




Happy  
New Year!

January & February

2022 NEWSLETTER

First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
1102 Ash Dr.  
Mission, Tx. 78572  
956-585-4829  
[www.FPCMISSION.COM](http://www.FPCMISSION.COM)  
(WEBSITE)



**Another (busy!) year has come and gone, but as we look forward to 2022 and all that it brings, challenges and Joys, blessings and changes, we are glad that you are here to spend it with us! May the Lord guide us on our path through the new year, filled with love and service in our hearts, and you, our church family by our side. All of us here at FPC wish you the very best of 2022!**



# Happy Retirement



**After many years of leading our flock, We wish a Happy Retirement to our Pastor, Eric Dittman. He will be taking up the role as farmer to his family's 5 acres and orchards, while enjoying life as a new grandpa, looking forward to all of the adventures that await him in the upcoming years.**






## Thank You

Thank you for the wonderful reception after worship on Sunday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>, and all the cards and gifts. You are all very thoughtful, generous and loving, something that has been a consistent and appreciated characteristic of the FPC-Mission Congregation.

The last 9 plus years, 1/7 of my life to date, has been a wonderful experience for me and for my family. I give thanks for everyone who gave of their time to serve as staff, volunteers, committee members, ruling elders, and everyone who attended my Sunday School Class. I love to teach, and your presence and dialogue during studies made my time here a real joy for me.

Keep up your generous, loving and welcoming ways and you will be joy for one another as you follow, together in Jesus' way. In Christ, Eric.





**ADMIN:**



**Working hard to get our playground up and running (since the kid's are back up and running!)**

# Committee Reports



# Service:

**The giving tree was a huge success! Thanks to all of your generous donations, we were able to donate 114 pairs of socks, 200 diapers, 34 containers of baby wipes, 13 hats, 10 blankets...**



**Items were delivered to Puentes de Cristo to be distributed to children in need in the colonias, as well as the Reynosa sidewalk school.  
-Nichole J.**

# Service continued:

**From January to November of 2021, the food pantry has distributed 213,708 food items, serving 7,372 families with a total of 28,335 adults and children.**

**We have received 23,119 units of food items and made purchases of items lacking. Our monetary donations have been very good and have had 2,160 of volunteer hours.**

**We are still seeing a lot of families even with the pandemic is starting to wind down. Thank you for all your support.**

**-Judy**



## Food Donations



## NOISY OFFERING!!!

Grand total collected: \$596.35

Donation to Su Casa de Esperanza: \$200

Giving Catalog Donation: \$395

3 families of chickens 4 farming tool kits

2 bags of Moringa tree seeds

2 kitchen supply kits

10 families will be given a community garden kit  
that will contain enough seeds and essentials to grow  
their own vegetables



# Nurture:

**Food, and Fellowship...what more could you ask for? A special 'Thank you' to the Perales family for preparing and donating the meal for our Thankful Christmas Luncheon, all the helpers that set-up and served, and the bakers of the delicious desserts! Over 66 plates served!**





# Nurture Continued:

**Our annual Chili Cook-Off is the second Sunday in January, 1-9-22. If you would like to try to win the honor of Chili Champion '22**



# CHILI COOK- OFF

**Call Susan North and bring a crockpot of chili to share. Our most recent winner is Mr. Dave German.**



**Bravo to these amazing children! A Nativity story was presented by our youth group on 12/19. They dedicated their performance to their Dear Mrs. Pat, whom retired in April. She has a special place in all our hearts and we will work hard to keep her enthusiasm and love of service in all we do.**



**February 13, 2022**  
**Winter Texan**  
**Appreciation**  
**Luncheon**  
**Join us for Soup and**  
**salad after servicee!**



**Coffee in the Garden!**  
**Please join us for**  
**coffee in the Prayer**  
**garden before**  
**worship for a chat**  
**and some pre-**  
**packaged snacks.**

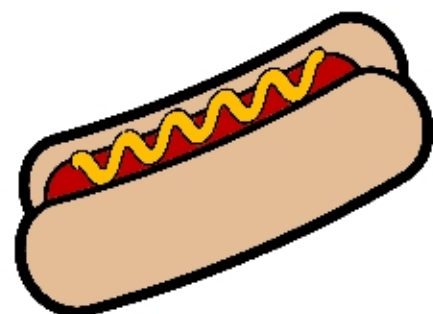
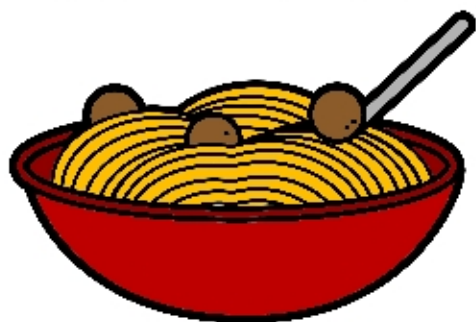


# Worship

**Worship committee reports that we will continue to worship in person as well as live stream on You Tube and upload to Facebook.**

**Sunday School begins at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall, followed by 10:30am Worship service in the Sanctuary.**

**Wednesday's at 5:30 our youth group will meet in the choir room for worship and play. We would like to provide dinner for our busy kids(and parents) so if you would like to volunteer to drop of a meal or cookies please contact Nichole Jirovec 956-578-3672**



# Baptisms:

Welcome to our Church Family!



