

THE Penn Street LETTER

First Presbyterian Church, Fort Worth

AUGUST 2019 | Volume 19, Number 8

DAVID LAMOTTE CONCERT WITH SPECIAL GUEST WES COLLINS



Thursday, August 15 at 7 p.m. in the Great Hall

David LaMotte is coming to FPC for a concert with special guest Wes Collins on Thursday, August 15 at 7 p.m. in the Great Hall. This concert is free and open to the public.

David LaMotte is an award-winning songwriter, speaker, author, and activist. He has produced 12 CDs and performed 2500 concerts on 5 continents. The *Boston Globe* says he "pushes the envelope with challenging lyrics and unusual tunings, but he also pays homage to folk tradition," while *BBC Radio* praises his "charm, stories, humour, insightful songs, sweet voice and dazzling guitar ability."

He suspended his music career in 2008 to accept a Rotary World Peace Fellowship, earning a master's degree in International Studies, Peace, and Conflict Resolution from the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, and working in rural India as part of that degree.

David maintains a dense calendar of speaking and musical events worldwide. He also serves as the president of PEG Partners, the non-profit organization he co-founded to support schools and libraries in Guatemala. In addition to that, he serves as the Clerk (chair) of the Nobel Peace Prize Nominating Task Group for the AFSC (Quakers).

His most recent endeavor is as one-third of the interfaith trio Abraham Jam, whose debut album was released in July 2019.



KICKING OFF A NEW SEASON OF MINISTRY & MISSION

**Sunday, August 25 from 8:30 - 11 a.m.
on the 3rd Floor Concourse**

Make plans on Sunday, August 25 to attend the Fall Mission and Ministry Kick-off Celebration on the 3rd floor concourse! This annual event includes a variety of ministries and their leaders who will be present from 8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. to share plans for the coming year as we celebrate the vibrant ministries for children, youth, and adults. Our Food Service Director, Heath Brosi, has planned a delicious brunch which will be served from 10 - 10:45 a.m. You won't want to miss this celebration!



PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

With the 50th anniversary of the Apollo mission in July, I thought of other historic events that also commemorate fifty years in 2019. While I wasn't alive then, I know how profoundly 1969 shaped our psyche and culture. As one person says, "The swinging sixties quivered with change. A chain of famous events in 1969 would change the world for the good and bad, leaving its mark in history as one of the most culturally defining years to date."

Think back with me... in 1969 ...we remember Nixon's inauguration, the Vietnam War and all of the protests, the deadly riots in Malaysia, the conflicts in Northern Ireland, the first Woodstock, Charles Manson murders, the first person lands and walks on the moon. Also that year, the Beatles release their last album and perform their last concert; the *Saturday Evening Post* is retired after 100 years of publication; the Boeing 747 makes its debut as well as the first ever Concorde test flight launches; the first temporary artificial heart is implanted; and the first person reaches the North Pole after crossing the frozen surface of the Arctic Ocean on foot. In 1969, the Stonewall Riots begin in New York City, at the beginning of the Gay Rights Movement, and the trials of the murders of RFK and MLK take place. The Black Panther Movement gains momentum. On a much lighter note, but near and dear to my heart, the *Brady Bunch* premieres its first episode.

Did you also know that in July 1969 the Rev. Elizabeth (Betsy) Johnson Pense was ordained and installed at First Presbyterian Church? She was the first Presbyterian clergywoman ordained in North Texas and the ninth woman ordained in the Presbyterian Church, U.S. Betsy has served the church faithfully in these five decades, and we are especially thankful for her ministry at First Presbyterian. We give thanks for all the ways in which she responds to God's call, and I, as a fellow clergywoman, am particularly grateful for her leadership.

The events of our world are ever changing, and many of the things that we experience, like in 1969, can be tumultuous and difficult. And, also, during every moment God is present and working in the church through people like you and Betsy and me to share God's light, Christ's love, and the Holy Spirit's companionship. May it be so with all of us!

Peace,

Robyn



Each month, children and youth participate in worship and generosity by dropping a dollar bill in the offering plate. Each month, we highlight a different ministry.

Children and youth, in August your \$1 bills will help fund uniforms given to local schools through Community Crossroads.

Parents, teach generosity to your kids by sharing a \$1 bill for this valuable ministry.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the SEPTEMBER issue of the Penn Street Letter are due **Wednesday, August 21**. Submissions for the weekly Penn Street Online emailed newsletters are due the Wednesday prior to each week's issue. Please send to Kathryn Breitbarth at kbreitbarth@fpcf.org or bring by the church office.

