

The News

The monthly newsletter of
First Presbyterian Church Arlington



*“Just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might walk in newness of life.”*

- Romans 6:4

April 2026

Contents

Community Outreach.....	3
Prayer Ministry.....	4
April news.....	5
Build connections.....	6
March joys.....	7
Bible studies and groups.....	7-9
Finance update.....	10
Children's Ministry.....	11
Prayer list.....	12

Newsletter Team

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

Contact us at
tricia@firstprestexas.org.

Deadline for the May
newsletter is April 15.

Visitors or guests?

Easter Sunday is one of those Sundays we will welcome more people to worship than nearly all other services during the year. Quite simply, this is because Easter and Christmas Eve are the days that some people feel like they need to go. For some, they might be here visiting family and it is really important that the entire family comes together. For some, they grew up in the church, maybe drifted away during college or adulthood, and something is nudging them back. And for others, they are not professing Christians and might have a deep curiosity what this is all about.

Because of the bigger crowd, it is easier to slip in anonymously. The truth is that the reasons are many more than the examples I provided. One, we cannot presume what someone's motives are. And two, that is not the most important detail. The important detail is they made the effort to travel to FPCA to worship with us, or maybe watch from the figurative sidelines.

For those who regularly attend worship, that gives us two choices in how we welcome and receive them. There can be a natural self-righteousness that looks down on those who come just on the big days to hear the pretty music, smell the Easter lilies, and check a box. That is one attitude some might have.

The flipside of that is to see this as an opportunity. Granted, not everyone who comes on Easter Sunday will return the following Sunday. (Nor do all the regulars – hence it is known as a “low Sunday”!)

But we have an opportunity to plant seeds for those hearing the resurrection account for the first time. We have an opportunity to nurture seeds that know about Easter but are on the fringes of faith. And we have an opportunity to welcome home those who have been away for one reason or another.

This begins with a mind shift moving away from the language of visitors to guests. The analogy that has stuck with me is think of yourself at home. Someone, maybe even your best friend, shows up out of nowhere and comes into your home. You were not prepared. Counters were not cleared off. Dust bunnies were not swept up. You are wearing that old pair of socks with holes in them. And you might ask, “What are you doing here?” Essentially, they showed up unex-

pected, uninvited, and are a visitor in your home.

Think of the opposite scenario. You make plans with a friend and invite them to your home. The house is tidied up. You are not surprised when the doorbell rings. You open the door and enthusiastically say, "Welcome in!" You are welcoming a guest inside your home.

How does this apply to Sundays? Our attitudes are revealed when we are surprised by the intrusion of uninvited visitors, maybe someone sitting in your pew (even though that doesn't really exist!). Or, we pray for God to send us guests and expect him to do it! Thankfully, God has been sending us guests, and the frequent feedback is the warmth and welcome they have felt when they walked inside.

So, on the big days like Easter Sunday, arrive with an expectation of guests coming. Pray God overwhelms us with guests! And then welcome them in the name of Jesus Christ and biblical hospitality. You never know where someone is coming from, where they may be going, but you can be Christ's ambassador in that moment. That moment might make all the difference in their journey of faith. Welcome guests!

Live Forever,
Pastor Chris

Community outreach

Visit the
Outreach
Missions

tab under Ministries at
firstprestexas.org

Arlington Life Shelter Needs:

- **Food**

Donation Pick Up Helper:

We need someone who can travel to food establishments in the area to pick up food items and deliver them to the shelter.

- **Provide a Meal:** Grab a team, faith group, or your family and friends and cook a meal for residents. We need Food Team Volunteers to purchase, prepare, and serve meals. Email alice.morris@arlingtonlifeshelter.org for meal guidelines and available dates.

- **PALS:** Partners of Arlington Life Shelter is an auxiliary group that raises funds for the shelter and provides special events such as birthday and holiday parties for the residents.

For more information on how to volunteer, please contact alice.morris@arlingtonlifeshelter.org.



Mission Arlington Needs:

Community Service volunteers are a blessing to Mission Arlington, and they form a substantial team to help us accomplish what we do here every day. Visit missionarlington.org for specifics.

