



# FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS CONNECTION

Where everybody is somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord

JANUARY 2012

## Bob & Lizanne Wynne's Retirement

By Bob Wynne

WOW! It has been a pleasure and a privilege to provide a decade of service to First Protestant... and at age 72, finally RETIREMENT! It seems like yesterday that Lizanne and I joined FPC in the summer of 2001. Daryl remembers that he and I opened the church for community prayers on September 11, 2001.

And in those 10 years, we Wynnes have met and made closer, sweet friends than in the 20 years prior, combined. Buying a house on the well-traveled Fredericksburg Road treated us to lots of folks stopping by just to chat...the coffee pot was always on, and the "sweet tea" was always made. What serendipity...what a delight.

During this month, Lizanne and I will set out on our great retirement "adventure" in our new 5th-wheel RV....hoping to see both coasts and the Dakotas in 2012. We named the RV the "WynVenture." We will be back here for the FPC "Wynne Recognition" luncheon on February 12th, before leaving Texas.

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In moving from Dallas to New Braunfels in 2001 to watch our 6-year-old grandson grow into a man, I sent my "church resume" to three churches here having Bill Hybels/Willow Creek Small Groups connections. One did not reply, one said "no thanks," and all three FPC pastors said, "Come on down...we can put you to work!"

In the initial interview, Daryl asked "What do you want to do?" I said, "Facilitate small groups," which was my primary area of expertise and interest. I had delighted in being a small part of seeing dozens of lives changed in Small Groups studies, where confidentiality, close bonds, and a heart for Jesus were paramount.

Daryl said, "I see that you are a Stephen Minister, trained in Lay Ministry." ("Lay" denoting from the "laity" or the people of the congregation....Pastoral Care.) "Can you recruit, train, direct and facilitate lay ministers?" "Yes," I replied. Daryl said, "That is where our need is right now....so, you will assist the Pastoral Care Minister, and do your Small Groups work as your spare time permits. Hmmmm. I wanted to lead two Small Group studies in particular...."Experiencing God" by Blackaby and King, and "Experiencing God" by Robert McGee. In ten years, I had managed to do the Blackaby study once, and had never gotten to the McGee project. I discovered that God's plans and a church's needs are always more important than my "want to's."

But, here is God's Glory in that so-called misfortune. I had the smallest of Pastoral Care experience... very little true talent. But, you go where God calls you. And, I found out firsthand that "God does not call the qualified...He qualifies the called." Every single move up the ladder of FPC responsibility, I said to myself, "I cannot do this...I am not qualified." And, every time, God showed me how He would qualify me.

In the first 4 years at FPC I volunteered 10-15 hours a week in Pastoral Care while I worked full time at Scott's Fertilizer/Home Depot and then Lifetouch Photos. Lizanne and I started the FAITHWERKS Adult Sunday School class, and I led a few small groups.

However, when we lost our Pastoral Care Minister, Daryl asked if I would be a 20 hour per week paid staff member. I worked those hours and began to facilitate several small groups. (We studied the gospels, T. S. Eliot, and contemporaries like Bill Hybels, Rick Warren, John Maxwell, and Alcorn ...including books like "Purpose Driven Life," "The Passion of Christ," "Heaven," "Mere Christianity," and dozens more.)

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# FIRST PROTESTANT CHURCH OF NEW BRAUNFELS

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*Where Everybody is Somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord*  
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# Walking in Faith

By Jerald Schroeder



Our personal walk of faith has had many stops and points of reference. We remember wedding anniversaries, birthdays, baptisms, and special loved ones. Here at First Protestant Church we have a history of honoring and remembering those who came before us. We have a rich heritage and we celebrate our faith moments.

As we take this spiritual journey, our campus walkways flow with the words of scripture and the memories of those who walked before us. We travel across the Holy Word. We travel among our loved ones, honoring and remembering them. For it is this, our own "Walk of Faith," that paves our way.

If there is someone you wish to remember or someone whom you wish to honor that has meant something in your walk, we invite you to consider a brick or paver on our church campus. Bricks and/or pavers can be a lasting tribute to family members. Bricks will be engraved with a name; granite or marble pavers honor or memorialize individuals, couples, and families, and include a favorite Bible verse.

If you would like more information about the First Protestant Church "Walk of Faith" please contact Jerald Schroeder, Director of Operations, at the church office, ext.19.

