

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. 60, No. 11

November 2023

Editor: Cathy Taylor

Dear FPC Denton Church Family,

I found this on the Presbyterian Outlook Facebook page. It said it was read at a recent Presbyterian group meeting that the Administrator of the page had just attended. It is "A Christmas Prayer" written by Walter Brueggemann. According to Wikipedia: "He is an American Old Testament scholar and theologian who is widely considered one of the most influential Old Testament scholars of the last several decades. His work often focuses on the Hebrew prophetic tradition and sociopolitical imagination of the Church. He argues that the Church must provide a counter-narrative to the dominant forces of consumerism, militarism, and nationalism." I remember studying some of his work in Seminary. I did read this prayer as a devotional for our last Session meeting as I think it gives us "food for thought" in light of our current situation around the world.

"A Christmas Prayer" printed in his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth: Prayers of Walter Brueggeman*. 2003

In violence and travail

We give you thanks for the babe born in violence.

We give you thanks for the miracle of Bethlehem, born into the Jerusalem heritage.

We do not understand why the innocents must be slaughtered; we know that your kingdom comes in violence and travail. Our time would be a good time for your kingdom to come, because we have had enough of violence and travail.

So we wait with eager longing, and with enormous fear, because your promises do not coincide with our favorite injustices.

We pray for the coming of your kingdom on earth as it is around your heavenly throne.

We are a people grown weary of waiting.

We dwell in the midst of cynical people, and we have settled for what we can control.

We do know that you hold the initiative for our lives, that your love planned our salvation before we saw the light of day.

And so we wait for your coming, in your vulnerable baby in whom all things are made new.

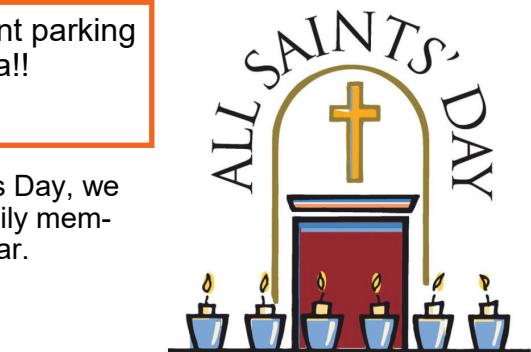
Amen. Blessings! Debbie

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Sun, Oct 29, 5-6:30PM **Trunk or Treat**, front parking lot. Carolyn is bringing her llama and alpaca!!

November 5th is **All Saints' Day**. On All Saints Day, we will honor and remember those friends and family members who have entered into glory in the past year.



*Fall back—don't forget
to set your clock back
Sunday*

Nov 5 at 2 A.M.

Love Notes from Pastor Debbie

Fall is finally here—at least the temperature is cooler and maybe we will get some much needed rain. Once fall is here though—time seems to rush to get to the end of the year. We have a Trunk or Treat in the church parking lot on October 29th, The Sacred Veil on November 12th, a Give Thanks/Staff Appreciation luncheon on November 19th and plenty of fun events are being planned for December! Welcome to our new member Jann Sanders!



Here are the readings for November:

November 5, 2023: **All Saints Sunday** (the date is 11-1-23) Communion. All Saints Readings: Psalm 34: 1-10, 22; Matthew 5: 1-12; 1 John 3: 1-3; Revelation 7: 9-17. Readings for 11-5-23: Joshua 3: 7-17; Psalm 107: 1-7, 33-37; Matthew 23: 1-12; 1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13. "Children of God"/1 John 3 text.

November 12, 2023: 24th Sunday after Pentecost. Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78: 1-7; Matthew 25: 1-13; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18. "Serving the Lord"/Joshua 24 text.

November 19, 2023: 25th Sunday after Pentecost. **Thanksgiving Service.** (Thanksgiving is 11-23-23). Readings for 11-19: Judges 4: 1-7; Psalm 123: Matthew 25: 14-30; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11. Readings for Thanksgiving: Deuteronomy 8: 7-18; Psalm 65; Luke 17: 1-19; 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15. "Giving Thanks"/Deuteronomy 8, Luke 17 and 2 Corinthians 9 texts.

November 26, 2023: **Christ the King Sunday.** Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100; Matthew 25: 31-46; Ephesians 1: 15-23. "Christ the Judge"/Ezekiel 34, Matthew 25, Ephesians 1 texts.

