

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

First Presbyterian Church
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Secretary- **Silvia Rivera**

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Santer

Organist and Music Director- Pat Petty



“‘I must do something’ always solves more problems than ‘Something must be done.’”
—Unknown

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE
First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

September

Borger, Texas

2012

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Friends,

The big black cloud over our house earlier this week did bless us with a few joyful drops of rain. However, it wasn't enough to put a dent into our drought conditions. Even though the rain this Spring brought hope of a reprieve, we find ourselves once again living with bright blue skies and water restrictions. Thinking about our drought conditions in the Texas Panhandle started me thinking about a different kind of drought; a spiritual drought.

What is a spiritual drought? It is a dryness in our spiritual relationship with God. It can take many forms. It could be a lack of interest in reading the Bible. It could be the lack of desire to pray or when you do pray just feeling like your prayers are hitting the ceiling. It could come in the struggle to get out of bed on Sunday morning to go to church. It might manifest itself in feeling that you have lost the joy of the Christian life that you used to experience. If you find yourself in a spiritual drought, know that you are not alone. At one time or another we all go through times of spiritual drought.

In times of physical drought we are told to conserve, conserve, conserve. However, in times of spiritual drought instead of conserving water we need to abundantly consume water - the water of life that is. In John 4 Jesus tells the Samaritan woman, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." During times of spiritual drought oftentimes the last thing we want to do is read our Bible and pray, but it is these nourishing words that will sustain us until joy in the Lord rains down upon us again.

There is no doubt that times of drought are difficult, but they do not last forever. The rain cloud over my house was a reminder that the physical drought will come to an end. Jesus' promise, "I am with you always, to the very end of the age" is a reminder that no matter how dry we feel God is always with us.

As we come into fall and the temperatures begin to cool down a little, may you find refreshment and renewal for body and soul.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jennifer

CALLED MEETING OF THE SESSION JUNE 10, 2012
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BORGER, TEXAS

Modified Agenda

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by the Moderator Rev. Jennifer Santer. Devotion-Rev. Santer led the group in prayer.

Attending: Elders, Pat Petty, Phyllis Harmony, June Voigt, Sue Hooten. Trustee Jerry Pool, Clerk of Session Julia A. Kasch and Rev. Jennifer Santer.

Clerks Report:

Elder Petty moved that the minutes of the last meeting be approved as printed, second by Elder Sue Hooten, motion passed.

Communications: Subscription to the magazine Outlook is expiring. Elder Pat Petty, second by Phyllis Harmony, moved that the subscription be discontinued. Motion passed.

The discussion of Rev. Santer's summer schedule will be postponed until June 28, at Called session meeting. Motion by Pat Petty, second Elder Phyllis Harmony motion passed.

Property Committee Report:

Trustee Jerry Pool presented bids from three companies(these are attached) concerning the condition of the carpet in the coffee room and entry hall and what is necessary to improve its current condition. Trustee Pool recommended that the church employ Advanced Flooring and Carpet Service to clean, and seal with Scotch Guard at a cost of approximately \$500.00.

Motion by Elder Petty, second by Elder Hooten, motion passed. Bids put on hold.

Cleaning Contract:

Elder June Voigt moved that the contract state that the Education Wing be cleaned once a month (second and third floors) at a total cost of \$100.00. The basement or first floor will be discussed at a later time. The large social room downstairs will be cleaned after every event held there. It is covered in a previous contract. Elder Petty seconded the motion and it passed.

Pulpit Supply:

During Rev. Santer's trip the pulpit will be filled by Nancy Ruff and David Hoy.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Submitted: Julia Ann Kasch, Clerk of Session

Session Actions

CALLED MEETING OF THE SESSION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BORGER, TEXAS JUNE 28, 2012

Call to order at 12:00 noon. Rev. Santer gave a brief devotional based on Galatians, and Philippians scripture.

Members attending: Pat Petty, Phyllis Harmony, Sue Hooten, Jennifer Santer. Guest: Trustee Jerry Pool and Clerk of Session Julia A. Kasch. A quorum was present.

Clerk's Report

There were no communications which needed action.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed. Motion by Elder Hooten, second by Elder Petty. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report was accepted as printed. Motion by Elder Petty, second Elder Harmony, motion passed.

Old Business

Pastor's summer schedule. The pastor will come to Borger one day per week as stated in her contract. Motion Elder Hooten, second Elder Harmony. Motion passed with Elder Petty opposed.

New Business:

Elder Hooten requested that the church again send birthday cards to members. Pastor Santer will check with the church secretary to begin this tradition.

July 15, 2012 will be the Ice Cream Social with Pizza being the entrée.

The next meeting of the Session will be August 19, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Submitted: Julia Ann Kasch, Clerk of Session

The Treasurer reported the following figures for July:

Total Income	\$ 7,924.65
Total Expenses	\$ <u>8,349.16</u>
Total	\$ (424.51)

Year to Date

Total Income	\$ 61,772.94
Total Expenses	\$ <u>79,907.78</u>
Total	\$(18,134.84)



If People talk negatively about you, live so that no one will believe them.

Author Unknown



Care of Member and Friends

Malnor Arthur
Pat Harvey
Virginia Edmonds
Don Reno
Hal & Virginia Hebermehl
Nora Sims
First Presbyterian Church
of Dumas, our prayer
partner.