FOLLOW US

Do you follow First Presbyterian on social media? If not, find us on the following sites and follow along for photos, reminders, encouragement, and more.



@firstpresfw



@firstpres_fw



@firstpres_fw

PUBLISHER INFO

The Penn Street Letter is published monthly by First Presbyterian Church, 1000 Penn Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3496. Periodicals postage is paid at Fort Worth, TX and at additional offices.

Editor: Kathryn Breitbarth
Managing Editor: Pam Burkholder

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Penn Street Letter at 1000 Penn Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-3496.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

Have you ever wondered, when you get those inserts and those envelopes in the bulletin, what One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is all about? Do you wonder where and when it started, or where your donations go?

Well, the Presbyterian Mission Board has some answers and has published some interesting information in celebration of this, the 70th anniversary of One Great Hour of Sharing, an ecumenical effort to help relieve human suffering around the world.

HISTORY

The first offering was promoted via a national radio broadcast on the Saturday evening prior to Easter in 1949. A host of famous people participated in the program, including President Harry Truman and actors Gregory Peck and Ida Lupino.

Truman opened the “One Great Hour” broadcast by urging listeners to “build a new world, a far better world” in which the dignity of all humanity would be respected. The name of the radio program was adopted into the name of the offering the following year, and it became known as the One Great Hour of Sharing.

The day after the broadcast, on Easter Sunday, the OGHS offering was received for the first time. It brought much needed aid to people reeling from the destruction of World War II, which had ended just four years earlier. The Presbyterian Church joined other mainline Protestant denominations as well as Anglican and Orthodox communities in this effort.

In the 1960’s, the scope of One Great Hour of Sharing was expanded to include both national and international needs.

The offering has continued to be received every year since. Today gifts received in PC(USA) congregations support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People ministries.

For many Presbyterians and other Christians, stories related to the work of OGHS have become an integral part of their Lenten observance. The OGHS tradition has continued in part because it has included an emphasis on involving children. Generations of Sunday School children have learned about stewardship and mission support by putting coins into fish banks.

While most congregations receive the offering on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday, it can be received at any time. Last year Presbyterian gifts to OGHS topped \$6 million, an increase of more than 7.5 percent over 2017. After several years of decrease, 2018 marked the second year in a row that OGHS gifts increased over the previous year.

TYPES OF SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Today, there are four special offerings, promoted and collected at four specific events during the year.

- **enten Offering** - In keeping with tradition, the main OGHS offering is received during the Season of Lent. (This year on April 14 and April 21). It provides relief to those affected by disasters, food for the hungry, and support toward the self-development of poor and oppressed countries.
- **entecost Offering** - The second is on Pentecost (usually late May or early June). This offering unites us in a church wide effort to support young people by inspiring them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world and to build a life of faith. The offering serves to nurture all children, youth, and young adults, locally and around the world.
- **peace and Global Witness** - This offering is received during what is commonly called the Season of Peace (usually late September or early October). It benefits Peacemaking and Reconciliation efforts within cultures of violence and conflict - including our own. The offering encourages us to cast off fear and anxiety and embrace God’s boundless peace available to all.
- **Christmas Joy Offering** - During the Season of Advent, we receive this offering usually on Christmas Eve. During this season, we celebrate the gift of our church leaders - past, present, and future. We want church leaders and their families who find themselves grappling with critical financial need to receive assistance. Fifty percent of the offering is used to provide opportunities for Communities of Color through the leadership development efforts of the Racial Equity Office of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. The other 50 % provides financial assistance through the Board of Pensions, for current and retired Presbyterian clergy and church workers in their time of need.

“For 70 years, gifts from One Great Hour of Sharing have enabled our church and other churches to make a difference for people in distress”, said Bryce Wiebe, director of Special Offerings for the PC(USA). “Lives are changed thanks to the generous people who give each year to OGHS. We are grateful for every person who gives.”

For more information on the 70th anniversary celebration, or how you can participate, visit pcusa.org/OGHS70.

CONNECT this Fall

FOLLOW ME: 'Jesus and NonViolence' Group Forming



Richard Rohr has suggested that most of us just don't get it. He claims that we worship Jesus but are reluctant to follow him; and yet, as he points out, "Jesus never once says, 'Worship me!' whereas he frequently says, 'Follow me.'" So, what would that look like if we did?

Walter Wink and others teach that a crucial piece of following Jesus, and of becoming 'a new being in Christ,' is to adopt the nonviolent lifestyle he preached and lived. In his book, *Jesus*

and Nonviolence: A Third Way, Wink expands our understanding of what is meant by nonviolence and traces how Jesus, Gandhi, and King all practiced this courageous, loving, faithful way of addressing injustice and the violence it spawns.

