

# Celtic Cross

The *Celtic Cross* is published once a month. News items intended for a specific issue should be submitted by noon on the Sunday prior to the last Wednesday of each month.

Vol. 62, No. 2

February 2025

Editor: Chandler Hall

---

Dear FPC Denton Church Family,

If you haven't noticed, I love to read devotionals. Some of my favorites are those that feature a-word-a-day. A new one that I bought is called *One Good Word a Day* by authors Fisk/Roehl/Demery. The word for January 14 was DECLARE. The Scripture verse is from John 17: 26: "I have declared to them your name, and will declare it, that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and I in them."

It begins with a scene probably familiar to lots of families—that of having guests over for dinner when one of the kids drops the question: "How come we only pray when other people come over?"

It wasn't the author's child that raised that question but she reflects: "As parents, how do we weave Jesus into the fabric of our lives—the morning routine, homework, dishes, snuggles, laughter, bedtime—so that our home carries his breath at every moment?"

Jesus, speaking aloud to his Father, ended his prayer by saying that he had declared the Father's name to his disciples so that the love of God would be in Jesus, and the love of Jesus would be in his disciples.

The author gives a great thought: "There's a strength in declaring something to be true. When we declare the truth of God's love and mercy to the world, it establishes the truth of our belief and reflects the love of the Father into the world." She goes on to say: "Put that way, Jesus' prayer to the Father becomes a prayer we can pray over our own lives: that we will continue to make his name known. And that the love with which he has loved us may be in us, and in our families.

The author's prayer: "Lord, help us to declare your name and make your love known. Amen."

For further reflection: Brainstorm a new way to demonstrate God's love in your household.

Blessings! Debbie

## Celtic Cross Index

ITEM	Page
Cover Article, Pastor Debbie Spangler.....	1
Upcoming Worship and Fellowship Activities.....	2
Pastor Debbie's Love Notes, Pastor Debbie Spangler .....	3
Ezekiel Daos in Recital.....	4
Souper Bowl of Caring Flyer.....	5
Calendar.....	6-7
Mission Committee News, Linn Welborn.....	9
In the Kitchen, Jim Welborn .....	9
Households for Prayer .....	10
Staff .....	10
Prayers and Concerns.....	11
Birthdays.....	11
Bible Readings.....	12

## Upcoming Worship and Fellowship Activities

A busy February and March ahead! Please see the centerfold calendar for important February dates.

After the Chili Luncheon on February 2, let's go hear Jeff Snider in recital at UNT 5pm.



**See the bulletin board for more details!**

## Highlights for March:

Sunday,	March 2	Fellowship Luncheon: Pancakes for Lunch!	12:15 PM
Wednesday,	March 5	Ash Wednesday Service	7:00 PM
Sunday,	March 23	Lenten Event: Dramatized Biblical Recitations by Dr. Allan Mosher, featuring hymns and special music	4:00 PM

## Love Notes from Pastor Debbie

This new year of 2025 is beginning with a bang! Ordination and Installation—welcome to Session David Storrie and Paul Mehaffey and to the Diaconate Katherine Mehaffey! Then it snowed! The Souper Bowl of Caring collection is gearing up—hoping to raise over 300 cans/donations this year as it can be any non-perishable food item. A Chili luncheon—and lots more to look forward too! Let's rejoice in God's Good News and share it!

Here are the readings for February:

**February 2, 2025:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany. Communion. Readings: Psalm 71: 1-6. Jeremiah 1: 4-10. Luke 4: 21-30. 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13. Sermon Title: "The One Who Knows You Best". Sermon Text: Jeremiah 1. Theme: God's Love.

**February 9, 2025:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany. Readings: Psalm 138. Isaiah 6: 1-13. Luke 5: 1-11. 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11. Sermon Title: "Send Me!" Sermon Text: Isaiah 6. Theme: Call of God.

**February 16, 2025:** 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany. Readings: Psalm 1. Jeremiah 17: 5-10. Luke 6: 17-26. 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20. Sermon Title: "Planted in Trust". Sermon Text: Jeremiah 17. Theme: Trust in God.

**February 23, 2025:** 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany. Readings: Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40. Genesis 45: 3-11, 15. Luke 6: 27-38. 1 Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50. Sermon Title: "Be Still" Sermon Text: Psalm 37. Theme: Trust in God, Wait for God.



## Ezechiel Daos in Recital

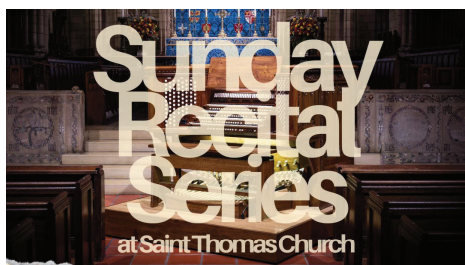
On Sunday, January 26, our former organist Ezechiel Daos performed an organ recital at St. Thomas Church, 5th Avenue in New York City. The recital was brilliant! He performed some of this repertoire at our church during his time here. In addition to a watch party hosted by Beverly and Mike, many others watched from home. We are so proud of him! For a link to the recording, see our website or the St. Thomas YouTube Channel.



**Above:** Watch Party at Beverly & Mike's home. The "First Pres Posse," as he called us, lives on!

**Left:** Poster for the event.

**Below:** Ezechiel at the organ console during the recital.



The AAM Gerre Hancock Memorial Organ Recital



Featuring  
Ezechiel Daos

1/26  
5:15PM



## PROGRAM

Ceremonial Dialogue (2022)

Prelude on 'Malabar'

Star Fantasy (Alleluia: vidimus stellam)

Prelude on 'Kingsfold'

Prélude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain, Op. 7

*Daniel Ficarri (b. 1996)*

*Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)*

*Kristina Arakelyan (b. 1994)*

*Mary Beth Bennett (b. 1954)*

*Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)*





**Above left:** A snowy afternoon on Friday, January 10.

**Above right:** A room in the ed. wing has recently been converted back into a Sunday School room and is almost ready for use.



## Canned Food Drive

Goal: 300 cans

Deadline: February 9

Donations benefit the children and families of Denton Christian Preschool!



February 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Fellowship Chili Luncheon 12:15 PM 	3	4 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM <i>Saved</i> , Chapter 10 & 11	5 Bible Study 10:00 AM	6	7 Grief Share 2:00 PM  DCP Cookie Fiesta Donations Deadline	8 DCP Cookie Fiesta (Erwin Hall) 8AM-12PM
9 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM  Souper Bowl of Caring Donations Deadline. Goal: 300 cans	10	11 Session 7:00 PM  Birthday: Louise Kraft	12 Bible Study 10:00 AM	13	14 Grief Share 2:00 PM	15
16 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Mission 12:15 PM  Denton Bach Treble Chorale Concert: "Celebrate Love" 4 PM	17	18	19 Bible Study 10:00 AM	20	21 Grief Share 2:00 PM	22
23 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Deacons 10:30 AM Worship 11 AM Celtic Cross Deadline	24	25	26 Bible Study 10:00 AM Women's Luncheon, Salata Rayzor Ranch 11:30 AM	27	28 Grief Share 2:00 PM	



## Celebrate Love



the world  
He gave His  
-gotten  
ON,  
na. I whosoever  
believes in him should  
Not perish but  
have everlasting life.  
John 3:16

Let all  
that you  
do be  
done with  
Love  
1 Cor 16:14

### *Denton Bach Treble Chorale in concert*

Featuring Five Hebrew Love Songs by Whitacre and pieces by Brahms, Clara Schumann, Bach, Gershwin, and more.

MATT CARLSON, GUEST CONDUCTOR  
YESEUL CHO, PIANO ~ MARLON BARRIOS, VIOLIN

**FEBRUARY 16, 2025 4:00PM**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1114 W UNIVERSITY DRIVE  
DENTON, TEXAS

Each attendee will receive a scriptural bookmark and lollipop as a reminder of God's love.

\$20 adults, \$10 students and children. Discount available for families with children.



GREATER DENTON ARTS COUNCIL



## Mission Committee News

Linn Welborn

During the recent snow and cold spell, warm neck scarves were crocheted by Carol Nance and placed in the pantry. The pantry continues to get daily use and the scarves were taken soon after they were placed in the pantry. In January, during the Mission committee meeting, plans were made for 2025 activities. They include some repeat activities such as a 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Trunk or Treat and a 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Pet Blessing. Also added was assembling gallon size food packs for church members and friends to carry in their cars. These bags are to be given to people requesting food. The food bags would be distributed at the discretion of the person giving them. The Spring Our Daily Bread collection will be coming up in April. More information and dates to come.

### In the Kitchen

In 2002, Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church published the revised edition of "In the Kitchen," their favorite recipes. The first edition was published in 1993. The ladies of the church, and some men, provided their favorite recipes.

I hope you enjoy looking back at these glimpses of times past.

Jim Welborn

### Shrimp Casserole

(page 153)

- ½ large onion, chopped
- 1 Tbsp. butter
- 1¼ lb. shrimp, cleaned and cooked
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- ½ Tbsp. lemon juice
- dash garlic salt
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ¾ c. cooked rice
- ½ bell pepper, cut in rings and boiled for 2 minutes
- ½ c. sour cream
- ¾ c. grated cheese



Sauté onion in butter until tender, add soup, lemon juice, and seasonings. Fold in rice and shrimp. Add sour cream. Pour into buttered 2 quart casserole; sprinkle with cheese. Decorate with pepper rings. Bake in a 325° oven for 30 minutes. Serves 6.

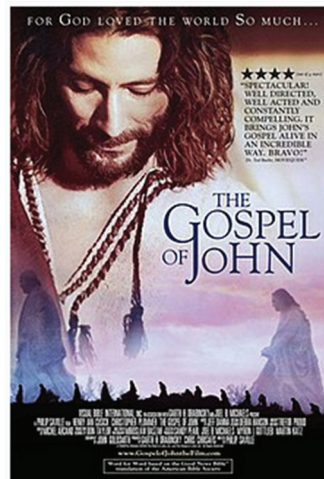
Mavourneen W. Harrell (Mrs. E.O.)



# Households for Prayer

Let us continue to uphold our households in prayer with these members for February 2025:

Erin Erickson  
Lynda Erickson  
Gene Finlay  
Valorie Frederico  
Chandler Hall  
Larry and Pat Harberson  
Brenda Howard  
Jim and Glenna Kirkpatrick



*The Gospel of John* film viewing begins Sunday, February 2 at 9:30 am and kicks off a new weekly bible study on John's gospel.

## CHURCH STAFF

*Rev. Debbie H. Spangler, Pastor*  
*Chandler Hall, Office Manager*  
*Beverly Hoch, Music Director*  
*Matthew McNeill, Pianist/Organist*  
*Mike Steinel, Trumpeter*  
*John Pinder, AV Technician - Irene Rodriguez, Church Caretaker*

Office Hours: Office Manager, Mon-Fri 9—2 PM  
Pastor Tues/Thurs 9—2 PM  
Emergencies/after hours: 940-300-9748 (Elder Mike Steinel)  
CCLI #1859917

## Friend us on Facebook

FPC: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FPCDentonTX/>

FPC Presbyterian Women: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PWDentonFPC/>

Find us on the web: <http://www.fpcdenton.org>

facebook





## Prayer Concerns

**Health Concerns:** Cheryl B, Gerald B, Helen B, Jan C, Lynda E, Gene F, Mary F, Pat H, Larry H, Jim K, Martha M, Loretta N, Don R, Irene R, Jann S, Michael S Beverly W; Benny, Brian, Mr. Cox, Deloris, Miley, Jean A, Johnny A, Margaret B, Lisa C, Brenda C, Larry C, Mike C, Sherman C, Kevin F, Adella G, Israel G, Mary G, Brittany H, David H, Harriet H, Bob I, BL J, Jane J, John K, Sandy

L, Clarice M, Robin and Alana, Norris P, Brad S, Linda T, Gene T, Craig W, David W, Gladden and Lydia W.

**Continuing Prayers** for those in long-term care residences: Pat R (Austin), Annemarie V (Fla).

**Prayers of safety and healing** for those impacted by the wildfires in Southern California.

**Sympathy** for the family and friends of Jenice Bacon.

**Sympathy** for the family and friends of Lessley Boyd.

**Sympathy** for the family and friends of Bill Davis.

**Sympathy** for the family and friends of Brett Wallace.

## *Birthdays*

11 Louise Kraft



**Bible Readings**  
**February 2025**

- 1 Mark 7:1–23
- 2 John 7:14–31
- 3 Mark 7:24–37
- 4 Mark 8:1–10
- 5 Mark 8:11–26
- 6 Mark 8:27–9:1
- 7 Mark 9:2–13
- 8 Mark 9:14–29
- 9 John 7:37–46
- 10 Mark 9:30–41
- 11 Mark 9:42–50
- 12 Mark 10:1–16
- 13 Mark 10:17–31
- 14 Mark 10:32–45
- 15 Mark 10:46–52
- 16 John 8:12–19
- 17 Mark 11:1–11
- 18 Mark 11:12–26
- 19 Mark 11:27–12:12
- 20 Mark 12:13–27
- 21 Mark 12:28–34
- 22 Mark 12:35–44
- 23 John 10:7–16
- 24 Matt. 5:1–12
- 25 Matt. 5:13–20
- 26 Matt. 5:21–26
- 27 Matt. 5:27–37
- 28 Matt. 5:38–48

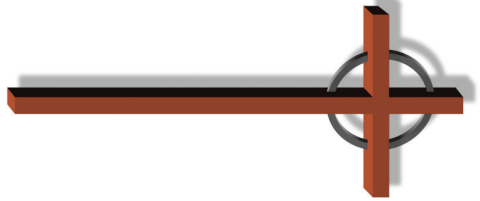
Source: PC(USA) Common  
Lectionary

**Aerobics**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
Erwin Hall - 8:30 am

**Office Hours**

Office Manager M-F - 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Pastor T/Th 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Office Phone - 940.387.3894  
Fax - 940.387.3877  
Emergency - 940.300.9748  
Web: [www.fpcdenton.org](http://www.fpcdenton.org)  
Email: [info@fpcdenton.org](mailto:info@fpcdenton.org)



First Presbyterian Church  
1114 West University Drive  
Denton, Texas 76201  
(940) 387-3894

Or current resident