

Grace First Presbyterian Church

*Grace First Presbyterian together ... worshipping God,
witnessing for Jesus, and working to meet human needs.*

**APRIL
2018**

PASTOR EDIE'S PONDERINGS

IN THIS ISSUE:

Communion Schedule	1
Pastor's Article	1
Associate Pastor's Article	3
Marialice's Music Notes	4
Council Highlights	5
Ministries & Outreach	6
Acknowledgements & Congratulations	7
April Events	10
Gifts of Hope—Mother's Day Cards	12
Prayers & Concerns	13

We will celebrate

**HOLY
COMMUNION**

Sunday, April 8



Easter arrives April 1 – you are either ready for its arrival or getting ready as you read this. We are planning an outstanding service to celebrate the day. After Easter can be a letdown for some congregations, but not this year in this one! Much of our work in transition and preparing for a new head of staff pastor will be obvious after Easter.

~ The Mission Study Team is almost finished with their report. When it is approved by the Committee on Ministry (COM) of Grace Presbytery, then two things will happen. You will receive a copy for your personal perusing and walking into the future. AND, Session can call the congregational meeting to elect a Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). Session has been working on a slate to present and, as always, I will ask for nominations from the floor (should this happen, we will move to paper ballots).

~ As soon as the PNC is elected they begin work. Their first meeting will review the report of the Mission Study Team, have comments by both pastors, elect their own officers, and talk about how they proceed. The COM staffs the committee; both pastors are not involved unless specifically asked by the PNC to provide information (In an interim sometime ago, the PNC asked me, “How do we know we are in love?”) You are not involved, either. The search for a pastor is the prescribed job of the PNC.

~When the PNC has found someone, then you become involved again. We will have an election of a Senior Pastor by paper ballot, so no one knows if someone else says, ‘NO’.

~Meanwhile, the transition to newness by both Boards will be underway. We voted to use nine members (instead of 12) on each board beginning with the upcoming election. Watch for the announcement of a congregational meeting to elect officers – the Officer Nominating Committee has begun work. Your election will designate Trustees from among the elders. The slate will be presented; nominations from the floor are always invited.

Continue to page 2

Continued...

If there are additional nominations, we will move to paper ballots.

~Having fewer persons on each Board has caused a revamping of Ministry Teams (Committees) and duties. Both the Session and the Diaconate have shifted somewhat. The Session is concerned with governance and administration of all Church programs. The Deacons are concerned with persons – from introducing our church to them through their funerals and lots of programs in between. (Christian Education and Mission Outreach remain with the Session.) If you have an idea for a ministry team or a new outreach or a new way to handle something – let the Session, Deacons, or Pastors know. PLEASE! PLEASE!

Your beloved congregation is in a time of transition.

Please give feedback to the Session and Deacons or the Pastors.

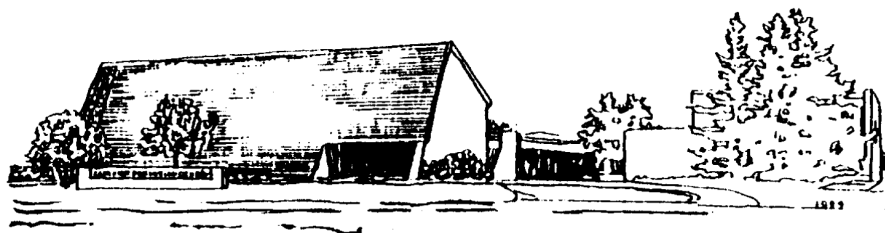
Your reactions, positive and negative, are important in this basic democracy.

Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God.

Acts 20:28

“ HOW DO YOU SPELL PRESBYTERIAN ”

A three week class on the background, nature, and practice of our church will be taught by Dr. Randolph Coney on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. beginning April 15**. All are invited, especially new members and/or those who may be interested in joining our church. Also, anyone who would like a refresher course in our denominational faith and practice are welcome. The class will convene in the Parlor.



FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Once again, my daily devotional from Oswald Chambers had a profound message especially as we end the season of Lent and enter Eastertide. I hope you find a good word in his message like I did.

