



FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS
FPC Youth Gala 2015

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27
7 PM AT BOUDREAUX'S

Register online at fpcbr.org.

Save the Date, Men's Retreat. All men are invited to gather at the Soloman Center in Robert, LA March 6-7. Join guest speaker Dr. Dan Doriani of Covenant Theological Seminary for a time of fellowship and renewal. Further details and registration opportunities to come soon.

Some Go, Some Send: All Can Pray

The Global Mission Committee is considering the following mission trips this year. If you are interested, please speak with the contact person listed below. You will be expected to raise your own support but by deciding early you will have time to recruit both financial and prayer support. The number of team members is limited so start seeking the Lord's guidance soon. Church members will be given first consideration and will be interviewed by the GMC.

Remember some can go, some can send, all can pray. Which would you like to be?

Uganda Bethany Center:
Dates to be determined.
Contact Claire Wilson, 225.767.6690

Egypt Conference:
April 2015
Contact Dick Gates, 225.573.9149

Romania Smiles:
May 29-June 7, 2015
Contact John or Donna Schwab, 225.379.3518
Information meeting, February 12, 7-8 pm, at the home of the Schwab's, 2446 June Street

Egypt Sport Trip:
August 1-10, 2015
Contact Whitney Alexander, 225.810.2607

Only One Week Left! The REVEAL survey helps congregations gauge the spiritual growth of its members. Take the survey at fpcbr.org or at one of the computer stations set up in the reception room Sunday mornings from 7 am to 1 pm. A station is also available throughout the week in EB 201B. The survey ends February 8 so get it done!

Lake Forest Ranch Summer Camp 2015 camp dates are May 28 - June 1. Children in 2nd-5th grade by this summer can now register for summer camp online at lakefor-estran.ch.com. For more information, contact Audra Cato (audra@fpcbr.org).

First Presbyterian Church
763 North Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802



Deeper in Christ... further into the world.

fpc NEWS

Volume 49-02 February 2015

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FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Prayer for the Nations	Each Wed., 5.30 pm
Global Missions Conference	Jan 31-Feb 1
9 and 11 am Worship Only	Feb 1
Combined Adult Sunday School	Feb 1
Abbie's Soup for the Soul	Feb 1
rEcess	Feb 6
Congregational Meeting & Dinner	Feb 8
Valentine's Dance	Feb 13
Youth Ski Trip	Feb 14-18
Ash Wednesday	Feb 18
Lenten Mid-Week Worship Begins	Feb 18
Youth Gala	Feb 27

Following the Farthest Journey

GERRIT DAWSON, SENIOR PASTOR

How's this for odd: I've never been more excited for Lent to come! This year's theme has taken me to depths I never knew existed. I never knew how close we could come to hearing the very heart-beat of Jesus' prayers to his Father. I never knew just how far he journeyed to save us. Over the last nine months I have been preparing this year's Lenten guide, sermons and small group studies. There is more potential here for soul transformation than any material I've ever worked with. I've never been so challenged personally, nor have I ever, in 30 years of ministry, challenged a congregation as I will challenge you.

The reason is that soon you will be able to join me in following Jesus on the epic journey he undertook to save us. We're going to read the stories of his ever deepening descent into the realms of sin and death to gather home his lost sheep. We're going to sync up our hearts with Jesus' heart as we pray the very prayers he prayed. *All Loves Excelling: How Far Jesus Came to Save Us* is the theme for our Lenten explorations. For 42 days, we will be invited to walk with Jesus as we meet him in Scripture. We will be able to pray

ALL LOVES EXCELLING: How Far Jesus Went to Save Us



with Jesus as we go with him along his journey. We will drink deeply of the words of some of the greatest theologians and hymn writers of history. If it works, we will be able to sing out on Easter like never before the words of the hymn, "Love divine all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down."

These 192 page guides will be distributed during worship on Sunday, February 22. Small groups will begin that same week. Some copies will be available at the Connection Center beginning February 15 for those traveling over that weekend. The sermon series begins that same Sunday and continues through Easter.

