

Expressions of the Spirit

FIRST UMC PASADENA

AUGUST 2018



More than Enough

When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. John 6:12-13

I never met my great grandmother – the mother of my grandfather on my dad's side of the family. I understand that everyone called her Mrs. Reed – even my great grandfather. She died the year before I was born. But my father told me many stories about her. Some of them are still told by me and my other cousins today, even though we never knew her. One of my favorite stories is that she baked a lot of bread. In fact, every day during my father's childhood she made bread in the wooden bowl pictured here. She would mix the dough and kneed it in the morning and then let it rise on top of the oven during the day so that fresh bread could later be baked and shared at supper.



Over the years she used this bowl so often that she rubbed a hole through the wood, but she continued using the same wooden mixing bowl for her baking. Dad told me that she faithfully made bread every single day that he could remember. There was always enough bread, even when times were tough.

On Sunday, July 29, we began a new worship series titled *Bread*. Bread is a staple of life for many cultures and it comes in so many different varieties. Over the next several Sundays, we will read and study together Jesus' message to us about bread. We will be reminded that he is the bread that came down from heaven. Jesus himself is God's sustenance for this time and for eternity. He is the living bread that is, and will always be, "more than enough."

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Will Reed, Pastor.

New Worship Series

BREAD for the Journey

Bread comes in so many varieties. In Southeast Texas we eat all kinds of bread – cornbread, yeast breads, Pita bread, sourdough bread, filled sweet breads, kolaches, tortillas and so much more. Every culture has its version of bread. Perhaps that is why Jesus used this common, everyday staple of life to describe his relationship with us. Through August we will be reading chapter 6 of the Gospel of John, where we are reminded that Jesus himself is the living bread of heaven that came down for us all. He is the bread that will provide spiritual sustenance not just for today, but for all time. Join us for worship in August as we discover that there is enough bread for the journey for all of us.

Sunday, July 29—*Enough*, John 6:1-21

Sunday, August 5—*Bread of God*, John 6:24-35

Sunday, August 12—*Bread of Life*, John 6:35, 41-51

Sunday, August 19—*Living Bread*, John 6:51-58

Sunday, August 26—*Spirit Bread*, John 6:56-59

Back to School Fair at Cleveland Ripley Neighborhood Center

The Back to School Fair at Cleveland Ripley Neighborhood Center will be held on Saturday, August 4 at 8:00 am. We have pledged 300 backpacks with school supplies to local children. If you would like to help at the Fair, meet us at the Neighborhood Center (720 Fairmont Parkway) at 8:00 am to pass out backpacks and to pray for students and their families.

For more information, please contact Pastor Mireya at MireyaMartinez@FirstPasadena.org. We are looking forward to helping our community start the school year off well!

Wreath Workshop

Did you know that in Christianity, a circle can represent God, healing, and wholeness? Some prayer practices include considering the nature of the circle with an emphasis that whatever is enclosed in the circle is a prayer offered up to God. Join us as Pastor Mireya shares more about circles and God.

Afterwards, Paige Cleland will lead us in making our Halloween, Thanksgiving/Fall or Christmas wreaths.

All materials and snacks will be included. Childcare is available upon request. Information about registration will be available soon.

Contact Colly at CollyEnochs@FirstPasadena.org with any questions. Cost: \$50 per wreath.

WHEN LOVE goes the second mile

Capital Campaign Update Summary Report - July 2018

DEBT

as of May 31, 2016	\$2,309,007
as of December 31, 2016	\$2,205,112
as of December 31, 2017	\$1,411,916

Capital Campaign Commitments	\$1.5 million (Note 1)
Total Paid on Commitments through May 31, 2018	\$ 966,621.91
DEBT as of June 15, 2018	\$1,254,167.82 (Note 2)
REDUCTION in DEBT since May 31, 2016	\$1,054,127.86 (Note 2)

Note 1 - In addition to signed capital campaign commitments of \$1.42 million over three years (April 2017-March 2020), there are several church members and friends making regular contributions to debt reduction. We estimate that over three years these contributions will add over \$100,000 to our campaign for an anticipated total commitments and payments of over \$1.5 million.

