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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 2

February 2012

FAITH Lent Series

Feb 22, 6:30 pm - Ash Wednesday Service
Sat, Feb 25, 9-11 am - Prayer Labyrinth

WAY of the CROSS

Sat, Mar 10, 10-11 am - Spiritual Walk for Children
Sat, Mar 24, 9-11 am - Stations of the Cross

The Mystery of the Cross—Most people know to associate Jesus Christ with a cross, but not enough of us really know how the Cross relates to us personally. It's not much of a mystery to think of the Cross as a means of capital punishment; or, even to believe that Jesus was punished and killed unjustly in this gruesome way. The real mystery of the Cross is that we (that's every person that has lived and will live) also were punished on His Cross. We were punished for all the things we are guilty of doing and/or guilty of not doing. Now, for those things, punishment is justified.

Jesus was crucified at the hands of human judgment and authority—terribly misguided and self-serving humans, just like us. In turn, we humans are to be ultimately judged by heavenly authority and the perfect judgment of that Authority (God) for all we do wrong is also the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. There's the mystery, again.

If you believe that through the ups and downs of life God punishes and rewards our behavior; then, you don't understand how seriously God takes sin, and you don't understand the mystery of the Cross. The 40 days of Lent is the time we learn how seriously God takes our sins. It also the time we prepare for our punishment—Jesus' Crucifixion. We want you to learn more about this Way of the Cross and what it means for you. Please join us for our Lent services and prayer activities beginning with our Ash Wednesday Service, February 22 at 6:30 pm.

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

Way of the Cross



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

Years ago I was on a panel of clerics from a variety of faith traditions (Christian, Jews, Muslims, etc.) One of the questions I was asked was, “When did the cross become the symbol for the Christian faith?” The reason it became the symbol of the Christian faith may seem obvious, but when the cross actually became the universal symbol for Christians is not really known. Evidence of its use as a Christian symbol within 100 years or so of Jesus’ crucifixion has been found alongside other symbols early Christians used. But, this is not how I answered the question.

Actually, Jesus was the first one to bring up the cross as a symbol of importance to

His followers, but well before it would be the obvious symbol—and when its specter would have been very confusing to them. Jesus said, *“If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”* Mark 8:34 This quote by Jesus is how I answered the question that day.

Most people read this passage and think that Jesus is telling us that being his follower and life in general is hard. However, most people in Jesus’ day would have thought that almost everyone who died by crucifixion at the hand of the authorities pretty much deserved it. Think about the two men who were crucified alongside Jesus—both were convicted criminals. Pick up your cross would have more likely meant to Jesus’ followers, “Get ready for your execution like a criminal!” That’s what is confusing about this symbol. So, don’t take these words lightly. The fact that you and I have a cross to carry means much more than “life is hard.” We need to take the symbol of the cross very personally—as Jesus told us to. Only then can we understand why Jesus’ Cross became the symbol of hope for us and the world.

The Amazing Grace of Jesus Christ be with you!

Pastor Jim

Growing Our Family of Faith

We welcome our newest members: **The Minton Family, Tom and Aimee, Kaylee, and Klara!**

Please give the Minton’s 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 Brian Luig and his family after the unexpected loss of Brian’s mother Janice Luig. We pray for Chris Demers’ continued recovery after recent surgery. We celebrate recent improvement in Johna Beth’s hearing challenges and continue to pray for her. We pray for Judd Putnam as he travels on a business opportunity. We pray for Bo Birdwell while on deployment and for a safe return. We continue to pray 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

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|--------------------|-------|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Ron Cates | 02/02 | Ellen Denney | 02/10 | Craig Shook | 02/14 | Erin Kroiss | 02/21 | Justin Bolf | 02/24 |
| Heather McLaughlin | 02/03 | Tracy Dobbins | 02/10 | Amee Minton | 02/15 | Gregg Tillman | 02/21 | Cameron Allen | 02/25 |
| Angela Henard | 02/07 | Megan Peak | 02/13 | Kate Harris | 02/17 | Bayley Bollin | 02/22 | Brennan Rodgers | 02/28 |
| Bill Smith | 02/07 | Lauren Reed | 02/14 | Preston Luig | 02/19 | Austin Denney | 02/23 | | |

**FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAYS**

February 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| | | | 1 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:50 pm Youth Game Night 6:50 pm Journey Through the Bible 7:30 pm Choir 7:40 pm Audio | 2 | 3 | 4 7:55 am Men's Breakfast 6:00 pm YAH Soup & Salad Supper |
| 5 8:00 am Praise Team 9:00 am Children Choir 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 9:30 am Music Team 10:30 am Worship / Communion 11:30 am First Sunday Lunch | 6 | 7 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible | 8 4:30 pm Christian Upbeats Bell Choir 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:50 pm Youth Round Table 6:50 pm Journey Through the Bible | 9 6:30 pm Deacon Meeting | 10 6:30 pm Youth Rocking Worship Road Show in Dallas | 11 |
| 12 8:00 am Praise Team 9:00 am Children Choir 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 9:30 am Confirma- tion Class 10:30 am Worship 3:15 pm Praise Band 4:00 pm Youth BYE 5:00 pm Chili / Chocolate Cook Off | 13 9:15 am L.I.F.T. 5:00 pm Aledo 4-H Club Meeting | 14 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Worship Advisory Team | 15 4:30 pm Christian Upbeats Bell Choir 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:50 pm Youth Samson Part 1 6:50 pm Journey Through the Bible 7:30 pm Choir | 16 7:00 pm Aledo Venturing Crew | 17 | 18 |
| 19 8:00 am Praise Team 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 9:30 am Confirma- tion Class 10:30 am Worship / Communion 4:00 pm Journey to Faith | 20 | 21 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible 6:30 pm Session Meeting | 22 4:30 pm Christian Upbeats Bell Choir 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service | 23 | 24 6:30 pm Girl's Night Out Dinner & Movie | 25 9:00 am Prayer Labyrinth |
| 26 8:00 am Praise Team 9:15 am Church School/Bible Study 9:30 am Confirma- tion Class 10:30 am Worship | 27 L.I.F.T. | 28 6:30 am Coffee and the Bible 6:30 pm Girl Scouts | 29 4:30 pm Christian Upbeats Bell Choir 6:15 pm Wed Together / Wed 4 Kids 6:45 pm Fellowship Team 6:50 pm Youth Video & Discuss 6:50 pm Journey Through the Bible 7:30 pm Choir | | | |

Children, Rising Disciples and Youth Ministries



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SERVICE
Sunday, February 12 10:30 a.m.

Children, pre-K through fifth grade, will lead the congregation in song, prayer, and Scripture as we worship and praise the GOD who is LOVE.

If your child would like to participate please contact Director of Children's Ministry Lisa Connolly at dce@faithaledo.com or call 817/441-6262.



Saturday, March 31st 10am – 11am *Easter Egg Hunt*
Faith Presbyterian Church

YOUTH ROCKING WORSHIP ROAD SHOW
IN DALLAS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 6:30 PM

Music Ministry & Events



February is the month of love. What do I love at Faith?

First and foremost **I love God**. I thank God each week for giving me this opportunity to be at Faith.

I love leading worship. I love hearing the congregation sing and to give praise thru music.

I love the congregation. You continue to give and to love others; your passion for Christ is overwhelming.

I love the choir. Musicians of Faith always amaze me being a small group of people what they are able to produce and to give to the church through singing.

We are so blessed with two new choir members: Rebecca Lee & Vicki Weiss.

I love the praise team. By Grace Alone: Jeff Ferrell and Janette Hahn lead worship, Sean Edwards on bass,

Dan Hall on drums and Jeff Mohr on guitar ~ thru their sound, our music is energized. I love their input on music selections. They always come up with something refreshing to play.

I love Sunny. I love the fact that with those tiny fingers she is able to make such beautiful music on the piano without any effort, another example of God's gift.

I love the hand bell choir. Christian Upbeats. What great musicians, 15 of them coming each week, ringing 2 bells and together making beautiful music.

I love teaching music to our young children at Faith. Their sweet voices and their hearts full of love for Jesus. I can't wait for our 2nd Annual Children Service on February 12th.

I love teaching at the preschool. The Ladybug Class. I love each day seeing the sparkle in their eyes and witnessing their willingness to continue to learn.

I LOVE FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! Sincerely, johna beth

I am excited to let you know that in February:

We will be singing 2 new praise songs with the congregation:

Life is Good – performing with Tatiana Mohr and Fields of Grace

We will also be singing these hymns: To God Be the Glory, What Wondrous Love is This, Holy-Holy-Holy, and Great is Thy Faithfulness.

2nd Annual Children's Worship: February 12 ~ all about LOVE !

Youth Experience: February 12 at 4 pm with Grace Demers singing with us - Your Grace is Enough and Indescribable.

What are your favorite hymns – let me know so that I can place them in the months to come! johna beth

Adult Ministry & Events

Fourth annual all church Chili / Chocolate Cookoff



Bring your favorite chili or chocolate dessert for all to taste

Prizes awarded for 1st 2nd 3rd place



For more information
Contact Janette Hahn or Joanne Lott

Sunday, February 12
5:00 pm at the church

Steel

Magnolias



**Girl's Night Out
Dinner
and
Movie**

**February 24
6:30 pm**



RSVP by 02-21 to Wanda Witherow

Lent and Easter



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 6:30 PM

Prayer Labyrinth
Saturday,
February 25
9:00 am

Save the Date!
Saturday, March 10

A Spiritual Walk for Children and Families

10 a.m. -- 11 a.m.
Church Sanctuary



Look for more information in the March newsletter or contact Lisa Connolly.

Stations of the Cross
Saturday,
March 24
9:00 am

Easter Week Services

Maundy Thursday Service

Thu Apr 5 6:30 pm

Good Friday Service

Fri Apr 6 6:30 pm

Easter Sunrise Service

Sun Apr 8 sunrise

Easter Sunday

Sun Apr 8 10:30 am

PICTURES FROM NEW MEMBER DINNER

