

THE Penn Street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth

APRIL 2018 | Volume 17, Number 4

Easter



SUNDAY, APRIL 1

SUNRISE SERVICE

7 a.m. in Memorial Garden/Labyrinth

Celebrate Easter with the sunrise at this joyful service outdoors in the setting of FPC's beautiful Memorial Garden and Labyrinth. Chairs provided; inclement weather location is the Atrium.

EASTER WORSHIP

8, 9, and 11 a.m.

Celebrate Easter at 8, 9, and 11 a.m.

SHARE THE JOY OF EASTER!

We encourage you to use the Easter invitation cards available around the church building to invite a friend, family member, co-worker, neighbor, or someone else that you encounter in your day to worship at FPC on Easter Sunday, April 1. If we all invite one person, imagine the impact! Thanks for your help in getting the word out.

Under Construction, Overwhelmed By Blessing

Approaching the Sanctuary Renovation Project

Change evokes different emotions within us. For some, change is challenging and brings sadness and fear. In other cases, change is exciting, exhilarating, and inspiring. No matter how you react to change, it is almost always easier when we go through it together.

In April, that's exactly what we'll do here at First Presbyterian as we begin the Sanctuary renovation project. If you've not yet heard about the plans, see the article on page 6. While the Sanctuary will be under construction for a season, we have the opportunity to focus on the overwhelming blessing it is to witness our shared ministry grow into the future.

Here are a few things to keep in mind as we approach this season of change:

- **Sunday, April 8** is the last Sunday 11 a.m. worship will be held in the Sanctuary. It's also Legacy Sunday when we honor those who've been members of FPC for 50 or

more years. What a special time to acknowledge our past, present, and future!

- On **Monday, April 9**, the FPC Sanctuary will close for several months, likely until September.
- On **Sunday, April 15**, the 11 a.m. service will move to the Great Hall. It's a new location, but the same service - with choir, familiar order of worship, and even the same ushers. Personal sound devices will continue to be made available.
- If you attend the 9 a.m. service, please help make the set-up for another service easier by taking your bulletin and coffee cup with you as you leave the Great Hall. As always, the 3rd Floor Concourse provides a great place for visiting. Clearing the room quickly will allow staff and volunteers to prepare for the 11 a.m. service. Thank you!
- Watch for additional announcements, as needed.

If you have questions about the Sanctuary renovation and this season of change at FPC, please don't hesitate to contact the church office or a pastor at 817-335-1231.



PASTORS' LETTER

Dear friends,

What's your favorite physical spot in Fort Worth?

Mine is the Museum of Modern Art. What an unexpected reality, that materials as otherwise cold as steel, concrete, and glass can coalesce into such a warm and inspiring space. When I need to think, to reflect, I drive the short distance from First Pres and treat myself to a stunning building housing remarkable art.

The Museum owns a piece by Anthony Caro that keeps me coming back — *The Descent from the Cross*. Rusted steel is twisted and waxed into an evocative moment, the moment as those who love him take Jesus' body down from the cross.

Artists sometimes represent the human body out of proportion in order to make a point — think Michelangelo's *David*, with his long arms and enormous hands — and Caro does this with *Descent from the Cross*. Jesus' lifeless body is taller than the other figures, and much heavier. Jesus is outsized. The steel in the sculpture seems irreversibly earthbound, much too heavy ever to be lifted. (Take a look at the sculpture here: <http://www.themodern.org/descent-cross-after-rubens.>)

Caro makes his point.

They crucified Jesus. They put nails in his wrists and ankles. They watched his labored breathing, witnessed his final gasps. They killed the Lord. Jesus had carried the weight of the world onto that cross, and, now dead, that weight was much too heavy ever to be lifted.

Our advantage is that we know the end of the story. Jesus rose again. Jesus had carried onto the cross, it turns out, not just the world's weight, but also the world's hope, and by the power of God hope is more buoyant than death, more unexpectedly weightless than steel.

My college sculpture professor taught me to depict the moment *just before*. If sculpting a ballerina, pick the split second just before she leaps into the air. If sculpting a baseball pitcher, choose the exact moment just before he releases the ball.

I dearly love Anthony Caro's sculpture because it places us in the moment *just before* the resurrection, but only after it forces upon us the moment *just after* the crucifixion. Truth told, there is no resurrection without crucifixion, not ascension without death, no picking up without first a letting down.

We will hold fifteen worship services in Holy Week, between Palm Sunday and Easter. If worshipers gather only for Jesus' triumphant entrance on Palm Sunday and then again to celebrate the resurrection on Easter morning, they will miss the poignant reflection possible by tending to Jesus between the high points. And, they will miss the fullest meaning and measure of God's defeat of death.

