

*"Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord."
Believe in your heart that God raised
him from the dead. Then you will be
saved."*

Romans 10:9

April
2025

The News

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Newsletter Team

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

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An Example of... We Gather to Grow

Excuse my exercising a bit of pastoral privilege when it comes to the newsletter so I can share a proud dad moment. Our boys attend Pantego Christian Academy and one of the things we love most about that decision is that we can be confident that church, home, and school are all working together. Apart from normal knucklehead kid stuff, we never feel like home and/or church have to compensate for what school teaches or doesn't teach.

Part of their schedule is a weekly chapel service. I had the privilege of speaking to the elementary school students recently about the Lord's Prayer. That was fun, but normal in the routine sense of things. Something that was not routine started with a conversation one evening.

"I volunteered to speak at chapel in a couple weeks," Colton told me. At first, I thought he was going to speak to the elementary students, which would be amazing in itself. But then he clarified this would be at middle school chapel in front of his peers. I can tell you, that is something I never did in junior high.

His topic was the Beatitudes and he asked for my help. His thoughts needed to be his own, but I offered to help him frame his talk and maybe smooth out some rough parts. Like a typical teenager (and like his father sometimes), it was the night before chapel he finished writing everything out. Colton invited me to read what he had wrote and after I finished, I asked him, "You wrote all this?" His response was reflective of the times we live. "Yup. I didn't use ChatGPT or anything."



The next morning, Chelsea and I attended the chapel service and Colton did an incredible job sharing his faith and insights. His peers were supportive and affirmed his sense of call to speak that day.

I know there are many factors and influences that led Colton to be able to do that. Primarily is the Holy Spirit. But I know FPCA has played a major role as well, especially in giving him the opportunity to lay lead in worship. Thank you to Kyle, Adrian, Stephanie, and many others who have nurtured and continue to nurture his faith here at church. He is certainly growing in stature, but more importantly,

he is growing in faith.

Pastor Chris

chris@firstprestexas.org

Presbyterian Children's Home and Services

Two PCHAS Dates To Save

May 3 - UTA Baseball Game at 2PM

We have two families planning on coming and Westminster will be our partners in hosting PCHAS, FPCA youth and other churches in DFW. How does a noon tailgating lunch in the WPC parking lot directly west of the field sound? More details coming soon and if you want to join in the planning contact Bob Dawson - [txt 214-415-5396](tel:214-415-5396)

May 7 - PCHAS Luncheon at Noon

This annual event will be held in Fort Worth with an inspiring and captivating program that shares examples and information about the many services and programs PCHAS provides.

Waves of Change
2025
A luncheon event benefiting the children of PCHAS

May 7th
- 12:00pm -
Ridgely Country Club
3700 Bernie Anderson Ave
Fort Worth, TX 76116

RSVP
Marge & Bob Dawson your fabric hosts - email:
Maria Shupe
303.718.9619
maria.shupe@pchas.org

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services

Finance Update

General Fund for February 2025:

	Monthly	YTD
Income & Funds Released:	213,095	354,978
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>(226,022)</u>	<u>(333,286)</u>
Variance	(12,927)	21,692
Donors Income:	60,608	199,554
<u>Budget:</u>	<u>75,085</u>	<u>150,170</u>
Variance	(14,477)	49,384

Comments:

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

- journey through our Epiphany sermon series learning about some of the names and attributes of God.
- enjoy fellowship with our church family as the Fellowship Team served the “Souper Bowl of Sharing” luncheon.
- partner with the Souper Bowl of Caring organization, through our youth ministry, as we "tackle" hunger in our city and remember our neighbors with their soup and canned good needs.
- launch a New Member Class learning what it means to be a part of the Presbyterian tradition and connecting with the ministries of FPCA.
- share a luncheon and connect with other families with children or youth, and some of the leaders in the children's and youth ministries.

*As of February, our Capital Campaign fund balance is \$18,959.85.

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

What would you call a happy day? Maybe a day with no traffic, or a day when your boss gives you an unexpected bonus. How about the day you got married, or the day a child was born? All of these are happy days, but this month, we're talking with preschoolers about days that are happy because Jesus is alive. Easter is the happiest of happy days, and every day can be a happy day because Jesus is alive. What an awesome privilege we have to share the good news with preschoolers that Jesus is alive!