# Wynnes Retire....

(continued from page 1)

Then our Teaching Minister asked me to coordinate all of the facilitator training for the "Purpose Driven Life" Lenten project. How many people to attend, I asked. One person said "We have never had more than 100 ever attend." Another said, "200 max." I had followed and loved the small groups work of the author, Rick Warren. I quickly read "The Purpose Driven Life," and felt the Holy Spirit whisper, "You have to believe that 300 will attend." We listed it in the church bulletin, Daryl plugged it at the podium, and we enrolled 311 right away.

Then the challenge began of choosing 40 facilitators and 40 co-facilitators and teaching them how to guide the table discussions. All went very well, but Murphy's Law did preside: Thirty minutes before the film began, one of the table facilitators came to me and said, "Bob, I don't think I can do this. Can you get someone else?" I "borrowed" two co-facilitators and they never missed a beat. Another Table Facilitator misunderstood that I would be leading the group and he would just assist. Too bad that it just happened to be the Teaching Minister's parents' table; waiting forever for me to lead the group. Ooops! But with God's good graces, we all survived, and prospered. (I hasten to add that a proud fringe benefit from my pairing of table partners in the Purpose Driven Life series was that Charlie and Shawn became Mr. and Mrs. Wimberley.) This job has brought me blessings galore.

God directed 6 small groups to spin off of that Lenten series...most studied for a year or more. Several confided in me that they got as much "real life" out of those small groups as they did some sermons over the years. With the deep sharing, confidentiality factors, personal support, and holding one another accountable, these classes became powerful, personal Godly influences, not just your "garden variety" small groups.

Our Thursday night small group met every week for seven years... imagine meeting for 350 Thursdays with close Christian friends, to eat, share hearts and "break bread." (Acts 2:42) And, the home cooked potluck dinners were worth the trip.

We got to put our Christian beliefs to work when we discovered that one member of our group had lost her job and was being evicted from her apartment the next day. The whole small group rallied. That Saturday morning, we moved all of her apartment belongings. One couple paid 6 months for a storage building and put most of her items there. Another couple gave her free lodging for several months. We found her a full time job. One group member got her car running again.



Why help? Because we had learned to love her as a Christian sister. We became God's love in action. Again, what a privilege it is to be an instrument of God's Grace. (1 Thess 5:11 - "Encourage one another.") Daryl mentioned the group's project in one of his Sunday sermons, saying, "This is what a 'small church' is all about...loving someone back to health. This small group never asked for church money, transportation or even moving assistance." In fact, he said, he only found out about it months after the fact. For me, that was one of my most exciting FPC experiences...just to be a small part of that "small church" blessing. (A Halleluiah: the lady we assisted now has a great job, a new car, and just bought her first home.)

When the Teaching Minister retired in 2007, Daryl asked me to step aside from my small groups involvement and be a 40 hour per week paid Pastoral Care FPC staff member "for a year, or so." That was three years ago, and God has lovingly guided me every step of the way. (I am also delighted to say that several of the original small groups participants are currently leading the active small groups quite well in my absence. Praise God for all of those who presently lead or mentor small groups.)

Some have asked, "What are Bob's pastoral care duties? Mostly they are:

**1. Hospital visits:** which involve caring, chatting, and personal prayers. Then a follow up with several phone calls. (Daryl is the master of the phone follow up, probably making 20 or 30 phone calls daily. We make a great team. I can make the physical visit when he is not available, and he can give his personal touch and prayer by phone.) Weekly, we visit 8-10 FPC people in CSR-New Braunfels and some San Antonio hospitals.

Gosh, is that 400-500 personal hospital visits annually? It has been an honor to get close to so many of these sweet souls, through visits and personal prayers.

## 2. Monthly Holy Communion:

a) The dozen FPC Lay Ministers and I deliver Holy Communion to about 31 folks in a dozen local assisted living facilities plus an additional 42 in their homes/residences.

b) The Lay Ministers and FPC congregants delivered 72 Christmas bags in each of the Decembers of 2009, 2010, & 2011. In three years, that's 216 Christmas presents to FPC shut-ins. Our FPC Lay Ministers are the Listening Ears, Loving Hearts and Caring Hands of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. (Matt: 25: 36.) (A big Halleluiah to the ladies of Flying Fingers who made the bags and to those in Women's Fellowship who purchased and stuffed items into the bags. -- see page 14) And, praise God for Mae Kraft and Lucille Koehler who combed through every name in the church directory to insure that all of the elderly were accounted for and received a gift bag at Christmas.