I hope to see you on Palm Sunday, and on Easter morning, and also at some point in between. Somehow, tending to crucifixion's weight makes resurrection's weightlessness all the more important.

See you in church,

FIRST CONNECTIONS CLASS

First Connections introduces new members and visitors to the ministries and mission of FPC. The class meets Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Parlor. The schedule below gives remaining topics:

April 8:
History of the Church

April 15:
Tour of Community Crossroads

If you have questions, please contact Discipleship Coordinator, Martha Zaborowski, in the church office (marthaz@fpcfww.org).

SUBMISSIONS

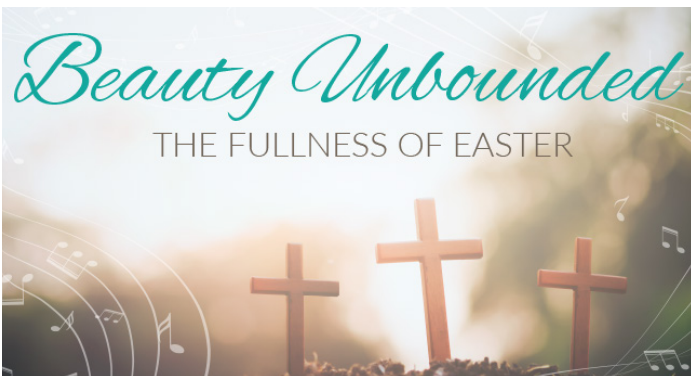
Submissions for the MAY issue of the Penn Street Letter are due **Wednesday, April 18**. Submissions for the weekly Penn Street Online emailed newsletters are due the Wednesday prior to each week's issue. Please send to Teresa Tysinger at ttysinger@fpcfww.org or bring by the church office.

PUBLISHER INFO

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LECTURE & HYMN FESTIVAL

You are invited to a unique and exciting morning discovering how music and the arts deepen our theological and spiritual experiences. The event, held in FPC's beautiful facilities on Saturday, April 7 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., includes a lecture with Eric Wall, Assistant Professor of Sacred Music and Dean of the Chapel at Austin Seminary.

The lecture will be followed by a reception and concludes with a beautiful and moving hymn festival that features brass, choirs, and organ. This event is FREE and everyone is welcome, but we do ask that you RSVP at fpcfw.org/beautyunbounded to help with headcount.



HONORING 50+ YEAR MEMBERS

On Sunday, April 8 at the 11 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary, we will honor those who have been members of the church for 50 or more years. If you've been a part of this congregation for 50+ years, please join us at 10:30 a.m. in the Narthex for a photo and stay after worship for a reception at 12 noon on the 3rd Floor Concourse. Be sure to wear your Legacy Member pins; those being honored for the first time will receive theirs on April 8. Thank you!



REGISTER TODAY!

It's time to register for FPC summer camps! We are busy planning fun, energetic, and creative camp opportunities for children. So, be sure to join in the fun and make it a summer to remember!

ECO CAMP: June 17 - 22

SUMMER FUN 1: June 18 - 22

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 25 - 28

PRE-K MUSIC & ART CAMP: July 9 - 13

MO-RANCH CAMP: July 15 - 21

ELEMENTARY MUSIC & ART CAMP: July 23 - 27

SUMMER FUN 2: July 23 - 27

MISSION ON THE MOVE: July 30 - August 3

Learn more about these events and register at FPCFW.ORG/SUMMER-CAMPS



BBQ, ICE CREAM & MORE!

On Sunday, April 22, come to the annual All Church Picnic on the FPC grounds. Hosted by the Fellowship Committee, this fun event will include Dickey's BBQ, balloon artist, face painting, ice cream truck, bounce house, personalized buttons, and a chance to visit with FPC friends. Cost is \$7 per family or \$25 family maximum. No RSVP needed! (Note: Inclement weather location will be the Gym.)



Gifted by God



The annual FPC Church Retreat will be **August 31 - September 3** (Labor Day Weekend). We will once again return to Mo-Ranch in Hunt, TX to enjoy the beauty of the Hill Country.

This year our theme is "Gifted by God" and will encourage you to take notice of the gifts that God has given while slowing down and spending quality time with your family and friends, nature, and God.

We will enjoy meals together and gather for evening reflections and Sunday morning worship. This is truly a "retreat" format, meaning that there is plenty of time built into our schedule for rest, recreation and relaxation!

