



ADVENT

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 27th

8:30 AM

Traditional Worship

9:45 AM

A&O Sunday

Adult Sunday School

Early Childhood Sunday School

Elementary Sunday School

11:00 AM

Critter Land

Big City

Worship

Monday, November 28th

7:00 AM

Men's Prayer Breakfast

8:15 AM

Women's Bible Study -

Butterfield

8:30 AM

Affinity Group - Exercise

12:00 PM

Men's Bible Study

5:30 PM

Deacons

Women's Bible Study - Sicola

Tuesday, November 29th

8:30 AM

Affinity Group - Exercise

Prayer Group A

9:00 AM

Women's Bible Study -

McElreath

10:30 AM

Child Care Staff

12:00 PM

Men's Bible Study

3:00 PM

Affinity Group - Needlework

4:00 PM

NUFFs Steering

7:00 PM

Breast Health Clinic -

Wholeness Team

Wednesday, November 30th

8:30 AM

Affinity Group - Exercise

8:45 AM

Prayer Group B

9:30 AM

Community Bible Study

10:00 AM

Women's Bible Study -

We Are Family!

Orlando López Plants

Hispanic Fellowship at First Pres

Wanting to cross cultural barriers to bring the gospel to our community, Orlando López has been hired to start a Hispanic Fellowship at First Pres.

Even before coming on staff, Orlando has been a friend of First Pres for a couple of years now. While pastoring at a local church, Orlando was introduced to Murray Gossett. Orlando remembers, "We met for lunch one afternoon, probably at Subway, and it was the start of a friendship in ministry and in life."

In June of 2011, Orlando felt his time at his previous church was coming to a close. He started to pray about the next step. He confided in his friend Murray of his feelings and asked Murray to pray with him. The very next day, Orlando received a phone call from Howard Griffin asking if Orlando would meet with him. As Orlando spoke with Howard, he heard a heart that desired to reach the Hispanic community, a heart that wanted to build the kingdom of God. Howard began to speak with Orlando about starting a Hispanic fellowship at First Pres. Once Orlando prayed about the decision and agreed to come on board, every step seemed to fall into place. "I saw God in every step; it couldn't have happened any other way."

As for the plans to start the fellowship meetings, Orlando would like to strictly connect and build relationships with members at First Pres over the next couple of months. Right now, the target date to begin fellowship meetings is Sunday, March 18th, right after Spring Break. The details of what that service will look like are still being planned, but prayer meetings and home bible studies are included at the top of the list. The contemporary service will be bi-lingual - spoken half in English and half in Spanish. His vision for the fellowship is:

- A warm, welcoming church
- A multi-generational church
- A relationship-oriented church
- A reproducing church

Already taking the opportunity to reach out to hispanics in our community, Orlando has become the First Pres representative with Snack Pak 4 Kids. Snack Pak 4 Kids is a local organization that provides food to children who are not able to eat on the weekends because their parents cannot afford to buy food. Through monies from the Refurbishing Campaign, First Pres adopted "Snack Pak-ers" at Sunrise Elementary. Because of your giving, 64 kids will not have to worry about what they are going eat on the weekends. Here's what's inside a snack pak:

Harrison
12:00 PM
 Men's Bible Study
 Women's Advent Luncheon
5:30 PM
 Praise Kidz 1 & 2
6:00 PM
 Wednesday Night Meal
6:30 PM
 The Truth Project
6:45 PM
 Dave Ramsey Class
 Middle School A&O
7:00 PM
 Nursery
 Critter Land
 Big City
 MERGE
 12 Steps with Jesus
 Celebration of Discipline
 GAP
 Life Includes Death
 The Power of a Whisper
 RUN
8:00 PM
 High School A&O

Thursday, December 1st

8:30 AM
 Affinity Group - Exercise
10:30 AM
 Women's Bible Study - Wells
11:00 AM
 Women's Bible Study - Brooks
5:00 PM
 Outreach & Membership
 Development
 Women's Retreat Team
6:30 PM
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 2nd

8:30 AM
 Affinity Group - Exercise

Saturday, December 3rd

11:00 AM
 Angel Tree Christmas Party



If you haven't had the opportunity to hear Orlando preach, come hear his sermon, "We are Family", in worship this Sunday, November 27th.

Orlando was raised in Hereford and met his wife, Dena, at Bible School in San Antonio. They have three children: Angela (13), Gabriel (10), and Jonathan (7).

GAP Fall Retreat

Submitted by Candace and Amy Cofer



To be honest, when we decided to plan this weekend away, our initial motive was merely to escape to a more scenic environment. It turned out to be so much more. Kim Talley led our group in a study of Psalm 139. Maybe it was being surrounded by the beauty of the snow-laden trees and mountains, but the truth of "I am fearfully and wonderfully

made” never felt more real. Through the study of the Word, personality and spiritual assessments, sharing meals together, sitting around playing silly games, road trips (and some road trips that shall we say, humbled the men of our group), and even hiking adventures, we all learned more about each other and more about ourselves. We are amazed at how God brings such diverse gifts together into one group. Special thanks to the Chaloupka family and the McDonald family for sharing their cabins. Your generosity means more than you know!

Serving the Community

Submitted by Dick Doyle



The Deacons sponsored a ‘Free Garage Sale’ at Christian Life Center last month. The hope was that, in addition to supplying much needed merchandise (toys, shoes, coats, clothing for all ages, etc.) to the residents of the San Jacinto neighborhood, it would also be good exposure for the Christian Life Center (CLC). The Deacons asked our congregation to help by supplying us with merchandise. As usual, the response was overwhelming! We filled up storage units, trailers, and stacked up items wherever we could find a place.

