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# THE NEWS

January 28, 2010



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF  
ARLINGTON

1200 South Collins St  
Arlington, TX 76010  
(817) 274-8286

[www.firstprestexas.org](http://www.firstprestexas.org)  
[fpcatx@yahoo.com](mailto:fpcatx@yahoo.com)

Preschool: (817)274-4051

9:30 - 4:30

Monday - Thursday

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:**

8:30 AM

11:00 AM

6:33 PM

**CHURCH STAFF:**

**Rob McClelland**

Pastor

**Sophie Draffin**

Associate Pastor for  
Youth & Missions

**Esther Choi**

Congregational Care

**Russell Farnell**

Minister of Music

**Bill McCoy**

Director of Discipleship

**Jeanne Chin**

Finance Manager

**Jo Anne Thomson**

Organist

**Lesley Beckmann**

Preschool Director

**Jim McCoy**

Facilities Manager

**Kim Connor**

Administrative Asst.

Dear Saints,

Grace and Peace from our Lord, Jesus Christ. That is the way each of the emails and letters from the Touchup Church in Cameroon, Africa have begun. As you read this article, I am en route to visit the Touchup congregation and to rekindle our partnership with them. Please pray for our team of Brett Shideler, Bill McCoy, Laura Brennan, and myself, that this visit would be blessed by God, full of grace as we seek to learn from one another, and full of love as we build relationships for the furthering our ministry together for years to come.

As we return, the church season will have changed again. It will no longer be the season of Ordinary Time (not one of my favorite titles in the church year). It will be the season of Lent. Over that past few years I have challenged our congregation to not just see Lent as another season of dieting (giving up chocolate or soda to lose some weight), but to understand that Lent is a season of adding a spiritual discipline in order to give up things in our life that distract us from God. This year we are going to be focusing on 24 hours that changed the world.

Many of you have seen the TV show 24, starring Kiefer Sutherland. Each "season" of the TV show depicts a 24-hour period in the life of Jack Bauer (Sutherland), who works with the United States government as it fights fictitious terrorist threats to the United States.

For the "season" of Lent, we will focus on a real time study of the last 24 hours of the life of Jesus Christ. We will look at what he experienced from the basin to the cross, what he said at the table with his closest friends, and how his relationships grew and then faded. On Easter Sunday we will look at the Next Day and celebrate the gift we have received from Jesus. This will be an exciting and informative study. We invite you to join us for this entire study and to consider inviting friends. 24 hours changed the world. Why not know what took place?

Plan on beginning this "season" by joining the Men's Bible Study for our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. You will get some good pancakes and some great Jazz music, combined with wonderful fellowship with your church family. Then you can come back Wednesday night for an intimate Ash Wednesday Service in the Chapel. Tuesday's dinner starts at 6:00 p.m., and Wednesday's worship begins at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Rob

**DEADLINE for the March Issue of the "NEWS" is Monday, February 1st.**

**Questions about the schedule? Check the calendar at - [www.firstprestexas.org](http://www.firstprestexas.org)**

**Prayer Ministry Page:**

**In the Hospital:** Jim Barnes, Edna McCoy (mother of Jim McCoy), Harriet Rast, Cathy Soto (friend of Debbie Richardson), and Gary Brown (nephew of Helen Schrickel).

**At Home or in Rehab:** Rodney Orr, Esther Anderson, Nita Price, O'Neil Harris, Joan Reynolds, Wayne Snyder, Eric Shaffstall & Kaitlin O'Connell (friends of Billy Sanders), Cheryl Blake, Beth Watson Judd (former director of music here at FPCA), Gwen Neal, Dot Doherty, and Dick Whitaker, and Bill Kilpatrick.

**Homebound Members:** Esther Luedke, Octavia Morrel, Gwen Neal, Frank Nothnagle, Marge and Rodney Orr, Betty Jeanne Pettit, Marcia Rober and Mary Sue Shelton.