Have A Message and Be One *"Preach the Word..." 2 Timothy 4:2*

We are not saved to be "channels only," but to be sons and daughters of God. We are not turned into spiritual mediums, but into spiritual messengers; the message must be part of ourselves. The Son of God was His own message, His words were spirit and life; and as His disciples our lives must be the sacrament of our message. The natural heart will do any amount of serving, but it takes the heart broken by conviction of sin, and baptized by the Holy Ghost, and crumpled into the purpose of God before the life becomes the sacrament of its message.

There is a difference between giving a testimony and preaching. The preacher is one who has realized the call of God and is determined to use his every power to proclaim God's truth. God takes us out of our own ideas for our lives and we, "battered to shape and use" as the disciples were after Pentecost. Pentecost did not teach the disciples anything; it made them the incarnation of what they preached – "You shall be witnesses unto Me."

Let God have perfect liberty when you speak. Before God's message can liberate other souls, the liberation must be real in you. Gather your material and set it alight when you speak.

And I will add here something you may see every week in our bulletin. The preachers are Edie and I -- the ministers are the congregation.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

Sunday, April 1— Easter

Wednesday, April 4—LOGOS

Sunday, April 8—Movie Night

Wednesday, April 11—CiCi's LOGOS

Sunday, April 15—No Youth

Wednesday, April 18— Last LOGOS

Sunday, April 22—Firehouse #4

Wednesday, April 25—Variety Show 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 29—Game Night



Youth Group is open to youth in grades 6th—12th. If your child is interested in participating in Youth Group activities, please contact David Slyter.

M A R I A L I C E ' S M U S I C N O T E S

HYMN FESTIVAL

First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth will present **BEAUTY UNBOUNDED, The Fullness of Easter**, on Saturday, April 7, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Mark your calendars now for a unique and exciting morning discovering how music and the arts deepen our theological and spiritual experiences. This event, held in First Presbyterian Church's beautiful facilities, includes a lecture with **Eric Wall, Assistant Professor of Sacred Music and Dean of the Chapel at Austin Seminary**; a reception; and concludes with a hymn festival that features brass, choirs and organ. Plan to enjoy this extraordinary day!

First Presbyterian Church
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth

The Children's Choirs will conclude their rehearsals for the spring with the last Logos – April 18. We sincerely thank those children who have participated, for the parents, grand-parents and others who have seen that the children have been present for rehearsals and when they have sung in worship. Special thanks to Linda Young for her dedicated and tireless work with our very young singers. Also thanks to Margaret Gilbert, V. A. Littleton, Myrlan Coleman, Shanteè Siebuhr and others I may have missed naming, for their support and invaluable help. Many thanks!



F R E D A N D B A R B A R A R Y L E M E M O R I A L S C H O L A R S H I P

Sunday, April 29 is the 5th Sunday of the month. As approved by Session (4-20-17), all undesignated cash in offering plate will be deposited in the Fred and Barbara Ryle Scholarship account until the fund reaches the disbursement threshold or until modified by the Council.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 15, 2018

Council approved Christian Education's recommendations:

1. April 25 starting at 5:30 p.m. for the Variety Show, with the proceeds going to Kids Against Hunger.
2. May 27 for Teacher Recognition and Scholarship Awards.

Council approved Property's recommendations:

1. Bradley James Company fill cracks, seal, and re-stripe the parking lot and Circle drive for the cost of \$6,950.
2. Couch Terrazzo and Restoration Company repair the spalled area by the exterior door that leads to the parking lot in the Great Hall for \$1,495 and to strip, polish, and seal the rest of the Great Hall flooring for \$3,450 for a total of \$4,945.

COLLEGE CARE BOXES

Each year Presbyterian Women send college care boxes to Grace First college students. Starting Sunday, April 8, we will be collecting light-weight snack items such as:

Microwave Popcorn, Granola Bars, Cookies, Candy,
Snack Crackers, Gum, Individual coffee/tea/hot
chocolate packets etc.

