

Inside this issue:

Message from Pastor Jim	2
Senior Class 2009	2
Monthly Calendar	3
Building News	4
Ministry Opportunities	4
Joys and Concerns Adult Ministry	5
Children and Youth Ministries	6
Music Ministry	6
SPECIAL BUILDING NEWS PAGE	7

**SEE PAGE 7 FOR
SCHEDULE OF
WORK PROJECTS
ON Bailey Ranch Rd.**

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 6, Issue 05

May 2009

EVERY JOURNEY BEGINS WITH ONE STEP



On Good Friday, from the church's current location on Maverick St., Pastor Jim Witherow and many Faith-ful carry the cross that is to be mounted in the Great Room to their new church home on Bailey Ranch Rd.

A church on the move, Faith Presbyterian is on the way to our new home this month—301 Bailey Ranch Rd. just east of Aledo High School. Faith's journey in this community began in Aledo Middle School in the Fall of 2003. From there we found a building in central Aledo in 2005. This basic metal building was renovated with love and sweat for ministry activities and worship with the idea that it would be a stepping stone to our permanent home on the 10 acres owned through the denomination on Bailey Ranch Rd. In typical Presbyterian fashion, grace has paved the way for this journey by way of a growing, committed congregation, some help from our brother and sister Presbyterians, as well as other friends and supporters. When Christ's mission is to be served we know that grace will provide all that is needed to serve His purpose. This month we will celebrate a new beginning to our mission and ministry in this community with new multi-purpose worship and gathering space for about 250 people, classrooms and activity space for children, youth and a growing Day School for pre-schoolers. We will even have a coffee bar and patio for informal gathering and fellowship. Extending the love, grace, and compassion of Jesus Christ is a sacred calling and there are plenty of people in this community who have yet to experience His power and healing presence. We have an exciting and fresh witness, open and accepting arms, and a caring spirit that is the true expression of Christ's church. This journey is just beginning—don't miss another step. The doors are open for you.



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

Message from Your Pastor

NEW BEGINNINGS

At a very young age I became a future-focused person. Sometimes, this pre-occupation with the future prevents me from enjoying the blessings of the present, but I am seldom held captive by the past. My future-focus is almost always filled with the grace of hope and I do look forward to the next circumstance, the next place, and the next person to whom Christ is leading me on this journey of life. The gift of hope and promise has enabled me to take on and overcome many difficult challenges in life and I continue to be amazed at the ways Christ uses my way too flawed human efforts to get me to exactly where He wants me to be. This is how I experience church—always moving forward to the future hope and promise of Christ's Kingdom. I admit that I'm a "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done" guy. And, I know my appetite for the future—and the changes that inevitably come with the future are not shared by everyone. I can get

pretty far down the path before I realize that some aren't as sure or excited about where the future is leading as I seem to be. But, I can't help myself, I've got to be moving forward. I do have a lot of respect for the past—I received the faculty academic achievement award in Church History while I was in seminary and love to read biographies and history books. However, I'll admit that in my reading and studies I'm always looking for who got the future right and who's vision for the future has been sustained over time. My biblical heroes—besides the greatest visionary, Jesus—are the Old Testament prophets and the Apostle Paul—talk about always moving forward! We are taking a big step forward in May to our new home on Bailey Ranch Rd. And, I know Christ has a wonderful new beginning in mind for us there. He is calling us to shape this ministry for His future and the real needs of this community—and given us this wonderful resource for His purpose. I hope that all of you feel the energy of the Holy Spirit moving us to His future. It is an amazing time.

The Amazing Grace of Christ be with you!

Jim Witherow



Youth Sunday Honoring Our Graduating Seniors

On Sunday, May 3rd, we will have special youth-led service in honor of our graduating seniors, Colin Cartmill and Austin Lindsey. It is a time for the church to see God at work in the lives of our youth and the covenant of baptism affirmed. When we witness teens worshipping Christ and owning their faith, we experience the fulfilling of God's promise. As our seniors move into a new phase of their lives, let's surround them with love, encouragement and thankfulness for how God has worked in each of their lives.

COLIN CARTMILL

Colin is a graduating senior at Aledo Christian School. Colin, his older sister Cassie, and his parents, Bill and Bambi, joined Faith Presbyterian after moving here from Port Lavaca, Texas. Colin was confirmed in the 8th grade in the first confirmation class at Faith. Colin quickly joined the youth group and participated in annual mission trips to Goodland Boys Home. Having a love for music, Colin often attends youth gatherings at other churches to experience the music of their worship bands and attend youth centered Bible studies. Colin is planning a career in physical therapy and is going to attend a junior college before moving to a four year university.

