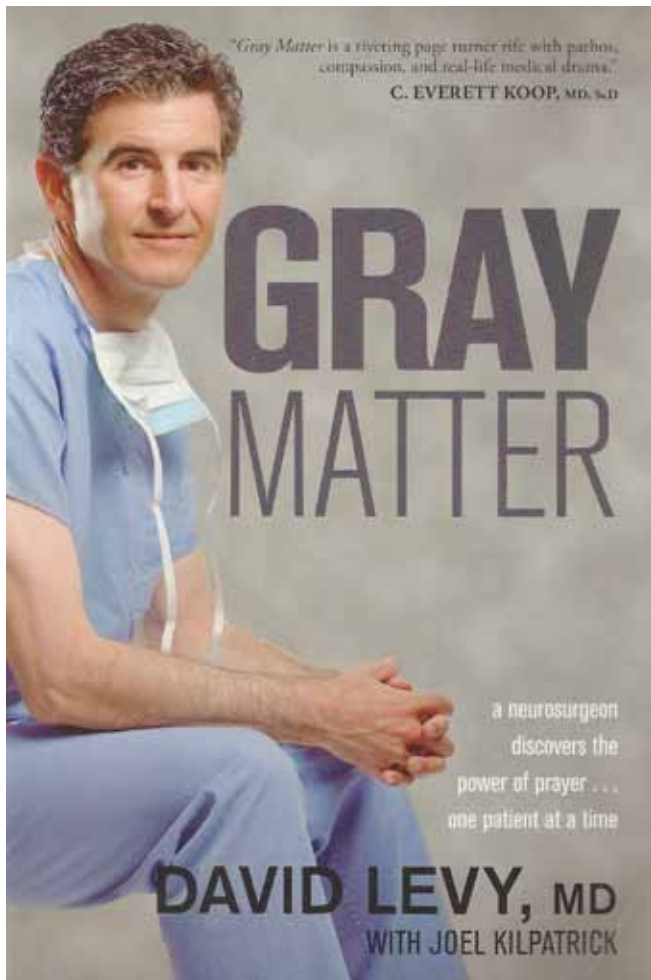


THE JOURNEY

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM FPC-KINGWOOD

LEARNING TO LIVE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD WITH PASSION, POWER AND PURPOSE

NOVEMBER, 2011



If you ever liked watching "ER" **You'll love Gray Matter.**

As a member of the medical community, Dr. Levy admits that his job as a neurosurgeon transcends the most challenging surgeries. He believes his ultimate purpose as a surgeon is to make people well -- physically, mentally, and spiritually. So the journey began when he started talking with patients about other life-issues that may have been aggravating the symptoms of the aneurysms they faced. What he found was patients carrying baggage of unforgiveness and bitterness with people who have hurt them in their past.

Please join us for an evening with
Dr. David Levy

November 16th, @ 7:00 p.m.
You have to hear his moving story.

A Book signing will start at 6:30 and a reception will follow.

Upcoming Events of Interest at FPC-Kingwood

Sunday, November 13 @4:00 p.m. John Cornelius and Friends in concert! Our pianist and composer-in-residence, John Cornelius, will present a concert of his original compositions and arrangements. This will show the depth and range of this gifted composer and pianist.

Wednesday, November 16 @ 7:00 p.m. The FPC-Kingwood Speaker Series returns as Dr. David Levy, author of *Gray Matter*, comes to read from his book and speak about the power of prayer.

Saturday, November 19 @7:30 p.m. The Kingwood Chorale and Chamber Orchestra will present a concert of favorite choral movements from Bach, Handel, Haydn, and Mozart.
www.kingwoodmusicalarts.org

Thursday, November 24th - Thanksgiving Holiday (*Office closed 24th & 25th*)

Tuesday, December 6th @ 6:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women Christmas Dinner

Thursday, December 8th @ 7:00 p.m. Christmas with C.S. Lewis (See page 5)

Sunday, December 11th @ 6:00 p.m. Bethlehem Marketplace

Tuesday, December 13th @ 5:45 p.m. Preschool Christmas Pageant

Thursday, December 15th @ 5:45 p.m. Preschool Christmas Pageant

Friday, December 23rd - *Office Closed*

Saturday, December 24th Christmas Eve Schedule

5:00 p.m. - Family Worship Service
7:00 p.m. - Traditional Worship Service
9:00 p.m. - Traditional Worship Service
11:00 p.m. - Traditional Worship Service

Sunday, December 25th - 11:05 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, December 26th - *Office Closed*

Sunday, January 1st - 11:05 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, January 2nd - *Office Closed*

From the Director of Communications...



As we move towards the last part of the year there's one word that keeps going through my head: Wow. We have had a lot going on and have even more programming yet to come.

