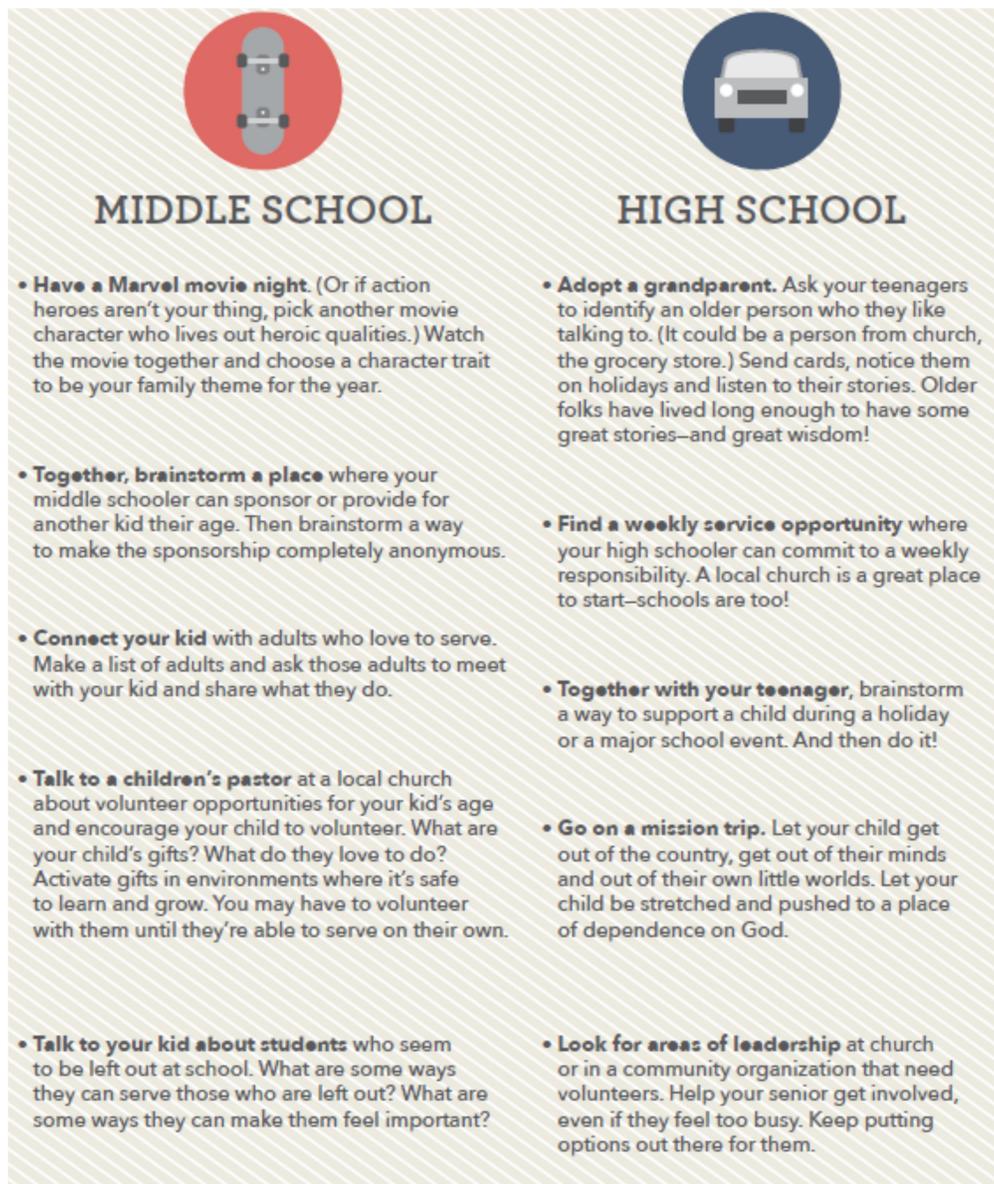
 <p>PRESCHOOL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect loose change at home together and put it in a fun and noisy container. Use it as a musical instrument on the way to church. Ask God to do great things with the money and put it in the offering. Let your child experience the joy of giving every chance you can get. • Take a morning stroll in your neighborhood on Saturday or Sunday. Let your toddler learn to lend a hand by picking up a neighbor’s newspaper and taking it to their front doorstep. • Model the language of kindness and politeness with three simple words: “You Go First.” If there’s a chance to do something first (like walking into the house or getting out of the car) say it! Use this phrase just as often as “please” and “thank you” and you’ll find that it’s contagious. • Draw a picture or make a homemade card for a friend or relative. • Party on a whim! Celebrate someone for no particular reason—bake a cake, create a video, make up a cheer or have a water balloon fight. No rhyme or reason necessary—except that they’re valuable to you and to God! 	 <p>ELEMENTARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get a small kitchen bench for your child and give them a chance to be the chef. Prepare ingredients for an easier meal and let them do most of the work. Then have them plate up their culinary creations and serve the family! • Spend a week listening for sirens—police cars, ambulances, fire trucks. As you hear them together as a family, take time to pray together for people who are going through difficult things. (Dear Jesus, please help the people who need that ambulance. Calm their hearts and heal their bodies.) • When your child notices someone was sick or missing from school or practice, make and deliver a “get well soon” basket full of their favorite fun goodies. • Sign up for a weekend service project or mission experience. Serve at a food kitchen, do volunteer yard work or host a car wash for a cause—get your hands dirty together! It won’t be long before they’ll be doing these things on their own. • Work together to create artwork for grandparents or other adults in your life. Find out their favorite colors and favorite things and base the creations on them. Then, together, be the delivery service. Practice noticing other people—soon your child will do it on their own.
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Children's Ministry Dates to Remember