3. **Funerals:** In 2009, FPC had 24 funerals, in 2010, 25 funerals, and in 2011, 38 funerals. In just three years, that is 87 funerals, of which I have attended about 45, done part of the eulogy or liturgy in dozens, and performed the services of Evelyn "Rosie" DeLewis. What a privilege to be an instrument of God.

## 4. Prayer Chain:

a) When I assumed control of the Prayer Chain four years ago, God and I added the "Praise" part to the "Prayer Requests", as a natural follow up to the Prayers. That addition has been very well received.

b) With an average of 6 to 8 separate prayer requests daily, 7 days per week, one can see how we total 50 per week, or 2,500 per year, or 10,000 in four years X 50 prayer chain prayer warriors is 500,000 prayers lifted up by the FPC Prayer Chain...half a MILLION...Wow! We know that prayers are answered, and that personal prayer is the single most powerful weapon we have against the Evil One. "God hears every prayer." (Psalms 4:2)

c) Daryl and I, the Prayer Chain Captains Mary Wendland, Betty Mitchell, and backup Gay Wimberley, all strive for a concise 3 or 4 lines of accurate and confidential information; plus an explicit approval from the person/family mentioned. (It may take 24-48 hours to attain proper approval; so your request may not go out on the same day.)

To be better qualified in Pastoral Care, I have taken several classes on "Managing Grief" and, this past fall, I completed 30+ hours of Hope Hospice training on "Death & Dying."

And, for the last 3 years, Lizanne & I have felt led to facilitate the Wednesday noon Bible study (NBC -- Noon Bible Chat) each fall & spring semester. One 12-week study was of every chapter in Revelation. Another was a "Luther" DVD movie, a study on the life of Martin Luther, his influence on and the emergence of the Protestant Church. I pray that someone will continue to facilitate this terrific group of fifteen fabulous, eager to learn Christians. Praises for all of the ladies who prepare the lunches!

Also, helping Daryl to sponsor the "Not Over the Hill Yet" Gang for five years has not been work -- it has been all fun and pleasure dining with a great bunch of older gentlemen. Thanks guys, for adopting a "youngster" into your group.

New Braunfels is our home. FPC is our church. You are our lifelong friends, brothers and sisters in Christ. We will return before the end of 2012. We will covet your travel mercies for us. After all, this has been the best job and Daryl has been the best boss I have ever had in my life. Praise God for FPC and its people!!! We love all of you guys and gals! BLESSINGS to ALL.

Please Email your Wynne memories/stories to [wynneX2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wynneX2@sbcglobal.net) so we may share them with our kids.

You can keep up with our adventures and travel pictures on a Blog that we are setting up. It is [wynnetraveldiaries.blogspot.com](http://wynnetraveldiaries.blogspot.com) (first title inside: "R V There Yet?")

# Are You Sick & Tired of Being Sick & Tired?



For the first time in history, we are overfed and undernourished. Health care is a disaster, where we lose billions of dollars a year supporting disease symptom management. People are sicker and fatter than ever before, and ironically, we have the most access to healthful food and medical care. Although the reasons surrounding these issues may be complex, the solution is simple. It all comes down to the food on your plate.

Eating healthfully may very well be the most confusing and frustrating part of everyday life. Frequent fads and trends come and go, leaving you lost in their wake, uncertain about the failed promises of successfully achieving perfect health and ideal weight.

Distinguishing between fact and fiction is virtually impossible with the never-ending onslaught of hype in television, on the Internet, in magazines, in books, and through word-of-mouth. Anyone can consider herself or himself an expert, but what is he or she really trying to sell? Food policy has become entirely politicized. Thus, our nutrition guidelines come indirectly from food manufacturers, not the most objective resource for information.

Physicians receive minimal, if any, nutrition education in medical school, yet they're the front-line people providing guidance and care. Western medicine has become a game of identifying a symptom and applying a remedy (pill) for that symptom. Never before have drug manufacturers sold their prescription medications directly to the consumer as they do now. Television commercials alternate between ads for fast food, junk food, and a new medication (a pill for each ill) to help alleviate your symptoms from consuming those products.

It's time to see the forest, instead of the trees. Health is not merely the absence of disease, nor the medication (or ignorance) of the symptoms of poor choices and habits. Instead, it's time to redefine health and nutrition.

