

Mission of the Month

pastor's ponderings

Tejas Health Care



Tejas staff work to share healthy habits with local school children.

Tejas Health Care is a community partner that provides quality medical, dental, and behavioral health care services. Staff members focus on the needs of each patient and deliver services in light of the family, culture, and community context.



Tejas Health Care strives to provide quality, affordable, compassionate, and accessible primary medical, dental, behavioral health care to the community.

Using a team approach doctors, nurse practitioners, behavioral health consultants, and referral specialists assist patients in choosing a physician, transferring medical records, making appointments. Medical records keeping is done with a state-of-the-art electronic medical records system.

Tejas provides care to those who are covered by public or private health insurance plans and to those who are not insured. All services are provided on a sliding scale fee based on the patient's family size and income. In this way, Tejas provides health care that everyone can afford.

In October, the First Church Missions Committee will make a \$300 contribution to support Tejas Health. ✕

Anniversaries and Such

So much has happened in this last year yet the days and weeks have rushed past at the speed of light. This has been a year of blessing as I've had opportunity to get to know each of you just a little bit better.

We have dedicated quilts and will dedicate more in a few weeks. Served at Second Chance and AMEN.

We have celebrated Advent and the birth of our Lord. We have moved through the season of Lent engaging practices that deepen our faith. There has been a baptism and a wedding and a few funerals along the way and it has been a privilege to walk alongside you in joy and in sorrow.

What has struck the deepest chord has been this congregation at worship. You are faithfully engaged in the central practice of Christian life—glorifying the Lord our God! It is a joy to join choir and liturgist in worship leadership each week.

Together we have engaged a deeper partnership with St James Episcopal Church sharing space with their preschool with hospitality so genuine and freely given that it takes my breath away.

We have continued work to establish a partnership in the Czech Republic; have dedicated our columbarium; have begun a security ministry and held our first fire drill; have continued to improve our facilities so that all who enter will find a welcoming space to worship, learn, grow, and serve.

What a year—let's do it again! ♦

Blessings, Pastor Martha



Care Inn

Charlene Wood
Bernice Wood (W.O. Wood, mother)

Hospice Care

Mae Wynelle Langford (Houston)
Virginia Bibee

Seton Towers Nursing Home

Minnie Meyer

Monument Hill Nursing Home

Walter Noll
Jo White

At Home

Erin Miksch; Hugh Hall; Heidi Schultze; LaJuana Murray;
Ted William Borgstedte; Suzanne Manning;
Felicia, Mackenzie, & Nobel Smith; Suzy Romberg;
Nathan Hurst; Alanis R; Scott Clark (Hurst family, friend);
Marvin Willis (Kirby Kline, friend);
Michael and Matt (Leslie Garner, family);
Vicki and Edmund Latapie (Jean McHenry, friend);
Vicki Asner (Rebecca Halder, friend);
David Avery (W.O. Wood, brother-in law);
Don Grigsby (Larry Grigsby, brother);
Clay Good (Marti Collum, partner);
Brian Harvey (Brenda Benes, grand-nephew);
Charles Carter (Linda Albers, brother-in-law);
Katy Smith (Linda Albers, niece);
Freddy Perez (Jeremy Janda, brother-in-law);
Emily Ulsh (Bobbie Nash, friend);
Barbara Tieken (Emily Matheson, friend);
Jennifer Cooper (McElroy family, friend);
Macee Prause (Renata Leach, friend);
Heather Davis (Gross family, friend);
Gordon Brock (Schultze family, friend);
Deputy CJ Lehmann and his family

In Military Service

J.J. Allbright, Sergio Meneses, Blake Leverett,
Ken Roberts

With Deepest Sympathy

For Jo White on the death of her sister.
For Kelly Bourne (LeighAnn Bedient, friend) on the death
of her son.

*Please send prayer requests or changes to the pastor or
church office. ♦

Happy Birthday

- 3:Janie Conley
- 4:Ruth Elvig
- 9:Jeremy Janda
- 11:Kim Craig
- 23:Buzz Parker
- 25:Gene Oeding♦

Happy Anniversary

- 6:Bill and Arleen Billings
- 13:Byron and Katie Gross
- 18:Dick and Norma Smith
- 23:Rev. Sam and Donna Wayman
- 25:Jeremy and Jenny Janda ♦

Session Update—September

- ♦ Called a **congregational meeting** for September 22 after worship for the purpose of naming Jerry Hurst pastor emeritus;
- ♦ Received an **invitation** from the St James Preschool to an reception at which our members can meet the families and children and staff.
- ♦ Calendared three special worship services:
6 Oct at 7:30pm, **Jazz Vespers** on World Communion Sunday with special music funded through the Linda Smalley Memorial Concert Fund.
1 Nov at 6:30pm, **All Saints Day** Service.
24 Nov at 6:00pm, **Community Thanksgiving** service at Second Baptist Church with pastor Martha preaching.
- ♦ Recorded **donations** of 140 pounds of food and \$107 during Sunday worship in August.
- ♦ Approved installation of **new windows** in the Fellowship Hall and Education Wing.
- ♦ On September 15, welcomed **Bob Fields** into membership.



Photo courtesy of Mark Chen

Jazz Vespers on October 6

On October 6th, **World Communion Sunday**, First Presbyterian Church welcomes Duo Dramatique & friends as musical artists for a **Jazz Vespers** service at 7:30pm in the church sanctuary.