**Our Missionary Families:**

Brett and Marla Shideler with Wycliffe Bible Translators  
Rev. Donald and Laurie Marsden with Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship

**Our Family Serving in the Armed Forces:** Matthew Cybulski (son of David and Isobel Peden), Colin Peden (son of David and Isobel Peden), Ben Boughton (grandson of Edna Collins-Harris), Eric Dill, Jason Polk, Matthew Johnson (grandson of Ann Scarr), Jeff Grimes (nephew of Sheri and Jim C. Quick), Mike Mancini in Iraq, Dustin Eason (son-in-law of Allen & Sandy Snowden), and James Shryock.

**Pray for those who do not know Christ.**

## Mission Statement

We, as the Church, are the Body of Christ equipped through prayer by the Holy Spirit to glorify God; through **passionate worship, nurturing fellowship, sacrificial service, respectful evangelism and active discipleship**, we encourage and challenge all ages of the congregation and community to grow in relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### Community Help Needed

Mission Arlington is in need of Blankets for Families during this Cold Winter!

If you have a clean blanket in good condition that you can spare, please bring it to 401 W. Sanford or to Mission Arlington at 210 W. South Street in Arlington. Your help is greatly appreciated!

### Saints Alive

Thursday, Feb. 18 at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall  
Saints Alive will meet for a potluck lunch  
Make a dish to share and join us for fun and fellowship.  
Questions, call Bev. Koch at 817-261-3202.

### IMPORTANT!

From now on there will only be **ONE** News Publication a month. A list of issue dates and deadlines has been e-mailed and is posted in the front office.

### THE ALL-CHURCH WORKDAY

The All-Church Workday will be Saturday, February 20th. Bring your rake in the event that the weather permits us to rake the leaves.

### Summer Job Opportunity!

Mo-Ranch is now receiving applications for Summer Staff. Excellent, free accommodations, a variety of jobs and a superb spirituality program await young adults. Please tell prospective Summer Staff applicants to go to [www.moranch.com](http://www.moranch.com) and click on Jobs at Mo. Then Click on Summer Staff and download a general employment application. Send questions to [venessap@moranch.com](mailto:venessap@moranch.com) or call 1-800-460-4401, ext. 273.

### Employment Opportunity at H.O.P.E Tutoring Center

H.O.P.E. has an opening for a site manager. This is a paid position and hours of work are from 3-8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. If interested, please call 817-860-7757.



### Keep in Mind...

- **Monday, Feb. 3rd**  
- 6:30 PM Preschool Staff Mtg.
- **Sunday, Feb. 7th**  
- 12:00 PM Souper Bowl Luncheon  
- No Youth Music programs today  
- 5:15 PM Youth meet at Dailey's  
- 7:00 PM Team Meeting Night
- **Tuesday, Feb. 16th**  
- 6:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Celebration
- **Thursday, Feb. 18th**  
- 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study  
- 11:30 AM Saints Alive
- **Friday, Feb. 19th**  
- 6:00 PM Scrapbooking in Parlor  
- 9:00 PM Youth Lock In & Dyno Rock
- **Saturday, Feb. 20th**  
- ALL CHURCH WORK DAY!
- **Sunday, Feb. 21st**  
- Belize Team Servant Auction
- **Tuesday, Feb. 23rd**  
- 5:30 PM Breast Cancer Support Group
- **Pre-School Closed:**  
- February 15th

### Men's Fraternity Groups

This unique men's ministry offers life training for men from a biblical perspective. The practical wisdom presented each week through the video-based lessons and small group discussions gives men tools and a game plan to succeed in life. Presented with humor and inspiration, this is the best, most practical men's material I've ever seen. We offer two different segments, at different times to meet various schedules:

- Mornings: Thursdays from 6:00-7:30am, led by Tom Fowler
- Evenings: Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30pm, led by Rob McClelland/Bill McCoy

### Women's Retreat

This well-attended event is a wonderfully inspiring and encouraging retreat for the women of our church family every year. If you've never been, you're really missing out on one of the most fun-filled discipleship and fellowship ministry events of the year for women. This year's speaker is Rev. Anne Beall. Save the dates for this fun retreat: April 23-25. Look for more details and opportunities to sign up SOON!