**Kameron Matthew Wood**  
**Son Of Timothy and Kassandra**  
**Great-Grandson of Barbara Grey**  
**was Baptized into the faith on**  
**December 26, 2021**



**Amelia Belle Lock**  
**Daughter of**  
**Hilary and Albert Lock**  
**Baptized into the faith on**  
**December 26, 2021 by her**  
**grandfather, our**  
**Pastor Eric Dittman**



# Special Performances

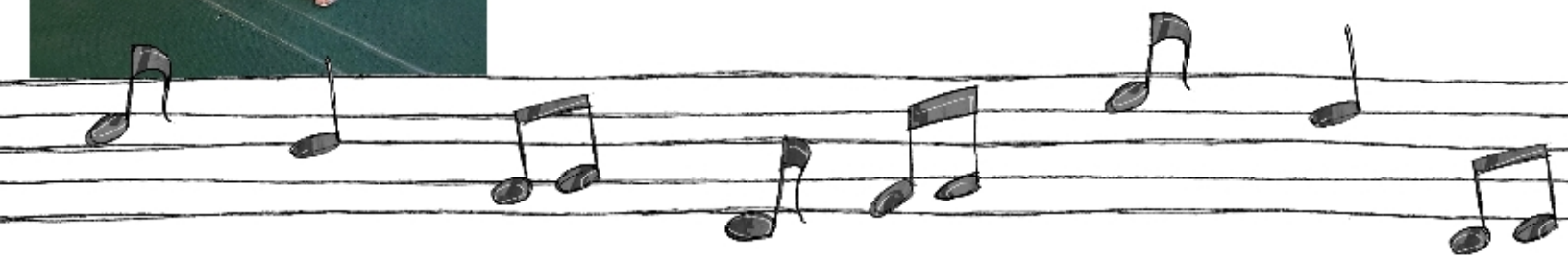


**We were treated to wonderful Handbell concert On December 12th, Lead by Mrs. Pat Hudsonpillar.**

**Our FPC youth presented a Christmas Program on Dec. 19th, Directed by Nichole Jirovec. Special Music was provided by Kathy Buresh, and an extra special thanks to our Narrator John Watkins, and the 3 Kings , Keith Dietrich, Shane Jirovec, and James Davis for the last minute fill-in!**



**Our Christmas Eve service was made even more Angelic by the beautiful Duet preformed by Halle and Peyton York, singing "An angel's Lullaby" and accompanied on Piano by their grandmother Pat Hudsonpillar.**





**A Christmas song Written by:  
Pastor Eric Dittman**

**Christ is Born Emmanuel**

***(Can be sung to the tune of “Santa Claus Is  
Coming to Town”)***

**You're in for a treat.**

**He's coming today.**

**Jesus is born down Bethlehem way.**

**Christ is born Emmanuel.**

**He's checking you out. Forgiving your sins.**

**Washing you clean**

**and giving you grins.**

**Christ is born Emmanuel.**

**He loves you when your sleeping.**

**He loves when you're awake.**

**He loves you when you're bad or good,**

**but be good for Jesus' sake.**

**Oh, You're in for a treat.**

**He's coming today.**

**Jesus is born down Bethlehem way.**

**Christ is born Emmanuel. |**



**A Christmas song Written by:  
Pastor Eric Dittman**

**Together now, Rejoice!  
(Can be sung to tune of “Jingle Bells”)**

**Dashing through the mall, with a list and cash to spend.  
Buying gifts to give, and lots of cards to send.  
Then on to HEB, for baking goods to buy.  
And on to purchase lights to hang to Walmart now I fly.**

**Oh, wrapping gifts, baking goods, decorating trees.  
I’m so busy I can’t rest, but I need lots of zzz’s.  
Writing notes, mailing cards, working day and night.  
There’s no fun this Christmas time, so something isn’t right!**

**Then I take a nap, and briefly close my eyes.  
I snooze and then I dream. I see the stars and skies.  
I see a mom and babe, with shepherds, sheep and light.  
I feel the wonder of this time, renewed by this great sight!**

**Oh, Christ is born, Christ is Born, God Emmanuel.  
What a glorious moment this, News that I must tell.  
Listen all, hear this news, listen to my voice.  
Now’s the time to celebrate, together now, Rejoice!**