The first Sunday of Advent is December 3, 2023 Hope - **Hanging of the green**—remember many hands makes the work go fast—the Sunday after Thanksgiving< November 26 following Worship.

Check the Denton Christian Preschool web site for Poinsettia or upcoming events for the coming holiday season.



November 12
A Concert of Remembrance for All Saints
7:30PM
Free Admission



Ovarian cancer claims the life of a young mother. This powerful, intimate, hour-long choral work, with lyrics written by her husband and entries from his wife's own journal, will touch the hearts of all who grieve, and honor the loss of loved ones.

Upcoming Events

All Saints Day	November 5, 2023
"The Sacred Veil"	November 12, 2023 7:30 PM
Staff Appreciation Luncheon	November 19, 2023 12:15 PM
Chime and Dime Luncheon	December 10, 2023 12:15 PM



Mission News

1. The Food Pantry continues to move a lot of food. A friend of a church member recently donated a large amount of canned goods. The food filled the back of a mid-sized SUV.
2. The organization Direction 61:3 now has 2 homes (one for males and one for females). These are for young adults who have aged out of foster care in the Denton area. This has been one of the programs which mission has supported through volunteering and donations.
3. Some committee members are making gallon size zip-lock food bags ,filled with non-perishable food. These are to carry in their cars and distribute as needed to those asking for food or money.
4. Mission committee members have been contacting church members to update their information for the church directory which has recently been distributed.
5. Mission committees semi-annual collection of Food and Toiletries for Out Daily Bread will be collected in November for December delivery.
6. We have organized a Trunk or Treat event for October 29th in the church parking lot. Trunk or treat is a safe Halloween where candy is distributed out of the trunk of cars.

Thanks, Linn

November 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Birthday: Alexandria Nicholson Bible Study and Prayer 10:30 AM	2 Birthday: Gene Finlay	3	4
5 Birthday: Michelle Augsten Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM All Saints Day 	6 Birthday: David Storrie	7 Birthday: Cheryl Briggs Women of the Church Bible Study 10 AM Conference Room Grief Share 1:00 PM Conference Room	8 Bible Study and Prayer 10:30 AM	9 Birthday: Jim Callahan	10	11
12 Anniversary: Gene & Cathy Taylor Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM The Sacred Veil 7:30 PM	13	14 Grief Share 1:00 PM Conference Room	15 Bible Study and Prayer 10:30 AM	16	17	18
19 Disciples Class 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM Mission 12:15 PM Staff Appreciation Luncheon 12:15 PM	20 Birthday: Kori Miller	21 Grief Share 1:00 PM Conference Room Session 7:00PM	22 Bible Study and Prayer 10:30 AM	23	24	25
26 Birthday: Linda Cassidy Anniversary: Larry & Pat Harberson Disciples Class 9:30 AM Deacons 10:30 AM Worship 11 AM Celtic Cross Deadline	27 Birthday: Mike Steinel	28 Grief Share 1:00 PM Conference Room	29 Bible Study and Prayer 10:30 AM	30		

Session		
Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Jim Welborn	Terry Nobles (T)	Beverly Hoch
Larry Harberson (T)	Vacant	Carol Nance (T)
Diaconate		
Carolyn Smith	Linn Welborn	Marlene Nobles (M)
(T) Trustee	Diana Shenberger	(M) Moderator

Women of the Church - November 7 Sacred Encounters

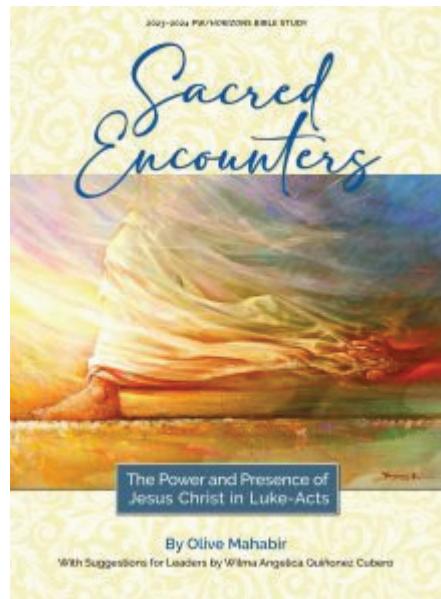
Conference room at 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts

By Olive Mahabir

Within the pages of this study, Olive Mahabir invites you to consider Jesus and Jesus' disciples who shared the Good News through sacred Encounters with everyday people.

