

*First Presbyterian Church
418 West Coolidge
Borger, Tx 79007
~February 2013~*

First Presbyterian Church
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Secretary- Silvia Rivera

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Santer

Organist and Music Director

Isaiah 25:8

He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The Lord has spoken.



FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

February

Borger, Texas

2013

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Friends,

As we prepare to move into the second month of 2013, we continue to face a variety of changes in our congregational life. This past Sunday, January 27th, we said good-bye to Pat Petty as our music director/organist. Pat has been a faithful servant of our congregation for 41 years. We are very sad to see her leave her position, but wish her well in her retirement. While she will no longer be at the organ, she has promised we will see her soon.

It has been a challenge to fill Pat's shoes. We have had no responses to our inquiries for a new music director. Two weeks ago, Marilyn Pearce stepped forward and has agreed to play the piano for us whenever she is available. I am very appreciative of her willingness to play for us. On weeks when Marilyn is not available we will use CD's and itunes for our music. Please bear with us as we try different music over the next few weeks. It will take some time to see what works the best.

Without a music director, the choir has decided to take time off for now. If we find a new music director or have a volunteer choir director step forward, I hope our choir will be leading us in song again soon. As the choir starts their hiatus, I want to say a great big thank you to all of the choir members. We have a wonderful choir for a small church. I thank you for your faithfulness to our music ministry.

Another change coming in our congregation is the installation of our new session members on February 3rd. This year we will be going forward with a four member session. Members are Phyllis Harmony, Sue Hooten, Hazel Howard, and Julia Kasch. All of these ladies are experienced session members and I know will lead the congregation well.

Since there are only four session members, I want to again make clear the role of the session. The Session is called to lead the congregation and ensure that our ministry goes forward decently and in order. However, session members are not required to do all the work of the church. Especially with only 4 session members, we will need everyone to pitch in and help to keep everything running smoothly. I know this will not be a problem, since I have witnessed many times how you have pulled together to make things happen. One immediate need the elders have is for a few more people to volunteer to open the church on Sundays for one month. The sign-up list is on the volunteer's desk. Even if you aren't able to do a whole month, perhaps you could find a friend to split it with?

Another transition that we have been experiencing is the changes in my terms of call to Sundays only. It has been strange in the last month to only see you on Sundays. Overall, I think the transition has gone smoothly. However, if you do have questions or concerns, please let me know. Even though, I don't see you as often I am always available by phone and email.

Finally, as we are experiencing transitions in the life of our church. In February we will be transitioning from the season of Epiphany to the season of Lent. Lent is a time when we prepare ourselves for Easter. In this season, may we take time to reflect on where we have been and prepare ourselves for what is to come by taking time for prayer, repentance, and self-examination.

Blessings,

Pastor Jennifer

**STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION OF
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MILLER FAMILY MEETING ROOM
BORGER, TEXAS**

DECEMBER 16, 2012

The members attending the meeting were Elders: Hooten, Edgington, Harmony, Petty, and Voigt. Also in attendance were Jennifer Santer(Moderator), Pam Nicholas (Treasurer) and Julia A. Kasch(Clerk of Session). The meeting was called to order at 11:46 a.m. by Pastor Jennifer Santer. The prior worship service served as the opening devotional.

The Clerk's Report

Minutes for October and November were accepted as printed(Elder Harmony, second Elder Petty)

Communications included an invitation from the Amarillo Area Foundation to attend the annual meeting on January 13, 2013. Clerk Kasch plans to attend.

Pastor's Report

Communion was served to the Gillispie family on November 29, 2012.

Malnor Arthur and Lori Shimizu were visited at BSA on November 13, 2012.

Malnor Arthur was also visited at Kindred Rehab on November 20 and 28, 2012.

The possible absence of church secretary Silvia Rivera was noted and approved for days in January 2013.

Committee Reports

Worship Committee: There have been no applications for the music vacancies at the church. Elder Petty will make additional calls this month.

Communion will be served on Christmas Eve and January 13, 2013.

Property Committee: June Voigt

Flooring contractor will view the seeping glue in the basement floor and make recommendations.

The cleaning staff will buy three new mop heads.

Administrative Committee: Phyllis Harmony

The pledges amount is \$66,680.00.