Renown violinist Dominika Dancewicz and pianist Donald Doucet will return to LaGrange bringing with them bassist Darrell Parrish and percussionist Scott Bonasso. Along with Claude Bolling's "Suite for Violin and Jazz Piano Trio" worship music will include arrangements of popular jazz standards.

Dominika and Donald, the Duo Dramatique, are recognized for artistry and engaging performances.

Along with a deep classical repertoire, the Duo are known for vibrant transcriptions of jazz, Broadway, and pop music. Darrell teaches Jazz Band at St John's School in Houston and has performed in concert alongside singers like Barbara Streisand and Liza Minelli. Scott is Head Choir Director at St John's School and a freelance percussionist with the St John's Jazz Trio.

This vespers service is free and open to the public, the music having been graciously funded by the Linda Smalley Memorial Concert Series. The planning team encourages you to bring your friends. ♦



Fall Progressive Dinner

On Sunday, **October 20th**, First Church will hold its Fall Progressive Dinner. This year we will travel to locations in Frisch Auf!

Janet and Buzz Parker will host appetizers at their home — 302 Rolling Hills Drive — beginning at **5:00pm**.

Brenda and James Benes will host the main course and dessert at their home — 217 Richard Road.

Plan to bring either an appetizer, salad, or dessert. The sign-up sheet is located in the church Narthex. The event is BYOB but stemware will be provided.

We hope that everyone will attend, and ask that all please "sign-up" so that our hosts will have a good head-count for the main course: breast of chicken in cream sauce with rice (and we know what excellent cooks Brenda and James are!).

If you have questions, please contact Rebecca Halder at 979.208.9892. or nechanitz1950@gmail.com. ♦

Travels in the Czech Republic



Our Ambassadors' experiences as they engaged with congregations of the Evangelical Church of the Christian Brethren. Part 1.

By Jerry Hurst

Pam and I arrived in Prague on the afternoon of September 4th and were met by Rev. David Sinclair, an ecumenical liaison with the ECCB.

We visited the headquarters of the ECCB and met many of the staff that we had met at the Atlanta conference back in April. Rev. Daniel Zaneti, moderator of the Brethren Church, took us to dinner and then on a river cruise with other pastors and their wives (below left).





Here we sailed under the Charles Bridge and saw how beautiful Prague is at night. Our captain was a young man whom Daniel had led through his confirmation many years earlier. In appreciation for his pastor, he provided this cruise as a gift to us and the others on the boat.

The next day we would travel down to the town of Plzen, which carries a very special love and respect for Americans. But more on that in my next installment...

Jerry



October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Comunion: Oct 6 Preparer: Rebecca Servers: Jim B; Renata; Jim A; Ben		1 7:30 Men's Group 12:00 Mission Cmte 5:00 LitWits	2 5:00 Christian Ed. 5:00 Guys Sectional 5:30 Choir Practice 6:30 Las Fuentes	3 1:00 LAMA 3:30 Worship Cmte	4	5
6 Communion  7:30 Jazz Vespers	7 11:45 Church Life	8 7:30 Men's Group 5:00 Session Second Chance	9 5:00 Gals Sectional 5:30 Choir Practice	10 6:30 AMEN Board	11	12
13	14 1:00 Cong. Care Columbus Day Office Closed	15 7:30 Men's Group	16 Triennial COM Visit 5:00 Guys Sectional 5:30 Choir Practice	17 5:30 Finance Cmte	18	19 Waideck Food Distribution Kairos Reunion
20  Quilt Dedication 5:00 Progressive Dinner	21	22 7:30 Men's Group	23 5:00 Gals Sectional 5:30 Choir Practice	24 9:00 Quilt Guild KAIROS	25 Presbytery	26
27 KAIROS	28 AMEN Pantry	29 7:30 Men's Group	30 5:00 All Sectional 5:30 Choir Practice	31 AMEN Pantry		

Reminders

Flowers:
 6—Billings
 13—Janie Conley
 20—Smith Anniversary
 27—Borgstedtes

Litugist: Bobbie Nash
Ushers: Clive & Rebecca Halder

2nd Sunday Lunch Hosts:
 Progressive Dinner on the 20th



October 6th

Jazz Vespers at 7:30pm

Celebrate World Communion Sunday with a jazz worship service featuring award winning violinist Dominika Dancewicz, Donald Doucet, and friends Darrell Parrish and Scott Bonasso graciously funded by the Linda Smalley Concert Series. ♦



October 20th

Quilt Dedication at Morning Worship

Our quilters have worked overtime to produce an offering of nearly 100 quilts, which will make their way to children in need along the Texas-Mexico Boarder. We will bless these quilts and present them to a representative of Communities United for Health (CUPS). ♦



October 20th

Fall Progressive Dinner at 5:00pm

Enjoy fellowship and food at our Fall Progressive Dinner. Our destination is Frisch Auf! where Janet and Buzz Parker will host appetizers and Brenda and James Benes will host the main course and dessert. Look for the sign up poster in the narthex. ♦

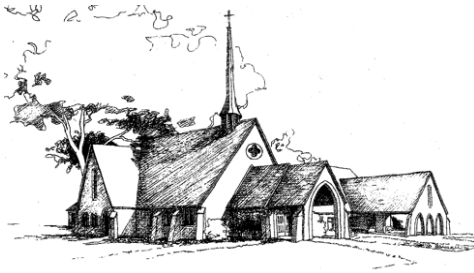
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