



Bold and Confident

Each and every day, we are given the most incredible opportunity. We are given the chance to talk to a God who has been in our shoes. A man who literally walked the walk. He is waiting for us to walk up to him and ask him anything.

Jesus went through the same things we do during his time on earth, so he truly understands where we are coming from when we approach him. We don't need to muster up our courage! He wants us to be confident. Esther was bold when she approached her king about saving her people, and that guy was known to make rash and terrible decisions! We get to talk to a King who is known for his mercy.

My voice You shall hear in the morning, O Lord; In the morning I will direct it to You, And I will look up (Psalm 5:3, NKJV).

Are you holding back tentatively in your time with your heavenly King? Be bold, and be confident! He loves you. He understands you. He wants the best for you. He will show you grace and mercy in whatever it is that you seek.

A Little God Time for Women,
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FPC CHURCH LIFE

Know God Love God Share God

fpcsanangelo.org

September 2021

Dear Friends and Family of First Presbyterian,

We live in strange times.

Then again, this is nothing new. For at every age, in every place, humans have often wondered about how to manage their lives in the midst of difficult and trying circumstances.

This was especially true of the early church. It is true of us today.

How should we, as Christians, live while the world around us seems to spin in the chaos of uncertainty? How are we to follow Jesus faithfully when we are bombarded with confounding points of view, confronted with conflicting "truths," befuddled with bewildering mysteries?

That our current situation is not unique to us becomes rather obvious when we read Paul's words to the church in Galatia:

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should proclaim to you a gospel contrary to what we proclaimed to you, let that one be accursed! As we have said before, so now I repeat, if anyone proclaims to you a gospel contrary to what you received, let that one be accursed! Am I now seeking human approval, or God's approval? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still pleasing people, I would not be a servant of Christ. (Galatians 1:6-10)

We, like our first century counterparts, live in a pluralistic world. A world where violence, political intrigue, people-pleasing, plagues, and divisions were commonplace. A world where conflicting truth claims vied for supremacy. A world where only uncertainty was certain. And when faith is mixed into this toxic stew, it's easy to see how some can be tempted away from the gospel... or at least from gospel living.

These temptations still exist today.

Please know that I look upon current events with increasing distress and lament. I confess that I am shocked by images coming from Afghanistan, concerned by the devastation in Haiti, saddened by the loss of life from various natural disasters, increasingly despondent over our political divisions.

But closer to home, I'm embarrassed at how we in our community, especially in the midst of continued COVID uncertainties, right here in San Angelo, are treating each other.

Not a day goes by when I don't read or hear about hateful things being said or done, often with the shallowest of pretexts and often in the most self-righteous and undignified of manners. Friends are turning on friends. Communities are

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September 2021

Advent By Candlelight

First Presbyterian Church partnered with Christian Fellowship Baptist Church will hold an Advent by Candlelight for women, on Monday, November 29th at 6:00 pm in Woods Fellowship

Hall. There will be fellowship, food, & drinks, at beautifully decorated tables. There will be a table hostess for each table, who decorates the table & provides an appetizer, dessert & invites 7 guests. First Presbyterian will provide the drinks. After a time of fellowship and fun, we will move to the

Sanctuary for a beautiful night of worship. We will alternate tables between the churches so that we can all enjoy each other's company. We will have 4 Speakers with messages based on the 4 weeks of Advent. After each message there will be beautiful music to listen or sing to! Our worship service will end with the candle lighting & singing "Joy to the World".

If you are interested in being a Table hostess, or fmi please contact Tina Glass at 325-655-5694/325-450-1231 or email the church office at church.office@fpcsanangelo.org. You may also

reserve a spot to come enjoy fellowship at a table with a hostess.

I hope you will come ready your hearts with us for the upcoming Advent season.

Continued from page 1 stressed. Families are at each other's throats.

Sadly, even some who call themselves Christians, many who supposedly celebrate the freedom found in Christ, are partaking in behaviors unbecoming to people of faith.

Let's see what Paul has to say about freedom:

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Galatians 5:13-14)

Lord, have mercy on us.