The Gospel According to Luke and the book of the Acts of the Apostles, or Luke-Acts, "one story in two parts," demonstrate the unfolding of God's redemptive purposes in human history and present a distinctive perspective on the person and work of Jesus Christ. Written by Luke, a physician and traveling companion of Paul, the message to the early Christian community (and to us) is radical, inclusive, and hope-filled.



Big Thank you

Want to give a big thank you to Beverly and Mike for all the fun luncheon. We love the Octoberfest. A big thank you to Jim and Lynn for all the work buying and stocking the Food Bank. A big thank you to all the ones who give food to help.

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

Sweet Potato Casserole (page 102)

3 c. sweet potatoes, mashed
1/3 c. milk
1/2 c. butter or oleo
1 c. sugar
2 eggs, well beaten
1 tsp. vanilla

Topping:

1/3 c. butter or oleo, melted
1/4 c. flour
1/2 c. brown sugar
1 c. pecans



Mix all the ingredients together and bake in a 400° oven for 20 minutes.

Topping: Pour on top of mixture. Return to 250° oven. Allow topping to melt; serve.

Mabel P. Saunders

Households for Prayer

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

November 2023

Jann Sanders
David and Nancy Storrie
Michael Stroud
Kim Tate
Cathy Taylor
Brandon Veazey
Jim and Linn Welborn
Beverly Westlake

Celtic Cross deadline is November 26 for publication on November 28th. Please send your news and articles to
Newsletter@fpcdenton.org

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

Health Concerns: Helen B, Cheryl B, Gerald B, Lynda E, Gene F, Pat H, Jim K, Louise K, Martha M., Pat M, Don R, Pat R, Irene R, Diana S, Michael S. Price and Margaret B, Brenda C, Mike C, Sherman C, Connie D, Kevin Falconberry, Bob I, Kathy K, Sandy L, Jackie S, Tammy S, Ann S, Robin and Alana, Gladden and Lydia W, Craig White, Annemarie V, Clarice M, Carol W., Jan Carr.

Safety DCP Children, military personnel and first responders

November Birthdays

- 1 Alexandria Nicholson
- 2 Gene Finlay
- 5 Michelle Augsten
- 6 David Storrie
- 7 Cheryl Briggs
- 9 Jim Callahan
- 20 Kori Miller
- 26 Linda Cassidy
- 27 Mike Steinel



Anniversaries

- 12 Cathy and Gene Taylor
- 26 Larry and Pat Harberson



November 19 Missions Committee at 12:15 Church
November 20 Session Meeting at 7 PM-Tuesday
November 26 Deacons Meeting at 10:15 Church

HOLY

Communion Sunday November 5th
Time Change—Fall back



Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday November 5
2:00 PM at UNT "Cinderella"
With Christopher Rodriguez and Maiya Williams

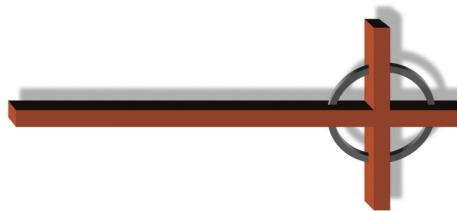
Bible Readings November 2023

- 1 Matt. 5:1–12
- 2 Matt. 13:18–23
- 3 Matt. 13:24–30
- 4 Matt. 13:31–35
- 5 Luke 12:22–31
- 6 Matt. 13:36–43
- 7 Matt. 13:44–52
- 8 Matt. 13:53–58
- 9 Matt. 14:1–12
- 10 Matt. 14:13–21
- 11 Matt. 14:22–36
- 12 Luke 14:12–24
- 13 Matt. 15:1–20
- 14 Matt. 15:21–28
- 15 Matt. 15:29–39
- 16 Matt. 16:1–12
- 17 Matt. 16:13–20
- 18 Matt. 16:21–28
- 19 Luke 16:1–13
- 20 Matt. 17:1–13
- 21 Matt. 17:14–21
- 22 Matt. 17:22–27
- 23 Matt. 18:1–9
- 24 Matt. 18:10–20
- 25 Matt. 18:21–35
- 26 Luke 19:11–27
- 27 Matt. 19:1–12
- 28 Matt. 19:13–22
- 29 Matt. 19:23–30
- 30 Matt. 20:1–16

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
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