



# First Presbyterian Church, Mission

*Where God's love makes all the difference!*

## MAY 2012

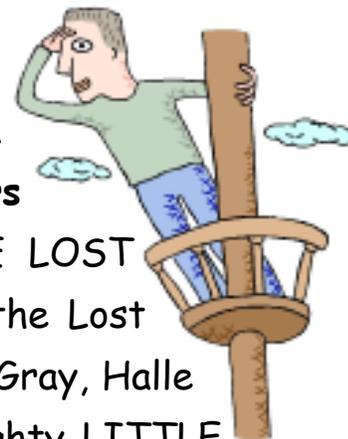


VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

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

### "THE LOST SHEEP" - May 13th

On **May 13, 2012**, Pastor Dave is going to have a little "help" with his sermon! The **SonShine Players** will be presenting a wonderful skit called "THE LOST SHEEP." The story is based on the Parable of the Lost Sheep and is told by three **NARRATORS**: Zelene Gray, Halle York, and Randy Wood. They tell about two naughty **LITTLE SHEEP** (Ellasyn Gray and Peyton York) who decide that just grazing in the pasture is not enough for them! They run away only to meet a **WOLF** (Lawrence Gray) who decides they would be a tasty breakfast treat. But, of course, the sheep are saved by the kind and gentle **SHEPHERD** (Anastasia Cruz) who takes them back to the pasture and safety. You will find this skit to be short, concise, and filled with humor that can only be provided by young children!



#### WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

9:30am  
Sunday School

10:30am  
Worship



**ELDERS & COMMITTEES**



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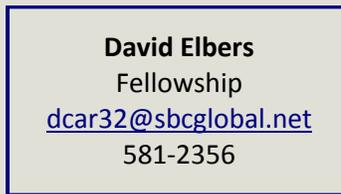
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**NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES for FPC STAFF . . .**

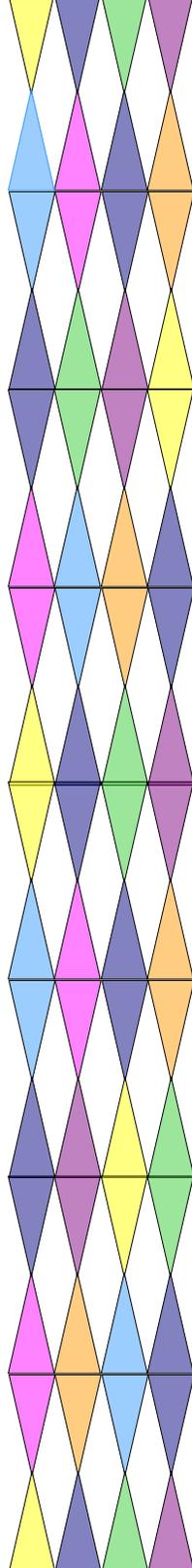
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(Director of Music/Worship)

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(Administrative Assistant)

Sue Leerhoff (Church Sexton) - [sue@fpcmission.com](mailto:sue@fpcmission.com)

Please do not hesitate to contact our staff with questions or concerns. And, as always, look for the latest news about FPC Mission on our web site: [www.fpcmission.com](http://www.fpcmission.com)





**A WORD  
FROM  
PASTOR  
DAVE +**

**GRACE, MERCY AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD  
THE FATHER AND OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

With our Ordination and Installation of new Elders coming up on May 13<sup>th</sup>, I thought it would be good to take a look at some of the qualities of leadership we are looking for, BEFORE we promise as a congregation, to follow and

support our Elders. I think that it is important for us to remember that Elders and leaders in the Church mobilize and motivate members to follow toward mutually desired goals, more by the way they live their lives and go about their work in the church, than by saying- "I'm the leader and I said so..."

One of the qualities that members look for in a church leader, before they grant them authority, is are they committed to the congregation... Are they a servant leader? Have they been around for a while with a track record of being committed to the well being of the church? When the going gets tough do they stick it out or jump ship? Members don't care what the leaders know until they know the leader cares about them...

The congregation also wants to know, before giving the leader their trust is: Will she or he put the larger interests of the congregation ahead of their own? Will they put aside their personal preferences and work for that which is better for the whole? Another closely related quality that members want for their leaders, is that they be supportive of the pastor and other leaders. Do they speak well of the church or do they undermine others with gossip or complaining in the court of public opinion- instead of talking to the person they have a problem with.