To recap, we have recently wrapped up an October that featured Stephen Ministry Sunday, the kick-off of the Library's Fall Reading campaign, a visit from the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, the FPC-Kingwood Fall Golf Tournament and a wonderful Music Sunday. And that was October! We've already had our annual Festival of Angels and soon we'll be enjoying concerts performed by our very own John Cornelius as well as the Kingwood Chorale. And in between that we've got internationally known Dr. David Levy coming to speak about his book Gray Matter.

In this issue of the Journey you'll see that we're already gearing up for December and the Advent Season. We've got a wonderful evening in store with "A Christmas with C.S. Lewis" and also our annual Bethlehem Marketplace. And then we have the Preschool Christmas Pageant and the Christmas Music service and before you know it we're into getting ready for Christmas.

But before we get to Christmas I'd like to point out our participation in the Advent Conspiracy. You can read more about it on pages 8 & 9 but to sum it up, its a really great concept that our youth support entirely. And when you flip to page 9 you'll notice a recap of the Octane Decathlon. It was fun. It was crazy. I had a chance to watch and take photos. While there was some spirited competition, it seems easy to see that there is a good amount of fellowship being fostered in our youth. Fun times.

On a whole, this is a fun time of year. Busy. But fun. And important. You won't want to miss any of it.

Grace & Peace...

Mike

Mike Doyle
Director of Communications,
First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood
First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood

Getting Involved...

November Communion Offering:

International Seafarer's Ministry - Christmas Boxes
Once again, we will have our Christmas drive to provide a 'shoe box' to every seaman that comes to the Port of Houston on over 6800 ships per year. Our two Presbyterian Chaplains and those of four other denominations will visit each ship distributing the boxes and sharing through example the love and generosity of Christ. A table will be set up near the Mission Board in the Large Activities Area from Nov. 20th to Dec. 18th. If you need further information, contact Dwight Koops 281.361.7178.

The Forge for Families

Come and see our new facility and the impact the Forge for Families is having in the lives of both children and adults in Houston's Third Ward on Tuesday, November 15th. Leave FPC-Kingwood at 2:45 and return by 4:45 p.m. Contact Dot Chapman at 281.361.2028 for more information.

Greening of the Church

Come out and help decorate the church! Our annual "Greening of the Church" event will take place on Saturday, November 26th from 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Please contact Joe Ramirez (281.446.7919 or ramirez4360@comcast.net) for more information.

Poinsettias

Christmas Poinsettias will be on sale November 27, December 4 and December 11 In Fellowship Hall. Honor a loved one or remember someone special. Cost is \$8.

CUPS

CUPS, our Mexico mission partner, is requesting our assistance in collecting sweatshirts (children or adults) and blankets, new or gently used (but clean), for our friends in Mexico this winter. Many homes in Mexico do not have heating and way too many of them are of substandard construction. Walls do not protect from the cold wind. Please bring your donations to the CUPS table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 13 and 20. CUPS will distribute your donations to needy families in Mexico in early December. Your help will be a blessing to those in Mexico and, through your actions, share the love of Jesus at the time of year we gather to celebrate His birth. Contact Doug Blake at 281.360.7475 if you have any questions.

Love a Child Mission

FPC-Kingwood's Love A Child Mission will have a table in the Fellowship Hall between and after services now through December 18th to accept contributions and answer questions. This mission helps provide children

living in extreme poverty in Peru with a nutritious meal five days a week, assistance with school supplies and Christian nurturing. \$275 provides support for one child for one year; \$23 will provide a child with one month of support. A contribution in the name of someone else makes a meaningful gift. Gift cards will be available in the Fellowship Hall for those who wish them.



Peruvian Christmas ornament on sale at the 2011 Festival of Angels

You can make a contribution to the Love A Child Mission anytime by noting "Love A Child" on your check memo line and dropping it in the church offering plate or mailing or dropping it by the church office. This year we are also selling a set of 4 note cards for \$10.00 per set. Stop by the Fellowship Hall display and check them out. All proceeds support the Love a Child Mission. Last year's contributions helped FPCK provide for 100 children and breakfasts at two Presbyterian churches on Sunday for about 180 children. 100% of your contributions go to Peru and the stewardship of these funds is carefully monitored by FPC-Kingwood members.

