

“The Grapevine”



CHURCH CALENDAR:

- Piano Recital**
Saturday, June 4 @ 1pm
- Pentecost/ Communion Sunday**
Sunday, June 5
- Curious Monkey's Graduation**
Wednesday, June 8 @ 6pm
- Deacon/ Session Retreat**
Saturday, June 11 @ 9am-1pm
- Newsletter Deadline**
June 15
- Men's Breakfast**
Saturday, June 18 @ 8am
- Father's Day**
Sunday, June 19
- Safe & Sane Fireworks Sale**
June 28- July 4

*Happy Father's Day to FPC's awesome Dads...
God Bless You!*



FLOWER CALENDAR:

- JUNE 5**
Alex & Darline Pineda
- JUNE 12**
Roger & Tricia Winkler
- JUNE 19**
Jill Bailey
- JUNE 26**
Nancy Link



- 9- Kathleen Pribyl
- 11- Robert Burnell
- 12- Mike Little
Mila Vella
- 17- Belle Twitchell
- 29- Terry Harries
George Buffleben

Happy Anniversary:

- 3 - Bill & Ann Swenson
- 15 - Jim & Pat Kruse
Roger & Tricia Winkler
- 16 - Don & Char Bisbee



PASTOR'S PAGE



Dear Brothers & Sisters of FPC,

June is the month that the whole church celebrates Pentecost. This is the season of the outpouring of the person of the Holy Spirit upon the early Christian Church. This is not the only biblical reference to the third person of the Trinity. We read about the work of the Holy Spirit in the first chapter of Genesis. The creation story tells us that the beginning of God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form...void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God moving over the face of the waters. The Holy is mentioned many more times in the Hebrew scriptures, but I want to move to the day of Pentecost from the book of Acts, and some other New Testament passages.

We may never know exactly what happened on the day of Pentecost. It was the time Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be poured upon every church to fulfill Jesus' promise that His personal presence through the Holy Spirit will fill the hearts of all His believers!!!

Some writer compared this event to the story, Tower of Babel in chapter 11 of Genesis. This story tells us that God caused the people of this time to speak in different languages as a sign of God's anger towards the evil of the people of that era. Pentecost is when the Holy Spirit came down upon the people of the early church who spoke different languages and yet they heard the preaching of Peter about Jesus in their native languages.

Jesus told and promised the Apostles that when he ascended, he would send the promised comforter to fill their hearts with Jesus' presence. They would be empowered to go into the world and proclaim the good news of Jesus' ministry, death, and resurrection to all people. The Holy Spirit would be the power in their lives to preach, teach, and heal in the name of Jesus, our Lord. They would be guided and strengthened to carry out the Great Commission of the Matthew 28: 18-20, "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And Surely, I am with you always to the end of the age". Jesus poured out His Spirit on us to strengthen, guide, heal, reconcile all people to God, to teach and be His witnesses in a lost and broken creation!

Here are some scripture references to guide us into a deeper understanding of Jesus Lordship in our lives: ***Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 1: 18-23, Gospel of John 14: 25-28***

Please let me know if you have any questions or share any insights you may have as God's Holy Spirit guides and empowers you!

In Jesus' Love & Peace, be with you all by Work, Power, and Presence of God's Holy Spirit!

Pastor David

DEACONS DOINGS

As things are moving closer to normal, the Deacons are too! We are here to help you with your needs. We are ready to start serving home communion. If you can't make it to church and would like the Deacons to come to your home, please let us know. We are aware that some people still need to distance themselves, but if you are willing to have one or two Deacons come to your home, we are willing to come. We have also begun helping with food after funerals, and we are beginning to plan for Thanksgiving baskets.

If you have any needs the Deacons can help with please contact one of the Deacons, Pastor David Hill, (revdhill49@yahoo.com) or the church office at 209-835-3247.

SESSION REPORT

Rev. Dr. Hill and the Session are working on the agenda for the Session – Deacon's retreat, which will take place on June 11th.

During one of his recent visits with Ann Swenson, the staff of Astoria Gardens asked Rev. Dr. Hill if he would conduct a Bible study and serve communion there on a regular basis, which he has agreed to do.

The Session reviewed the provision of a new law, regarding identifying and reporting suspected child abuse and/or neglect, that went into effect at the first of the year. Laws protecting children have been in effect for some time, but now all mandated reporters will have to complete a four-hour course which is available on-line, as well as other requirements. As it relates to the church, all members of the clergy, all employees, all currently serving Ruling Elders, all currently serving Deacons, and all regular volunteers are classified as mandated reporters and must complete the training every two years. A regular volunteer is defined as someone who volunteers with children younger than 18 years old for more than 16 hours per month or 32 hours per year. People who work with children for fewer hours per month or year are classified as volunteers and are considered as permissible reporters. They are encouraged to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect but are not legally obligated to do so. They are, however, required to successfully complete a two-hour on-line training class, which is effective for two-years. In this new law, the State is utilizing a somewhat unique enforcement mechanism. The law empowers insurance providers to require those insured to document that they have policies in place that incorporate the provisions of the new law. If the insured cannot demonstrate compliance, the insurance company may refuse to provide coverage.

Alex Pineda reported on the progress that has been made to sell 4th of July fireworks as a fundraising event. Much of the preparatory work has been completed; what is needed now is for more people to sign up to work in the booth during the June 28th through July 4th sales period. The sign-up sheet is on the wall in Grant Hall near the door leading to the Agnes Lea Lounge. To make this a successful fundraising event, a lot of volunteers will be needed.

Please volunteer!

