

**Summer Sermon Series:
Missional Messages from
the Minor Prophets**



July
2017

The News

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Newsletter Team

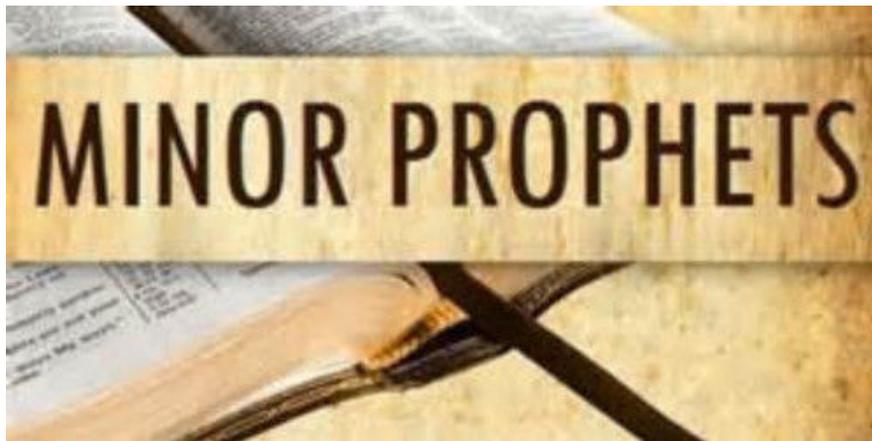
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Missional Messages from the Minor Prophets



“What do you know about the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament?” When asked this question, many people in the church, even long-time Christians, often say, “Very little.” This summer is a chance for you to experience the transforming messages of these little known prophets of the Lord, to whom Jesus referred regularly. Here are a few questions that you may discover answers for if you come:

- Why would God command a prophet to marry a prostitute?
- Who prophesied about God’s Spirit coming on “all flesh” 400 years before it happened on the Day of Pentecost in A.D. 30?
- To whom did God show a plumb line, to show that God’s people were like a wall that is leaning?
- Which prophet got a fishing lesson when he tried to run away from the Lord?
- Who told us that the Lord requires us to do what is just, to show constant love, and to live in humble fellowship with our God?
- Which prophet celebrates the fall of Nineveh, capital of the Assyrian empire?
- Who anticipated a humble king making peace, making a triumphal entry on a donkey?
- Who described the coming of the Lord like a refiner’s fire, and like strong soap?

The sermon series will include:

June 18 Hosea: A Trying Marriage and God's Covenant Loyalty

June 25 Joel: Rend Your Hearts, Not Your Clothes

July 2 Amos: Let Justice Roll Down Like Waters

July 9 Obadiah: Against All the Nations

July 16 Jonah: The Merciful God of all People and all Creation

July 23 Micah: What Does the Lord Require?

July 30 Nahum and Zephaniah: A Chance for Reformation

August 6 Habakkuk: O Lord, How Long?

August 13 Haggai: You Never Have Enough

August 20 Zechariah: God Is With Us

August 27 Malachi: Loving Father or Vending Machine?

God Started with a Family

Hi friends,

Rich and I are excited to offer this opportunity to study Mike and Sally Breen's book *Family on Mission: Integrating Discipleship into the Fabric of our Everyday Lives*. Mike has been a pioneer in missional discipleship, and his wife Sally has been along for the whole ride. They each provide a unique perspective in how they have learned to integrate discipleship into the natural rhythms of their own family.

The book covers God's design for us to be part of a family, how Jesus gathered a family on mission, and how we can imitate him in our homes, neighborhoods, networks, and our church.

To provide flexibility for the summer, Rich and I will lead two different meeting times each week: Sundays from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. We will meet in the parlor and childcare is available with an RSVP. This way, you can plan around various calendar conflicts. We also know that few will be in town every week, so do not let that stop you from signing up. We will communicate weekly to make sure everyone stays with the class.

The book costs \$16 and families are encouraged to share one copy. Teens are definitely invited to participate as well.

Please let us know which session you plan on attending so we make sure we have enough materials on hand. Also, if you would like childcare, please provide the number of children and their ages.

We began on Sunday, June 25, at 1:30 and Wednesday, June 28, at 6:00. We will meet a total of 11 times, and the first meeting was a brief introduction and distribution of books. We're excited for where God is leading us and learning how to be a family on mission.

Blessings,

Pastor Chris Campbell



Didja Know?

When large networks upgrade and need to dispose of the "old stuff," they sell it at auction. Our own Carl Carpenter buys those used PCs and drives - by the pallet full. He then builds "new" systems and loads software.

