

*First Presbyterian Church
418 West Coolidge
Borger, Tx 79007
~November 2014~*

First Presbyterian Church
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Pianist: Marilyn Pearce



*"Oh, God, help us be grateful
for gifts you've sent our way.
For these we want to thank you
on this Thanksgiving day."
~Kris Ediger*

First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

November

Borger, Texas

2014

“When upon life’s billows you are tempest tossed, When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, Count your many blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done...”

So, amid the conflict whether great or small, Do not be disheartened, God is over all; Count your many blessings, angels will attend, Help and comfort give you to your journey’s end.” [“Count your blessings”, 1897, Oatman, Jr. and Excell]

It’s November already! The year is winding down, and the holidays are gearing up. This is a grand time to take stock of your year. What has happened in your life, in this church, in the world, since we last entered the holiday season? Good things? Bad things? Challenges encountered, and, with the help of others, overcome...or at least survived? What do the months ahead look like to you?

As we are about to enter a time of Thanksgiving, both as a nation and as God’s people, it is time to take stock of all we have to be thankful for. On Nov. 27 we will be urged by culture and media, to give thanks for overeating, family, football, endless shopping opportunities, and for a nation that provides for it all. And that’s a good place to start. But it is sadly lacking in depth. What if you cannot join with family this year, or if you are grieving or hurting and do not feel like celebrating? What if even providing a skimpy meal for your family is a stretch each day? Do you skip giving thanks this year?

In 1864, when the nation had already been engaged in a brutal and destructive war with itself for four long years, people were worn out, grieving, and fearful. It seemed that the war would soon be over, by now it seemed certain the North would prevail, but no one knew when that might occur, nor at what cost to either side. Yet President Lincoln issued a Proclamation to declare a day of national thanksgiving which reads, in part: “It has pleased Almighty God to prolong our national life another year, defending us He has largely augmented our free population by emancipation and by immigration, while He has opened to us new sources of wealth and has crowned the labor of our workingmen.... Moreover, He has been pleased to animate and inspire our minds and hearts with fortitude, courage, and resolution sufficient for the great trial of civil war into which we have been brought by our adherence as a nation to the cause of freedom and humanity, and to afford to us reasonable hopes of an ultimate and happy deliverance from all our dangers and afflictions....” This is no superficial giving of thanks.

“Thanksgiving” was never intended to be a day of shallow rites of food, family, sports and shopping (although some of those can be great additions to the day!). No, it is a season of taking stock in what is past and what is yet to come, and giving thanks for God’s grace-filled blessings in every moment of it. So this month, count those blessings, even the rarely noticed ones, and give thanks for them all!

With much gratitude for this church, Janell



Special dates

- All Saints’ Day, *November 1, 2014*
- Daylight-Saving Time ends, *November 2, 2014*
- Veterans Day, *November 11, 2014*
- Christ the King Sunday, *November 23, 2014*
- Thanksgiving, *November 27, 2014*
- First Sunday of Advent, *November 30, 2014*

Give thanks always

Full many a blessing wears the guise
of worry or of trouble;
Far-seeing is the soul, and wise,
who knows the mask is double.
But he who has the faith and strength
to thank his God for sorrow
Has found a joy without alloy
to gladden every morrow.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

The Treasurer reported the following figures for September:

Total Income	\$ 4,673.90
Total Expenses	\$ <u>6,229.89</u>
Total	\$ (1,555.99)

Year to Date

Total Income	\$ 55,639.77
Total Expenses	\$ <u>58,503.31</u>
Total	\$ (2,863.54)



Election year advice

In 1774, John Wesley, co-founder of the Methodist Church, offered this advice to people who'd be voting:

- Vote, without fee or reward, for the person you judge most worthy.
- Speak no evil of the person you vote against.
- Take care your spirits aren't sharpened against those who voted on the other side.



Care of Member and Friends

Malnor Arthur
Louise Gillespie
Teddy Buckland
First Presbyterian Church of
Dumas, our prayer partner.