The stated supply contract for 2013 with Jennifer Santer was approved as \$18,000.00 from Pastors housing account and \$4,000.00 for mileage. If there is a surplus in the latter amount it will be refunded to the church. The housing allowance will be taken from the manse fund at the Groom bank.

(Motion Elder Petty, second Elder Voigt) motion passed.

Elder Petty moved that we accept the second reading of the budget as proposed (Elder Edgington second) and the motion passed.

Christian Education

Elder Hooten reported that the Joy Gift envelopes are in the pews.

Fellowship

Elder Edgington reported that the Thanksgiving meal had been successful.

The Annual Meeting will be a chili luncheon with members to bring chips cheese etc.

Elder Edgington suggested that we not mail the monthly newsletter to local persons and have the members pick up the Newsletter at the church. Out of town or those who cannot come to church will continue to receive the information by mail. The session accepted the suggestion.

Old Business

The nominating committee reported these persons to serve as Elders: Phyllis Harmony, Hazel Howard, Sue Hooten , and Julia Kasch. C. J. Nelson was the representative from the Congregation on the committee.

The Annual Meeting will be January 27, 2013.

Elders present signed the new duty roster. It is hoped that members from the congregation will help to fill in the vacancies on the calendar list.

The next Session meeting will be Sunday January 20, 2013.

Submitted: Julia Kasch

Lenten hope



Lent is an occasion for us to journey with Christ ... into tomorrow. For you never walk with Christ long but what the dawn breaks, the sun shines and hope breaks through.

—C. Neil Straight

The Treasurer reported the following figures for December:

Total Income	\$ 8,135.55
Total Expenses	\$ 9,295.33
Total	\$ (1,159.78)

Year to Date

Total Income	\$ 97,185.66
Total Expenses	\$ 125,470.36
Total	\$(28,284.70)



“He has a right to criticize who has a heart to help.”

—Abraham Lincoln



Care of Member and Friends

Malnor Arthur
Virginia Edmonds
Don Reno
Lori Shimizu
Toni Pool
Hal & Virginia Hebermehl
First Presbyterian Church
of Dumas, our prayer
partner.

DUTY ELDER FOR FEBRUARY

JULIA KASCH

SESSION MEETING

February 17, 2013

“All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn’t hurt.”

—Charles M. Schulz



P.W. NEWS



PW News

The next meeting of PW will be Thursday, February 7 at 10 a.m. The study "The Ties that Bind" is based on 1 Peter 3. We have found this series to be quite interesting and I repeat that all are welcome to join us.

Phyllis Harmony

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
Forever and ever in the next.

Amen.

An exciting eulogy

Some men were talking about death and dying when this question came up: “What would you want people to say about you at your funeral?”

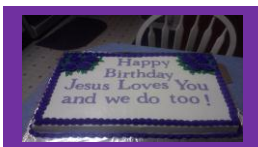
One replied, “I’d want people to say, ‘He was a great and compassionate humanitarian who cared about those in need.’”

A second said, “I’d want people to say, ‘He was a good father and husband, whose life was a fine example for others to follow.’”

A third answered, “I’d like them to say, ‘Look, he’s moving!’”

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2nd : Christine Nicholas
25th: Charis Santer



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

No Anniversaries this month

“He has a right to criticize who has a heart to help.”

—Abraham Lincoln

Tax Humor:

What do you call an accountant without a spreadsheet?

Lost

What is the definition of an accountant?

Someone who solves a problem, you didn't know you had, in a way you don't understand.

What's the definition of a good tax accountant?

Someone who has a loophole named after him.

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

IRS: We've got what it takes to take what you've got.

Announcements

CHURCH NEWS:



Session Connection:

Julia Kasch	Clerk Of Session
Margaret Edgington	Fellowship
Sue Hooten	Christian Education
Pat Petty	Worship/Liaison between Congregation, Session and Pastor
Phyllis Harmony	Stewardship/Administration



New Session will be installed on February 3rd and changes will be reflected in March Newsletter.



HI-PLAINS HELPING HANDS DONATION:

Items needed: **Food:** Crackers, Canned Fruit, Ramen Noodles, Tuna Helper, Cereal, Rice.
Non-Food Items: Laundry detergent, Bar Soap, Shampoo, Dishwashing Soap, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes.



Mission Opportunity

Do you have....

