

FAITH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
111 MAVERICK STREET
(ACROSS FROM ALEDO CITY HALL)
OFFICE HOURS:
MON-FRI 8:30-6:00
PHONE: 817/441-6262
FAX: 817/441-1565
E-MAIL:
FAITHTIMES@FPCEPC.ORG.

ON THE WEB AT
WWW.FPCEPC.ORG

Inside this issue:

Message from Pastor Jim	2
Mission: Goodland	2
Monthly Calendar	3
Building News	4
Music Ministry	4
Ministry Opportunities	4
Joys and Concerns Adult Ministry	5
Children and Youth Ministries	6
August Volunteer of Faith	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 5, Issue 64

August, 2008



Vacation Bible School



BEACH PARTY: SURFIN' THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES! **AUGUST 11-14TH FROM 6-8:00 P.M.**

Get ready to feel the surf and catch the wave of God's love at Beach Party: Surfin' Through the Scriptures!

Vacation Bible School Beach Party will bring your children into a closer relationship with God, allow them to experience the love of Jesus as their friend and Savior, and inspire them to share their faith with others. Using music, games, crafts and recreation we will offer lots of fun, Biblical learning, and opportunities for building lasting friendships. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join the fun! You may pre-register your child by completing the registration form found on the VBS table.

Vacation Bible School is for children age four (as of 9/1/08) through those who have completed 4th grade.

Don't forget to come to the VBS Kick-Off Party on Sunday, August 10th, from 5:30 – 7:30. There will be bounce houses, water slides, food, games and lots of fun for the whole family! Make plans to come and invite your friends.

PROMOTION SUNDAY

August 24th

Join us on Sunday August 24th at 9:15 for breakfast and a special time of blessing as we recognize the advancement of the children and youth to their new classes and introduce new opportunities for adults. During 10:30 Worship we will commission the teachers and volunteers who will be sharing their gifts and talents with us during this new program year.

We hope you will consider making Sunday School/Bible Study a regular part of your faith life. Sunday School/Bible Study is a special place where we can connect with each other, study God's word and prayerfully discern how God's word applies to our daily lives. It's a fellowship like none other that the world offers -- a safe place to share laughter as well as tears as we figure out together what it means to follow Jesus and to live as a community of faith.



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

Message from Your Pastor

I am often asked how we know that someone will use help, especially financial assistance, for the purpose we offer it. John Calvin answered this question many years ago with these important words, *“The Lord enjoins us to do good to all without exception, though the greater part, if estimated by their own merit, are most unworthy of it. But Scripture subjoins a most excellent reason, when it tells us that we are not to look to what men in themselves deserve, but to attend to the image of God, which exists in all, and to which we owe all honor and love.”* I have been very pleased with the energy for mission that is going out from our church this summer. Always know that the spirit by which our help is received is never as important as the spirit by which it is given. Let’s keep extending the Amazing Grace of Jesus Christ and trust that He will use it for His good purpose.

The Amazing Grace of Christ Be With You!

Jim Witherow



MISSION: GOODLAND

*I can do everything through him who gives me strength.
(Philippians 4:13)*

Nine youth and five adults from Faith recently ventured to Hugo, Oklahoma to the Goodland Boys Home for our annual mission project. Our commitment to Goodland has been solidified with this fourth trip. Most of the group had participated the previous years and anticipated the return. Other new members eagerly joined the adventure and were not disappointed. Goodland Boys Home is nestled in the tall hardwoods and gently rolling fields north of the Red River. Established in 1848 as an orphanage to Choctaw youth, Goodland provides for the general well being, education and spiritual growth for up to 24 boys ranging in ages 8 to 16. Goodland Boys

Home exists because of financial and physical support from local and regional churches, presbyteries and individuals. The home welcomes and encourages mission teams from all over the southwest to participate in various projects on their property. There is not a shortage of work on the over 390 acres.

So, our typical work day at Goodland consisted of an early breakfast followed by a morning of hard labor! But our youth were up to the challenge and with joyful hearts started and completed painting of a large pipe iron fence for the new Goodland corral. As expected, most came back with just as much paint on them and their clothing as the corral fence. After a hearty lunch, the youth participated in a myriad of zany activities throughout the week including shaving cream wars, “flour football,” human wheelbarrow races, swimming, and dodge ball in the old rock gym. The Goodland boys participated in these activities and it was delightful to see a bond develop with these youth. After a short rest, we would break bread for dinner with the Goodland boys, clean the kitchen and prepare for the night’s activities. If the afternoon was not enough, the madcap evening hours brought an assortment of crazy activities such as “paper ninja warriors,” flashlight tag and slingshot paintball. Yes, devotion and prayer surrounded all our activities. Our last evening was shared with the Goodland Boys at a bonfire by a small pond, roasting marshmallows for “s’more’s” and sharing a special devotion. Parents and Faith members, your youth shined the whole week, never complained and worked, played and prayed with passion. There is so much to do in this great big world, but for now, a slice of Goodland will do. Hope to see you next year!

