



First Presbyterian Church
Gainesville, Texas

OCTOBER 2017

October Session

The regular meeting of the Session will be held on Sunday, October 15th at noon in the Seekers' Classroom. All written committee reports are due in the office by Thursday, October 19th.

The Men's Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, October 24th 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!

Find Us
— ON —
SOCIAL
MEDIA

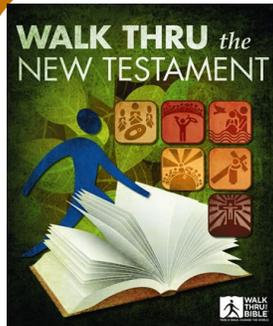
Sunday, October 1, 2017



Sunday, October 1st, is "World Communion Sunday" so we will be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our morning worship service. If you are unable to attend and would like to have communion served in your home, please contact the church office.



Following Worship service the Fellowship Ministry Committee is hosting a luncheon and they will be serving Mexican Stack with all the trimmings and Sopapilla Cheesecake for dessert. There will be a presentation by the "New Life" Leadership Team. Everyone is encouraged to join us on this important day in the life of the Church.

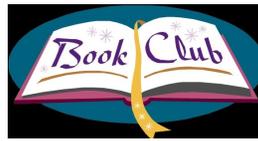


Mark your calendars and get registered right away to be a part of a very insightful and energetic Bible event as our church hosts "Walk Through the New Testament" on Saturday, October 14th! To quote the event's promotional flyer: "Experience an event that unveils God's Word as you've never known it before. In just a few short hours, you'll see the big picture better than some who have studied for years."

During this event, you'll experience the story of the New Testament in a way that makes God's Word come alive – learn 77 hand signs designed to help you understand the big picture of the New Testament – and see beyond the facts of the Bible and encounter its Author.

Registration closes on October 9th for "Walk Through the New Testament" and forms are available at the church office. The event starts at 9:00 AM in the sanctuary and will be over at noon. The cost for this event is \$20 per person and covers all materials.

See you on October 14th as we "Walk Through the New Testament!"



October 24, 2017

7:00 PM

Braums

Our book for October will be I'll Push You-A Journey of 500 miles, Two Best Friends, and One Wheelchair by Patrick Gray and Justin Skeesuck.

