



First Presbyterian Church, Mission

Where God's love makes all the difference!

APRIL

...another **RGV Connections** publication

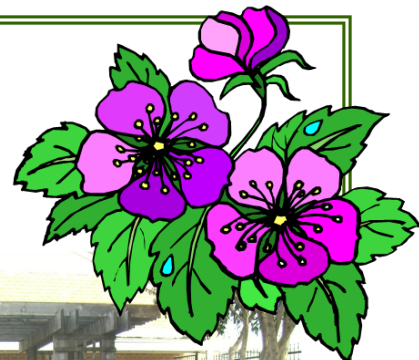
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

GRACE, MERCY & PEACE TO YOU IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

FPC Prayer Garden in Full Bloom!

The FPC Prayer garden is bursting with new growth and beauty! Spring comes early to the Rio Grande valley and brings with it the promise of a constant array of blossoms and greenery from now until next Fall.

Recently, a new volunteer to the garden has been Linda Vander Ploeg. Linda and her husband, Jerry (you enjoy Jerry's deep bass voice in the Chancel Choir) live at Wagon City during the winter and spring. Linda's love of gardening is evident in the great care she gives the Prayer Garden. If you would like to help Linda — even if only for a short time — she would be happy to see you!



THANK-YOU **LINDA!!**
15 BAGS OF LEAVES
AND STILL GOING



HAPPY EASTER

EASTER 2011
April 24

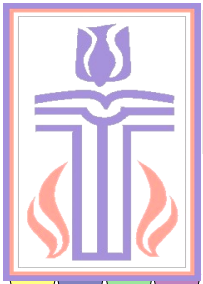
NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE:



9:30am Sunday School
(for all ages!)

10:30am Worship

7:30 AM Sunrise Service
8:30 AM Breakfast
9:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 AM Worship Service



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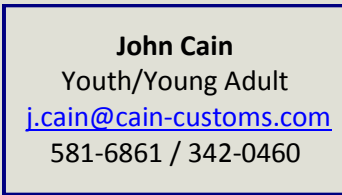
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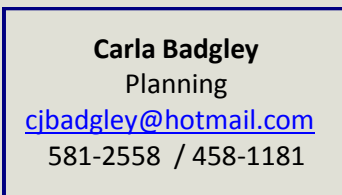
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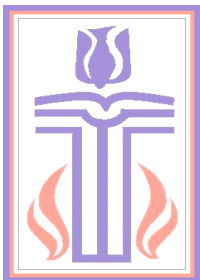


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**A WORD
FROM
PASTOR
DAVE +**



JOURNAL ENTRY FROM THE HOLY LAND:

Greetings to FPCM from the Garden of Gethsemane in Israel!! We are on our 5th day of the Israel trip, we've already seen the Galilee- Capernum, Sopphora, Nazareth and the Mt. of Beatitudes... We started today at the Mt. of Olives and moved down to the Garden of Gethsemane- and it really is a steep walk down to the garden... After having a



brief reading from scripture, we will move to the Temple Mount and the wailing wall...what a fantastic trip this is- way too much to take in all at once, we're going to need to spend some time reflecting and absorbing all we've experienced, thankfully Nadine is keeping an accurate journal... Tomorrow we head south to Qumron and Masada...



Blessings to all and thanks for all your prayers,
Pastor Dave+ and Nadine,
Jerusalem, Israel



Clerk's Corner:

it has been great seeing so many people at church these last few months. Could we fill these pews in the summer as well? Bring your friends, and bring your family to worship with us at FPC Mission.

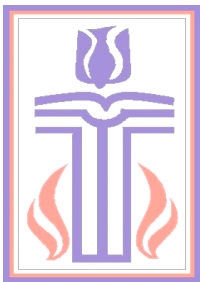
A shout out goes to John Cain and Bill Freeman, game chefs extraordinaire! They are so good in the kitchen that they could host their own cooking show. The work groups have sent numerous letters thanking FPC for our generous hospitality – and the excellent food.

Great things have been and are continuing to happen at the corner of Ash Street in Mission, Texas and in the community at large – wherever our members and visitors find themselves.

