FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

301 Bailey Ranch Rd.
Aledo, Texas 76008

Office Hours Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00
Phone: 817/441-6262
Fax: 817/441-1565
E-mail: info@faithaledo.com

On the Web at
www.faithaledo.com

Inside this issue:

Message from Pastor Jim	2
New Members	2
Joys and Concerns	2
Celebrate 2011	2
Calendar	3
Day School	4
Birthdays	4
Music Ministry & Events	5
Children, Rising Disciples, Youth Ministry & Events	6
Adult Ministry & Events	7

Sundays at Faith

Sunday School & Bible Study begin at 9:15 a.m.
Worship begins at 10:30 a.m.

Childcare is provided

FAITH TIMES

Our Vision – A Community where people are FINDING, GROWING, LIVING, AND EXTENDING the love, grace, and compassion of Jesus Christ.

Volume 9, Issue 1 **January 2012**

Have a Jesus New Year

Let's face it. We are surrounded by a "pleasure" culture that pushes all kinds of substitutes for true happiness and a healthy lifestyle at us 24/7. Every one of these substitutes promises happiness and the "good" life. The media romanticizes and glorifies high-risk and degrading, primal behaviors and choices in virtually every television show, the internet, magazines, and all but the G-rated animated movies. For a visiting alien from another planet it would appear that we believe personal pleasure to be the ultimate happiness here on our earth regardless of the consequences of putting our immediate wants and fantasies ahead of commitment and meaningful relationships. Oh wait a minute, that's probably what it looks like to God, too.

Many New Year resolutions will target our pleasure-seeking excesses, but mostly with the idea of making us more physically attractive—which, can be just another pleasure-seeking activity. Yes, God sees this endless cycle of searching for happiness in all the wrong places and weeps deeply for His beloved children. God wants us to be happy and, most importantly, God knows where true happiness can be found. In case you missed it in Sunday School—God created happiness along with everything else. True happiness begins with a healthy spirit—a spirit nurtured in the love and grace of Jesus Christ. Too many human spirits have been fed on lies and falsehoods about happiness and have been deeply disappointed, wounded, abused, and in some cases all but destroyed.. The great thing is that it is never too late for Jesus. Jesus can even resurrect a dead spirit (another Sunday School lesson you may have missed). We do hope—and pray—that you will have a happy New Year by making this resolution for your spirit. Let's make this a Jesus New Year.

What's Happening

Sunday School
Worship & Music
Worship Our Way
Bible Study
Mission & Outreach
Fellowship Events
Day School

(View this newsletter on our website www.faithaledo.com)

All You Need is Love

John Lennon of the Beatles may have made the line *All you need is love* famous, even causing the tune to play in your head whenever you hear or say the words, but God is the one who really said it first. Unfortunately, most of us, including John Lennon, have a very flawed understanding of what love really is. The thing that is romanticized in the movies and media as love is far from the love God wants to share with all of us and the love God wants to be shared between us. In 1John 4 you will find the simple phrase, *God is love*. This simple phrase not only says something important about God, it also tells us that real love is something we not only need, but *really* need like the air we breathe. I have found that in most people who come to me unhappy about their life, the main thing missing is genuine love. I have also found that many, if not most, of the bad, the high risk, and the destructive choices I see people make are in response to not having enough of God's love in their hearts and spirits. They've had too few experiences of genuine love in their lives. God created love as something God does. Likewise, genuine human love is always something you do to someone else—not just how someone else makes you feel. God is the creator and author of genuine love and God's perfect expression of that love is His Son, Jesus Christ. A good New Year's resolution is to learn to love the way Jesus loves. 1 John 4 goes on to say, *We love because He first loved us*. Genuine love always begins with God. That's looking for love in the right places. *May the Love and Amazing Grace of Jesus Christ be with you in 2012!*

Pastor Jim

You can contact
The Rev. Jim Witherow
by e-mail,
pastor@faithaledo.com
or
call 817-441-6262.

Growing Our Family of Faith

We welcome our newest members: **Nancy Crossley** (Lyle Crossley is completing a commitment with their current church and will be joining us soon) **and Gerry and Vicki Weiss**. Please keep a look out for the Crossley's and Weiss' and offer them a big FAITH welcome when you see them!

If you are visiting Faith we hope that you experienced the Faith Hospitality that we want to extend to all whom God brings our way. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to fully participate in everything we do at Faith—membership is not required—but if you are looking for a church home, we encourage you to consider our Faith family. Information about becoming a member, Journey to Faith, is available at the Hospitality Desk. Please contact Pastor Jim if you are interested in or would like more information about joining our Faith family!

