

“Back in Your Own Backyard”

Nearly a century ago Billy Rose wrote a song that would become a pop and jazz standard - recorded by more than fifty performing artists over the years. The words of that song are as true for FPC Duncan today as they were when Billy put pen to paper back in 1928:

“You'll find your happiness lies right under your eyes, back in your own backyard.”

Happiness? Right under our eyes? Back in our own backyard? Take a look around. Go into the parlor and look out the window – look at our “backyard”. There you will see the Delta Early Head Start Child Care facility, a backyard ministry that we both individually and as a church worked to help establish and now support on a continuing basis.



Step outside and look to the west. There is the Edge Academy – in a building where many of you received your intermediate education and others actually taught and worked. Today it is a place where deserving kids are beating the odds every day – including young mothers whose babies are cared for by the folks at Delta Early Head Start – all to receive an education and to establish themselves as responsible members of the community. This is a group of kids who need to know that they are cared for and we have the means to do it. We took the first small steps, leading to a backyard ministry to the kids at the Edge Academy by hosting a luncheon for their graduating seniors in May. We hope



this marks the beginning of a long-term relationship. We are talking about doing a lunch for the students at the beginning of next year.



Dear Friends of FPC - It was a joy and delight to share together in the Free Meal Night for the community. You are each a blessing and bless others so beautifully. Thank you for partnering together with one another and others to meet a hungry need in the Duncan area.

A Special Thanks to leader and cook Lonnie McCain for your hard work and loving heart!
May You Be Blessed Tenfold,
Jennifer Steil



We're not done yet. Continue your walk - by the Edge Academy and look to the south; to a backyard ministry that we shared with another church in May; as Jennifer puts it, “partnering together”, to provide a meal for those who might otherwise go hungry.



Maybe the really neat thing about happiness is that it is so easily shared.....and maybe.....

Submitted By Jim Barthell



~ Good Company ~

Presbyterian Women 2011 Birthday Offering



I Corinthians 3:11 (NRSV), “For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.” was the scriptural theme for the 2011 Birthday Offering.

This annual offering is used for special projects, predetermined by the Creative Ministries committee of Presbyterian Women, PC(USA). 40% of this year's offering of \$221 goes to medical missions worldwide.

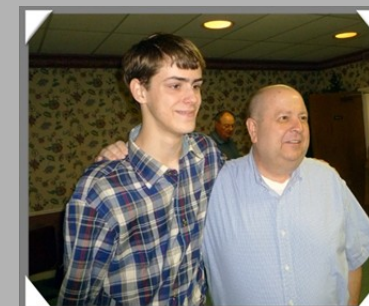


Following the luncheon and a theme video, Martha Copland gave an informative presentation, discussing the Presbyterian Women “Least Coin” traditional mission.



Sally Barthell was honored as Life Member at the Presbyterian Women 2011 Birthday Offering. Among those in attendance were ten women of the church who were honored as Life Members in past years. Daughter-in-law, Connie Barthell, and granddaughter Laura Mahan, pictured above center, came from their homes in Texas to also honor Sally. Very Good Company, Indeed! ~ Jim Barthell

RICKY TRENT'S GRADUATION ALBUM



Graduation Reception
Honoring
Ricky Trent
First Presbyterian Church
In The Parlor
May 15, 2011

THANK YOU

My dearest FAMILY at FPC,

Thank you notes are traditionally short, sweet and to the point. However this one cannot be short and to the point because of ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE for us during my mom's (Jo Ann Allen's) brief stay with us (7 weeks) and during the time of her passing. Please consider this a LOVE LETTER to you all!

God showered Mom, Scott and I with so many blessings during this time and so many of them came from this body of believers in various forms. The visits with Mom and with me; delicious meals that just appeared without prior arrangement, just a phone call to say they had food to be brought by. I wasn't asking for help with things yet because I thought we had such a long road to go; but you all knew better. There were so many cards that came to encourage us. People came to sit with Mom while I ran errands; others offered to run errands and did so for me so that I could be with her. There were those who lent us wonderful medical equipment: lift chairs, shower bars, walkers and in addition I borrowed from the church other equipment, a wheelchair and bed-side commode. What a WONDERFUL IDEA and what a help to have those things available to those that need them quickly, free of charge, and no paperwork attached. ALL of these things made the quality of my mom's life so much better and made it so much easier for us to care for her and for her to continue to enjoy the activities she loved for as long as possible. THANK YOU!!! What marvelous ways to show your love and oh my was it received, like a dry sponge placed in water!!!