Blessings to all –

Mike Hudsonpillar





Young Adult ministry



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY & YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

- Elder John Cain -

The goals of Youth & Young Adult Fellowship are twofold:

1. Provide an opportunity for junior high and high school kids to participate in activities such as service/mission projects, devotional studies, Presbyterian meetings (Mid-Winter Meeting), as well as fun activities.
2. Give young adults a time to visit in a setting just for them.

For more information on getting involved with youth & young adult activities and events, contact John Cain — 581.6861.

your walk with Christ. As Christians and children of Christ, we love one another and provide the caring environment where we study scripture and grow in our discipleship.

For more information on opportunities to get involved with Christian Education, talk to Nicole Cruz—584-1948 or ncruz@sharylandisd.org.

FELLOWSHIP **- Elder Mike Manuel -**

Fellowship is an important part of First Presbyterian Church and we hope to provide many opportunities for fellowship outside, as well as inside the sanctuary.

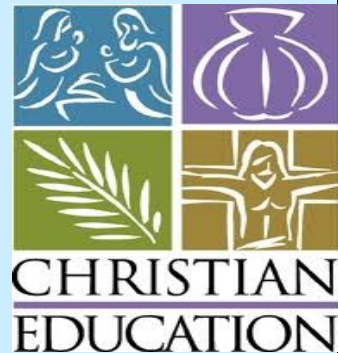
From providing coffee and lemonade for Sunday School and after services to fellowship breakfasts and special activities, our goal is welcoming friends new and old to join us at FPC.

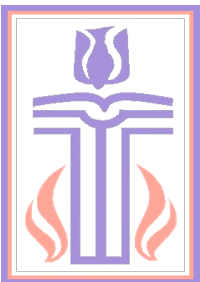
If you would like more information on getting involved in this ministry, talk to Mike Manuel—583-1756.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: **- Elder Nicole Cruz -** **Developing in Christ's Love**

Christian Education at First Presbyterian Church focuses on the development of





RINGING PRAISE!



In what has become somewhat of a tradition at FPC Mission, handbells once again filled our sanctuary with their joyous sounds. On Sunday, April 3rd, our own Bells of Faith and Bells of Hope were joined for an afternoon concert by the bell choir from the First Presbyterian Church of McAllen as well as the student chime choir from the Lloyd & Dolly Bentsen Elementary School (Sharyland ISD).

These joint ventures began in 2002 when the McAllen Music Club asked several local handbell choirs to join forces and present a concert to benefit the Club's Scholarship Fund. After 2005 (when FPC Mission opened the new sanctuary), the concert moved here and as they say, the rest is history.

Each year, audiences have been delighted with music from each participating choir and even a couple of numbers where everyone rings together. This year was just as exciting, offering a variety of music from sacred to – the **BEATLES!** The ringers had a **GREAT TIME** and so did the audience!

**Share your snapshots of FPC
Fellowship, Service, & FUN
for future newsletter editions!**
email to heatherbmarks@gmail.com



Have some info for the next newsletter??

Got a story about why you love FPC?

Want to share your favorite recipe??



Our goal for this newsletter is that it reflects who we are and what we do at First Presbyterian Church—Mission. The most important part of this newsletter is **YOU!** So, please send your suggestions to editor, Heather Marks.

Send to: heatherbmarks@gmail.com



Women's Circle

Welcomes New Members
The Deborah Circle at FPC Mission recently met and welcomed several new members. As hostess for the afternoon, Mae Walsweer served refreshments to the ladies after they enjoyed the

program presented by Helen Dick. The Deborah Circle meets on the second Thursday of each month at 1:30 PM. New members are always welcome – for more information, contact Carol Gibson at (956) 581-3668.

DON'T FORGET...

... The last Sunday of every month is **FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY!** Please help the Mission Food Pantry by placing your non-perishable, unopened items in the grocery basket located in the Narthex.

... Newsletter articles for the next edition are due on the 22nd of each month - send your submissions to heatherbmarks@gmail.com



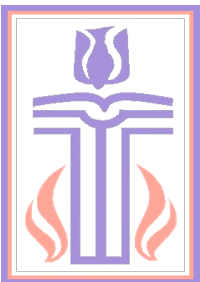
2010-2011 CELEBRATION SUNDAY SERIES A HUGE SUCCESS!

