

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for autumn and spring rains.

You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

James 5:7-8



October
2022

The News

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Newsletter Team

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The News is a publication of
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Happy Fall Y'all

Fall is my favorite season of the year. Football is back, obviously. The week of TX/ou often gives us that first great preview of fantastic weather. Formula 1 comes to Texas! State Fair food. And while the heat hasn't stopped some of us from grilling and smoking meat, it sure is nicer standing by a firebox when it isn't 108 outside.

We have some great things happening at FPCA this month to coincide with all this greatness. Adrian Rodriguez, our seminary apprentice, will get a chance to fill the pulpit. We will participate in the Faith and Blue weekend with guests from the Arlington Police Department in worship with us. We are offering police ride-alongs for current officers as a pilot program and hopefully expanding that to the congregation at large. Session and deacon teams will dream and submit their budget requests for 2023. Ok, maybe that doesn't sound exciting, but I'm looking forward to seeing what our teams want to do next year! October also means Trunk or Treat at FPCA. What will Chelsea and I dress up as this year?... We will conclude the month by launching our fall generosity campaign called Beyond. I don't want to give away any spoilers but there will be some great opportunities for prayer and spiritual growth. Stay tuned!

Blessings,

Pastor Chris

chris@firstprestexas.org

Finance Update

For the month of August 2022:

Budget (Operating and Funds Released)

Income: \$76,314
Expense: (\$82,160)

Income - Expense for month: **(\$ 5,846)**

Income - Expense for 2022 Year to Date: **\$21,911**



Comments:

We are always so grateful for your generous donations. Because of your support we were able to:

- have an awesome Family Camp focusing on Godliness - Living Out the Truth, at Riverbend, hosted by our Youth and Children Ministry Teams.
- launch a 3-week New Members class, Fixin' to Join – An Adventure in Christian Community.
- enjoy HOPE Tutoring's annual NIGHT OF HOPE fundraiser at Trinity United Methodist Church.
- have Children's Ministry luncheons for children's ministry volunteers, children and their families.
- provide opportunities to serve our community, as we collect supplies for teachers at Carter Jr. High to help stock their classrooms, help stock supplies for the Arlington Life Shelter, and distribute food, or bring your neighbors to receive food, at the Arlington Charities mobile food bank.
- As of August, our Capital Campaign fund balance is \$1,282,667.

We are doing well, and, because of you, we are able to carry out the ministries that are calling to our FPCA family. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns, at jeanne@firstprestexas.org.

Children`s Ministry

Preschool



MONTHLY OVERVIEW

This month, we are talking about God's plans for us. The prophet Jeremiah shares the wonderful truth that God knows the plans He has for us. Even when we don't understand the plans and even when they are hard, we can still trust God because of Who God is, and God's plans are always a hole-in-one!

God loves us, and God keeps His promises. We can fully trust God's plans because God's plans are always best!

WEEK ONE	BIBLE STORY Noah's Ark Genesis 6-7	STORY FOCUS I can always trust God's plans.
WEEK TWO	BIBLE STORY God's Promise Genesis 8-9:17	STORY FOCUS God keeps His promises.
WEEK THREE	BIBLE STORY Joseph's Journey Genesis 37; Genesis 39-40	STORY FOCUS I can trust God's plans even when they're hard.
WEEK FOUR	BIBLE STORY Joseph and the Grain Genesis 41-45	STORY FOCUS God's plans are always best.
WEEK FIVE	BIBLE STORY God's Plan For Me Jeremiah 29:11	STORY FOCUS God has plans for me.

MEMORY VERSE	KEY QUESTION	BOTTOM LINE
"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," SAYS THE LORD." JEREMIAH 29:11, NLT	WHO HAS PLANS FOR YOU?	GOD HAS PLANS FOR ME.
GOD LOVES ME.		