Note 2 - Through your generosity in helping reduce our debt, we have reduced the number of years it will take to pay off the debt. Also, you have saved the church an estimated \$250,000 in interest over the remaining life of the loan. Thus, it is highly possible that our church could be "debt free in '23."

Church-wide WORK-DAY

≡ SATURDAY ≡

SEPTEMBER 1 AT 8:00 AM

ALL WELCOME!

Our front parking lot needs a face lift and some bright, fresh paint. In order to complete this project, we need all hands (and paint brushes) on deck! On **Saturday, September 1**, starting at **8:00 am**, all available workers are needed to help make our parking lot as safe and welcoming as possible. Come dressed in your painting clothes ready to paint stripes, curbs, handicap markers, and other areas. This is an opportunity to build relationships with each other and make our campus a better place.

Lunch will be provided. Please sign-up at the Ministry Center so we will know how many painters to expect and how much to prepare.

The Prison Letters: Philippians

Inquiring minds want to know: have you ever truly considered the nature of prison letters? Edward P. Blair states this: "Writings from prison often have a peculiar potency and glow. Some of them have influenced the course of human history for good or ill."

Come and join Pastor Mireya on **Thursdays, August 23-September 27, at 6:30 pm in the Cornell Conference Room**, to take a deeper look at the Apostle Paul's prison letter to the Philippians.

Come and consider the unearthly radiance of this letter. Come and be surprised by joy. Come and be encouraged in whatever circumstance you currently find yourself in!

*Each week stands on it's own.

*No class fee.

*Bring your Bible and a notepad if you would like to take notes!

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DAVID

HOW TO BE A MAN AFTER GOD'S HEART

Guys Night - A new weeknight group for men

How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. (Psalms 133:1) It's vital to the life of

the church for men of faith to regularly gather together to develop deeper relationships, talk about life, encourage and support each other, and learn together about who God is.

Men of all ages are invited to get together for this introductory Tuesday group study, as we delve into **The Life and Times of David: How to be a man after God's heart.** David of the Bible was a man to be admired and emulated. He was a giant-slayer, a nation-builder, a legendary warrior, and an incomparable King. God Himself called David "a man after my own heart." David was also blatantly human; he was flawed, prideful, sinful, and often struggled to be the man that God called him to be. Join Casey Gray and the guys as we take a 6-week look at how and why God chooses to use imperfect people for His perfect purposes, and how we can be men of His heart.

Sign-up available at the Ministry Center. Childcare available upon request.
Tuesdays, beginning August 21 | 6:30 pm-8:00 pm | Room TBD

Tuesday Ladies Night Out

Let's face it: many women are wired to control. We make sure that the house is clean, the meals are prepared on time, the beds are made, the children are dressed, and everyone gets to work, school, and other activities on time. And trying to control it all is not only exhausting, but can also cause us to lose friends and sometimes, the affection of our families. It can earn wives and mothers the label of control freak and send those within our sphere of influence packing.

Women of all ages are invited to join Lacryca Flatt and the Tuesday Night Ladies in this humorous, yet thought-provoking small group 6-week Bible study. Together we can find the freedom and reward of living "out of control" - putting God in the rightful place he deserves in your life. Armed with relevant biblical and current examples (both to emulate and to avoid), doable ideas, new thought patterns, and practical tools to implement, this study will gently lead you out of the land of over-control and into a place of quiet trust.

Sign-ups available at the Ministry Center; childcare available upon request.

Starting Tuesday, August 7 | Room 221 | 7:00 pm | Cost: \$15



KAREN EHMAN

How to Stop Running the Show
and Start Walking in Faith

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

www.FirstPasadena.org

PHONE: 281.487.8787 FAX: 281.998.1355

Office Hours: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm *Monday - Thursday*

Society of St. Stephen Assistance Ministry 281.487.1774 *Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm*

First Friends Day School 281.487.8170 *Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 6:00 pm*

Christian Life Center 281.487.2843

PASTORAL STAFF

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Carol Wilson
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Calendar of Events

Saturday, August 4 Worship Arts Ministry Team Workshop at 11:00 am Room 208/210

Sunday, August 26 Sundae Social at 3:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, August 28 Governing Board at 6:15 pm Cornell Conference Room



Welcome Maydrick Arnaud to our church family!