Activities include: swimming pools, riverfront activities, hiking, ropes course, paddle boards, fishing, canoeing, a prayer labyrinth, campfires, movies and games, line dancing, Critter Class, church dance, and much more.

**REGISTER TODAY AT
FPCFW.ORG/RETREAT**

You must register by May 23 for guaranteed housing.

BE INSPIRED...

Below are some upcoming opportunities for being inspired into a life of discipleship through church events in the coming weeks.

April Book People

The next Book People book club meeting will be on Monday, April 9 at 12 p.m. We will discuss *Someplace Familiar*, a novel by Teresa Tysinger. Teresa is also FPC's Director of Communications. She'll join us for our discussion! E-book and print copies of the book are available from Amazon and there is even a copy in the church library! Join us for this exciting meeting.

Youth Sunday

Youth Sunday will be April 22. At the 9 and 11 a.m. worship services, FPC youth will help lead worship, provide music, and offer messages. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our youth and all they bring to our community!

Youth Sunday Ringers

Any youth, grades 6-12, are invited to ring with the Youth Sunday Ringers on Sunday, April 22 as part of Youth Sunday. We will meet for 4 micro-rehearsals:

Sunday, April 8: 10:45-10:59 a.m.

Sunday, April 15: 9:30-10 a.m.

Questions? Contact Rebecca Sawyer at rsawyer@fpcfw.org or call 817-335-1231.

JHaMS at Austin College

JHaMS (Junior High and Middle School) at Austin College will be held July 19-22 for students in grades 6-8. Cost is \$175, scholarships are available. The theme this year is "Enough is Enough." A \$100 deposit is due by June 3 and can be given to Josh Stewart at Youth Group or Jayne McFarland in the office. Please remember that youth who register are asked to participate in at least 5 Youth Group activities in this Spring semester.

April Brunch

Brunch in April will consist of finger foods and brunch appetizers served on the 3rd Floor Concourse in between Easter Sunday worship services on April 1. Enjoy these complimentary treats and visit with friends new and old!

Next Presbyterian Women's Event

All women are invited to the April Tuesday Together gathering of the Presbyterian Women on Tuesday, April 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the Great Hall. Lunch (\$7) follows. This month, the program will be Combating Slavery, Igniting Hope: The Fight Against Human Trafficking in Our City.

Wondering if human trafficking occurs in our city? Do you know the signs to watch for? Want to know how to engage in the fight against it? Join us for a presentation by UnBound on human trafficking in our community. Learn who is at risk and how community members can help end it. Learn more at unboundnow.org.

Please RSVP for Tuesday Together with Celeste Falter in the church office at cfalter@fpcfw.org or 817-335-1231.

Adult Christian Nurture International Trips

The Adult Christian Nurture Committee is excited to announce two international educational trips in 2019 and 2020. The Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski will lead a fall 2019 trip to Scotland and the Rev. Karl Travis will lead a summer 2020 trip to Israel. If you are interested in either or both trips, please email Michael, michaelw@fpcfw.org. More details to come in future publications.

ENGAGE THE WORLD...

Below are some a few ways you are invited to serve others through First Presbyterian Church mission and outreach efforts in the coming weeks.



Thursday, April 26, 2018
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

About Homeless Connect

Homeless Connect is an event provided for those experiencing homelessness in Fort Worth, TX. First Presbyterian will once again be the host site and coordinator for this event. On-site services, lunch, hair-cuts, glasses, free backpacks and more are provided. Dozens of social service agencies will offer information and direct assistance with health, housing, legal, and other concerns. The event usually welcomes 500+ homeless guests into our building.

Serve at Homeless Connect

It takes hundreds of volunteers to help make this event the success that it has been in the past. Duties of volunteers include set-up, greeting and directing, handing out backpacks, providing a listening ear, and more. If you'd like to volunteer, please email Donna Laminack at dlyn22@hotmail.com.

Another way to serve is to donate items for the Women's Boutique at Homeless Connect, offered by FPC's Presbyterian Women to give homeless women some much needed dignity and pride. Please place the following items in the marked box inside the Presbyterian Women's office (Room 312) or bring to the church office.

- New or gently used bras
- New underwear
- Costume jewelry
- Scarves
- Perfume and/or perfume samples
- Feminine products
- Canvas or cloth bags



Travel from June 10-16 to Corpus Christi and Rockport, TX to help those hardest hit by Hurricane Harvey rebuild and clean up. Youth and adults will serve side by side on this trip (rising 9th graders and older). The team will travel on charter bus and will stay at Parkway Presbyterian. Cost is an estimated \$300 per person. To register, please turn in a \$100 commitment deposit to Jayne McFarland or Josh Stewart in the office no later than April 15.

