



"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud."

1 Corinthians 13:4

February
2025

The News

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Newsletter Team

Talita Gottmann, Editor

The News is a publication of
First Presbyterian Church of Arlington
1200 South Collins
Arlington, TX 76010

Contact us at
thenews@firstprestexas.org

“2025 MO Ranch Men’s Conference”

Attention men of the church!

The 2025 Men’s Conference at MO Ranch will be here soon and we have reserved 10 spots for FPCA. The dates are May 2-4 and the conference cost



(including housing and meals during the conference) is \$425. Last year, our group rented a van and members helped offset that cost. That is by far the easiest way to carpool down there and back. You can reserve your spot by giving a deposit of \$50 or \$100 to the church. Just be sure to indicate on your check (or online donation) that it is for the Men’s Conference.



One of the many great portions of this conference is the variety of workshops offered. I have really enjoyed those I have attended. But let’s just say I saw a market opportunity – an area that was not being adequately covered. And I thought I can do something about that. This year, MO has approved my workshop on what I know about cooking brisket. (I’m still workshoping the name for my workshop!) I do see it as a two-part workshop and all I know is that it’s going to be delicious! In addition, after his workshop was rained out last year, church member Dave Humphry is scheduled to lead his pickleball workshop!

This conference has been a great way for men of our church to grow deeper in relationships and also connect some guys with one another for the first time. If you have any questions, please reach out to me. Otherwise, help spread the word and reserve your spot today!

Pastor Chris

chris@firstprestexas.org

Finance Update

General Fund for December 2024:

	Monthly	YTD
Income & Funds Released:	146,102	1,036,184
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>(114,471)</u>	<u>(1,095,710)</u>
Variance	31,631	(59,526)
Donors Income:	102,138	877,652
<u>Budget:</u>	<u>79,983</u>	<u>959,800</u>
Variance	22,155	(82,148)

Comments:

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

- celebrate the coming of the Savior with a beautiful Advent Festival featuring our choirs of children, youth, adults, and handbells, along with readings and congregational carols.
- have a beautiful and meaningful Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
- share ways to serve and help families, along with our homebound members through our Mitten Tree and Dove Tree ministries.
- provide several ways to give through Gifts of Hope, Christmas Joy Offering, and the Christmas Eve Offering for Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services.
- host a great time at our Christmas Party for our children and youth, celebrating all that God has done for our children and youth, throughout the year.
- enjoy fellowship with our sisters in Christ, at the Women's Advent Party hosted by the Women's Ministry Team, celebrating the start of Advent – a time of anticipating the coming of our Savior.

As of December, our Capital Campaign fund balance is \$24,994.

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.

Children`s Ministry

Preschool



MONTHLY OVERVIEW

Have you ever been on a bus filled with people? There are grandparents, kids, teenagers, people going to the store, people going to work, people going to school. They may not know each other, but do you know what they all have in common? Jesus loves every one of them. Every. Single. One! Think about it this way: if Jesus was driving a bus, everyone would be invited to get on. EVERYONE!

This month, you get to tell preschoolers that Jesus loves them. Jesus loves their family. Jesus loves their friends. Jesus loves everyone! And Jesus wants everyone to follow Him! So, crank up that bus! Get those wheels turning! There is a great big world that needs to hear that Jesus loves everyone!

WEEK ONE	BIBLE STORY Peter, Andrew, James, and John Matthew 4:18-22	STORY FOCUS Jesus says, "Follow Me."
WEEK TWO	BIBLE STORY Matthew Matthew 9:9-10	STORY FOCUS Jesus loves everyone.
WEEK THREE	BIBLE STORY Philip and Nathanael John 1:43-49	STORY FOCUS I can tell my friends about Jesus.
WEEK FOUR	BIBLE STORY The Twelve Disciples* Matthew 4:18-22, 9:9-10, 10:2-4; John 1:43-49	STORY FOCUS Jesus wants everyone to follow Him.

*Monthly Story for Toddler Curriculum

MEMORY VERSE	KEY QUESTION	BOTTOM LINE
"LOVE EACH OTHER IN THE SAME WAY I HAVE LOVED YOU." JOHN 15:12, NLT	WHO DOES JESUS LOVE?	JESUS LOVES EVERYONE.
JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.		

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The Spring

Children's ministry is starting something new on January 12-The Spring. We will have The Spring on Sunday afternoons from 4:30 to 6:00 for children 4 years old to 6th grade. We will still have Sunday School and KFC on Sunday mornings. The Spring will be a time of games/activities and a Bible lesson that is different from Sunday School and KFC. The Spring will be a great time to invite your friends and kids in the community. It will be a time to have fellowship, build community, and share the love of Jesus.

Elementary and KFC



ELEMENTARY
FEBRUARY 2025

MONTHLY OVERVIEW

GOD VIEW:

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

Have you ever thought about what makes you, you? We all have different backgrounds, families, or favorite colors. We all enjoy different sports, foods, vacations, and have different friends and experiences in life. Even twins have different fingerprints! Together, all of those pieces make up who we are. But we can't understand who we are and what we were created to do without first understanding the way God sees us. Every single one of us was created in the image of God. But even as image bearers, we were created as unique. There is only one you, and this month we have the chance to explore how God can use the ways we were created to make a difference.

