

*The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.*

**Daniel 6:23**



June  
2024

# The News

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## Newsletter Team

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The News is a publication of  
First Presbyterian Church of Arlington  
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# MO Ranch Men's Conference

It was with great excitement I got to attend the Men's Conference again this year with an outstanding group of guys from FPCA. As I shared in worship, 8 guys went last year, 9 guys went this year, so



clearly, we need to hit double digits next year!

We had an outstanding BBQ detour on the way down. We ate at Interstellar BBQ in north Austin – most recently ranked the #2 bbq joint in all of Texas by Texas Monthly. On my tray you will see



some sliced lean brisket, peach tea glazed pork belly, a lamb jam taco, and a sorghum glazed barbecue duck leg! Where else do you ever see duck at a BBQ restaurant? And some cream corn and banana pudding topped it all off. It was well worth not taking the most direct route to MO.

Even though the rain put a bit of a damper on some of the conference (for example, Dave Humphry's pickleball workshop was moved inside and there was no worship at the Chapel on the

Hill), we made the best of it. It's rare that on any given Sunday, this group of 9 guys would ever be sitting around a table, or that a group of us would be hanging out and talking until 1am or so. That's what makes conferences like this so special. And it's why we want all the men in our church to have this kind of experience next year, May 2-4. If you are interested in securing a spot, or would just like to ask questions, please reach out to me or any of the great guys in this picture.

Pastor Chris

## Finance Update

### For the month of April 2024:

Budget (Operating and Funds Released)

|          |            |
|----------|------------|
| Income:  | \$63,010   |
| Expense: | (\$80,477) |



Income - Expense for month: **(\$17,467)**

Income - Expense for 2024 Year to Date: **\$6,558**

### Comments:

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

- begin a new series on the first words of Jesus looking at some important moments early in his life and ministry, showing how and why Jesus is the ultimate authority, someone whose words should be listened to.
- kick off a Bible Study hosted by the Women's Ministry Team highlighting the spiritual discipline of rest, tracing the theme of rest from Genesis to Revelation, and showing all how to find rest in Jesus Christ.
- enjoy a luncheon for families with children and youth.
- provide the opportunity to serve our community by helping to distribute food, at the Arlington Charities mobile food bank.
- have fun at HOPE Tutoring's annual NIGHT OF HOPE fundraiser at Troy's in Texas Live!
- As of April, our Capital Campaign fund balance is \$1,007,406.

We are doing well, and, because of you, we can 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](mailto:jeanne@firstprestexas.org).

# Children`s Ministry

## Preschool



### MONTHLY OVERVIEW

Everyone loves a party because parties mean we have something to celebrate. Birthdays, Christmas, a winning season—each party brings so much joy!

This month, we are going to start a party that celebrates the Good News about God! And when God is at the center of our celebration, I can have joy all the time! It doesn't sound possible, at first, but then when we think about God . . . who God is . . . what God has done . . . how much God loves us . . . well, that is worth celebrating! God is worth celebrating! All day, every day! So let's Start The Party! It's time to celebrate the Good News about God.

| WEEK ONE   | BIBLE STORY  | STORY FOCUS   |
|------------|--|---|
| WEEK ONE   | Story of the Lost Sheep<br>Luke 15:1-7                               | I can have joy because God loves me.                        |
| WEEK TWO   | BIBLE STORY<br>Feast of Booths<br>Deuteronomy 16:13-17               | STORY FOCUS<br>I can have joy because God helps me.         |
| WEEK THREE | BIBLE STORY<br>Ezra and the Rebuilding of the Temple<br>Ezra 3:10-13 | STORY FOCUS<br>I can have joy when I do hard things.        |
| WEEK FOUR  | BIBLE STORY<br>Joy in the Psalms *<br>Psalms 8 and 19                | STORY FOCUS<br>I can have joy when I see what God has made. |
| WEEK FIVE  | BIBLE STORY<br>God Will Give Us Joy<br>Habakkuk 3:17-18              | STORY FOCUS<br>I can have joy no matter what.               |

*\*Monthly Story for Toddler Curriculum*

| MEMORY VERSE  | KEY QUESTION                   | BOTTOM LINE                  |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| "A JOYFUL HEART IS GOOD MEDICINE."<br>PROVERBS 17:22, ESV | WHO CAN HAVE JOY ALL THE TIME? | I CAN HAVE JOY ALL THE TIME. |
| GOD LOVES ME.   |                                |                              |

