



The Grapevine

-a publication of the people of Fain Presbyterian Church
"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him,
he will bear much fruit." John 15:5 NIV

Rev. David Crawford, Pastor

February 2012

From the Pastor's Study

Winter: The Right Season to Prune God's Vineyard

Fain Presbyterian
Church

2201 Speedway
Wichita Falls, TX.
76308

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fpc76308@yahoo.com

Website:

www.fainpres.org

Sunday Services:

9:30 a.m.

Sunday School for
all Ages

10:15 a.m.

Sanctuary Choir
Rehearsal

10:30 a.m.

Fellowship

10:45 a.m.

Worship Service

Wednesday Night:

5:30 p.m.

Wednesday Night
Suppers

Followed by

Activities for children

And adults

7:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir

Thursday Night:

5:15 p.m. Bell Choir

We have a lot of dead plants in our yard. Our harsh summer killed some, and they just have to go. Some are old and only survive with lots of extra care and water. And some plants are pretty, but they are imports from other areas struggle in the high plains climate of Wichita Falls. And the St. Augustine grass combines all three problems and costs us hundreds of dollars a month in water. It's time for pruning!

So we are pruning, digging up, and removing lots of the vegetation in our yard. Our landscaping will look pretty rough until the new plants and rock garden come together in a new, sustainable, and fruitful North Texas-style garden. But we have to start with the pruning, or our yard will remain ratty, fragile and expensive.

We learned the importance of pruning first-hand in grape country. In vineyards, all the branches of every grapevine are cut back to the trunk every winter. The valley seems to be a giant graveyard, with grape plants pruned like wooden crosses as far as the eye can see. It is not a pretty sight! But without pruning, the vines produce no grapes. And worse, un-pruned vines carry disease and insects that infect all the fields around.

Jesus said, "[My Father] cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." (John 15:2)

God's plan for fruitful lives requires "pruning" our church and personal lives too. We prefer that our lives roll along, unchanged from season to season—

comfortable, but less fruitful. And maybe spreading unfruitfulness to others! What will the Holy Spirit lead you and me to cut back or remove so we can love our neighbors His way?

Isn't this just another round of New Year's Resolutions? Two things make pruning different from Resolutions. First, the goal is not self improvement, but making my energy, time and attention available to God, for His use rather than my glory. Second, pruning is about removing rather than adding. Resolutions usually mean doing *more*. Pruning is about not doing certain things, just a grape vines give up building strong branches so they can produce many berries—fruit. Grapes were not meant to be tall, strong trees, but to produce grapes each season from the one true vine—at great cost.

We did save most of the plants in our yard! Pruning is not total destruction! Our session is clear that we are building on a great foundation here in Fain Church. We will continue to pour our energy into loving God and loving each other! We may need to prune some of our "luxuries" so we can use our energy and time most effectively for outreach to our neighborhood, learning how to share our faith, and growing more "fruit." Pray for God to guide us as we seek His direction so we can fulfill His Great Commandments and the Great Commission in our time, in our neighborhood!



**" Happy
February
Birthday"**

- 5 - Missy Morris
- 6 - Allyn Arnold
- 12 - Eric Hennington
- 16 - Joe Gonzales
- 18 - Mary Duncan, James Schuppener
- 26 - John Adkins



Wednesday
Night
Supper

**FEBRUARY MENU
FOR FAIN CAFÉ**

February 1 - POTLUCK

Bring a salad, vegetable or dessert to share
(meat provided)

February 8 - Pot Roast with veggies, salad

**February 15 - Baked chicken, mashed
potatoes, green beans, salad**

**February 22 - Spaghetti & meat sauce
Garlic toast, salad**

**February 29 - Baked ham, sweet potato
casserole, green beans, salad**

**Deadline for the
March newsletter is
Monday, February 27!**



**"MISSION KIDS" SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 12, 2012**

**ITEMS NEEDED AT INTERFAITH
MINISTRIES:**

**Oatmeal, canned meat, grape
jelly, pasta, rice (small bags)
corn meal, sugar**

Soup (all kinds)

Peanut butter, cake mixes

**Canned tomatoes, mac &
cheese, dried beans**

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR THE
MONTH OF JANUARY 2012**

January 1	-	10:45 a.m.	-	43
January 8	-	10:45 a.m.	-	73
January 15	-	10:45 a.m.	-	74
January 22	-	10:45 a.m.	-	63
January 29	-	10:00 a.m.	-	76



Mary Engstrom has moved to Denton, Texas. Her new mailing address is: Good Samaritan Village #415-A, 2500 Hinkle Dr., Denton, Tx. 76201-0739



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT INTERFAITH MINISTRIES

Volunteering at Interfaith Ministries is an opportunity for action. The action is exciting, fulfilling, challenging, and joyful. Our doors are open for 8 sessions each week where volunteers see clients from many different walks of life with varied levels of need.

