Fort Worth Presbyterian Church



September 3, 2023

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers a welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.



To learn more about us, use this QR code



If you are visiting, please register here.

The front of the bulletin and the color of the minister's stole is currently green as this is the time in the Christian Year known as ordinary time or the Sundays after Pentecost. Green represents life and growth in Christ.

Jesus says His disciples '*must* always pray.' This is where what I call 'Anyway Christianity' has to kick in. You don't feel like praying; you may imagine it is useless to do so, but you do it *anyway*. You do it because Jesus says so.

Dale Ralph Davis

Please turn off or silence all communication devices.

For Free Wi-Fi, go to Settings on your device and select network 'FWPCA'

Courtesy walker and wheelchair are available at the main entrance.

Hearing Assistive Devices (FM Receivers) are at the back sound booth.

† Congregation standing

Order of the Worship of God

— September 3, 2023 —

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome & Announcements

Prepare our Hearts for Worship

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

The Gospel Greeting

Pastor: Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit.

People: Amen!

† The Call to Worship

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His

mighty heaven!

People: Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His

excellent greatness!

Pastor: Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

Psalm 150:1-2, 6

† Hymn of Praise

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; Thy justice like mountains high soaring above Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all praise we would render, O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee! Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867 † Invocation

† A Psalm Reading

Psalm 145:8-13

Pastor: The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

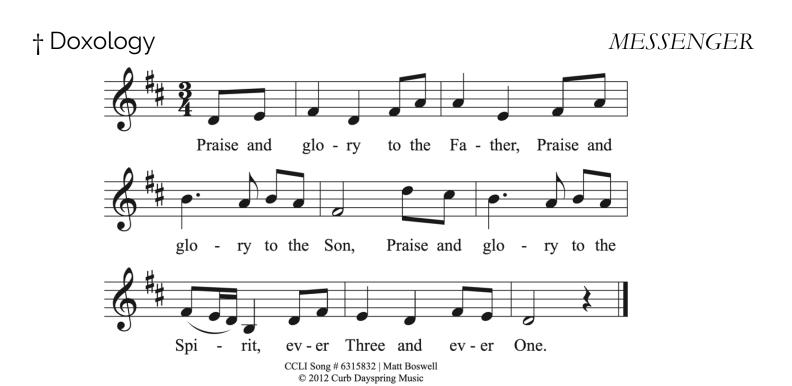
People: The LORD is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made.

Pastor: All Your work shall give thanks to You, O LORD, and all Your saints shall bless You!

People: They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom and tell of Your power,

Pastor: To make known to the children of man Your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of Your kingdom.

All: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations. Amen!



Confession of Sin

Pastor: Let us now confess our sins together:

All: O Lord, who has mercy on all; take away from us our sins and

mercifully kindle in us the fire of Your Holy Spirit that we may

love and adore You above all. Amen.

An Adapted Prayer from Ambrose AD 339

Silent Confession

† Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus!

All: Thanks be to God!

Romans 8:1

† The Greeting of Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you!

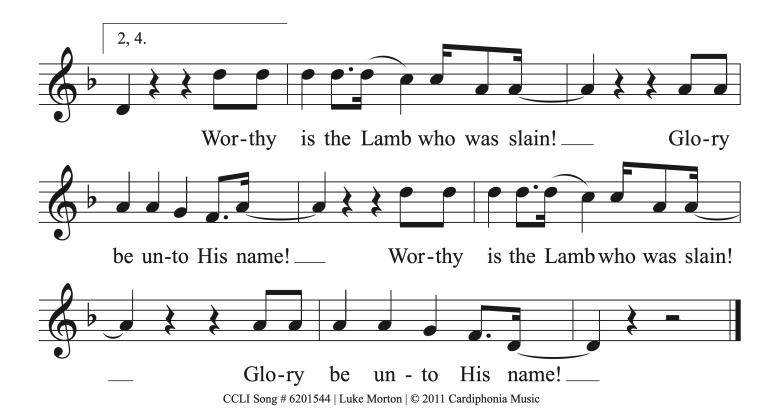
People: And also with you!