WEEK ONE	BIBLE STORY Mary Pours Perfume on Jesus John 12:1-8	STORY FOCUS Everyone can be thankful for Jesus.
WEEK TWO	BIBLE STORY Palm Sunday Matthew 21:1-11; John 12:12-15	STORY FOCUS We can celebrate Jesus.
WEEK THREE	BIBLE STORY Easter* Matthew 26:36, 47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8	STORY FOCUS Jesus is alive.
WEEK FOUR	BIBLE STORY Breakfast on the Beach John 21:1-14	STORY FOCUS Jesus wants to be our friend forever.

**Monthly Story for Toddler Curriculum*

MEMORY VERSE	KEY QUESTION	BOTTOM LINE
"I AM ALIVE FOREVER AND EVER!" REVELATION 1:18, NIV	WHO IS ALIVE?	JESUS IS ALIVE!
JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.		

Elementary and KFC



ELEMENTARY
APRIL 2025

MONTHLY OVERVIEW

GOD VIEW:

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

Life can be complicated. In fact, Jesus told His disciples that we would have trouble in this world (John 16:33b). Sometimes, we may not understand why something happens the way it does. Yet, in spite of the things that go wrong or the things we don't understand, we can have hope that God knows what's best and is working for our good. Because of that, we can trust God no matter what as we begin to explore why the story of Jesus is good news for everyone.

WEEK ONE	BIBLE STORY Keep Looking to Jesus Hebrews 12:1-3	BOTTOM LINE Whatever happens, keep looking to Jesus.
WEEK TWO	BIBLE STORY Palm Sunday John 12:12-16	BOTTOM LINE Whatever happens, remember God is still working.
WEEK THREE	BIBLE STORY Crucifixion and Resurrection John 18-20:1-18; 1 Peter 1:3	BOTTOM LINE Whatever happens, remember Jesus is alive.
WEEK FOUR	BIBLE STORY Jesus Appears to Thomas John 20:19-29	BOTTOM LINE Whatever happens, remember God is bigger than your questions.

MEMORY VERSE	"IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE. BUT BE ENCOURAGED! I HAVE WON THE BATTLE OVER THE WORLD." JOHN 16:33B, NIRV
HOPE	BELIEVING THAT SOMETHING GOOD CAN COME OUT OF SOMETHING BAD

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Save the Date

- April 6: The Spring for children 4 years old to 6th grade from 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- April 13: The Spring for children 4 years old to 6th grade from 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- April 19: Spring Festival from 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- April 27: Luncheon for Families with Children or Youth and CMM/YMM:
- April 27: The Spring for children 4 years old to 6th grade from 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- June 2-6: Vacation Bible School.

Youth Ministry

Help Needed!!

Our 2025 Hendersonville, N.C. Mission Trip Team will be raising funds over the next few months to go out and serve this summer. We are excited to have 8 children/youth joining this trip! Please let us know if there is anything you could use our help with in exchange for mission trip funds. Some of our team recently helped Suzie McCoy with her yard full of leaves--a whopping 28 bags were filled!



If you'd like to also donate directly, you can online. Visit the church website, under the giving section, select "Hendersonville Mission Trip" and in the memo area, you can enter "Donation." For any questions, reach out to stephanie@firstprestexas.org.

Our 2025 Hendersonville, N.C. Mission Trip Team:

Lew Johnson, Chris Campbell, Colton Campbell, Melina Pena, David Pena, Mateo Pena, Hanna Terwilliger, Samuel Terwilliger, Aristeo Arredondo, Stephanie Arredondo, Mathew Arredondo, Nicolas Arredondo, Bennet Williams, Nomi Gomi, and Nora Sanders.

Monthly Food Bank

Join us Saturday, April 12, 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.



Come to the prayer room!

(Located off the Chapel)

What will I find there?

- *A quiet place*
- *Peace*
- *A kneeling bench*
- *A board for prayer requests*
- *Soft lighting*
- *Chairs, Bibles, Books on prayer*
- *Guides to help with prayers*
- *You will find answers*
- *You will find Jesus*
- *You will find God's immaculate love*



Close the door; be alone with Him. Want music? Sing to the Lord!

Save the Date- First Presbyterian Church Baby Shower!

April 6th

2:15-4pm

Fellowship Hall

Save the date for a special baby shower honoring three FPCA families that have been blessed with growing! We will celebrate Talita Gottmann, Jennyfer Zamora, and Dannielle McWalters on their upcoming bundles of joy.