Our hours are Monday through Saturday: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. No appointment necessary. Please come in whenever it works best for you. You will be working with the administration of food, clothes, household items and furniture – sorting, separating, carrying, and distributing.

Please wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty, and come with a flexible spirit, ready to work wherever you are needed.

Prayer ministry



As the son rises, so does hope

Today, we are standing in the half-light. The days before Easter are not simply dates on a calendar, they are a spiritual landscape – a bridge to life.

These are special days when we are called to prayer, hopefully from prepared hearts. We are at the in-between place: not yet at the Cross, not yet at the empty tomb, but standing in the dim light where faith must lean forward.

“We walk by faith, not by sight.” 2 Corinthians 5:7

Our praying might focus now toward receiving Christ’s servant heart of love; to surrender to love as He loved; to surrender as He surrendered at Gethsemane; to stay awake when the soul grows weary.

“Not my will, but yours be done.” Luke 22:42

Pray for the courage to trust the light even when it is hidden by the clouds of doubt. Pray that His Spirit would part the clouds in God’s time.

“Why are you cast down,

O my soul...hope in God.”
Psalm 4:5

Pray for hope rooted not in outcomes but in Christ’s rising. Pray for renewed confidence that God is already at work.

Pray for the Spirit to awaken joy, courage, and clarity.

“He has given us new birth into a living hope...” 1 Peter 1:3

Prayer is the response of every heart, wherever we are in our journey toward the risen Son.

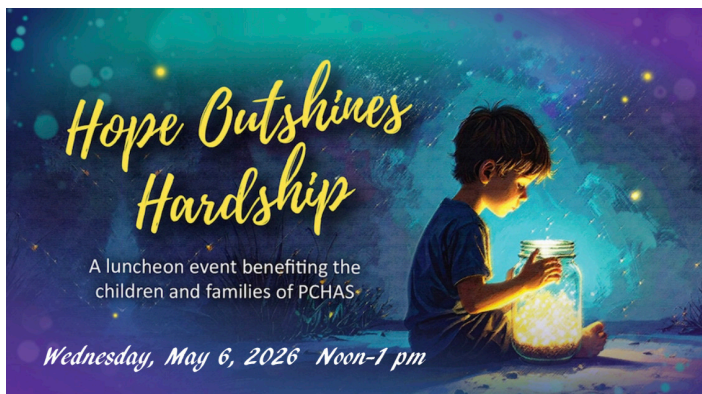
April news

Mobile Food Market Dates

Arlington Charities is hosting mobile food markets twice in December.

Distribution lines form early and distribution ends when the food is gone.

- April 11 at 8:30 a.m. - St. Andrews United Methodist Church at 2045 S.E. Green Oaks Blvd.
- April 16 at 9 a.m. - Tarrant County College at 2100 Southeast Parkway.
- April 23 at 9 a.m. - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at 1500 California Lane.



Save the date for PCHAS luncheon

Please join us for this year's Annual PCHAS Luncheon Wednesday, May 6, at noon at the Ridglea Country Club in Fort Worth. The theme is "Hope Outshines Hardship." Learn more about the vital work happening and to reflect on what is possible for the children and families we serve in the years ahead. See how your generosity provides tangible support and lasting hope every single day.

Blood Drive at FPCA April 19

FPCA will host a blood drive in Fellowship Hall Sunday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to noon. Sign up for a slot to fit in to your Sunday morning routine.

Schedule your appointment today by calling 817-412-5384 or visit CarterBloodCare.org to learn more about how you can give for your fellow Texans.

Youth and Children's Musical

This summer, FPCA will once again produce a youth and children's musical. "What's Up, Zak?" is based on the Biblical story of Zaccheus. Music week will be the afternoons of June 1 through 5 (following morning VBS), and we hope our church family will plan to attend the free performance in the sanctuary on Saturday, June 6 at 2:30. Performers who have completed first through 12th grades are welcome to participate. Check the link in the weekly E-news to for more information and to register or contact Laura Farnell at Laura.Farnell@gmail.com, Sonia Ellis at SoniaJustl@gmail.com or the church office for more information.

VBS registration open

This year's VBS will be Monday, June 1 through Friday, June 5 from 9 a.m. to noon for children four years old to 6th grade. Scan the QR code to register for Kingdom Quest



VBS. Contact Kyle Terwilliger at kyle@firstprestexas.org for questions or for more information.