I love you all because you let me talk about what was going on in our lives right then, the funny, happy, emotional, frustrating and sad things. I felt you REALLY CARE and wanted to know; were not just being polite. That talking helped ME so much and I wanted to share it, needed to share it because YOU are my family. God ordained that. Thank you for loving us. The majority of you had never met my mom, you knew of her through me. She never set foot in our church, was not a religious person per se, but she absolutely was a believer and could recount in her life and in her nursing career countless times she had seen God's hand at work. She had great faith throughout her life. One of the most touching moments for us was nearing the end when she told me, "Leah, I am so glad you have your Church. I cannot believe all they have done for us. I wish I had been a member of a church -- your church." I laughingly quipped that it was never to late to become a Presbyterian. ha ha To GOD BE THE GLORY, it was too late and PRAISE GOD He took her home by a sudden swift heart attack with me by her side, rather than a long drawn out death of cancer. Our God is a merciful and gracious God, even in the hard things of life!!!

Last but not least, her services. Scott and I simply could not believe how many of your were there. We were so touched and our hearts gladdened. Tracy did a beautiful job speaking about my mom's life. You served us a lovely meal during which my extended family (many of them I had not seen in over 20 years) talked, and caught up with each other and were reunited. It was truly another blessing of God's handiwork. Since then cards have POURED in, and donations to the Humane Society of Stephens County. What a tribute to my mom and to me and Scott. There have been phone calls and visits and so many offers of help in any way. It astounds Scott & me.

Thank you for carrying us through this time. We love you so much. But most of all, THANK YOU FOR SHOWING THE LOVE OF CHRIST to us in all the things you have done. This is to be our purpose on this earth.

Gratefully,
Leah, Scott & Jo Ann Allen (in spirit)

Thanks to LaJuan Fleming for the photographs she so generously provided for this issue of Faith-At-Work. Her pictures are always a welcome addition to these pages.

~ Sally Barthell



Youth Food Harvest

The June "Food or Item of the Month" is **Canned Meat**. Each month will have a new food or item. Please bring your donation to the church on the third Sunday of each month & the youth will collect it for the Christians Concerned Food Pantry.

LET US REMEMBER

Carroll McClellan
Lavina Hofmann

Country Club Care
1904 Hwy 81, Duncan, OK



~
Audrey Waggoner
Chisholm Trail Assisted Living
625 Chisholm Trail Pkwy, Duncan, OK

CHOIR NEWS



What a wonderful Easter season we had. We are so proud of our choir and bell choir. Hand bells will take a break for the summer and will resume in August. Choir will take a break in July and will resume in August (we will have regular rehearsals in June). Contact the church office or Holli if you are interested in singing/playing a special for a Sunday in July (Solos, duets and small ensembles are welcome).

Here are some upcoming events for the summer.

Starting June 22nd, Wednesdays at 6:00 pm for 4 weeks all FPC kids and friends will have music time in the sanctuary. We will sing and participate in musical activities. Spread the word to all children.

July 19th- Alleluia Conference in Waco, Tx. Holli will attend and come home rejuvenized.

The choir will be singing well known songs/hymns for the month of June and would like to invite all of our former choir members and folks who simply like to sing, to join us for Wednesday rehearsals starting June 1st at 7 pm.

Musically Yours,
Holli Le- hlpianostudio@yahoo.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Session wants to financially update the Congregation on a routine basis. The figures below are as of May 16, 2011 and will be updated monthly.

Yearly Income to date: \$73,421.57
Yearly Expense to date: \$83,772.29

Thank You

Dear Friends,
Your recent gift of \$125.00 in support of the mission and ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) makes it possible to be a visible presence of God's redeeming love for all people. As partners in Christ, we covenant with you to use it to display the promise of God's continuing presence in the world through the new humanity revealed in Jesus Christ.

Thank you again. May Christ's peace and abiding love be with you this day and every day.
Ruth Farrell, Coordinator, Presbyterian Hunger Program



Library News

New Books in the Library.....

"Play the Ball Where the Monkey Drops It"
by Gregory Knox Jones

"Christianity for the Rest of us"
by Diana Butler Bass

"Balancing the Christian Life"
by Charles C. Ryrie

Submitted by Gladys Taylor, Librarian



Clerk's Corner

The Session met in regular meeting May 17, 2011. We had 69 attending the service Easter Sunday. The choir did a very nice Cantata during the Easter Season.

It was noted by the treasurer that our weekly receipts were down in April, so we are hoping that there will be an upswing in giving during the summer as our bills continue to arrive and need payment.

Joyce Harding and Joe Harding have requested transfer of membership to the Trissels Mennonite Church in Broadway, Va. Rachel Stephenson has been transferred to Stillwater, New Jersey Presbyterian Church.

It was reported that the Well dinner and the Edge luncheon and the Ricky Trent graduation reception went very well. Session is grateful for all those who assisted and attended those events.

The Inside Ministry needs people to volunteer to stay in the nursery each Sunday. We must provide one person to be there each Sunday. So please consider serving in this very necessary and pleasant capacity. Contact the office for available dates.
Submitted by Rosella McQuain, Clerk of Session