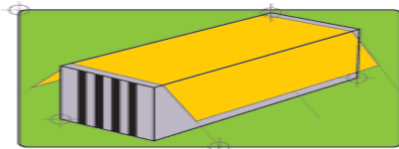
- tin cans
- plastic coffee cans
- milk jugs
- cereal boxes
- fabric
- yarn
- or other recyclables you are done with?



If you answered yes to the above question, then I have a mission opportunity for you. The Borger Satellite Workshop, which provides services and jobs for disabled adults in Hutchinson country, is in need of these items for art and craft projects for their clients. All you have to do is drop your recyclables off at the church. We will set up a box to collect these items near the Helping Hands basket behind the Volunteer's desk. Pastor Jennifer or Lori Shimizu will see that these items get over to the workshop. Thank you in advance for your help.



Bible Quiz



Who were the craftsmen appointed by the Lord to design the Tent of Meeting and its furnishings while Israel was still in the wilderness before entering the Promised Land?

- A. Moses and Joshua
- B. Bezalel and Oholiab
- C. Judah and Reuben
- D. David and Jonathan

Answer to quiz is after Music notes report

Special dates

- African-American History Month
- Boy Scout Sunday, *February 3, 2013*
- Transfiguration of Our Lord, *February 10, 2013*
- Ash Wednesday, *February 13, 2013*
- Valentine's Day, *February 14, 2013*
- First Sunday in Lent, *February 17, 2013*
- Presidents Day, *February 18, 2013*
- Second Sunday in Lent, *February 24, 2013*

"Teach us to love"

O God, perfect us in love,
That we may conquer all selfishness and hatred of others;
Fill our hearts with thy joy,
And shed abroad in them thy peace which passeth understanding;
That so those murmurings and disputings
To which we are too prone may be overcome.
Make us long-suffering and gentle,
And thus subdue our hastiness and angry tempers,
And grant that we may bring forth the blessed fruits of the Spirit,
To thy praise and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Rev. Henry Alford (1810-1871)



Notes from the Music



Department

This will be the last news from the Music Department for a while. It may be the last forever. We have not found a new choir director or an organist/pianist. Prospects do not look very good for finding one. We do, however, have a substitute pianist on a temporary basis. Marilyn Pearce has agreed to play hymns only on some Sundays. She will be in and out on Sundays as she goes to visit grandchildren quite frequently. We greatly appreciate her help.

There will be no choir practice as the choir has chosen, sadly, to disband for now. We hope to have special music from time to time and the choir hopes to sing on special occasions like Easter, Christmas, etc. If by any chance we find a choir director, the choir will begin to meet again on a regular basis. Again, prospects do not look likely that this will happen.

The Opening Response for February will be “There’s Something about that Name” and will be an insert to the bulletin. The Closing Response will still be “Grace, Love, and Fellowship” and will also be an insert to the bulletin.

I would like to thank all of you for the wonderful chili dinner and fast congregational meeting on January 27. The skit that the choir did was pretty close to how our Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings went. But I would not change anything about those wonderful times. We had one of the most loyal choirs that I have ever had the joy of working with. They were always up for a challenge and willing to learn new music. I will miss them. I may not be in church every Sunday as I need some time off to do family fun things and just take a break. But I will be with you all in spirit every Sunday as you gather for worship.

I am a firm believer that when God closes one door, he opens another. As we close the door for this part of our music program, let us be open to whatever God has in store for us. We may be small in numbers but we are still a very viable congregation. Let us continue our ministry in a new path with God’s guiding hand.

God be with you until we meet again.

Love and Grace - Pat Petty and Choir

Answer to Bible quiz: B (See Exodus 31:1-11.)

“Real true faith is [human] weakness leaning on God’s strength.”

—D.L. Moody



February 2013 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Year C

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany—February 3, 2013

Jeremiah 1:4–10

Psalm 71:1–6

1 Corinthians 13:1–13

Luke 4:21–30

Transfiguration of the Lord—February 10

Exodus 34:29–35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Luke 9:28–36 [37–43]

Ash Wednesday—February 13

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isaiah 58:1–12

Psalm 51:1–17

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

First Sunday in Lent—February 17

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16

Romans 10:8b–13

Luke 4:1–13

Second Sunday in Lent—February 24

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Luke 13:31–35 or Luke 9:28–36