Build connections

Bible and book studies

(see full descriptions of studies on pages 7-9)

Tuesday Morning Bible Study for Men and Women

- Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Women's Bible Study

- Second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Men's Bible Study

- Wednesdays at 8 a.m. in room 204

CWF Women's Bible Study

- Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

- **HOPE Tutoring**
Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Church leadership

Team meetings

April 9

Fellowship Team meets at 4:30 in room 210

Other teams meet at 7 p.m.
All teams meet for ministry planning and coordination.

- **Session meeting**

April 23 at 6 p.m.
in the Parlor

The Session meets to oversee the ministry of the church, worship, budget, and other matters.

Music Ministries

Chancel choir

- Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m.

Youth and Children's Musical Rehearsal

- Rehearsals for summer musical begin Sunday, April 12 through June.

Rehearsals will be held Sundays at 12:45 p.m. with lunch provided at 12:15

Fellowship and community groups

- **Senior Flexibility Class**
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.

Come get fit with us! We meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Contact Sarah Wright at 972.345.6402 for more details.

- **Quilting group -**
Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

This group meets on Wednesdays 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.

- **Saints Alive Luncheon**
We will meet Thursday, April 30 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
See page 9 for details

March joys

1. FPCA members celebrate the Women's World Day of Prayer Saturday, March 14. The service focused on finding spiritual rest.



2. Ken Floyd and Barbara Deardorff enjoy fellowship and lunch on March 26 at Saints Alive, a monthly potluck luncheon open to all.

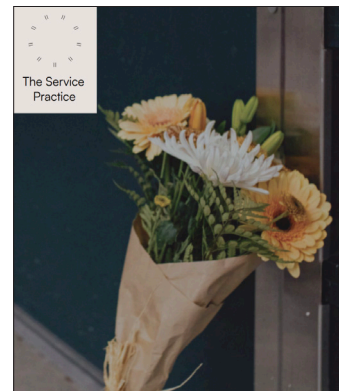


3. Baylor University's A Cappella choir warms up in the choir room for their performance in the Sanctuary March 28. FPCA was chosen as one of choir's tour stops for their program "Passage."

Photo courtesy of Baylor University

Bible studies and groups

Spring Bible Study for Women
Tuesdays April 14 to May 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor



Love is the hallmark of Jesus' followers, but what does that look like in our daily lives? Starting on Tuesday, April, join the Women's Ministry team as we explore a four-session study called, "The Service Practice." Each week, we will walk through Scripture and explore what it means to serve those who are right in front of us, allow ourselves to be interrupted by unexpected needs, and overlap our lives with those on the margins.

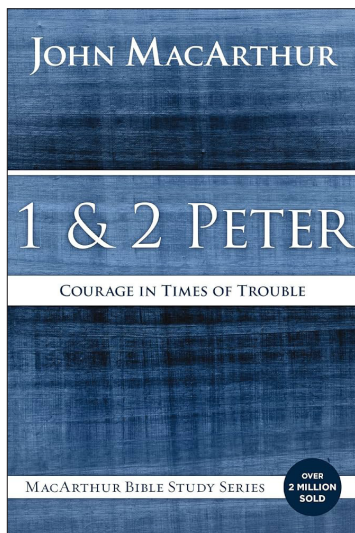
To join us, please sign up on the FPCA website under the Adult Ministries tab and let us know you're coming. Attendance is free and we look forward to seeing you there. Bring a friend!

Give God One Percent
Mondays beginning April 6

On Monday, April 6, we will "Give God One Percent." One percent of your 24-hour day is 15 minutes. Let's take 15 minutes – from 10 to 10:15 a.m. each Monday – to be in prayer, wherever we are. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that others are praying with you at exactly that time. If you would like a reminder call on Monday mornings, please call the church office and register your participation.

Bible studies and groups

Tuesday Morning Bible Study for Men and Women Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Fellowship Hall



The new study is *First and Second Peter* by John MacArthur.

After a quick review of the history of the Bible, we will begin our study of first and second Peter by John MacArthur and video by David Guzik.

