

Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:

Members of the Congregation

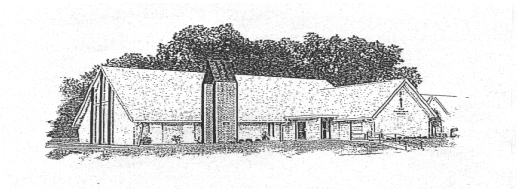
Carolyn Boren, Jack Clark, Jane and Tolly Dill, and Diane Dill, Jane Fahle, Bob Hays
Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, Peggy Morgan, Debbie Murphy, Neil Pennal, Cindy Ratliff
Alicia Rich

Connected Family

Connor Bradshaw – Porter’s grandson, Tammy Hillin’s mother, Sue William’s grand-
daughter

Friends and Neighbors

Regan McDonald – undergoing cancer treatments, Children attending *Kids for God*
Those loved ones known only to God



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P. O. BOX 773
HENDERSON, TEXAS 75653-0773



THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

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Issue One

Change

It’s February of a new year. We’ve put away the holiday decorations. We’ve learned to write “2015” on our checks. We’ve started gathering receipts and paperwork for tax season. It’s just like it was last year, or maybe not.

Most people will tell you that change is hard. For many, it is. I have been asked more than once if our church will be here in 20 years. I can’t answer that. But I have read what you’ve read, and I know what you know, which is that churches, especially mainline churches, must change in order to survive. The church you knew as a child is different than the church is to-day. Churches have changed before. They’ll change again. And God will be blessed.

This year, several of your church committees have and are changing. Why? Because if we do it the same way, we won’t thrive. We may remain for a few years, but that’s not good enough for God. Because God deserves our trust, our faith, and our very best efforts.

Mission is now under the umbrella of the Outreach Committee. Theirs is the most visible and most energetic of all the committees, and our hope is that they will infuse their enthusiasm into a changing Mission field.

Fellowship will no longer simply provide food once a month. Instead, sometimes, we’ll go someplace together. We may go to a play. We may go to a movie. We may meet in homes, or we may meet out in the mission field. We’ll be together – in Christian fellowship!

Communications will be more visible electronically. The website will be updated even more; the FaceBook account will include pictures..... of you! Get aboard!

Christian Education will be sharing their expertise with other congregations. We have passionate people who are engaged with the world, and we want to be in the lead.

Building & Grounds is planning face-lift changes in the Sanctuary. Three families have stepped up to cover the cost for these upgrades. You will be asked to contribute, too. Because we don’t want to just survive. We want to thrive!

You’re welcome to join us. We’re making changes – *good* changes, because our congregation is alive, and when folks are alive, they’re moving. Just as God is always moving. The first day of change is challenging. The third day is *fun* and we intend to keep it that way. Our Lord invented laughter. Our Lord invented relationship. Our Lord will not be held back. Our Lord is alive, and alert, and moving, and changing. Praise be to our *glorious* Lord!

Candice

“And the Lord changed the wind to a very strong west wind, which caught up the locusts and carried them into the Red Sea. Not a locust was left anywhere in Egypt.”
— Exodus 10:19

As believers, the need to respond to tragedy is instilled in our hearts. A true story written for children, this compelling book tells of such a response. Kimeli, a young Kenyan, came to America on scholarship to study to become a doctor. He was in New York City on September 11, 2001.

Kimeli leaves these words to the children who read his story: What you feel in your heart is important. Mature with experience but keep your heart. I learned this from my people. The song is there, just start singing it. Soon you will have an entire world singing with you. When you die you leave the song behind.

Three cartoon cows are standing side-by-side. The cow on the left is white with black spots. The middle cow is white with brown spots. The cow on the right is white with black spots. All three cows have large, expressive eyes and pink noses. They are all facing forward.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CE) HAPPENINGS

Your CE Ministry Team began the New Year by keeping our resolution to do what we can to reduce gun violence. On January 4 we sent letters to Governor-elect Abbott, Lt. Governor-elect Patrick, Senator Eltife, and Representative Clardy.