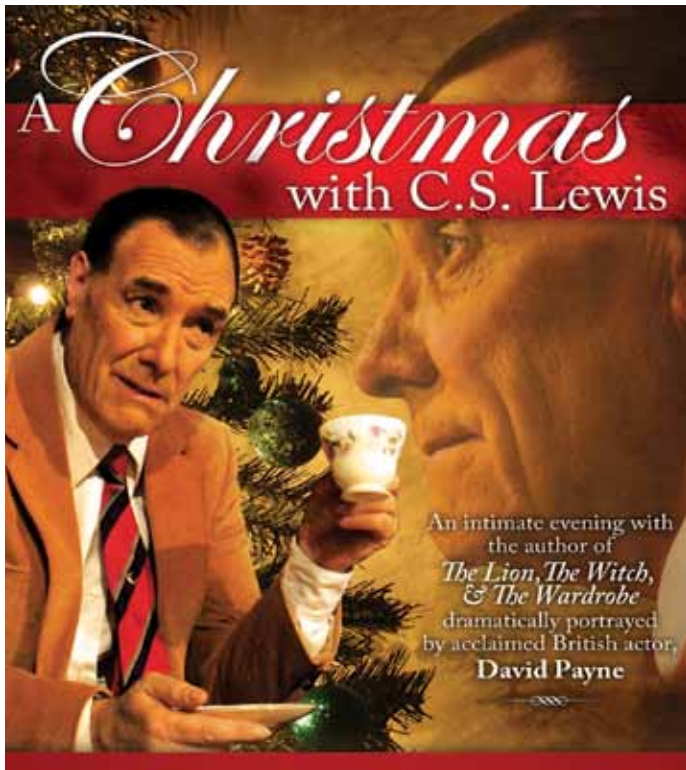
Stocking Feat

No, that's not a misspelled word! The deacons are collecting to help HAAM fill stockings which, without your help, would go empty this Christmas. Please share the blessings of this wonderful time of the year and bring toys, canned goods or monetary donations to the deacon's table in the fellowship hall on November 20th, November 27th, December 4th and December 11th.

Perspectives Class is coming!!..

Perspectives Class is coming!!..A 15-week journey where you interact with some of today's most dynamic and influential leaders in world evangelization. Classes will start locally in January 2012. Spaces will fill quickly. If you have any questions, call Dwight Koops (281.361.7178).

A Wonderful Weekend at FPC-Kingwood



A Christmas with C.S. Lewis

**Thursday, December 8th
7:00 p.m.**

The year is 1962 and C. S. Lewis, the famous British author, is in the twilight years of his life. He is hosting a group of American writers at his home just outside of Oxford. They have come to hear him speak about the significant events and the people that shaped his life. As it is Christmas time, Lewis also reflects on how he views this festive season. As one would expect from a gifted speaker the audience is treated to a display of oratory and humor that made Lewis one of England's most famous public speakers.

Payne's powerful, yet intimate portrayal allows you to spend an enthralling evening with a man whose books have literally changed millions of lives. You will laugh, you will rejoice, you may even cry and you will certainly leave celebrating a great author who gave the world the Narnia Chronicles and a Christian legacy that few others can match.

**FPC-KINGWOOD
BETHLEHEM MARKETPLACE
AND LIVING NATIVITY
Sunday, December 11th
from 6-8 p.m.**

For nearly two decades hundreds of area residents have made visiting the First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood Bethlehem Marketplace and Living Nativity a holiday tradition each year.

As December approaches, it's time again to celebrate the re-enactment of the birth of Jesus Christ, as well as take a trip back in time to the marketplace of Bethlehem where you can smell the herbs, make a clay pot or coin, mend fishing nets and taste the fruits of the era.

This free event is for all of our community to stroll through the city and experience all the wonder of Christ Jesus' birth. Members of FPC-Kingwood student ministry will play the characters of the living nativity which is accompanied by readings, music and includes live animals. Please join us and bring your children or grandchildren to experience the wonder and joy that Christmas has to offer.



Adult Ministries

Sunday Mornings at FPC-Kingwood

9:45 Sunday School Classes

HomeBuilders

Young Families and Couples in their 20's, 30's and 40's Want meaningful discussions with other 20 to 40 year olds in our church? Join us for a study by John Ortberg called "The Life You Always Wanted." We are learning together how we can be the fathers, mothers, spouses and friends that God intended us to be. Each week there will be a short DVD and laid back discussion, Room 217. Karin Capriotti capriotti@cebridge.net. Spiritual Stream

Present Word (Meet in the Chapel)

Tradition and Wisdom Unit 1: Teaching and Learning
Nov 13 *Loving as God's People*, Matthew 5:43-48
Roger Eddy
Nov 20 *Praying as God's People*, Matthew 6:5-15
Larry Offenbacher
Nov 27 *Facing Life without Worry*, Matthew 6: 25-34
Larry Offenbacher
Biblical Stream

Kindred Spirits (Meet in the Parlor)

Nov 13 John Lesson 11– Listening for the Shepherd's Voices; Cornelia Higdon
Nov 20 John Lesson 12 – Back from the Dead; Nedra McDaniel
Nov 27 No Class
Theology Stream

Our Conversation Class (Meet in room 215) This class goes out to lunch the 3rd Sunday of the month after the 11:05 service.

Satan - What you don't know can hurt you! Mike Duncan will lead a discussion-based series on Satan. If you're sitting back and saying "I can find something better to do on Sunday mornings besides learning how to defeat Satan" ... I wonder who is whispering that in your ear? Please consider coming as often as you can. Room 215 at 9:55. No class on November 27th. Biblical Stream

Attention 9:45 worshipers: We would like to officially invite you to visit the following classes. We are confident that after a visit you will be hooked into Discipleship.