DUTY ELDER FOR NOVEMBER

DON THOMPSON

SESSION MEETING

December 7, 2014



P.W. NEWS



P. W. News

P.W. will meet on November 6th in the coffee room, everyone is welcome to attend.

Phyllis



November Birthdays:

5th – Rosa Pace

**9th – Lee Williams
Gene Lusk**

12th - Shauna Lusk

16th – Jode Mills

28th – Carol Mills

November Anniversaries:

30th Lee and Liz Williams



Gratitude's gifts



Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff. To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God's accomplishments. To rehearse God's accomplishments is to discover his heart. To discover his heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver.

Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. It does to anxiety what the morning sun does to valley mist. It burns it up.

—Max Lucado, *You'll Get Through This*

Help Me Thanksgiving Day Prayer

O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take for granted.
Amen.

-Samuel F. Pugh



Session Connection:

Julia Kasch
Sue Hooten
Don Thompson
Margaret Edgington

Clerk Of Session/Administration/Christian Ed.
Fellowship
Property
Worship



HI-PLAINS HELPING HANDS DONATION:

Items needed: **Food:** Crackers, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Tuna Helper, Spaghetti, Cereal, Rice, Pinto Beans, Canned Meats, Peanut Butter, and Mixed Vegetable cans.

Non-Food Items: Laundry detergent, Bar Soap, Shampoo, Dishwashing Soap, Deodorant, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes.



Cover dish fellowship dinner following worship on November 16, 2014.

Sign-up sheet on Volunteer desk.



We need volunteers to help with the Advent candlight services.

The sign up sheet is on Volunteer desk.



The Cookie Sign-up sheet is on the volunteer desk for anyone interested in Bringing cookies for fellowship on Sunday mornings.

Many dates available.





Church office will be closed from November 7th- 13th, secretary on vacation.



Persevering faith

In the movie *Monumental*, Kirk Cameron describes what led the Pilgrims to leave England and Holland for America — as well as the conditions they faced along the way. While on the cramped, storm-tossed Mayflower, they signed the Mayflower Compact, attesting that they came “for the glory of God and advancements of the Christian faith.”

Within months in the new land, 47 of the original 121 Pilgrims had died. Only six or seven could walk and care for the others, and only four adult women were still alive for the first Thanksgiving. But the Pilgrims persevered, thanks to their faith in God and help from Native Americans.

William Bradford, governor of Plymouth Colony for 30 years, experienced hardship firsthand; his wife was one of the first to die during the journey. Yet Bradford’s tomb bears the bold message that “Jehovah is our help.”

+Christian Symbols+



Circle

The circle is a symbol for God, as well as for eternity, due to its lack of a beginning or an end. It also reminds us of how the church year (not unlike the secular calendar) flows from season to season and moves smoothly from Christ the King Sunday (the culmination of the liturgical calendar) to the First Sunday of Advent (a new beginning). Indeed, the One who rules all is the same One whose first and final comings we anticipate anew during Advent.

Thanksgiving Humor

What did the turkey say to the turkey hunter?
"Quack, quack, quack!"

Why can't a turkey go to Church?
Because they use such fowl language!

Why didn't the turkey eat dessert?
He was already stuffed!

What happened when the turkey go into a fight?
He got the stuffing knocked out of him!

What always comes at the end of thanksgiving?
The letter G!

Why did Johnny get such low grades after Thanksgiving?
Because everything is marked down after the holidays!

If the Pilgims were alive today what would they be most famous for?
Their age!