Talita And Eric Gottmann Baby Registry (baby boy)

Jenny And Carlos Zamora Baby Registry (baby boy)

Dannielle And Brendan McWalters Baby Registry (baby girl)

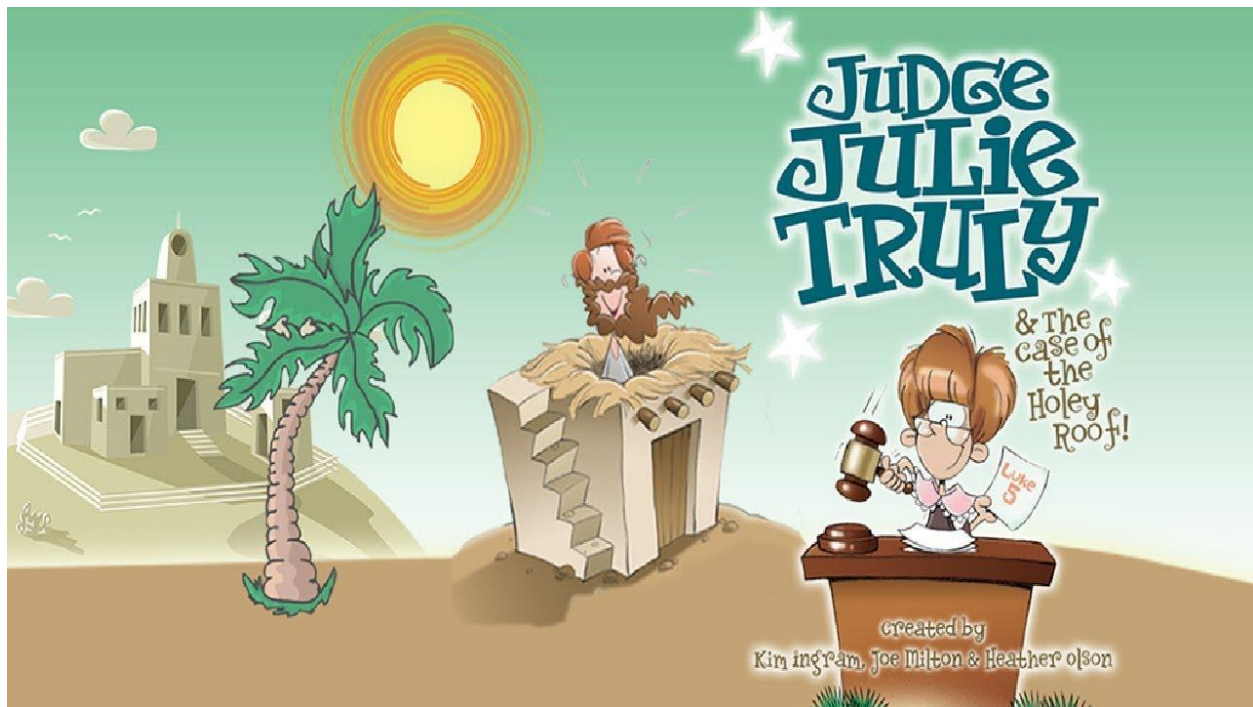


Children's Musical "Judge Julie Truly and the Case of the Holey Roof"

Rehearsals start on Sunday, April 6

This summer, FPCA will once again produce a youth and children's musical: "Judge Julie Truly and the Case of the Holey Roof", based on the story of the friends who lowered their friend through the roof to be healed by Jesus. Music week will be the afternoons of June 2-6 (following VBS), and we hope our church family will plan to attend the free performance on Saturday, June 7th at 2:30 p.m. Performers entering 1st through 12th grades are welcome to participate.

Go to <https://firstprestexas.org/musical/> to register your children. The registration form includes more information on dates and times, or you can contact Laura Farnell at Laura.Farnell@gmail.com, Sonia Ellis at SoniaJustl@gmail.com.



Holy Week



Holy Week

April 13 – 20

Palm Sunday Service	11:00 AM
Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
Good Friday Choral Service	7:00 PM
Easter Sunday Service	11:00 AM

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, May 8th, the Diaconate meets.

Team Meeting Night

Thursday, April 10th, at 7:00 p.m., all teams meet for ministry planning and coordination.

Session Meeting

Thursday, April 24, 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 May issue of The News is April 15!

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns: Jamee Shroyer, Margaret Landolt, Charlie Laney, Kathy Moore, Judy Crowell, the family of Bob Hanson, Charles Arnold, Nancy Brown, Carol Browning, Billie Jo Campbell, Betty Farrell, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Ivone Franzolin, Joe and Lila Glenn, Marie George, Jack and Dottie Liwai, Pat May and her son Tim Karnes, Mathias Mbeng Ndip, Jo Ann Nichols, Tina Paulk, Judy Reck, Lisa Scrabeck, 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.