11:05 Sunday School Classes

Emmaus Way (Meet in the Chapel) led by Chad Erb, this class goes deeper into the sermon and the text for the day.

Truth Seekers (Meet in the Parlor) for discussion and fellowship. We view tapes that are both informative and seem to help spark challenging spiritual growth. The contact is Sherry Arrick.

The Upper Room a ministry for Adults with Special Needs, (meets in room 208 from 9:45 until 12:15) is led by Emma Henderson. We will not meet November 27. Enjoy your Thanksgiving with your family.

Volunteer with the Upper Room! If you have an extra hour one Sunday a month we could sure use you to help in the Upper Room class. No experience necessary, love for children required. Please email marylee@fpc-kingwood.org Men or women would be helpful. This is a great time for the parents or caregivers to go to worship and class together.

Looking ahead:

Advent will be here before we know it. We will have the E-votions like we did last year. Everyone who now receives the Headlines and Happenings will receive the E-votions for Advent. If you do not receive the Headlines and Happenings, please add your name to the email list by contacting Mike Doyle in the church office.

Chad Erb will be leading us in an Advent class: "A Revolutionary Christmas" on Wednesday evenings in December in the Sanctuary from 6:45-7:45. (Childcare will be provided.)

Bethlehem Marketplace will be Sunday, December 11 from 6-8 p.m. This is a wonderful family event where you can walk through the market of Bethlehem and try your hand at the crafts then go visit Jesus in the manger with live animals. Please invite your grandchildren, neighbors, and friends to spend this glorious evening together. For more information, please see Page 5.

The Library Page

The Written Legacy: the 400th Anniversary of the King James Bible

Is reading the Bible becoming old fashioned and out-of-date? A late night television host asked his audience to name one of the Ten Commandments. One person ventured: "God helps those who help themselves." Then the host asked if anyone could name one of the Gospels. No one could; but responding to another question everyone in the audience could name the four Beatles.

The question as to whether or not the Bible is no longer read was raised by the Rev. David G. Wylie of the Scotch Presbyterian Church one Sunday night in his sermon. His topic was "The Bible Lost and Found." In the course of his remarks, Dr. Wylie said: "We are in danger of losing the Bible. It has only desultory reading in our public schools, and is ignored almost entirely now by our great colleges and universities. To a large extent it is unknown to our present generation of students." When were these remarks published in the NY Times? Continue reading for the answer.

As Biblical instruction wanes, large numbers of people young and old are biblically illiterate. Our society is developing a profound ignorance of Jesus. Many don't understand the term "Good Friday" or the meaning of our basic Christian vocabulary – grace, sin, redemption, or salvation.

A recent study concluded that the number of people who read the Bible "occasionally" has declined from 79 percent in the 1980's to 59 percent today. Only 16 percent of Christians say they read the Bible daily. Are we in danger of losing our Bible?

2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the creation of the King James Bible. Have you ever wondered how our Bible came to be? Or why is the Bible called the King James version of the Bible? Many people today can trace their family history all the way back to early Americana to the first settlement at Jamestown or their arrival at Ellis Island.

The year was 1604 and England had crowned a new monarch by the name of James I (who was the same James VI of Scotland) the year before upon the death of Queen Elizabeth I in 1603.

One of the issues before the new king was the matter of his religious preference since he was the supreme authority over the Anglican Church. Now because he was a Scot,

the Bishops wanted to know if he was a Presbyterian. Or was he Catholic as his mother, Mary Queen of Scots, had been?

So the king did what any respectable president and CEO would do. He formed a committee and scheduled a conference to study the problem. The Hampton Court Conference (so called because it was held at the magnificent Hampton Court Palace) lasted three days.

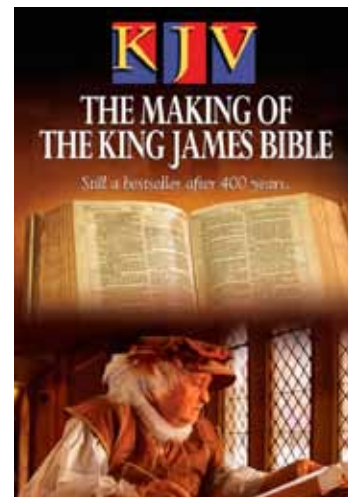
With several English translations in use, such as the Myles Coverdale Bible (1535); Tyndale-Matthews Bible (1537); The Great Bible (1539); The Geneva Bible (1560); and the Bishops Bible (1568), the Puritan leader, John Rainolds, took this opportunity to suggest that a new, more accurate translation was needed for the people.

Out of this three day conference, a new translation was ordered by the King to resolve the issues with the different translations being used. So, a committee of 47 professors began the daunting task at hand.

The Jean H. Branch Memorial Library invites you, your family and friends to join in celebrating the 400th Anniversary of the King James Bible by attending a presentation of "The Making of the King James Bible" (documentary) on Sunday December 4th at 4 p.m. in the church sanctuary. "The Making of the King James Bible" will explore the various viewpoints of the different scholars. You won't be disappointed as award winning director, Jerry Griffith, brings to life the fascinating history of this great work.