Trustworthiness is another quality that is crucial before authority by the congregation is given to leaders. Leadership will often take members out of their comfort zone by asking them to take a risk in order to move toward a common goal. Without trust in the leaders, not much will be risked for the kingdom of God.

Are the leaders competent? Do they have the skills needed to lead, motivate people, assess the challenges ahead and follow through on their decisions. I believe that competence is the least important quality for leadership because incompetence can be addressed by training and getting help- changing one's nature, that's much harder... I mean, how much time is this leader spending with God, so that God rubs off on him or her? Remember that when Moses spent time with God on the mountaintop, the skin on his face was shining.

There is also humility here- because Moses was unaware that his face was shining - but the people could see it and they knew he had been with God.

My hope is that the members of the congregation see and recognize the spirituality of our Elders more than the Elders see it in themselves...

Blessings,  
**Pastor Dave +**



## Planning for Vacation Bible School Already Underway!

Summer is just around the corner! We are wrapping up another amazing school year, and boy did we have fun! Bake sales, Art shows, Easter egg hunt and so much more!

Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it! FPC Mission is teaming up with FPC McAllen this summer to "Imagine Creation". Early registration has already started so if you or someone you know is interested in signing up a student, or would like to volunteer let Nicole Jirovec know, we would love for you to help us make this an awesome VBS for our kids!

# IMAGINE CREATION

Dear Church Members,

This year's VBS program is geared toward sending the message of "understanding what God gave us" through the "Story of Creation" in Genesis. To reduce the cost of materials and supplies we are asking for donations, whether they be material or monetary. The 2012 VBS program is calling on our congregation to come together as we combine our efforts with FPC of Mission, by helping us collect the materials necessary to complete our projects. In the Parlor we will post a list of the different materials one might be able to contribute to the program.

We are also ready to start registration, beginning with church members and their guests. You will find the registration form on the reverse side. Please turn in your forms to the front office.

**IMAGINE CREATION**  
VBS2012

WHO: Children between grade levels Pre-k thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade

WHERE: FPC McAllen

WHEN: July 30- August 2, 2012

TIME: 8:30am-12:00pm

Thank You for your Efforts,  
The 2012 VBS Program Directors

Cristina Garfield, FPC McAllen  
Nicole Jirovec, FPC Mission



# EASTER 2012



**HE IS RISEN!**



## **KNIT FOR KIDS . . . the project continues!**



When the Chancel Choir began the **KNIT FOR KIDS** project in September of 2006, little did we know what success we would have! To date, we have produced 400 sweaters for the **WORLD VISION** project. This wonderful project has involved many people in our congregation, all using the same pattern and yarns of their choice. And still others who do not knit or crochet have given yarn, money for shipping and delivered the boxes to UPS. All in all, the **KNIT FOR KIDS** project is a vital part of this church's Outreach program – doing what we can for those in need.



### The FPC Building Speaks!

“ Well, there have been many different noises around the building in the month of April. Little girls in Easter dresses and handsome young gentlemen scurrying around the yards looking for Easter eggs. Very respectfully, I might add. Inside there were many voices, laughter, coffee and food. But it wasn't a potluck... it was an early morning Sunrise breakfast.

One night I heard tables moving around and found a bunch of people doing paper crafts. That was very exciting to watch because they are so creative! Then they very nicely moved all the tables back in order, which I greatly appreciate.

Sue is getting ready to clean out a closet so that our Missions in Mission home team will be able to put their important equipment into it for safe keeping. We have a lot more groups on the way and they'll be here before we know it. Good thing the filters got all changed and ready to cool things down. Since it's almost Summer time, it'll be helpful for when the groups arrive and come back from a hard day's work.

We got a brand new riding lawn mower in our shop, and it works really well. Now my grass has a nice clean cut everytime! Since they are back out trimming up the hedges and spraying for weeds, it must be Summer time! ”



### Sarah's Garden Gab

What a crowded garden we had in the month of April. There are blossoms full and coming out all over the garden, and they even put 135 chairs in the patio area for a beautiful Easter Sunrise Service. Can you believe it?! I also saw little children digging in the plants for

