



# *The Weekly Update*

## *Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church*

### *January 29, 2025*

Greetings from Dallas Texas!

This week seven of us from FPC, (Angie Chapman, Earl, Vickie and Darbee Rhamy, Jim and Claudia Ward and I) joined by 1,300 other ECO pastors, elders and leaders have gathered here for our annual National Gathering. It's a few days of worship, learning, fellowship and encouragement – and it's really a lot of fun.

The theme of this year's meeting is "Abide" based on Jesus promise in John 15:4-5 : "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

This is a promise for all of us: that as we remain connected to Jesus, He remains connected and committed to His relationship with us.

But what does it look like to "abide" in Jesus? When I worked with students we used to talk about "abiding" by talking about the relationship many of people have with their cellphones. For many of us our cellphone is always with us – within arms reach! We rely on it to tell us about the world around us, to give us direction, information, help and connection. Many of us feel very uncomfortable when we cannot find our cellphone!

What if we experienced our relationship with Jesus the way we experience our dependance on our cellphones? What if Christ became where we turned for direction, help and community? What if when we were stressed out or tired or annoyed, we turned to Jesus for comfort and peace? What if our awareness of Jesus was always within arm's reach? That's what it means to abide! To be connected, to remain in contact, to rely on something to provide for our needs.

So, how do we do this? How do we work to have an "abiding" relationship with Jesus? Our FPC Basics are a great place to start. We can work to cultivate a healthier and deeper connection with Jesus by worshiping regularly, being involved in the study of God's Word with others, serving faithfully as He leads, committing to prayer and habits of faith, and by building spiritual friendships that will help encourage and nurture us.

This week, WE are being encouraged to abide more faithfully in Jesus. And we want to take that encouragement home with us. Next time you see someone who was on this trip, ask us about what we learned and what our favorite part of the gathering was. Ask us about how ECO is doing or what kinds of things we're still thinking about from our time here.

We hope that some of our enthusiasm for how God is at work in and in our denomination here in Dallas will rub off on the rest of you and we are excited to share it with you!



## LEARNING MORE

Are you interested in learning more about Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church? Ever wanted to know what ECO stands for or what it means to be Presbyterian? We are looking to hold a potential new members session in February for those who want to discover more about the church and might want to take the next steps of becoming a covenant partner at FPC. If you would like to hear about this opportunity, please talk to Pastor Jos (314-749-1315, [jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org](mailto:jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org)) and she'll give you additional information!

## ACCESSING THE CHURCH DIRECTORY APP

Mary Ann Henderson will be available after the worship service on February 16 in the café to help anyone who may need to troubleshoot or access the online church directory app. If you've been having problems with the app, or if you would like to know more, you can stop by



**Ladies First Friday is at 6:30 p.m. on February 7 at the church.**  
**The topic is "Loving Each Other."**  
**Snacks are provided.**

## OUTREACH TEAM and OHUDDLE

Let's show God's love to our local students by providing items for use with the OHuddle program. Please drop off items for hygiene kits, snacks, drinks, crafts, games, and clothing (hoodies, t-shirts, leggings, sweats-clean/gently used) to the church lobby collection box by Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. (See sign-up sheet in lobby for specifics.) Then join us Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> following 2nd Hour to compile the kits and pack items for delivery.

## February Calendar

February 2 Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour  
February 3 6:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting  
February 5 10:00 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)  
February 5 6:45 p.m. Music Team  
February 7 6:30 p.m. First Friday (Women)  
February 9 Sunday morning worship (NO 2nd Hour today)  
February 9 following worship - 2024 recap and 2025 Vision  
February 12 10:00 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)  
February 12 6:45 p.m. Music Team  
February 15 Outreach Team set-up in FH  
February 16 Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour  
February 16 Packing boxes for OHuddle w/Outreach Team  
February 19 10:00 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)  
February 19 6:00 p.m. Emmaus 4th Day  
February 19 6:45 Music team



**Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.**

The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

### Praises

- **Mandarin Baptist Church & Wade Harlan are safe from fires & ministering to those in need.**

### Military Service:

- **Hunter Amolotte (USMC) being deployed to southern border**
- **Isaiah Styer flying home Feb 3, 1 week to pack and process for assignment in Hawaii.**
- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Steven King - Army
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Arizona
- Isaiah Styer - moving to Hawaii
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

### Prayer Needs

- Southern California

### Health Concerns

- **Steve Moffitt upper respiratory illness**
- **Zach's stepfather - recovering from a stroke**
- Genevieve's teacher's surgery
- Katie Gehring - (infant) she is home, long health journey ahead.
- Roger Stroud - continued healing, less pain
- Pat Thomson - continued recovery
- Edna's daughter in law, Tonya
- Pastor Albert continued healing from accident
- Jane Heilman

### Battling Cancer

- Diane Scott
- Susan Halliday
- Janet Lee
- Waldo - cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo
- Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Keylee - leukemia
- Dale James

### Condolences

- **The family of Jaret Luzier**
- **The family of Larry Wood**

*The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church family experiencing prayer needs.*

**The Children's Ministry Team** has a special request for our church family. We are asking you to join with us in praying for the kids of the church and for growth and blessing in kids ministry. We are eager to see more children and families connect with our programming for kids; but as we work toward that goal, we are asking all of you to join us in prayer. We know that God is the one who can help us reach more children and so we want to be asking Him to be at work in these things. Each week in the weekly update we will be sharing a simple prayer prompt for each day of the month and it will be connected with a Bible reference that the prayer is based on. We encourage you to pray with us but lifting up the children in your life, or by praying a general blessing on the children of our community. Your commitment to join us in praying for these things is a blessing to us and makes a difference! Thank you!

**Praying for Kids – January 29 – Feb 4**

**January 29 - Philemon 1:6**

*And I am praying that children will put into action the generosity that comes from faith as they understand and experience all the good things we have in you, Jesus.*

**January 30 - Jude 1:24-25**

*Now all glory to you, God, who can keep each child from falling away and will bring them with great joy into your glorious presence without a single fault. All glory to you who alone are God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord. All glory, majesty, power, and authority are yours before all time, and in the present, and beyond all time! Amen.*

**January 31 - Psalm 8:1-2**

**O Lord, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. You have helped me teach children and infants to tell of your strength.**

**February 1 - Ephesians 1:15-16a**

*God, I thank you for the faith in Jesus children in my church have shown, and their love for your people.*

**February 2 - Ephesians 1:16b-17**


*I pray for the children in my ministry constantly, asking you, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give those children spiritual wisdom and insight so that they might grow in their knowledge of you, God.*

**February 3 - Ephesians 1:18**

I pray that children's hearts be flooded with light so that they can understand the confident hope you have given to those you called—your holy children who are your rich and glorious inheritance.

**February 4 - Ephesians 1:19-21**

*I also pray that children will understand the incredible greatness of your power when they believe in you. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at your right hand in the heavenly realms. Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come.*



**Sunday, February 9, plan to stay after worship and hear a recap of ministry from 2024, and what to look forward to in 2025.**

**Happy Birthday**

January 31	Matthew Smith
February 1	Jay Haver
February 4	Scott Schlauch



**VOLUNTEERS FOR FEBRUARY 2**

<b>Greeters</b>	Abby Rhamy Marcy Speelman
<b>Ushers</b>	Reid & Shawn McKelvey
<b>Café</b>	Wendy McKelvey
<b>Nursery (Worship)</b>	Veronica Styer
<b>Nursery (2nd Hour)</b>	Bridget Rhamy
<b>Kidz Jam</b>	Shirley Swinehart
<b>Kids 2nd Hour</b>	Georgie Miller
<b>Elder Assist</b>	Adam Swinehart
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Angie Chapman
<b>Communion Servers</b>	Adam (EA), Steve, Beth and Mike
<b>Safety Team</b>	Shirley Swinehart