On the Wednesday before the sale, First Pres member, Laird Kinnier, and a friend of his took everything to CLC - mountains of stuff! On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights, First Pres and CLC members worked very hard organizing, sorting and displaying everything. On Friday night, families involved in the Navigator-Neighbor program were invited to come and ‘pre-shop.’ Four of our Neighbors attended.



The sale was scheduled from 10:00 a.m. until noon. By 9:30, there were many people gathered in the parking lot, so we opened the doors. All of the toys, games and kitchen items went immediately. Infant and children’s clothes were also very popular. We had a storage trailer that had been delivered to CLC earlier that was completely full. Nothing had been taken out of it. At 10:45, we announced that shoppers could go outside to shop. By 11:30, everything was gone! It’s estimated that there were approximately 250 large yard bags filled with merchandise.

The Downtown Women's Center came and picked up all of the remaining items the following week - another 50 bags or so! Everything was put to good use.



Everyone has read the story of Christ feeding 5,000 people, starting with only five loaves and two fish. Not only did He feed everyone, but He had twelve baskets left over! The Free Garage Sale was much the same. It seemed that the merchandise was multiplying! No matter how much was taken out, there was an abundance to go around for everyone who came. And, when it was finished, there was much left over to be used elsewhere. Thank you for your contributions to this event!



ANNOUNCEMENTS



WORSHIP CELEBRATE!

A big thank you to everyone who made a pledge on Commitment Sunday. Partnering with you is what makes ministry happen at First Pres. If you were unable to participate by making a pledge, it's not too late! Pledge cards will be available in your Sunday bulletin or by contacting the business office (373-4242). Your generosity has been overwhelming. Thank you for giving!

POINSETTIAS TO DONATE

Christmas will be here soon! If you would like to donate one or more in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact Jean Edwards (350-5207). The suggested donation for each poinsettia is \$9.85. The last date to order poinsettias will be Monday, December 12th.

UPCOMING PREACHING SCHEDULE

November 20th
Christ the King Sunday
Habakkuk 2:1-3, 12-14
Andrew Adair

November 27th
First Sunday of Advent
Galatians 6:1-10
Orlando López

December 4th
Second Sunday of Advent
Matthew 1:1-6
Rev. Howard Griffin



GROW

LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT OF THE FALL SEMESTER

Wednesday, November 30th will be the last Wednesday Night of the fall semester for the meal, adult small groups, Kidz Choirs, Big City, Critter Land and nursery. Enjoy the holiday season! The spring semester will start on Wednesday, January 18th.

FREE BREAST HEALTH CLINIC

The First Pres Wholeness Team will offer a FREE breast health clinic featuring Dr. Rakhshanda Rahman on Tuesday, November 29th at 7:00 p.m. in room 304. Dr. Rahman from the Texas Tech School of Medicine will present the latest information on breast cancer prevention and the innovative projects in the Panhandle area. The evening of the program, appointments will be scheduled for free mammograms (for qualifying individuals). This opportunity is open to the community and both women and men are encouraged to attend. Come to learn about breast cancer prevention from this prestigious specialist.

NUFFS DECEMBER PROGRAM

Join NUFFs on December 8th for a visit to Christmas Past, fellowship and a wonderful meal. Special guest is Glori Roller, the "Little Match Girl." Coffee and fellowship begins at 10:00 a.m., followed by a business meeting at 10:30, and the program begins at 11:00. For lunch reservations, call the reservation line (373-4288) or Jean Edwards (350-5207).



CONNECT

A&O MEXICAN CHRISTMAS DINNER

Tickets are for sale for A&O's annual Mexican Dinner Fundraiser on Wednesday, December 7th, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.! Purchase tickets from any A&O student or at the fundraiser table in the Great Hall. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for kids and 2 years and under are free. The dinner will be in the Parlor and Great Hall. Proceeds from the dinner will fund scholarship money for the A&O ski and mission trips. For more information, contact Alana Mitchell (alanam@firstpres.com or 350-5209).

A&O SKI TRIP SIGN-UP

Sign-up for the A&O Ski Trips has begun and is available online at www.AandOyouth.com. A \$100 deposit is due with your sign-up. You can also find information on each trip and register online for the Middle School trip or the High School trip by clicking the link below.

[Middle school trip: December 27th-30th, 2011 - Winter Park, CO](#)

[High school trip: December 30th, 2011-January 3rd, 2012 - Jackson Hole, WY](#)



SERVE

ANGEL TREE CHRISTMAS

Members who chose an angel from the tree are reminded to bring your wrapped and ready-to-give gifts to the Great Hall or Anita Goodrum's office by the deadline, Monday, November 28th. We will have a Christmas party for the children and their caregivers from 11:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, December 3rd in the Parlor. We will enjoy food, fellowship and games, culminating with the giving of these gifts. Anyone who would like to attend the party is welcome.

ME DAY FOR MISSIONS

Parents, A&O is having a "Me Day for Missions" Parents Day Out on December 10th! You may finish your Christmas shopping or just have the day to yourself. Drop off your children from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Cost for the day is \$30 for one child, \$50 for two children and \$60 for three or more children. Send a lunch with your children and snacks will be provided. Please make your reservation by Wednesday, December 7th with Alana Mitchell (350-5209 or alanam@firstpres.com).

[Unsubscribe](#) from this list.

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