

First Presbyterian Church
418 W. Coolidge
Borger, Texas 79007
~November 2007~



CELEBRATING “ALL SAINTS DAY” AND WHY

On the first Sunday in November (11-04-07) we will come together remembering those whom God has sent to influence our lives, our faith, and our witness. They will be the prophets of old, our family deceased, and our elders of the church who have passed on to eternal life. This is the one Sunday (or day) of the church year when we lift up in spirit and faith those who have gone before us.

We will use a liturgy of candle-lighting and remembering. I invite you to bring all those who will find this meaningful to join us for this Celebration of Remembrance.

The Companion to the Book of Common Worship, edited by Peter C. Bower, © 2003, Office of Theology and Worship, Congregational Ministries Division of the PC(USA), explains it as follows: “All Saints’ Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the glorious company of the apostles . . . the noble fellowship of prophets . . . the white-robed army of martyrs (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God’s justice and peace in every nation.” “To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Heb. 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Heb. 12:1–2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God’s end in time. In this

context, it is appropriate for a congregation on All Saints' Day to commemorate the lives of those who died during the previous year."

Session Actions

The Stated Session meeting was held in the church Conference Room on September 26, 2007, beginning with prayer at 6:50 pm. The following were present and constituted a quorum: Moderator, the Rev. Georgia King and Elders Leah Buckland, Margaret Edgington, Phyllis Harmony, Harold Hebermehl, Pat Petty, and Jerry Pool. No Elders were absent. Treasurer Pam Nicholas also was present.

A motion was made and passed to the minutes for all Session meetings for the period March through August, 2007. Routine correspondence was reviewed.

Interest income from the certificate of deposit of \$2,466.12 will be deposited in the general fund of offset the Pastor housing allowance. This CD yields 5.06% (annual rate) over the past six months and was purchased with proceeds from the Manse sale (\$96,808). It was moved and passed to allocate a music purchase to the Memorial fund (\$100) and the remainder of about \$44 elsewhere at the discretion of the Treasurer. Lawn mowing will continue through October (\$50 per mowing). August Church Maintenance, which exceeded \$12,000, covered the extensive roof repairs and water damage to the rear Sanctuary wall. Essentially, all of these costs were covered by insurance. The August Treasurer's report was accepted.

Eric Garlington will paint 'Jack's Shack' for \$200. The church will provide the paint. Steps inside the West entry and those leading to the Social Room will be carpeted. The bid is \$1,200 and the work is scheduled to be done on October 8th. A motion by Elder Petty and seconded by Elder Edgington to pay for this work with funds from the Capital Improvement component of the Memorial Fund was passed.

The Memorial Fund committee is to consist of one Ruling Elder, two members from the Congregation, the Church Secretary, who will write thank you notes, and the Treasurer, who will handle bookkeeping. A motion was made and passed to accept this structure. Elder Petty volunteered to head this committee. She will report to the October session regarding which congregational members will participate.

The Adult Sunday School class study of Paul has begun. About a dozen people attend the first session. On October 21, both Rev. King and Pat Petty will be absent. We will not have a worship service that day, but we may arrange to attend another church as a group. If so, Dara will send out a general letter. With the

approaching Financial Commitment Sunday, Rev. King believes that we should address the general giving level of the congregation. She will have several sermons on the subject starting in October, continuing through Commitment Sunday (Nov. 11). Elder Buckland suggested that we ask Jim Farrell to give Minute for Mission talks and also to work with Elder Hebermehl on the annual Financial Campaign. A motion to that effect was made and passed. Rev. King noted the list of dates for choir practices, Wednesday potluck suppers and Session meeting included with the Elder notebook materials.

Duty Elders for the fourth quarter- October, Hal Hebermehl, November, Elder Harmony will contact a non-active Elder, December, Jerry Pool. In an effort to reduce demands on the active Elders, it was suggested that we change the term from 'Duty Elder' to 'Sunday Host' and invite other church members to participate in this activity.

Elder Buckland is making arrangements for the annual Praise Dinner. This is a Presbyterian Women's function, held the week before Thanksgiving.

Special services to be held during Christmas week were discussed briefly. We may have a Lessons and Carols service on Sunday the 23rd. and a Christmas Eve service on the 24th. If the latter is scheduled for the evening, then we should make arrangements to bring those who do not drive at night to the church. We will add Publisher software to the Secretary's computer. This will improve preparation of weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The Treasurer reported the following figures for September:

Total Income		\$12,458.99
Total Expenses		<u>\$ 8,095.89</u>
Total		\$4,363.10
Year to Date		
Total Income		\$94,388.76
Total Expenses		<u>\$98,828.38</u>
Total		\$ (4,439.62)



Care of Members and Friends

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

Scott Glenn
Bobbie Farrell



Bob & Aleyene Watkins
Robin Arthur

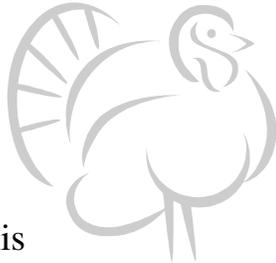
Pete Marsh

Memorial Committee Memorial Fund

Effective January 1, 2007, the Memorial Committee and Fund that had previously been established will no longer exist. This was the decision of the Session made on September 26, 2007. A new Memorial Committee will be established. There will be a follow up of guidelines and more information in the December newsletter.

Praise Dinner

Our annual Praise Dinner will be held on Wednesday Evening, November 14, at 6:00 p.m. This dinner will be prepared and catered by the Stinnett M.A.L. Café. Margaret Edgington will call our members for dessert for this occasion. A praise service will be presented by the Presbyterian Women of our church.



There will be no charge for this meal but a collection will be taken up for this praise offering.

A sign-up sheet will be available for this dinner at the volunteer's desk.

-Presbyterian Women

to worship every Sunday so you won't miss anything!!!

Choir practice will be held on the following Wednesday nights for November: November 7th and 28th only. There will be no choir practice Wednesday, November 14th or the 21st. November 14 is the annual Praise dinner the November 21 is the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We normally do not meet on that night. Please come join us anytime for practice and fellowship.

Closing Response for the month of November will be "Alleluia, Alleluia!". The words will be printed in the bulletin for the congregation to follow. We will use this response for all of November and change the closing response for December. We are working on a special anthem for November 11th, Veterans Day. The words will be printed in the bulletin for you to follow.

As always, a great big "Thank You" to our very devoted choir members for their dedication. We are indeed a very blessed congregation with this wonderful group of people. They keep me on my toes!

If you have a favorite anthem or any special music you would like to hear, we invite you to let us know. Also, if you would like to join the choir, we would love to have you! We can always use voices!

We keep Scott Glenn, Bobbie Farrell, and Bob and Aleyene Watkins in our prayers.

Thank You!

Pat Petty.

Notes from the Music

Department

Hello, everyone! The choir is working on music for Thanksgiving and beginning to work on a new anthem for the Christmas season. You will love this one! And, yes we are going to be using the hand-bells some. I am working on a closing response with some bells and 2 anthems with bells. Make sure you come



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