

CLERK'S CORNER

Your session met on February 10th and, as usual, had lots to discuss.

Rev. Vineyard had passed out proposals at our last meeting to reorganize session committees into ministry teams. At this meeting, we voted in full support of the changes. We will no longer have Inside Ministry, Outside Ministry or Nuts and Bolts (which included property and maintenance as well as Stewardship). The committee titles always seemed to confuse people so now we have the following committees: Executive and Personnel, Worship Arts and Spiritual Development, Property Administration and Capital Improvements, Finance and Stewardship, Communications and Technology, and Missions and Discipleship. Those of you who were at the soup luncheon, prepared and served by diaconate after worship on Feb. 15th, received a copy of the details of the changes along with a full explanation.

The ARK - Arts and Recreation on the Korner - was also unveiled at the luncheon as proposed by Rev. Kathy. This idea was also voted into being by the session. The objective, as stated by the pastor, is to energize the church and the community in and around FPC by implementation of a new ministry for both populations including events and activities to encourage new trends and interests in recreation and the arts.

The ARK presents a different and exciting new activity or event every month for all ages, beginning in early summer. Watch for the schedule and join the ARK. Sounds like fun and we are very grateful for a creative and progressive pastor.

The newly named Property Administration and Capital Improvements committee has been busy with trying to close up various areas of the building to keep out the always present raccoons and squirrels. The heating units in the office and fellowship hall have been repaired as have many smaller items needing repair. Session voted to approve their recommendation that the Christmas trees that serve the sanctuary be replaced due to wear and tear. Also, the committee, at their discretion, will get rid of the old, worn and heavy tables and chairs and replace them with lighter ones when possible. The extra and no longer used pianos will also be sold. The Kimball in the fellowship hall will be kept.

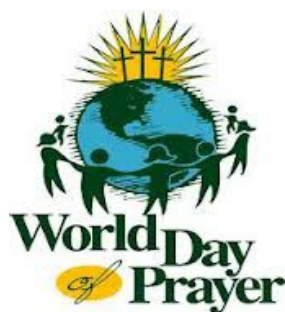
Session also approved using all the floor funds from donations and make up the difference from the general fund in order to have our tile floors replaced now rather than later. The situation has become dangerous and this needs to be done now before someone falls and is seriously injured. The new floors should be done around mid to late March. We thank everyone who has donated and would ask that you continue to donate to the floor fund in order to help defray the cost to the church. Our treasury is not flush and we really still need your help with this project.

It's a very exciting time with lots going on in and around our beautiful old church. Hope everyone reading this FAW edition will be able to take part in some way in all the activity.

Blessing,
From your Session

Submitted by Joan Drake, Clerk of Session

The Stephens United Methodist Church will be hosting a Lenten Luncheon starting February 25 and will continue every Wednesday at noon during lent. The Church is located at 904 W. Stephens Ave.



First Christian Church of Duncan
Corner of 10 and Walnut
will host a program for World Day Prayer
Friday, March 06, 2015
9:30 am coffee, cookies and visiting
10:00 am Program will begin
Everyone is invited to join us.

Thank You

Dear Fellow Partners in God's Mission,

On January 15, 2015, we received \$833.34 for Leslie & Cynthia Morgan. Thank you for supporting our mission workers in such a tangible way. Together, we will achieve so much in God's mission

Yours in Christ,
Chris Roseland, Church Support Associate, Presbyterian World Mission

Thank You

First Presbyterian Church,

Christians Concerned sincerely thanks you for your generous donation of \$2,826.87 for the year of 2014.

Sincerely,
Penny Gardner
Executive Director

Thank You

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for the donation of \$145.84. Your thoughtful and generous support of this mission is appreciated and helps us serve the needs of the boys.

Yours in Christ,
David L. Dearing
President and CEO

Thank You

First Presbyterian Women of the Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$50.00 to the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. With your generous support, not only are you providing nutritious food for our Oklahoma neighbors, you're providing them with the gift of knowing that someone cares. You are giving them the gift of hope.

Thank You

First Presbyterian Women of the Church,

Youth Services for Stephens County Inc. wishes to thank you for your Holiday contribution of \$50.00 to the Youth Shelter. We are grateful for your donation and your interest in our program.