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Elementary and KFC



ELEMENTARY

OCTOBER 2022

MONTHLY OVERVIEW

GOD VIEW:

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN GRIT AND GOD'S CHARACTER, AS SHOWN THROUGH GOD'S BIG STORY

As we continue our journey through God's Big Story, we take a closer look at the lives of Joseph and Moses. Both of these men trusted God through hard circumstances and would not give up. These are two heroes of the faith, and we hope to help kids see how their stories connect between Genesis and Exodus.

God has been faithful throughout history and has helped people get through and overcome incredible difficulties. God's Son, Jesus, endured the pain of the cross and death itself so that we could have a forever relationship with God. God gives us the Holy Spirit to empower us to keep going, even when life gets difficult.

WEEK ONE	BIBLE STORY Joseph Sold By Brothers and Joseph in Jail Genesis 37, 39-40	BOTTOM LINE Hold on because God is with you.
WEEK TWO	BIBLE STORY Joseph Forgives His Brothers Genesis 41-45	BOTTOM LINE Hold on because there's a bigger story.
WEEK THREE	BIBLE STORY Moses Is Born Exodus 2:1-10 (Supporting: Exodus 1)	BOTTOM LINE Hold on even when you don't know what to do.
WEEK FOUR	BIBLE STORY Burning Bush and the 10 Plagues Exodus 3-6:12, 7-12:42	BOTTOM LINE Hold on because God knows what you're going through.
WEEK FIVE	BIBLE STORY Israel Goes Through the Red Sea Exodus 13:17-14:31	BOTTOM LINE Hold on because God is still in control.

MEMORY VERSE	"LET US NOT BECOME TIRED OF DOING GOOD. AT THE RIGHT TIME WE WILL GATHER A CROP IF WE DON'T GIVE UP." GALATIANS 6:9, NIRV
GRIT	REFUSING TO GIVE UP WHEN LIFE GETS HARD

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Save the date:

October 7-Kids Night Out from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

October 21-Kids Night Out from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

October 30-Children's Ministry Luncheon for children and their families along with youth in the FPCA Youth Music Ministry

Youth Ministry

How to Read a Kid's Mind at Any Phase

by Parent Cue

“Read their mind” is just our way of saying, a parent should seek to understand what’s changing mentally and physically about their kids. Kids and teenagers don’t think like adults. So it’s the role of a parent is to translate what you want in a way they can understand. When you know how they think—they will hear what you say and know what to do.

Preschoolers think like an artist.

Artists experience the world through activities that stimulate the five senses. Preschoolers blend reality with imagination and learn through participation. A baby’s brain has more neurons than at any other time in life, and those neurons are forming two million synapses every second. In this phase, they are mildly aware of everything in their environment, and they take it all in at an unfathomable pace. Preschoolers learn experientially, through their senses, from someone who responds to them. In their world, there is no real distinction between what is real and what is imaginary. **Like artists, they learn best when they can make it with their hands.** This is why movement, music, and art are critical for learning in this phase.

Elementary-age kids think like a scientist.

Scientists understand the world through concrete evidence they can test repeatedly. Elementary-age kids discover how things work through repetition and clear application. Brain research suggests that during the elementary years (ages 4-10 or 11), kids learn information quickly and easily. But just because kids in this phase are eager to learn, it doesn’t mean they learn like adults. They’re still mostly concrete thinkers. They need repetition and clear application. **Like a scientist, they learn best when they can observe something in their present environment.** The more frequently a new concept can be connected to everyday experience, the better.

Middle schoolers think like an engineer.

Engineers solve problems by connecting concepts so they work together. Middle schoolers personalize abstract concepts by connecting ideas. Like their physical bodies, there is a “growth spurt” in the brain of a middle schooler. The brain overproduces neurons and synapses similar to the growing brain of a toddler. This period of rapid growth accounts for a middle schooler’s ability to think more abstractly, to understand multiple perspectives, and to think critically about themselves and others. It also means that instructions need to be simple and clear if you hope to be heard. **Like an engineer, they learn best when they personalize an idea by connecting pieces of information.** That’s why puzzles, patterns, and codes can be helpful for learning in this phase.