So when were the remarks of Rev. Wylie published in the NY Times? The year was 1909.

"Many Christians expect the world to respect the Book they neglect." E.E. McKenzie.



Children's Ministries

What's Happening in Children's Ministries...

On Facebook? So are we! "FPC Kingwood Childrens-Ministries"

Follow us on Twitter 'firstpreskids'

Socks 'n Undies Sundays! Beginning Sunday, November 13th thru Sunday, November 27th FPC-Kingwood will be collecting socks and underwear to be distributed to area children.

This basic clothing drive will provide meaningful support and dignity to those in need. Simply pick up another pair of children's socks, underwear or t-shirts at the store, and drop them in one of the donation baskets located in the Christian Education wing.

Last year we provided socks and underwear for several dozen children – help us continue this wonderful ministry!

Winter Sunday School Schedules are out! Our new FaithWeaver @ curriculum engages children and our Sunday school teachers – volunteer in your child's class this winter quarter and check it out! Sign up schedules are in each classroom. Our hope is to have every parent (and then some!) participating in children's ministry at FPC-Kingwood.

Want to get involved? Do you have an awesome idea for Children's ministry? Love working with kids? We'd love to talk to you! Contact Angela Howard at angela@fpc-kingwood.org or join us on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Children's Discipleship Committee meeting (childcare provided).

Kids' Church Want to work with children but aren't sure how to get involved? Prayerfully consider joining the Kids' Church team! We are always looking for people with a heart for children's ministry. There are a variety of ways to be involved with this wonderful ministry – from song leader and Bible storyteller to running the sound system and/or crowd control.

FPC-Kingwood Octane Decathlon

Recently, Student Ministry held its annual Octane Decathlon here at First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood. As you can see from the photos below there was a great deal of fierce competition at this year's event. In the end, somehow, the Seniors were victorious. But ultimately, everyone who attended won for being there.



Student Ministries

ADVENT CONSPIRACY

The season of Advent is quickly approaching. Sometimes, however, amidst all the shopping, holiday parties, and decorations, it's hard to slow down and truly celebrate Christ. That's where Advent Conspiracy comes in.

Advent Conspiracy challenges us to rethink our personal participation in a holiday that celebrates God With Us. We do so, by encouraging students to consider what it means to Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, and Love All. It's about teaching students that they have more to give than just money and material goods. They have time and talents; they have the capacity to love and to bring hope to those in our community and around the world!

God gave us the ultimate gift of His presence, how can we honor that gift as we interact with our friends and family? Do they want our presents or our presence? Each year, some 450 billion dollars are spent on gifts at Christmas time. At the same time, many estimates tell us that 10-15 billion dollars would provide clean water to the entire world. How can we honor the birth of Jesus and the inauguration of the gospel message by being concerned for a world that is suffering and in need? One way is to rethink our spending habits this holiday season. What if instead of getting caught up in the rampant consumerism that has, in many ways, hijacked Christmas, we give to some organizations that are truly trying to make a change in our hurting world?

This program is not simply about redistributing money. Advent Conspiracy is about realizing that God has called us to join with Him, both relationally and financially, to advance His Kingdom in our world. What an amazing privilege! Student Ministry has already begun gathering ideas and planning how they can best serve our community and the world! There are some fun and exciting things headed your way over the upcoming weeks. So be on the lookout for how you can be a part of an Advent Conspiracy - not just saying, "let's put the Christ back in Christmas"...actually doing it!

Student Ministry is partnering with Advent Conspiracy, Living Water International, Threads of Hope, and Casa De Roc orphanage in Honduras this holiday season. Our students are collecting change, selling friendship bracelets, volunteering their time, and more!

For more information, visit www.adventconspiracy.org, www.water.cc, www.threadsofhope.com, and casaderoc.org.

E-mail Angie if you have any questions about Advent Conspiracy: angie@fpc-kingwood.org

ENTER THE STORY.
www.adventconspiracy.org

**ADVENT
CONSPIRACY**

**LIVING WATER
INTERNATIONAL**

PROVIDING A
CUP OF WATER
IN JESUS' NAME

Women's Ministry News

Moms In Touch – Join other moms as we lift up our cares and concerns for our children and schools to our loving Father. Experience the joy of replacing anxiety with peace and hope when you pray with other moms! Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. Childcare is available upon request; contact Robin at 281.682.0492.

Dorcas Circle meets in the Church Parlor the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. We welcome women of all ages and hope you will join us for the study of *Unexpected Blessings, The Beatitudes Expanded* by Debbie Ingram Schmidt. For more information please call Betty Ladish at 281.358.2785 or email at blladish@suddenlink.net.

CAWT (Call All Women Together) Mark your calendars for the following days this fall so you can join us as we eat, tour around the Houston area, and hear information of interest to us. December 1st: Old Town Spring - Christmas shopping and lunch. Questions? Sue Plato 281.360.3160 or e-mail d5807riley@gmail.com.