**S.P.A.**  
**(Study. Pray. Act)**  
**Men are Welcome**

**Spa continues to meet weekly on Wednesdays at noon in the church kitchen. Bring your own brown bag lunch. Join us for study of Our Daily Bread.**



**P.T.O.**  
**(Presbyterian Take Over)**

**We meet for breakfast on the first Tuesday of each month at 9:00a.m. at the Downtown Cafe located on Conway Avenue in Mission. Call Gloria Dietrich.**





## **“New Beginnings”**

**Presbyterian Women’s Spring Gathering**

**March 18-20, 2022**

**Mo Ranch, Hunt TX**

**Host: PWMP Coordinating Team**

*Please contact Mo-Ranch directly to reserve your housing and meals by calling 1-800-460-4401 or reserving online at [www.moranch.org](http://www.moranch.org)*

**Use code number: 9307**

**\*\*\*Make your room reservations NOW;  
lodging & meals deadline for Mo-Ranch  
is February 1, 2022.**

Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_ Age 15-25? \_\_\_\_\_ Ck# \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Presbyterian Women's Gathering** **March 18-20, 2022**  
**Registration Closes March 1, 2022**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
As you want it to appear on your name badge

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number City State Zip Code

Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
please print clearly – this is for confirmations and information

Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name City

Medical Information: List Allergies to medications, foods, insects. List any dietary restrictions.

**Emergency Contact Information:**

Name Relationship Phone with area code

Primary Care Physician Phone with area code

**By signing below, I give permission for medical treatment in case of emergency:**

Printed name Signature Date

**HOUSING and MEAL COSTS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR REGISTRATION FEE AND ARE DUE TO MO RANCH!**

**Contact Mo Ranch directly at**

1-800-460-4401

or complete the lodging request form at:  
<https://www.moranch.org/stay-at-mo-ranch/lodging-request-form/> for the 2022 PWMP Spring Gathering

Code for housing is 9307

Lodging deadline is February 1, 2022. Priority will be given in Wynne/Flato and Pheasant run using the code prior to this date. After this date there is no priority housing. Please note: Mo-Ranch will only be taking reservations; you will be given a room number upon arrival and not at the time of the reservation.

Registration **	65.00
Make check payable to: <b>PW of Mission Presbytery</b> <b>Mail to: Melanie Petru, Treasurer</b> <b>108 CR 333</b> <b>Shiner, TX 77984</b>	
Questions? Contact Lori Black or Sheri Dittman <a href="mailto:pwmpct@gmail.com">pwmpct@gmail.com</a>	

\*\* See page 2 about scholarships

Check for updates on the gathering on Facebook at Presbyterian Women of Mission Presbytery and on the website: [PresbyterianWomenofMissionPresbytery.org](http://PresbyterianWomenofMissionPresbytery.org)

**NO REFUNDS FOR REGISTRATION AFTER MARCH 15, 2022**

## About Mo-Ranch

Mo-Ranch, the 475-acre conference and retreat center of the Synod of the Sun, is on the Guadalupe River in the beautiful Texas Hill Country.

The mission of Mo-Ranch is to provide a special place and an enriching program in a living, learning, Christian environment to enable people to grow in God through Jesus Christ.

Complete driving directions, photos, and an interactive map can be found at [www.moranch.com](http://www.moranch.com).



Mileage to Mo-Ranch from:  
Kerrville 23 miles

### Gathering Information:

**Check-in: Opens at 4:00pm on Friday**

**Check out: No later than 10:30 AM Sunday**

The Gathering begins with dinner at 6:00pm on Friday and concludes at approximately 11:30am on Sunday.

### Registration Fee: \$65

Make checks payable to:

**“PW of Mission Presbytery” with  
“PW Gathering” in the memo section.**

Mail check and Registration form to:

**Melanie Petru, Treasurer  
Presbyterian Women  
108 CR 333  
Shiner, TX 77984**

**Scholarships:** Limited funds are available. First come--first served. Maximum of 2 scholarships per church. Use the application included in this packet to apply for the Spring Gathering Registration Scholarship. Scholarships are also available for Younger Women ages 15-25, are \$65 each, and are also limited to 2 scholarships per church. **Unused funds must be returned.**

More Gathering information is available at [www.presbyterianwomenofmissionpresbytery.org](http://www.presbyterianwomenofmissionpresbytery.org)

**What to bring:** Bible, pen, jacket, casual clothing, walking shoes, alarm clock, drinking cup, umbrella, and flashlight. **FOR YOUR SAFETY, CLOSED-TOE WALKING SHOES AND A FLASHLIGHT ARE ESSENTIAL!**

Merry Christmas to All  
2021 Christmas Eve Message from Pastor Eric

In a world when was thought the agenda we controlled  
Came a scourge named COVID and our lives they did fold  
Stay at home, wash your hands, wear your mask, separate  
And then with vaccine, get your shot- don't be late!