August 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8a.m. Men's Breakfast—Welcome the troops at DFW
3 Communion Sunday 9:15 Breakfast and the Bible 10:30 Worship First Sunday Fellowship Lunch	4	5 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible	6 Wednesday Together 6:15 p.m. Dinner Theme: Pot Luck Choir—7:15 p.m.	7	8	9 5 p.m. Youth Tubing Trip leaves for Canyon Lake
10 9:15 Breakfast and The Bible 9:15 Summer Confirmation Class 10:30 Worship VBS Kidkoff. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.	11 6-8 p.m. VBS	12 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible 6-8 p.m. VBS	13 6-8 p.m. VBS	14 6-8 p.m. VBS 6:30 p.m. Board of Deacons	15 2p.m. Confirmation Retreat	16 2p.m. Confirmation Retreat Returns
17 Communion Sunday 9:15 Breakfast and The Bible 9:15 Summer Confirmation Class 10:30 Worship Confirmation	18	19 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible 6:30 p.m. Session Meeting	20 Wednesday Together 6:15 p.m. Dinner Theme: Mexican Choir—7:15 p.m.	21	22	23 Choir Retreat: 8:30-12:30
24 Promotion Sunday Joining Sunday 9:15 Breakfast and the Bible 10:30 Worship	25 Women's Evening Bible Study 7:15 p.m.	26 6:30 a.m. - Coffee & the Bible	27 Wednesday Together 6:15 p.m. Dinner Theme: Pot Luck Choir—7:15 p.m.	28	29	30 Choir Party at the Woods 6:00-10 p.m.
31 9:15 Breakfast and the Bible 10:30 Worship						



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

The foundation and slab have been poured. We hope to have the steel frame in place by the second week in August. We're planning an event so that everyone can memorialize within the walls their membership in our church family while this project was being constructed. Stay tuned for more info on this event.

A



FAITH SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- ⇒ SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS—We're always looking for new smiling faces to welcome our Sunday morning guests. Please let Natalie Peak know if you are able to serve as a greeter on Sunday mornings.
- ⇒ CENTER OF HOPE SFS DRIVE—We will be making regular deliveries to the Center of Hope. 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.
- ⇒ FAITH COOK BOOK—Please submit your favorite recipes to Mary Frances Wood by email mabanesi@aol.com.
- ⇒ SUPPORT THE TROOPS MINISTRY—Mary Frances Wood is organizing an effort to support members of the Armed Forces overseas. Cash donations are extremely helpful, but if you would prefer to donate individual items, please see Mary Frances.

Music at Faith Presbyterian...

Musicians of Faith

Aug 23 Choir Retreat 8:30 – 12:30
 Aug 30 Choir Party at the Woods 6:00 pm – 10 pm childcare provided

Bell Choirs

Christian Upbeats – are you going into the 4th – 8th? We would love you to join the bell choir – come to our meeting on Wednesday, Aug 27 at 6 pm
 Sept 17 - all bell choirs resume. *johna beth*

Growing Our Family of Faith

We want to welcome all who were our guests this past Sunday. 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!

Next joining Sunday is **August 24**

ACT: Activating Congregations for Transformation

Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church

September 19-20

ACT is a Grace Presbytery continuing education event that has been a mainstay of the life of Presbytery for almost 30 years. ACT offers something for everyone; church professionals, leaders, and lay volunteers who are actively involved in ministry. There are also some great youth events. If you are interested in attending, regis-

JOYS AND CONCERNS

We pray for Carla Luig's family as they celebrate the life while mourning the loss of Carla's aunt.. We continue to pray for Cotton Ferguson under hospice care. We also share the prayers of the community and celebrate the return home for Jessie Hall. *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.*

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Mary Bolf	8/1	Bill McCall	8/10	Jeffrey Bolf	8/21
Molly Bolf	8/1	Dot Forester	8/11	Nicole Bolf	8/21
Debbie Kayser	8/1	M G Ames	8/13	Connie Suchocki	8/23
Jon Coon	8/2	Madeline Mazade	8/15	Stephen Whitfield	8/23
Madeline Kroiss	8/3	Jamie Kayser	8/15	Don Kissner	8/23
Hoyt Harris	8/3	Justin Kayser	8/15	Amy Hamm	8/30
Michaela Harris	8/5	Avery Elliott	8/15	Emily Hamm	8/30
Allen Dobbins	8/9	Rick Sheets	8/16	George Kayser	8/30

ADULT ACTIVITIES

Women's Morning Bible Study - This group meets the first and third Monday mornings of each month and is open to any interested women in our community. Our meetings for June are Monday, June 2nd and 16th at 9:30 a.m. at the church. We will continue our study of *Genesis: God's Creative Call*. We hope you will join us.

Women's Evening Bible Study - 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. Our next meetings will be Monday, June 9th and 23rd at 7:15 p.m. at the church. We hope to see you then.

