

*First Presbyterian Church
418 West Coolidge
Borger, Tx 79007
~September 2010~*

First Presbyterian Church
418 W. Coolidge ~ Borger, Tx. 79007-4818
Phone: (806)-274-5331
Email: firstpresborger@att.net
Secretary- **Silvia Rivera**

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

Organist and Music Director- Pat Petty



FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
First Presbyterian Church Newsletter
September Borger, Texas 2010

PASTOR'S PEN
SEPTEMBER 2010

"The rainbow - God's illuminated promise" - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

It seems like every day or two we are having rainfall. Whether it is a real deluge or just a few sprinkles I have thought that this is probably being recorded as a really wet year. I looked up the weather almanac data for Hutchinson County online (www.weatherunderground.com) and discovered that it has not been a record rainfall year – so I guess my theory is blown. But it has certainly seemed like it to me. In fact there have been times when my back yard appeared to stay 'flooded' for several days at a time. It reminded me of the Noah story in scripture when the entire sinful earth was purged by water except for Noah and his family. When it was over, God called Noah, his family and all the animals from the ark and instructed them to be fruitful and multiply and fill the whole renewed earth. Then God placed a rainbow in the heavens as proof of His covenant with man not to destroy the earth by water again. It is also evidence of his love of man by God's promise of continued seed time and harvest. Noah looked upon the renewed earth, and considered God's graciousness to him and his family. He immediately responded by renewing his relationship with God by building an altar and presenting sacrifices of gratitude to his Savior.

As we leave the rainy season of summer and enter the dry, harvest time of fall, it is a good time for us to review all of the loving promises God has made to us in His Word and like Noah, to renew our relationship with our Savior through worship, study and sacrifice, and service. As we do this, we will be renewed in faith, knowledge, spiritual gifts and in holy living.

I pray that you will see a rainbow and be reminded of how much God loves you and provides for you. Ask yourself "What is it that I can do to honor God's loving promise to me?"

In His Holy Name,

Georgia

Preparation for worship

As we approach you, loving Lord, we ask that we may know your presence. May our time of worship strengthen our spirits and make us eager to serve you.

As we approach your throne of grace, dear Lord, help us remember that you discern our thoughts. Enable us to worship in ways that are pleasing to you.

Loving Creator, may our minds be turned toward you as we give thanks and praise together. You are our strength and joy, our Lord and our Guide. Be with us today and always.

We gather, Lord of all, to worship you today. Strengthen us so we may be your faithful servants all our lives.

Session Actions

Borger, Texas Called Session Meeting June 13, 2010

The purpose of the meeting was the Triennial Review between representatives of the Palo Duro Presbytery Committee on Ministry and the local church Session. Representing the Presbytery were Rev. Jim Wallace from St. Luke, Amarillo, and Elder Julie McDonald from the Canyon church. From the Borger church Session were the Moderator the Rev. Georgia King and Elders Phyllis Harmony, Harold Hebermehl, Hazel Howard, Julia Kasch, Pat Petty and Jerry Pool.

The meeting was opened at 2:05 pm with prayer by Elder McDonald. Since one aspect of the meeting was to listen to our concerns, Elder Pool initiated the discussion by reviewing the apparent lack of assistance by the COM during our last pastor search and questioned the level of recognition by the Presbytery toward the local churches.

The discussion moved to relative strengths and weaknesses of the congregation. Among the strengths are close knit, loyal and a high level of participation. Problem areas are dominantly age related, averaging around 80, physically deteriorating and a "one generational" church. The physical plant is well taken care of.

The discussion then moved to the area of how to make the church more inviting. This prompted a fairly long discussion about signage. Rev. Wallace pointed out that, had he not known where the building was located, he could not have gotten to our meeting. Our one and only sign (at that time) was covered with greenery. Although the "Presbyterian way" is not to have gaudy advertising, we should let passersby know when the Sunday worship occurs, which of our several doors lead to the church office and when those office hours are.

One other problem with our structure is that it is on several levels and, as such, is not handicap accessible. This will become an impediment with our aging congregation.

Elder McDonald ask the questions: What is your visceral response to "evangelism?" and How does one do mission as evangelism? The ensuing discussion was short.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm with prayer by Rev. Wallace.

Date Approved

Clerk

Moderator

Borger, Texas Stated Session Meeting June 20, 2010

The Stated Session meeting was held in the church Conference Room, beginning with prayer at 11:55 am. The following were present and constituted a quorum: Moderator, the Rev. Georgia King and Elders Phyllis Harmony, Harold Hebermehl, Julia Kasch, Pat Petty and Jerry Pool. Elder Hazel Howard was absent. Treasurer Pam Nicholas also was present.

