

GOD'S PEOPLE DOING GOD'S WORK IN GOD'S WORLD

INSIDE MINISTRY NEWS

Rosella McQuain and Vicki Zimmerman are co chairs. We need people to sign up to assist in the nursery for worship services. It is a wonderful way to get to know the children in the congregation and build a relationship with them that will give them that important bond to the church. Call the church office if you can give one or two Sundays this year to this important ministry.

It is also time to offer your services as a liturgist for a month of this year. That sign up sheet is also in the office, or contact one of the IM chairs.

The annual Congregational and Corporation meeting will be held in the sanctuary after worship on Feb 6, 2011. The nominating committee will be elected and the budget will be presented.

Submitted by Rosella McQuain, Inside Ministry

CARE AND NURTURE COMMITTEE

Whew! January is almost over and February will arrive along with Valentine's Day. This holiday always makes me think of sweethearts, chocolates, red hearts, and cards proclaiming romantic sentiments. It is a very "lovely" day, but it is too often fleeting and all gone the next day as we hurry on about our busy lives.

However this year something sparked me to think about Valentine's Day a little differently--I think it must have been the Holy Spirit. I can't claim it to be my own. The thoughts went along these lines:

- Valentine's Day, the love of a human declared with gusto for a day. **God's love proclaimed for all of us every day.**
- Valentine's Day Cards, romantic, funny, silly and cute telling us we are cared for. **God's Valentine to us, His Holy Word that is inspired, true, unchanging and everlasting. It is given to all. (We can read it every day, as often as we need love, wisdom and guidance).**
- **LEST WE EVER FORGET, GOD'S SACRIFICE OF HIS SON ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS --WHAT AN ACTION OF LOVE AND SACRIFICE.**

The ultimate valentine to a dying world! **GIVE THANKS!**

OK, no more Valentine's Day rhetoric... more about the Care and Nurture committee (C&N for short).

Jesus reminded his disciples that the greatest commandment of all was "To love one another". C&N seeks to carry out God's love in many forms, cards, calls, nursing home visitation, and many other ways. There is a niche to be found on this committee for most everyone in one way or another and we are open to fresh ideas.

Come join us and find out!!

CARE & NURTURE COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2011, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE PARLOR.

Submitted by Leah Berning, Care & Nurture Committee Chair

Financial Update

The Session wants to financially update the Congregation on a routine basis. The figures below are as of January 19, 2011 and will be updated monthly.

Yearly Income to date:
\$14,068.09

Yearly Expense to date:
\$10,030.03

LET US REMEMBER

Marlow Manor
702 S. 9th

Estella Trapp

Country Club Care
1904 Hwy 81

Carroll McClellan

Beulah Calloway
Lavina Hofmann

Wilkins Nursing Center
1205 S. 4th

Wylla Leonard



Our Condolences

to:

The family of Imogene
Dove who passed away on Sunday,
January 16, 2011

PRAYER CORNER

Let us keep our friends and family
in our prayers

*Matthew Fleming - Marines

*Capt. Michael Pruden - Marines

*Jason Kramer – Army

Rachel Livingston

Doris Stokes

Carroll Goss

Elizabeth Steigleder

Sam Thompson

Mary Bennett

Lu Morgan

Helen Sue Lowe

Vicky Benson

Terry Evans

Tara Harper

Pat & Colleen Winn

Bob McKee

Ron Twelves

Susie Grantham

Jessica Jones

Mary Cearley

Barbara Black

Lucille Fleming

Patye Mason

Glenda Jones

Gene Florence

Will & Sydney Haas

Cliff King

* Currently serving our country

THANK YOU

My dear friends,

I am truly blessed to be part of such a loving congregation. I was grateful for your support during the five months Al was bed-fast. We both appreciated the visits, cards and calls at the hospital, and later, at home.

A special thank you, too, to the Care and Nurture Committee for the beautiful prayer blanket. That was a meaningful gift, and, I know, represented many hours of loving artistic endeavor.

It was kind of you, also, to have the lovely reception after the memorial service for Al.

Thank you for your many kindnesses and thoughtful acts, and most of all, for your love.

Janis Hruby

THANK YOU

We appreciate the church allowing our agency to utilize the building for a much needed program to help men learn respect for women and become non-violent. May God Bless each and every one of you for helping make a difference in all the lives of the families who have been touched by your program.