At this time, please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.

† Song of Renewal

THE LAMB HAS OVERCOME





COMMITTING TO GOD'S KINGDOM

Confession of Faith

Pastor: Christian, who is the Lord Jesus Christ?

A11:

The Lord Jesus is the Beloved Son of God, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the Image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the Head of the Body, the Church, the Firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross. Amen.

From Colossians 1:14-20

Prayer of Intercession.

Jack Norris

(followed by a time of silent prayer)

Common Prayer

Elder: Let us now join our voices praying:

All: Grant us, O Lord, to trust in Your will with all our hearts; for as You always resist the proud who confide in their own strength,

so You never forsake those who make their boast in Your

mercy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Morning Offering & KIWI Release

Children Pre-K through 2nd grade can now be dismissed for KIWI (Kids In Worship Instruction).

Teachers will meet the children in the foyer to take them to class.

After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they may come directly to you, or you may meet them at the back of the auditorium.

QR Code for online giving



LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

The Reading of the Word

Luke 18:1-8

And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and

not lose heart. [2] He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither

feared God nor respected man. [3] And there was a widow in that city who kept

coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' [4] For a

while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God

nor respect man, [5] yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her

justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.' [6] And the

Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. [7] And will not God give

justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over

them? [8] I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when

the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Reader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

10

The Sermon Pastor Brandon

THE PARABLE OF THE PERSISTENT WIDOW

Introduction

Our Need

God's Faithfulness

The Call to Persevering Faith

Discussion Questions:

- 1. What are some reasons you don't persevere in prayer? How might this parable strengthen your perseverance.
- 2. According to this parable, why are we to persevere in prayer?
- 3. Spend some time prayerfully thinking how you might be changed if you began to apply this parable to your life.
- 4. What convicted you most in this sermon?

FEASTING AT GOD'S TABLE

The Celebration of Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is good, right, and our delight that we should at all times and in all

places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all

the company of Heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name

evermore praising You and singing:



Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

The Confession

Pastor: Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us!

People: Hallelujah!

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of the Faith:

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

Pastor: And now our Holy Master, that with boldness and without

condemnation, we dare to call upon You, the Heavenly God, as our

Father, and say:

All: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your

kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we

forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into

temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Yours is the Kingdom

and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.

Pastor: The holy gifts of God for the holy people of God. Take them in

remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts

by faith and with thanksgiving. Let us now partake of the feast!

(Clear cups are wine and purple cups are grape juice, Gluten/Dairy free wafers are individually wrapped)

Understanding Holy Communion

"For Christ our Passover has also been sacrificed for us, therefore, let us celebrate the feast." – 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Because we believe the Table belongs to the Lord, it is vital that you come this morning on His terms:

- 1. You must be in communion with Jesus Christ by faith and repentance, trusting Him alone for your salvation.
 - 1 Corinthians 11:27-29
- 2. You must be in communion with your brothers and sisters in Christ. *Matthew 5:23-24; Ephesians 4:1-6*
- 3. You must be in communion with the church (any Bible-believing church) as a baptized member in good standing.
 - Matthew 18:15-18; Hebrews 13:17
- 4. Because we seriously heed Scripture's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29, we invite children who are ready to make a public profession of saving faith to complete the Communicants Class materials available at the book table, arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become regular "communicants" at the Lord's Table. Contact Rebecca York at rebecca@fortworthpca.org.

"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup." — 1 Corinthians 11:28-29

Prayers for Those Not Communing

For those searching for truth: Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what You claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who You are. Give me the ability to follow You no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for You that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that You promise. Amen.

For those who desire to profess faith in Christ: Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

A prayer for those struggling against sin: Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in You the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on You, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that You have set before me, looking only to You, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith: Lord Jesus, thank You for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow You as one of Your disciples. Amen.

Communion Songs

JESUS, I COME

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,
Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health,
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,
Jesus, I come! Jesus, I come!
Into the joy and light of Thy home,
Jesus, I come to Thee!
Out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold,
Jesus, I come to Thee!