The church today has an *opportunity* to respond to the uncertainties of life with the certainty of Christ's love. Not only that, but the church today has the *responsibility* to respond to the uncertainties of life with the certainty of Christ's love.

While our politicians are trying to pass and enforce laws to regulate behavior, the church has a better way. While the world preaches division and hate, the church has a better way. While the media manipulates our minds for profit, the church has a better way.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another. (Galatians 5:22-26)

Jesus, through the Apostle Paul, spoke these words to the church. The church needs to listen to them again.

For when the church shares and preaches and demonstrates the sacrificial love of Christ, especially when the world around us writhes in chaos, then we will experience the blessings of obedience.

Let me put it another way... For when *you* share and preach and demonstrate the sacrificial love of Christ, especially when the world around *you* writhes in chaos, then *you* will experience the blessings of obedience.

This is our calling. This is our hope. This is our comfort. This is our joy.

Go forth, and do it.

For the Joy!
Rev. Joel Moore

September Birthdays

09/03 Sach Zipper	09/11 Gillian Mackie	Lisa Steger
Jenn Parsons	Sheri Brown	09/24 Sherry Albert
Virginia Huffman	09/12 Sara Flores	09/25 Nancy Cargile
Marjie Shirey	Anne Lauer	Grace Huffman
09/04 Robert Meyer	Violet Langerhans	09/26 Don Buchholz
Jeff Curry	09/14 Sheila Patteson	Chris Barnett
Sharon Mount	09/17 Mason Brooks	09/27 Stella Doyle
09/05 Michael Yenny	09/18 Louellen Meyer	Nolan Taylor
09/06 Kristi Cswaykus	Christopher Lasek	09/28 Carolyn Dawson
09/07 Hayley Perrine	09/19 Ryan Purdom	Joe Kilman
Sara Uherik	Bryan Brown	Tabitha Bullock
09/08 Randy Mull	09/20 Donna Crisp	09/30 Suzanne Dorris
Laura Behrens	Neal Grigg	Stephen Brown
Brody Santellano	Ty Timmermann	
09/10 Bette Allison	09/22 Kaylee Scott	
Alex McCammon	Blake Koenig	
Chris Sturm	Tallyn Holt	
Caryl Morrison	09/23 Daniel Guerra	

October Birthdays

10/01 David Quam	Jamie Treadwell	10/19 Caylee Gibson
Loren Klein	Anna Studt	Jackson MacDiarmid
Houston Holt	Cathy Hughes	Charles Bullock
10/02 Sadie Puckitt	Alan Byrd	10/20 Jake Halfmann
Lucas Bell	10/11 Tailor Hunt	10/21 Laurie Lasater
10/03 Kirsten Welch	Mallory Smrkovsky	Diane Jordan
10/04 Lane Allison	10/12 Becky Cornell	10/22 Sandy Johnson
Brenson Craddock	Mack Duerksen	Gage Laswell
10/05 Ricky Napoles	10/13 Bill Keel	10/23 Julia Lane
10/06 Caden Sturm	Rachel Ann Moore	Cameron Curry
Rod Thomas	10/14 Roena McCoulskey	10/24 Trinity Pfluger
10/07 Derek Darby	10/16 Vic Meyer	10/25 Yvonne Allred
10/08 Keith Perrine	Brent Santellano	10/27 Libby Grafa
Daniel Davis	10/18 Morgan Massey	10/29 Clarisa Darby
10/09 Jones Puckitt	Sutton Cole	10/30 Laramie Holt
10/10 Yvonne Kappelman	Linda Davidson	10/31 Steve Palmer