Ongoing Ministries & Church Events

Bus Ministry *Sundays, 8:00 am Church Parking Lot*

Traditional Worship *Sundays, 8:30 am & 11:00 am Sanctuary*

Contemporary Worship *Sundays, 9:45 am Sanctuary*

Contemplative Worship *Sunday, August 19, 9:45 am Log Cabin*

Sunday School for All Ages *Sundays, 9:45 am (English) and 11:00 am (Spanish)*

Spanish Worship Service *Sundays, 12:30 pm Sanctuary*

Grief Support Group *Sundays, 2:00 pm Parlor*

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) *Sundays, 6:30 pm Fellowship Hall*

First Fitness Exercise Class *Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am Gym*

Breakfast With Bill (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Tuesday-Friday 7:00 am, Saturday 7:30 am Log Cabin

Un dia a la vez Al-Anon (Hispanic Al-Anon)

Tuesday 6:00 pm and Saturday 10:00 am Room 226

Ladies Night Out Bible Study *Tuesdays, 7:00 pm Room 208/210*

Contemporary Praise Band Rehearsal *Tuesdays, 7:00 pm Sanctuary*

Levites Maintenance Ministry *Wednesdays, 8:00 am Log Cabin*

Hand bell Rehearsal *Wednesdays, 5:30 pm Adult Wing*

Choir Rehearsal *Wednesdays, 7:00 pm Choir Room and Sanctuary*

Spanish Prayer and Bible Study *Wednesdays, 7:00 pm Parlor and Fellowship Hall*

Spanish Service Rehearsal *Wednesdays, 8:30 pm Sanctuary*

Journey Through the Book of Job

Thursdays, 6:30 pm Room 221 (upstairs by the elevator)

Men's Prayer and Study Breakfast *Thursdays, 7:00 am Fellowship Hall 4*

Spanish Youth Group *Fridays, 7:00 pm Away*

Spanish Women's Prayer Group *Thursdays, 1:30 pm Parlor*

Women's Al-Anon Meeting *Saturdays, 11:00 am Cornell Conference Room*

Ongoing Activities

Strawberry Squares Square Dancing *Mondays, 7:00 pm Log Cabin*

Junior High Open Gym *Tuesdays, 4:00 pm Gym*

Boy Scout Troop #199 *Tuesdays, 7:00 pm Log Cabin*

Prime Timers Luncheon *Wednesday, August 1, 10:30 am Fellowship Hall*

Senior High Open Gym *Wednesdays, 4:00 pm Gym*

Open Gym for all ages *Thursdays, 4:00 pm Gym*

Cub Scout Troop #199 *Wednesdays, 7:00 pm Log Cabin*



Sundae Social

Save the Date:

August 26, 2018, 3:00 pm

We will be fed at the Lord's Great Supper during worship in celebration of our worship series, *Bread*, and bless the start of a new school year on Sunday, August 26.

You are invited back at 3:00 pm for a *Sundae Social*. You can expect live music through the decades by Dan Miner and Nikki Gray, messy games on the half, board and card game tables, a heated game of kid friendly charades and of course ICE CREAM!

Ice cream will be provided, please bring your favorite topping(s) to share!

Sponsor a Fellowship Singer

What a joy the Fellowship Singer Program has become. The relationships, support and discipleship of all involved are invaluable. This year, we had alum singers join us for our Texas Annual Conference Event and sang with us on various Sunday mornings. It is such a positive program for our church.

Entering its fourth year, The Fellowship Singer Program provides an opportunity for auditioned high school and college age singers to work as leaders and soloists in the field of sacred music. Not only does it build relationships in Christ, but enhances our Sunday morning worship experience.

This program cannot exist without your generous support. Each singer will receive a monthly stipend from September through mid-June. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please complete a pledge form found at the Ministry Center or at www.FirstPasadena.org.