Teresa Biffle, Executive Director, Women's Haven

THANK YOU

Dear friends at First Presbyterian Church

We would like to express out sincere appreciation for your recent donation of food to Christians Concerned. Your continued support is so important and is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Pam Kendrick, Christians Concerned

THANK YOU WOMEN OF THE CURCH

For your recent donation of \$50.00. Your gift is already at work, providing nourishing food to our hungry neighbors in 53 central and western Oklahoma counties.

Sincerely, Rodney W.Bivens, Executive Director

Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

Thank you very much for the wonderful gift of \$208.33. Your gift truly makes a difference in this ministry and the lives of the young men we serve.

I recently received a letter from one of the parents of a boy who has been in our program for several months. After a successful home visit during one of the breaks, his parents had this to say: "these ten days demonstrated the positive impact that Goodland is having on my son. Throughout the visit he was obedient & courteous..the visit could not have been better. We appreciate the efforts of the entire Goodland staff. You are making a life saving difference in his life. We are grateful."

I am completely honored & humbled when I read letters such as these. The gifts you give are making a real impact in the lives of the young people we serve. Thank you for bringing a positive transformation to these young people!

Please pray for us as we seek to train & educate these young men.

Your Servant in Christ, David L. Dearing, CEO, Goodland Academy

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

ELDERS

<u>Class of 2011</u> Bennie Drake Steve Reasor	<u>Class of 2012</u> Lonnie Helms Rosella McQuain	<u>Class of 2013</u> Jerry Fleming Vicki Zimmerman
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DIACONATE

<u>Class of 2011</u> Mike Grantham Jack Munn	<u>Class of 2012</u> Leah Berning Charlotte Utley	<u>Class of 2013</u> Robin Caldwell LaJuan Fleming
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Treasurer: Linda Helms **Asst. Treasurer:** Jerry Fleming



We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on Sunday, February 6th during worship service

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT FAW ENTRY IS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2011**



FEBRUARY 2011 ISSUE



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Jerry Fleming 252-9559

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Holli Hill-Le hhpianostudio@yahoo.com

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Nancy Postlethwaite 252-6522

Parish Nurse
Jo Flanders

Webmaster
Scott Berning 252-8128

Newsletter "Faith - At - Work"
Sally Barthell 470-9933
email: salsroom@jimbarthell.com



First Presbyterian Church
"FAITH - AT - WORK"



704 West Ash Avenue
Duncan, Oklahoma

Issue 02

February 2011

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (Phil. 4:8)

Dear Friends,

The scripture which Paul wrote to the church at Philippi is a good description of the focus of the FPC congregation, especially at this time. We are in the midst of celebrating, rejoicing and giving thanks for all that we are, who we are, and whose we are.

On Sunday; February 6th, we will gather for our Annual Congregational Meeting following worship. It will be a brief meeting, but in that time we will receive reports from all our committees and ministry areas, and hear the good news that we as a congregation have carried out in 2010. We have much to focus on and celebrate!

At this meeting, we will also elect our Nominating Committee members-at-large who will help set the course for future ministry at FPC. We will receive the budget the session approved at its last meeting, too.

Paul's words remind us that we can focus on the positive aspects of our congregation, and this is the time to do just that.

The Session and the presbytery's Administrative Commission have appointed a team to begin studying the congregation as you begin the steps toward calling a new pastor. This group will begin its training the weekend of February 11-12; I encourage you to keep them in your prayers as they undertake this task. Members of the team are: Leah Berning, Martha Copland, Bennie Drake, Lonnie Helms, Elizabeth Pitts, and Scott Postlethwaite.

The process we are using is called "Appreciative Inquiry". Rather than focusing upon the negative, this process engages congregational leaders in a conversation filled with appreciation and gratitude. The goal of "Appreciative Inquiry" is to change the conversation—to stimulate the thinking and the imagination of congregations — through a process that focuses upon the honorable, the pure, the pleasing, the commendable. [1]

The steps of AI include: 1) *Initiate* a congregational process, focusing on the positive, with gratitude to God and to one another, 2) *Inquire* into stories of involvement in the congregation's own story, 3) *Imagine* the shape of the future, and 4) *Innovate* new and creative ways to carry out our dreams of ministry.

You will be hearing much more about this process as we move forward, but for now, keep thinking good thoughts!

Grace and peace,
Tracy

[1] From *Memories, Hopes and Conversations: Appreciative Inquiry and Congregational Change* by Mark Lau Branson © 2004. From the foreword by Inagrace T. Dietterich.