

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID
AT DALLAS,
TEXAS

THISWEEK@PCPC
VOL. XXXV, NO. 8 | AUGUST 2024
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.*



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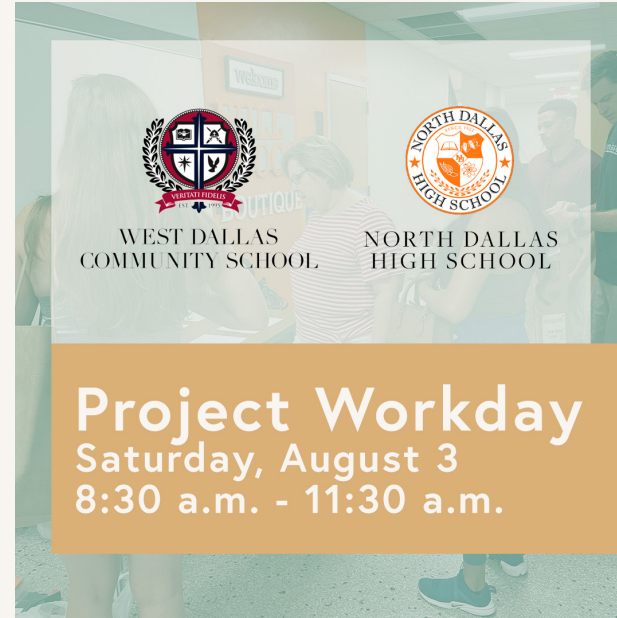
SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.
24/7 PRAYER HOTLINE: 214-224-2680 or
24/7prayer@pcpc.org

THIS WEEK (007-362) IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 4124 OAK LAWN, DALLAS, TX 75219,
PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT DALLAS, TEXAS, 75219. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:
THIS WEEK, 4124 OAK LAWN, DALLAS, TX 75219-3152

"Forever, O LORD,
Your word is firmly
fixed in the heavens.
Your faithfulness
endures to all
generations;
You have established
the earth, and it
stands fast."

Psalms 119:89-90

PCPCNEWS
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CONNECT, ABIDE, & EXTEND

PROJECT WORKDAY

AUGUST 10 | 8:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M.

Looking for a service opportunity to kick off the school year? Join us as we serve West Dallas Community School and North Dallas High School. Together, we will decorate bulletin boards, make copies, organize files, clean desks, clean and spruce up the teacher breakroom, write "Thank You" notes, and more. Please sign up online to attend.

pcpc.org/events

SARAH & GRAHAM GLOBAL WORKER LUNCHEON

AUGUST 4 | 12:30 P.M.-2:00 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Please join us to hear about the work of Sarah & Graham, global workers in Eastern Europe. Lunch will be provided; donations appreciated.

pcpc.org/events

HELPING HANDS

AUGUST 24 | 8:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. | MEET AT OAK LAWN WEST

Be the hands and feet of Jesus and join the deacons and other volunteers to help single moms, widows/ers, senior adults, and those with chronic illness by doing odd jobs (light repairs, maintenance, and minor jobs) around their homes. If you need assistance or would like to serve, please email Jessica.Fikkert@pcpc.org.

pcpc.org/events

COMMUNICANTS PARENT INTRO MEETING

AUGUST 25 OR SEPTEMBER 1 | 11:00 A.M. | CHAPEL

Register for this intro meeting led by our pastors, which will help parents assess their child's readiness for Communion and provide further details about what to expect in the 6-week Communicants Class. This meeting is for parents only, and one parent must attend a meeting before a child is eligible to participate in the Communicants Class. Registration opens on August 1.

pcpc.org/calendar

WOMEN'S KICKOFF: A NIGHT OF WORSHIP & PRAYER

AUGUST 27 | 7:00 P.M. | CHAPEL

Join us as we gather as the women of PCPC to pray for our church, city, and world and kickoff our year together.

pcpc.org/women

OTHER EVENTS

- PRAYER FOR UKRAINE (ZOOM) | AUGUST 6
- MIDDLE SCHOOL END OF SUMMER PARTY | AUGUST 7
- HIGH SCHOOL THE GATHERING | AUGUST 7
- YOUNG ADULT SUMMER POOL PARTY | AUGUST 14
- RUF-INTERNATIONAL WELCOME NIGHT | AUGUST 23

FALL KICKOFF

SEPTEMBER 8-14

Connect with one another this fall at PCPC! Find a weekday care group or Bible study for couples, women, men, children, and youth beginning September 8-14. Vespers and Midweek Dinner will begin on Wednesday, September 11. Registration and more info will be available on the PCPC app and website at pcpc.org/events/.

HOW DO I KNOW...

