

Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to
extend the transforming presence of the
Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas
and to the world.



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THISWEEK@PCPC
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PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SHAWN DAVIS, EDITOR
4124 OAK LAWN AVENUE
DALLAS, TX 75219-3152

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID
AT DALLAS,
TEXAS

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

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PCPCNEWS
VOL. XXXIII, NO. 18 | OCTOBER 20, 2021



CONNECT, ABIDE, & EXTEND

BOXES OF BLESSING CAN DRIVE

NOVEMBER 7-28

We need your help to fill 10,000 boxes! In early November please pick up a box and fill it with the items listed: peanut butter, canned veggies, canned fruit, pasta, rice, beans; and return it to PCPC no later than Sunday, November 28. Our Boxes of Blessing packing day will be Saturday, December 4th.

pcpc.org/events

PROVIDE & PROTECT II: A FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR A FLOURISHING FAMILY

NOVEMBER 7 | 12:30 P.M.

Be our guest, Sunday, November 7, from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. as the PCPC Foundation provides a light lunch and guest speaker David Wills, President Emeritus, National Christian Foundation.

pcpc.org/events

ALL-CHURCH PRAYER

NOVEMBER 7 | 4:00 P.M. | SANCTUARY

We long to be a church that prays with and for each other. Whether you have a prayer of praise, request, emotional, relational, or spiritual need, come to be prayed with by one of our elders or pastors.

pcpc.org/events

FAITH & CULTURE: APPROACHING SEXUALITY WITH TRUTH & CHARITY

NOVEMBER 9 | 7:00 P.M.

We are excited to announce that over the next year, we will be offering Faith & Culture events that will help equip you to be lights in an ever-confusing culture. On November 9, we will explore a variety of topics relating to human sexuality, including the recent report by our denomination on this very issue. We will be joined by one of the authors of that report and others as we work towards applying our faith in the context of the challenging world we live in.

pcpc.org/events

RUF SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 14 | 12:30 P.M.

Celebrate the 28-year partnership between PCPC and Reformed University Fellowship! Enjoy lunch while visiting with RUF campus ministers from all over Texas. Hear from our new SMU RUF-I Campus Minister, Fee Kennedy, and his wife Kelly.

cindy.rhea@pcpc.org

DALLAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHAMBER CONCERT

NOVEMBER 14 | 7:00 P.M. | SANCTUARY

The Performing Arts at PCPC partners with the Dallas Symphony to present a DSO on the Go Chamber Concert. Dallas's finest instrumentalists will showcase music written for small chamber ensembles.

pcpcconcerts.org

WOMEN'S ADVENT PRAYER

NOVEMBER 30 | 7:00 P.M. | 3814 POTOMAC AVENUE

Come be a part of this incredible time to focus on our Savior's Incarnation through a short devotional and time of prayer.

pcpc.org/events



METANOIA

Prison Ministries Texas

I sat on the edge of my seat as I listened to his story. It is a narrative that has become familiar to me. I have heard similar ones from other men locked up for unspeakable crimes they have committed. However, this prisoner radiated so much joy that he immediately had my attention. The look of tranquility in his eyes and the bright smile on his face captivated me. He was in the middle of sharing how dark his life was before his incarceration, and how he cared for no one but himself when he said to me: "You are going to think I'm crazy for what I am about to say, but I'm going to tell you anyway. God saved my life by bringing me to prison. I had to come here to meet Jesus. And since I met Jesus, my life has never been the same!"

This man took the life of another in cold blood. As a result, he received a very long prison sentence in a maximum-security penitentiary. Yet, I saw in him such an unfettered and enthusiastic joy that it was unmistakably clear Christ had indeed transformed his life.

There is another inmate in a different Texas prison that I am currently ministering to who is also a believer. However, he is very different from the first inmate that I described above. Instead of being at peace with himself, he lives with an immense sense of shame. His soul is distressed by feelings of humiliation and anguish over his crime. Though his crime is serious, he did not murder anyone. No one is standing over a grave weeping because of his actions. However, he does not possess the same measure of peace and joy the first inmate I wrote about holds in his heart.

Do you walk around with feelings of embarrassment and humiliation over past sins? Are you locked down in chains of shame and disgrace? Friend, cast your gaze upon Jesus. Christ took upon Himself our sin and shame so that we could be clothed in His righteousness and His dignity.

As I have thought about the differences between these men, I have concluded there is one significant distinction between them. The inmate with unbridled joy has learned to carry his shame and guilt to the cross of Christ. When tempted to doubt God's forgiveness, he has learned to meditate upon Christ's love. He does not carry the shame of his past because he knows Christ took his sin upon Himself at Calvary. He rests his doubts and fears upon Christ, believing that Jesus received the punishment he deserved. In short, he knows that Christ paid it all. And as a result of Christ's atoning work, he is a free man.