- October 5 Kids Night Out from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- October 7 Luncheon for families with children in 6th grade and younger
- October 19 Kids Night Out from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- October 27 Trunk or Treat

Youth Ministry

Serving Ideas for Youth



MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have a Marvel movie night. (Or if action heroes aren't your thing, pick another movie character who lives out heroic qualities.) Watch the movie together and choose a character trait to be your family theme for the year.• Together, brainstorm a place where your middle schooler can sponsor or provide for another kid their age. Then brainstorm a way to make the sponsorship completely anonymous.• Connect your kid with adults who love to serve. Make a list of adults and ask those adults to meet with your kid and share what they do.• Talk to a children's pastor at a local church about volunteer opportunities for your kid's age and encourage your child to volunteer. What are your child's gifts? What do they love to do? Activate gifts in environments where it's safe to learn and grow. You may have to volunteer with them until they're able to serve on their own.• Talk to your kid about students who seem to be left out at school. What are some ways they can serve those who are left out? What are some ways they can make them feel important?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopt a grandparent. Ask your teenagers to identify an older person who they like talking to. (It could be a person from church, the grocery store.) Send cards, notice them on holidays and listen to their stories. Older folks have lived long enough to have some great stories—and great wisdom!• Find a weekly service opportunity where your high schooler can commit to a weekly responsibility. A local church is a great place to start—schools are too!• Together with your teenager, brainstorm a way to support a child during a holiday or a major school event. And then do it!• Go on a mission trip. Let your child get out of the country, get out of their minds and out of their own little worlds. Let your child be stretched and pushed to a place of dependence on God.• Look for areas of leadership at church or in a community organization that need volunteers. Help your senior get involved, even if they feel too busy. Keep putting options out there for them.

Walk to End Alzheimer's on October 6

Saturday, October 6

8:00 a.m. Start



Arlington's Walk to End Alzheimer's is right around the corner. FPCA is registered, and Homer Reynolds is the team captain.

- Tarrant County College, SE Campus (2100 Southeast Pkwy, Arlington, TX 76018)
- Check-in at 8:00 a.m.; Ceremony at 9:00 a.m. Walk at 9:30 a.m.

**MISSION
POSSIBLE**

Mission Possible

Saturday, October 13

5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Come enjoy an exciting evening supporting the local missions of FPCA!

A scrumptious spaghetti dinner, entertainment by the Carter Junior High Chorus and other surprises (you never know who might show up!!!) are yours for only \$15 a ticket. Tickets are on sale on at a special table in the hallway.

Here's what the dollars raised will support:

- 20% of the proceeds will go to help the chorus at Carter
- 80% will go to the FPCA Mission and Evangelism Team to help the many local missions and ministries that FPCA supports

News About Michelle Craig



September 10, 2018

Dear First Presbyterian Church of Arlington,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus! I want to give you a brief report on Michelle Craig and her progress toward becoming a missionary pilot.