Joys and Concerns

We are praying for Nancy Crossley's uncle Ray Reid and his struggle with cancer. We continue to pray for Jean Bodine as she recovers and adjusts to new surroundings. We continue to pray for Skip Green's health. We also pray for the continued recovery of Chris Demer's mother, Nelda. We continue to pray for Gene McLaughlin's health (father of Natalie Peak, Michelle and Heather McLaughlin). *If you have joys, concerns, or prayer requests please let us know. Call 817-441-6262 and leave messages on Pastor Jim's voice mail or send an email to Pastor Jim at: pastor@faithaledo.com*

IN THIS ISSUE
WE CELEBRATE 2011
IN PICTURES

January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 am Praise Team 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	2	3 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible	4 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:45 pm Fellowship Meeting 6:50 pm Youth Semester Kickoff 6:50 pm Journey 7:30 pm Choir	5	6	7 7:55 am Men's Breakfast
8 8:00 am Praise Team 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 9:30 am Music Team meeting 10:30 am Worship 4:00 pm Youth BYE & Dinner	**9**	**10** 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible 6:30 pm Worship Team meeting	**11** 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:50 pm Youth Bible Study Part 1 6:50 pm Journey Through the Bible 7:30 pm Choir 7:40 pm Audio	**12** 6:30 pm Deacon Meeting	**13** 6:30 pm New Member Dinner	**14**
15 8:00 am Praise Team 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 10:30 am Worship/ Communion 3:15 pm Praise Band Youth Experience 4:00 pm Journey to Faith Class	**16**	**17** 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible 6:30 pm Session Meeting	**18** 4:30 pm Christian Upbeats 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:50 pm Youth Bible Study Part 2 6:50 pm Journey Through the Bible 7:30 pm Choir	**19** 7:00 pm Aledo Venturing Crew	**20**	**21**
22 8:00 am Praise Team 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	**23**	**24** 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible	**25** 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:45 pm Fellowship Meeting 6:50 pm Journey Through the Bible 6:50 pm Youth Video & Discus- sion	**26**	**27** Youth (SHYC)	**28** Youth (SHYC)
29 Youth (SHYC) 8:00 am Praise Team 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 10:30 am Worship	**30**	**31** 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible				

View this calendar on our website www.faithaledo.com

Faith Presbyterian Day School in 2011

New Playground January

Easter Bunny April

Fireman Visit October

Thanksgiving Feast November

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Dorothy Minnerly	01/03	Carrol Prokell	01/07	Nita Ferrell	01/14	Ben Wilhelm	01/20
Alison Sheets	01/03	Zach Dobbins	01/08	Rebecca Lee	01/15	Emily Lee	01/22
Bill Shelton	01/03	Marti Woods	01/08	Taylor Sohr	01/17	Clara Kissner	01/28
Trayce Allen	01/06	Virginia Henckell	01/09	Jeff Mohr	01/19	Grace Demers	01/30
		Paula Hall	01/11				

Maggie Harris	01/30
Kelle Tillman	01/30

Music Ministry & Events in 2011

We have so much to be thankful for at Faith!

First I want to thank everyone who participated in Faith's Christmas Recital -

Ian Henderson, Jade Seay, Devin Woodliff, Samantha Edwards, Austin Ferrell, Grace Demers, Thomas Bolf, Alistar Henderson, Tatiana Mohr, Mary Bolf, Erin Sheets, Emily Lee, Mia King, Parker Ferrell, Molly Bolf, Jay King, Ariana Mohr, Claire Demers, Cameron Allen, Claire Luig, Preston Coughlin, Barrett Martin, Erik Larsen, Drew Woodliff, Austin Hall

and

the Christian Upbeats Bell Choir
Emily Lee, Molly Bolf, Mackenzie Woods, Rachel Connolly, Erin Sheets, Cameron Allen, Drew Woodliff, Parker Ferrell, Grace Demers, Tatiana Mohr, Mia King, Mary Bolf, Kaylee Minton, Austin Ferrell

Messiah was magnificent.

Thank you to the Musicians of Faith and to all those in the community that came to sing with us. Thank you also to Sunny, who played beautifully.

We ended the season with Christmas caroling - What fun we all had. Thank you to the all the homes that hosted our fun, traditional Advent event and a huge thank you for all who came and sang carols!!!

Mohr exciting news - A huge welcome to our two new choir members – Rebecca Lee and Vicki Weiss! If you love to sing please come be a part of the Musicians of Faith – we are a fun group of people who enjoy praising God through song!

What a blessed 2011 ~ Happy New Year to All

johna beth Mohr

Children Rising Disciples Youth Ministry & Events in 2011

Goodland in June
VBS in July
Crop Walk in October
Trunk or Treat—October
Santa in December
Special Projects all year

much .. much .. more

Adult Ministry & Events in 2011

Chili Chocolate Cook-off February

Murder Mystery March

VBS July

Women's Retreat October

Trunk or Treat October

Wild at Heart November

We are looking forward to what the future brings at

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN