



# 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. 61, No. 9

September 2024

Editor: Cathy Taylor

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Dear FPC Denton Church Family,

This is a prayer that I felt needed to be presented. I hope to make a devotional out of it. I used it in my August 25, 2024 sermon. I pray it is a blessing!

## The Seven R Prayer

### **Repent:**

2 Chronicles 7: 14: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

Humble yourself. Kneel in prayer with your head bowed. If you cannot kneel, position yourself in a humble way and bow your head.

Philippians 2: 6-7 speaks of Jesus "who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!"

If Jesus emptied himself and humbled himself, surely we must empty ourselves of our desires and be willing to be Christ's servant and be obedient to what he desires for us.

As we prepare ourselves for worship and for hearing of God's Word to us in our Sunday services, we confess our sins before God. It is a way to unburden ourselves so that we can come to God with nothing holding us back. Jesus himself preached, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 4: 17).

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**September 8  
Be Wise  
pick a Back to School Lunchbox bash  
Sign up in the Narthex this Sunday  
for the sandwich you like!**



**GARDEN FRESH TURKEY**



**MEMPHIAN®**



**HARVEST CHICKEN SALAD\***

## Love Notes from Pastor Debbie

Things are “changing” at FPC/Denton! We have new flooring in the east wing! And we have a new church secretary—Chandler Hall! He sang in our choir for the last three years and now is “keeping us all organized”!



If you want to “beat the heat” and do something fun, I can suggest two movies! The

Forge is a Christian movie and is at the Movie Tavern. Here’s the clip: “A year out of high school with no plans for his future, a boy is challenged by his single mom and a successful business man to start charting a better course for his life. Through the prayers of his mother and biblical discipleship from his new mentor, he begins discovering God’s purpose for his life is so much more than he could hope for or imagine.” My daughter and I loved it!

If you like Biblical/musical productions, the Movie Tavern is showing Daniel from August 30-September 1. It’s like the ones done in Branson—live action.

Here are the readings for September:

September 1, 2024: 15 th Sunday after Pentecost. Communion. Readings: Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9. Song of Solomon 2: 8-13. Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23. James 1: 17-27. Sermon Title: “Genuine Religion” Sermon Text: James 1. Theme: Discipleship.

September 8, 2024: 16 th Sunday after Pentecost. Readings: Psalm 125. Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23. Mark 7: 24-37. James 2: 1-17. Sermon Title: “What’s Your Favorite Proverb?” Sermon Text: Proverbs 22 and others. Theme: Wisdom of God

September 15, 2024: 17 th Sunday after Pentecost. Readings: Psalm 19. Proverbs 1: 20-33. Mark 8: 27-38. James 3: 1-12. Sermon Title: “From Something Small” Sermon Text: James 2-3. Theme: Faith/Wisdom.

September 22, 2024: 18 th Sunday after Pentecost. Readings: Psalm 1. Proverbs 31: 10-31. Mark 9: 30-37. James 3: 14-4:3, 7-8a. Sermon Title: “Genuine Wisdom” Sermon Text: James 3-5. Theme: Wisdom.

September 29, 2024: 19 th Sunday after Pentecost. Readings: Psalm 124. Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22. Mark 9: 38-50. James 5: 13-20. Sermon Title: “Hand of God in Esther”. Sermon Text: Esther 7, 9. Theme: God’s Providence

## Mission News

Little Food Pantry is being used and filled by many people. Thank you to all who have contributed.

Denton Christian Preschool has started their year with happy faces and new floors. They are grateful for the supplies to start the year.



Thank  
You

Mission Committee supplied 25 backpacks to Interfaith Ministries to start the school year.

Other new items are the research into The Presbyterian Giving Catalog, braided bags, and redoing the Church Directory. You will be getting a call to update your information.

**Women's Lunch  
September 25  
11:30 AM**



**August 11th Down on the Farm.** We had all tables full and lots of helpful hands and a groaning board of potluck delights to complement the corn on the cob and Popeyes chicken and biscuits. Discussed mission options from the Presbyterian Giving Catalogue to send farm animals and equipment to impoverished families and communities.



*Metanoia in Greek means a change of mind in the way of being sorrowful for unbelief and sin and a turning away from them to God.*

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, I'm tired of the sin struggle in my life. I feel distant from you. My choices have not led me into the right places. I've listened to the whispers of my enemy instead of your words in Scripture, and the result has been disastrous. This/these are the burdens that weigh me down (list them). I am truly sorry for grieving your heart, Lord, by doing what is not your will. I turn away from my unrighteous ways. I lay them at your feet, Lord. Not my will, Lord, but yours be done." Amen.

### **Redeem:**

Redemption can be defined as the action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil. In the Old Testament, redemption involves deliverance from bondage based on the payment of a price by a redeemer. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of Israel's messianic hope and in him, the long-awaited redemption has arrived. Deliverance of humankind from its state of alienation from God has been accomplished through the death and resurrection of Christ.

Ephesians 1:7-8: "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding."

Psalm 130:7: "Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption."

The attitude of this prayer is one of humility but with a lifting of the head and eyes and hands toward heaven and our Father.

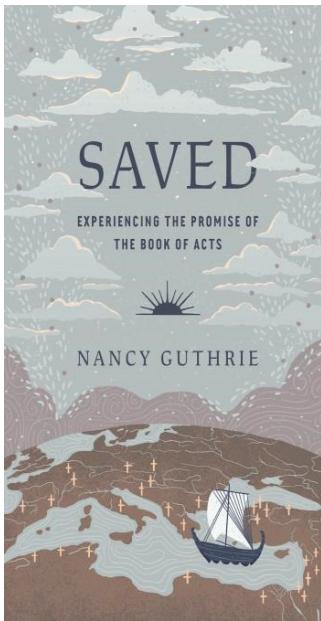
*Apoluo in Greek means to free fully, relieve, release, pardon, forgive.*

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and that I cannot save myself. By faith I gratefully receive your gift of salvation. I am ready to trust you as my Lord and Savior. Thank you for coming to earth, for dying on the cross for my sins, and for rising from the dead on the third day. Thank you for bearing my sins and giving me the gift of eternal life." Amen.

Now, know that you are forgiven and be at peace!

# September 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Birthday: Terry Nobles 	2 	3 Birthday: Paul Mehaffey Anniversary: Gerald and Cheryl Briggs	4 Bible Study 10:00 AM	5	6 Grief Share 2:00 PM	7 Birthday: Ron Shenberger
8 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM <b>Fellowship Luncheon -</b> Back to School 12:00N 	9	10 Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM	11 Bible Study 10:00 AM	12	13 Grief Share 2:00 PM	14 Anniversary: Mike Steinle and Beverly Hoch
15 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM  Anniversary: Clay and Kelly Briggs	16	17	18 Bible Study 10:00 AM	19	20 Grief Share 2:00 PM	21
22 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Deacons 10:30 AM Worship 11 AM Celtic Cross Deadline	23 Session 10:00 AM	24 Birthday: Luke Briggs	25 Bible Study 10:00 AM Women's Lunch 11:30 AM	26	27 Grief Share 2:00 PM	28 Birthday: Jann Sanders
29 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	30					



The 2024-2025 Women's Bible Study begins September 10, 2024

The study Sessions will be conducted on one Tuesday each month in the Sybil Hopper Room. The books for the new study will be available in the Narthex or you may contact the Church office to make arrangement for one.

**SAVED** by Nancy Guthrie

September 10—Introduction pp 1-10

Chapter 1 *You Will Be My Witnesses* pp 13-25

Personal study questions should be answered **before** reading each assigned chapter, Discussion questions should be answered **after** reading each assigned chapter

Questions may be directed to either Beverly Hoch or Carol Nance

All women are welcome, We have books for everyone!

### **Restore:**

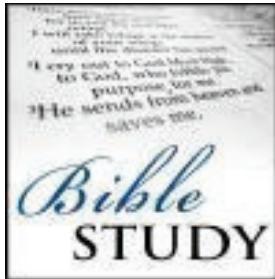
Psalm 51: 10-12: "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."

Still remain in a humble attitude but with hands together in prayer or in a position of "asking".

The Hebrew word *Rapha* is often translated as *cure, heal, restore, prosper*. It can be used in the sense of physical healing as when we pray to Jehovah *Rapha* meaning "God is our healer". But this can also mean spiritual healing as well.

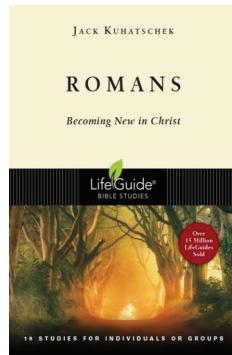
Prayer: "Lord Jesus, create in me a clean heart. Renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation. I desire to be made whole and to be reconciled to you." Amen.

**More to come in the next newsletter.... Revive / Refresh/ Revere /Rejoice**



Join us Sunday  
Mornings at 9:30

On Wednesday mornings at 10 AM  
In the conference room, we are studying Romans  
using the Life Guide Bible Study



### 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

### Pumpkin Bread (page 182)

2 $\frac{3}{4}$  c. sugar  
1 c. shortening  
3 eggs  
2 c. pumpkin  
3 $\frac{1}{2}$  c. sifted flour  
1/8 tsp. salt  
1/8 tsp. baking powder  
1 tsp. ground cloves  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1 tsp. allspice  
1 tsp. baking soda

Cream sugar and shortening. Beat in one egg at a time and beat well. Add pumpkin and stir. Add dry ingredients and stir until moist. Do not overmix. Bake in loaf pans, which have been greased and floured. Bake at 350° for 50-60 minutes.

Makes 4 small loaves Helen Seal



# Households for Prayer

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

September 2024

Chandler Hall  
Larry and Pat Harberson  
Brenda Howard  
Jim and Glenna Kirkpatrick  
Louise Kraft  
Lynelle McConnell  
Martha Meeks  
Paul and Katherine Mehaffey

## CHURCH STAFF

*Rev. Debbie H. Spangler, Pastor  
Chandler Hull, Office Manager  
Beverly Hoch, Music Director  
Matthew McNeill, Organist*

*John Pinder, AV Technician - Irene Rodriguez, Church Caretaker*

Office Hours: Administrative Secretary, Mon/Wed/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>





## Prayer Concerns

Cheryl B, Gerald B, Helen B, Jim C, Jan C, Lynda E, Gene F, Mary F, Pat H, Larry H, Jim K, Louise K, Pat M, Martha M, Loretta N, Don R, Irene R, Judy R, Jann S, Michael S. Price and Margaret B, Shirley and Mike C, Lisa C, Brenda C, Larry C, Sherman C, Kevin F, Bob I, BL J, Sandy L, Clarice M, Robin and Alana, Linda T, Craig W, Gladden and Lydia W.

**Continued prayers** for those in long-term care residences: Pat M (McKinney), Pat R (Austin), Annemarie V (Fla).

# Birthdays

- 1 Terry Nobles
- 3 Paul Mehaffey
- 7 Ron Shenberger
- 24 Luke Briggs
- 28 Jann Sanders



# Anniversaries

- 3 Gerald and Cheryl Briggs
- 14 Mike Steinel and Beverly Hoch
- 15 Clay and Kelly Briggs



Communion  
September 1

The next Celtic Cross deadline is September 22. Please send your news and articles to [Newsletter@fpcdenton.org](mailto:Newsletter@fpcdenton.org). Please call if you have questions or need to make sure an article gets published

**Session Committee**  
**@7:00PM**  
**Monday, September 23**



**Deacons Committee**  
**@ 10:30 AM**  
**Sunday, September 22**

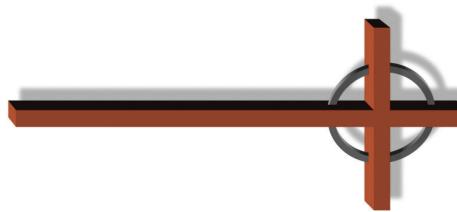
## Bible Readings September 2024

- 1 Matt. 5:1–12
- 2 John 8:21–32
- 3 John 8:33–47
- 4 John 8:47–59
- 5 John 9:1–17
- 6 John 9:18–41
- 7 John 10:1–18
- 8 Matt. 5:13–20
- 9 John 10:19–30
- 10 John 10:31–42
- 11 John 11:1–16
- 12 John 11:17–29
- 13 John 11:30–44
- 14 John 11:45–54
- 15 Matt. 5:21–26
- 16 John 11:55—12:8
- 17 John 12:9–19
- 18 John 12:20–26
- 19 John 12:27–36a
- 20 John 12:36b–43
- 21 John 12:44–50
- 22 Matt. 6:1–6, 16–18
- 23 Luke (1:1–4) 3:1–14
- 24 Luke 3:15–22
- 25 Luke 4:1–13
- 26 Luke 4:14–30
- 27 Luke 4:31–37
- 28 Luke 4:38–44
- 29 Matt. 13:44–52
- 30 Luke 5:1–11

Source: PC(USA) Common  
Lectionary

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

**Office Hours**  
Secretary M/W/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  
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