

THIS WEEK@PCPC

VOL. XXXII, NO. 17 | SEPTEMBER 25, 2021
PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SHAWN DAVIS, EDITOR
4124 OAK LAWN AVENUE
DALLAS, TX 75219-3152

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH EXISTS TO
EXTEND THE TRANSFORMING PRESENCE OF THE
KINGDOM OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN DALLAS
AND TO THE WORLD.



pcpc.org | 214-224-2500



follow.parkcitiespc.org

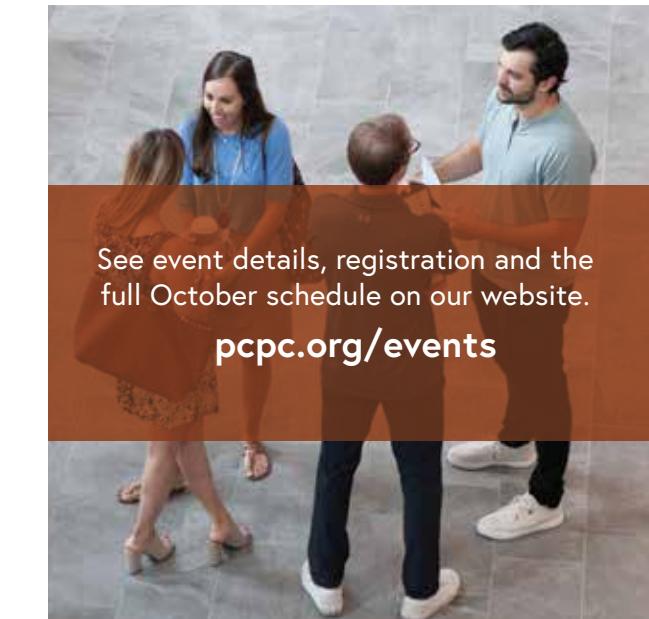


SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.
24/7 PRAYER HOTLINE: 214-224-2680 or
24/7prayer@pcpc.org

PCPC NEWS

VOL. XXXII, NO. 17 | SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID
AT DALLAS,
TEXAS



See event details, registration and the
full October schedule on our website.
pcpc.org/events



LIVE SIMULCAST OCT. 21-22, 2021

CONNECT, ABIDE, & EXTEND.

SECOND GRADE BIBLES

OCTOBER 3

The Elementary Ministry invites all second graders and their families to this special occasion at PCPC. Second graders will receive their name-engraved Bible during a special ceremony. A continental-style breakfast will be available for participating families starting at 8:30 a.m. After the Bible ceremony, all second graders and their families are encouraged to attend the 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary service where the students will be recognized for this significant milestone.

FAITH & CULTURE

OCTOBER 12

As Christians, we have the privilege of applying our faith in the context of the challenging world we live in. But we often struggle with knowing how to do that. As Christians we must be shaped by God's Word as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission in the context of a lost world. We are excited to announce that over the next year, we will be offering four Faith & Culture events that will help equip you to be lights in an ever-confusing culture. We hope you will come and be a part of this series of conversations on Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Feb. 15, & Apr. 5.

THE BRIDGE: WHAT'S HER STORY?

OCTOBER 19

Join PCPC Women as we gather for The Bridge, Tuesday October 19th, in The Loft at PCPC. Ann Higginbottom will be our speaker.

LEGACY GRANDPARENTING SUMMIT

OCTOBER 21-22

Are you a Christian grandparent? You can have an incredible impact on the spiritual direction and destiny of your grandchildren with the right tools and encouragement. Let us help! Save the date for the 2021 Legacy Grandparenting Summit Simulcast.

MISSIONARY MAILINGS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Write handwritten notes of love and encouragement to our missionaries. Lunch and supplies provided at 12:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Children welcome!

RSVP: cindy.rhea@pcpc.org

NOVEMBER SAVE THE DATES

Provide & Protect II: Important Life Decisions | NOVEMBER 7

All-Church Prayer | NOVEMBER 7

Boxes of Blessing Canned Food Drive | NOVEMBER 7-28

Global Missions Luncheon | NOVEMBER 14

Dallas Symphony Orchestra Chamber Concert | NOVEMBER 14

Church in the City: Practicing the King's Economy | NOVEMBER 16



Connect IN COMMUNITY

This summer, the Young Adult Ministry found a way to connect in community through a shared experience. They met in the homes of eight host families for a book study on the Psalms of Ascent as seen through the eyes of Eugene H. Peterson's *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society*. Over 100 young adults were scattered throughout the city doing life with these families. Some were members, while others had never experienced life together through a church in this stage of their life. The diversity of thought and experiences were embraced by our host families, some serving this demographic for the first time.