The dedication of our volunteers is the reason Interfaith is able to serve over 2000 families who come for assistance each year. Volunteers are needed for clerical duties; interview clients one on one, organize and distribute groceries; provide translating and/or interpreting services; or work with clients and pharmacies in the Rx Prescription Project. All of these positions require organizational skills, the ability to work well with others, and the desire to provide emotional and spiritual support to people in times of crisis.

If you are called to make a difference in people's lives and serve those in your community who are in need of assistance, contact Carol Chatterton at 322-1365.

Thanks to the congregation of Fain for the generous Christmas bonus. I am privileged to serve the church I grew up in and to share my talents with you. May God grant you a blessed New Year.



Carolyn

Thanks for your caring generosity regarding the Christmas bonus and for your daily support that allows me to do what I do for Fain Church.

Ray

Dear Fain Family,

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift you gave me. It was a day-brightener. I liked being part of this family.

God Bless you all,

Thanks again,

Diane Pelsue



BLANKETS AND TOOLS - THIS IS OUR TIME!

Have you ever heard "Are we there yet?" or "Is it over yet?" Well, we're not there yet (and never will be) and it's not over yet (and never will be). But God is there, and God is here, and we are here to come together to help people in devastating circumstances and extreme need all over the world. Although we personally cannot go to help the victims of tornadoes, earthquakes, floods, starvation and death, our money can of work for us through the beautiful people of Church World Service who do the work in the trenches. CHURCH WORLD SERVICE, those words mean so much - the Church helping the world and we are the Church, the Body of Christ!

Now is our time. BLANKETS AND TOOLS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5. This is our time to HELP SOMEBODY TODAY by generously donating cash or check payable to Fain Presbyterian church (blankets in the corner) for use by CWS. This offering will be taken on Sunday services February 5 and 12 or in bring it to the church office. These funds will be combined with funds from other churches to shop with discounts to purchase VOLUMES OF GOODS to help others in the moment or in the rehabilitation to come all over the world.

TAKE JOY IN HELPING SOMEBODY TODAY!

Betty Wagner, Outreach Committee

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

When you receive this, 2012 will be 1/12th over. Didn't we just celebrate our Savior's birth? It is almost time to begin our preparation for the contemplation of His death and resurrection. Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent are this month-February 22. As is our tradition at Fain, we will participate in One Great Hour of Sharing, an offering that makes real the love of Christ for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disasters, conflict or severe economic hardship. Fish banks will be available for daily contributions of change. They will be collected, along with other donations, on Palm Sunday and Easter.



FEBRUARY 2012

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1

5:30 p.m. Wednesday
night supper
Activities for children/Adults
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY, FEB. 2

5:15 p.m. Bell Choir

SATURDAY, FEB. 4

8:00 a.m. Dad's & Donuts
at Pioneer, Maplewood

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

COMMUNION

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Faith Mission
7:00 p.m. Kinship

MONDAY, FEB. 6

10:00 a.m. Men's Coffee
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl
Ministry
7:00 p.m. Cub Scout pack
meeting

TUESDAY, FEB. 7

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer
Group
6:00 p.m. Community
Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8

5:30 p.m. Wednesday
night supper
Activities for children/Adults
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY, FEB. 9

5:15 p.m. Bell Choir

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

MISSION KIDS

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship
7:00 p.m. Kinship

MONDAY, FEB. 13

10:00 a.m. Men's Coffee
10:00 a.m. Presbyterian
Women
7:00 p.m. Session

TUESDAY, FEB. 14

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer
Group
6:00 p.m. Faith Mission
6:00 p.m. Community
Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15

5:30 p.m. Wednesday
night supper
Activities for children/Adults
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY, FEB. 16

5:15 p.m. Bell Choir
**6:30 p.m. Valentine
Dinner**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship
7:00 p.m. Kinship

MONDAY, FEB. 20

10:00 a.m. Men's Coffee
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl
Ministry

TUESDAY, FEB. 21

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer
Group
6:00 p.m. Community
Men's Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Day Care Assoc.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22

5:30 p.m. Wednesday
night supper
Activities for children/Adults
6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday
Service
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY, FEB. 23

5:15 p.m. Bell Choir

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
10:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship
7:00 p.m. Kinship

MONDAY, FEB. 27

10:00 a.m. Men's Coffee
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl
Ministry

TUESDAY, FEB. 28

5:30 p.m. Christian
Education
6:00 p.m. Worship & Music
Outreach

TUESDAY, FEB. 28

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer
Group

TUESDAY, FEB. 28

5:30 p.m. Finance
6:00 p.m. Community
Men's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 29

5:30 p.m. Wednesday
night supper
Activities for children/Adults
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Valentine Celebration

6:30 p.m. Thursday, February 16

Ash Wednesday Service

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 22

NOTES FROM THE SESSION

The Fain Session met for its regular monthly meeting on January 9th.

Pastor's Report

Rev. Crawford announced there will be a new members class held on January 29th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the church. Anyone wishing to join Fain or find out more about the church is invited to attend. Dave also presented each Session member a calendar for the year 2012. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept this calendar.