AUSTIN LINDSEY

Austin Lindsey is a graduating senior at Aledo High School. Austin was introduced to Faith Presbyterian through his grandmother, Edwina Patterson. He was in the 8th grade when he was confirmed as part of the first confirmation class at Faith. He has participated as part of the youth program and in annual mission trips to Goodland Boys Home. For the last couple of years swimming has become Austin's true passion. He has broken school records for the 100 Fly and 200 Medley relay. Because of his achievements in swimming, Austin has received a partial scholarship and will be attending Ouachita University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. He plans to major in Biology and hopes to continue his education with a master's degree and specialize in Biomechanics.

May 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8a.m. Men's Breakfast R&K 9a.m. Work Day
3 YOUTH SUNDAY 9:15 Church School 10:30 Worship w/ Communion 11:45 FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP LUNCH	4 Women's Morning Bible Study 9:30a.m.	5 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible 9 a.m.—2p.m. FPDS	6 Wednesday Together Wed 4 Kids 6:15 p.m. Dinner Theme: Pot Luck 7:30pm Choir & TFG 8:15 Praise Band	7 9a.m.-2p.m. FPDS	8	9 8am Work Projects on Bailey Ranch Rd.
10 MOTHERS' DAY 9:15 Church School 10:15 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship	11 Women's Evening Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	12 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible 9 a.m.—2p.m. FPDS	13 Wednesday Together Wed 4 Kids 6:15 p.m. Dinner Theme: Mexican 7:30pm Choir & TFG 8:15 Praise Band	14 9a.m.-2p.m. FPDS 6:30p.m. Deacons	15	16 8am Work Projects on Bailey Ranch Rd.
17 Communion Sunday 9:15 Church School 10:15 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 4:30-6:30 pm Youth and Rising Disciples	18 Women's Morning Bible Study 9:30a.m.	19 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible 9 a.m.—2p.m. FPDS 6:30 SESSION	20 Wednesday Together Wed 4 Kids 6:15 p.m. Dinner Theme: Pot Luck 7:30pm Choir & TFG 8:15 Praise Band	21 9a.m.-2p.m. FPDS	22 5pm Christian Upbeats	23 8am Work Projects on Bailey Ranch Rd.
24 9:15 Church School 10:15 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 4:30-6:30 pm Youth and Rising Disciples	25 MEMORIAL DAY Women's Evening Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	26 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible 9 a.m.—2p.m. FPDS	27 Wednesday Together Wed 4 Kids 6:15 p.m. Dinner Theme: Salads 7:30pm Choir & TFG 8:15 Praise Band	28 9a.m.-2p.m. FPDS	29	30 11a.m.—2p.m. EPC Library Garden Party at Hot Tamale Antiques Youth & Rising Disci- ples-Rangers Game and Concert
31 9:15 Church School 10:15 Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Worship 1:50 Praise Band 2:00 Choir 2:15 C. Upbeats 3:30 New Bldg. (Dedication Service)						

A CHURCH FOR EVERYONE



Our New Home
301 Bailey Ranch Rd.
Estimated Completion May 2009

May should be the month that worship and ministry begins on Bailey Ranch Rd. Everything is coming together to enable us to move in the second half of the month. We have tentatively set our Dedication for the last Sunday of the month, May 31. If you are reading this newsletter you should receive notification of our official opening date and time. In the meantime there is a lot of work to do and we can use your help. We have workdays scheduled every Saturday, but we'll also be there in the evenings during May getting things ready. If you're available for any of the projects listed on page 7 or have a skill that can contribute to getting things complete we would love to hear from you. Call the church office or let Paul Priest, Jon Coon, or Mike Birdwell know. Above all praise God and pray that His purpose is served by our life of Faith in our new home.