CLERK: Minutes of the May 23, 2010 Stated Session were approved by a motion by Elder Petty and seconded by Elder Harmony.

TREASURER:

1. All monthly financial reports were approved as presented.
2. Treasurer Nicholas noted that 40 % of the Pentecost offering is to be given to a local charity. Elder Petty moved that this share be given to the Hutchinson County Crisis Center (HCCC), "children at risk." Seconded by Pam Nicholas. Motion passed.

PASTOR REPORT:

1. Elder Jerry Pool is the contact with the Farrell family, and he will relate information to Rev. King.
2. She has not heard from Mary Botkins lately.

3. We have received the congregational pictures. The two large ones will be for Nora Simms and for the church.
COMMITTEES:

WORSHIP:

1. Rev. King will be out the Sunday of July 4.
2. Communion is scheduled for July 18.

PROPERTY:

1. Regarding update of the Memorial Book, H&H Printing cannot print the names in the style we need. Margaret Edgington will contact a local artist to see if she will do the job.
2. Elder Pool is attempting to clean the discolored plastic protection on our stained glass windows. If this test is successful, he then will get a cost estimate to clean all windows.
3. We will need someone to adjust the A/C systems the last two Sundays in July.
4. Elder Pool noted that the Borger Chamber of Commerce recognized the church as the outstanding lawn of the month.

STEWARDSHIP: No report.

FELLOWSHIP:

1. No church wide events are scheduled currently.
2. At the next congregational luncheon, Rev. King will report on her upcoming trip to Belize.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Carroll Pace will teach the Adult class during Rev. King's trip to Belize.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Rev. King noted that there is a possible adult baptism. This would probably be a private rather than a public service (individual choice). She pointed out that such events are normally scheduled during regular church worship; however, the Book of Order does allow for private baptism with limitations.
2. The probable departure of Mrs. Garrison as our church secretary was discussed. She has obtained employment which at the time of our review was potentially, but not known to be, permanent. Our contract with the Madison Avenue temporary service has expired, so that would not be a factor if we were to make some temporary arrangement with her. Elder Petty will contact Mrs. Silvia Rivera, another Frank Phillips former employee and acquainted with both Julia and Pat. If employed, pay would be \$9 per hour and 15 hours per week. Elder Harmony made a motion, seconded by Elder Kasch, that we attempt to arrange for Mrs. Garrison to work part time in the evenings, and additionally, that Elder Petty will contact Mrs. Rivera for an interview. Motion passed.
3. A general discussion was held about signage and how to make the church more visible. No notable conclusions were drawn, but Elder Hebermehl suggested that the Elders drive around town and observe how other churches handle the problem.

There will no scheduled meeting of the Session in July.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Date Approved

Clerk

Moderator

The Treasurer reported the following figures for July:

Total Income	\$6,614.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$8,586.10</u>
Total	(\$1,972.10)

Year to Date	
Total Income	\$55,535.19
Total Expenses	<u>\$68,165.85</u>
Total	(\$12,630.66)



Care of Member and Friends

Scott Glenn
Bobbie & James Farrell
Malnor Arthur
Pat and Alice Harvey
Mary Botkin

Area One Elder Training

Sat: October 30, 2010
Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Place: First Presbyterian Church

DUTY ELDER FOR
SEPTEMBER
PAT PETTY

(FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER)

JULIA KASCH
(THE REST OF SEPTEMBER AND
THE FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER)

SESSION MEETING
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Office Closed
September 6th for Labor Day

Bless the students



Dear Lord Jesus, bless the children and youth of this nation, returning to their schools and colleges. May your Holy Spirit enlighten their minds, purify their vision and strengthen their wills. Protect them as they learn in the classroom and participate in activities outside it. May they learn to follow in your steps, just as you grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Amen.



New College Students this Fall:

KateyKasch: Frank Phillips College

Jode Mills: OPSU

September Birthdays

5th: Larry Nelson
12th: Leah Buckland
14th: Teddy Buckland
19th: Elizabeth Austin
24th: Jan Moore
30th: Julia Kasch

Anniversaries:

19th: Don & Sallie
Thompson
22nd: Pat & Alice Harvey

The Ice Cream Social



Ice Cream Social

September 15th at 6:30 p.m.

All are welcome to enjoy the ice cream, desserts, and fellowship.