I don't think anyone who attended the Celebration Sunday Concerts this year would argue when I say that they were among the "VERY BEST" we've ever had!

What an exciting year of talent we enjoyed. We were relaxed & comforted by **Sylvia Clark's** beautiful harp music in October, amazed at **Brooks Ausborn's** vast repertoire of guitar music in November, and we were definitely in the Christmas Spirit after listening to the **Sweet Adelines** in December! The new year rolled in along with some terrible weather for the Midwest which prevented our January artist from arriving for her concert. But in February, **Alta Uhrmacher** warmed us up with her wonderful organ music and when she included **Beverly Nicholas** and **Mary Jane Truster** for some piano & organ duets, we were delighted! March was a banner month beginning with **Julie McClarey** at the piano – she was rescheduled from January. (I had to have the piano retuned after she got through with it! WHEW!!!) And we ended the series with **Salomon Lopez** who charmed us all with his beautiful tenor voice and sweet, sweet charm.

All in all, I would say we experienced a LOT of great music this season! I'm already working on next year . . . get ready!

Pat Hudsonpillar



CHILDREN MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

During the winter quarter, our Pre-K through 5th Grade Sunday School classes brought in an offering of \$34.04 for World Vision's "Shelter and Clothing Fund." This winter, we had some cold days...as well as the opportunity to talk about and pray for those who lack proper protection from harsh weather. The offering will help World Vision's national and international staff provide "refuge such as durable homes, repaired roofs, blankets, and climate-appropriate clothing for those in greatest need." **THANK YOU and WELL DONE!**

The kids have decided to support World Vision's "Clean Water Fund" with their spring quarter offering.



DID YOU KNOW??
Did you know that the FPC choir room has a library? There are many books (mostly fiction) and a few audio books that are just waiting to be checked out!
Come on in!





OUTSTANDING OUTREACH AT FPC!!



I would like to thank everyone involved the last couple of months with the mission groups we have hosted here at FPC Mission. We cooked a welcome dinner for them, and a small group fixed them a continental breakfast on Sunday morning, while others brought in cookies, brownies and other goodies during the week. All the groups enjoyed themselves and thought our Church family was the greatest. I do too! Our next group will be in June— Mission Service Project. More details to come at a later time.

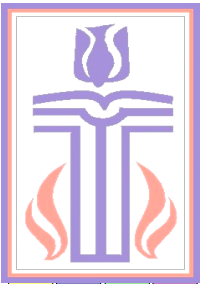


Can you believe that one-fourth of the year is now behind us?! It has been a great quarter. Easter is now upon us and this is the time we ask for donations to "The One Local Hour of Prayer," which the Church participates in instead of the Easter offering that goes to Presbytery. All the monies given will be divided up with the local charities we contribute to: Mission Food Pantry, Salvation Army, Comfort House and Su Casa de Esperanza. Please pray about this and give from your hearts. There will be Easter offering envelopes in the pews or mark your checks "Easter offering". Thank you for all of your donations, and may God bless you.

We are continuing to have the last Sunday of the month deemed Food Pantry Sunday. There is a large shopping cart in the Narthex to place food in. Thank you to Ted Allen who has volunteered to take the food to the Mission Food Pantry when the basket gets full. Let's keep him in a job and fill it each month.

Thank you for your continued support of all our projects from your Outreach chairman, Judy Mayes





APRIL

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

April 2
Richard Augsburg
Mollie Hart
Keith Stevens

April 8
Barbara Hare

April 9
Lyle Blick
Cathryn Blick

April 10
Eugene Brooks
Marilyn Close
Phyliss Jacobs
Joyce Petit

April 11
Earl Hillestead

April 13
James Bennett
Augustus Denham
Richard Nelson

April 15
Mike Ramsland

April 16
Colton Watkins

April 17
Max Hoffman
Mike Hudsonpillar

April 18
John Cain

April 21
Keith Stevens

April 25
Dick Buresh
Doris Miles
Linda Sparks

April 26
Emily Cain
Wanda Snow

April 27
Melvis Freese
Jean Johnson

April 30
Barbara Gray
Mae Walswear



Anniversaries

April 17
Don and Harriet Burns
Bill and Lana McClare

April 19
Eddie and Janet Pena

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