We asked our legislators to lend their influence to help reduce gun violence. We asked our legislators to **oppose** the “Firearms Freedom Act” (HB421), which would exempt firearms, accessories and ammunition from federal regulation if made and maintained in Texas.

As Reverend Candice has reminded us, it’s time to talk. It’s time to speak out about the big issues that affect the safety and well-being of all of us, especially our children. We feel an urgent call to do what we can. Together.

In 2015, we plan to look for more ways to draw us together in God’s Word. We anticipate a special showing of a DVD of a performance of “The Book of Luke” presented by the Texas Shakespeare Festival.

Don’t forget that our Lenten study for both adult classes will begin Sunday, February 22nd, in the fellowship hall. Reverend Candice will lead the study of ***Thank God It’s Thursday*** by William Willemon. We hope you’ll join us.

May God in Christ be glorified.

Bert Lowe
Christian Education Ministry
Team Leader

DID YOU KNOW?

DON’T BE ALARMED: THINK IN TERMS OF THE WHOLE EARTH

Sea level didn’t change much in the last 2000 years. It began to rise in the late 19th century as the earth started to warm, a result of the Industrial Revolution’s “greenhouse” gasses. As sea levels continue to rise along with global temperature, the rise will be three feet or more by 2100, affecting our great and great-great-grandchildren. The burning of fossil fuels in the last century has raised planet earth’s temperature more than one degree F. and the sea level by about eight inches. Melting ice plus an expanding volume of water due to temperature increase is a doubled edged sword.

Even if all fossil fuel burning were stopped today, the existing greenhouse gasses would continue to warm the earth for centuries. It is not reversible; we have committed future generations to a hotter world and rising seas.

For a graphic illustration, see the map “If All the Ice Melted” on the bulletin board outside the pastor’s office.

Tom Laney for the C.E. Team



Building Commission Update



Did you know that a Building Commission has been formed? Six people have been tasked to work closely with the finance team and the Session in the refurbishing of God's Sanctuary. Your Building Commission has met several times in the last month, sharing ideas and thoughts as to what we want to recommend. This work is being done prayerfully, thoughtfully, and with much discussion. We have also selected a subcommittee to coordinate color schemes, shapes of lighting fixtures, windows etc. We will be temporarily moving and changing some things around a bit in order to see how some changes might work. During this process things may look a bit untidy. We ask for your patience during period. I ask that you be supportive of the folks who have stepped up to do this work, because they are dedicated, hardworking, and committed to this project. We hope you share in our excitement and if you wish to participate financially, please join others who have already come forward and given above and beyond their pledged contributions. You may make your contribution toward this work by writing a check of any financial commitment earmarked for building improvements and give it to Martha in the church office. Our goal is that FPC Henderson's house of worship, will glorify God even more.

Respectfully,

The Building Commission:

Moderator, John Tieken
Kathy Porter

Rev. Candice Klein
Bob Schauwecker

Tom Laney
Bill Stanley

The Scholarship Committee is happy to congratulate Haleigh Roach Hutson and Taryn Reynolds on their college graduation in December 2014. Both of these young ladies have received scholarships from FPC and we are all proud of their educational accomplishments!!

The following people will be renewing their scholarships for the spring semester of 2015:

Church Members - Cody Conway, Hunter Davis, Mitchell Hillin & Ryan Hillin

Relatives of members -Austin Andrus, Baylee Boren, Ben Laney, & Will Rever

Friends of FPC -Stefani Fitzgerald & Kristi Peacock.

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee we appreciate your monetary gifts to the scholarship fund so we are able to continue to assist students who are pursuing a higher education after high school graduation.

Carol Scoggins, Chairperson
Scholarship Committee



Who rebuked people for bringing their children to Jesus?

- A. The religious leaders
- C. The disciples

- B. Jesus himself
- D. Roman soldiers

Answer: C (See Mark 10:13.)