Marytha Circle meets the 3rd Thursday of each month in members homes at 9:30 a.m. This year our Bible Study is *Unexpected Blessings--The Beatitudes Expanded*. Please join us for fellowship and study. For information, call Mary Tims, 281.361.6823 or June Smith, 281.358.6656.

Lydia Circle meets the second Friday morning of each month at 9 a.m. in members' homes. Members range in age, some with school age children and some who are empty nesters. Our study this year is *Lazarus Awakening* by Joanna Weaver. We would love to have you join us! Contact Sandra Mauerhan for more information at s.mauerhan@hotmail.com.

Hannah Circle is a Circle for "Empty Nesters" and meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 11 a.m. in members' homes. This year we're studying the book *Traveling Light* by Max Lucado. All women are welcome. If you'd like to join us, call Twyla at 281.361.9880.

Agape Circle meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7p.m. in the FPCK conference room. This year we are studying *Unexpected Blessings- The Beatitudes Expanded* by Debbie Ingram Schmidt. Please bring diapers for our HAAM mission project. Contact Carol

Curtis for additional information – 281.852.8488.

Another fun filled year of **Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)** is about to begin! Our general meetings will be every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from September 2011 till May 2012. Childcare is provided for our general meetings. If you have any questions regarding MOPS please contact Sheri Frost at 281.793.7948.

MOMSnexT is for moms with school aged children. We need you to serve as a Mentor to the MOMSnexT group. Your seasoned voice will provide a valuable resource for wisdom, comfort and encouragement to moms. The MOMSnexT Mentor fills a unique and very important role. Resources specific to her position of influence are available on the MOPS Leaders' website under Mentor's Corner. If you are interested in becoming our MOMSnexT Mentor please contact Paula Tobey at 281.360-2777.

Presbyterian Women Annual Christmas Dinner LADIES! Begin your Christmas season with us!! Presbyterian Women's Annual Christmas Meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 6th at 6:00 p.m.

We'll have a Delicious Dinner, Theater On The Stage and Christmas Carols. Make sure to put it on your calendar today!!!



Ladies attending the October CAWT event

Men's Ministry News

Men's Life meets every Friday morning at 6 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a presentation and discussion using the program ManInTheMirror. We will watch Pat Morley and other presenters and spend some time discussing in small table groups. We have breakfast and coffee.

MoRanch retreat April 29 – May 1, 2012 for men only

Friday night to Sunday noon

MoRanch, Hunt, Texas

Mark Your Calendar now and make your reservation. Contact Mark Smith for more information. Or go to the MoRanch website.

Gather for worship and fellowship in a beautiful place.

Contact: Brent Barry, bbarry@northparkpresbyterian.org

Men's Bible Study on Thursday morning at 6:45 in the Conference room

Retired Men's Bible Study meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. We are a great group of guys just moving along with our relationship with God. Our focus of study is the Gospel of Mark. We are using *King's Cross* by Timothy Keller. If you want more information please email Mary Lee at marylee@fpc-kingwood.org

Senior Ministry

SENIOR CALENDAR

Just Lunch, Tuesday, November 15 – AMEDEO'S
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Thursday, November 17 - Post Trip Get-together –
6:30 p.m. Reminisce and share photos – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 13, Annual White Elephant Lunch!
Catered, what a blast! NOON in Fellowship Hall
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Friday, December 16 – OPERA LEGGERA
The Nathaniel Center – Holiday Enchantment, music of the season – WAITING LIST ONLY

Exciting new trips and events - Coming Soon!!!!



Back row: Kurt Dettmers, Mary Helen Headrick, Ida & Mike Sullivan, Sarah Carswell and Gus Watkins

Middle row: Pam Dettmers, Jo Campbell, Dianne Bilger, and Nancy Hewitt

Front row: Mary Kay Crutchfield

Not Pictured: Allyn Gabucci, **YOU!**

Body Recall at FPC-Kingwood

With a stated mission to offer all people a better quality of life through responsible movement that is pain-free and possible: to assist, inform, teach and train people in the practice of lifetime fitness, Body Recall offers programs that are intended to address the needs of the least of us as well as the best of us. The approach speaks to people who come to Body Recall in all different shapes, abilities, ages and sizes.

Classes are 8-9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

For more information about this fit, fun class, contact Mary Kay Crutchfield at 832.455.1693

Music Notes

Evening with the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra a big success.

On Sunday, October 23rd, the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra made its second appearance in Kingwood. The well-attended event was quite an evening of classical music with a measure of good-natured fun thrown in.



FPC-Kingwood celebrates its wide-ranging music program with a special music service

On October 30th the Music Department brought together all the musical ensembles of the church into one fun filled Sunday morning service. The Children's Choir and the Genesis Handbells joined the Chancel Choir to raise their voices (and bells) in musical praise.



