



Presbyterian Women 2013 Christmas Joy Offering

This story could easily have been about a small and disappointing attendance at the luncheon. It could have been about the weather; about cold winds, ice storms and snow showers; a luncheon rescheduled and streets and walkways still covered with icy peril. It could have been about old age, illness, accidental falls, and physical incapacity. In this season of Advent I'll go another way.



Advent is a season of Hope. A moment spent in conversation with Jack Munn filled me with the spirit of Hope. He was weak. Now, he is stronger. He was incapacitated. Now, he is more able. In this season of Advent we have been given a living Light of Hope.

Advent is a season of Love. Listen to the beautiful and inspirational stories of Ann Robinson. We are so blessed to have her with us for occasions like the Joy Gift Offering. Her words, filled with Love, are like chocolates. The sweet taste still leaves me hungry for just one more. May the box never be empty. In this season of Advent we have been given a living Light of Love.



Advent is a season of Peace. I was struck by a unique quality in this picture of Charlie, Martha and Ruth. I can always count on Charlie for a great shot. In this picture he assumed a physical stance and posture, fully reminiscent of The Cross. I don't think he planned it that way – but it sure gave me a great closing thought.

Like Charlie's arms in the picture, The Cross reaches out to hold us and to bring us to a place and time of "Peace on Earth and Good Will to all."

Advent is a season of Joy and of Light. I usually manage to get a bit of appropriate copy from the table place mats at the Joy Gift Offering luncheon. This year is no exception.....

"One True Light.. This holy Season, let the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem illuminate our hearts and shine in our actions. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering we provide opportunities for students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Also through our contributions we help the families of active and retired church workers through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions."

Thank Youfor your gifts! www.presbyterianmission.org/christmasjoy



Submitted by Jim Barthell on Behalf of the Presbyterian Women of The Church



Thanks

Greetings from the choir and handbells.

I hope everyone had a fantastic Christmas and New Year and is ready to start a new year and a new journey. Choir will be resuming practices on Wednesday nights at 7 and Bells will resume on Sundays at 2 (date TBA). Thank you to the choir for such a wonderful Cantata on Dec. 22 and for all of the dedicated rehearsals leading up to that.

Here are some well deserved individual thank yous.

Thank you Doug and Paula Proctor for hosting our Choir Party at their house. Much fun was had and the food was delicious and beautiful. Photo from the evening is posted to the right.

Thank You Jack Frost for your wonderful guitar playing and ability to play when the choir is taking time off.

Thank You Julie Swofford for your bell and flute playing.

Thank You to all those individuals who helped with the Christmas Eve service this year.

On a personal note I have some exciting things coming up in the near future. In February I will be directing the Duncan Little Theaters Orchestra for "Fiddler on the Roof" and in April I will direct the Cameron University's musical "Where's Charley".

For more info contact me via email at hhpianostudio@yahoo.com.

Musically Yours, Holli

Happy December Birthday! Bennie, George and Rosella



Happy New Year ~ 2014
Please Join us every month in
the coming year
We'll save a chair for you!



This is just a small group of the many choir members that attended the 2013 Choir Christmas Party.

**OFFICERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DUNCAN, OKLAHOMA**

ELDERS

<u>Class of 2014</u> Joan Drake Steve Reasor	<u>Class of 2015</u> Pat Hale Bill McQuain	<u>Class of 2016</u> Robin Caldwell Sue Beall
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DIACONATE

<u>Class of 2014</u> Nancy Grantham Mike Stiels	<u>Class of 2015</u> Chip Woods Charles Coker	<u>Class of 2016</u> Martha Coker Charlotte Utley
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Treasurer – Bill McQuain **Asst. Treasurer** – Jerry Fleming

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First Presbyterian Church
"FAITH - AT - WORK"

704 West Ash Avenue
Duncan, Oklahoma



Issue 1

January 2014

Clerk's Corner

Session met for the last time this year on December 17, 2013. It was kind of a nostalgic meeting since it was our last with Pastor Sue. She will be missed so much by all of us. It will also be our last meeting on the third Tuesday. Starting next month, we will meet on the second Tuesday. Reverend Aaron Carland will be the new session moderator and we are pleased he will be working with us until we have a permanent pastor.

We were advised that the deacons don't currently have enough to do and wondered if they could possibly take back property and maintenance. This is currently part of the Nuts & Bolts division of session responsibilities. Pastor Sue and the session feel it should stay primarily with session but perhaps the diaconate could serve as a sub-committee working with a session representative. We will be happy to work with the deacons on this and always welcome help, especially with property & maintenance. Chip Woods was the diaconate rep at the meeting and will take this idea back to diaconate.

The new committee chairs for 2014 have been named: Inside Ministry, Bill McQuain and Robin Caldwell; Outside Ministry, Steve Reasor and Pat Hale; Nuts & Bolts, Joan Drake and Sue Beall.

With Pastor Sue leaving, we are back to using pulpit supply temporarily. The first three Sundays in January will be covered by the Reverends Aaron Carland, Vicki Rucker and David Conrad. Sounds good to me.

The PNC is already receiving PIFs (pastoral information forms) via the internet, thanks to the fact that we are now looking for a permanent pastor as opposed to a designated pastor. This will increase the number of PIFs the committee gets and allow them to review them at home prior to meetings. All positive steps.

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE NEEDED FROM ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS, SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN. I am asking that they be turned in asap but no later than January 15th. They have to be copied and put together for the annual meeting of the church. Please, please, get them in as soon as you can. This is also something a pastor looking at our church might want to look at. This is one way you can help.

Last but not least, there is a list posted on the bulletin board by the east door, of the items the PW will need in our efforts to refurbish and redecorate certain areas of the church. Everything can be purchased at Duncan Builders if you would like to help. Also, you all know we have been having trouble with the heat in the sanctuary. It is temporarily fixed but won't last. Session has accepted, with thanks, the gift of a new heating/air conditioning unit and we are currently getting bids for the new system. We are also currently looking at new flooring and getting bids on that. These are all must haves and with these expenses and, hopefully, a new pastor before long, it is the session's hope that pledges are being carefully considered.

Please remember that the in-gathering will be held on Dec 29th. There will also be a soup luncheon and a chance for you to say farewell to Pastor Sue.

On the chance you see this before Christmas, we would like to wish everyone a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR!!!!!!

BLESSINGS FROM YOUR SESSION

Submitted by Joan Drake



We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on **January 05, 2014** during the worship service.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT FAW ENTRY IS

January 24, 2014

JANUARY 2014 ISSUE



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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