We also need shoe boxes (small women's or large children's)

Please put donations in the PW collection box located in the Narthex or bring to the church by April 28. **Boxes will be packed Sunday, April 29.**



MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Christian Education

Sun., April 8, Noon

Personnel

Tues., April 10, 6:15 p.m.

In Touch

Tues., April 3, 9:30 a.m.

Property

Sat., April 7, 9:00 a.m.

First Connection

Thurs., April 12, 5:30 p.m.

Congregational Life

Thurs., April 12, 6:45 p.m.

Mission & Outreach

Thurs., April 5, 6:30 p.m.

Trustees

Wed., April 4, 10:30 a.m.

Deacons

Sun., April 8, Noon

Worship & Music

Tues., April 10, 3:30 p.m.

Prayer Shawl

Wed., April 11, 4:00 p.m.

Council

Thurs., April 19, 6:45 p.m.

Mission Study Team

Thursdays @ 5:00 p.m.



PW Coordinating Team—Thursday, April 5, 9:00 am

Circle 2—Tuesday, April 10, 2:00 pm

Evening Circle—Monday, April 16, 6:00 pm

MANNA UPDATE

EMPHASIS FOR APRIL

Any and all canned goods, including canned fruits, vegetables, soups, and 1lb bags of rice and pinto beans, 1 lb. boxes of spaghetti

Please put your donations in the grocery cart in the Narthex each Sunday or bring by the church office during the week.

The *Feasting on the Word* adult Sunday School class meets in Room 14 each week at 9:15 a.m. You are invited to join us as we discuss and share ideas on the following topics:

April 1— Go and Tell	Mark 16:1-8
April 8— Life in Common	Acts 4:32-35
April 15— Wonder, Word, and Witness	Luke 24:36-48
April 22—The Good Shepherd	John 10:11-18
April 29— Spirit Led	Acts 28:26-40

LOGOS Dinner—CiCi's night with Prayer Partners has been rescheduled for **Wednesday, April 11.**

Chair Yoga is cancelled on Tuesday, April 10.
We are having the floor of the Great Hall cleaned.

Financial quarterly reports
are available
on the table in the Narthex.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS



Grace First welcomed the following guests during the month of

M A R C H

Sunshine Billings
 Evan Carpenter
 Beth Lynn Dishman
 Louise Nichols
 Steve & Alice Cloud
 Luann Burleson
 Kimberly Hausly
 Steve & Lynne Myers
 Patti Allen
 Brian Birch
 Sue Coody
 Greg Jolly
 Amy Kramer
 Chris & Virginia Welsh



Freshly painted and striped parking lot.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

To the following GFPC members:

**A P R I L**

Eryn Williams	3	Hilary Davis	19
Pruitt Overturff	12	Pattie Kramer	19
Sue Jones	12	David Slyter	19
Katherine Mbuh	14	Reneè Roberts	21
Donna Allen	15	Judy Rawlins	22
Christene Donnell	15	Seth Goeldner	24
Robert Senter	15	Linda Snow	29
Jo Ann Turk	15		



Newest addition to the meditation garden,
 a Ruby Falls Weeping Redbud tree.

Take a moment the next time you are at
 the church to sit on a bench, relax and enjoy
 God's generous gifts.



Calling all of you who have a variety of talent (or not) and would like to be a part of the annual:

**Grace First Presbyterian Church
Variety Show, dinner, and dessert auction**

The show is Wednesday, April 25
Dinner & Show Acts will start at **5:30 p.m.**

There will be a live auction for the desserts.
All proceeds go towards our annual **LOGOS Program**.

Break out those delicious dessert recipes and those variety acts!

Sign up starting April 8 online, in the Sunday bulletin
insert, or by contacting the church office.

Even if you don't cook or have an act,
come join us for this fun evening!