DUTY ELDER FOR SEPTEMBER

ALL ELDERS

SESSION MEETING

September 16, 2012



P.W. NEWS



PW News

Because of Labor Day trips, the first lesson in our new series will be the first Thursday in October.

Phyllis Harmony

"September"



By all these lovely tokens
September days are here,
With summer's best of weather
And autumn's best of cheer.

—Helen Hunt Jackson

Special dates

- Labor Day, *September 3, 2012*
- National Grandparents Day, *September 9, 2012*
- Patriot Day, *September 11, 2012*
- First Day of Autumn, *September 22, 2012*

Bible Quiz



You never know when God might call you from your current circumstances to serve him in a new way. The Old Testament prophet Amos, who lived during the eighth century B.C., worked at two jobs before God called him to take his message to the land of Israel. What were Amos' prior occupations? Choose two answers.

- A. Caretaker of sycamore-fig trees
- B. Priest
- C. Vineyard owner
- D. Shepherd

Answers on last page of Newsletter.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

19th: Don and Sally Thompson

Education Insurance

Cultivate the habit of attention and try to gain opportunities to hear wise men and women talk. Indifference and inattention are the two most dangerous monsters that you ever meet. Interest and attention will insure to you an education.

—Robert A. Millikan



CHURCH NEWS:



Session Connection:

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



HI-PLAINS HELPING HANDS DONATION:

Items needed: **Food:** Canned Meats, Ramen Noodles, Tuna, Tuna Helper, Crackers.
Non-Food Items: Laundry detergent, Combs, Bar Soap, Shampoo, Dishwashing Soap.



Thank you for the kind words, calls, visits, and the card during my father-in-laws illness and passing away. It has been a hard year in the Rivera household, and I could not have made it through this year without wonderful Christian people like all of you at First Presbyterian Church. Thank you for your kindness patience, and understanding, Silvia.



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.





Notes from the Music



Department

It is that time of year again! Time to begin our regular choir schedule. Choir practice will begin on September 5, 2012 at our regular time 6:30p.m. We will also meet on September 12, 19, 26.

The Opening Response and Closing Response for September will be from our hymnal and listed in the bulletin. Thought this might be easier for everyone to have hymns and responses come from the hymnal and not an insert.

Glad to have all our choir members back from their summer travels. We will need all of you when we begin to learn just a few new anthems along with a few old ones. I have not ordered any new music and probably will not. I would like to use the resources we have. Just enough to keep the music interesting!

I have given my impending retirement date to the Session. I would like to retire effective January 31, 2013. I have served First Presbyterian Church for 41 years. It is time for me to retire and take a break. My thanks to all our current and past choir members for their dedication and love. It makes my job much easier to accomplish.

God be with you all until we meet again.

Love and Grace - Pat Petty and Choir

For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man who trusts in thee. Psalms 84: 10-12 RSV

Time to surrender

Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose Driven Life*, identifies Campus Crusade for Christ founder Bill Bright as a mentor early in his ministry. Warren once asked him, “Why did God use and bless your life so much?”

Bright replied: “When I was a young man, I made a contract with God. I literally wrote it out and signed my name at the bottom. It said, ‘From this day forward, I am a slave of Jesus Christ.’”

Warren wonders how many Christians have considered making such a written contract. “Even though we’ve surrendered to ministry, we sometimes still argue and struggle with God over his right to direct us,” he writes. “But Jesus calls us to his ministry, not one of our own choosing.”

He concludes, “It is always the right time to surrender – to God’s grace, love and wisdom.”

—Homiletics

Holy Cross Day

On September 14, many churches observe a festival variously called Exaltation of the Cross, Feast of the Glorious Cross, Triumph of the Cross or Holy Cross Day.

According to legend, St. Helena, mother of Roman Emperor Constantine, while on pilgrimage to Jerusalem in 326, discovered the actual cross on which Jesus had been crucified. Although portions were taken to Rome and Constantinople, part was kept at the discovery site.

By order of Helena and Constantine, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher was built and dedicated there on September 13, 335. The following day, the portion of what was called the True Cross was brought outside so worshipers could pray before it.

While Good Friday commemorates Jesus’ crucifixion, Holy Cross Day focuses on the cross itself as an instrument of cruel death, which God transformed into the means of eternal life.



September 2012 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

14th Sunday after Pentecost—September 2 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

S. of Sol. 2:8–13

Ps. 45:1–2, 6–9

James 1:17–27

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

15th Sunday after Pentecost—September 9 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prov. 22:1–2, 8–9, 22–23

Ps. 125

James 2:1–10 (11–13) 14–17

Mark 7:24–37

16th Sunday after Pentecost—September 16 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prov. 1:20–33

Ps. 19

James 3:1–12

Mark 8:27–38

17th Sunday after Pentecost—September 23 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prov. 31:10–31

Ps. 1

James 3:13–4:3, 7–8a

Mark 9:30–37

18th Sunday after Pentecost—September 30 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Esth. 7:1–6, 9–10; 9:20–22

Ps. 124

James 5:13–20

Mark 9:38–50

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



Answers to Bible Quiz: Answers: A and D (See Amos 7:14-15, NIV.)