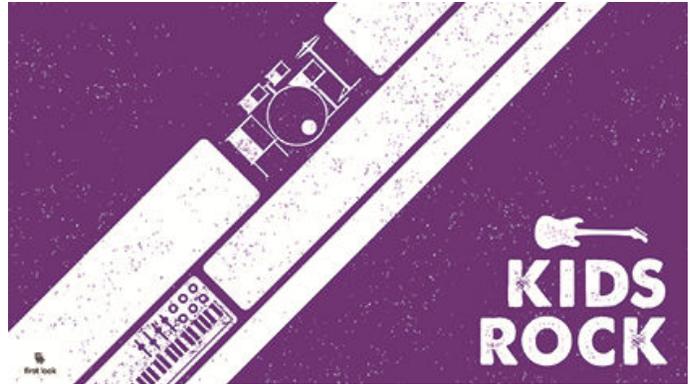
Youth use the computers at the H.O.P.E. Tutoring computer camp, which runs from July 3 to 7 this year. At the end of camp, the graduates will take their computers home.

Children's Ministry

Preschool Sunday School

Kids rock! Throughout the summer, our preschoolers will be introduced to people in the Bible who did amazing things while they were still kids. They rocked because they did what God wanted them to do, and our preschoolers can do that too.

In July, Daniel, Miriam, Josiah, a young boy and his lunch, and Timothy will continue to help our preschoolers learn that they can do what God wants them to do.



Elementary Sunday School

Uniqueness is a reflection of the character of God.

In Deuteronomy 6:4, Moses tells the Israelites, *“Israel, listen to me. The LORD is our God. The LORD is the one and only God.”* (NIRV)

No one is like our God. And God created people in His image. Every single person on earth is unique. We have DNA, personalities, experiences, and relationships that make us different from each other. This makes us uniquely wired and wonderfully made.

Only Jesus could rescue us.



Jesus, as the Son of God, was fully God and fully man. No one else before or since has been able to make that claim. Jesus was uniquely positioned to rescue us from the consequences of our sin. He alone could live the perfect life, die a human death, yet be raised to life again. And because of that, we can now experience a renewed relationship with God and live with Him forever.

Because we are uniquely made in God's image, we think it's important for us to help our kids and families discover more about what that means. This month, we take a closer look at the idea of uniqueness—discovering who God made you to be so you can make a difference.

Our Memory Verse for July comes from Ephesians 2:10: *“We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do.”* (NIRV) God has a plan for each of us. He invites us into the work He's been doing in the world since the beginning of time to bring people to Him. God made us to be part of that!

As we help kids discover more about the way God uniquely created them, we'll look at some people in the Bible and find out how God used their uniqueness to help Him change the world.

Hearts of Faith

Expanding the Arlington Life Shelter

At our June 4 all-church picnic, we learned that the Arlington Life Shelter (ALS) has acquired, through donations, the property next door to the current building. The shelter is now enlisting the 61 faith communities that currently support the shelter to be a part of the capital campaign to build a new ALS building.

The Hearts of Faith Campaign is an opportunity for individuals from the faith community congregations that serve the ALS through food teams and other volunteer services. The overall goal of the campaign is to raise \$500,000 of the total \$4.2M needed. Jim Reeder, the shelter campaign manager, said that overall fundraising for the building is going well. He let us know that it really helps the shelter obtain grants from foundations when those foundations see so many community donations also supporting the campaign.



The new building will have a Hearts of Faith Kitchen, in honor of all the years of meals prepared and served by faith groups, including FPCA. Each faith group participating in the campaign will be listed on the donor wall in the new kitchen.

Those who attended the presentation received a handout with donation information. You may use that form to submit an individual donation to this program; it has a line for you to link your donation back to FPCA. If you missed the presentation and would like to have a handout, please contact Judy Northup at mike_judyn@msn.com to receive one. You can also donate online at:

<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/heartsofffaith?code=Hearts%20of%20Faith>.

This campaign does not take the place of our regular giving at FPCA, which supports the Arlington Life Shelter's ongoing program. You need to make your donations to this campaign directly to the shelter. ALS says: "THANK YOU for your prayerful consideration of making a gift to make a difference."

Youth News: Service to Others

Mark 10:45 NLT – "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."



Mark 10:45 reminds us that Jesus, the Son of Man, was not in the business of having others serve him, but that he would do all the serving. What a message of love and direction for us as Christians. Jesus loved us so much that he would rather give all of himself to us. He even did this as he hung from the cross and when resurrected three days later. His focus and heart are always for all people.

I don't know about you, but this is an encouragement to me and drives me to serve people like Jesus did. I don't always hit the mark, but I know where to look when I need a reminder. This has been my message to our youth this summer. I want them to strive to be more like Jesus each and every day. One way that we

have done this is through our Rent-A-Student program for our church members. Yes, this is a way for our youth to raise funds to pay for camp, but it is more than that to me. I use as a way to teach them about serving others, and serve others they have done. They have done an outstanding job to start the summer and they look forward to doing more the rest of the summer. I am extremely proud of them and how they have shown the love of Christ to our church and community through serving others.

The youth and I thank you for the opportunity to SERVE you!