Fortunately, a movement is well underway, confirming that what you eat can and does prevent, and even reverse, many of the chronic diseases that are so prevalent in our society. Researchers, physicians, and dietitians have witnessed multitudes of people regain true health, ridding their dependence on medications and addictive foods. You can change your future and be responsible for how you look and feel simply by making the right food choices.

This month, First Protestant Church has begun a 6-week, weekly series of programs about how improving your diet can significantly improve your health. Each program begins at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays in the Mornhinweg Center. There is ample scientific evidence that improving your diet can have profound positive impact on your health and well being. Each program consists of a 1 to 1½ hour long video on improving your health and eating habits by choosing a whole food, plant-based diet followed by a 15-25 minute discussion. The Bible tells us what medical science has just recently learned. For example, Daniel chapter 1 shows us how the Israelites on a vegetable and water diet looked healthier and better nourished than when they ate the Babylonian king's food.

Please come join us to see what the program can do for your health. Whether this is your first foray into the plant-based world or you're a well-seasoned veteran, the videos in this program will provide you with an abundance of facts and tips to improve your health while you build your nutritional database and reap the rewards. Everything you need to know to start your journey toward optimal health is available to you if you attend this program. Welcome to the exciting and health-creating plant-based world!

By Ralph Gerhardt & Kaia Schroeder

## Objectives

After watching this series of videos, a participant will be able to:

- Explain the scientific evidence linking diet to a wide variety of diseases and disease states.
- Explain how a plant-based diet can arrest, reverse, and treat coronary disease, obesity, diabetes, and other diseases without medication or surgery.
- Explain how the human digestive system works and is designed best for digesting plants.
- Become aware of how food cravings can both serve and mislead us.
- Explain how industry and government has allowed and even encouraged the obesity epidemic.
- Navigate common food-labeling tricks and terminology to choose truly healthy foods in the marketplace.
- Explain how food, environment and society are connected, and contribute to public and policy discourses on these issues.

## Goal

It is our goal to inform the congregation of what constitutes a whole food, plant based diet and how to incorporate it into their own lifestyles should they choose to do so. This information is presented only to allow congregants who are sick and tired of being sick and tired to try this way of eating to see if their health improves. Emphasis will be made that these choices are for an individual's own journey.

## Wednesday Evening Program Schedule\*\*

- January 11 – 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm **Forks Over Knives** movie with 20 minute Q & A
- January 18 – 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm **Digestion Made Easy** movie with 25 minute Q & A
- January 25 – 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm **Processed People** movie with 15 minute Q & A
- February 1 – 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm **How to Read Labels** video lecture with 25 minute Q & A
- February 8 – 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm **Food Inc.** movie with 25 minute Q & A
- February 15 – 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm **Healthy Living Made Easy** video and Plant Based Pot Luck

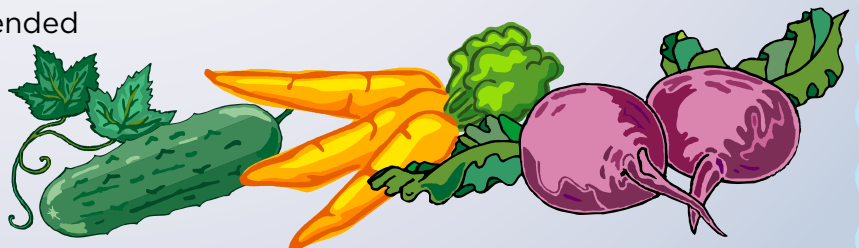
For more information call Kaia Schroeder at 830-624-8644 or Ralph Gerhardt at 830-217-4104.

Reference: The Complete Idiot's Guide to Plant-Based Nutrition by Julieanna Hever, M.S., R.D., C.P.T.

\*\* For those unable to attend the Wednesday evening class series already in progress, a second class is being offered on Tuesdays. The class schedule offered is as listed above; however, the first class begins Tuesday, January 31st, with **Forks Over Knives**, and continues weekly on Tuesdays until completed.

Mr. Gerhardt became interested in natural health issues in 1971. He has read hundreds of natural health books, thousands of natural health related articles, and has attended hundreds of classes and seminars on various health topics. He has also attended many conventions on health related issues, working hard to stay on the cutting edge of new natural health frontiers.

Kaia Schroeder is an RN working most recently in the Austin & Kyle Seton Hospital facilities and has an extensive education in the natural health field.