Following Jesus could transform us, our relationships, and the world we live in!

A group will form this fall to study nonviolence, using Wink's book among others. We will covenant together to meet on Sunday afternoons from 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. starting on October 6 and continuing for eight weeks through November 24. We will take a deeper look at the Gospels and at Jesus' example. We will pray together, speak from the heart, learn from the wisdom of our authors and one another, and support one another in our personal growth.

If you would like to be part of such a group, you may register with Celeste in the church office (817.335.1231 or cfalter@fpcfw.org) and pick up your book there for \$6, or you may order your own on Amazon. Class size will need to be limited, so register early.

In a world that is too quick to support rhetoric that divides us from one another, participating in a group that cultivates genuine dialogue, contemplative prayer, and community could be an antidote for personal frustration and, in time, become part of the healing of the world.



The men of First Pres gather on the 3rd Thursday of each month, so mark your calendar now for August 15. They meet in the Great Hall at 7 a.m. for breakfast (\$5 per person), intentional conversation, and prayer with other FPC men. You'll find connection here! For reservations (not required, but helpful for our chef) or more information, visit fpcfw.org/men.

Adult Choirs Begin Soon

First Presbyterian's two adult choirs (Chancel and Fellowship) involve nearly 100 adults in worship leadership by offering joyful rehearsals, an encouraging and supportive community, and weekly opportunities to engage in the beauty and power of making music together. Singing together is a spiritual experience that nurtures the soul.

Rehearsals for the Chancel Choir and Fellowship Choir begin on Wednesday, August 14. The Chancel Choir rehearses from 7 - 8:30 p.m. and provides worship leadership primarily for the 11 a.m. service. The Fellowship Choir rehearses from 6 - 6:55 p.m. and provides worship leadership primarily for the 9 a.m. service. The choirs combine for special services such as Advent, Kirkin' of the Tartans, as well as occasional concerts. Childcare is provided for all rehearsals.

To learn more about the Chancel and Fellowship Choirs, please contact Michael Waschevski in the church office (817.335.1231 or michaelw@fpcfw.org).



Book People will resume meeting on Monday, September 9, at noon in room 226. The discussion will be on Alexander McCall Smith's *The Good Pilot Peter Woodhouse*. Set across the backdrop of World War II, a cast of endearing characters tell a story of love and unlikely friendships that cut across lines of nationality. There is a lot to enjoy in this engaging story and a lot to discuss.

Book People will also meet on October 14 and November 11. Watch for the announcement of the books to discuss soon. This group is open to all church members and friends and no reservations are required - just come! Questions? Contact Elizabeth Johnson Pense at ejpense@me.com.

Below are some opportunities to connect, study, and learn together this fall at First Presbyterian Church.

First Connections Class begins September 8

The First Connections class offers an opportunity to learn about First Presbyterian Church, our mission and ministries, as well as our history and connections to the PCUSA.

Class will meet on Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Parlor (adjacent to the Chapel).

- **September 8:** "Get to Know FPC" Breakfast and Greeting by Pastoral Staff
- **September 15:** Presbyterian History and Theology
- **September 22:** Walking Tour of Penn St. Campus
- **September 29:** History of FPC
- **October 6:** Spiritual Formation
- **October 13:** Community Outreach (Bus Tour of East Lancaster Neighborhood & Community Crossroads)

Even if you have been at FPC for a while, please join us and get to know our new members and visitors. Everyone is welcome!

Please RSVP for any of the class meetings by phone to the church office or by email to Chris Bartley at cbartley@fpcfw.org.

Fall Adult Church School

Beginning Sunday, September 8, over a dozen adult Church School classes will meet to study and support adults in nurturing their faith and discipleship. Classes meet from 10 - 10:45 a.m. each week and are led by an outstanding faculty of members and friends of First Presbyterian Church. Bible study, faith formation, and contemporary issues in church and society for the curriculum of the classes. For more information, please contact the Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski in the church office. (817.335.1231 or michaelw@fpcfw.org)



Fellowship Dinner Groups are groups of 7-8 church members who will meet 4-5 times throughout the fall for food and fellowship. Participants are invited to the kickoff dinner on Sunday, August 25 at 6 p.m. for an evening of food and entertainment hosted by the Fellowship Committee. Each group will plan to get together a few more times throughout the fall.

Please visit fpcfw.org/dinners before August 18 to sign up.