APRIL VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Lay Leaders:

- April 15—Stephanie Eidson
- April 22—Janelle Currin
- April 29—Rebecca Williams

Deacon Assignments:

- Jean Thomason and Sally Arnold

Nursery Help:

- April 15—Marti Roschè

Children's Moment:

- April 1—Stephanie Eidson
- April 8—Communion—No Children's Moment
- April 15—Linda Skov
- April 22—Leslie Goeldner
- April 29—Bettie Riall

Greeters:

- April 1—Wendy Bates & Janelle Currin
- April 8—Dave & Janet Douglass
- April 15—Bonnie Evans & Karen Lail
- April 22—Kevin & Leslie Goeldner
- April 29—V.A. Littleton & Sue Masterson

Guest Station:

- April 1—Myrna Fields
- April 8—Roberta Furman
- April 15—Leslie Goeldner
- April 22—Sue Jones
- April 29—Melissa O'Hern

Communion Set and**Clean Up :**

- Melissa O'Hern, Melanie Curtin,
Janet Duncan, and Karen Lail

*** Fellowship Snack Schedule is located in the kitchen on the board next to the microwave.**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, APRIL 29 FOLLOWING WORSHIP

To hear and act upon the report of the Church Officer Nominating Committee concerning candidates for the Class of 2021 for the Council, Board of Deacons, and Board of Trustees.

The quorum for this meeting is 10% of those who are on the active roll of our congregation. This means that at least 30 members must be present to begin this meeting.

APRIL EVENTS

1**EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE**

He Is Risen! Come Celebrate The Resurrection of our Savior!

Service begins at 10:40 A.M.

15**THIRD SUNDAY LUNCH**

Sunday, April 15, after worship in the Great Hall. Bring a potluck dish to share and stay for good food and good fellowship.

18**LAST LOGOS UNTIL THE FALL**

Wednesday, April 18, Earth Day Picnic at The Kramers'

22**YOUTH SUNDAY SERVICE**

Sunday, April 22, The youth of Grace First will be leading worship this Sunday!

22**KEENELAND WORSHIP SERVICE**

Members of Grace First provide a short worship/singing service for the residents of Keeneland Nursing Home on the last Sunday of the month.

22**VARIETY SHOW AND DINNER**

Wednesday, April 25, 5:30 p.m. in the Great Hall. (See page 8 for more Info)

29**PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT SHELTER**

Sunday, April 29. Volunteers to serve the evening meal at the Night Shelter in Fort Worth.

Presbyterian Women Of Grace Presbytery 2018 SPRING WORKSHOP

The Lord will guide you...Isaiah 58:11

You are invited to join us on

April 28, 2018

St. Stephen PC Ft. Worth

Registration	8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Gathering	9:00 a.m.- 9:35 a.m.
First Session	9:45 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.
Second Session	10:40 a.m.-11:25 a.m.
Lunch	11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Third Session	12:50 p.m. -1:35 p.m.
Closing Benediction	1:45 p.m. -2:00 p.m.

Reverend Elizabeth Pense will offer a Workshop on the new PW Bible Study: **God's Promise: I Am With You** She will offer insights and teaching tips for presenting the lessons!

Other workshops to include: Prayer Life and Devotionals, Organ Concert, Cluster Leader Update, Presbyterian Pan America School, PW Leadership groups and many others.

Things to bring: \$8 for lunch, and additional money if you wish to purchase items from the Missions tables.

If you are interested in attending, please sign-up on the bulletin insert, or call the church office. Registration **deadline is April 21.**

The Spring Worship promises to be a fun time of fellowship with women from across Grace Presbytery.



GIFTS OF HOPE 2018 ~ Mother's Day Cards

Mother's Day, May 13, 2018 is right around the corner

NOW IS THE TIME – GIVE A GIFT OF HOPE TODAY!

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, **“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”**
ACTS 20:35

Tired of giving the same gift to Mom every Mother's Day? Try GFPC's Mission and Outreach cards! What mother, mentor or special friend wouldn't be honored with a card knowing that a donation was made in her honor to support the church's mission work in assisting needy women and children locally and internationally?

Our children and youth of Grace First did their part by creating the magical designs for the fronts of the Mother's Day cards that you can choose from. Inside will list the names of the 3 charitable organizations that we are supporting which are:

The **Kitchen Kit** project of the Presbyterian Giving Catalog includes cooking pots, utensils, bowls, cups and spoons. Food requires preparation, and families who have lost everything in a disaster often lack the basic tools needed to cook a meal.