### Sunday Evening Bible Study

Don Harris and Betty Luedke facilitate the Sunday Evening Bible Study in the Bride's Room 5:00 – 6:00 pm on Sundays. This group is currently exploring the book of Revelation. Prepare to have your eyes, mind and heart opened to a deeper respect and love for God in this intimate group. All are welcome!

In addition to these discipleship opportunities, we have several Sunday School classes for all ages designed to challenge and inspire us as Christ-followers.

After all, that is what we're all about as *Christians*

And, as those who submit to Christ's lordship, his authority, his mastery – we want to become mirrors reflecting his grace, his character, his glory and his love in a world so desperate for more of Christ in the Christians they meet.

The goal of discipleship – our goal as Jesus' disciples – is not merely information. It's transformation....

To let Jesus make us more like himself.

Pressing on,  
-Bill McCoy

### MISSION AND EVANGELISM

During the months of February and March will be the annual "Share the Heart" time. In the years past, our FPCA members have taken this opportunity to help out many of the local agencies with their requests of supplies, or by giving some of your time. Please stop by the Mission and Evangelism Team's bulletin board which is located in the same hall as the coke machine near the nursery. Select a request that you would like to help and return it to the particular agency or you can put the item in one of the S.O.S. (Share Our Stuff) boxes and the team will deliver it. Thanks!

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- |                                    |                                      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Arlington Charities (817) 275-1511 | Arlington Life Shelter (817)548-9885 |
| Meals on Wheels (817) 277-3705     | A Wish with Wings (817) 469-9474     |

Dear Saints,

What Is the Goal of Discipleship?

When asked this question, I usually answer with a single word:

TRANSFORMATION.

Although a disciple is a “learner” the term really goes far deeper than simply gaining an education. A disciple is one who learns from a master in order to *become like* the master. In other words, a disciple is one who is *transformed* into the likeness of the Master. That is really the call of Jesus Christ. He takes the fishermen and *transforms* them into fishers of men (Simon the angler becomes Peter the anchor). He takes the sinners and *transforms* them into the saints (Matthew the tax collector becomes Matthew the gospel writer). Nobody who sits at Jesus’ feet remains the same.

So...how has Jesus transformed, or changed you? Would those who know you well agree that Jesus has changed you...that Jesus *is* changing you? If you’re not sure, perhaps you could use some time at the feet of the Master (couldn’t we all). And we have several discipleship opportunities this spring designed to help you do just that:

#### **FPCA 201: Discovering Spiritual Maturity**

If you have completed the FPCA 101 course (new member class), but have not yet taken the 201 course, I highly recommend you make time for this outstanding 8-week class on developing the core habits of highly effective Christians. The curriculum, written by FPCA members and staff, will give you practical tools to help you establish a strong foundation for your life-long relationship with God. This class will be led by Rob, Bill, Esther and Sophie on Tuesday nights from 6:45-8:15pm, March 2 – April 27 (skipping March 16 for Spring Break). Sign up today in the Narthex at the back of the Sanctuary.

#### **Confirmation Class**

Members of our youth group, 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older, who have not yet been confirmed are invited to participate in our Confirmation Class, led by Sophie; and there will be a parent component led by Rob – both will take place during the Sunday School hour March 21 – May 16 (skipping April 4 for Easter). This class is an opportunity for teens to explore why we believe what we believe as Christians and as Presbyterians. Those students who complete the course will be confirmed on Pentecost (May 23).