CCLI Song # 7131576 | Greg Thompson William True Sleeper | © 2000 Cardiphonia Music

I WILL WAIT FOR YOU (PSALM 130)

Out of the depths I cry to You, in darkest places I will call.

Incline Your ear to me anew, and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.

Were You to count my sinful ways,

How could I come before Your throne?

Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze,

I stand redeemed by grace alone.

I will wait for You, I will wait for You,
On Your word I will rely.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You,
Till my soul is satisfied.

So, put Your hope in God alone.

Take courage in His power to save,

Completely and forever won

By Christ's emerging from the grave *Chorus*

Now He has come to make a way, and God Himself has paid the price,
That all who trust in Him today,
Find healing in His sacrifice

That all who trust in Him today, Find healing in His sacrifice *Chorus*

I will wait for You, I will wait for You,
Through the storm and through the night.
I will wait for You, surely wait for You,
For Your love is my delight.

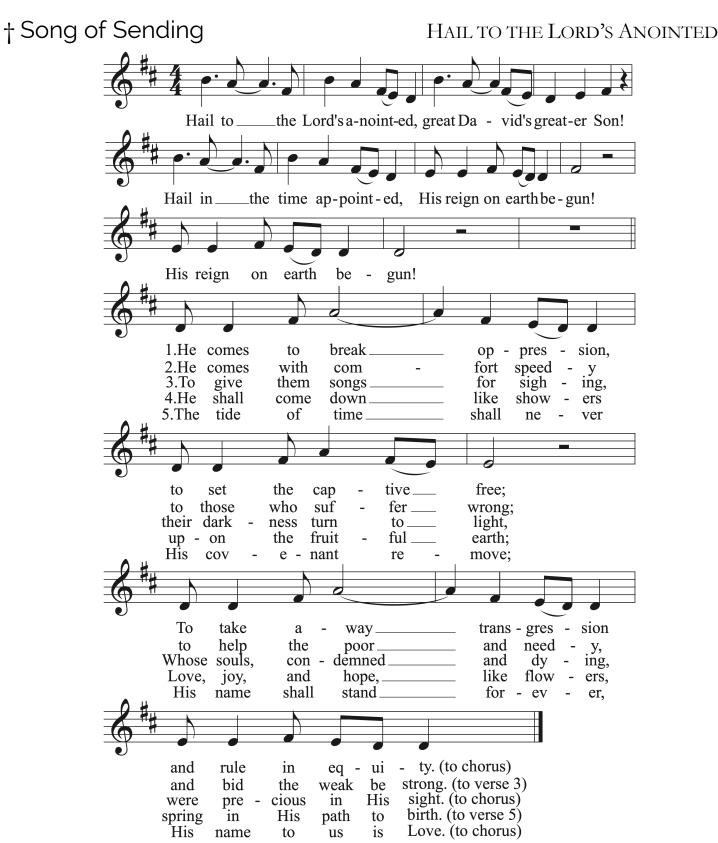
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HEAL US EMMANUEL



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GOING OUT WITH GOD'S BLESSING



CCLI Song # 7013163 James Montgomery | Sandra McCracken © Words: Public Domain Music: 2012, 2015 Integrity Worship Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) Paper News Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music)

† The Sending

Pastor: As we now go into the world:

All: May our eyes be fixed on Christ.

Pastor: When we struggle, fear, or fail:

All: May we cast ourselves on the cross of Christ.

Pastor: As we encounter neighbors and co-workers:

All: May we speak and show Christ, for His name's sake.

† The Blessing

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the

fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Christ is in our midst!

People: He is and ever shall be. Amen!

Deacon of the Day

Andy Warren-September 3

Pete Cansick-September 10

Herb Haertner– September 17

Save the Date

Friday, September 22, 5:30 pm – TCU RUF 25th Anniversary Party at Tim and Emily Bates'. Scan QR code for details and registration.