“In the first letter, Peter reminded believers of the many blessings available to them because of their sufferings,” MacArthur writes. “In the second letter, he warned them against false teachers who were invading their churches and teaching deceptive doctrines.”

Study guides are provided and available for purchase for \$8.

Men’s Bible Study Wednesdays at 8 a.m. in room 204

The Men’s Bible Study group meets every Wednesday morning at 8 a.m. in room 204. Men of all ages meet and enjoy a time of fellowship, study, and prayer. The group is currently studying *The History of Israel: Deuteronomy to Kings*. All men are invited to join this study.



Registration open for Mo Ranch Men’s Conference Friday, May 1 through Sunday, May 3 Mo Ranch - Hunt, Texas

Join the FPCA tradition of gathering with other men for a time of encouragement, growth, and honest conversation at the Mo Ranch Men’s Conference Friday, May 1 through Sunday, May 3.

This year’s theme, “Holey, Holy, Wholly,” will challenge and inspire us to reflect on where we are, where God is working in us, and how we can live more fully and faithfully as men.

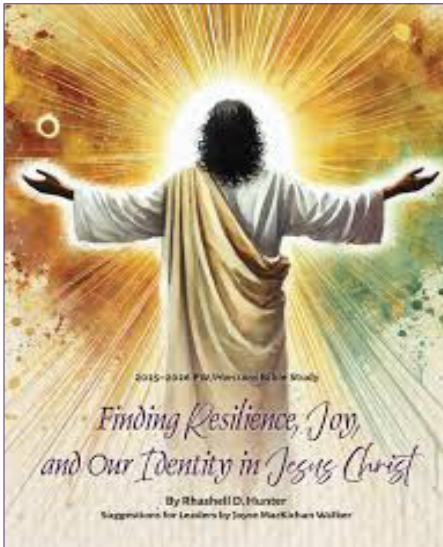
In addition to the main sessions, the conference will include engaging workshops and plenty of opportunities to connect with other men, eat barbecue, and be refreshed.

Scholarships are available.

If you’re interested or want more information, contact Rev. Chris Campbell or email info@firstprestexas.org.

Bible studies and groups

Wednesday Women's Bible Study Second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall



The Wednesday Women's Bible Study resumes their Bible Study meetings. The study is the Horizon's Presbyterian Women's study *Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity*

in Jesus Christ. In this Bible study, we will explore resilience modeled for us by several biblical characters, gospel and epistle writers, and Jesus. The Bible study is also about finding joy in a chaotic world. Trusting in God when we are in trying times can fill us with glorious joy and peace. We will also seek to rediscover our identity in Jesus Christ.

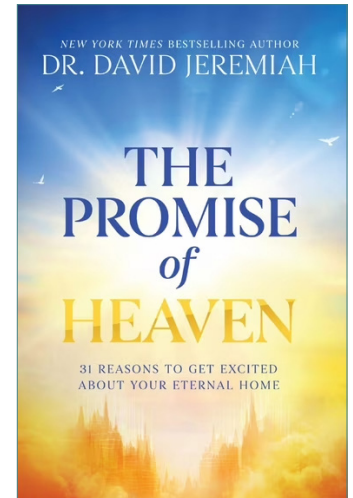
We welcome all women. The group meets monthly on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Questions? Please reply to Debbie Richardson (817.675.2867) or der817@gmail.com or Sheri Quick (sheriq@aol.com).

Friendship Sunday School Class Meets Sundays at 9:45 in room 214

You're invited to join us in studying *The Promise of Heaven* by Dr. David Jeremiah. Dr. Jeremiah answers our questions about heaven by revealing biblical scripture.

As you walk through this study with the Friendship class, you will find that God has not left us in the dark regarding our eternal home.



CWF Women's Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 p.m. online

The CWF Women's Bible Study group meets virtually every Wednesday at 7 p.m. except for the last Wednesday of the month when the group meets at FPCA in the parlor.

Saints Alive Luncheon Thursday, April 30 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Come one, come all: Please come and join with us for Saints Alive! We will have a Saints Alive potluck lunch and fellowship Thursday, April 30. Saints Alive is a bring-your-favorite-dish luncheon at 11:30. (Come early if you'd like to visit before lunch.)