#### **Men’s Bible Study**

Every Wednesday morning from 7-8am, this group meets in the Parlor for fellowship and study of God’s Word. The teaching role is shared by Tom Fowler, George Morey and others – and we have a lot of fun exploring God’s Word together. This is a great way to start your Wednesday!

#### **Women’s Bible Studies**

The Women’s Bible Study groups will pick up where they left off with Priscilla Shirer’s outstanding study *Can We Talk?* “Bible study” is just inadequate to describe this in-depth exploration of how to experience authentic two-way communication with God through His Word every day. The discussions are poignant and powerful and the fellowship is rich in these women’s groups. We offer two separate tracks for women with different schedules:

- Mornings: Twice a month on Thursdays (check the online church calendar) from 10:00-11:30am, led by Stacy McClelland
- Evenings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month (4<sup>th</sup> Monday in March) from 6:00-7:30pm, led by Judy Northup

### **Souper Bowl of Caring!**

Feb. 7, 2010 youth meet in the Fellowship Hall kitchen at 9:30 a.m. to start chopping/dicing/stirring/cooking/setting tables. **After church** youth will serve a yummy **soup lunch to the congregation**. All the donations received will be given to the Arlington Life Shelter. This has been a very successful fundraiser for the past three years, so let’s add to it this year!

### **PANCAKES & JAZZ**

#### **Shrove Tuesday Celebration February 16th**

Our entertainment this year will be a jazz combo from the University of North Texas featuring students from its internationally renowned One and Two O’clock Jazz Bands.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 P.M. for an evening of food, fellowship and fun. The meal cost is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children 12 and under. The proceeds will help fund the upcoming Belize and Youth Mission Trips.

The evening is sponsored by the Wednesday Morning Men’s Bible Study.

### **Special Musical Events During Lent**

The FPCA Music Ministry presents two special services during Lent to help you prepare your heart for the coming of Easter.

- Friday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m., will be a time of preparation featuring organist Aaron Alfred Lee, a local organist and composer known for his widely varying music talents. This recital is part of our Community Concert Series.
- Good Friday Service on Friday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m. Various ensembles, including the Chancel Choir, will offer songs of reflection on the death and burial of Christ.

### **MEET THE STAFF:**

Russell Farnell – Minister of Music

Happy February FPCA Family!

I have been Minister of Music for over a year now. I came to the FPCA family with my wife Laura and my son Ryan. Minister of Music is a new title reflecting a new focus for the Music Ministry at FPCA. My goal is to make worship in the church an offering of gifts by our church community that acknowledges the giver of those gifts. In this model God is the audience, and the whole congregation—as one community—participates in the activity of worship. Music plays a key role in this model, but it is not presented for the congregation. It is an offering to God presented by the congregation through singing or listening actively.



What do you do for fun?

I love playing sports, playing with my son, and making beautiful music with my wife.

What are your main areas of focus here at FPCA?

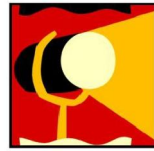
My focus is finding ways for people of all ages to voice their praise to God through music.

What is your favorite movie or book?

My favorite movie of all time is *Dead Poets Society*. My favorite movie in the past couple of years is *The Chronicles of Narnia* series. I read a lot of heavy stuff on the theology of worship, but I like Michael Crichton novels.

What is your favorite food?

The best tasting foods are the worst foods for you. I never pass up a good bar-BQ, and I love Red Velvet Cake.



HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS  
- FPPS SPRING FUNDRAISER -

**SAVE THE DATE: *April 17, 2010***

## Hollywood Nights "101"

### What is "Hollywood Nights"?

A fundraiser to benefit First Presbyterian Preschool organized by parents. The first-ever event was in April 2009. It was such a success that we are doing it again!