Saturday, Nov 18, 6 pm – Skye Peterson in Concert. Scan QR code for tickets

Information & Events

Visitors: Pick up visitor information at the visitor kiosk in the Fellowship Hall immediately following morning worship.

The School of Christian Theology will be held on Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Room 205, beginning September 6. All are invited to attend this 12-session series on Reformed Theology which is required for future officers. Classes are taught by Pastor Brandon Eggar and cover topics including the inerrancy of Scripture, the doctrine of God, providence, creation, and the person and work of Christ. RSVP at fortworthpca.org/adult.

Youth Intern: We are excited to welcome Katie Peterson as our youth intern this year. Katie has been a blessing to our youth as a volunteer over the summer, and we look forward to having her engaging personality and heart for our students join our staff and continue to impact our youth ministry. Please pray for her ministry to our female students, and please introduce yourself to her.



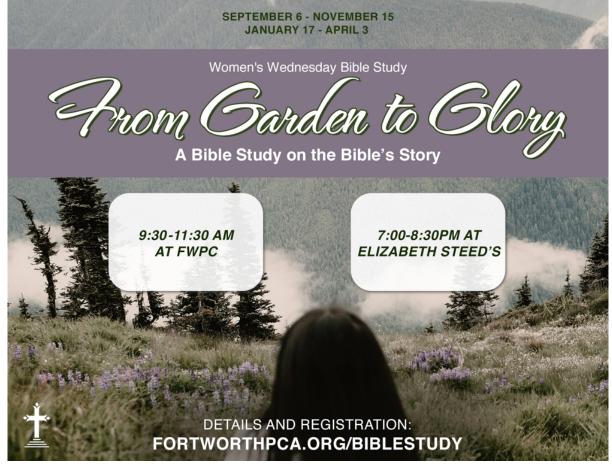
Christian Formation Classes

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

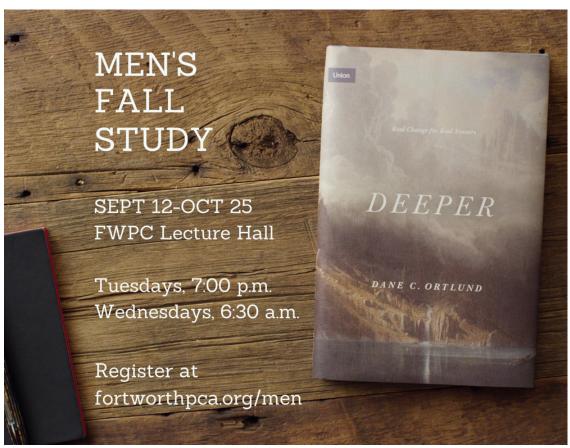
Galatians: What's the look on "God's face" when he thinks of you? How do grace and the law relate? Are you experiencing joy in your life as a Christian? These are just some of the issues the book of Galatians addresses, led by John Weiser in the Lecture Hall.

FWPC 201: Living Out the Christian Life- This class will explore what it means to grow in the Christian life through the ministries of FWPC, Scripture reading, prayer, and theological yet practical truths such as the Trinity and uniting with Christ. Discussions will be led by Pastor Brandon, elders, and ministry leaders in Room 201











Sundays, 9:00 am, Aug 20-Dec 17 – Christian Formation Classes High School - Room 204 | Middle School - Room 203

Wednesday, August 30, 7:00 pm – Youth Game Night Booher Home – 4912 Riverbend Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76109

Wednesdays, 7:00 pm, Sept 6-Nov 16 – The Fort Youth Group food, fun, large group lesson, small group discussion

Fri-Sat, October 20-21 – Roctober VIII at Camp Copass in Denton North Texas Presbytery's All-Youth Fall Retreat

Saturday, October 28 – Youth Halloween Party

Friday, December 15 - Youth Christmas Party

Details: fortworthpca.org/youth | Questions? thefort@fortworthpca.org | @ @thefort_fwpc

ROCTOBER VIII

CAMP COPASS - DENTON, TX | OCTOBER 20-21

What? North Texas Presbytery's Annual

All-Youth Fall Retreat (7-12 grades)

Who? Speaker Tree Triolo from

Westminster Presbyterian

in Bryan, TX

How much? \$95 includes one night's

lodging, three meals Saturday,

and a t-shirt

When? Register by Wednesday, October 4.