BUSY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Busy Women's Bible Study meets on Mondays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 310, beginning September 16. We will meet through the fall (ending November 20) and then resume in January. You're invited to come study the fascinating Book of Acts. There will be a little bit of homework, and a lot of fellowship and discussion in every meeting. Feel free to bring your lunch. Questions? Contact Lisa Waldron (817.239.3807) or Karen Steffler (817.313.5169).



Over the past several years, over 200 adult members and friends of First Presbyterian Church have completed the Reading the Bible in 9 Months program developed by Associate Pastor Michael Waschevski. Daily readings from September – May are arranged in such a way that the connections between the books of the Bible and the overarching themes and story cycles of scripture come together to reveal the unity of the Bible.

Monthly gatherings are offered for those who would like to come together to support and encourage one another in the discipline of daily reading, and to ask questions raised from the readings. The reading plan and schedule for monthly meetings for the 2019-2020 Reading the Bible in 9 Months will be posted on the First Presbyterian website and Facebook pages near the end of August. Reading plans will also be available at the Mission and Ministry Kick-Off Celebration Sunday, August 25.



YOUTH KICKOFF PARTY
Sunday, August 25, 4-6 p.m.
Silver Wheel Skating Center
7628 Corina Drive, 76108
All Youth Invited to join the fun as we
kickoff a new school year of Youth Group!
RSVP by Noon on Thursday, August 22.
Questions? Contact Josh (josh@fpcfw.org)

What is the Difference between Stephen Ministry and Sustaining Care?

Stephen Ministry is a lay caregiving program pioneered by Dr. Kenneth Haugk, a Lutheran minister and clinical psychologist, in the 1970's. FPC is an early adopter of Stephen Ministry with an active program dating from the 1980's that continues to thrive today. There are over 100 trained Stephen Ministers among our membership.

The traditional Stephen Ministry model is designed for care receivers who have experienced a crisis or loss. Trained caregivers work through the issue with them over several months or longer during which time they participate in regular supervision and continuing education-- generally working continuously with their care receivers until the issue is resolved. Initial Stephen Ministry training, supervision and continuing education activities focus on Jesus as the ultimate caregiver. Other important skills include active listening, maintaining healthy boundaries and ways to use prayer and scripture in caring conversations.

The FPC Stephen Ministry group recently adopted a new model called Sustaining Care for care receivers whose life situation, in contrast to that of the traditional care receiver, is not expected

to change. There are many potential care receivers for whom there is no specific individual issue requiring resolution. Many members of our community need care, companionship and an opportunity to share their stories even in the absence of a specific crisis or loss. In that situation, Sustaining Caregivers can be relied upon to provide a ministry of presence and to walk alongside their care receivers as they discover the hope within their own narratives.

The reason that Sustaining Care is closely associated with Stephen Ministry is that many of the same principals and processes and much of the initial training and continuing education are adapted from Stephen Ministry materials. These are supplemented by current scholarship in pastoral care. Sustaining Caregivers and Stephen Ministers support and learn from one another in shared supervision and continuing education meetings. In fact, several of our Sustaining Caregivers are also Stephen Ministers who are available for either type of caring relationship depending on need.

If you would like to know more about how a Stephen Minister or Sustaining Caregiver might help you or someone you care about, please contact an FPC Pastor or Parish Visitor.

SAVE *the* DATE

BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH
SEPTEMBER 22

The FPC Evangelism Committee is sponsoring "Bring a Friend to Church Sunday" on September 22. Please mark your calendars and be thinking about whom you might invite to FPC on that day. Event details will follow.

Cooking Matters Workshops Continue

**TARRANT
AREA
FOOD
BANK**

The Tarrant Area Food Bank is hosting a Cooking Matters workshop every third Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. at Community Crossroads. This workshop features hands-on cooking demonstrations and teaches participants how to shop for and prepare delicious and nutritious foods on a budget. At the end of each workshop, participants will be encouraged to participate in the Choice Pantry at Community Crossroads.

The workshops will run through October and there is no cost to participate. Remaining dates are August 20 and September 17. To register, volunteer, or for more information, contact Andrea Frankenfield (amfrankenfield@hotmail.com).



The Beacons Pot Luck on June 26 was quite a night for us all! Heath prepared a wonderful entree and sides and the desserts brought were tasty as always. The "highlight" of the evening was mixing with some of the youth from VBS, led by Amy Parker. The children ate with us at dinner and afterwards helped us create some of the same crafts they had in VBS. They were so engaged and we loved that! Amy definitely had it set up well and the kids were so helpful. Yes, it made us feel good that they wanted to share with us their crafts and time. What a fun evening spent with these talented kids. Does everyone know they dance too? Amy does amazing work with them and we all are so proud of the wonderful people they are becoming. Thank you for sharing your time and talent with us!