Barbra Davis, MS – Program Director

Thank You

First Presbyterian
Church Women,

Christians Concerned sincerely thanks you for your generous donation of \$233.95 for the year of 2014. Christians Concerned, a UNITED WAY Agency, is a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to helping those in need in the Duncan area. Christians Concerned helps others because we believe God calls us to care. May he bless you richly for assisting us in helping others in our community.

Sincerely, Penny Gardner,
Executive Director

Thank You

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

As I reflect back on 2014, I am so grateful for the many supporters of Dwight Mission. With your generosity, and the generosity of others, we hosted over 3,100 guest through programs and conferences on our campus. In addition, we were able to serve almost 600 campers through our summer camp on site program and at churches across the state in our Dwight-in-a-Van program.

In gratitude,
Peter R. Newbury
Executive Director



From the Editor

If you have anything that you would like to share in F-A-W email, call or drop by the church office.

OFFICERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ELDERS

<u>Class of 2015</u> Pat Hale Bill McQuain	<u>Class of 2016</u> Robin Caldwell Sue Beall	<u>Class of 2017</u> Joan Drake Mike Grantham
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DIACONATE

<u>Class of 2015</u> Chip Woods Charles Coker	<u>Class of 2016</u> Martha Coker Charlotte Utley	<u>Class of 2017</u> Nancy Grantham Mike Stiel
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Treasurer – Bill McQuain **Asst. Treasurer** – Jerry Fleming

DEADLINE FOR NEXT FAW ENTRY IS

March 20, 2014



We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on **March 01, 2015** during the worship service.

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Treasurer

Bill McQuain 255-7863

Assistant Treasurer

Jerry Fleming 252-9559

Newsletter "Faith - At - Work"

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First Presbyterian Church
"FAITH - AT - WORK"

704 West Ash Avenue
Duncan, Oklahoma



Issue 3

March 2015

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT –Lent is the Way to Easter

At the end of the funeral Mass for Pope John Paul II, when Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger came forward for the final commendation and farewell, he paused for several minutes as the crowd cheered, crying out "Santo Subito" while waving banners that also read in translation, "Sainthood now!" Lent invites us to join the cries of the hopeful—Santo Subito! Reformed theology teaches us we are all saints transformed by grace. The darkness that surrounds us in our world and overcomes us in our personal lives can delude us into doubting we or others are actual saints of the faith. Humanity reaches out for suffering to end, love to permeate, good to prevail. Lent gives way to Easter with its themes of new life and eternal light. God is the God of second chances, we have heard. The tomb that encased a crucified Body had been flung open to reveal NO CONTENTS! As the Reformed theologians that we are, we affirm Santo Subito! but we have a long journey of faith. Forty days of Lent, mirroring the Exodus of God's people in the wilderness, the time spent in the whales' belly, the long days Jesus spent wandering in the desert doing battle with the Embodiment of evil-Satanos in the Greek...stretch behind and before us. A lot is to be accomplished for the cause of Christ during March 2015. Pray for your own faith journey, the congregation you serve, the people you meet, your community, the church in the world. The worldwide church is endangered as Christians are acutely victimized...hungry and impoverished people are at our own door...the unchurched and dechurched are thirsty for an authentic word from God through God's people. You can help by being active witnesses where you live, work and worship. Consider the themes of darkness and light as you pray this Lenten prayer, listening for God's voice in your Lenten journey....

The darkness asks us questions.

You are out there and we do not see. You invite us into the night, the stillness, the loneliness, the desert place. We cannot see our shadow; the cold damp of unknowing rises up from beneath our feet. We tread cautiously, tentatively. We are afraid, afraid of ghosts haunting us with specters of guilt and shame. We would like to run back, reach the river bank, swim the Jordan, sit in the sun by the sea, mending our nets. But you have brought us here - with no bread. When we look we can see only ourselves, our darkness. When we read, it is invisible words which cannot be grasped, thoughts we cannot clutch, hope we cannot capture. Yet the wild honey remains a taste in our mouth, a memory for a new day. Why have you brought us here? What miracle will you perform for us? The darkness sighs around us, dense with your unseen presence, close to our breathing, close to our breathing. O darkness, enlighten us, embrace us with your invisible love. Let us see your glory in the ashes. Take us by the hand that we may trust the darkness. Minister to us by your Spirit that we may not be afraid. Jesus, keep the beasts away. Amen.

Rev. Kathy Vineyard



MARCH 2015



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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