“...hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts...”

—Romans 5:5

THANK YOU to the many congregations, individuals and volunteers who chose to be part of disaster recovery ministry in 2014. Your support of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) enables us to witness the healing love of Christ to families affected by disasters. Through your gifts, action and prayers, you stand in the GAP for disaster survivors and help the Church with responses around the world.

Your financial gifts of love enabled us to program approximately \$1.5 million to meet immediate and long-term recovery needs of disaster survivors and to provide a witness of caring around the world.

Nationally, your gifts supported the response of 39 mid councils in 24 states to storms, floods, and other disasters within their bounds as well as long term recovery efforts. Your gifts supported:

- a compassionate response to the unaccompanied children and border crisis.
- fire responses in California, Georgia, New York and Texas.
- response to the shooting in Ferguson, Missouri, and to public violence in multiple states.
- new and ongoing responses to flooding and tornadoes around the nation

Your gifts of time and talent in walking with disaster survivors provided hope and encouragement on the journey to recovery.

- More than 7,100 volunteers served through 38 PDA-related volunteer hosting sites in 11 states, donating more than 313,000 hours of labor for disaster recovery. The monetary equivalence of this labor is valued at over \$7 million; however, as the church we know the value of our service is not limited to financial support—by bearing the witness of Christ’s love, our gifts of service are multiplied.
- Many assembled and packed Gift of the Heart Kits to offer hygiene, baby care, school, or cleanup supplies. More than 114,000 kits were distributed to partner agencies in the U.S. and around the world.

We are thankful for the many ways Presbyterians continue to bear the hope of Christ to those recovering from disasters, and we celebrate the involvement of so many servants in the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance ministry.



OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

SESSION ACTIONS

January 8, 2015

- **Worshiped and prayed together**
- **Approved Pastor’s Terms of Call**
- **Amended the Membership Roll approved on 11-13-14**
- **Reviewed process of session members reporting to each other each month**
- **Selected Bill Stanley as Commissioner to Presbytery on March 7**
- **Elected Bert Lowe and Tom Laney to serve on 2015 CONC**
- **Reviewed shortfall in pledges for 2015**
- **Approved communion for Jan 24 Session Retreat as well as first Sunday of each month**
- **Noted progress report from Sanctuary Renovation Commission**
- **Selected Committee Chairs for 2015**
- **Elected Kathy Porter as Clerk of Session for 2015**
- **Elected Tom Weaver as Treasurer for 2015**

SPECIAL DATES

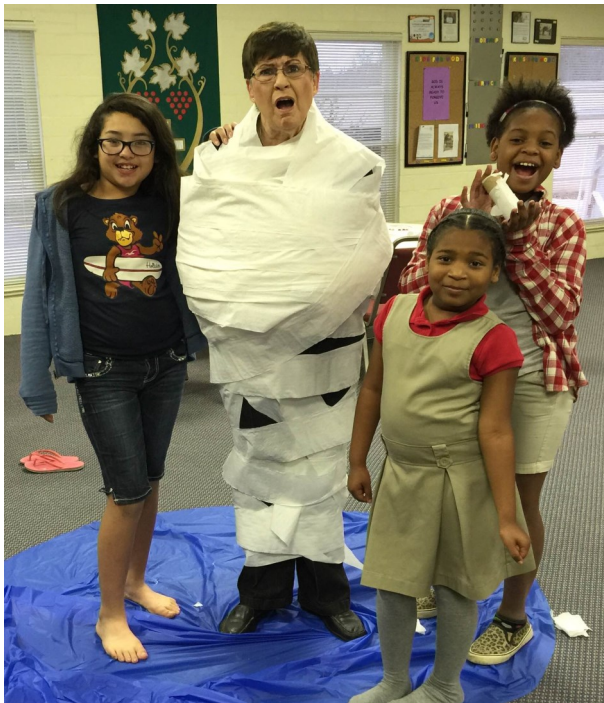
- **African-American History Month**
- **Boy Scout Sunday, February 8, 2015**
- **Valentine’s Day, February 14, 2015**
- **Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 15, 2015**
- **Presidents Day, February 16, 2015**
- **Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015**
- **First Sunday in Lent, February 22, 2015**