And Worship and school and work was for many  
From our homes on our screens not together with any  
Curbside and drive thru replaced sit down dining  
We went our own way with some of us whining

Some took up gardening, creativity was flowing  
Others watched TV, our bellies were growing  
Along came the freeze and off went our power  
Alone we did shiver under blankets did cower

As we slowly emerged from our forced hibernation  
Any gathering of people was quite a sensation  
We finally resumed doing things once undone  
Dipped our toes into waters doing things one by one

Some things were old, others were new  
And together our gatherings grew, grew and grew  
For some we're too slow, for others, too fast  
Our purpose reformed to ways that will last

Volunteers have stepped up, "I'll do this, I can help."  
After all we're a church... not a club for a whelp.  
And together we're more than the sum of our parts,  
With God's Spirit, endless fruits flow from our hearts.

Where once there was sorrow, there now is great glee  
For the world of tomorrow is today for you and for me  
Although COVID remains and inflation grows cost  
We've regained, and remembered what once was thought lost



And this night, here we are, come from here come from there  
Together as one floating high in the air  
To meet with our Lord, come down to our Earth  
Giving life, giving hope, giving love, grace and mirth.

Together we've heard once again the great story  
Humble birth that reveals God's way and God's glory  
With the angels, the shepherds, and cattle we rejoice  
Singing songs, from our hearts, and with one great voice

From this glory we gather as one to recall  
Christ's death and resurrection for one and for all  
Holiness in sacramental elements shared  
Remembering always how much Jesus cared

For our lives to be lived in freedom and peace  
Forgiven, redeemed from sins we're released  
A future assured, eternity's gift free  
Our focus in life on others will be

Our time is committed to family and friend  
We'll gather in homes for joy with no end  
Thoughts of work and other duties are shelved  
To rejoice with each other not just for ourselves

So we have in Christ Jesus, our Lord  
The light of life the True Living Word  
As we have received we will pass on  
until all the world will live as one

So candles lit, ours first, and then passed  
We praise the one who is first and is last  
The one whose birth this day we recall  
Merry Christmas to one, Merry Christmas to all. Amen.





# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



**24 Dorothy Bershman**

**23 Robert Bertling**

**6 Victoria Burgoon**

**21 Anastasia Cruz**

**10 Albino Garza**

**5 Barbra Grennell**

**11 Alycen Hughes**

**29 Richard Ives**

**30 Marilyn Sellers**

**17 Riley Strong**

**12 John Watkins**

**18 Halle York**

**20 Dale Zelinger**

**27 Melissa Zelinger**



# JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

**11 Velanie & Wayne Curlie**

**7 Jerry and Linda Vander Ploeg**



# JANUARY

## January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday: SS 9am Worship 10:30			Every Wed Youth group 5:30 Choir room			1
2	3 9-10 TOPS	4 PTO Downtown Cafe	5 SPA NOON Kitchen	6	7	8
9 Chili Cook-Off	10 9-10 TOPS	11	12 SPA NOON Kitchen	13	14	15
16	17 9-10 TOPS	18	19 SPA PW/Circle NOON Kitchen	20	21	22
23	24 9-10 TOPS	25	26 SPA NOON Kitchen	27	28	29
30	31 9-10 TOPS					



# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

**1 Harold Blinn**

**25 Lloyd Campbell**

**2 Velanie Curlie**

**21 Keith Dietrich**

**15 Steven Higley**

**24 Lambert Namminga**

**27 Truman Nicholas**

**20 Dick Urmacher**

**26 Zelma Willis**

**12 James Burgoon**

**23 Ron Cooper**

**12 Lynn Curtis**

**11 Geneva Elbers**

**14 David Jordening**

**20 Dorothy Watt**

**21 Alta Uhrmacher**

**12 Jack Willis**

**24 Alan Wright**



**28 Bob and Lynn Curtis**

**6 Dorothy and Denzil Watt**





# FEBRUARY 2022

## February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday: SS 9am Worship 10:30		1 PTO 9AM Downtown Cafe	2 SPA NOON Kitchen	3	4	5
6 SS 9am Worship 10:30	7 TOPS 9-10am	8	9 SPA NOON Kitchen	10	11	12
13 Win- Tex appreciation Luncheon	14 9-10 TOPS	15	16 SPA PW/Circle NOON Kitchen	17	18	19
20 SS 9am Worship 10:30	21 TOPS 9-10am	22	23 SPA NOON Kitchen	24	25	26
27 SS 9am Worship 10:30	28 TOPS 9-10am		Every Wed Youth group 5:30 Choir room			