FAITH SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- ⇒ CPR/FIRST AID INSTRUCTOR—We have the need for CPR/First Aid Training for our Day School Staff and other staff and volunteers within the church. Please contact the church office or Melinda Lary-Smith if you are qualified to provide certified training.
- ⇒ SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS—We're always looking for new smiling faces to welcome our Sunday morning guests. It's a great way to get to know our Faith regulars and new guests. Please let Natalie Peak know if you are able to serve as a greeter on Sunday mornings.
- ⇒ SUNDAY MORNING SETUP—Join the early setup team and help us get our worship space ready for Sunday worship. We meet at 8:30 a.m. See Mike Birdwell, Greg Larson or Paul Priest
- ⇒ CENTER OF HOPE SFS DRIVE—We are making regular deliveries to the Center of Hope of Soup, Flour and Sugar. You will need to be able to lift tubs that weigh 50 lbs. or so. See Deacons Janette Hahn or Jeff Shook if you are able give a hand with this.
- ⇒ LANDSCAPE MINISTRY—We can always use help with our weekly landscape upkeep. Pastor Jim and/or Don Kissner can always be found at work on Friday mornings beginning at 9 a.m.
- ⇒ CENTER OF HOPE—Every few months we prepare and serve meals at the Center of Hope. Please see Brian Luig if you would like to help with this important ministry.

Growing Our Family of Faith

We want to welcome all who have been our guests. We hope that you experienced the Faith Hospitality that we want to extend to all 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. We set aside the last Sunday of each month to bring in New Members. Information about becoming a member, Journey to Faith, is available at the Hospitality Table. Please contact Pastor Jim if you are interested in joining our Faith family!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

We continue to pray for Johna Beth's brother-in-law, Larry Braidfoot who continues to have complications. We pray for a broken family in our community. We pray for friends and family who have lost jobs recently. We pray for the economic health of our country, wisdom for those working on solutions for bringing back stability to the marketplace, and new hope for those who have lost employment and homes. *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@fpcepc.org.*

MAY BIRTHDAYS

RuthShook	May 1	Joan MacWhirter	May 12	Natalie Peak	May 28
Meagan Dobbins	May 2	Austin Ferrell	May 15	Don Wilhelm	May 28
Kristin Priest	May 5	Samantha Edwards	May 15	Paul Garrison	May 29
Mason Ray	May 8	Claire Demers	May 16	Susan Overcash	May 29
Donna Lopez	May 9	Joanne Lott	May 21	Mary Taylor Tillman	May 31
Austin Lindsey	May 11	Bambi Cartmill	May 24		

ADULT ACTIVITIES

Sunday Mornings

Women's Morning Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Women's Morning Bible Study will resume as we work toward fin-

Death and Resurrection of the Messiah – 10 Faith Lessons

Pack your bags. We're going on a journey, a quest to uncover Scripture and its meaning across history. Filmed on location in Israel and throughout the Middle East, the Faith lessons DVD series led by Ray Vander Laan is a life-changing experience with the Bible. You will discover why Jesus turned the world upside down with his compelling call to follow him. Please join us as we embark on this journey starting Sunday March 1, 2009 during the 9:15 a.m. Church School hour in the Worship Center building. We look forward to seeing you there!

ishing our study of the book of Genesis. We will be doing two chapters during each Monday gathering to finish by the end of the school year, but you don't have to do the lessons before you come to get the benefits of the study.

We welcome all women of the community – come join us! **New change:** If you need child care, please notify Judith Alexander Priest at children@faithaledo.com no later than the Wednesday prior to the Monday Bible study.

Women's Evening Bible Study - resumes regular meetings on April 27. This group meets at the church on the second and fourth Monday evenings of each month. Please consider joining us. We find that each person brings unique thoughts and blessings.

Men's Breakfast - **Saturday, May 2**, we will meet at R&K at 7:55 a.m. All of our Men of Faith are encouraged to join us for a great morning of fellowship and sharing events of our lives, our faith, and a great meal. We meet the first Saturday of each month. It's a great way to get to know each other a little better.

COFFEE AND THE BIBLE

TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 6:30

Meet with Pastor Jim and other Faith early risers every Tuesday morning for a guided Bible Study and devotion. We will be studying books of the Bible, what the Bible says about topics on your minds and issues of the day, and how the Bible can feed our souls with the grace of Jesus Christ. Join us for a refreshing pause in your week for that much needed time in the Word of God. Previous experience in Bible study or knowledge of the Bible is not necessary to participate. We will end each session promptly at 7:30 a.m. We hope you will come and enjoy Coffee and the Bible with Pastor Jim.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

The Excitement Is Just Beginning

Can you feel the excitement in the air? Our new building will soon be completed and summer is fast approaching. Even though the school year is winding down, the activities at Faith are revving up. Our walk of faith is never dull and boring. God, in His awesome power, always offers a life that is full of promise, hope and excitement. He doesn't say that it will be easy, but He does promise a life that is full and abundant (John 10:10). Job 33:4 says, "The Spirit of God has made me, the breath of the Almighty gives me life." Everywhere we go, the most powerful force in the universe is breathing life into us and paving the way. As we make our move into the new building, begin looking for opportunities where God can take you further than you ever dreamed!



