

*First Presbyterian Church
418 West Coolidge
Borger, Tx 79007
~March 2012~*

First Presbyterian Church
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Secretary- **Silvia Rivera**

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Santer

Organist and Music Director- Pat Petty



FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

March

Borger, Texas

2012

PASTOR'S PEN

March 2012

Ash Wednesday (February 22nd) marks the beginning of another Lenten season. It is easy to get excited about Christmas with pageants, candlelight services, the baby Jesus, presents, and wonderful times with family and friends. It is easy to get excited about Easter with a risen Savior, lilies, and spring right around the corner. However, it is much more difficult to get excited about celebrating Lent. What do we have to look forward to except for our Savior being killed, giving things up, and getting through the dreary days of winter. While we may not jump for joy that it's Lent, a Time Magazine article "Lent and the Science of Self-Denial" gives us some insights into the importance of the Lenten journey for our lives.

"Roy Baumeister, a psychologist at Florida State University and author of the straightforwardly titled book *Willpower*, has conducted experiments in which subjects were given uncomfortable tasks to perform in a lab, such as holding their hand in ice water or squeezing an exercise grip. They were then sent home and given a random rule to observe for two weeks — not swearing, say, or using the non-dominant hand for certain things like opening doors. After that period was over, they returned to the lab. Those subjects who had been assigned a rule and had followed it did better on their ice water or hand grip tasks when they tried them again than a control group that had been given no such homework."

Scientists aren't exactly sure what brain mechanism is triggered to make all this happen. However, what is now clear to scientists and has been clear to people of faith for a long time is that when we resist the lure of an indulgence it is a reminder of a commitment made. For some it is a reminder of a commitment made to themselves; for Christians it is a commitment made to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. So whatever you have decided to give up this Lenten season whether it is chocolate, swearing, or television, may it be a daily renewal of your commitment to be a disciple of Christ.

It's tempting to skip over the next 40 days and head right to Easter, but we would be missing out on something important not only to church, but to our spiritual growth as well.

Have a Blessed Lent,

Pastor Jennifer

Session Actions

Stated Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church January 19, 2012

Call to Order by Rev. Dr. Jennifer Santer

Devotional-Rev. Dr. Jennifer Santer. Rev. Santer welcomed newly installed Elders: June Voigt, Sue Hooten and Margaret Edgington.

Clerk's Report was given by Hal Hebermehl, retiring Clerk. Report is filed.

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as printed (Pool, Petty)
There were no communications.

Treasurer's Report was accepted as printed/presented (Petty, Harmony).

Pastor's Report indicated that she had telephoned the Gillespie family and was unable to visit as they were out of town, visited Alice Harvey in the nursing home, and had taken communion to the Harvey family. The pastor will plan to visit with Tom and Virginia Edmonds. An amount of \$202.99 will be taken from the memorial fund to cover the balance of the sound system that the Scott Glenn bequest didn't cover.
Accept the report (Petty, Hebermehl).

Committee Reports:

Worship-Session voted to continue the alternate month use of the intinction form of communion (Petty, Harmony)

Property- Housing CD (manse) located at Groom National State Bank=\$58,289.22. Session voted to remove the interest and \$18,000.00 to go toward the Pastor's housing allowance in 2012. (Hebermehl, Edgington) and that the name of Georgia King be removed from the account (an earlier letter had already made this request). Margaret Edgington, Jerry Pool and Julia Kasch will be signatories.

Sound System Proposal-The Session voted to accept the bid from AMS for the sound system for the choir area which will be funded by the bequest from Scott Glenn. (Harmony, Hooten).

Fence Proposal- The group requested Jerry Pool to get a bid on a higher fence with a concrete curb and metal posts. The minimum cost will be \$3,750.00. (Petty, Harmony)

Stewardship-budget is attached and will be filed- passed (Petty, Edgington)

Fellowship-Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday January 29,2012 following worship service. Meal will be furnished.

Christian Education- Envelopes will be available for special offerings.

New Business:

Session meeting time will remain the same for two months.(Thursday noon)

Elders signed the “duty roster” which designates Sunday responsibilities.

Elders will continue to assist the pastor with home Communion Services .

Contributions to the Presbyterian Foundation was discussed and tabled.

Session will meet on February 26, 2012 (Sunday after worship).

Old Business:

Annual reports are due January 22, 2012.

Annual meeting on January 29, 2012.

Discussion of the Amarillo Foundation for the new Elders.

Pat Petty will purchase new music not to exceed \$200.00 in cost.

Adjourn, Submitted Julia Ann Kasch, Clerk of Session

Date Approved

Clerk

Moderator

The Treasurer reported the following figures for January:

Total Income	\$15,467.45
Total Expenses	<u>\$15,132.21</u>
Total	\$ 335.24

Year to Date	
Total Income	\$15,467.45
Total Expenses	<u>\$15,132.21</u>
Total	\$ 335.24



Lord Jesus, as you lead us toward your cross and resurrection, help us set our sights not on human things but on divine things.