Scholarships are available. See Travis.



Financial Report

Fiscal year June 2022-May 2023

June – May	This Year	Last Year
General Fund Giving YTD	1,315,735	1,258,981
General Fund Expenses YTD	1,320,143	1,163,491
How we're doing YTD	-4,408	9 5, 490

Our Fiscal Year ended May 31. Last Fiscal Year, our giving was \$-4,408 less than our expenses. We experienced a 4.5% increase in giving last Fiscal Year that offset most of the increased budget. As of May 31, we have \$269,295 cash on hand after liabilities.

Part of your faithful giving supports Hispanic American Ministries through our denomination's work of Mission to North America.

- ❖ NEW! Mobile Giving: Text the amount you want to give to 817-934-6447. The first time will take you through the setup. After that, text the amount you would like to give.
- ❖ If you would like to give online, you can sign up for ACH/Credit/Debit giving from our home page fortworthpca.org.
- ❖ If you would like to contribute stocks or securities from a brokerage account, you can contact Steve Fults 817-731-3300 and he can give you the instructions for these types of gifts.
- ❖ If you would like to include FWPC in your estate planning, you can contact Steve Fults with any questions you may have.

Mailing Address: Fort Worth Presbyterian Church PO Box 16307 Fort Worth, TX 76162

Fort Worth Presbyterian Church

By God's grace and all for his glory, Fort Worth Presbyterian Church exists to gather for biblically saturated worship, grow together in the life of the gospel, and go out to bear witness to the reign of Christ in all things.

SESSION (ELDERS)

Brandon Eggar 615-605-5182
Steve Fults 817-773-8772
Scott Hames 817-313-1869
Jack Norris 817-821-0918
Scott Wade 817-368-667
David Welch 817-938-0833
Scott Zink 817-395-8376
Ben Dyess Elder Emeritus
John Weiser Elder Emeritus

For Pastoral Care Appointment: 817-731-3300 Prayer Requests: prayer@fortworthpca.org

DEACONS

Pete Cansick 610-451-9965
Herb Haertner 817-919-1045
Chris Jordan 817-271-0150
Don Judd 817-874-4205
Randy Shannon 817-807-5660
Daniel Sneed 817-343-1589
Dowell Stackpole817-223-1042
David Steed on sabbatical
Johnny Tassin 281-684-0053
Andy Warren 817-614-3243

SENIOR PASTOR
Brandon Eggar 817-731-3300 x0201
brandon@fortworthpca.org

MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTOR
Justin Pierce, DMA 817-731-3300 x0208
justin@fortworthpca.org

KIDS HOPE DIRECTOR Jill Davis 817-896-7113 jill@fortworthpca.org

MEN'S MINISTRY Chris Jordan 817-271-0150 cjordan@eavi.com

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
Kelly Calvert 817-832-6258
communications@fortworthpca.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Life Basiyaka 817-731-3300, x0201 life@fortworthpca.org DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS Steve Fults 817-731-3300 x0202 steve@fortworthpca.org

WOMEN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR
Jill Davis 817-896-7113
jill@fortworthpca.org

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR Rebecca York 214-681-2496 rebecca@fortworthpca.org

NURSERY COORDINATOR Neecia Eggar 210-542-1772 nursery@fortworthpca.org

YOUTH DIRECTOR
Travis Robnett 405-831-2831
travis@fortworthpca.org

YOUTH INTERN Katie Peterson 972-978-5255 katiepeterson200@gmail.com

Fort Worth Presbyterian Church
6251 Oakmont Trail, Fort Worth TX 76132
817-731-3300 | fwpca@fortworthpca.org
Monday-Friday | 8:00 AM-12:00 PM, 1:00-5:00 PM
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 16307, Fort Worth TX 76162
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