# Wrapping Up 2011..... Moving On To 2012!



The children of FPC enjoyed some wonderful Christmas activities together during the month of December. Of course, the holiday season began with our performance of "Chris-myth Busters: Discovering the Truth About Christmas" on December 4. It was an awesome morning full of Christmas spirit.



On December 11, the annual Advent Workshop was in full swing. The kids enjoyed six stations: three crafts, a snack, story time, and games. I would like to thank Cathy Fischer, Lori Skrzycki, Cathy Marcoux, Tina Triesch, Katie Heefner, Celeste Salge, Anne Buck and the FPC Middle School Youth, and all the FPC Youth that helped that day. The children had so much fun celebrating Christmas in this way.



Our second annual trip to the Magik Children's Theatre in San Antonio took place on December 17. We were able to have a picnic in the park and play on the playground before attending the Magik's production of The Nutcrackers. Thanks to the adults who helped me that day by being chaperones: Amy & Brian Coulombe and Anne & Meredith Buck. Kids participating were Elijah, Katy & Phillip Brown, Jenna Buck, Ben & Paul Coulombe, Alyssa Flugrath, Chloe Gaona, Ryan & Caitlyn Hernandez, Emily Hinkelmann, Cooper & Emma Kirchhoff, Colin Ott, Kaylee Pustka, Ridge Robinson, Marisa Rodriguez, Bailey Skarovsky, and Ella Villanueva.



# Kids' Connection

By Jill Rodriguez

Finally, on December 18 we had our Kids' Connection Christmas party. Thanks to Tiffany Davis for helping me that morning. We watched *The Very First Noel* (complete with popcorn like any good movie), played Christmas Bingo and Pin the Star on the Christmas Tree, enjoyed Christmas cookies and juice, and took our last trip to the Bible Bucks Store for 2011. It was a fun-filled morning.

The FPC Children's Ministry has resumed our regular schedule during January. This includes Sunday School at 9:00am and Kids' Connection at 10:15am. Just a reminder that Kids' Connection does not meet on the first Sunday of each month in order for the children to attend worship services with their families to participate in communion.

It will be exciting to see what God has in store for the FPC Children's Ministry in 2012! Stay tuned for upcoming events and activities.



# Team FPC in Action

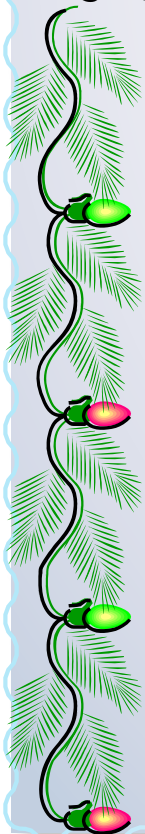
Wassailfest 2011

Thursday, December 1 was a great night to be in New Braunfels, TX. The plaza was beautifully lit up for Christmas, the weather was excellent (there was a slight chill in the air), and it was the perfect night for “wassail-ing.”

In addition to all of that, the FPC family pulled together like never before and made it an even more amazing night for our annual youth “Tamales & Chili” fundraiser. The chili was prepared the night before, and the tamales were hot and ready right at 5:00pm. We had a sales station set up in front of the Heritage House and another location at the plaza. The youth and parent volunteers were all decked out in our new FPC logo t-shirts, and the night could not have gone better.

It was fantastic to see the smiles on everyone’s faces and the amount of support our youth received from the FPC family and the community as well. We’ll remember how hard we worked at Wassailfest when we’re connecting with God up on Mount Redcloud in Colorado.

A huge THANK YOU to all of our youth, parents and volunteers for a terrific night, and the praise to God for blessing us with this family of faith.



## “A Cricket County Christmas Carol”

The FPC youth’s annual Dinner Theater/Silent Auction took place on Sunday, December 11, and the house was packed to see the country and city cousins’ version of Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol.” As always, both sets of cousins added their own special touch to the familiar story, and in the end they all remembered the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of the Savior.

The young actors did a great job remembering their lines and bringing the message home. Both the dinner and the play received wonderful reviews and the silent auction was a great success as well. All of the proceeds from ticket sales, tips and auction items will help fund the youth’s Spiritual Adventure trip to Camp Redcloud in Lake City, CO this July.

Along with gratitude for all who attended and supported our youth on the night of the play, special thanks go to Noel Smith and Kim Demore, who were the directors of the play. They worked hard, and we’re grateful for all of their efforts. We also recognize and thank Pat Krause, who prepared much of the food for the dinner. We could not have done this without the unwavering support of the congregation, and especially the parents of our young people. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful community of Christians.