Mission Opportunity

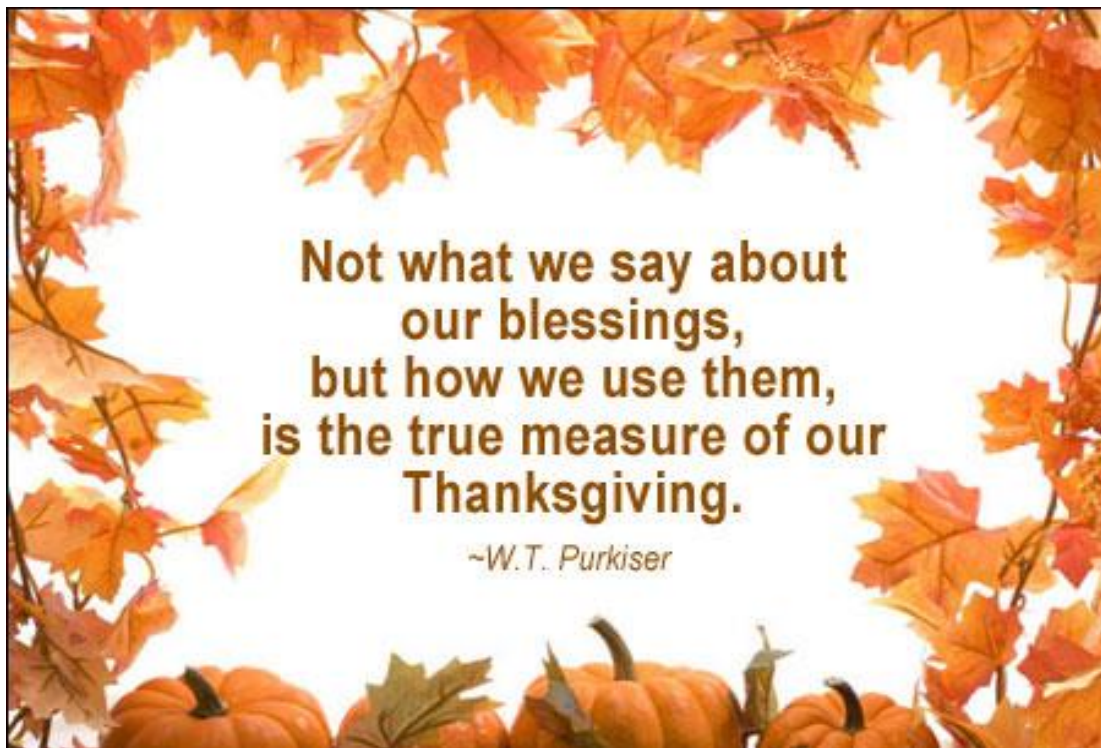
Do you have....

tin cans
plastic coffee cans
milk jugs
cereal boxes
fabric
yarn
or other recyclables?



Satellite workshop has a special request for aluminum pie, cake, etc. containers

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. Don and Sallie Thompson will see that these items get over to the workshop. Thank you in advance for your help.





**November 2014 Revised Common Lectionary for
Sundays and Festivals [Year A]**

All Saints' Day—November 1

Revelation 7:9–17

Psalm 34:1–10, 22

1 John 3:1–3

Matthew 5:1–12

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost—November 2

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (Proper 26)

Semicontinuous Complementary

Joshua 3:7–17 Micah 3:5–12

Psalm 107:1–7, 33–37 Psalm 43

1 Thessalonians 2:9–13 Matthew 23:1–12

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost—November 9

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Proper 27)

Semicontinuous Complementary

Joshua 24:1–3a, 14–25 Wisdom of Solomon 6:12–16 *or* Amos 5:18–24

Psalm 78:1–7 Wisdom of Solomon 6:17–20 *or* Psalm 70

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Matthew 25:1–13

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost—November 16

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Proper 28)

Semicontinuous Complementary

Judges 4:1–7 Zephaniah 1:7, 12–18

Psalm 123 Psalm 90:1–8 [9–11] 12

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Matthew 25:14–30

Reign of Christ / Christ the King—November 23

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

Psalm 100 *or* Psalm 95:1–7a

Ephesians 1:15–23

Matthew 25:31–46

Begin Year B

First Sunday of Advent—November 30

Isaiah 64:1–9

Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

Mark 13:24–37