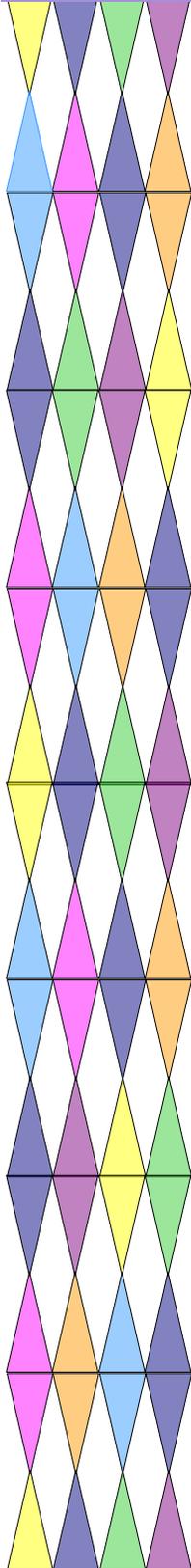


Easter eggs ( I never seem to have gotten away with digging in the plants... or even carry around eggs for that matter). I did find one they left behind and Ms. Linda found a couple eggs left too.

One blossom Sue and Linda found in the garden they have never seen. The split leaf Philodendron was being pruned up and they found several new blossoms on the plants. Must be doing something right according to the web, it is not a common occurrence. All of the plants, bulbs and seeds all are coming up beautifully.



A fresh new coat of paint was put on the block wall. They worked pretty hard and thank God the sun didn't come out too bright and hot until they were almost done. Sue would like to thank those who came out to help paint the wall. Come out and see the prettiness! Did you see the HUGE blossom on the Crepe Myrtle tree? There also radishes and tomatoes are coming for you to pick. Help yourself.





### *Hymnology 101*

Recently, while working on the music for worship in the month of May, I kept coming across the name **BRIAN WREN**. After doing a little research, I found that Mr. Wren has written the text for many of the hymns we use at FPC Mission. Brian Wren is a hymn writer whose work appears in hymnals from all denominations and traditions throughout the English-speaking world. Born in 1936 in England, he graduated from Oxford with numerous degrees including graduate degrees in Modern Languages and Theology.

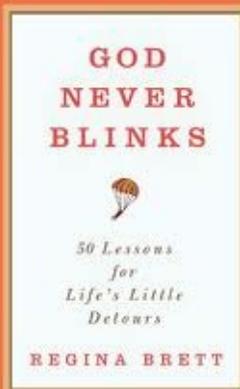
He is an ordained minister of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain (a union joining Congregational, Presbyterian and Disciples' traditions). Since 1983, Brian has followed a freelance ministry, helping worshippers, ministers, educators and musicians to improve skills, and deepen spirituality. Now living in the USA, he often corroborates with his wife, the Rev. Susan Heafield, a United Methodist pastor and composer. He is currently holds the John and Miriam Conant Chair of Worship at Columbia Theological Seminary.

Some of his hymns which might be familiar to you are: *Christ is Alive; Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna; There's A Spirit in the Air, and I Come With Joy.*

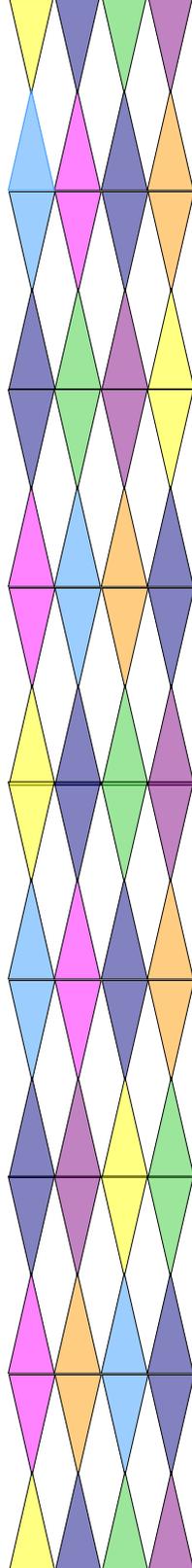
Calling all Paper Crafters! Saturday May 5, 2012 will be National Scrapbook Day. Paper crafters all over the nation will be crafting on this day. We are planning a celebration from 10:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. We will be having a carry in lunch and snacks. Learn new techniques and try new machines. Meet new friends and have a great time. For more information call Jeanann at 581- 5766 or Judy at 580-0712, We need to have a count, so the presenters will have enough materials.



### **THANKS TO JOANN ALLEN FOR SHARING THE FOLLOWING WITH US:**



I recently read a book entitled "God Never Blinks" 50 Lessons for Life's Little Detours by Regina Brett. In this book, Brett expands the 50 lessons --"don't take yourself too seriously -- Nobody else does" to "Life is too short to waste time hating anyone" -- into essays that are deeply personal, sometimes funny, and often poignant. These stories will strike a chord with anyone who has ever gone through tough times -- and is there anyone who hasn't?





