

*First Presbyterian Church
418 West Coolidge
Borger, Tx 79007
~October 2011~*

First Presbyterian Church
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Secretary- **Silvia Rivera**

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Santer

Organist and Music Director- Pat Petty



FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

October

Borger, Texas

2011

PASTOR'S PEN

October 2011

Last week the Hartford Institute for Religion Research released it's report titled "A Decade of Change in American Congregations 2000-2010." Their findings were that overall it has been a tough decade for American congregations. Many churches are seeking to innovate while at the same time struggling with declines in weekly attendance and financial contributions. It also showed that while the mega church movement continues to grow it still only makes up one half of one percent of all American congregations. One quarter of American churches have under 50 in worship and just under one half have less than 100 in worship.

While we feel like a small congregation, the truth is we are a typical congregation these days. In the last few months I have come to understand even more the draw of smaller congregations. I have spent my entire ministry in small churches, so when we moved to Amarillo we decided to attend a larger congregation. For one thing, we thought the kids would enjoy having a church with more children and youth programs. The kids did enjoy the programs, but after a few months they began to telling us the church was too big. They missed attending a small church. Although they didn't put it into these words, what the kids were missing was the multi-generational community that a small church provides. They missed knowing everyone and being known by everyone.

Community is a strength of this congregation. It is a precious gift we have to offer one another and the stranger who comes into our doors. There are some who want the high energy worship experience of a larger congregation and thankfully there are congregations who can meet those needs. However, there are plenty of people in our area who are simply seeking a community in which they can belong and learn about God. Our size is not a hindrance to our ministry, but a strength to build on. Take some time this month and consider how we can build on this gift of community.

See you in worship,

Pastor Jennifer

Session Actions

First Presbyterian Church Borger, Texas
Stated Meeting of the Session
August 21, 2011

Agenda:

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by Rev. Jennifer Santer, Pastor and Moderator. Elders present were: Hazel Howard, Pat Petty, Phyllis Harmony, Jerry Pool, and Julia Kasch. Treasurer Pam Nicholas was also present. Elder Hebermehl was absent.

The preceding church service constituted the devotional.

Clerk's Report:

The minutes of the previous Stated Meeting and called meeting of the Session were approved as printed.(Petty, Harmony)

Communication from Care Net will be discussed as new business.

Treasurer's Report:

Was presented by Pam Nicholas who led the discussion.

Attorneys Dixon and Snow sent a check for \$1,800.00 as tax rebate from the Sue Sharp estate. This was deposited in the Borger Federal Credit Union as unrestricted funds.(Pool, Petty) The Pentecost Offering will be deposited as in previous years with 20% kept by congregation and the remainder sent to Presbytery for children at risk. Hutchinson County Crisis Center will receive the local contribution.

Pastor's Report:

Rev. Santer reported that she had taken Communion to Pat and Alice Harvey.

Her visits included two to Hal Hebermehl and three to Leah Buckland. C.J. Nelson accompanied her when giving Communion to the Harveys.

The church budget process needs to be started, a project of Elder Hebermehl.

The pastor will talk to AT&T and ask that the company check the activity on the three lines which we currently have.

Projects considered for Helping Hands include helping with their newsletter, birthday boxes and plans to help assemble Christmas gift bags.

Copies of the new Book of Order are available.

Until the new year the congregation will alternate monthly between traditional Communion and Intinction. (Kasch, Petty). Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Worship: The session voted to meet on the Third Thursday each month at 12:15 p.m. Treasurer Nicholas will be available by telephone.

Letter from the Care Net Organization was distributed and discussed and action will be taken after members have had time to review the requests. Letter attached. Communion will be changed to October 2, 2011 to correspond with World Wide Communion Sunday.

Property:

The signs from Message Makers should be finished this week. Nick will be on hand to help unload the new sign (300lbs) when it arrives.

Stewardship:

Session will assist Elder Hebermehl in preparation of the budget with needs from their particular committees. Pat Petty, Jerry Pool and Julia A. Kasch will be the signatories for the Edward Jones stock account owned by First Presbyterian Church.(Howard, Harmony).