Is my child ready for the Communicants Class?

by Katherine Steinbrueck



As parents we often wonder, "Is my child ready to take Communion? How do I know?" The Scriptures make clear what is required of each of us to share in His Table – faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We know that Jesus does not want us to keep our children from coming to Him in faith (Matthew 19:14), so we do not want to create extra (false) requirements for participation in one of the Lord's primary means of grace for His people, Communion. When our children profess faith, we want to welcome our children to the Table with seriousness, joy, and great hope in the ongoing work of the Spirit in their lives. Here are five considerations that are necessary and helpful when assessing your child's readiness for Communion:

- **Interest/Desire** – Does your child express an interest in and desire for the Table?
- **Corporate Worship** – Does your child regularly attend corporate worship?
- **Understanding of the Sacrament** – Is your child able to talk about what the sacrament of Communion represents, what the elements point to, and why we take it?
- **Faith** – Does your child profess faith in the Lord Jesus Christ?
- **Repentance** – Do you see evidence of repentance in your child's life?

Our Elementary and Youth Communicants Classes are held each fall and spring semester. PCPC's next required Parent Intro Meeting, led by our pastors, is available on either August 25 or September 1. Please visit pcpc.org/calendar/ for more information and registration.

For a covenant child who is not yet ready to profess faith, we offer this encouragement to parents and children: trust in God's faithfulness and recall God's promises. The Lord is seeking our covenant children!

"He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it." – 1 Thessalonians 5:24

For more about PCPC Communicants, please visit pcpc.org/worship/communicants/.



FOUNDATION GROUPS IN MARRIAGE MINISTRY

by Jane Edson,
Communications Specialist



As we wrap up summer and embark upon the school year ahead, the rhythms of life change. For parents, that may mean carpool lines and busier schedules. For Dallas residents, we begin to count down how many days are left of 100-degree heat. But while the seasons change, in marriage, the calling and companionship remain the same. The gift of marriage established by God is something that PCPC takes seriously, seeking to build vibrant marriages through instruction, testimony, and community. The purpose of PCPC's Marriage Ministry is to proclaim the gospel, encouraging men and women to sustain and nourish their marriage through Christ and His Word.

This year, PCPC organized Foundation Groups for newly married couples to study and discuss biblical marriage. PCPC's Foundation Groups are small groups of four or five couples that meet weekly in church members' homes and are facilitated by a seasoned married couple. Through leading Foundation Groups, many couples have experienced rich blessings and have even seen their own marriage strengthened.

Here's what PCPC Member Ashley Ferguson shared about her and her husband's experience leading a Foundation Group:

Serving as a leader doesn't require a résumé. It simply requires a willingness to walk alongside, listen, and share victories and challenges alike ... all the while, mutually seeking God's Word for knowledge and understanding.

In 2016, Brant and I signed up for re|engage at PCPC. Within large group, we were assigned to a small group for more intimate sharing and growing, led by Brenda and Bill Bogart. After we had "graduated" the re|engage program, we began to fellowship often with the Bogart, Overton, and Axley families. In fact, we still have regularly scheduled dinners, to date.

In 2018, we were asked by the Bogarts if we would be willing to host a Foundation Group comprised of young married couples in our home — a great example of growing the big church small. From this small group of newly married couples, came

four amazing years of discipling, connecting, and growing, ALL under the precepts that God's Word so graciously outlines. For some seasons, we would strictly follow a curriculum paired with the Bible, and for other seasons, we would use God's Word as our sole source.

Oh, how the young couples' desire to learn brings not only wisdom and guidance into their marriages but also bursts new life and refreshment into what has become stale in our marriage. We knew that we too desperately needed to read and hear what we assigned to them. To serve is to be served!

We, to this day, are in touch and engaged in their lives. We will always be invested and committed to these growing, thriving families... who, when we met, were merely couples. Five couples — the Scotts, the McNeelys, the Worthingtons, the Dragouns, and the Weirs — are now growing families with collectively 10 babies and toddlers.

Married by Skip Ryan at PCPC in 1994 (30 years ago), we had no idea how profoundly the church would grow us as a couple, and shortly after, a growing family of five. PCPC is truly our Kingdom family on earth.

– Ashley Ferguson, PCPC Foundation Group Leader

Experiences like the Fergusons' are a common theme experienced by other Foundation Group leaders at PCPC. God is at work and is faithful to draw hearts closer to Himself!

This fall, PCPC's Marriage Ministry will include opportunities such as UNION (marriage preparation class), Foundation Groups (newly married couples 1-3 years), and Cornerstone (new Sunday Morning Community for newly married couples in their 20s and 30s). For more information, please contact Melissa Hecht, melissa.hecht@pcpc.org.

For more information about PCPC Marriage Ministry, please visit pcpc.org/marriage/.
(above photos are of the Reichert, Ferguson, and Ward Foundation Groups)