# Kids Can Help, Too!



All children like to help – whether it be with cooking a meal, assisting their parents or teachers with a task, or helping

others who need something special. Our children are taught from a very early age to share with others. Hence, a very special project for FPC Mission sponsored by the children of the church. Special offering boxes are available for anyone who wishes to participate in the **KIDS CAFÉ** project in conjunction with the FOOD BANK of the RIO GRANDE VALLEY. **KIDS CAFÉ** is the nation's largest charitable meal service program exclusively for needy children. It is a program of Feeding America and sponsored nationally by ConAgra Foods' Feeding Children Better Foundation. There are more than 1,700 Kids Cafes in the nation, the Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley has 5 Kids Cafes in Cameron and Hidalgo Counties all located in Boys & Girls Clubs. These offering boxes will be collected on Mother's Day, May 13. Your coins (or cash) can help feed hungry children in our area. The children of FPC Mission want to help, too!



## Bell Choir



Before the **Bells of Faith** take a long awaited break from rehearsals, they will play for you during worship on **May 6**.



**Share your snapshots of FPC Fellowship, Service, & FUN for future newsletter editions!**



**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 submissions to Jordan:

**[jordan@fpmission.com](mailto:jordan@fpmission.com)**



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MISSION

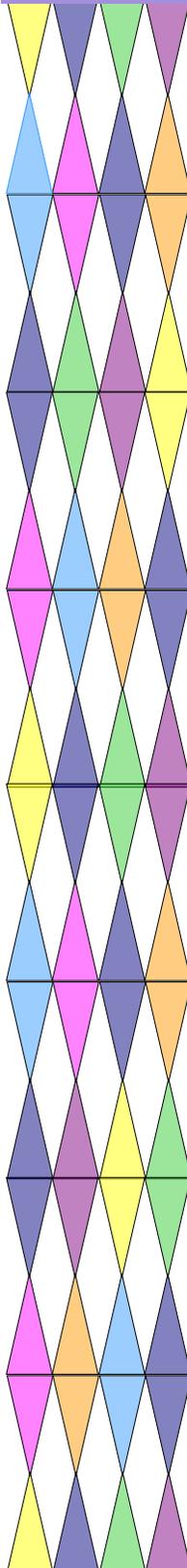
## Birthdays, Anniversaries, Church Activities...

**Birthdays**

**Anniversaries**

**May 2012**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			-6:00 PM PNC Meeting -6:15 PM SonShine Players -7:30 PM Chancel Choir -Shane and Nichole Jirovec	-Lily Jirovec	-6:30 PM Paper Crafts with Judy A. -Jackie Cullen	-10:00 AM National Scrapbook Day! -Leeda Wood
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
- After Service Congregational Meeting -Crystal Wallace -Cyrina Dees		-12:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting -Albert Brown -Dee Taylor	-6:00 PM PNC Meeting -6:15 PM SonShine Players -7:30 PM Chancel Choir -Robert Petit -Connie Hoffman	-7:00 PM Planning Meeting	-6:30 PM Paper Crafts with Judy A. -Don Becker -Terry Premus -Dwayne Pecks	-Zelen Gray
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
-Install and Ordain New Elders -Cassandra Nelson			-6:00 PM PNC Meeting -6:15 PM SonShine Players -7:30 PM Chancel Choir	-Douglas Dauwalter	<b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!</b> -6:30 PM Paper Crafts with Judy A. -John Wallace	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
-George and Nan Konop	-6:30 PM Session -Bob and Pam Sherwood -Corbet and Cinda Sparks	-Bailey Cain  -7:00 PM Agape Graduation	-2:00 PM Brook Ridge Communion -6:00 PM PNC Meeting -7:30 PM Chancel Choir -Charlene Willis -Sheila Heintz -Susan Shaw	-Jim and Marilyn Schrader	-6:30 PM Paper Crafts with Judy A. -Barbara Holloway -Mike and Deb Horn -Cliff and Virginia Baker	-Bill and Vaada Ellisor
27	28	29	30	31		
-Vaada Ellisor	-Alice Reszczenski	-Katherine Pena	-6:00 PM PNC Meeting -Jerry and Dee Taylor			



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