For more information about any of our Children or Youth Ministries, contact Judith Alexander Priest at 817-441-6262 or email children@faithaledo.com

Grace & Peace,
Judith

Upcoming Events

PreK & Elementary

We are working to get several fun outings on the calendar! Check the Faith Notes on Sundays for more info.
August 3 – 7 Vacation Bible School

Upcoming Youth Events

Rising Disciples & Youth

- May 30 – Rangers game and concert
- June 5 – Decorate youth room in new building
- June 14 – Pool party
- June 24 – 28 Goodland Mission Trip
- July 16 – Six Flags
- July 24 – July 25 – Lock-in at church

Church-Wide (Intergenerational)

June 21 – Low Country Shrimp Boil (lunch at church following the service)

Music at Faith Presbyterian...

Musicians of Faith

- mark your calendars -
- May 13 ~ Wednesday - our first rehearsal in our new church !
- May 17 1st service ~ Blessing, Honor and Glory
- May 24 ~ Armed Forces Medley
- May 31 ~ 10:30 Open the Eyes of My Heart
- May 31 ~ 2:00 choir rehearse with instrumentalist ~
Come Sing A Joyful Song and Cantate Deo

Christian Upbeats

- May 17 ~ 9 am rehearse for 10:30 service
- May 22 ~ Friday meet at Faith at 5 pm for Amy and Eric's Wedding
- May 27 ~ last bell choir practice till the Fall
- May 31 ~ 2:15 pm rehearsal before Dedication Service at 3:00



johna beth

BAILEY RANCH RD. WORK PROJECTS

During the Month of May there are many work projects to be done by our congregation. A willing spirit is usually all that is needed for most of the work to be done

LANDSCAPE—Finish grading, plant beds, shrub planting, and hydro-mulch. We will have power augers for planting holes and power equipment for dirt and mulch moving. This work will be ongoing for the three weeks.

DUMPSTER ENCLOSURE—Depending on the remaining material when the exterior of the building is completed, we may be building this enclosure out of split block. If you have any masonry skills—we'll be glad to put you to work.

AUDIO/VISUAL INSTALLATION—We will be doing a lot of the work involving the installation of our A/V system and theatre lights. If you don't mind heights and have just a few electrical or A/V skills we will be able to put you to good use.

ACOUSTICAL PANEL INSTALLATION—Are you good at hanging pictures? We've got about 20 acoustic panels to be hung around the Great Room. We'll provide a laser level and hanging hardware.

FINAL CLEANUP—Do you do windows? How about sweeping, vacuuming, dusting? We need you every Saturday until our custodian and facilities team takes over. We'll have supplies, but go ahead and bring your own home cleaning supplies to make sure that we have enough to go around.

PACKING AND MOVING—Move-in date right now is May 16. Don Kissner is leading the moving team

These are the projects that we'll be working on as a congregation. We hope you can join us for a little sweat and whole lot of fun and fellowship.

Please let Jon Coon or Mike Birdwell know if you can be available during these three weeks—especially the Saturdays. Or, contact the church office 817 441 6262 or pastor@faithaledo.com.

DEACONS' CORNER

EPC Library Garden Party

Date: Saturday, May 30, 2009

Start Time: 11:00 am

Location: Hot Tamale Antiques on Jenkins Rd

The 6th annual Community Garden Party to benefit the East Parker County Library. Tickets \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Great Food, Entertainment, and Antique Shopping—Fun for all ages.

Volunteers—Faith is providing parking control with the Faith-Mobile. Please let Stephen Whitfield know if you're available to help between 10:30 am and 2 pm

**Faith Presbyterian Church
E-mail Directory**

Pastor Jim Witherow: pastor@faithaledo.com

Children's Ministry: children@faithaledo.com

Youth Ministry: youth@faithaledo.com

Music Ministry: music@faithaledo.com

Faith Times Newsletter: faithtimes@faithaledo.com

Care Team: careteam@faithaledo.com

General Information: info@faithaledo.com