

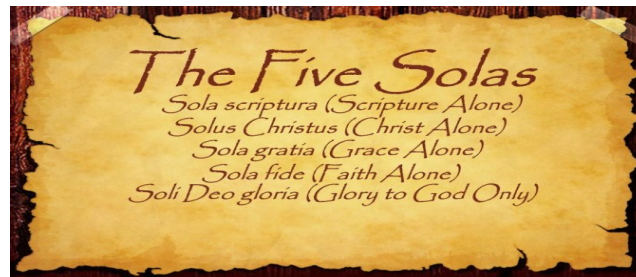
August 2017

Reformation Tenets Remembered

This year we are celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation Movement from which our Presbyterian heritage got its start. In order to honor that anniversary, Rev. Hare has been preaching throughout the summer on what's called "The Basic Tenets" of the Reformation.

So far in this series we have looked at "Grace Alone," "Faith Alone" and "Christ Alone." On Sunday, August 20th, Rev. Hare's sermon will focus on the tenet called "Sola Scriptura" which is Latin for "Scripture Alone." We believe that Scripture, the revealed and written Word of God, is the divine authority for our lives and teaching. Everything else carries less weight for us than God's Word.

Come discover once again what we, as Presbyterians, believe and how these beliefs impact who we are and what we do!



This is Ciara, whom I introduced to you in last month's newsletter. Ciara is the child that we are sponsoring through Compassion International. We have received our first letter from Ciara and her mother and a letter from the church has been sent in response. Ciara loves to eat ice cream and her

vegetables and she enjoys drawing, singing, and being with her friends. Compassion International asks that we pray for Ciara and her family and their continued health. Ciara will be going back to school soon, please keep her in your prayers and thoughts as she begins a new school year.



On Sunday, August 20th, we will be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our morning worship. If you would like to have communion brought to your home, please contact the church office or Amanda Warren.



On Sunday, August 27th, our worship service will take on a "Back To School" theme as we will be blessing all our kids' backpacks, as well as involving our children in worship! Come and help us celebrate our children!



September brings hope of cooler weather and with that the desire to snuggle down into a comfy chair with a good book. With that in mind the Book Club will resume in September. The Book Club will continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at Braums. Meeting dates in the Fall will be September 26, October 24, and November 28. Our theme this year will be "Friendship". In next month's newsletter the books for the Fall will be listed so everyone will know ahead of time what we will be reading and discussing each month. Discussion questions for each book will be sent to anyone interested in participating prior to the meeting so you can have them as you read, will also be available at each meeting. Watch the bulletin board and next month's newsletter for the list of books and get ready to start reading and talking as we celebrate all kinds of friendship. For more information, contact Shana Powell.



- That Pam Cooper did a great job as July's pulpit assistant?
- That the Outreach Ministry Committee is still collecting large duffel bags for the State School?
- That it has been great having Barbara Brady back playing the organ?
- That a walking path has been added to the "Biblical Garden" on the west side of the church?
- That the re-dedication service for our re-built organ will be held in September?
- That your support and donations to our partnering with the Presbyterian Children's Home to support some young men and women who are aging out of the system and going off to college is greatly appreciated?
- That the water slide and the fire department's spraying the street were the big hits at our "Cool Capers" block party?
- That Matt and Ruthie Chalmers had a great time on their recent vacation?
- That both Beth Japp and Landi Phillips gets a big "Thank You" from the "Cool Capers" planners?
- That it was great to have Sheri Raney back in church?
- That Jack and Ginger Walker will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this month?
- That registration forms for this year's "Creative Arts Camp" that will begin on August 7th are now available on the church's website?
- That there's probably someone you know who would love for you to email them a copy of your newsletter?
- That we collected \$245 for the Gideons International on Sunday, July 23, 2017?

Our Christian Sympathy

We extend our sympathy and prayer to Holly Stenger upon the death of her father. Jesus said, "Come to me all who are weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest."



As we explore who we are as a congregation, we continue to seek God's blessing and leadership in all that we do through the "New Life Pray-ers" group. This group meets every Tuesday at noon (bring your own lunch) in the Seekers' Classroom to pray for our church. Everyone who believes in the power of prayer is welcome to be a part of this ministry.

August Session Meeting

The regular meeting of the Session will be held on Sunday, August 27th at noon in the Seekers' Classroom. All written committee reports are due in the office by Thursday, August 24th.



Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, August 22nd at **8:00 AM** at the Fried Pie on the square! All the men of the church are encouraged to come and enjoy a great time of food and for solving all the world's problems!



*A Note
from
John*

The other night I watched the movie, “A Tale of Two Cities.” It’s based on Charles Dickens’ story of the French Revolution. In that movie there’s a scene in which Sidney Carton, one of the main characters, is about to give his life for his friend. A young woman has watched the man’s courage and hopes that his strength will give her strength.

“If I may ride with you,” she whispers, “will you let me hold your hand? I am not afraid, but I am a little weak, and it will give me more courage.” When the cart reaches the place of execution, the woman looks up into the man’s face and says: “I think you were sent me by heaven.”

We are never guaranteed immunity from death. Jesus wasn’t either. But we can have immunity from the fear of death.

Peace, John



A Note From the Newsletter of Takoma Park Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.:

“I am writing a check, but the check I’m writing is to the church and I don’t know what to put in that lower left-hand ‘What For’ space. I can’t write ‘Tithe’ because it isn’t a tenth, and it seems a singularly inappropriate thing to lie about. I won’t put gift for that seems presumptuous, as though I were the Lady Bountiful, graciously offering a small token of my plenty. It is as validly a “debt” as a “gift.” Maybe more so.