Team FPC Youth - cont.



FPC raises more than \$2100 for S.O.S. Christmas Dinner drive!

On Wednesday, December 7, the youth assembled and delivered 200 Christmas dinner bags to the S.O.S. Food Bank, along with a check for about \$300! Great job FPC!



# The New Year in the Spirit

By Rev. Daryl C. Higgins



On Sundays when we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we quote the Apostles' Creed, and say, "I believe in the Holy Spirit." Noted author, J. B. Phillips, once said, "Every time we say this we mean that we believe that the Holy Spirit is a living God able and willing to enter human personality and change it."

Sometimes we forget that the Holy Spirit is not an impersonal force in our lives. The Bible describes Him (the Holy Spirit) as God. The Holy Spirit possesses the very attributes of God: the Holy Spirit is present everywhere (Psalm 139:7-8), the Holy Spirit knows all things (I Corinthians 2: 10-11), and the Holy Spirit has infinite power (Luke 1:35). The Holy Spirit also does things that only Almighty God can do: such as create (Genesis 1:2) and give life (Romans 8:2). The Holy Spirit is equal in every way with the other Persons of the Trinity---the Father and the Son.

The Holy Spirit is a Person who engages in personal ways with all of us. The Holy Spirit grieves when we sin (Ephesians 4:30). The Holy Spirit teaches us (I Corinthians 2:13), prays for us (Romans 8:26), guides us (John 16:13), gives us our spiritual gifts (I Corinthians 12:11), and assures us of salvation (Romans 8:16).

The Holy Spirit indwells in us if we have received forgiveness of sin through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit desires to really transform us so that we truly become more and more like Jesus. In this New Year of 2012, we need to do our very best to cooperate with the Holy Spirit by regularly reading and studying God's Word and relying on His power to follow and obey what we have learned. Let us pray for God's guidance and help so that every day of this New Year we will "Grow" in the "Spirit!" As a ministerial friend of mine once told me, "The Christian who neglects the Holy Spirit, is like a lamp that is not plugged in."

# Around FPC

Ida Wenzel celebrated her 99th birthday on November 30, 2011 at Sundance Care Center. Pictured below is Ida receiving communion from FPC Lay Minister Shirley Ginn.



Pictured above -- members of Flying Fingers and Women's Fellowship crafted, sewed, and stuffed contents into the FPC shut-ins' Christmas Bags.

Pictured below -- The Missions Bulletin Board shows the many missions and ministries supported by FPC.



# Music at FPC

By Sharon Gold

Music is an important part of life at First Protestant Church. From the stage of the Contemporary service and the choir loft in the Sanctuary, music can be heard throughout the church by everyone in attendance at the Sunday services.

During the first years of the church, the ministers served as the choir directors. In 1925, Pastor Mornhinweg's wife, Ella Springer Mornhinweg, became the first official Choir Director. She served for 28 years after which there have been a series of choir directors. For now more than 30 years, the music at the First Protestant traditional service has been directed by members of the staff of the School of Music at Texas State University.

The first organist dates back to 1868, when the church purchased its original organ. In 1896, a pipe organ fund was established and, in 1898 with \$600 in the fund, the church purchased and dedicated its first pipe organ. This organ required manual pumping of the billows to provide the air to fill the pipes - a responsibility that was assumed by some of the boys of the time. In 1920, during the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the church, members began a fund to replace the original pipe organ. The new pipe organ, which had an electric air compressor, was dedicated in 1924 and cost \$4,265. The organ was played during the dedication by Walter Faust. Walter, Gene Mornhinweg, and Gene's older brother, Richard, were three of the boys who hand-pumped the bellows of the original pipe organ. The 1896 organ was sold back to its maker in San Antonio for \$400 and was subsequently used by several area churches. Recently, it was moved back to New Braunfels, restored, and beautifully installed in the schoolhouse at the New Braunfels Conservation Plaza where it is now a part of New Braunfels history and is played on special occasions. In 1955, when the church was renovated and enlarged, the 1924 pipe organ was removed from the sanctuary, put in storage, repaired and restored, and moved from the front of the church to the new choir loft at the back of the church where the organ and choir are located today.