Rev. Crawford's sermons through the month of February will be:

January 22 The Wisdom and Power of God: The Cross

January 29 The Wisdom of God: Revealed Through the Holy Spirit

February 5 Building God's Temple

February 12 The Perfect Pastor?

February 19 The Perfect Church Member?

February 26 The Standards of Judgment for "Used-to-Be's"

The statistical report is 114.

Finance Report: Charlotte Echols was re-elected to serve as Treasurer. She presented the finance committee report and the final budget. The budget was approved. The committee proposed that funds from Ryan Dillard's estate be used to support projects to help grow the church. They proposed that \$25,000 be set aside in 2012 to fund one or more proposals that show promise to attract visitors and new members or that are already successfully bringing families to Fain. Committees or congregation members may submit proposals to the clerk by March 30th for consideration. More information is available from the finance committee.

The committee also proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to everyone who made a pledge or financial commitment to Fain. The Session approved this proposal.

Congregational Care: A letter has been received from Cassidy Guice and Justin Keeter requesting the use of Fain Church for their wedding which is to be held on June 23rd. Permission was granted.

Christian Education: The Dad's and Donuts group is up and running. The next meeting will be February 4th at the Pioneer on Maplewood at 8:00 a.m.

Outreach: The committee has planned a Valentine's Dinner to be held on February 16th. More information will follow.

Building and Grounds: Research is still in progress concerning the damage to the roof during the winter and with the insurance company. The committee will investigate the appraisal and the insurance company.

Personnel Committee: Allyn Arnold was appointed to this committee. It was suggested to begin looking at the current staff's salaries.

Worship and Music: Friederike Wiedemann presented the contract written for MSU students wishing to apply for the Fain Music Scholarship. After a discussion it was decided that some changes needed to be included and that she will present the final contract to the session in February.

Nominating Committee: Lana Gates will chair the committee for this year.

Old Business: The sections in the church manual dealing with weddings at the church need to be revised.

Following caring and sharing, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Nancy Estes, clerk

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Fain Presbyterian Church congregational meeting was held on Sunday, January 8, 2012 following the morning worship service. Purpose of meeting: 1. Election of Elders to serve as the class of 2014, 2. review and change the terms of call of David Crawford, pastor. The meeting was called to order and opened with a prayer by moderator Rev. David Crawford at 12:00 p.m. Rev. Crawford explained there were several changes made to the *Book of Order* by the General Assembly. One of the changes concerns the determination of the number required to have a quorum at a congregational meeting. The number is now up to each congregation. The present formula for determining a quorum at Fain is 10% of the active membership present at the meeting. A motion was made to continue requiring 10% of the active membership present. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Crawford then introduced Janel Ponder-Smith, chairman of the nominating committee, to present the slate of nominees to the congregation. The nominees are Allyn Arnold, Stefan Davis, Nancy Estes, and Sandy Glawe. There were no nominations from the floor. Because the slate of officers came from a committee, only a second was needed. A motion was made and seconded that nominations cease. The motion carried. A motion was made and seconded to elect the slate of elders by acclamation.

The newly elected elders were presented to the congregation and were asked the Constitutional Questions to Officers by Rev. Crawford. Elder Stefan Davis was absent and will be installed at the next session meeting. All newly elected elders were previously ordained. Rev. Crawford offered a prayer following the ordination.

Changing of Terms of Call: Rev. Crawford introduced Charlotte Echols, treasurer. This year the changes pertained to pension, auto expenses, and medical plan. Dave requested an increase in continuing education and professional expenses, which amounted to \$400. A motion was made and seconded and carried.

You are cordially invited to. . . .

the Annual Valentine Celebration

Thursday, February 16, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Mixed greens with vinaigrette

Beef Bourguignon

Creamed potatoes

Sautéed baby carrots

Chocolate dessert buffet

(diabetic dessert selections available)

Valentine Medley

Performed by

The Mad Medics

\$15.00 per person

Reservations required by noon Tuesday, Feb. 14

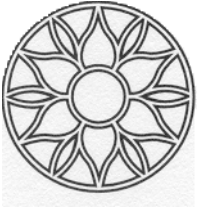
Nursery provided

Door prizes

Singles are encouraged to attend

Guests welcome

Proceeds benefit Fain Mission Projects



Fain Presbyterian Church
2201 Speedway Avenue
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The people of Fain Presbyterian Church seek to glorify God by leading people to Jesus Christ and membership in His family, by moving them towards Christ-like maturity and by equipping them for service in the church and in the world.

Worship & Sermon plans for February 2012

February 5	You Are a Building Block of God's Temple	<i>Communion</i>	1Corinthians 3
February 12	Perfect Fools for Christ!	<i>Contemporary</i>	1Corinthians 4
February 19	Perfect Church Members?		1Corinthians 5
February 22	<i>Ash Wednesday 6:30 worship service</i>		
February 26	<i>Lent 1: Perfect Judgment, Now and Later</i>	<i>Contemporary</i>	1Corinthians 6