



*First Presbyterian Church  
418 West Coolidge  
Borger, TX 79007  
~April 2009~*



**First Presbyterian Church**  
418 W. Coolidge  
Borger, TX 79007-4818  
Phone: (806)-274-5331  
Email - [firstpresborger@att.net](mailto:firstpresborger@att.net)  
Secretary Amanda Thompson

**Rev. Georgia King**  
56 Prestwick Lane  
Amarillo, TX 79124  
Cell # (806)-206-0296  
Work # (806)-212-5357  
Email - [Georgia.King@bsahs.org](mailto:Georgia.King@bsahs.org)  
[GeorgiaNKing@aol.com](mailto:GeorgiaNKing@aol.com)

**Organist and Music Director- Pat Petty**



*Easter  
Greeting*

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**FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE**  
**First Presbyterian Church Newsletter**

April

Borger, Texas

2009

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## PASTOR'S PEN

It's truly amazing what a girl will do for love.

This past weekend I was in Clio, South Carolina. My seminary study-mate, Sherrolyn, was getting married to her longtime love Paul. They were so cute (both 60+)! We had a very nice visit and an even nicer wedding as part of Sunday Worship.



The entire event was one of worship. My friend Sherrolyn and her new husband Paul were very pleased with all that occurred – especially the fact that we did a full worship service including communion and a wedding in one hour!

I think the most amazing part was that everything in worship seemed so connected – hymns, sermon, communion and marriage. God's covenant with us was so present and it was a most memorable and special time. This was true evidence of God's risen and constant presence with us.

I recently came across this little story and I think it ties it all together:

*Bobby and Jean lived next door to each other for ten years before they were married. Bobby's growing interest in high school biology had sparked a live caterpillar collection. Their home was a shoe box, covered with screen wire. When he went on vacation, Jean fed them faithfully with leaves from her willow tree. She hated it.*

*Finally the caterpillars stopped their incessant crawling and chewing, attached their tails firmly to a stick and lay still, sheathed with a shiny leather-like case. For weeks they seemed to be dead, unmoving in their tiny gray wrappings. Bobby removed the screen and waited.*

*One by one, the gray cases began to twist and turn violently and suddenly split open. A beautiful butterfly emerged. It stood for hours gently moving its wings, pumping fluids into them to extend them fully. Then the butterfly soared gracefully away on the breezes of summer, leaving nothing behind but a broken chrysalis to indicate its former bondage.*

The chrysalis and butterfly suggest the empty grave clothes of our risen Lord. When Peter and John heard the news that the Lord's body was gone from the garden tomb, they ran all the way from their lodging. Peter entered the tomb and "he saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen" (John 20:6-7, NIV). The grave clothes once wrapped continuously around the body now lay collapsed, mute testimony that the corpse they had once shrouded had now emerged in life.

The bondage of death is broken. Christ is risen! We can face tomorrow with the assurance that Jesus is in fact alive to help us, to guide us, to give us hope for the future. And since He is living, our problems are not insolvable. The broken chrysalis of His grave clothes proclaims that Christ is Victor even over death. Because He lives, nothing is impossible.

My Easter prayer for you all is that you will always know that Easter is every day; that the risen Christ is with us all.

Grace, peace, and God's blessings this Eastertide.



Georgia

## Care of Members and Friends

Please keep these members and friends in our prayers...

Scott Glenn

Bobbie & James Farrell  
Aleyene Watkins & Family

Pete Marsh

Leah Buckland & Family  
Rhodean Hopkins



Presbyterian Women's Circle met March 5th to continue the study of Luke's Gospel for the Poor. In this study of Luke, the Good Samaritan story and the story of the Samaritan leper's healing shows that no one is excluded from God's kingdom.

The Women's Circle is small in number, but large in its dedication to learning. The group's lesson is important, but the fellowship of friends who meet and share their concern for the church and its members, is important as well.

We also thank Amanda for the beautiful job she does with the bulletin board each month. The March board is spectacular.

Submitted by Bonnie Schropp

## Notes from the Music Department

Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia! The Lord Liveth!!! It is that time of our church year where we realize that Christ died on that cross at Calvary for our sins and for us. The choir is rehearsing for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We hope you enjoy what we have worked on!

Choir practice for April will be on the following nights: April 1 at 6:30 pm; April 8 at 6:30pm; April 15 at 6:30 pm (if there is no Session meeting that night); April 22 at 6:30 pm; and April 29 at 6:30 pm. It does not look like we will be able to have any bells for Easter. But maybe we can have bells for the last Sunday in May. We'll just have to see how things work out.

Closing Response for the month of April will be printed in the bulletin. The response for Palm Sunday will be in the hymnal. The response for the rest of the month will be just an excerpt from the hymn "Jesus Christ is Risen Today". As always, words will be in the bulletin thanks to Amanda.

I have made an executive decision regarding one of the anthems I was hoping to use for April. We are just not going to have enough people to perform this anthem well. So I have made a change, for the better I hope. We will still be performing "Up from the grave He arose" for Easter. We sang this year before last and received several good comments on it and had a request to perform it again. AND I actually remembered that someone had requested that we sing this anthem again. We are also working on an anthem we sang several years ago and will be performing this in May.

Don't get tired of us using a CD to perform with. We will be using the CD's for some of April and some of May. But we will make it sound just wonderful!!!

We hold Aleyene Watkins, Scott Glenn, Mary Botkin, and Jim & Bobbie Farrell in our prayers and thoughts. We pray for continued healing and peace as they move through life's journey. We also hold all past and present choir members in our hearts. We miss you all.

May the Good Lord watch between you and me while we are absent one from the other!

Pat Petty and Choir

## Palm Sunday Potluck

**We will be enjoying a potluck luncheon following worship Sunday, April 5th. Please bring a covered dish of your choice and join us for food and fellowship.**

