

**“Daddy.....  
There's Something I Don't Understand”**



After my parents divorced I lived with my Dad. I'm not sure why, but around that time we got really poor.....really fast. We moved around a lot. At best, we shared a one bedroom apartment. More often, it was a weekly rate hotel room or simply one room with a convertible sofa bed.

Funny.....It's only now that I know we were poor.

Anyway, sharing a room and a bed, we retired at the same time. Dad worked very hard. At bedtime he was ready for

a good night's sleep. Me.....not so much. Just about every night I prolonged the inevitable with the same routine: “Daddy.....There's something I don't understand.” And from there, we began a nightly conversation in the dark that always ended the same. I was satisfied and at peace and.....I was asleep.

These days I find that I have carried over that daily Q and A routine. Only now, I usually ask my questions in the morning and now I ask my questions of the Lord. My days often begin, “God.....There's something I don't understand.”

I'm never asleep after my conversations with the Lord.....but, I am satisfied and I am at peace.

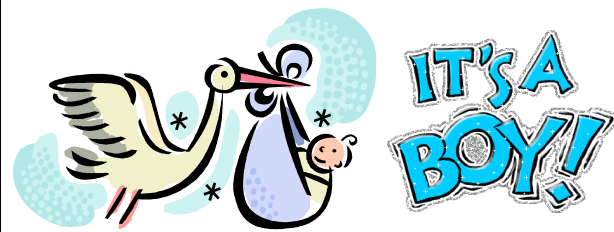
After nearly seven decades of declaring “I don't understand” - it finally dawned on me. Maybe.....just maybe.....I'm not supposed to understand! Maybe.....just maybe.....being a Christian is all about having something new to learn from God every day!

I feel truly sad and sorry for those good and honest folks who try to tell me God's will.....tell me what God means.....what God wants.....how God feels. On the off chance that they are right.....I guess that means they have nothing new to learn from God. How empty their days must be! I can't wait to wake up tomorrow and find out what new blessing of knowledge and understanding God has for me!

If you're old enough to remember (and I am) then you may remember the old radio program, “It Pays to Be Ignorant.”

These days, if you're a Christian, it not only pays.....it's a downright blessing!

**Grace and Peace.....Jim Barthell**



Congratulations to **Augusta Slagle** on the birth of her great grandson **Colton Bothe Slagle!** Colton was born on December 3, 2011 in Aurora, Colorado. He weighed 6 pounds and 10 ounces. He is welcomed by his parents Brad and Julie Slagle. Grandparents are Mark and Karen Slagle and Amy Freeh. Aunts are Heather Slagle Andricain and Allison Freeh. Great-grandparents are Augusta and the late Knox Slagle; the late Sid and Marjorie Nelson; Francis and the late Robert Botha; and the late William and Edna Freeh.



“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not arrogant or boastful or envious or rude.”

**You're Invited**

**to a Wedding Shower for  
Julie Postlethwaite  
in the parlor at FPC  
Saturday, February 11th  
at 1:30pm**

**Gift Selections are at:  
Walmart and Lemon Tree**

**Call Peggy Gilchrist (255-4026)  
for more information**

**Youth Food Harvest**



The **FEBRUARY** “Food or Item of the Month” is **CANNED SOUP**. Each month will have a new food or item. Please bring your donation to the church on the **third Sunday of each month** and the youth will collect it for the Christians Concerned Food Pantry.

**Volunteers Needed**

**Christians Concerned**, a United Way Agency, is in need of volunteers. If you are willing to give a few hours of your time once a week or once a month, there are a multitude of opportunities available and we're sure we can find one that would be perfect for YOU. If interested or for more information, please contact Christians Concerned at **252-9120**. “We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.”-Winston Churchill Would you be willing to give a few hours of your time to help others in your community? We would really appreciate it!

**Prayers of Comfort and Sympathy For:**

**Hofmann Family** (Bob's mother, Lavina, passed away January 9, 2012)

**Family of Marsha Cates** (she passed away January 17, 2012)



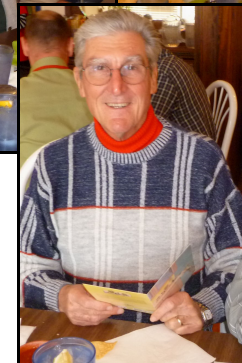
**Happy February Birthday!**

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2/01 Marlin Holtmyer | 2/21 Robin Caldwell  |
| 2/03 Robert Bentley  | 2/21 Jeanne Perkins  |
| 2/11 Lois Harris     | 2/22 Perri Presgrove |
| 2/12 Vicki Zimmerman | 2/23 Dale Pollock    |
| 2/18 Jack Frost      |                      |

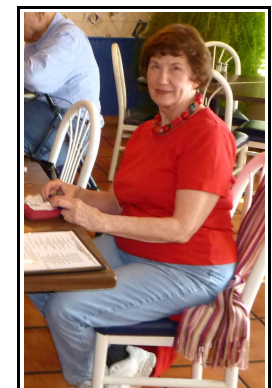
**A lunch honoring February Birthdays** will be held at **El Palacio at noon on Wednesday, February 15th. Everyone is welcome. Please call or email me your plans to attend** and I'll contact the restaurant with our reservation each month. Thank you, Sally.  
Telephone (580) 470-9933 or Email [salsroom@jimbarthell.com](mailto:salsroom@jimbarthell.com)



Happy Birthday to you,  
Happy Birthday to you  
And many more.....