Please join me in praying that the Holy Spirit will indeed lead us truly and deeply into the ocean of our savior's love. Pray that we will have the strength and courage to swim in those waters for six weeks. Pray that we will emerge transformed and full of worship.

Blessing of the Beasts

Following the 11 am services on February 8, Derek and Gerrit and other FPC members will be on our lawn, offering prayer to participants in the Mystic Krewe of Mutts parade. We offer to bless people's beasts and in the process we get to pray for them as well. Come help us greet owners and pets, pass out some biscuits and bless our city.



Baptisms:

January 11, 2015
Joshua Jackson Peek Munson
Grandparents are Tracy and Bob Munson

Lillie Jacqueline Ellis
Parents are Madeline and Dawson Ellis

Sawyer Elizabeth Sims
Parents are Ramsey and Brent Sims

In Memoriam:

January 11, 2015
John Steve Maruschak
Brother-in-law of Mildred Maruschak

January 16, 2015
Bernadette Marie Williams
Mother of Kirk Williams

Births:

January 28, 2015
Conrad Cooper
Parents are Diane and Russ Fielding
Grandparents are Debra and Bob Cooper

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Sanctuary Flowers serve to honor a departed loved one or celebrate with thanksgiving cherished people or events. The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary ...

February 1...to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Cubbage and Mr. and Mrs. Frances G. Frazier, parents of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson.

February 8...to the glory of God and in loving memory of James Howard and Emogene S. Elliott by their family, Dr. and Mrs. Louis Cenac (Elizabeth Elliott) and Dr. Clifton O. Bingham III.

February 15...to the glory of God and in loving memory of Pauline and Robert Thurston and Ann and Philip Miller, grandparents of Scott Thurston, and of John Waldie, father of Joann Thurston, and Robert Moore Thurston, father of Scott Thurston, given by Joann and Scott Thurston.

February 22...to the glory of God in loving memory of Mr. Norman Goebel Sr. by Barbara Goebel, Norman Goebel Jr, and Charles and Byron.

First Presbyterian Helps Water An Oasis

You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.
Isaiah 58: 11

Dear Pastors, Elders and our FPC family,

We Louisianans certainly love our gardens. Even in winter their beauty and abundance are unparalleled. Everything about them affirms life and growth. Our favorite garden is First Presbyterian Church. The Christmas offering was amazing! Thank you!

As you continue to give so generously, the blessings of our garden on North Boulevard are being replicated and multiplied in the oasis that is the Gardere Community Christian School. You are providing for very real needs, starting with a first class education and previously unimagined opportunities. And, by our church and many other Christians partnering with us, God is receiving the glory. Our students, their families and the Gardere community see God's love, faith and hope in action.

On behalf of GCCS, we bless you and thank you for undergirding this mission.

With much love and appreciation,
Dan and Nancy Zito
Ken and Elizabeth Novak

For further information about Gardere Community Christian School, please visit gardereschool.com.



Our **CITY MINISTRY FAIR** is scheduled for Sunday, March 1 in the reception room after the 9 am and 11 am worship services to highlight our local ministries and offer ways you can get involved in 2015. This is an excellent opportunity to meet the directors of each of the ministries that First Presbyterian Church supports.

Our next **COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEAL** is scheduled for Sunday, March 1 in our gym from 3.30-5.30 pm. Please join us and consider bringing a chicken spaghetti casserole, bread and/or a dessert. Please RSVP to Mike Salassi (225.241.4917) if you are interested in participating or preparing a casserole or dessert.

Our next **OPEN AIR MINISTRY** service opportunities are Sundays, February 1 and March 1. Please bring soft fruit (bananas and oranges) to the church kitchen by 11 am each of these Sundays. Thank you for your help!

Manners of the Heart Volunteers Needed for Buchanan Classes

Manners of the Heart classes will begin this semester for grades K-2 at Buchanan Elementary. We are looking for volunteers to help the instructors in the classroom to provide general support during the lesson. All training is provided. Classes will be held on Wednesday mornings. Lots of fun! Sign up at the Connection Center or email laurashaw2@yahoo.com for more information.