High schoolers think like a philosopher.

Philosophers seek to understand what is unseen and what cannot be measured. High schoolers want to discover meaning and learn best by processing out loud. A high schooler loses approximately one percent of the gray matter of their brain every year through a process called “pruning.” Pruning allows the brain to prioritize information to become flexible and efficient. With this new efficiency comes an increase in analytical thinking. But, the limbic system (risk-taking) is developing at a faster rate than the prefrontal cortex (regulating behavior). So risk and personal experience still govern

behavior. **Like a philosopher, they learn best through open debate, multiple perspectives, and applied reasoning.** That's why self-expression and community are essential for learning in this phase.

Just remember, when you understand the way a kid's mind is changing, you stand a far better chance of identifying clues that help you know what they are thinking, conveying a message they can understand and laying a foundation for learning in the future.

Monthly Food Bank

Join us Saturday, October 8, starting at 8:30 a.m. to distribute food, or bring your neighbors to receive food, at the Arlington Charities mobile food bank.

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church

2045 SE Green Oaks Blvd

Arlington, TX 76018

It's just east of New York Ave, so if you're coming from the west, make a U-turn at Sherry St. Volunteer parking is just south of the church and food is distributed on the west side of the church.



Seen around the Church





This Month

Some activities are postponed until further notice. Activities marked with * are happening.



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 Monday Night Women's Bible Study will resume Monday, September 19. The 2022-2023 study is *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*. Questions? Contact Debbie Richardson at 817.675.2867 or Sheri Quick at sheriq@aol.com.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study *

Men and women of all ages are invited to meet in the Brides Room every Tuesday morning at 10:30a.m.

CWF Women's Bible Study

Meet virtually every Wednesday at 7 p.m. EXCEPT the last Wednesday of the month they meet at FPCA in the Parlor.



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 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. *Nursery care is provided if requested.*

Ring of Praise Handbell Ensemble

This handbell ensemble every on Wednesday, at 6 p.m.

Youth Choir

The youth choir every Sunday, from 12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Children's Music Ministries

The children's choirs every Sunday, from 12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.



Church Leadership

Deacon Meeting *

Thursday, October 20, at 7:00 p.m., the Diaconate meets in the parlor to oversee the Congregational Care, Hospitality, and Fellowship ministries.

Team Meeting Night *

Thursday, October 13, at 7:00 p.m., all teams meet for ministry planning and coordination.

Session Meeting *

Thursday, October 27, at 7:00 p.m., the Session meets in person in the Parlor to oversee the ministry of the church, indoor worship, budget, Generis, and other matters. 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 (at 817-522-2080) 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!

Senior Flexibility Class *

Come get fit with us! The Senior Flexibility Class will meet each week on Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

If interested, contact Mary Spencer at 817-689-0526 for more 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: Apana Agha, Jack Bos, James (Andrew) Bridges, Carol Browning, Tony Burdett, Vannah Caylor, Billie Jo Campbell, the Cravens Family, Frank Coburn, Edna Collins, Lloyd Counts, Cyprian Engwenyi, the Farnell Family, Don and Betty Farrell, Bunny Floyd, Joe and Lila Glenn, the Gottmann Family, Grady Herzog, the Hydock Family, Tim Karnes (Pat May's son), Gary Lindley, Pat May, Christopher and Victorine Ngochi, Jim L. Quick, Jillian Reynolds, Beth Rotert, Kathy Rotert, Tonya Scrabeck, John and Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, and Danny Womble.

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

Prayers for our homebound members: Esther Albright, Tom and Bobbie Fowler, Barbara Hughes, Jeanne Malone, Charlene Miller, Betty Snowden, Connie Taylor, Dee Uhri, Richard Whitenight, and Mary Jane Wright

Pray for those who do not know Christ!

If you have any congregational care needs, please contact either Pastor Chris Campbell or Parish Pastor Jim Shroyer at 817-274-8286.