WEEK ONE	BIBLE STORY Fearfully and Wonderfully Made Psalm 139:1-14 (Supporting: Genesis 1:26-28, Ephesians 2:10)	BOTTOM LINE God made you, knows you, and loves you.
WEEK TWO	BIBLE STORY Moses and the Burning Bush Exodus 3-4:15	BOTTOM LINE God made you to make a difference.
WEEK THREE	BIBLE STORY Lydia Acts 16:13-15	BOTTOM LINE Use your gifts to make a difference.
WEEK FOUR	BIBLE STORY Timothy 1 Timothy 4:12	BOTTOM LINE You can make a difference right now.

MEMORY VERSE	HOW YOU MADE ME IS AMAZING AND WONDERFUL. I PRAISE YOU FOR THAT. WHAT YOU HAVE DONE IS WONDERFUL. I KNOW THAT VERY WELL. PSALM 139:14, NIRV
UNIQUENESS	LEARNING MORE ABOUT YOURSELF SO YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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Save the Date

The Spring: February 2 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. for children 4 years old to 6th grade.

Luncheon for Families with Children or Youth and CMM/YMM: February 16

The Spring: February 16 From 4:30-6:00 p.m. for children 4 years old to 6th grade.

Youth Ministry

During the month of February, our youth will be studying what it means to live with integrity.

The Noble Experiment

In "The Noble Experiment," high schoolers will explore what it means to live with integrity, where who they are lines up with the way they live. Over four weeks, they'll learn how to live with personal integrity, relational integrity, and bodily integrity. The goal? To help them become whole, healthy people who live with purpose!

MEMORY VERSE

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.
Philippians 4:8, NLT

Week One

Proverbs 11:3

Integrity does what's right.

Week Two

Matthew 7:24-27, Matthew 22:36-40

Integrity follows what Jesus says is best.

Week Three

1 Corinthians 13:4-7, John 13:34-35

Integrity honors everyone involved.

Week Four

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Because you matter, your bodily integrity matters.

High School

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



Morning Time

As your teen starts their day, point out a time when they said they were going to do something and they did it. Let them know how much you appreciate them being true to their word.



Their Time

What are the safeguards you've had in place for your teen? Which ones need to be adjusted as they get older and take on more responsibility?



Meal Time

At a meal this week, have everyone at the table describe a time when they agreed to do something that they had no intent of doing, or someone has done that to them. Then ask: "How can we make our yes and no responses be honest and trustworthy? How can we be people others count on to do the right thing?"



Bed Time

Pray that you and your teen will be people of integrity. When you are challenged to say or do the right thing, you'll do it. You won't take the easy way out, no matter how hard it may be.

Youth Ministries Souper Bowl Sunday Canned Food Drive



Souper Bowl Sunday!

Join our Youth over the next few weeks in gathering canned goods for Souper Bowl Sunday! We will have a large box in the Fellowship Hall where canned goods can be placed now, until February 9th during the Souper Bowl of Caring luncheon. We will take the canned goods to Arlington Charities that day. So while we are enjoying our delicious soup at church made by the Hospitality Team, we can also remember our neighbors with their soup and canned good needs!

Upcoming Events--Mark your Calendars!

Youth Sunday School class: weekly, from 9:45-10:45 AM

Sunday Youth Group: weekly, from 4:30-6PM

February 2025
February 9: No Youth Group meeting from 4:30-6PM (Super Bowl Sunday!)
February 16:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Luncheon for Families with Children and Youth and CMM/YMM (12-1 PM)• Youth Group at Pena's House (instead of church) 1803 Lakeside Dr. (4-6PM)
February 21-23: Youth Cue

Monthly Food Bank

Join us Saturday, February 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 is 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.



Women's Ministry

New Year New beginnings Event.



This Month



Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study group meets every Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. in room 204. 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 meet 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

Meet on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Chancel Choir.

Ring of Praise Handbell Ensemble

Meet on Wednesdays, at 6 p.m. in the Handbell room.

Youth Choir

Meet on Sunday, from 12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. (lunch for participants 12:15 p.m.).

Children's Music Ministries

Meet on Sunday, from 12:45 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. (lunch for participants 12:15 p.m.).



Church Leadership

Deacon Meeting

Thursday, February 6th, the Diaconate meets.

Team Meeting Night

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

Session Meeting

Thursday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m., the Session meets 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.

Saints Alive

This will be a recurring luncheon on the last Thursday of each month - January - May; and September - December. We will take the months of June, July and August off.

We look forward to seeing you in Fellowship Hall."

Jodie Schenck and Becki Briggs Co Chairs.

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

Deadline for the March issue of The News is February 15!

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns: Jamee Shroyer, Nancy Brown, the family of Charlie Nieman, the family of David Lowrance, Charles Arnold, Carol Browning, Billie Jo Campbell, Betty Farrell, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Ivone Franzolin, Joe and Lila Glenn, Bob Hanson and his family, Jack and Dottie Liwai, Pat May and her son Tim Karnes, Jennifer Meyer, Mia Navarro and her family, Mathias Mbeng Ndip, Jo Ann Nichols, Tina Paulk, Adrian Rodriguez and his family, Tonya Scrabeck, Lorna Snyder, David Spencer, Larry Spencer, Susie Thurston, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welborne, Sherry and Shelby Wolfe, Danny Womble.

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

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 with the name and their relationship to you.

Prayers for our homebound members: Bettye Burdett, Madge Casselman, Lucy Cleaver, Cyprain Engwenyi, Mary Lou Garrison, Ann Scarr, Betty Snowden, Leonard & Mary Jane Tibbetts, 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.