When Reverend Daryl Higgins came to First Protestant Church, the organ had one keyboard (manual) and limited use of its pipes. In 1992, he and the membership decided that the organ needed to be restored during the construction of the Family Life Center. Thus, a fund drive was established and the membership raised \$150,000 to restore and enlarge the pipe organ. During the construction, the organ and all of its pipes were again put into storage. When the organ was reinstalled in the Sanctuary, a new three manual console was added together with more pipes, and additional instrumentation. The restored organ was rededicated in 1993 and, at the time, was the largest pipe organ between San Antonio and Austin. Two years ago a beautiful rank of chimes were added to the Sanctuary Pipe Organ. The chimes were a memorial gift from the Marie Kirmse estate.

Six of the members of today's Sanctuary Choir and Bell Choir have served First Protestant as faithful members of the choirs for long over twenty years including soprano Helen Zipp, alto Jeanette Dietert, tenor Darvin Dietert, and basses Dr. Ray Elbel and A.D. Nuhn. Having served the Bell Choir for all these years is Linda Dietert. While not an active member of the Music Department today, Dr. Fred Frueholz began a very lengthy tenure in the FPC Music Department as a member of Youth Choir. As an adult, he sang bass with the Sanctuary Choir and was a member of the Bell Choir. Today, through the Frueholz Music Fund, Dr. Frueholz continues to support the Music Department by providing the funding for the accompanying String Quartets and other instrumentalists for the choir's annual performances of the "Lessons in Carols" at Christmas time and the "Tenebrae" at Easter time. He also provides funding for other special performances and scholarships to the wonderful music students from Texas State University who sing as members of the Sanctuary Choir, serve from time-to-time as soloists with the choir, and frequently provide the Special Music during the 8:00 a.m. Sunday traditional service.

For the last ten years, Dr. Joey Martin of Texas State University has been the Director of the Music and Fine Arts Department of FPC. In this capacity, Joey, as we all affectionately call him, plays the organ, the piano, sings, and conducts the Sanctuary and Handbell Choirs. Prior to beginning his tenure at First Protestant, Joey Martin served churches in Oklahoma and Texas as their Music Director, director of both children's choirs and Chancel choirs, and church organist.

Each week, the Contemporary service hears music presented by a band of musicians from many walks of life. These musicians come from rock bands and Christian music groups. They provide music and accompaniments for the people who attend the Contemporary service. The Contemporary service is held in Schumann Hall at the same time as the Traditional service is held in the church Sanctuary, where Joey Martin plays the organ and directs the Sanctuary Choir and the Handbell Choir.

Dr. Martin is an energetic and accomplished musician who has devoted his entire life to music and the church. His church upbringing began when he was a small boy in Granite, Oklahoma. Joey tells of going to church and sitting between his parents every Sunday. He grew up participating in church groups in his community, which included Bible study, sports, and other activities sponsored by the church. It could be expected that a musically talented boy, who grew up in church with his mother playing the piano for church services and Sunday School, would develop an interest in church music.

After graduating from high school, Joey attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University where he graduated Summa Cum Laude and received a Bachelor of Music Education Degree in General Music Education and Vocal Music. Joey returned to his alma mater where he earned a Master of Music Degree in Vocal Performance. While a student at Southwestern Oklahoma State, Joey served as a Graduate Assistant and then an Instructor. In 1992, he went to Northeastern State University as an Instructor and later became an Assistant Professor.

In 1996, Joey came to Austin, Texas to begin earning a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Texas. He received this degree in May of 2000. While earning his doctoral degree, Joey completed advanced studies in conducting, piano, and voice. During his doctoral studies, Joey was an Assistant Instructor and Acting Director of Choral Activities at UT. He also served as a Guest Lecturer at Southwest Texas State University, which today we know as Texas State University at San Marcos.

Joey became a full-time instructor at Texas State in 1999 and began serving as the Director of Choral Studies and Vocal Studies. Today, Dr. Martin holds the title of Professor of Music and serves as the Associate Director of the School of Music at Texas State. He carries a full teaching schedule and serves as accompanist for student and faculty recitals. In addition, he has led the Texas State Chorale on performing tours within the United States. Dr. Martin has led the Chorale on three international performing tours - the first to Austria, the Czech Republic, and Hungary; the second to the National Conservatory of Slovakia; and, in 2010, to South Africa's Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.