**"January Lunch Photo's"**



**Notice the empty chair next to LaJuan?  
We're hoping you will join us in February  
We'd love to see you there :-)**

**Submitted by Sally Barthell**



“It is better to have loved and lost, than to have never loved at all.” Alfred Lord Tennyson





# First Presbyterian Church

## FEBRUARY 2012

**Sunday Regular Schedule**  
 9:15am Disciples Class  
 9:30am Sunday School Class  
 10:30am Fellowship  
 10:45am Worship Service

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			<b>1</b> 6:00pm Inside Ministry Committee Meeting 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Communion</b> 	<b>6</b> 5:30pm Diaconate Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>9</b> 1:30pm Circle II Meeting	<b>10</b> 10:00am Circle I Meeting	<b>11</b> 1:30pm Julie Postlethwaite's wedding shower
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:00pm Ushering Class	<b>14</b> 6:00pm Outside Ministry Committee Meeting  Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> Noon Birthday Lunch @ El Palacio 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Youth Food Harvest (Canned Soup) <i>Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:30pm Session Meeting	<b>22</b> 12:15pm Ash Wednesday Service 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Choir Practice <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	<b>23</b> FAW Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>		<b>"And the greatest of these is love"</b> 1 Cor. 13:13 	

**Ushers:** Peggy Gilchrist  
 Bennie Drake  
**Liturgist:** Gordon Demerson  
**Hospital Visitor:** Nancy Grantham  
**Presby Cab:** Charlotte Utley

### Committees Need Your Help!

The Session has re-assigned committee chairs and it is now time for you to choose the area of ministry that best suits your spiritual gifts. Here are brief descriptions of those committees.

#### Inside Ministry: Vicki Zimmerman & Lonnie Helms

This includes worship, Christian Education and Fellowship and Renewal. This means being responsible for the right worship of our Lord, education of the members of the church and the fun fellowship and recharging of the congregation. There is a lot of work to be done in this committee and they would welcome your participation in planning and execution recharging the congregational energy.

#### Outside Ministry: Lonnie McCain & Rosella McQuain

Mission and the vision of a mission minded church, evangelism and publicity are the functions of this committee. The intent of this committee is to re-examine the way we do mission and the function of the mission minded church. Evangelism will be studied and discussed to help build a strong program of evangelism. If you have a heart for mission and evangelism, please be a part of this committee.

#### Nuts and Bolts: Jerry Fleming & Joan Drake

This is the place for you if you like to keep things in order. The fabric of the church is constantly in need of repair and maintenance. Even if you are not adept at those jobs, perhaps you are a good planner and overseer. Stewardship also belongs in this committee. It is important to prepare a budget and inform the congregation of the importance of giving of their time and talents as well as their money. This is a big job and many hands make the work lighter. If you can work with your hands, heads and hearts, please join this important work of the church.

Choose a committee and please volunteer. You do not have to be asked...it is important for you to VOLUNTEER. Remember, it takes an entire congregation to do the work of the Lord.

*Submitted by Rosella McQuain, Clerk of Session*

Dear Friends,

Many, many thanks for the wonderful send-off you gave me. Delicious lunch, fun game and the wonderful gift all made for a memorable time. You have all made such an impact on me and my ministry, and I give you thanks for this too. You will always be part of my story as I have been formed, informed and reformed in ministry.

I am looking forward to following your progress, to seeing more from you as you grow spiritually and numerically.

Love and care for one another as you seek God's will for the congregation. It's all that easy and it's all that hard.

Grace and peace to you all,

*Tracy*



We have had a very nice response from our deacons and the congregation regarding ushers for this coming year.

The Session has given its approval for an ushering class. Since it has been a couple of years since we have had an ushering class, and since things change from time to time, this is a great opportunity! All deacons and all who signed up to usher during 2012 are asked to please attend. Anyone who has signed up as a substitute usher, or who wishes to sign up are also invited to attend. For any questions, please contact Leah Berning.

**Ushering Class will be Monday, February 13 at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall**

*Submitted by Leah Berning, Usher Committee Chair*

Dear wonderful congregation at FPC,

It has been such a joy and pleasure to work for you. I have enjoyed getting to know each of you and am so grateful for your kindness that you have extended to me. I have always told everyone how much I loved my job and that I was so lucky to have what I considered a "second church family". I will miss you all, but am hoping that if you're able, you'll be willing to come and volunteer at Christians Concerned. We could always use the extra help.



*Kassie*