Finance update



FINANCE UPDATE

General Fund for February 2026:

	Monthly	YTD
Income & Funds Released:	99,962	205,647
Expenses:	(89,911)	(159,138)
Variance	10,910	46,509
Donors Income:	89,873	191,887
Budget:	75,338	150,676
Variance	14,535	41,211

Comments:

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

- begin our Lenten journey through our sermon series called "Were You There".
- participate in the YouthCUE choral festival - truly a life-changing weekend for our youth, who were learning lessons of how our faith applies to real life and "teaching and admonishing each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs."
- enter the holy season of Lent through two meaningful Ash Wednesday services as we seek to deepen our faith this season and beyond.
- enjoy fellowship with our church family as the Fellowship Team served the "Souper Bowl of Caring" luncheon.
- take part in our 40-day Lenten journey to Easter through prayer, study, and reflection, guided by the Lenten Journal from the Prayer Ministry council.

As of February our Capital Campaign fund balance is \$222,968.

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

April KFC overview

Jesus is alive! But even his closest friends were surprised by what they discovered. Each week, kids will follow the clues in the Bible, looking at the stories leading up to Easter and connecting them to other moments in Jesus' life and ministry. Along the way, they'll see that the Bible isn't just full of clues about who Jesus is—it's the complete story of God's love.



This week, kids investigate the story of how a stranger on the Road to Emmaus was actually Jesus. Following the clues can help us piece together important answers. This week, we'll investigate the story of how Jesus revealed who he was to two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Through this story, we'll understand that Jesus is the savior and God's Son because the Bible reveals who Jesus is.

Weekly Curriculum Summaries

April 5: The Bible passages are Matthew 27:45-28:10 and Isaiah 25:6-9.

This week, kids investigate the story of how Jesus died and rose again. Mysteries leave behind clues, sparking a search for answers. This week, we'll investigate the greatest mystery of all: how Jesus died and rose again, just like he said he would when he left his friends clues about God's plan. Jesus proved that nothing is impossible for him and that all the clues lead to the fact that the Bible says Jesus is alive!

April 12: The Bible passages are John 20:19-31 and Mark 14:12-26.

This week, we'll investigate how Jesus appeared to the disciples in a locked room, proving he was alive and offering them peace and comfort through his presence. Through Jesus' actions and words, we're reminded of the incredible truth that the Bible tells us Jesus loves us.

April 19: The Bible passages are Luke 24:13-35 and Mark 9:2-13.

April 26: The Bible passages are John 10:1-11 and John 21:1-17.

This week, we'll investigate how Jesus helped the disciples catch fish at the Sea of Galilee and then gave Peter clarity about his mission to care for God's people. Through Jesus' actions and words, we discover that the Bible shows us how to share God's love. Getting invited to a party is one of the best feelings, and being left out is one of the worst. But there's good news: Jesus never leaves anyone out! He invites everyone to spend time with him, experience his love, and share it with others. This month kids will learn that Jesus' invitation is always open, and we're never too far away to join the party!

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

Prayer ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

Charles Arnold, Carol Browning, Jimmy Chefor, Judy Crowell, Cyprain Engwenyi, Betty Farrell, Ken Floyd, Bobbie Fowler, Ivone Franzolin, Marshall Gesner, Jay and Susan Graham, Nancy Guerry, the family of Allen Keaton, Elaine Keefer, Bob and Beverly Koch, Lisa Landolt, Margaret Landolt, Pat May, her son Tim Karnes, and her son-in-law Coleman Rabourn, Richard Price, JoAnn Quick, Carole Ray, Judy Reck, Lisa Scrabeck, Tonya Scrabeck, Susie Thurston, Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welborne, Sherry and Shelby Wolfe, Danny Womble

Prayers for family in the armed forces:

Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Wolfgang Van Wie, Christopher Young

Prayers for our home-bound members:

Bettye Burdett, Madge Casselman, Judy Crowell, Margaret Fite, Bobbie Fowler, Lila Glenn, Jay and Susan Graham, Teresa Hanson, Marcia Rober, Ann Scarr, Becky Speck, Leonard and Mary Jane Tibbetts, Dee Uhri, Biddie Walker

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.