



*First Presbyterian Church
418 West Coolidge
Borger, Tx 79007
~July 2008~*

First Presbyterian Church
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FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
First Presbyterian Church Newsletter
July Borger, Texas 2008

Pastor's Pen
July 2008

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR OUR FREEDOMS

“It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.” George Washington, 1st U.S. President

“It is impossible to enslave mentally or socially a Bible-reading people.” “The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedoms.” (Attributed to Horace Greeley)

Do you think we would agree with these statements today? I pray that we would but I wonder how many of us that *we* would be. Around the world there are people and places where these words would be ridiculed and even cast aside by some as archaic and out of touch with today’s worldview. Yet we see the evidence every day that the words of our first President and Horace Greeley are still true. In fact I believe that we can look around and see that God’s Word is true.

We are a people who remain much the same as the Hebrews of the Old Testament. We turn to God when times are tough and we turn away from God when times are good. Often in the Hebrews hard-heartedness, only when life became unbearable did they repent and turn back to God. After confessing their sins, what was one of the first things the leaders would do? They read the Law to the people, sometimes for hours on end.

As we think into these statements, let’s think about where in the world do we see evidence of where God’s Word is not only discouraged, but against the law? In many cases, are they not mostly dictatorships place their people under extreme hardship? Would reading the Bible change the way their leaders treat the people? Perhaps, but the most interesting thing to me is how the Bibles teaches the people in these areas and nations to respond to the cruelty and neglect which comes from their leaders.

In China, official Christian churches are not allowed, but a home can be made suitable for services and worship. The people are so hungry for the Word of God that others risk their freedom and

sometimes their lives in order to provide Bibles to them. We have all heard stories of people who go in God's name as teachers to China because missionaries are not allowed entrance.

Christians in Romania would carry a small portion of the Bible hidden in their clothes until they memorized it and then pass it along to another person in exchange for their portion. They had to meet in the deep forests for their worship services for fear of being seen or caught. The punishments for just owning a Bible was very severe.

This reality for some seems so foreign to those of us who live in a country where you will find more than one Bible in most homes, sometimes dust-covered by neglect, sometimes battered by constant use. Which is yours?

Holy God, may we not only appreciate the many freedoms we enjoy but also remember those who have and continue to give their all so that others might have access to the peace and comfort in you Word.

Grace and peace in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Georgia



NO SESSION MEETING IN JUNE

The Treasurer reported the following figures for May:

Total Income	\$ 6,844.02
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 5,349.03</u>
Total	\$ 1,444.19

Year to Date

Total Income	\$39,737.41
Total Expenses	<u>\$36,133.44</u>
Total	\$3,603.97



Care of Members and Friends

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



Scott Glenn
Bobbie & James Farrell
Bob & Aleyene Watkins
Pete Marsh
Leah Buckland & Family

7:00 pm)
unless a
need
arises.

Closing
Response
for the
month of
June will
be
“Amen”
from our
hymnal.
The
words
will not
be printed
in the
bulletin
but the
page
number
will be
included
for the
congregat
ion to
follow
and sing
with us.
The
closing
response
for July
and
August
are also
in the
hymnal.
Hopefully
this will
make it
easier for
everyone
to follow.

I have
chosen
anthems
for June,
July, and
August
that are
familiar
to all of
us. Some
of them
will have
CD
accompan



COME HAVE FUN WITH US!!!

**Ice Cream Social
Wednesday July 16th at 7:00pm.**



Notes from the Women's Circle

Women's Circle had their last meeting before summer on May 1st and finished studying the book of Ruth. In September the Circle will begin a "Study of the Gospel of Luke". Hope you are having a great summer.

Bonnie Schropp

Notes from the Music Department

Grace and peace to everyone! Summer has arrived with hot temperatures and storms. The rain was wonderful but I for one could do without the turbulent storms.

There will be no Choir practice for the months of June, July, or August. We will, however, have one last practice on Wednesday, June 4, at 6:00 pm. We will not meet again until the first Wednesday in September (September 3, 2008, at

iment to help add a little extra to our small numbers. We have several of the choir members that will be in and out all summer. We can use a little added help! Most of the music I chose is something we have done in the past. The congregation is invited to sing along with us.

I can never say enough thanks to you, our congregation, for your appreciation of our hard work. We do indeed make beautiful music and I thank this very loyal group.

If you have a favorite anthem or any special music you would like to hear, we invite you to let us know. As I have stated above, I have chosen music in advance but I would be thrilled to make a change for anyone. Also, if you would like to join the choir, we would love to have you!

We hold Bob & Aleyene Watkins, Mary Botkin, Jim & Bobbie Farrell, and Scott Glenn in our prayers and hearts. We pray for healing and blessings for them all.

Thank You!
Pat Petty



Have A Great 4th of July!!!



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Closing Response for the month of June will be "Amen" from our hymnal. The words will not be printed in the bulletin but the page number will be included for the congregation to follow and sing with us. The closing response for July and August are also in the hymnal. Hopefully this will make it easier for everyone to follow.

I have chosen anthems for June, July, and August that are familiar to all of us. Some of them will have CD accompaniment to help add a little extra to our small numbers. We have several of the choir members that will be in and out all summer. We can use a little added help! Most of the music I chose is something we have done in the past. The congregation is invited to sing along with us.

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