



NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH



September is National Preparedness Month. In preparation, you might want to run fire drills and/or develop a plan for meeting family members. You might want to put together emergency supply kits for your home, vehicle and workplace. You may want to make an evacuation plan and note a list of safe rooms in your community. That brings up the subject of: have you informed your police or sheriff's department of the location of your safe room? Do members of your family who don't currently reside with you know where you might escape to? And have you investigated if grants for safe room construction are available in your area?

We all know that when we see storm clouds forming, it's important to pack medications (and a list of them plus pertinent medical history), cash, check book and credit cards, legal documents (wills, advanced directives, house deeds, passports, birth certificates, insurance policies, etc.), water, flashlights with extra batteries, pictures, a battery-powered radio or hand-cranked NOAA weather radio, a change of clothes, your purse/wallet, cell phones & its charger, an extra set of car keys, an emergency blanket, extra batteries for hearing aids, first aid kit, sanitation and personal hygiene items (toilet paper, deodorant, soap, feminine hygiene products). In the event of a wild fire you may want to add tools (screwdriver, wrench) and work gloves to that list. A map of the area can come in handy as well.

Probably the most vital substance is water—one gallon per person, per day. In addition, nonperishable, easy-to-prepare items (canned foods, vacuum-sealed dried foods) should be packed. In that same package, you'll need a simple can opener.

There are 2 Oklahoma State University documents you might want to obtain: 1) Organizing Household Records, and 2) Taking Inventory of Household Possessions. These 2 booklets will be valuable since insurance companies want a list of items that are missing plus the value of each. Additionally, there is free software available: Insurance Institute for Individual Households. You'll need to include serial numbers and pictures of all these items. This can then be sent to another person or facility with the original placed in a safe.

Last but not least, don't forget to consider your kiddos and pets in your preparation. Most importantly, include recent pictures of them in case they get separated from the rest of the family.

Submitted by Jo Flanders

Happy September Birthday!

Let's Pray Prayers of Joy for These People on Their Special Day!



09/04 Julie Martin

09/11 Kelly Henderson



09/05 Scott Postlethwaite

09/14 Allison Ferguson



09/06 Augusta Slagle

09/25 Barbara Murphey



09/25 Doug Proctor

If we missed your Birthday, please let us know.

A lunch honoring September Birthdays will be held at El Palacio at noon on Wednesday, September 16th. *Everyone is welcome.*

Please call or email me your plans to attend and I'll contact the restaurant with our reservation each month. Thank you, Sally Telephone (580) 736-3910 or Email salsroom.g@gmail.com

Youth Food Harvest

This month's theme is "Beans N' Rice Are So Nice"

This can be anything from canned beans, dried beans, rice, rice dinners to bean and rice dinners.

Please bring your donation to the church on September 20th, to be delivered to Christian's Concerned.



Clerk's Corner

It has certainly been an active summer at FPC. Lois Harris and Glennis Wilson, along with lots of talented volunteers, ran a very successful Vacation Bible School with an attendance of 30 plus children.

A few days later, Sue Beall and her volunteers held the first shoe giveaway. Tons of gently used shoes were given out, as well as gift certificates to fit school age children with a new pair of shoes for that all important first day of school. We are so blessed, even though our congregation has shrunk a bit this last year, to have big hearted, energetic, hard-working, loving people making up the membership of this church.

Speaking of our membership, Augusta Slagle will be celebrating her 90th birthday with a party at the Simmons Center on Sept 6th. Go by and wish her a Happy Birthday! Also, keep Jack Frost in your prayers. He is home and recovering rapidly from surgery to remove a blood clot from his brain.

If you were not in church for the congregational vote, you may not be aware that we have a buyer for the Cornerstone Building. It has been listed for 18 months. It will remain a day care under private ownership. We have followed all the rules and have done all that we can do to expedite the sale. We are now just waiting on the last minute details to be completed. Hopefully, the sale will close on September 18th.

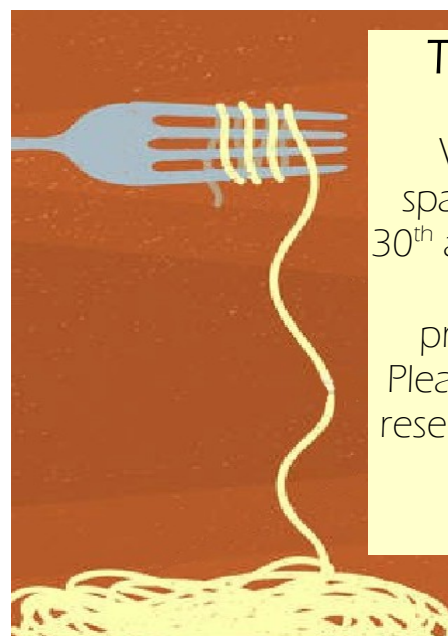
You probably already know that we will start September of this year without a full time pastor. I would ask that you not be discouraged by this. Your session has met with the Commission on Ministry and we are exploring several options. I have every reason to believe that we will find a solution that is acceptable to everyone. There are people in this community that depend on us so we must keep going forward.