In June 2003, Dr. Martin led a group of First Protestant Sanctuary Choir members and friends on a performing tour of Western Europe. The tour included performances in Austria and in Braunfels, Germany where the group was received as "family coming home." While in Salzburg, the group visited the Salzburg Dom - the cathedral where Wolfgang Mozart was baptized and served as the organist. Joey proudly led the group through this huge cathedral that houses five massive organs and pointed out the cathedral organ that he had played for three services in 1999 when he was serving as the Associate Conductor, Coach, and Accompanist at the American Mozart Academy of Salzburg. In June 2005, Joey led the Sanctuary Choir on a second performing tour, this time to the British Isles.

Besides actively serving the university and First Protestant Church, Dr. Martin is extremely active in the music community of this state and nation. Between 1998 and 2011, he served the Victoria Bach Festival as its Associate Conductor, Director of the Chamber Choir, Pianist and Harpsichordist, Young Artist Director, and Co-Artistic Director. Joey served five years as the Choir Master of the Mid-Texas Symphony Symphonic Chorus. He has been the Artistic Director of the Alamo City Men's Chorale and the Rolling Hills Musical Arts Series and the Rehearsal Pianist for Conspirare (formerly the New Texas Music Works Symphonic Chorus). Dr. Martin has also worked with youth as the organizer of the Texas State Choral Camps and the Director of many statewide Honor Choruses and choruses at music camps.

Over the years, in addition to the monetary donations mentioned earlier, bequests, memorial, and other donations have been made to First Protestant Church that have been specifically designated for use by the Music Department. Some of these donations have been used to purchase risers for the choir room, an additional octave of bells for the Handbell Choir, the beautiful set of chimes that hang on the back wall of the Sanctuary and are controlled by the organ, and the new lighting and PA system for the Contemporary service. The lighting and the PA System have enhanced the environment of and the music for the Contemporary Service, the risers have added greatly to the comfort of the choir during rehearsals, and the handbells and chimes have added to the beauty of the music enjoyed in the Traditional service each Sunday.

First Protestant Church is indeed fortunate to have someone with the stature and talent of Dr. Joey Martin as the Director of its Music and Fine Arts Department. All of the members of the Sanctuary and Handbell Choirs love Joey and enjoy singing and playing under his direction for the pleasure of those attending First Protestant Church services.



### Mark Your Calendars!

On Thursday evening April 5th, First Protestant Church will hold a Maundy Thursday service at which the Sanctuary Choir will present a Tenebrae Service using selections from the "Requiem" by John Rutter. The choir, under the direction of Dr. Joey Martin, will be joined by our ministers as readers, a soprano soloist, and a small group of instrumentalists. Church members and friends are all invited to attend this moving Easter week service.

# 2011 3rd & 4th Quarter Memorial Contributions In Remembrance of...

Lottie Bading  
Karl & Helen Zipp

Virginia Bading  
Viola Porter

Bodo Dietert  
Raymond & Carole Bartram  
William J Schaefer  
Nolan & Shirley Schwarzlose  
Travis & Veronica Batey  
Comal County Sportsman Association  
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Shirley & Mike Kivlin  
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Jackie & Mae Kraft  
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Beverly Hartwick  
Eugene & Marilyn Klein  
Carroll & Tina Lindeman  
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Max & Janice Wommack, Jr.

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Thora Williams  
Ambrose & Barbara Borchers  
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Camilla & Richard Warnecke  
John Bormann  
Layton & Carole Leissner  
David Hartmann  
Lucille Fuchs (Fox)

Alton Dreyer  
Robert & Jewell Blang  
Aubrey & Dorothy Constable  
Viola Porter  
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Kenneth Triesch  
Gordon Zunker  
Calvin & Irene Henze  
Darvin & Jeanette Dietert  
Olga Dischinger  
Erwin & Arlyné Braune  
Patrick & Doris Mollenhauer  
Karl & Helen Zipp

Jeanne Fetner  
Karl & Helen Zipp  
Layton & Carole Leissner  
Darvin & Jeanette Dietert

Adeline Georg  
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Rosalie Goepf  
Jackie & Mae Kraft  
Janelle Berger

Bessie Green  
Irene Kraft

Kenneth Grimm  
Viola Porter

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David Hartmann

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Raymond & Gladys Haecker  
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Ferman Wetz  
Darvin & Jeanette Dietert

Joe Worl  
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## In honor of.....

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Jeff & Denise Mund  
Gail Krueger

Omar Snyder  
David Hartmann

Bob Wynne  
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