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## Elementary and KFC



### MONTHLY OVERVIEW

#### GOD VIEW :

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

Choose joy! This may be a commonly used phrase you've heard, but what does it *actually* mean? Joy is more than being excited about the good things that happen to us. Joy is an attitude—a decision to trust God no matter what is going on in our lives. From the very beginning, God had a plan for the world. As we dive into the Bible, we'll discover God's plan for us and how God has been at work through it all. When we see and celebrate what God is doing, we can find true joy!

|                   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| <b>WEEK ONE</b>   | <b>BIBLE STORY</b><br>The Story of the Lost Sheep<br>Luke 15:1-7            | <b>BOTTOM LINE</b><br>We can have joy because of Jesus.     |
| <b>WEEK TWO</b>   | <b>BIBLE STORY</b><br>Feast of Booths<br>Deuteronomy 16:13-17               | <b>BOTTOM LINE</b><br>Make a habit of choosing joy.         |
| <b>WEEK THREE</b> | <b>BIBLE STORY</b><br>Ezra and the Rebuilding of the Temple<br>Ezra 3:10-13 | <b>BOTTOM LINE</b><br>Celebrate each step of the way.       |
| <b>WEEK FOUR</b>  | <b>BIBLE STORY</b><br>Joy in the Psalms<br>Psalms 8, 16, and 19             | <b>BOTTOM LINE</b><br>Find joy in what you see around you.  |
| <b>WEEK FIVE</b>  | <b>BIBLE STORY</b><br>God Will Give Us Joy<br>Habakkuk 3:17-18              | <b>BOTTOM LINE</b><br>There's always a reason to celebrate. |

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>MEMORY VERSE</b> | <b>"A CHEERFUL HEART MAKES YOU HEALTHY. BUT A BROKEN SPIRIT DRIES YOU UP." PROVERBS 17:22, NIRV</b> |
| <b>JOY</b>          | <b>CHOOSING TO CELEBRATE WHAT GOD IS DOING.</b>   |

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### Save the date:

June 3-7: Vacation Bible School from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

# Youth Ministry

## *5 Ways to Connect With Other Parents This Summer*

by Holly Crawshaw

Have you ever been sitting in a room, staring at a television, following along with its plot with more than a little interest, only to realize you're watching a Bubble Guppies episode that you've seen fifty-seven times?

It happens.

Sometimes, we can get so lost in the phase our kids are in that we forget what phase we're in. Yes, we are parents. But we're also adults who are wired to connect relationally with other adults. It's not just a want. It's a physiological need.

With Covid restrictions lessening, how about we all agree to “grow up” a little this summer? (Or at least agree to hang out with people our own age from time to time?)

Here are five ways to connect with other parents this summer:

- **Take a class.** Wanna brush up on those salsa dancing skills? Learn to cook Italian food? Take a primitive survival course? There's no time like the present. Learning new skills or improving old ones is a great way to meet other people in your area. Plus, lots of communities offer summer courses through their parks and recreation programs at discounted rates.
- **Take a health and wellness challenge.** Before you skip to the next suggestion, hear me out. You don't necessarily have to go to a gym or bench press your own body weight to focus on your health and wellness. Maybe it's a Facebook group you join on nutrition. Maybe it is a summer-long contest at your fitness center. All you need to know is that you won't be the only parent in the group feeling nervous or insecure.
- **Hit up the same place at the same time each week.** Even in the summertime, a lot of parents have certain routines. By going to the same place at the same time every week, you're likely to find another family on your schedule. A neighborhood pool, a park, an indoor playground. Yes, you may actually have to take the first step in introducing yourself. (Which somehow feels way harder as an adult than it did in first grade.) But the reward could be the grown-up connection you need in your life!
- **Teach something.** What are you good at? Come on. There's something you know how to do that other people don't. Whether it is how to budget down to the last cent in Excel or how to in-line roller skate—there's a skill you have that other adults want! Plan a day and invite some folks to come learn from you. Better yet, ask those adults to schedule other days to teach you and the others what they know.
- **Try an app.** There's an app for everything these days. Even apps for meeting other parents. Apps like Meetup, Moms MeetUp, Mom Life, Peanut, and Hello Mamas are just a few. You can also try out parent groups found on Facebook. But . . . just like you'd tell your kids . . . be safe.

You may not have a ton of “alone” time on your hands. You might not even have any. But now, more than ever, there are digital avenues you can take to connect with people your own age.

Don't get lost in the "parenting phase" forever. You're still you—an individual, separate from your kids or partner. And I could list a thousand ways for you to connect with other adults. But none of it matters if you don't make a move.

Trust me—other parents are feeling the same concerns and anxieties you are.

Do something different. It's worth it. You're worth it!

Blessings,

Adrian

## Monthly Food Bank

Join us Saturday, June 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.