Care of Member and Friends

Malnor Arthur
Pat Harvey
Larry Nelson
Hal & Virginia Hebermehl

DUTY ELDER FOR MARCH

SUE HOOTEN

SESSION MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2012



P. W. NEWS



PW NEWS

Again it is almost time for the monthly meeting of P. W. We will be studying lesson 7 "Greatly Honored are the Peacemakers". We meet in the coffee room on the first Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. If you wish to participate, the lessons are individual, so missing the first 6 lessons is not a problem.

Some have asked about the Campbell soup labels. They are still being collected and we are not sure where to send them at this time but will find out and do this.

Phyllis Harmony

"He who cannot forgive others destroys the bridge over which he himself must pass."

George Herbert

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3rd : Sandy White

26th: Pat Hester



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

Spring fever

Four high school students afflicted with spring fever skipped their morning classes. After lunch, the boys told their teacher they'd had a flat tire.

Much to the boys' relief, the teacher smiled and said, "Well, you missed a test, so take seats apart from one another and take out a piece of paper."

Still smiling, she waited for them to sit down. Then she said, "First question: Which tire was flat?"

Bloom

A gardener planted two small shrubs side by side. During the dry summer, both plants struggled to get established. One developed black spots and lost most of its leaves. The gardener assumed the little plant wouldn't survive but was sure the healthy-looking shrub would bloom.

The following spring, to the gardener's great surprise, the stronger plant had not a single bloom but the weak, stricken shrub had produced a beautiful flower.

This is often true, as well, of people who've experienced great sorrow and loss. They know the Savior's love and comfort in ways that only those who suffer can know. And by God's grace, they share that love and comfort with others.

As Ugo Bassi said, "He who suffers most has most to give."



March 2012 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

2nd Sunday in Lent—March 4

Gen. 17:1–7, 15–16

Ps. 22:23–31

Rom. 4:13–25

Mark 8:31–38

3rd Sunday in Lent—March 11

Exod. 20:1–17

Ps. 19

1 Cor. 1:18–25

John 2:13–22

4th Sunday in Lent—March 18

Num. 21:4–9

Ps. 107:1–3, 17–22

Eph. 2:1–10

John 3:14–21

5th Sunday in Lent—March 25

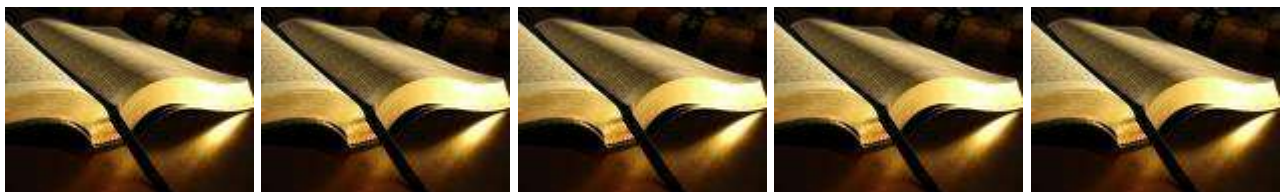
Jer. 31:31–34

Ps. 51:1–12 *or* Ps. 119:9–16

Heb. 5:5–10

John 12:20–33

Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) 1





Notes from the Music



Department

Choir practice for March will be: March 7, 14, 21, and 28. We will continue to work on new music for Easter and the coming months.

The Opening Response for March will be “Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place, Holy” which will be an insert to the bulletin. Closing Response will be “Alleluia, Alleluia” found on page 106 of our hymnal.

How do you like having bells in church? As much as we love it, we really need a few more ringers. Even if you cannot read music, we could use you. Please join us for practice on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. We will play on the first Sunday in March and for Palm Sunday in April. We welcome all the help we can get!

May the Good Lord bless and keep you.

Love and Grace - Pat Petty and Choir

Not 'OK' but 'forgiven'

Since Thomas Harris' popular self-help book *I'm OK, You're OK* was first published in 1967, the title has become a cliché, thanks to knock-offs and parodies. One is titled *I'm OK, You're Not So Hot*. Indeed, it's often in our nature to be more accepting of our own behavior than of others'.

Yet at other times we're too quick to dismiss a wrong done against us. When a wise Christian apologized to me for something she'd done, I immediately replied, "It's OK." But she responded, "No, it's *not* OK, but you can tell me I'm forgiven."

Lent reminds us that none of us is perfectly "OK" in our relationships with God and one another. But thanks to God's unconditional love, demonstrated through Jesus' willingness to suffer even death for us, we're indeed forgiven.

—Heidi Mann

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Several hands went up.

The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

Name _____

The Twelve Apostles During Christ's Mortal Life (see Luke 6:4-16)



Peter

Andrew

James

John

Philip

Bartholomew

Mathew

Thomas

James Alphaeus

Simon

Judas

Judas Iscariot