

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



September will be a busy month for **Presbyterian Women**. Circles begin again after the summer break. Circle II will meet at 1:30 on Thursday, Sept 10th and Circle I will meet at 9:30 on Friday, Sept 11th. A council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 9th at 10 AM. All meetings will be held in the church parlor. The Thank Offering salad lunch will be held on Sept 25th and will be hosted by Circle II.

If you are not currently a circle member, please consider joining. Sit in on one of our circle meetings - I think you will find the Bible study interesting and thought provoking. This year our topic is Joshua: A Journey of Faith. There is also conversation, coffee and laughter - how could anyone resist.

Moderator, Joan Drake

A Note From The Administrative Commission

I found this in my Alive Now! Devotional, shared it with my session last week and though it both a challenge and an adventure in growing in faith and practice.

YOUR HOLY ADVENTURE: by Bruce Epperly, excerpted from Holy Adventure: 41 Days of Audacious Living, by Bruce Epperly, Upper Room Books 2008 (used by permission of Alive Now!)

"...Thomas Merton described the spiritual life as "contemplation in a world of action" Our task is to notice, pause, affirm, imagine and then act on our awareness of God's presence in our lives and then extend God's presence toward others in our ordinary and extraordinary encounters. We are to be theologians of the hand and heart as well as of the mind! As we live our adventures, we will discover that all places are holy and all encounters healing.

"Mother Teresa once spoke of seeing God in all of God's disguises. She believed that "every person is Christ for me...I see God in every human being." Today go through your day with the awareness that God is present in every person and every encounter...look more deeply at the persons you encounter. You might even say to yourself, "the Christ in me greets the Christ in you," with every encounter and ring of the phone. See beyond others' behavior and appearance. See their essential holiness. See them as God's beloved children... As you begin to seek to others, let this new perspective guide your words and behavior. Let your words and acts address God's holy adventure working in their lives as well as your own.

"For example, take a moment as you shop today to see the clerk as God's beloved child. Notice what is unique about the clerk as a person. Through you may be waiting in a long line you will begin to experience a sense of holiness instead of impatience and anger. Or, instead of succumbing to your own version of "road rage", see the divine light and love present in the one who just honked at you or cut you off the highway. Say a quick prayer for that person's wellbeing and safety on the road to his or her destination. You will discover that your own rage metamorphoses into a feeling of peace and wholeness. As simple as these behavioral changes may be, they will transform your life and quite possibly, your lived experience of God."

I know I am not there yet! I do think he is on to something as we practice our faith in relationship to our sisters and brothers at church, at home and in all our community dealings- to see Christ's divine light and love in them. I remember a woman in Arkansas, a lobbyist for children's issues, speaking about walking up the Capitol steps to see a legislator and saying to herself, "So and so is a child of God, "and challenging herself to treat him as such even if she had problems with him. To see every so and so as a child of God may just change our relationship with our sisters and brothers.

Submitted by Ann Wasson



Our Prayers of
Comfort and
Sympathy for the family of
Bonnie Davidson who passed
away on August 8, 2009



THANK YOU

Dear FPC Women of the Church,
On behalf of the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, I'd like to thank you for your support of the Food 4 Kids program through your generous gift for Duncan kids..

THANK YOU

To First Presbyterian Church,
Christians Concerned sincerely thanks you for your recent gift. Christians Concerned helps others because we believe God calls us to care. We consider it a privilege to do what we can to meet the needs of others in the name of Jesus Christ.

THANK YOU

Dear friends at FPC,
Thank you so very much for all your prayers on my behalf. The many weeks of tests have found me to be much better than expected. The surgeon will be able to take only half of my right lung (we hope) and the cancer has not spread anywhere else. God hears our prayers and I know he is watching over me. Your love and friendship is such a blessing to me. I will appreciate your continuing to pray for me and for the surgeon Dr. Weedn, who will be performing the surgery. Thank you so much. My love to each of you, Lou Morgan

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,
Thank you for your support of the mission & ministry of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Presbyterian Women. Presbyterian Women is committed to supporting the mission of the church worldwide. Gifts such as yours make it possible to fulfill that commitment. Grace and peace to you.
Ann Ferguson, Program Coordinator, Presbyterian Women

THANK YOU

Dear FPC,
Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, prayers and love. I could not get along without church family. Thanks also for all the cards and visits. I am truly blessed.
Much Love, Pat Hale

Financial Update

The Session wants to financially update the Congregation on a routine basis. The figures below are as of August 16, 2009 and will be updated monthly.