The Saturday-evening event will include Live Entertainment with Emcee Persis Ann of Miss Persis Studio, a catered dinner, and an incredible Silent Auction including items such as **art projects made by each classroom**, a **wine-tasting for up to 8 people held at the winner's home** (donated by FPPS Parent and wine expert Rob Kowalski), a **gourmet dinner with each course paired with wine** (held at the home of FPPS parents Jenn & Eric Fickel) and **MUCH MORE!**

### Why is the Preschool hosting a fundraiser?

To benefit our children! The inaugural event in 2009 raised over \$10,000 and all the proceeds are benefiting FPPS! Our goal for 2010 is \$12,000. Items purchased with the 2009 funds included CD players, manipulatives for play in "the big room", a puppet theater, a changing table with stairs and more! Scholarships have also been provided.

### When and Where?

The event will be held **April 17th, 2010** in the Fellowship Hall. **SAVE THE DATE!**

### Who is invited?

Anyone interested in supporting FPPS. Tickets will go in sale in 2010. On-site childcare will be available.

### How can you help?

- Sponsor the event
- Purchase an ad in the program
- Donate auction items
- Host a "Great Gathering" to be auctioned off
- Come to the event ready to bid!

For more information, contact:

Sarah Young, Event Chair, the.youngs.ast@gmail.com, 817-460-4051

or Shalane Choate, Auction Chair, shalanelee@hotmail.com, 214-564-9311

### **YOUTH SUPER BOWL PARTY**

All Youth are invited to the Dailey's home Sunday, February 7th, to watch the Saints take on the Colts in the Super Bowl. The celebration will begin at 5:15 p.m. at 1313 Cherokee, Arlington, 76012. Pizza and drinks will be served, but bring your favorite snack to share. Please contact Sophie if you have any questions.

## **The Rock Climbing Lock In!**

### **WHO: FPCA Youth and Their Friends:**

### **WHEN: Friday, February 19th, 9:00 p.m. until Saturday, February 20th, 9:00 a.m.**

Friday, February 19, 2010 -- Meet at FPCA's Fellowship Hall at 9:00 p.m. We will head to Dyno Rock (an indoor rock climbing gym) from 10:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., and then head back to the church for food, movies, games, and maybe even a little bit of sleep. Pick-up will be at the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, February 20th.

**WHAT to Bring:** \$20, your favorite snack to share, sleeping bag, pillow, clothes to sleep in, Dyno Rock Waiver and FPCA Medical Form. \*\*\*In order to climb you must have the Dyno Rock Form signed and notarized. If it is not notarized, you must have a copy of your parent's drivers license.

Please call Sophie at (817) 948-9647 or email her at fpcayouth@yahoo.com to let her know if you plan on coming.

### *How may we serve you?*

Do you need help around the house? Need someone to do a little yard work for you? Need a babysitter for the kids? Whatever you need, we are here to serve you!

Come to the Servant Auction on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> immediately following the 11:00 worship service in the Fellowship Hall, enjoy a delicious lunch, and you can bid on one of many different willing and eager servants. All proceeds will benefit our Belize Missions Program.

The event is sponsored by the 2010 Belize Missions Team. Pictured here: Michelle Craig, Jennifer Schwettmann, Hannah Schwettmann, Suzie McCoy, Sophie Draffin, and Kelly Miller. Not Pictured: Jerry Majka, Scot Vickers, Tony Leland, and Mackenzie Leland.



### **The Worship Team is looking for new volunteers!**

For those who can volunteer on Sunday, communion preparation is a great gift to your church. This is a brief time commitment on the first Sunday of each month, which does not conflict with church school attendance. It involves setting up for either the 8:30 or 11:00 service and assisting with clean up after the service. The time involved is approximately 45-60 minutes. Please consider serving FPCA in this important activity.

For 8:30 worshippers, we need a volunteer to serve on the Worship Team, which meets on the second Thursday of most months at 7:00 PM. Our team needs someone to provide input about the early service and to take responsibility for chapel readiness (mostly banners, candles, and flowers). Please remember what you receive from this service and consider giving your time to make it happen smoothly.

Please contact Pam Knight or Claudia Johnson to volunteer.