City Ministry Monthly Meetings

The City Ministry Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month with the next meeting taking place on February 11. All are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to the church office. If you have questions, you may contact Whitney Alexander, 225. 810. 2607.

ALL LOVES EXCELLING: How Far Jesus Went to Save Us

Small Groups Sermons Daily Devotions

As we prepare to celebrate Easter, Lent will focus intently on Christ's descent to the wasteland and then shift from the downward journey toward resurrection. Everyone will receive a new daily prayer guide, *All Loves Excelling: How Far Jesus Went to Save Us*. (You can also sign up to receive the readings by daily email - fpcbr.org). Small groups will be offered. And the morning messages will focus on the themes in the study guide. Then we continue with our Lenten Wednesday Communion service at noon each week of the season with a light lunch following. Sign up for groups by visiting the Connection Center. The books will be given out at worship February 22. Plan to bring your friends for this transformative season at First!

FEB. CIRCLE MEETINGS

1ST MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015

Circle 15 Jess Conciencie's @ 7 pm
22721 Hickey Ct., Zachary (892.3212)

2ND MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2015

Circle 13 C-P Apts. @ 2 pm
Circle 14 Kristen Carney's @ 9.30 am
3161 Svendson Dr. (921.0030)

1ST TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2015

Circle 1 Helen Bowman's @ 9.45 am
231 Dutch Highland Rd. (768.7634)
Circle 2 Barbara Goebel's @ 9.45 am
433 Shadow Oak. Dr. (753.8038)
Circle 3 FPC EB 301 @ 10 am

2ND TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015

Circle 4 Amanda Boggs' @ 6.30 pm
6136 Chandler (338.9455)
Circle 5 Rachel Williams' @ 10 am
2142 Oleander St. (344.7015)
Circle 6 Sue Edrington's @ 10 am
2967 McCarroll Dr. (927.2002)
Circle 8 Brenda Martinez's @ 6.30 pm
3856 N. Bluebonnet Rd. (663.6752)
Circle 9 Please contact Ann Gregorie for Circle location. (937.0488)

3RD WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, 2015

Circle 10 Bistro Byronz @ 5 pm
5412 Government St.
Circle 16 Ingrid Medford's @ 9.30 am
7662 Seven Oaks (329.5662)

1ST THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015

Circle 11 Church Library @ Noon

1ST FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2015

Circle 7 Peggy Anderson's @ 2 pm
322 Wiltz Dr. (344.0127)

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Come Worship with Us!

7:45 am Chapel Communion Service
9:00 am Contemporary Service
11:00 am Classic Reformed Service
11:00 am Acoustic Communion Service

Feb 1, AD 2015

Mission Sunday
1 Corinthians 2: 2

Only two services: 9 am and 11 am

Feb 8, AD 2015

John 9: 24-31

Feb 15, AD 2015

John 8: 12-38

Feb 22, AD 2015

Psalms 23, 2 Cor. 3: 16-18; 4: 5-6

PASTORAL STAFF

Gerrit S. Dawson
Senior Pastor

Richard "Dick" Gates
Associate Pastor for Global Missions
and Pastoral Care

M. Whitney Alexander
Associate Pastor of City Ministry

Derek McCollum
Associate Pastor for Discipleship
and Young Adults

Barry Phillips
Ministry Executive

Josh Maddin
Director of Student Ministry



PH: 225.387.0617
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www.fpcbr.org

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Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Mother's Day Out and Preschool:
225-620-0245

Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center:
225-387-2287

www.brchristiancounseling.com



GET READY FOR THE DANCE
"Dance Cram Course," Sunday, February 8 from 6 - 7 pm. Please contact Sherry at the church office if you have any questions (sherry@fpcbr.org) or 387-0617).

SIAC Scholarship Applications. The Session Income Allocation Committee is receiving applications between Feb. 23 and March 20 for financial grants for individuals interested in seminary. Please contact Jaci if you have questions (387.0617).