There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is little enthusiasm for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long apprenticeship in what earlier generations of Christians called holiness.

—Eugene H. Peterson

A taste of the "long apprenticeship" was experienced in this summer study by leaders and group members alike. The multi-generational aspect of PCPC became a reality week in and week out. Knowing one another and being known and feeling like family all came together in a community of faith. There was deep connection and abiding as well as extending to new people every week. If you are single or married in your twenties and thirties and want to be a part of a community, then join us for an incredible fall semester.

The truth of God explained their lives, the grace of God fulfilled their lives, the forgiveness of God renewed their lives, the love of God blessed their lives.

—Eugene H. Peterson

Want to connect in community? Email the PCPC Young Adult Ministry at YA@pcpc.org or find us on social media [@pcpcya](https://www.instagram.com/@pcpcya).



Our 2020 event went into the neighborhood, but the 2021 event will be back at PCPC.



As I sat on my back porch in East Dallas during the fall of 2000, I asked the Lord to show me how to make sense of Halloween with the teenage girls just across the railroad tracks. I was sad and a bit disturbed by the darkness that enveloped me as I drove into their trailer park and saw the spooky decorations they used. I had never thought much about it, but now as a new mom, I grappled with teaching these girls, as well as my own, about celebrating Jesus in every holiday.

During a sweet time praying about creative ways to reach the hearts of these girls, the LORD called my attention to the pumpkins I was decorating on my back porch and gave me the idea of The Pumpkin Gospel. Here it is...

I love all the pumpkins I see everywhere in the fall. My Dad always called me "Pumpkin," and every time I see one, I smile thinking of him and how his love for me pointed me to the love of my Heavenly Father over and again. You see, God calls me "Pumpkin" too in a crazy sort of way. He has called me by name; I am His. (Isaiah 43:1) He never fails to remind me every time I look at His creation, including pumpkins, how my heart is in need of His divine intervention.

The pumpkins on my back porch are dead. They are separated from the vine. (John 15:5) They look pretty good, but soon they will rot. Some sooner than others. They are powerless to do anything about it. Even if they wanted to, they can never jump up on my table and say, "Make me alive again." (Romans 3:23) In His mercy and grace, the Father sent His Son to bring me back into a right relationship with Him. (Romans 5:8) Through the Word and the Holy Spirit, He pierces my heart and enlightens my eyes so that I know the riches of His grace to me. (Ephesians 1:18) He dives into my yuck and cleans me out through the washing and rebirth of His Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5) He removes the yuck that fills my soul and sends it as far as the heavens are above the earth (Psalm 103).

Now we know through Mary Flo Ridley and all her wisdom that "Inside every living creature is the material to make another creature just like it." That applies to my sin as well. I can only breed more of me. Only God can remove my heart of stone and give me a heart of flesh so that the seed inside me morphs to imperishable. (1 Corinthians 15:42) This is the

great exchange. I give Him my sin. He gives me His life, The Holy Spirit, and His Word to guide me. (2 Corinthians 5:21).

No two pumpkins are alike aside from the yuck inside. We are all created in His image, but each is unique. (Psalm 139:14) He then begins to work on making me a light in a dark world. (Matthew 5:14) He employs the tools of His Word in conjunction with The Holy Spirit, painfully carving me into who He designed me to be to do the works He ordained me to do before the world began. (Ephesians 2:10) He gave me eyes to see the world as He sees it, full of dead pumpkins who are separated from the vine and need His penetrating love. He spreads through me the aroma of Christ to a dying world and to shed light in a dark world. (2 Corinthians 2:15) He gives me the grace to smile at trials and joy in suffering, so I look a bit different than the crazy images I see around me. (James 1) One day this pumpkin will rot, but the light and the life He puts inside me will live forever. (1 Corinthians 15:42-44)

Thankfully, these luminaries decorate my home from Labor Day all the way through Thanksgiving reminding me of His great love for me, that when I was dead in my sins and transgressions and powerless to do anything about it, He made me alive in Christ. I hope and pray this story becomes yours, and you use it over and again to share your hope and faith to a dark and dying world.

PUMPKIN GOSPEL

October is my absolute favorite month because of one of God's most incredible creations: PUMPKINS! God has revealed Himself to us through all of creation, but to my heart the way the Gospel is so clearly depicted in pumpkin carving just brings LIFE to the fall and allows us the opportunity to gather neighbors, engage them in a long standing cultural tradition and then use it as a perfect platform to display what God does in our hearts as He removes the yuck of our sin and replaces it with the Light of the Holy Spirit and His LOVE!