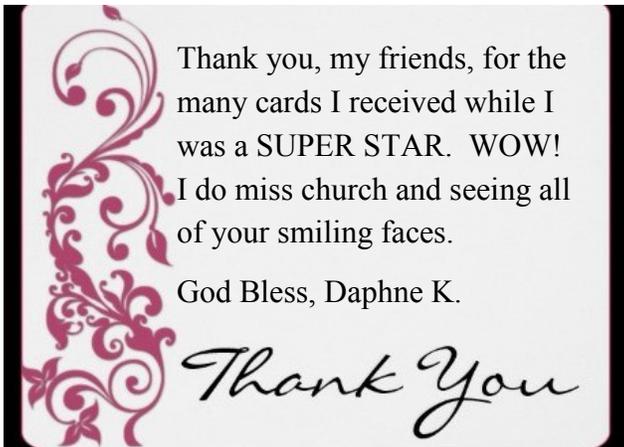


Charlie & Carla Waters
1345 Green Field Dr.
Gainesville, TX 76240

Justin & Jenny Mouton
1345 Green Field Dr.
Gainesville, TX 76240



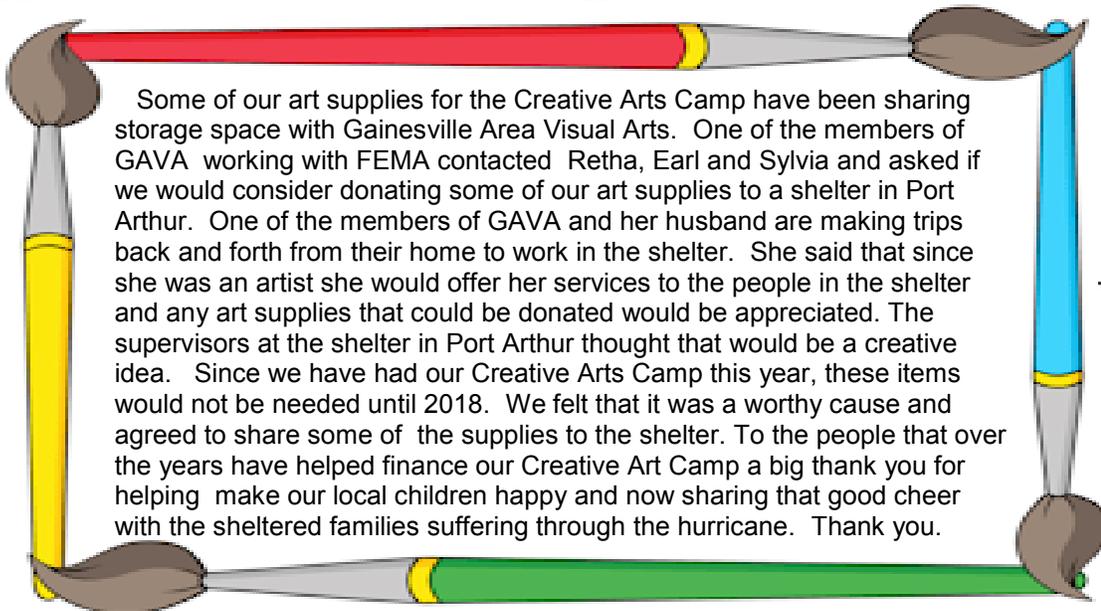
A big "Thank you very much" to everyone who helped make our "Faith in Action Sunday" a big success! The First Responders' were very appreciative and we will be following up on the DASH folks to see how we can be of further assistance. The "Thinking of You" cards will be delivered along with the Kleenex boxes, and cold water is always welcomed!



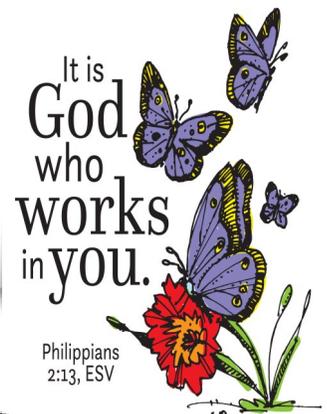
Everyone is invited to come watch the 2nd half of Cecil B. Demille's

"The Ten Commandments"

Showing in Tyler Hall on Tuesday,
October 3rd @ 5:00pm.



Some of our art supplies for the Creative Arts Camp have been sharing storage space with Gainesville Area Visual Arts. One of the members of GAVA working with FEMA contacted Retha, Earl and Sylvia and asked if we would consider donating some of our art supplies to a shelter in Port Arthur. One of the members of GAVA and her husband are making trips back and forth from their home to work in the shelter. She said that since she was an artist she would offer her services to the people in the shelter and any art supplies that could be donated would be appreciated. The supervisors at the shelter in Port Arthur thought that would be a creative idea. Since we have had our Creative Arts Camp this year, these items would not be needed until 2018. We felt that it was a worthy cause and agreed to share some of the supplies to the shelter. To the people that over the years have helped finance our Creative Art Camp a big thank you for helping make our local children happy and now sharing that good cheer with the sheltered families suffering through the hurricane. Thank you.



Philippians 2:13, ESV

from Membership to Discipleship

Do you feel as if something is missing in your walk with Christ! Do you wish that you were experiencing God's presence in a more meaningful and personal way? Do you want to stop being just a member of the church and become a better disciple of Christ?

Well – Rev. Hare's 6-week sermon series entitled, "From Membership to Discipleship!" which begins on Sunday, October 8th, just might be what you're looking for! In this series we will look at six "Marks of Discipleship" – daily prayer, Bible reading, weekly worship, Christian service, relationships that encourage spiritual growth, and giving in the spirit of generosity – and explore how their place in our daily lives improve our connection to Christ and help us grow in our personal faith.

Do you feel as if something is missing in your walk with Christ?
Then join us as we move "From Membership to Discipleship."



NEW LIFE

The New Life Leadership Team thanks everyone who took the time to respond to our historical survey! More than church 60 members shared their stories and their memories of our church, and offered insight into our church's valued and meaningful ministries and traditions. From those interviews, the team has identified three core values that are really important to our life together. They are:

- ◆ We believe in demonstrating our faith in and through our actions in the community, both as a congregation and as individuals.
- ◆ We believe that our worship provides us an opportunity as a congregation to experience God's presence in our lives.
- ◆ We value our relationships as God's "family," and we love and support each other in our lives together.



The next phase of the "New Life" revitalization process is to look at and for those resources each of us bring to the Body of Christ. Part of that looking is exploring what spiritual gifts God has given each of us for the enrichment and strengthening that Body. So – on Sunday, October 1st, everyone will have an opportunity to complete a "Spiritual Gifts Inventory." By identifying our gifts, we will be better able to fulfill our call to service in the Church.