## Youth & Children's Musical "Rescue in the Night"

You're invited to attend FPCA's youth and children's musical, "Rescue in the Night" depicting the story of Daniel and the lion's den. The free performance is Saturday, June 8th at 2:30 in the FPCA sanctuary and should end by 3:15. This year's musical features performers entering 1st through 10th grades, including several church members as well as some youth and children from the community. Please make plans to attend to support these fantastic young performers in their show and in their faith journey!

Contact Laura Farnell at [Laura.Farnell@gmail.com](mailto:Laura.Farnell@gmail.com), Sonia Ellis at [SoniaJustl@gmail.com](mailto:SoniaJustl@gmail.com), or call the church office for more information.

# Prayer

I love to tell the story/Of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and his glory/Of Jesus and his love.

Whenever we do tell or hear the story of unseen things above, it will always be the story of Jesus and his love.

Our church has set aside each third Sunday morning of the month to give a little time to the prayer ministry team to tell a "prayer witness"--or witness to prayer or simply a part of the story of God with us--when God has met the rubber on the road of our lives.

I love to tell the story/It did so much for me;  
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.

Our purpose? To expand the sight of all of us to what God has done in one life. And to expand the sight of us all to what God has done and is doing in our own lives.

I love to tell the story/For some have never heard  
The message of salvation/From God's own holy Word.

Maybe we discern God in our own lives through God's presence with us in trouble. Or by God's rescuing us out of trouble. Or by God's empowering us to persevere or grow stronger through our troubles. However we discern God in our own lives draws us closer to God and to "the message of salvation from God's own holy Word."

We hope you look forward to each "prayer witness." If you'd like to give your own witness, please contact Ron Macleod or Jim Shroyer.

I love to tell the story/It will be my theme in glory  
To tell the old, old story/of Jesus and his love.

Respectfully yours,  
The Prayer Team

# Looking for Volunteers

If you are interested in an area of service at the church and could be present one hour a week or twice a month please contact Bob Watkins by text (817-360-2841) or email (businesswatkins@aol.com) to learn more or leave your number at the church office. The volunteerism has to do with restoring order to the pew racks between services. This could also be a great opportunity for our youth during summer break.

# Seen around the Church

Senior Sunday Celebration.



# Daniel and the Lion's Den word search



- |                      |                |                     |                     |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ordinance            | signet         | petition to any god | God of Daniel       |
| cast into lion's den | high officials | enduring forever    | Daniel              |
| document             | rescues        | Darius              | sleep fled from him |
| trusted his God      | palace         | decree              | angel               |
| kingdom              | not harmed     | injunction          | deliverance         |

# 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 Wednesday Women's Bible Study will resume on September meeting on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the parlor. 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 parlor every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.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 \***

Will Resume on Wednesdays September 4<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Ring of Praise Handbell Ensemble**

Will resume on Wednesdays September 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6 p.m. in room 106.

### **Youth Choir**

Will resume on September 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday, from 12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. (lunch for participants 12:15 p.m.).

### **Children's Music Ministries**

Will resume on September 7<sup>th</sup> on Sunday, from 12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. (lunch for participants 12:15 p.m.).



## *Church Leadership*

### **Deacon Meeting**

Thursday, August 15, the Diaconate meets.

### **Team Meeting Night**

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

### **Session Meeting**

Monday, June 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.



## *Fellowship*

### **Happy Quilters**

This group meets on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. to quilt, sew, knit, crochet, embroider, and just enjoy being together. Bring your project and join in! Bring a sack lunch and join the ladies for lunch at noon.

### **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 July issue of The News is June 15!**

## Prayer Ministry

**Prayers for those with health and other concerns:** The family of Linda Sheldon, Betty Burdette, Eleanor Schernbeck, Ken Floyd, Jerry Tees, Harold Thomlinson, Sherry Wolfe, Sheri Quick, Charlie Nieman, Jack Bos, Carol Browning, Bettye Burdett, Cyprian Engwenyi, Betty Farrell, Ivone Franzolin, Mary Lou Garrison, Joe and Lila Glenn, Pat May and her son Tim Karnes, Graciela Lopez Montero, Mathias Mbeng Ndip, Tina Paulk, Aileigh Rodriguez, Tonya Scrabeck, David Spencer, Susie Thurston, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welborne, Danny Womble, Carlos and Jennyfer Zamora.

**Prayers for our family serving in the armed forces:** Colin A. Peden, Christopher Young.

If you are a member with a family member who is on active duty in the armed services, please contact the church office at [info@firstprestexas.org](mailto:info@firstprestexas.org) with the name and their relationship to you.

**Prayers for our homebound members:** Madge Casselman, Lucy Cleaver, Barbara Hughes, Betty Snowden, Dee Uhri, Richard Whitenight.

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.