JOYS & CONCERNS

*Following are the joys and concerns shared as of July 24, 2019.
To respect the privacy of those listed, names are included only
when the individuals grant their permission.*

Our loving sympathy to...

Jim and Liz Barber on the death of his sister Jo Brown on July 17 in Austin.

Robyn and Aaron Michalove on the death of her father, Bob Byrd on July 11 in Richardson. Other FPC family includes **Allison and Andrew Michalove**.

Gregg and Kelle Tillman on the death of his father, Carl Tillman on July 11 in Plano. Other FPC family includes **Gracie, Carter, and Mary Taylor Tillman**.

Our loving thoughts and prayers are with...

Mary Farmer, Diane Satterlee, Jaci Travis, Brent Comstock, Bob Wilson, Jerry Brownlee, David Nation, Paula Robertson, Dick Coffey, and Judy Gasch, who are recovering from surgery or injury.

Karl Travis, Rush Hart, Marilyn Wilson, Vera Kendall, Phyllis Propes, Emma Coley, Marjorie Lewis, Corinna Nation, Lisa Shiner, Marge Shiner, Elizabeth Bean, Frances Blake, and Nancy Nelson, who are dealing with illness or undergoing treatment.

Our caring prayers for extended family include...

Jean Ramsay (mother of **Nancy Ramsay**); Lynn Prater (daughter of **Harlene Satterfield**); Bill Neil (brother of **Marilyn Love**), Janet Laminack (cousin of **Julie Sphar** and **Vance Laminack**), John DeMore (son-in-law of **June Sprott**), Lisa Koenig (niece of **Wanda Williams**), Kathy Kline (**Maxine Kruse's** daughter), 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**. And for the safety of **Thomas Shelby**, who is serving in the US Navy, deployed in Japan. Thomas is the son of **Ellen Buck** and the grandson of **Vance and Donna Laminack**.

Prayers for Cindy Corell, our mission co-worker in Haiti. Prayers for peace and resolution for political strife, unsafe conditions, and people unable to get food and basic necessities due to riots.

Our congratulations and best wishes to...

Edward and **Elizabeth Deegan** on the birth of Peter Kilgore on July 1. Peter joins big brother and sister, Ward and Kathryn. Proud FPC grandparents are **Jim and Kathy Parr**.



CALENDAR

*Below are a few highlighted events in August.
More at fpcf.org/calendar.*

SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

- 8 a.m. Worship in Chapel
- 9 a.m. Worship in Great Hall
- 10 a.m. Summer Church School
- 11 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

WEDNESDAYS IN AUGUST

- 5:30 p.m. Worship On Wednesdays (+ dinner, classes) at Community Crossroads

FRIDAYS IN AUGUST

- 9:30 a.m. Wellness: Yoga Stretch
- 10:30 a.m. Wellness: Tai Chi

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

- 7 p.m. Summer MOMS Night Out @ Grimaldi's Pizzeria Clearfork

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

- All Day SOS: Shoes on Sunday (donations collected)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

- 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast
- 1 p.m. Beacons Birthday Bash
- 7 p.m. David LaMotte Concert

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

- All Day Peanut Butter Sunday (donations collected)
- 6:30 p.m. Taize Worship in Chapel

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

- 8:30 a.m. Fall Mission & Ministry Kickoff
- 10 a.m. Kickoff Brunch
- 4 p.m. Youth Kickoff Party
- 6 p.m. Fellowship Dinner Groups Kickoff

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

- 10 a.m. PW Tuesday Together & Meet the Author



THE
penn street
LETTER

First Presbyterian Church
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

**PERIODICALS
POSTMASTER:**

Send address changes to
The Penn Street Letter,
1000 Penn Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Church Office
Ph: 817.335.1231
Fax: 817.335.5663

WWW.FPCFW.ORG



FALL GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN & PRESENTATION OF HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY



**TUESDAY,
AUGUST 27, 2019**

10 a.m. Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Program
12 p.m. Lunch (\$7)

Please RSVP by
Monday, August 19
as an individual or a
group at fpcfw.org/pw

All Presbyterian Women are invited to hear Eugenia Anne Gamble, author of the 2019-20 PW/Horizons Bible Study, explore a fresh embrace of the Ten Commandments (or words).

What would it mean to consider the Ten Commandments not as a harsh list of what not to do but, instead, as a "love letter" from a loving God? Bring your copy of the study with you.

Learn more about the study at
[www.presbyterianwomen.org/
bible-study/love-carved-in-stone/](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible-study/love-carved-in-stone/)