Fellowship:

Rev.Santer will be welcomed officially with a party in October.

Christian Education:

Elder Howard has ordered the Peacemaking Envelopes.

Old Business:

Representatives from the Amarillo Area Foundation will be invited to speak to the elders and the congregation in October.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Submitted: Julia Ann Kasch, Acting Clerk of Session.

The first step in the acquisition of wisdom is silence, the second listening,
the third memory, the fourth practice, the fifth teaching others.

Solomon Ibn Gabriol

The Treasurer reported the following figures for August:

Total Income	\$ 4,694.39
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 7,133.36</u>
Total	\$ (2,438.97)

Year to Date

Total Income	\$101,611.59
Total Expenses	<u>\$107,489.36</u>
Total	\$ (5,877.77)



Care of Member and Friends

Malnor Arthur
Pat and Alice Harvey
Hal & Virginia Hebermehl



Special dates

- World Communion Sunday
October 2, 2011
- Columbus Day Observance
October 10, 2011
- Reformation Sunday
October 30, 2011
- Reformation Day
October 31, 2011

DUTY ELDER FOR OCTOBER

JULIA KASCH

SESSION MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2011



P.W. NEWS



P.W. will be meeting on Thursday, October 6th at 10 a.m. in the Coffee Room.

Our Bible Study will cover "The Beatitudes " we will be studying lesson # 2 "Greatly Honored Are the Mourners"

Come join us for fellowship and study.

Don't be overcome by evil, overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

**5th: Pat Petty
17th: Pat Harvey
27th: Bob Kasch
30th: Liz Williams**



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

**30th: Lee & Liz Williams
31st: Larry & C.J. Nelson**

***A wise man learns by the mistakes of others,
a fool by his own.
Latin Proverb***



CHURCH NEWS:



We will begin to collect our Peacemaking Offering on October 2, 2011.



Leah Jeanne Caulkin Buckland

September 12, 1924 - September 1, 2011

Leah Jeanne (Caulkins) Buckland, 86, of Borger, passed away peacefully in her sleep on the evening of Thursday, September 1, 2011. She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 50 years, Ted Buckland, her exceptional daughter, Katie Irene, and her great granddaughter, Lily. She is survived by her children, Teddy Buckland of Stinnett, Sandra Farr of Stinnett, and Linda Lanier of Phoenix, AZ; grandchildren Eric, Brittany, Mandy, Ben, Jamie, Ruth Ann, Robin, John, and Christina; great-grandchildren Jade, Lauren, Michelangelo, and Brody; her sister Rosie Stocker, one nephew, two great nieces, and one great great nephew, all of Parsons, KS.

Leah was born September 12, 1924 in Parsons, Kansas to Harold and Ruby Caulkins. She married Theodore Edward Buckland, Jr. (Ted), in 1952 after graduating with a BS Degree in Physical Education and a minor in English from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas. She taught P.E. at numerous high schools and junior colleges in Kansas, Missouri and Florida. After moving to Texas, she continued her career as an instructor, working at a variety of schools in the Panhandle, including Stephen F. Austin Junior High and Girlstown, U.S.A. In her mid-sixties, she returned to college at West Texas A & M University to expand her education.

Loyal in her faith, Leah was an active member in Borger's First Presbyterian Church. A leader in the church, she was elected on multiple occasions to serve as an Elder, worked as a teacher in both Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, and was highly devoted to her work in Women's Ministries on a local, regional and national level. Leah was a dedicated public servant and placed a high priority on involvement in causes like Girl Scouts of America, acting as both participant and leader over the years.

In life, Leah was known for her eternal optimism, unwavering loyalty, and quick wit. Never one to shy away from a challenge, she was a committed advocate for worthy causes. She will

be remembered as a woman of great strength and determination who had a fierce love for her family and friends...and a good crossword puzzle. She cherished time with her loved ones and worked hard to promote family ties. In her free time, she was an avid football fan,

particularly for her prized Pittsburg Gorillas. She loved to read, especially murder mysteries and poetry books, and had an adventurous spirit and loved to travel. She will be greatly missed but her memory will live on through the many lives she touched.