Friday, October 15 | 5:30-7:00 p.m. | at PCPC
pcpc.org/events



Our Family

August & September 2021

Baptisms



Jillian Kay Cothran
Daughter of
Tricia and Alexander Cothran



Eleanor Lorraine Gregory
Daughter of
Shelly Sharber



James Reid Prince
Son of
Emma and Reid Prince



Warren Pixley Walsh
Daughter of
Francesca and James Walsh



Betsy Nell Waggoner
Daughter of
Kendall and Wilson Waggoner

Marriages

Elizabeth Joy Hinton and **Conor Patrick Finnerty-Esmonde** August 7, 2021.

Martha Ready Bateman and **Carter Dahl Wilson** on August 14, 2021

Paige Elizabeth Tatman and **Daniel Everett Goodwyn** on August 21.

Deaths

Dan Woolery (Out-of-town member), husband of Margaret Woolery (Wed-to-member) on August 31, 2021.

Crozier Gowan, Jr. (North Dallas Parish), on September 8, 2021.

Sympathies

Stan & Betsy Keith (North Dallas Parish) on the loss of her nephew and his wife, Drs. Will & Courtney Shrauner and their unborn child, on September 2, 2021.

Terry & Neatice Warner (Addison-Carrollton-Farmers Branch Parish) on the loss of his brother, Glenn Warner, on September 3, 2021.

Steve & Celeste Tenpenny (Lake Highlands Parish) on the loss of her brother; **Brian Tenpenny** (Lake Highlands Parish), **Jenna Tenpenny** (Love Field Parish), & **Jason Tenpenny** (White Rock Parish) on the loss of their uncle, Stan Sasser, on September 9, 2021.

Curt & Sue Dobbs (Out-of-town members) on the loss of her sister, Renee Kauffman, on August 6, 2021.

Jeff & Lori Turpin (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss if his brother; **Wilson & Kristen Vick** (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss of her uncle; **Claire, Sally Ann, & Tommy Vick** (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss of their great-uncle; **Will & Allison Dowell** (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss of her uncle; **Charlie, Finn, & Lori Frances Dowell** (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss of their great-uncle; **Scott & Carroll Turpin** (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss if his brother, Mark. R. Turpin, who passed away Friday, Aug. 6, 2021.

Bryan & Lois Varenkamp (South Region Parish) on the loss of his mother; **Amy Varenkamp** (South Region Parish) on the loss of her grandmother, Ina Lou Varenkamp, on August 13, 2021.

TD & Stephanie Briggs (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss of his father; **Michelle Briggs & Stephen Briggs** (Park Cities Hyer Elementary Parish) on the loss of their grandfather; **Davis & Hailey Briggs** (Out of town member) on the loss of his grandfather; **Daniel & Hailey Scott** (Uptown - Turtle Creek Parish) on the loss of her grandfather, Bob Briggs, on August 17, 2021.

Bryce & Amy Benson (Park Cities Boone Elementary Parish) on the loss of her father; **Barrett, Caleb, & Carter Benson** (Park Cities Boone Elementary Parish) on the loss of their grandfather, Hoyte Ridlehuber, on August 17, 2021.

Julian & Christiana Russell (PCPC Home Church missionaries) on the loss of her nephew, Jonathan Carroll, on August 25, 2021.

Paul & Jenni Goebel (Old East Dallas) on the loss of her uncle; **Ann Elise, Georgia, & Margaret Goebel** (Old East Dallas) on the loss of their great-uncle, Douglas Conley Berryhill, on August 27, 2021.

Josh & Nicole Amundson (West Region Parish) on the loss of his father; **Audrey & John Amundson** (West Region Parish) on the loss of their grandfather, Jay Amundson, on August 28, 2021.

Bobby & Joanie Payne (Park Cities Armstrong Elementary Parish) on the loss of his mother; **Jonathan & Cassie Webb** (Out-of-town members) on the loss of her grandmother, Virginia "Ginnie" Payne, on August 30, 2021.

Don & Joanne King (Richardson Parish) on the loss of his brother; **Kristen King** (Far Northeast Region) on the loss of her uncle; **Paul & Laura Miller** (Richardson) on the loss of her uncle; **Jack Miller** (Richardson) on the loss of his great-uncle Ed King, on September 13, 2021.

David & Abigail Foose (Park Cities Bradfield Elementary Parish) on the loss of her father; **Lydia Foose** (Park Cities Bradfield Elementary Parish) on the loss of her grandfather, Lloyd Powell, on September 11, 2021.

Budget

GENERAL FUND

BUDGET

2021/2022 operating budget	\$14,200,000
July 1, 2021—September 12, 2021 budget	\$2,025,543
July 1, 2020—September 12, 2021 giving	\$1,818,953
Budget Variance	-\$206,590