Blessings in Christ,

Adrian Rodriguez

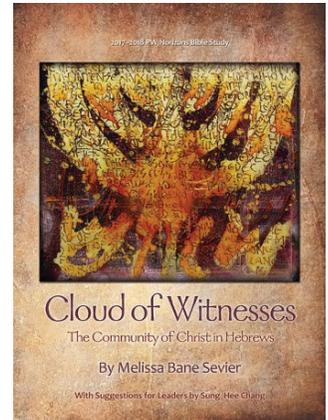
Women's Bible Study

The Women's Monday Night Bible study is on summer hiatus. The next meeting will be on Monday, September 18, in the parlor. But the books for this year's study, *Cloud of Witnesses*, are in!

Hebrews is a significant book of the Bible, and is also significantly different from every other book in the Bible. It consists of thirteen chapters, all of which are packed with theology, metaphor, comparisons, and spirituality. This study explores nine major themes, relates those themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and ties them together with the overarching motif of community. The Rev. Dr. Betsy Pense will guest-teach three of the lessons.

The community for which the letter was written interacts, in a sense, with all the communities of which you are a part, because you bring those groups with you wherever you go - they have helped form you into the person you are.

You can pick up your book in the church copy room. Sign in on the sheet to show that you picked up and note your payment. Books are \$10.



Italian Dinner, Silent Auction, Bake Sale – But Wait, There's More!



M&E (your Mission and Evangelism Team) is having an Eyetalian Dinnah (TexMex pronunciation) on **Saturday, July 29, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.** We are having a 5-star chef cater this meal. Vito, of Vito's restaurant, will be creating a sumptuous repast to overwhelm your gastronomic senses.

We have limited seating; only the first 200 can be seated. Tickets will be on sale through Sunday, July 23, outside the Chapel and in the Narthex.

Tickets will sell for the ridiculously low price of \$10 for adults (or kids eating Italian food) and \$2 for kids. The kids will have the one option of hot dogs, drinks, and a movie elsewhere in the building.

Think of that, a certified baby/youth sitter for \$2. You and your wife can escape the kids for 2-1/2 hours for less than \$1 per hour per kid. Your M&E team is great, ain't it?

If you want to escape your significant other for 2 hours, your spouse could attend the movie.

Of course, if you leave your spouse to watch the movie, it might cost you a bundle, since there will be a silent auction with items to rival the Neiman-Marcus Christmas book.

For dessert, we will have a bake sale with lots of scrumptious items prepared by members of the congregation. Finally, we will have entertainment in the Fellowship Hall while you enjoy your dinner and bake sale items.

All the money raised through this event will be used to support mission and evangelism activities such as helping to prepare backpacks of school supplies for Carter students, other Carter needs, supporting fix-it projects for people needing assistance, local mission activities, supporting missionaries abroad, and other requests for support that arise during the year.

More news to follow in upcoming weeks about this extravaganza!

Take Yourself Out to the Ball Game

Save the date! Sunday, August 13, marks the 32nd annual Texas Rangers game outing for FPCA and children from Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. The cost is \$25 per person, which includes lunch at FPCA at 12:00 noon.

The Rangers will play the Houston Astros. Our seats are in Section 335, rows 9 to 17. The ball game is at 2:00 p.m. If you are interested, you can contact Bob Dawson at 214-415-5396 or Lew Johnson at 817-860-6327.



This Month



Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study group meets every Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m. in the parlor. Men of all ages meet to study and enjoy great fellowship and a prayer session. All men are invited to join this study.

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 (fpcamusic@yahoo.com or 817-274-8286).



Church Leadership

Deacon Meeting

The Diaconate will not meet in July.

Team Meeting Night

Teams will not meet in July. Team leaders will notify members if any individual teams plan to meet.

Session Meeting

The Session will not meet in July.

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!

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

Deadline for the August issue of The News is July 15!

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns: Esther Albright, Chona Pacot Anwar, Yvonne Babb, Polly Baugh, Parker Bjornson, David Boice, Shirley Bragg, James (Andrew) Bridges, Crystal Castaneda, Kevin Chin, Jerry Colleps, Lee Carol Copeland, Tom and Bobbie Fowler, Lila Glenn, David Goff, A. Jack Gray, Dick Haney, Margery Harrand, Ken and Edna Harris, Bill Hayden, Andrew Hydock, Tim Karnes, Doyle Malone, Pat May, Jim McCoy, Allen Miller, J. Fred and Mary Ellen Miller, Kelly Miller, Pat Mingle, Barbara Mooers, Ruth Moore, Bill Olsen, Cosme Pacot, Dr. Darwin Peek, Jim L. Quick, Albert Ross, Eulabel Sheldon, Linda Smith, Al Smithson, Bob Spriggs, Brooks and Connie Taylor, Kyle Terwilliger, B. J. Thomas, Jerry Thomas, Allen Underwood, Donna Vickers, Jessica Villarreal, Karl Winter, Sherry Wolfe, Bernice Woods, and Mary Jane Wright.

Prayers for our family serving in the armed forces: Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Austin Curran, Eric Dill, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Mike Mancini, 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 or his cell phone: 970-218-3689. For questions about specific concerns listed above, please contact Juanice Young at juanicey@gmail.com or 817-794-5626.