The Supplies for the **Displaced Students** project of the Presbyterian Giving Catalog will enable three students living in Lebanese refugee camps who have lost everything the gift of school supplies.

The **GFPC Compassion Fund** supports our Parker County community in need with assistance toward utility bills, groceries, and prescription medications. Manna Storehouse distributes this Fund for the church.

Your donation will be split evenly between the three organizations unless you indicate a preference when you purchase the card. We'll leave it to you to circle that organization on your cards. Please prayerfully consider giving a \$10 donation, but any amount will be greatly appreciated. The sum total of all contributions will make a huge difference to women, children and families in need.

You can purchase Mother's Day cards in the Narthex on Sundays or
in the church office during the week of April 22 – May 6.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Members and Their Families

Bel Wise
 Jim Coleman
 Jackie Case
 Owen Kaiser, father of Dave Kaiser

Friends

Carol Allen, friend of Nancy Richards
 Russell Mason, friend of Jerre Dale
 Jessica Stephens, co-worker of Stephanie Eidson
 Jo Ann Fowler, friend of Myrlan Coleman
 Kati Hamilton, daughter of Linda Tingle (Habitat for Humanity)
 Autumn Reed, friend of Deb Kaiser
 Donny, friend of Patti Allen
 Paige Davis, friend of Liz Clark

Continuing Concerns

Grainger Weston, father of Sarah Eidson
 Nona, mother of Deb Kaiser
 Carla Trevino
 Lauren Barnhart Reed
 Greg, father of Shanteé Siebuhr
 Judy Guyll, cousin of Roberta Furman
 Jim Trail, son-in-law of Bel Wise
 Mildred Beard
 Paula Bowen, grandmother of Hilary Davis
 David Wenzel, son-in-law of Peggy Boardman
 Ben and Sharon McPherson
 Paul and Kaye Martino
 Frank & Arda Morgan
 Hazel Woodrum, mother of Sharon McPherson

Our homebound and nursing home members, and all those serving in the military and their families.

save
the
date

VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL
2018

SHIPWRECKED
Rescued By Jesus!

Monday, June 25 - Friday, June 29, 9 a.m.—Noon
 Ages 4 years old through 5th Grade



Please contact the church office with change of addresses, phone numbers, & e-mail addresses. Don't forget your kid's new college addresses.

From First Connection Ministry:

Many GFPC members make frequent visits to hospitals, rehab facilities, and nursing homes. At times, facility staffs or patient's families may not be clear about the identity of the visitor. As a courtesy, and as a way to raise awareness of the church's outreach, we now have personalizable name badges with the church logo available in the church office to wear when visiting. To request your own name badge, please contact the office or use the bulletin insert to specify how you want your tag personalized.

THANKS, First Connection



Grace First Presbyterian Church
606 Mockingbird Lane
Weatherford, TX 76086

GRACE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
606 MOCKINGBIRD LANE, WEATHERFORD, TEXAS 76086

**SUNDAY MORNING
SCHEDULE**

Sunday School Classes—9:15 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship—10:25 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship—10:40 a.m.



PHONE NUMBERS

817-594-2744, 817-341-2258 (metro)
Office Hours: M-Th, 9:00 am—4:00 pm

WEBSITE

WWW.GRACEFIRSTPC.ORG

STAFF

Interim Pastor, *The Rev. Edith A. Gause*
Associate Pastor, *The Rev. David A. Slyter*
Ministers, *The Congregation*
Dir. of Music & Organist, *Marialice Parish, M. M.*
Office Coordinator, *Casey Schmidt*
Financial Administrator, *Alycia Nelson*
Office Assistant, *Lacey VanPay*

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Church—info@gracefirstpc.org
Edie—egause@gracefirstpc.org
David—dslyter@gracefirstpc.org
Marialice—mparish@gracefirstpc.org
Casey—cschmidt@gracefirstpc.org
Alycia—anelson@gracefirstpc.org
Lacey—lvanpay@gracefirstpc.org