What is God's vision for our church? That is the question we're striving to answer! Pray that God gives us the answer – and that we have the ears to hear and the courage to respond!



These Days daily devotional guides for October-December 2017 are now available.

You will find them in the windows of the Sanctuary, or you can pick one up in the church office.



“When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.” Mark Twain wrote those words. Along the same line of thinking, an old village philosopher said gently to a young man forty years his junior who had just made some unbending declaration: “My boy, when I was your age I knew far more than I do now.”

Our awareness of stewardship is just like that. An appropriate viewpoint on giving and accountability is usually gained over many years and with maturity.



A while back a crowd had gathered in the Franklin Park Zoo in Boston to watch as a peacock slowly spread out its magnificent tail and displayed its stunning feathers. The beautiful bird then began strutting around the yard like royalty. Just then a very un-colorful duck waddled slowly from the pond with six ducklings following and passed between the proud peacock and the admiring crowd.

Well, the peacock didn't take to the duck's intrusion, and attacked the duck, but the duck managed to get all of her offspring safely back to the pond where they swam offshore to safety. In that moment that beautiful peacock became very ugly because of his anger – and that plain and awkward duck – because of her courage and instinct to save her ducklings – became the center of the crowd's attention. The crowd might have admired the peacock – but they were deeply impressed by the duck.

We are not called to be peacocks! We are called to be ducks!

Peace, John



Rev. Hare's Sunday sermons are available on the church webpage! Just go to www.fpcgainesville.net – click on the “Sermons” link at the top of the page – then click on the dropdown tap – and you're there!



The Centennial for the church was a joyous occasion. From the Minutes of Special Session August 20, 1978:

“The Session voted that the entire year of 1979 be designated “Centennial Year” with special events scattered throughout the 12 months and that June 3, 1979 represent the major events including: Centennial Sermon, b) Special music from the choir, c) Out of town friends and former members be advised of all our plans, with an urgent invitation to be with us on June 3, d) that following worship there be food for all. The Session voted to authorize up to 10% of 1979 budget for expenses of the Centennial celebration.”

GIFT

Girls In Fun Together will be meeting on Thursday, October 5th @ The Wolfe Den.



Monday, October 9, 2017 Church Office will be closed.



- That Corie Autry did a great job as September’s pulpit assistant?
- That the Outreach Ministry Committee is still collecting large duffel bags for the State School?
- That our “Faith In Action Sunday” was a great success?
- That Angie Hare was recently received the “Texoma Region Better Leader Award” for 2017?
- That it is still possible to surprise Barbara Brady?
- That Katie Price is slowly recovering after her recent hospital stay?
- That Eugene Bentley is this month’s “Super Star of the Month”?
- That the church’s Nominations Committee is currently seeking three faithful folks to serve on the Session?
- That the church office will be closed on Monday, October 9th, in observance of “Columbus Day”?
- That there’s probably someone you know who would love for you to email them a copy of this newsletter?

Faith In Action



First Responders’ Breakfast

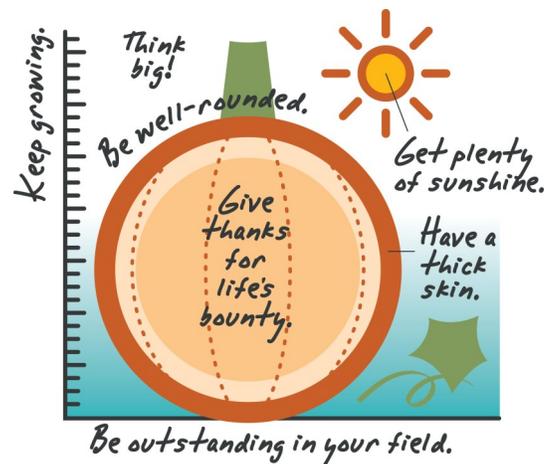


Organ Re-Dedication Service

Organists: Alyse Hokamp, Barbara Brady, and John Dill



DASH Delivery group



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P. O. BOX 751
GAINESVILLE, TX 76241
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Ghouls, Goblins & Groceries

October is here and with it comes pumpkins, hopefully cooler temperatures, leaves beginning to turn red, orange, and gold, and at the end of the month on Halloween night, October 31, "Ghouls, Goblins, and Groceries"! In what has become an annual event for our church members, on October 31 we will be handing out candy in front of the church and collecting canned food and money to be donated to VISTO, our county's emergency assistance agency. The drama will start at 6:00 p.m. and church members are encouraged to wear non-scary costumes!