Though the second inmate I spoke of has become a Christian, the depth of Christ's atoning work has not fully dawned upon him yet. When he doubts God's love, he looks inward at himself instead of looking to Christ. As he looks at his past, his heart fills with feelings of shame and regret, causing him to question whether Christ's work is powerful enough to save a sinner like him.

I wonder how many of us are like the second inmate. Do you walk around with feelings of embarrassment and humiliation over past sins? Are you locked down in chains of shame and disgrace? Friend, cast your gaze upon Jesus. Christ took upon Himself our sin and shame so that we could be clothed in His righteousness and His dignity. Jesus became the outcast so that we could be adopted into God's family and sit at His table of grace. Jesus was filled with untold sorrow on the cross so that we could be filled with the joy of His life-giving Spirit! Meditate upon this, and you will be free indeed!

Find out more about our Paul & Laura Miller and Metanoia Prison Ministry at
pcamna.org/ministry/metanoia-prison-ministries



BOXES OF BLESSING

Feeding God's Children

PCPC's people have been packing Boxes of Blessing for more than a decade. These boxes, once packed, are provided to PCPC's ministry partners. The partner organizations take the boxes to families in need in their communities while presenting the gospel to them and inviting them to come to our ministry partners' churches. Due to Covid, our normal packing event in December 2020 was scaled back, but thanks to our great volunteers the needs were still met.

It's fall 2021, and the Canned Food Drive is ready to roll out. These cans of food will be used to help fill the boxes that are packed for Boxes of Blessing. We need your help! Donation boxes will again be placed in our hallways, and the Boxes of Blessing trailer will be parked in the surface level parking lot. In early

November, please pick up a box and fill it with the items listed: peanut butter, canned veggies, canned fruit, pasta, rice, beans; and return it to PCPC no later than **Sunday, November 28.**

In a normal year, more than a thousand volunteers gather at the warehouse near Love Field to pack around 10,000 boxes of food that are distributed by our ministry partners to friends in need. Covid required us to pivot significantly last year, so in December 2020 a small crew of 75+, masked and socially distanced, packed boxes on the first two Saturdays of the month. Because food is always needed, the facilitating committee placed the fellowship component of packing boxes on the back burner and focused its efforts on feeding God's children. Thanks to God's provision, we were able to feed 8,000 families in need. Praise the Lord!

Although it's still too early to determine whether or not we'll be back to the "full-sized" event or once again have a smaller event over two weekends, **we have committed to filling 10,000 boxes of food for those in need this 2021 Christmas season.** Our first packing day will be on **Saturday, December 4th**, so look for updates appearing in PCPC's bulletin, e-ThisWeek, or pcpc.org/events/.





Our Family

September & October 2021

Births

Victoria "Grace" Reynolds, daughter of Austin & Danielle Reynolds (Love Field Parish) on September 9, 2021.

Bear Gabriel Blackburn, son of, and **Monroe Anna Blackburn**, daughter of Nathaniel & Summer Blackburn (Love Field Parish) on October 8, 2021.

Marriages

Katherine Louise Little and **Bryan Alexander Haring** on October 2, 2021.

Deaths

Jeanne J. Phillips (Far Northeast Region Parish), on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021.

Neoma "Penny" Giles (Love Field Parish), on September 28, 2021.

Sympathies

Robert "Bob" Morris (Park Cities Bradfield Elementary Parish) on the loss of his daughter, **Marianne Sweitzer**, on September 18, 2021.

Chase & Danielle Pinkston (North Dallas Parish) on the loss of her father, **Mike Hall**, on September 21, 2021.

Tom & Beverly Stanley (Addison-Carrollton-Farmers Branch Parish) on the loss of their grandson, **William Thomas Duncan**, on September 28, 2021.

Mitch & Lynne Clarke (Park Cities Boone Elementary Parish) on the loss of her mother, **Christian, Mitchell, & Nick Clarke** (Park Cities Boone Elementary Parish) on the loss of their grandmother, **June Benner Page**, on September 25, 2021.

Peggy Sumner (Park Cities Bradfield Elementary Parish) on the loss of her son, **Ben & Allison Sumner** (Park Cities UP Elementary Parish) on the loss of his brother, **Warren Sumner**, on October 6, 2021.

Budget

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

2021/2022 operating budget	\$14,200,000
July 1, 2021—October 3, 2021 budget	\$2,608,679
July 1, 2020—October 3, 2021 giving	\$3,053,922
Budget Variance	\$445,243

WATER DAMAGE UPDATE

OCTOBER 20, 2021 | [PCPC.ORG/WATER-DAMAGE](https://pcpc.org/water-damage)

Did you know that 700+ men, women, and children are meeting on-campus in Bible studies and classes Monday through Friday? Even when the "storms of life" take out part of the building, nothing stops God's people from connecting, abiding, and extending Christ wherever we are!

