

For the Suffering, Cheerful, and Sick
James 5:13-15

Welcome To Fifth Street Presbyterian Church

Our purpose for meeting together today is to meet with our Lord as a body of believers. We meet that we might hear Him speak in the reading and preaching of His Word. And, we meet to respond to His voice in our songs, prayers, and affirmations. In the ordinary worship of God we find extraordinary grace, encouragement and reason to hope. This corporate worship of God is the most important thing that happens upon the earth and we are delighted to have you with us as we approach the Father in Christ's name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This week at a glance:

Sunday	9:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M.	Sunday School Worship Service Evening Service
Tuesday	10:30 A.M. 7:00 P.M.	Ladies Bible Study Session Meets
Wednesday	7:00 A.M.	Reading Calvin

***Visitors:** We would appreciate a record of your visit, which you can provide by filling out one of the visitor's cards that you will find in the pew. Please place the card in the offering plate. Thank you!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember: the Women's Bible Study meets this Tuesday, at 10:30 a.m. at the church in the Olivet Sunday school classroom. Contact Hazel Hebert if you have questions."

Ladies, the evening Bible study will resume on Thursday, January 28th with a study of The Heidelberg Catechism. We meet at 7:15 at Scooters Coffee Shop 3979 TX-248 Spur/University across from UT Tyler. You can pick up a study guide from Caitlin Covey.

Several of you have asked about showers for Heather Marshall and Kristen -- two of our expectant mothers at Fifth Street!

Here are some specific ways to assist as they prepare for their little ones' arrivals. Kristen attends regularly with her young son Jaden and joins us for the Sunday evening service as well. Several of us thought it would be lovely to host a casual shower after the evening service on January 24th. Hazel and I are bringing cupcakes and ice cream for everyone to celebrate the arrival of her baby boy in February! There will be a table setup to place diapers and wipes and any other necessary baby items you wish to donate to Kristen. We hope you can join us on January 24th.

Heather Marshall has suggested that in lieu of a shower anyone wishing to assist their family could do so by giving wipes or size 2 or larger diapers. She also suggested boy-themed blankets, burp rags or towels as everything she has is obviously pink or purple! :)

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions, and thank you for praying for these dear ladies! Rebecca Wiesinger.

Please take a look at the literature rack in the narthex. We have added a number of new books, which along with the old ones, are provided for your use personally or as outreach literature.

Nominations for church officers will be open from January 31 until February 7. Nomination forms will be made available as the date draws closer but you are asked to begin prayerfully considering men who you believe should be considered for either the office of Deacon or Elder. Today we include parts of chapter 8 of our Book of Church Order to aid in your thinking about Ruling Elders.

1. This office is one of dignity and usefulness. The man who fills it has in Scripture different titles expressive of his various duties. As he has the oversight of the flock of Christ, he is termed Bishop or pastor. As it is his duty to be grave and prudent, an example to the flock, and to govern well in the house and Kingdom of Christ, he is termed presbyter or elder. As he expounds the Word, and by sound doctrine both exhorts and convinces the gainsayer, he is termed teacher. These titles do not indicate different grades of office, but all describe one and the same office.
2. He that fills this office should possess a competency of human learning and be blameless in life, sound in the faith and apt to teach. He should exhibit a sobriety and holiness of life becoming the Gospel. He should rule his own house well and should have a good report of them that are outside the Church.
3. It belongs to those in the office of elder, both severally and jointly, to watch diligently over the flock committed to his charge, that no corruption of doctrine or of morals enter therein. They must exercise government and discipline, and take oversight not only of the spiritual interests of the particular church, but also the Church generally when called thereunto. They should visit the people at their homes, especially the sick. They should instruct the ignorant, comfort the mourner, nourish and guard the children of the Church. They should set a worthy example to the flock entrusted to their care by their zeal to evangelize the unconverted and make disciples. All those duties which private Christians are bound to discharge by the law of love are especially incumbent upon them by divine vocation, and are to be discharged as official duties. They should pray with and for the people, being careful and diligent in seeking the fruit of the preached Word among the flock.
8. As there were in the Church under the law, elders of the people for the government thereof, so in the Gospel Church, Christ has furnished others besides ministers of the Word with gifts and commission to govern when called thereunto, who are called ruling elders.
9. Elders being of one class of office, ruling elders possess the same authority and eligibility to office in the courts of the Church as teaching elders. They should, moreover, cultivate zealously their own aptness to teach the Bible and should improve every opportunity of doing so.