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:45am EMBS 8:30am Angel Academy 11:30am Mid-Week Conn 12:30pm Kairos Group 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm HS Bible Study	2 10am Thursday Morning Bible Study	3	4
5 8:30am Prayer Time 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 am. Worship 12p.m. Sack Lunch	6 Labor Day (office closed) 9am Angel Academy	7 5:15pm YCE Meeting Women's Bible Study-	8 6:45am EMBS 9am Angel Academy 10am Soup Kitchen 11:30am Mid-Week Conn 12:30pm Kairos Group 6:30pm HS Bible Study	9 10am Thursday Morning Bible Study	10	11
12 8:30am Prayer Time 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 am. Worship 12p.m. Sack Lunch Ministry 4:00pm MS Bible Study	13 9am Angel Academy 5:15pm Chancel Choir	14 5:15pm Diaconate Meeting	15 6:45am EMBS 8:30am Angel Academy 11:30am Mid-Week Conn 12:30pm Kairos Group 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm HS Bible Study	16 10am Thursday Morning Bible Study 11:30am Mets Lunch	17	18
19 8:30am Prayer Time 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 am. Worship 12p.m. Sack Lunch Ministry 4:00pm MS Bible Study	20 9am Angel Academy 5:15pm Chancel Choir 5:15pm Stewardship Meeting	21 5:15pm Session Meeting	22 6:45am EMBS 8:30am Angel Academy 11:30am Mid-Week Conn 12:30pm Kairos Group 6:30pm HS Bible Study	23 10am Thursday Morning Bible Study	24	25
26 8:30am Prayer Time 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 am. Worship 12p.m. Sack Lunch Ministry 4:00pm MS Bible Study	27 9am Angel Academy 9am Soup Kitchen 5:15pm Chancel Choir 5:15pm MSO Meeting	28	29 6:45am EMBS 8:30am Angel Academy 11:30am Mid-Week Conn 12:30pm Kairos Group 6:30pm HS Bible Study	30 10am Thursday Morning Bible Study		



Definition of discipleship: Our intentional response to Jesus' invitation to "Come follow me." Growing in our relationship with Jesus (Loving God) Joining Jesus on His mission (Loving others) So that... We become Jesus followers who make Jesus followers.



Food for the month of September

Beans, rice, canned meat, canned fruit & vegetables, vermicelli, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter, jelly, & canned fruit.

Please place donations in the basket in the commons!

Connect Groups

Gospel Shaped Worship will be our fall focus study, church wide, starting September 12. FMI contact Mark Woods at maw21953@gmail.com. Please see connect groups offering this study below:

Sunday Morning, 9:15 - 10:15am - Church Parlor - Sandy Johnson and Mark Woods leading. FMI contact Mark Woods at maw21953@gmail.com

Sunday Morning, 9:15 - 10:15am - Youth Center - Tara Davis Leading. FMI contact Tara at tara.davis@fpcsanangelo.org

Sunday Evening, 5:00 - 7:00pm - Various Young Family homes - David & Kirsten Welch leading. FMI contact David at davidrwelch13@gmail.com

Sunday Evening - John and Nancy Cargile's home FMI contact John at johncargile2@gmail.com

Monday Evening, 7:00 - 8:30pm - Zoom Connect Group - Yvonne Kappelmann leading. FMI contact Yvonne at YKappelmann@gmail.com or call 307-527-0598.

Wednesday Evening, 7:00 - 8:30pm - Mark and Susan Woods' home. FMI contact Mark at maw21953@gmail.com

Thursday Morning, 10:00 - 11:30am - Church Parlor - Glenda Kunath leading. FMI contact Glenda at glendakunath@gmail.com

Sunday Morning Prayer Throughout the year, this group meets in the Prayer Room each Sunday morning from 8:30 to 9:00am to listen to God's voice and pray for our congregation, our worship, and our nation. All are welcome.

Middle School Hang will start Sunday, September 12 from 4:00 to 5:30pm at the FPC Youth Center. FMI contact Tara Davis—tara.davis@fpcsanangelo.org

Women's Bible Study in partnership with Christian Fellowship Church starts Tuesday, September 7th and will meet every other week from 10:00-11:30am at Christian Fellowship Baptist church. Book cost is \$17. FMI contact Tina—church.office@fpcsanangelo.org or give her a call at 325-655-5694.

Men's Wednesday Morning Connect Group; meets Wednesday, 6:45am in Rm 210; Leader: Under the teaching of Ross Dawkins, this men's group digs into Scripture and enjoys meaningful fellowship. FMI contact Lee Puckitt at lwp@wcc.net.