Peanut Butter Sunday

Every 3rd Sunday of the month is Peanut Butter Sunday. Please bring 15-16 oz. jars or single-serve snack packs to church to help stock the shelves of the First HAND Food Pantry at Community Crossroads. Thank you for your generosity!

New Drop-Off Instructions for Community Crossroads

Drop off boxes are marked throughout the FPC campus building. Staff and/or volunteers can also receive donations at Community Crossroads (1516 Hemphill St.) on the following days/times.

Mondays: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Mondays, 2:30 - 4 p.m.

Wednesdays, 8:30 - 11 a.m.

Wednesdays, 6 - 7:30 p.m. (except in July)

Thursdays, 7 - 11 a.m.

Mission Trip Opportunities with Habitat for Humanity



There's room for you on two 2018 Habitat for Humanity trips, one to Kenya in September and one to El Salvador in November.

Out of Africa Build

September 7-16, 2018

COST - \$2,500 (estimated)

Includes flight, in-country transport, hotel and food. Price will firm up when the flight is confirmed. Four to five days will be spent building a home.

Thanksgiving Build

Dates: November 17-24, 2018

Cost: \$1,630 (estimated)

Includes flight, in-country transport, hotel and food. Again, cost will firm up once the flight is booked. Four to five days will be spent building a home.

Interested or Ready to Sign Up?

Contact Jeremy Byrd

Jeremy.Byrd@TrinityHabitat.org

817-926-9219 x132

TrinityHabitat.org

Check your calendars for these 2019 trip dates, too!

El Salvador: March 2019

Kenya: June 2019

Dominican Republic: August 2019

El Salvador: November 2019

Introducing New Jazz Ensemble Members



Did you know that on the third Sunday of each month, the 9 a.m. worship service welcomes a Jazz Ensemble to offer music for the service? For years, this ensemble has included renowned jazz musicians Mario Cruz (soprano saxophone and flute) and Richard Powell (piano).

In March, the ensemble welcomed two new musicians, equally talented and celebrated in the jazz community. These gentlemen will play again with the rest of FPC's Jazz Ensemble on Sunday, April 15.



BRENT DACUS, Drums

For 45 years, Brent Dacus has provided his drum set skills to over 80 musical productions. Brent traveled throughout the U.S. for over 25 years with various artists, including Reba McEntire, Betty Buckley, and Lacy J. Dalton. He is currently freelancing, adding his

drumming talents to popular local bands like Trey and the Tritones. Brent does extensive studio recording and can also frequently be found in the orchestra pit at Casa Manana.



PETE MILLER, Bass

Pete Miller has enjoyed a successful career in both live performance and recording. With extensive touring over the years, he has had the opportunity of sharing the stage as a supporting act with a number of musical greats including The Temptations, Gladys Knight, Beach

Boys, Faith Hill, LeAnn Rimes, and Garth Brooks. Recording credits cover a wide range of musical styles and projects such as albums for various artists, and jingles for TV and radio. In the DFW area, he has had the honor of producing and arranging recording projects for many artists and songwriters.

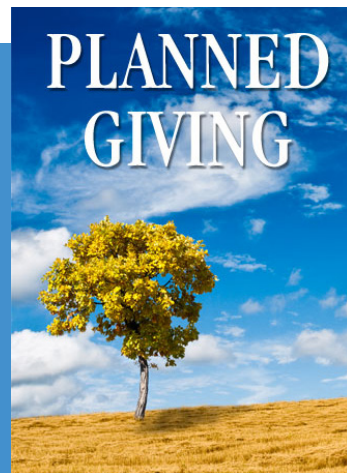
Sanctuary Renovation Details

FPC's Session has approved a project to renovate FPC's Sanctuary. We invite you to read about this season of change on page 1. The Session has provided funding for the project from resources generously provided in the past and set aside to fund projects like this one. No solicitations will be made. We are so blessed!

The design calls for:

- Installation of a new public address system that provides better sound quality for preaching and other speaking from the pulpit and lectern
- New paint
- Spacing the pews farther apart to allow for easier movement
- Adding a lift into the chancel to welcome those with mobility challenges into worship leadership
- Bringing the chancel and the Lord's Table forward, and closer to worshipers

Because several folks have inquired about this, please know that the renovation will NOT include placing digital screens in the Sanctuary. Finally, watch for announcements in late summer or early fall about when we will move back into the Sanctuary and celebrate these exciting updates.