Fall, my favorite time of year, is right around the corner. Beautiful weather, football, pumpkins, fall flowers, family gatheringsIt's the best! Please continue to pray for our church, our community, our country, our military men and women and our future as a congregation. God has blessed us in ways too numerous to count. We simply can't let him down.

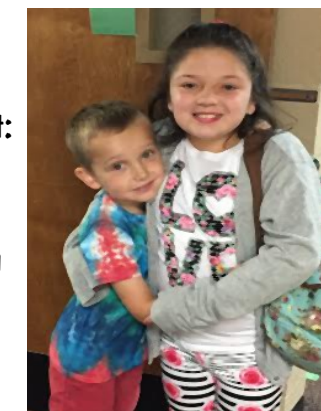
Blessings, Joan

Thank Offering Luncheon

We invite you to join us for a spaghetti luncheon on September 30th at Noon for only \$5. There will be a guest speaker that will be presenting, "Angels Among Us." Please call the church office for your reservation. So, come and bring your friends for a fantastic lunch.



On Right: Wyatt & Madison



School Is Back!

Wyatt Henderson started Kindergarten. He is the son of Kelly Henderson. Madison Caldwell entered 5th grade this year. She is the granddaughter of Robin Caldwell. Mike Steil's grandchildren are Chase, 4th grade, and Kaighan who began Kindergarten this year. They all attend Horace Mann Elementary.

Below: Keighan and Chase



Photos by Kelly Henderson

PRAYER CORNER

Let us keep our family and friends in our prayers
Beverly Chalkboyer, Stacey Soltysik, Augusta Slagle, Emily Ritter, and John Hamilton.

Let us remember those unable to attend worship service
Audrey Waggoner, Pat & Colleen Winn, Jack Munn, Beverly Moody and Augusta Slagle



OFFICERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ELDERS

Class of 2015
Pat Hale
Bill McQuain

Class of 2016
Robin Caldwell
Sue Beall

Class of 2017
Joan Drake
Mike Grantham

DIACONATE

Class of 2015
Chip Woods
Charles Coker

Class of 2016
Martha Coker

Class of 2017
Nancy Grantham
Mike Stiel

Treasurer – Bill McQuain Asst. Treasurer – Jerry Fleming



We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on **September 6, 2015** during the worship service.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT FAW ENTRY IS

September 23, 2015



Telephone Numbers

Church Office (580) 255-5769
Fax (580) 252-4175
e-mail: fpcduncan@gmail.com
Website: www.fpcduncan.com

Pastor

Treasurer
Bill McQuain 255-7863
Assistant Treasurer
Jerry Fleming 252-9559
Secretary and Newsletter "Faith- At-Work"
Eileen Stringer 255-5769
email: fpcduncan@gmail.com

If you have anything that you would like to share in F-A-W I would be happy to see it. Please call, email, or drop a note by the church office.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Presbyterian Church
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Duncan, Oklahoma 73533-4646
580-255-5769
Website: www.fpcduncan.com



First Presbyterian Church
"FAITH - AT - WORK"

704 West Ash Avenue
Duncan, Oklahoma



Issue 9

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Esther 4:14

For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

When the Presbyterian Women's bible study from Horizons magazine was on Esther a few years ago, I was stumped. Not many of us knew much about the pogrom Esther prevented. Esther was a second wife to the king Ahasuerus (Xerxes), a providential situation. Her cousin, Mordecai, was to be executed and her people, the Jews exterminated. With little thought for her own safety, Esther approached her husband to plead for the lives of her people. Until then the king was unaware of her ethnicity. Our quote shows us the providential nature of God—Esther was called to this role. Like Esther, we can feel as if we are in this place until our special role is made clear:



In a commentary on Esther, I found this quote: **Charles Swindoll stated, "Esther is a story of triumph that grew out of tragedy, ecstasy out of agony, celebration out of devastation. Yours can be the same." This book has shown us many things, including that God can use anyone for His glory that is willing to be used, that He is ultimately in control of all things in our lives, and He will work according to His foreknowledge to bring all things together in our lives for our best and His glory.**

As my role in this congregation and presbytery changed, I was stumped again. How could I let you know how much you have meant to Bruce and myself in the middle of a sudden new calling? Charles Swindoll seems spot on—God can use anyone for glory. God calls us now to new places—out of the desert of wondering what is next. We must rely on God's promises and stories of victory and courage like that of Esther. You are coming out of the desert to face new challenges with the help of this presbytery and your session. Thank you for walking the path of Jesus Christ with us, even in the desert places.

The PCUSA has a program named after this Old Testament verse: " For Such a Time as This" . A two year residency for new seminary graduates or first time call pastors is established between the new pastors and small churches. Small churches find pastors and new pastors are matched with churches in need of pastoral leadership who might not otherwise have been able to locate a shepherd. The program is not a financial one, but small grants are available. Matching churches and pastors and mentoring first call teaching elders is the goal. God has a role for everybody is the message I gain from " For Such a Time As This. I am thankful to be part of a denomination that addresses the needs of our diverse congregations, small and large. I am grateful for you and your ministry here, praying that an Esther is in your future, " For such a time as this..."

Rev. Kathy Ellen Vineyard and Bruce Vineyard