Do you have something to say or something you would like to share? We would like to hear from you. We have so many members that have wonderful gifts and talents that should be shared with others. This could be something you have written, even something you read that spoke to your heart. What a great way to contribute. Don't be afraid, send it to me by email (onweaverpond@gmail.com) or put a copy in my folder in the office.

Communications

Kelly Weaver



Kids for God learned about Tax-to-the Max Zack (Zacchaeus) and had Kathy all wrapped up.

Kids for God meets Wednesdays 4:15-5:15.



ACTIVITY ACROSS THE STREET

The Henderson Activity Center (formerly the Community Center) across the street from the church, is scheduling activities for Rusk County Senior Citizens and we are invited. Currently there are art classes, bingo, dominoes, game days, and Zumba Gold (Gold for Seniors!) classes. Hot lunches (\$3.00 donation) are available Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m., with a reservation made a day in advance by calling the Activity Center, 657-4227. For class times and information, contact Bettye Scarborough, 658-2500,

L.E.A.N. (Leadership Encouraging Activity & Nutrition)
Co-Chairperson.



Kids for God's Christmas celebration



WORSHIP TIME

The 2015 Worship Team is making plans to enhance our worship experiences. Is it possible to improve the way we do worship? Yes. We are a congregation blessed with a love for visiting, but realize that we seem to lose track of time on Sunday mornings. Can we develop a better sense of timing? Picture yourself seated in the sanctuary before the prelude begins, perhaps several minutes before with time to center on the Prayer of Preparation.

We frazzle ourselves and our ability to focus if we end up in a rush to the sanctuary, not the best way to approach an hour of worship. This column will explore other ways to mature our worship in future newsletters. It is our goal that you will eagerly anticipate and embrace each worship experience.

The 2015 Worship Team: Fonta Conway, Margaret Hillin, Pat Laney, Kathy Porter, Lsha Stanley, Lynn Tieken, Mary Tidwell, Steve Lowe – Session Support, Tom Laney – Chair.



Easter is coming early this year. Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, falls on February 18. The Imposition of Ashes worship service will be held in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m.

Outreach/Mission

Outreach is reaching out to those around us....those here among us. We walk the block and meet them, we have neighborhood children here to teach them and we deliver meals to shut ins. We throw a party in their honor every October. So, outreach is showing Christ to those right here among us.

Mission is reaching others but not being able to literally touch them. It is helping those in need who can be far away from us, like Presbyterian Children's Home. Or, it can be helping an organization right here in town to help others, like HIM, Children's Advocacy Center or Habitat for Humanity.

In 2015, outreach and mission are under one umbrella. It makes perfect sense. It is reaching out to others near and far that these two committees are all about, and at our session retreat in January we were challenged to do something different.

I encourage you to join our outreach/mission group. Join with me to come and see what great things our Christ has in store for those in need.

I am excited about the possibilities !
Jan Pennal, outreach/mission chair

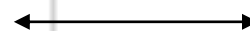


- Which Jericho woman hid the two Israelite spies, and where did she hide them?
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. Joanna, in her stable | B. Bathsheba, at her neighbor's house |
| C. Milkah, under a pile of blankets | D. Rahab, on her roof |

FEBRUARY

Twenty Fifteen

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FUMC Choir lunch 1	2	Travis Reynolds 3	4	C.E. mtng 2:00 5	6	7
8	9	10	11	Session Meeting 6:30 Bill Stanley	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship Committee mtng - 12:15		Pancake Supper 6:00	Ash Wednesday Worship 6:00		Neil Pennal	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
First Sunday in Lent						



Pastor on vacation 02/24 thru 03/02