High School Hang, starts back up Wednesday, September 1, 6pm at The Moore's House and will meet weekly on Wednesdays. There will be Dinner & Bible Study led by Tara Davis, fmi contact Tara—tara.davis@fpcsanangelo.org/

Mets Connect Group This fellowship group meets on third Thursdays in the Commons for lunch. In addition, this fun group quarterly goes on an outing together, maybe to see the wildflowers, enjoy a wine tasting, or gather at Painting with a Twist. FMI contact the church office at 325-655-5694.

Women's Bible Study in partnership with Christian Fellowship Church will have a Women's Bible Study offered the 3rd Saturday of each month starting in September from 11:00am - 12:30pm. Cost of book is \$17. Childcare is not offered but kids are welcome to attend with their parents. FMI contact Tina at 325-655-5694, or email her at church.office@fpcsanangelo.org.



To **Bill Keel & family on the loss of his wife, Cynthia Keel, who passed into eternal life on August 24, 2021.**



Dear First Presbyterian Church, Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Texas Hunger Initiative and the Kids Eat Free Summer Meal Program. We are so proud of this program that has served over 264,000 meals since we began in 2010. This is truly a community effort and would not be possible without the commitment of the many churches, volunteers, and nonprofits who support Kids Eat Free. Thank you to your church for serving as a host for one of the meal sites and for helping us make sure that no child in our community has to go hungry during the summer months. We also appreciate the fact that you are providing a Blessing Box at the Church for those in need.

Thank you once again,
Mary Herbert

West Texas Regional Director

Dear Friends,
Cards, phone calls, texts and flowers! Wow! Thanks so much for making my 60th birthday so special. It has been my joy to call our church home for almost every one of those years. I am so thankful for each and every one of my church family, past and present.

Blessed beyond measure!
Love, Evalie Grigg

Dear First Presbyterian Church! Thanks so much for the beautiful Chancel Flowers on August 15th in honor of my birthday on August 13. They were so beautiful and I am so thankful! Love, Wendy Moon

Dear Natalie and friends,
Thank you for your generous donations the Children's Advocacy Center - Family Resource Center. We are so thankful for your overwhelming gift of school supplies! We have been busy filling back packs and school supply lists for the children in our programs. Thank you again for sharing with us and your continued support for the children and families in our community.
Blessings to each of you,
Melody Jeter

Dear Church,
Thanks so much for the flowers. I appreciate all you do for me!

Thanks,
Irene Estrada



USHERS

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
Names in red indicate head ushers.

September 5
Lane & Lacy Allison
Davis Preston Allison
Ronny Hooker

September 12
Vic Choate
Mike McCammon
Mike & Carin Taylor

September 19
Hayley Perrine
Noma Perrine
David & Julie Quam

September 26
Pat Reagan
Doran Reynolds
Gabriela Spraggins
Susan Woods

Gospel Shaped Worship

Beginning on September 12, FPC will begin a seven-week sermon and Connect Group series entitled *Gospel Shaped Worship*. I am super excited about this series and the opportunity that we, as an entire church community, will have to study and learn together.

Each week, the *Gospel Shaped Worship* curriculum provides suggested sermon texts, Bible studies, videos, and daily devotionals to help us answer the question, "What kind of church should we be?" We, as an entire church community, will delve deeply into these resources and learn about how worship shapes our entire lives, not just our Sunday mornings.

New Connect Groups are forming to make this material more accessible to a wider range of participants. If you aren't involved in a Connect Group, please strongly consider joining one – at least for the seven weeks beginning on September 12. Participating in a Connect Group is an important aspect of allowing the Holy Spirit to transform our worship, provide both fellowship and accountability, and grow in our personal and corporate faith.

If you think you might be interested in joining and/or leading a new Connect Group, please contact the church office for more information on how to make this happen.

At the very least, please pick up material for you and your family to use at home. We have plenty of *Gospel Shaped Worship* Handbooks available. These include the daily devotionals and other Bible study materials that fit in with the weekly schedule.

Each and every week, I look forward to our time of worship together on Sunday morning. Your presence is valuable and necessary for the good and continued growth of our church community. I firmly believe that *Gospel Shaped Worship* will be instrumental in advancing our purpose of becoming believers who intentionally live faithful lives in service of Jesus Christ.

Join us!