

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

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FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

August

Borger, Texas

2011

PASTOR'S PEN

August 2011

Notes from the pulpit

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4: 6-7

A couple of years ago, my mother and I were going through some old letters written by my great-grandmother. We found one particular letter that touched my heart. It was the letter in which she had written my grandparents to let them that she had cancer. The strength of my great-grandmother came through those words written so long ago. She closed the letter with these Bible verses from Philippians. Her future was uncertain, but she believed that whatever happened God would be with her through it all. When I read this verse, all I could do was stare. This passage in Philippians has always been my favorite Bible verse. It was amazing to see how this Bible verse that has touched me so deeply, also touched my great-grandmother in a very special way.

How many times in church have we heard the saying that God's word is unchanging. Finding that letter reminded me that this saying is not just a platitude, but a truth. A truth that we can live by. As we live in these times of constant change and uncertainty what a joy it is to know that God and His word will not change. No matter what comes in this world God will be with us.

So in the coming weeks as we wait to see if the United States is going to default on its loans for the first time in history, if the stock market is going to tumble, if the wars in the Middle East are going to continue, and if the droughts in Texas and Africa are going to come to an end or worsen, we put our faith not in changing governments and weather cycles, but in the Lord. No matter what comes, good or bad, we can know that God will be with us to see it through.

If you, like me, sometimes get caught up in worrying about all that is going on, I hope these verses can be a reminder for you of the faithfulness of our God as they are so often for me.

Blessings,

Pastor Jennifer

P.S. I wrote this article from my new office, on my first Thursday at the church. I will be here every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., if you would like to stop by for a visit. Or if you would prefer, I'd be happy to meet you at your home or somewhere for a cup of coffee. Also, if you would like home communion or need anything else just let me know.

Session Actions

No Session in July; June and Called July Session Minutes will appear in September Newsletter.

The Treasurer reported the following figures for June:

Total Income	\$ 9,053.70
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 10,361.31</u>
Total	\$ (1,307.61)
Year to Date	
Total Income	\$83,773.60
Total Expenses	<u>\$85,859.10</u>
Total	\$ (2,085.50)



Care of Member and Friends

Scott Glenn
Malnor Arthur
Pat and Alice Harvey
Hal & Virginia Hebermehl

DUTY ELDER FOR AUGUST

HAL HEBERMEHL

SESSION MEETING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2011



"The LORD is
my shepherd,
I shall not want."
Psalm 23:1, NRSV



P.W. NEWS



PW NEWS

PW is taking a vacation until
September.
See you in September!
Lee Buckland

Our lives are often so chaotic, Lord, but like Elijah (1 Kings 19), we hear you best in silence. Help us be still and listen to you.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1st: Gary Voigt
8th: Kirstie Kasch
19th: Margaret Edgington
20th: John Gillespie
28th: Don Thompson



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

29th: Bob & Patti Kasch

SEEING A CHILD IN NEED

One afternoon a little boy was playing outdoors. He used his mother's broom as a horse and had a wonderful time until it was getting dark.

He left the broom on the back porch. His mother was cleaning up the kitchen when she realized that her broom was missing. She asked the little boy about the broom and he told her where it was.

She then asked him to please go get it. The little boy informed his mom that he was afraid of the dark and didn't want to go out to get the broom.

His mother smiled and said 'The Lord is out there too, don't be afraid'. The little boy opened the back door a little and said 'Lord if you're out there, hand me the broom'.



“God has given us two hands: one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing.”

—Billy Graham



Scott Glenn is recovering, please continue to pray for him. He is at Plum Creek in Amarillo, the address is 5601 Plum Creek Drive room number 227. The phone number for his room is (806) 356-4227.



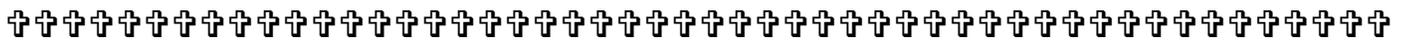
BSA Hospice is offering "Grief Education and Support Groups" for adults who have experienced the death of a family member, friend or loved one. The classes will be on Tuesdays beginning July 19 through August 23, 2011.

In Amarillo: BSA Den - 600 N. Tyler, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
In Pampa: BSA Hospice - 800 N. Sumner, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Support groups are free and open to the public as well as families served by BSA Hospice. It is recommended that participants wait 2 - 3 months after a death to attend.

They must have 10 participants for a group to be held. Telephone registration required by Thursday, July 14, 2011.

If interested call (806) 212-8028 or 1-800-315-6209.



Let go!

Much attention is being paid to the heavy backpacks kids now lug to school. My fifth-grader's backpack weighs nearly 20 pounds — more than one-quarter of her body weight!

This year I bought my kids backpacks with wheels to ease the muscle strain. Problem solved? Wrong. They continue lugging the packs on their backs, and I keep reminding them to put the packs down and roll them.

I don't understand it — or do I? We adults carry heavy burdens, too. They pile up and weigh us down. The cumulative weight can be crushing. But we don't have to carry our troubles. Jesus tells us to let him shoulder the load (see Matthew 11:28). Jesus already took away our biggest burden by dying on the cross. So we can truly "Let go ... and let God."

—Kari Myers



Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals Scripture Reference August 2011

August 7 (19th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

August 14 (20th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133:1-3
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28

August 21 (21st Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exodus 1:8-2:10
Psalm 124:1-8
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

August 28 (22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)





Notes from the Music Department



August looks like it will be hot just like July was. I think Don Thompson is right – we all need to pray for rain and for cooler weather!! It did work for the rain!!

No Choir practice for August. We will resume practice in September.

The Opening and Closing Response for August will be a surprise so watch the bulletin. You never know what I might come up with.

Thank you all for helping to make Jim Farrell's memorial service such a wonderful time for us to share. Mischa told me several times how much it meant to her and her siblings. And it was great to have our chancel filled with voices and singing!!

We keep Malnor Arthur, Scott Glenn, Alice Harvey, and Hal Hebermehl in our prayers as they all continue to deal with health issues. We pray for continued strength and healing for all those mentioned and for all our church family. We always hold all our members, past and present, in our thoughts and prayers.

The Lord bless you and keep you all as we travel this world.

Love and Grace - Pat Petty and Choir

Sink or swim?



People's stories about learning to swim often sound like this: "My dad tossed me into the water. I didn't have a choice — I flailed around until I found myself swimming!"

But an elderly Christian tells a variation of this story: "Wanting to teach me to swim, my father threw me off the dock into the lake. I sank." But then he goes on: "So my father jumped in with me."

The storyteller's wisdom shines in his application: "God doesn't toss us into life and leave us alone to sink or swim. By sending Jesus, God jumped right in with us to save us from death, hold us protectively and help us navigate life."

What are the pictures?

A young lad was visiting a church for the first time, checking all the announcements and posters along the walls.

When he came to a group of pictures of men in uniform, he asked a nearby usher, "Who are all those men in the pictures?"

The usher replied, "Why, those are our boys who died in the service".

Dumbfounded, the youngster asked, "Was that the morning service or the evening service?"