On July 28th Michelle successfully passed her check-ride with an FAA examiner to earn her Commercial Pilot certificate. This certificate allows her to fly for hire and is required by mission aviation sending organizations.

Upon completion of her Commercial Pilot exam Michelle was ready to join our Alaska team and fly MATA's Cessna 206 up through Canada to western Alaska where there are no roads. This was a two-day trip across an international border to the Yukon-Delta region of western Alaska. They flew through 'The Trench', a 350-mile-long route through a valley that reaches from central British Columbia to the Yukon Territory. Michelle was thankful she had her Instrument Rating and was able to utilize these flight skills several times as they traveled in and out of bad weather.

Michelle has lived with my wife and I during the past year. We have seen her study hard to complete ground training, Bible studies, and mission training through a local church. It was so encouraging to see a joyful Michelle as she put missions into action through not only flying the Native Alaskan ladies in from remote villages to Kako Retreat Center for the Berry-Picking Retreat, but also jumping in and leading a small group. Michelle connected well with the women there and that is not always easy for outsiders to do with the Native Alaskans.

There is a great need for missionary pilots and MATA feels Michelle will be a great candidate to serve on the mission field. She has a little more flight training she'd like to do here before heading back to Texas this fall to enroll in her aircraft mechanic training. As soon as the annual inspection on our Cessna 185 tailwheel-aircraft is finished, Michelle will fly MATA's mountain strip course, learning to land on smaller, narrower airstrips. Training to become a missionary pilot is a very long, rigorous, and expensive process, and many become discouraged during the process. Michelle has done well to keep her sights on her end goal, always seeking the Lord for the next step.

Thanks for standing with Michelle during this season of training. We strongly encourage your continued prayer and financial support for Michelle. I'm certain that you and Michelle will continue to be blessings to each other!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'G' and 'E'.

Gary Elliott
Chief Flight Instructor

P.O. Box 3655 • Arlington, WA 98223 • www.mata-usa.org

Praise and Prayer Update from Brett and Marla Shideler

Pressing on...

We're excited to have learned recently that, because of an unprecedented level of collaboration over the past three years among global Bible translation agencies, we now have the most accurate data concerning remaining Bible translation needs than in any other time in history.

A newly released recalculation in current needs announced the revised estimated number of languages without Scripture is now 2,184. For the first time sign languages are more accurately reflected in the total count of Bible translation needs. A total of 368 sign languages, validated by various partners working with Deaf communities, are part of the overall updated translation needs.

Wycliffe USA and our global Bible translation agency partners continue to press forward toward Vision 2025 — **to see a Bible translation program in progress in every language still needing one by 2025**. God created language, and we are confident in His sovereign plan to bring His Word to every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Thank you for partnering with us in the beautiful task of making God's Word available to ALL people in a language and form they clearly understand!

This month we're praising God for...

- A great time at last month's Global Leadership Summit. One of our key "takeaways" is to bring our entire selves into everything we do; to be our real, authentic self. Why? It doesn't honor God to pretend to be something we're not. Every gift He gives, every experience He allows us, brings growth.
- Continuing progress in our house update. The projects are very nearly finished. We'll be moved in completely by the end of the month! YAY!
- We've found a local church family with whom to worship! Everywhere we've lived, this has been a priority for us. How we praise God for our church families in Loveland, CO, in Yaounde, Cameroon, in Arlington, TX, and now in Everson, WA!

If you'd like to pray for us, here's what's on our hearts this month...

- Brett leaves on Sunday for one week in Quito, Ecuador. He will be attending the Global Member Care Conference from September 10-14. He will be on various planes most of the day on Sunday, 9 Sept and Saturday, 15 Sept. Please pray that Brett will...
 - be an alert learner to "milk" every possible bit of the good information God has for him as he listens with an ear to provide the best member care possible for Wycliffe members serving around the globe.
 - remain healthy and alert.
 - use his gifts well. Brett's gifts include communication, meeting new people, and making a connection with them...AKA "networking". All will be necessary this coming week.