What it is for is partial payment (I shall never be able to make payment in full) for what the church has done in helping me raise my family; in helping me keep my own priorities sorted out; in helping me grow in our relationship with God. So – I shall simply put.... ‘On Account.’”

Mail Call



All Shepherds

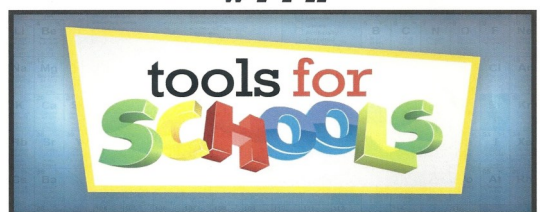
As we update the Shepherd Program, Congregational Care will be reaching out to members currently serving as Shepherds.

A letter will be sent out this month highlighting the duties of a shepherd. As necessary changes are made to the Shepherd list, please prayerfully consider your participation in this most important ministry.

The Shepherd Program encourages Christian care, concern, and communication in various ways among our First Presbyterian flock.

If anyone is interested in becoming a shepherd, please contact Jan Autry.

**** Be sure to check your mail ****



Any school supplies and/or school uniforms (various sizes).

Collection Week

July 31st thru August 4th

TWO LOCATIONS

Cooke County United Way (114 E. Main)

and

Boys & Girls Club of Cooke County (315 N. Denton)

*Drive Up & Drop Off Day will be Friday, August 4th, 9-5:30
at the Boys & Girls Club*



**Bring your donations to the church
on Sunday, August 6th. United Way
thanks you for your support!**



GOD'S CREATIVE ARTS CAMP

For Budding Artists who have completed 1st-6th grades.

MONDAY AUGUST 7-FRIDAY AUGUST 11, 2017

8:30 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Gathering

9:00 A. M. – 11:30 A.M. Creative Arts Workshops

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

401 S. DENTON ST.

GAINESVILLE, TEXAS

THIS YEAR'S WORKSHOPS!



Baking



Singing



Painting



Stringing

Registration begins July 22nd through August 4th.

Limited to first 30 artists

To register or obtain more information contact:

First Presbyterian Church

401 S. Denton, Gainesville

940-665-5153

Cost \$5.00 Per Child/Scholarships Available

Supplies Will Be Provided!



Check out the “PrayFit” website for healthy tips and recipes, exercise information for all levels of fitness, and devotionals! Just go to www.prayfit.org – find the “log in” page – enter fpcgaines@sbcglobal.net as the user name – enter “940-665-5153” as the password – and get started being all that God wants you to be!

Try this one pan recipe from the website:

Summer Skillet Lasagna

This is a veggie version but you can also add cooked turkey sausage or lean ground beef to the mix.

2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1 cup ricotta cheese

1 large egg

Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

1 1/4 cups prepared marinara sauce, divided

6 no-boil lasagna noodles

3 cups sauteed vegetables (any summer veggie medley such as zucchini, yellow squash, kale, spinach & onion)

Fresh basil

Combine mozzarella and Parmesan in a small bowl, toss and set aside. In a separate bowl, gently mix ricotta and egg; season with salt and pepper and set aside. Heat 1/2 cup of marinara sauce in the bottom of a skillet over medium-low heat. Add 2 lasagna noodles, then top with half of the vegetables, a few spoonfuls of sauce, followed by half of the ricotta mixture, then one-third of the mozzarella mixture.

Make the next layer with 2 more noodles, remaining vegetables, a few more spoonfuls of sauce, the remaining ricotta, and an additional one-third of the shredded cheese.

For the final layer use the two remaining noodles, followed by remaining sauce and shredded cheese. Cover and cook for approximately 20 minutes, or until cheese is melted and noodles are tender. Allow to cool slightly and garnish with fresh basil before serving. Serves 6

Make plans to join Retha Bond for a Tai Chi class in Tyler Hall on the first and third Wednesdays at 6:00 PM.

****For August Tai Chi will only meet once on Wednesday, August 16, 2017.****

Everybody is welcome to attend.

~We believe God’s Holy Spirit dwells within us- so it’s our calling to make sure that we provide God the cleanest and healthiest “temple” we can!

COOL CAPERS



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
401 S. DENTON
STREET
P. O. BOX 751



E-mail: fpcgaines@sbcglobal.net

Website: fpcgainesville.net



The “NEW LIFE” Renewal Process Continues!

The “New Life” Leadership Team is still interviewing church members and gathering information about our church’s history, traditions and mission.

Here are the questions we have been asked folks as we work to seek God’s vision for our church:

- ◆ What stories do you remember or have you heard that says something about this congregation’s life, ministry and mission since its founding?
- ◆ Name and describe a member that has left a lasting impression on you. What is it about this person that makes them stand out in your mind?
- ◆ What cherished traditions have been passed down from generation to generation which need to be preserved?
- ◆ What major changes or events have affected our congregation?
- ◆ How have you seen God’s movement in this church? In what ways has God nurtured, guided, challenged, redirected, and supported our congregation during its history?
- ◆ What impact has this church had on this community during its history?
- ◆ What impact does our church have on our community today?

Please be in prayer as we seek God’s leadership and direction and vision for First Presbyterian Church!