The viewing will be Friday afternoon, September 2nd, and Saturday morning at Minton-Chatwell Funeral Home, 314 South Hedgecoke, Borger, TX. Services will be held Saturday at 2:00 p.m., September 3rd, at First Presbyterian Church in Borger, 418 West Coolidge Street. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made to Texas Special Olympics, 203 Southwest 8th Avenue #14026, Amarillo, TX 79101 or www.sotx.org.



J. "Scott" Glenn

April 14, 1937 - September 20, 2011

Memorial services will be 2:00 p.m. Saturday, September 24, 2011 at the First Presbyterian Church with Reverend Doctor Jennifer Santer, Pastor officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Minton Chatwell Funeral Directors of Borger.

Scott was born April 14, 1937 in Payson, Arizona to James and Margretta Glenn, and had taught drama, speech, and english for the Phillips and Borger Independent School District. Scott was a resident of Borger since 1940, coming from Arizona, and a member of the First Presbyterian Church, where he was an Elder, and choir director. He loved high school plays, and was formerly involved with the Boomtown theater.

Scott is survived by a brother, John Glenn of Olney, Maryland, and a sister Joyce Hunt of San Jose, California.

He is preceded in death by his parents.





Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals Scripture Reference October 2011

October 2 (27th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19:1-14
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

October 9 (28th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

October 16 (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99:1-9
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

October 23 (30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

October 30 (31st Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)





Notes from the Music Department



October is here along with some cooler weather and moisture. We really needed the moisture. Also the leaves will be turning beautiful colors shortly. Fall is in the air!

Choir practice will be on the following nights: October 5, 12, 19, and 26. We begin around 6:30 pm and usually finish by 7:15 pm. We will be learning some new music and bring out some of our old music. We are also getting ready for Christmas all ready. Hope to have bells this year!!

The Opening Response for October will be “Holy, Holy” from our hymnal. We will probably sing a different verse each Sunday. The Closing Response will be “Pass It On” and will be a bulletin insert.

We send our sympathies to Scott Glenn’s family. Scott died Tuesday, September 20. He was the Choir Director for us for many years. His Dad was one of our former ministers. Scott was a good friend to many of us as well as his former students. Many called him “Sir” out of respect. He will be missed.

We continue to prayer for healing and strength for Alice Harvey and Hal Hebermehl. We keep the Leah Buckland family in our prayers after her death in September. We always hold all our members, past and present, in our thoughts and prayers.

May the Good Lord bless and keep you all as we travel this world together.



SMARTEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

A doctor, a lawyer, a little boy and a priest were out for a Sunday afternoon flight on a small private plane. Suddenly, the plane developed engine trouble. In spite of the best efforts of the pilot, the plane started to go down. Finally, the pilot grabbed a parachute, yelled to the passengers that they had better jump, and then he bailed out.

Unfortunately, there were only three parachutes remaining. The doctor grabbed one and said "I'm a doctor, I save lives, so I must live," and jumped out.

The lawyer then said, "I'm a lawyer and lawyers are the smartest people in the world. I deserve to live." He also grabbed a parachute and jumped.

The priest looked at the little boy and said, "My son, I've lived a long and full life. You are young and have your whole life ahead of you. Take the last parachute and live in peace."

The little boy handed the parachute back to the priest and said, "Not to worry, Father. The 'smartest man in the world' just took off with my back pack."

Always reforming



The Latin phrase *Ecclesia semper reformanda est* means "The church is always reforming"; implied is "And that's good!"

Ongoing change and growth are important for individuals, too, but for many of us, change is hard. Use this prayer poem to embrace positive change, safe in the arms of our unchanging God.

Cradle to grave –
How shall my life flow?
Always the same,
Never daring to grow? Since
GOD is the same, always faithful and near,
I'm free to move forward in spite of my fear. So...
Naming the Lord as my Power through strife, I
Go forth braving newness – in faith and in life!
–Heidi Mann