Georgia will present a program on her trip to Belize.





September 2010 Lectionary Readings

September 5, 2010

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 18:1–11
Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18
Philemon 1–21

God calls Israel to repentance.
God knows us more fully than we know ourselves.
Paul commands Philemon to welcome Onesimus as a beloved brother.

Luke 14:25–33
Or
Deuteronomy 30:15–20
Psalm 1

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.
Moses urges the faithful to choose the way of life in the Lord.
Happy are those who find delight in the law of God.

September 12, 2010

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 4:11–12, 22–28
Psalm 14

All of creation will suffer for Israel's unfaithfulness.
Fools say in their hearts that there is no God.
Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ made evident in the life of Paul.
Jesus tells of the joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.

1 Timothy 1:12–17
Luke 15:1–10
Or

Exodus 32:7–14
Psalm 51:1–10

The Lord sees the golden calf made by the people.
Psalm of penitence, calling on God's steadfast love for forgiveness.

September 19, 2010

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1
Psalm 79:1–9

The Lord laments Israel's suffering.
Lament for the destruction of the Temple; cry for deliverance.
Faithful urged to pray for everyone, for God desires that all be saved.
You cannot serve two masters: wealth and God.

1 Timothy 2:1–7
Luke 16:1–13
Or

Amos 8:4–7
Psalm 113

Amos decries those who trample on the needy and bring ruin to the poor.
Call for all the faithful to praise the name of Lord.

September 26, 2010

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 32:1–3a, 6–15
Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16

Jeremiah buys a field from Hanamel.
The Lord will protect those who trust in God.
Our hope is the certainty of God, not the uncertainty of earthly riches.
Parable of a rich man and a poor man named Lazarus.

1 Timothy 6:6–19
Luke 16:19–31
Or

Amos 6:1a, 4–7
Psalm 146

Amos cries out against those who "lie on beds of ivory."
Happy are those whose help is in the Lord, creator of heaven and earth.





Notes from the Music Department



September all ready?? School has started for everyone and time to get back in the swing of things. AND the weather should start cooling off! I am not a fan of hot weather as most of you know. I like the cool weather!

Choir practice will start on September 1, 2010 at 6:30 pm. We will meet on September 1, 8, 22, and 29. There will be no practice on September 15 as that is the night for our annual Ice Cream Social. And, yes, I have a few new pieces of music to work on along with some good old stand by's.

We will be using a different Opening Response for September but I am not sure which one. We will also have a different Closing Response. Just watch the bulletin on Sundays to see what I have chosen and please join the choir in singing.

We always hold the following in our prayers: Aleyene Watkins, Scott Glenn, Mary Botkin, Jim & Bobbie Farrell, Pat & Alice Harvey, and Malnor Arthur. We are very thankful that Jim is back home and continues to heal (just not fast enough for him!). We hold all our members in our prayers and thoughts as we continue on our life's journey. We pray for God's healing strength as we face each daily challenge. .

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always. The Lord bless you and keep you. Amen!

Pat Petty and Choir

Special dates

• **Labor Day, September 6, 2010**

• **Patriot Day (remembrance of Sept. 11), September 11, 2010**

• **National Grandparents Day, September 12, 2010**

• **First Day of Autumn, September 23, 201**



P.W. NEWS



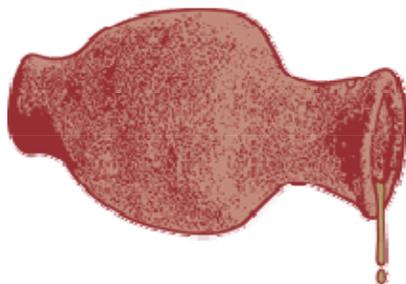
It's time to get out our PW Bible Study Booklets and get back into the study of this year's Revelations Study. We'll meet at 10:00 am Thursday, September 2, 2010, in the coffee room.

I'm looking forward to our new approach to this difficult book of the bible. The author of this bible study, Barbara Rossing, has schooling at Harvard and Yale universities, and is currently a pastor and professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

Needless to say, I'm glad to have a fresh look at this book of Revelations. Come join us even if you've never attended before. We would love to have you. See you Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the Coffee Room!

Lee Buckland

Christian Symbols +



Oil

In the Old Testament, oil symbolized consecration to God. The temple altar and king's heads were anointed with oil to set them apart as holy. In the New Testament, oil often represented the Holy Spirit. Jesus and his followers were anointed for their ministries (see Luke 4:18 and Acts 10:38).