Men's Breakfast - **Saturday, July 5th**, 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

Three Powerful Words

Who knew that three words could bring so much anticipation, excitement and even a bit of sorrow? These three words usher in new beginnings and signal the end of a season. Yes, the words are “Back to School”. The lazy days of summer will soon be replaced with the busyness of the holiday season. No matter how much we’d like to stop it – or at least slow it down – life keeps moving forward. God designed our lives so that we would experience change, and He intended for us to change too. If you are like me, you know there is a gap between who you are and who God made you to be. But, isn’t it awesome to know that our Heavenly Father is lovingly committed to making us more and more into the people He created us to be – not only as individuals, but also as a community? Isn’t it amazing to think that, if we will let Him, God will continue to form us into people who look, act, and sound more and more like Him? As we move forward and go “back to school”, I invite you to join me in the following daily prayer: “God make me the person you created me to be, and make us the community of people you desire us to become.”

Grace and peace,

Judith

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

FAITH PROVIDES MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH TO LEARN ABOUT GOD’S LOVE AND EXPERIENCE THE EXCITEMENT OF GOD’S PROMISES!

Faith Kids (Pre-K through Grade 5)

Upcoming Events

Elementary Swim Party – Students entering grades 1-5, please join us at the Dobbins’ house on July 13th for swimming and fun. Invite a friend!

Beach Party VBS! – Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be August 11-14th from 6-8:00 p.m. and is for children who are age 4 by 9/1/08 thru those who have completed 4th grade. We’ll also have a huge Kick-Off Party for the whole family on Sunday, Aug. 10th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Join the fun and invite your friends!

Rising Disciples (Grades 6-8)

We want to help each student *ignite* passion for God, *connect* with others, *discover* their gifts, and *reach out* and serve.

Upcoming Events

Rising Disciples Summer Confirmation & Retreat – We’re having summer confirmation classes followed by a retreat (for all Rising Disciples) at Pastor Jim’s ranch. Classes will be held Sundays beginning July 13th ending with the retreat on August 15 –16. Confirmation will be during the Worship Service on Sunday, August 17th.

Volunteer for VBS – Join the fun by volunteering to help with Vacation Bible School. We’ll need help with the Kick-Off Party on Aug. 10th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. as well as VBS on August 11-14 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Fill out the volunteer form found in the Sunday bulletin or see Judith Alexander Priest

Youth (Grades 9-12)

We seek to *be real* before God and others, *empower* each other to use our gifts to honor God, and *make a difference* in the lives of others by demonstrating Christ’s love.

Upcoming Events

Annual Youth Tubing Trip – We will be leaving for the tubing trip on Friday August 8th at 5pm. Please bring money for dinner on Friday night and lunch on the way home Sunday. Other than that please bring any spending money you want and about \$15 for tube rental on the river. All meals Saturday will be provided. See Robin for more details.

Volunteer for VBS – Join the fun by volunteering to help with Vacation Bible School. We’ll need help with the Kick-Off Party on Aug. 10th from 5:00-8:00 p.m. as well as VBS on August 11-14 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Fill out the volunteer form found in the Sunday bulletin or see Judith Alexander Priest

August Volunteers of Faith

Mike and Jill Birdwell & Judd and Betty Putnam

The familiar saying, “one picture is worth 1000 words” certainly holds true for the work of our August volunteers of Faith! Just when you think you have seen the limits of the imagination of Mike Birdwell when



he fabricated a 19' Hot Air Balloon for last year's VBS something shows up in the church parking lot for 2008 VBS that defies anyone's imagination! Yes, we have a functioning Lighthouse at Faith Presbyterian inviting children from all over the community to our Beach Party on August 11-14. Similar to what we have seen on other projects before, Mike's welding craftsmanship turned steel angle and flat rods into the structure for the lighthouse with his very able assistant Judd Putnam's help. Judd's electrical skills came up with the rotating light that comes on when it gets dark along the Aledo coastline. Then we have the sewing skills of Betty Putnam to thank for the canvass skin that covers the main body of the lighthouse. And we have Jill to thank for putting up with all this and hosting the other volunteers of Faith when they came by to help. We all look forward to another exciting VBS with something very special to remember thanks to Mike, Jill, Judd, and Betty!

Intergenerational Events

PRAISE FESTIVAL

What : a time to sing our favorite praise songs together

When : Sunday, Sept 7 immediately after our luncheon

Breakfast and the Bible – During the summer months, we will be having breakfast and a short interactive lesson for all ages in lieu of regular Sunday School. This will be an intergenerational event, so come enjoy breakfast and build friendships together!

Vacation Bible School Kick-Off Party - On Sunday, August 10th, from 5:30 – 7:30, we're having a huge beach party to kick off our Vacation Bible School. There will be bounce houses, food, games and lots of fun for the whole family! Make plans to come and invite your friends.

Faith Presbyterian Day School OPENING FOR PART-TIME TEACHER

We have an opening for a part-time Christian Early Childhood Teacher (two/ three year olds) for the '08-'09 school year. We are looking for someone who is available to work each Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., including Teacher Training/Class Preparation during the week of August 25th. Classes begin on September 2nd and we will follow the Aledo ISD school year calendar. We are looking for someone who has a teacher certification/early childhood certification and/or experience with young children. A background check will be performed. Salary is \$12 per hour. For more information, contact Marjorie Youngblood, Director, through Faith Times: faithtimes@fpcepc.org.