Upcoming Music Events at FPC-Kingwood

Sunday, November 13 @4:00 p.m. John Cornelius and Friends in concert! Our pianist and composer-in-residence John Cornelius will present a concert of his original compositions and arrangements. This will show the depth and range of this gifted composer and pianist.

Saturday, November 19 @7:30 p.m. The Kingwood Chorale and Chamber Orchestra will present a concert of favorite choral movements from Bach, Handel, Haydn, and Mozart. www.kingwoodmusicalarts.org

Sunday December 18th FPC-Kingwood Christmas Music Sunday. Portions of Handel's Messiah will be performed at 8:25 and 11:05 a.m. services. The 9:45 contemporary service will take place at the normal time.

Saturday, February 4 @7:30 p.m. The VIENNA BOYS CHOIR will be in concert in Kingwood for the first time! Limited tickets remain and are available for \$25 (general admission) in the church office during normal business hours.



Mary Jo Chapman and Todd Miller staffing the ticket booth for the Vienna Boychoir concert.

FPC-Kingwood News & Notes

RTH Wrap-Up!

This past October First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood's RTH team worked at the home of Ella Robertson. Ella is a 91 yr. old woman who lives by herself in a small home just outside the 610 loop (one of the neighborhoods we often work in). Like all RTH clients, she is low income. Her husband has died, and she has a few children who live in the greater Houston area who look in on her and help her with doctor appointments, shopping, etc. The team had good weather and a great opportunity for fellowship and the chance to help a neighbor in need. They were even treated to a ringside view of the Kashmere high school homecoming parade as it wound its way down Hirsch street.



The RTH leadership would like to offer their thanks to all who participated in this Fall's work project. Ella and her daughter were very pleased with the work and both thanked the team profusely as they finished packing up for departure.

The Gathering Place

The United States Administration on Aging has declared 2011 as The Year of the Family Caregiver.

Rosalynn Carter, who has an institute dedicated to caregiving at Georgia Southwestern State University, thinks the programs there benefit everyone because, as she says, "You are now a caregiver; you have been a caregiver; you will be a caregiver; or you will need caregiving - that about covers us all." Most of us will rely on others to help us with daily tasks at some time in our lives, either for a short or long period.

Many studies show that caregivers have increased stress levels and health challenges. Far too many neglect themselves in their desire to serve their loved ones. It is important that they step away from caregiving for a while and this is where the Gathering Place becomes part of the solution.

The Gathering Place is a once a month, no-cost program that offers caregivers a time of welcome respite from their day-to-day caring responsibilities. And it provides a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment for

adults living with memory loss caused by illnesses such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's Disease, dementia, stroke or injury. Our ministry at FPC-Kingwood is one of the 50 plus Gathering Places located in churches in the Houston area. We are affiliated with Interfaith CarePartners who provide the professional staff, organization, coordinating support and training for our volunteer care team members.

Each Gathering has a theme around which activities are organized. After a warm welcome, Care Partners make a craft to take home, sing together, exercise, play games and win prizes, enjoy special entertainment and have lunch. Taking part in activities will help the Care Partners maintain skills and maximize the quality of their lives. It also promotes their self esteem and removes the focus from their disability. Throughout the day, the dignity and worth of all is never forgotten. This time together is one of fun and fellowship for both the Care Partners and the team members.

Those on the Care Team are given a special gift as we learn how to be agents of God's mercy, support and love with people in the fullness of years and in failing strength. This year ten members of our team received the President's Service Award - part of the Points of Light Foundation - in recognition and appreciation of their volunteer service. We are always looking for new team members to join us - the only experience required is a loving heart.

The purpose of the Gathering Place is for the Care Team to provide a loving, safe and fun environment for our Care Partners so that Caregivers will be confident that they are leaving their loved ones in good hands and not worry while they are away. This will be their time to be free from the worries and responsibilities of caregiving. At FPC- Kingwood, we meet the fourth Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact Helen Doyle 281.358.7803 bluenosetx@gmail.com

A Time to Reflect

As you gather around the Thanksgiving table with your loved ones, please reflect on the happiness you have given to those whom HAAM was able to help with your generosity of canned goods and monetary gifts. "Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us." Eph. 5:1-2.

Thank you from the Board of Deacons.

Golf Wrap Up

Thanks to all who came out and played on such a great day at Oakhurst this past month. Everyone had a great time and we are already looking forward to our next tournament in the Spring. Congratulations go to the Shu/Tanamachi/Armstrong/Pekari team for first place finish and the Mattox/Abney/Hale/Schafer team for placing second.