Yearly Income to date	\$105,333.51
Yearly Expense to date	\$155,334.15

PRAYER CORNER

Let us keep our friends and family
in our prayers

*Justin Ezell - Army
*Matthew Fleming - Marines
*Capt. Michael Pruden - Marines

Jimmy & Rachel Livingston
Marguerite English
Sam Thompson
Imogene Dove
Pat Winn
Katie Moody
Emily Marshall
Bob McKee
Ron Twelves
Tom Carey
Susie Grantham
Ann (Helms family)
Jessica Jones
Joyce Stewart
Josie Brown
Kelly Evans Henderson & Baby
Larry Presgrove
Martha Copland
Lu Morgan
Mary Cearley
Chase O'Bryne
Bill Robinson
Pat Hale
Dale Pollock

* Currently serving our country

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

ELDERS

<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
Dan Flanders	Martha Coker	Jenna Bentley
Beverly Moody	Peggy Gilchrist	Steve Reasor

DIACONATE

<u>Class of 2009</u>	<u>Class of 2010</u>	<u>Class of 2011</u>
LaJuan Fleming	Joan Drake	Bennie Drake
Vicki Zimmerman	Sally Barthell	Mike Grantham
Mary Ann Kaminski		

Treasurer: Bill McQuain **Asst. Treasurer:** Jerry Fleming



*We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper
on Sunday, September 20th during
Worship Service*

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT FAW ENTRY IS
SEPTEMBER 24TH**

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Treasurer
Bill McQuain 255-1327

Assistant Treasurer
Jerry Fleming 252-9559

Organist/Choir Director
Susan Duell 252-3088

Custodial Engineer
Nancy Postlethwaite 252-6522

Parish Nurse
Jo Flanders 255-7198

Webmaster
Lynn Wienck 252-4471

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 9

September

Dear Friends,

We have been together six months, and I am pleased with the progress we are making. Yes, there are bumps in the road, and sometimes I wish we could either speed up or slow down, but we are definitely making progress in the right direction. A few of the items from the Action Planning Team are currently being implemented and more are to come.

This would be a good time to evaluate where you are personally in your involvement in the life of the church.

Early in my parish ministry, I came across a set of identifiers for those who are active in the church. It has served me well in helping congregation members evaluate their work in the church and what the motivation behind it might be. I share it with you and encourage you to look at your own church activities.

- If you are doing it because no one else will, it's a job. If you're doing it to serve the Lord, it's a ministry.
- If you're doing it just well enough to get by, it's a job. If you're doing it to the best of your ability, it's a ministry.
- If you'll do it only so long as it doesn't interfere with other activities, it's a job. If you're committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it's a ministry.
- If you quit because no one praised you or thanked you, it was a job. If you stay with it even though no one seems to notice, it's a ministry.
- If you do it because someone else said that it needs to be done, it's a job. If you are doing it because you are convinced it needs to be done, it's a ministry.
- It's hard to get excited about a job. It's almost impossible not to get excited about a ministry.
- If your concern is success, it's a job. If your concern is faithfulness, it's a ministry.
- People may say "well done" when you do your job. The Lord will say "well done" when you complete your ministry.
- An average church is filled with people doing jobs. A great church is filled with people involved in ministry!
- If God calls you to a ministry, for heaven's sake (literally) don't treat it like a job. If you have a job in the church, give it up and find ministry! God doesn't want us feeling stuck in a job, but excited, fulfilled, and faithful in a specific ministry.

Take some time to look at your thoughts and feelings about your work in the church. If you feel like you're doing a job, and what you'd really like is a ministry, talk with me and together we can discern where God is calling you.

Blessings to you as you seek God's will!

Tracy L. Evans

SEPTEMBER 2009 ISSUE



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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