Do You Have a Will?

Do you have a will? Does your will need updating? Consider putting your will on your 2018 "To-Do List." For questions regarding wills and planned giving, contact Dana Fickling in the church office at 817-335-1231.

JOYS & CONCERNS

Following are the joys and concerns shared as of March 14, 2018 (due to printing deadlines). To respect the privacy of those listed, names are included only when the individuals grant their permission.

Our loving sympathy to...

Family and friends of **Jean Hunter**, who died February 16.

Family and friends of **Ed Cook**, who died on February 24.

Joseph and **Maurine Dajcs** on the death of his father, Joseph Dajcs on February 27 in Michigan. Other FPC family includes grandchildren Emma Dajcs and **Robbie Heine**.

Martha Zaborowski on the death of her mother, Bess Hunt, on March 6 in Florida. Other FPC family includes grandson, **Steven Zaborowski**.

Our loving thoughts and prayers are with...

Marjorie Gordon, **Donald Deshauters**, and **Lisa Priddy**, who are recovering from surgery or injury. **Rush Hart**, **Marilyn Wilson**, **Vera Kendall**, **Dwight Mason**, **Phyllis Propes**, **Emma Coley**, **Marjorie Lewis**, **Rev. Floyd Kinser**, **Dorothy Kinser**, **Indi Butler**, **Nona Cobden**, **Corinna Nation**, **Lisa Shiner**, **Jacquitta White**, **Marge Shiner**, **Elizabeth Bean**, **Frances Blake**, **Carolyn Lischio**, **Nancy Nelson**, and **Dalia Scott**, who are dealing with illness or undergoing treatment. **Jane Watson**, who is on hospice.

Our caring prayers for extended family include...

Bill and Susan Neill (brother and sister-in-law of **Marilyn Love**), Warren Brown (son-in-law of **Betty Tefft**), Glenda Burger (sister of **Vance Laminack**), Janet Laminack (cousin of **Julie Sphar and Vance Laminack**), John DeMore (son-in-law of **June Sprott**), Lisa Koenig (niece of **Clark Williams**), Kathy Kline (**Maxine Kruse's** daughter), Marty Kinard (**Larry and Bettye Kinard's** daughter-in-law), Mark Bryant (**Joanne Sarsgard's** son), and Susan Chenault (**Frances Chenault's** daughter).

Prayers for peace in our world, for the safety of Nathan Gunter (**Russell and Vivian Norment's** nephew) who is stationed in Korea. Also for the safety of **Diego A. Saldivar**, who is serving in the US Navy; Diego is the son of **Becky and Rene Saldivar**.

Our congratulations and best wishes to...

Jarrod and Katy Sims on the birth of a daughter, Lily Kathryn Sims, on February 21. She joins big brother Max. Other proud FPC family members include grandparents **Bill and Peggy Sims**, aunt and uncle **Meridith and Brad Wallace**, cousins **Claire and Will Wallace**, great aunt **Angie and Craig Becker**, and cousins **Megan and Ben Becker**.



CALENDAR

Below are a few highlighted events in April.
More at fpcfw.org/calendar.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1

- 7 a.m. Sunrise Service in Memorial Garden
- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 8-11 a.m. Easter Brunch on 3rd Floor Concourse
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 11 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

- 9 a.m. Lecture & Hymn Festival

SUNDAY, APRIL 8 (Legacy Sunday)

- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 10 a.m. Church School for All Ages
- 11 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary, Legacy Members Honored

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

- All Day Peanut Butter Sunday (donations collected)
- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 10 a.m. Church School for All Ages
- 11 a.m. Worship in Great Hall (new location; see page 1)
- 6:30 p.m. Taize Worship in Chapel

SUNDAY, APRIL 22 (Youth Sunday)

- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 10 a.m. Church School for All Ages
- 11 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 11 - 1 All Church Picnic

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

- 9 a.m. Homeless Connect

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 10 a.m. Church School for All Ages
- 11 a.m. Worship in Great Hall



THE
penn street
LETTER

First Presbyterian Church
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

PERIODICALS

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to
The Penn Street Letter,
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Church Office
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WWW.FPCFW.ORG

Easter



Everyone is welcome.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

7 A.M. | 8 A.M. | 9 A.M. | 11 A.M.

SUNRISE
SERVICE
IN MEMORIAL
GARDEN

SERVICE
IN CHAPEL

SERVICE
IN GREAT HALL

SERVICE
IN SANCTUARY