- While Brett's gone, Marla will continue serving Wycliffe members as well as working on several projects on the house. Please pray that...
 - all the technology she needs will work well in Brett's absence.
 - for good communication skills as she meets with members who are back in the US following four years of service overseas and emails with many others who serve around the globe.

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:14 (NIV)

Seen Around the Church



This Month



Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study group meets every Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. in the parlor. Men of all ages meet and enjoy great fellowship and a prayer session. All men are invited to join this study.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Monday Night Bible will meet on Monday, October 15, in the parlor.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Men and women of all ages are invited to meet in the Bride's Room every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m.



Music Ministries

Chancel Choir

This is the primary worship leadership ensemble for the 11:00 service. The choir also sings for special services around Christmas and Holy Week. It is more than just a great choir, it is a caring fellowship. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. *Nursery care is provided during rehearsals.*

Ring of Praise Handbell Ensemble

This intergenerational handbell group rehearses Wednesday evenings from 6:15 until 7:15 p.m. If you are interested in ringing, please contact Russell Farnell (fpcmusic@yahoo.com or 817-274-8286).

Agape (Youth) Choir

During the school year, this group of youth in grades 6 to 12 meets on Sunday, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., in the choir room.

Children's Music Ministries

The children's choirs meet from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. on Sundays during the school year. Children ages 4 (when school starts) through grade 5 participate in activities including music/singing and bells/chimes, instruments, and listening activities. There are two sections, divided by age, and both participate in the 11:00 worship service twice per year, usually in December and April.



Church Leadership

Deacon Meeting

Thursday, October 4, at 6:00 p.m., the Diaconate meets in the parlor to oversee the Congregational Care, Hospitality, and Fellowship ministries.

Team Meeting Night

Thursday, October 11, at 6:45 p.m., all teams meet for worship in the chapel with subsequent gathering into respective teams for ministry planning and coordination.

Session Meeting

Thursday, October 25, at 7:00 p.m., the Session meets in the parlor to oversee the ministry of the church. The work of the Diaconate, church administration, and all Discipleship, Worship, Facility Management, and Mission and Evangelism ministries will be discussed.

Discipleship



Library Team

The library team works the first Wednesday of each month, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Anyone interested is welcome. No particular skill is required, the work is easy, and we always have a good time as we process books to be added to our inventory. If you would like to be involved in library work but cannot come at that evening time, please contact Sandy Thomlinson and special daytime work sessions can be arranged.



Fellowship

Happy Quilters

This group meets Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. to quilt, sew, knit, crochet, embroider, and just enjoy being together. Bring your project and join in!

Saints Alive!

Church seniors will meet for a potluck lunch on Thursday, October 18, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a casserole, salad, or dessert and enjoy a fun and interesting afternoon.

Contact Bev Koch (817-261-3202) for details.



**First Presbyterian Church
1200 S. Collins Street
Arlington, TX 76010**

Deadline for the November issue of The News is October 15!

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns: Esther Albright, Richard Ankele, Elaine Bahn, Jack Bos, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Kevin Chin, Frank Coburn, Edna Collins, Lee Carol Copeland, Tommy and Kathryn Copeland and family, Michael Deardorff, Laura, Moses, and Abe Duffney, Neal Estes, Don Farrell, Tom and Bobbie Fowler, Joe and Lila Glenn, Jack Gray, Andrew Hydock, Tim Karnes, Pat May, Allen Miller, J. Fred Miller, Barbara Mooers, Ruth Moore, Cosme Pacot, J.D. Paulk, Bill and Sue Perry, John Pittman, Nita Price, Jim L. Quick, Marcia Rober, Aileigh Rodriguez, Al Smithson, Kyle Terwilliger, Fred Tucker, Donna Vickers, Karl Winter, and Mary Jane Wright.

Prayers for our family serving in the armed forces: Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, James Dailey, Eric Dill, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, Amie Murtha, Jack Murtha, Stephen O'Neil Sosa, Colin Peden, Jason Polk, Ryan Powell, Ryan Regalado, Christopher Young, and Robbie Wallace.

Pray for our homebound members.

Pray for those who do not know Christ!

Please contact Pastor Rich McDermott at the church office at 817-274-8286. For questions about specific concerns listed above, please contact Juanice Young at juanicey@gmail.com or 817-794-5626.