OAKHURST			OAKHURST				
Tim - Terrell	70	600	19	Mueller - Koops	66	599	25
Hicks - Jellin				Davis			
Duncan - Duncan	71	633	24	Lynskey - Dornir	73	624	25
Duncan				Burner - Lynskey			
Arnold - Pedersen	72	648	25	Treloar - Treloar	74	637	30
Robertson - Scott				Durreault - Zerbe			
Dutrich - Morris	69	610	27	Shu - Tanamachi	65	554	21
Murray - Melones	78	68	18	Armstrong - Pekari			
Nice - Gustafson							
Deaton - Anderson	71	629	20				
Kilpatrick - Watson							
Allison - Kirby	63	554	22				
Mattox - Abner							
Hale - Scholer	69	587	26				
Smith - Offenberg							
Dolan - Erlich	80	716	23				
Chapman - Bush							
Clark - Remond	71	618	23				
Palms - Gross							
Gonzalez - Pollock	62	559	24				
Coller - Somers							
Krud - Landwehr							



My Faith Journey

Dorene Breach



God's Love Revealed to Me

When I tell people I was born and raised in Thailand as a missionary kid (MK), the most common response I get is, "Wow, that must have been great." In truth, in many ways it was difficult. A dad who was gone a lot, isolation from other children my age (Mom homeschooled us all), ongoing sexual abuse by someone I should have been able to trust, all set me up for depression, an eating disorder and suicidal tendencies.

In spite of that or maybe because of it, from the time I could remember I had a deep hunger for God. I studied His word, listened to Bible studies on the radio and later went to a Christian college, but still had that hunger that was not satisfied; even though I had accepted Him into my heart as a little child.

In my mid thirties, God decided it was time for me to deal with my past. Through that journey, I began to understand that, though I trusted Jesus as my Savior, I never believed (deep down in my gut) that He loved me. I felt so unworthy that no matter what I did that feeling would not go away.

At the advice of a pastor, I began to go to God and ask Him to show me that He loved me, not for what or who I was or what I did or didn't do, but just because I was His child. By this time, my husband of 15 years had abandoned the children and me and I struggled to raise my three children without a father. My sons especially were very angry and hurt by their father's abandonment and would lash out at me since he wasn't in the picture. One night, one of the boys let me know of his anger, in no uncertain terms. I went to my room in tears and prayed to God, "Oh Father, I know he isn't really angry with me. I know he is hurt and doesn't understand why his dad left. I realize he is afraid I might leave him too. Why won't he just let me love him?"

God's voice spoke gently to my wounded heart, "Oh Dorene, I know you are hurt and afraid and don't think you will ever be good enough, but I love you so much. Why won't you just let Me love you?" This was a turning point in my life and I have never again doubted God's love even though life has often been difficult. I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that the love I have for my children is pale compared to God's love for me, and just as they never had to earn my love, so much more I don't have to earn His.

My prayer for others today echoes that of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 3:17b - 19: "And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

When we understand just a little how much God loves us, we can truly walk in His fullness, not in fear but in faith. When we truly understand that nothing can separate us from that love, we can never be truly afraid again.

Our Mission:

First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood is a family of faith where people sense the presence of Christ, respond with passionate worship, embrace the power of personal discipleship and partner in God's mission to the world.

THE SESSION & COMMITTEES

Jack H. Morrison, Clerk of Session

Class of 2011

Doug Arrick, D-Students
*Lelia Beckelman, Missions
*Gary Chapman, Missions
*James Demases, Finance
David Hemphill, D-Adult
*John Johnston, Worship
*Cindy Little, Church Life
Ann Owen, Personnel
Onnie Sherrer, Church Life
*Cindy Trammell, D-Adult

*Designates Chair/Co-Chair

Class of 2012

*Chip Benton, Personnel
*Dot Chapman, Evangelism
*Mary Gilbert, Finance
*Judy Hinckfoot, D-Students
*Harvey Louderback, B&G
Tom Mattox, B&G
*Greg Olson, Evangelism
*Joe Ramirez, Worship
*Sue Sterrett, D-Children
*Lori Tatum, D-Students

Class of 2013

Andrew Boyd, D-Children
Susan Curling, Mission
JQ Delap, D-Adult
Glenda English, Worship
Sam Mowrey, B&G
Chris Wallace, D-Students
Dick Watts, Personnel

DEACONS & SHEPHERD GROUPS

Russ Nipe, Moderator ■ Mary Ann Brauer, Secretary

Class of 2011

Judith Anderson, SG 23
Mike Browne, SG 12
Ann Burns, SG21
Helen Doyle, SG 14
Judy Duncan, SG 24
Roger Eddy, SG 2
Mabryn Fleener, SG 18
Mike Watson, SG 3
Kalen Webb, SG 19

Class of 2012

Sarah Jensen, SG 1
Doug McGrath, SG 5
H.B. Moreland, SG 20
Jane Quebedeaux SG 26
Rick Rickert, SG 9
Lexie Rose, SG 17
Ev Stephen, SG 16
Ester Zavala, SG 8

Class of 2013

Randy Curry, SG7
Meredith Delap, College
Mike Dunson, SG10
Nancy Goodell, SG13
Lloyd Higdon, SG6
Leigh Marcus-Kelley, SG15
Sue Plato, SG27
Sharon Rolnik, SG22
Bill Tapley, SG11
Jan Wislar, SG4