



### October Concerns

Many women's fears of breast cancer increase during the month of October because of all the publicity directed around that subject. As frightening as that can be, it's not the leading cause of death of women! Of the 1.3 million U.S. women who die each year the leading causes are: heart disease--22%; cancer (excluding breast cancer)—18%; Alzheimer's Disease—5%; and breast cancer 3%. Those figures tell us that we should not only have mammograms and perform self breast exam but also consult with our health care providers regarding other screening tests.

Submitted by Jo Flanders



### Youth Food Harvest "Chili Feast" October 16, 2016

### Happy October Birthday!

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

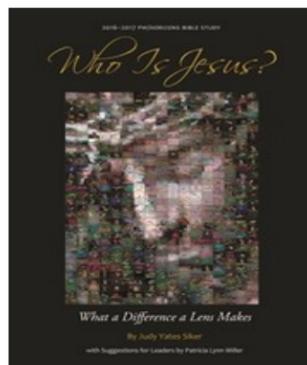


- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 10/06 Joanne Flanders | 10/07 Terry Evans     |
| 10/11 Chip Woods      | 10/13 Caron Hawkins   |
| 10/14 Mike Grantham   | 10/16 Pat Hale        |
| 10/17 Tim Burns       | 10/19 Joe Smith       |
| 10/22 Glennis Wilson  | 10/28 Colleen Polluck |
| 10/30 Anna Adams      |                       |

If we missed your Birthday, please let us know.

A lunch honoring October Birthdays will be held at Jimmy's Egg at noon on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. *Everyone is welcome.* Please call or email me your plans to attend. Venessa Abshire [fpcduncan@gmail.com](mailto:fpcduncan@gmail.com) or 580-255-5769.

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They answer "Some say you are John the Baptist; others say Elijah, and still others, One of the prophets." Then Jesus asks them, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:28-29).



That is a good question and the **FPC Circle Members** will be studying this year. Circle Meets the second Thursday of each month at 1:30p.m. In the Fellowship Hall **October 13<sup>th</sup>**. Come Join Us in this Study!

Sunday (9/15) night's time of fellowship and fund raising was a great time for all! Everyone enjoyed eating and visiting, and our dessert auction raised over \$700 for the upcoming neighborhood block party. Many thanks to all who spread the word, helped set up, made a dish or dessert, or bid on an item. See you at our Block Party on Oct. 15!  
Submitted by: Robin Caldwell

### What are you doing the afternoon (1-3pm) of October 15<sup>th</sup>???? How about helping with the... **First Presbyterian Church Neighborhood Block Party?**

It will be in held in our east parking lots. There will be food, games, music, crafts and a photo booth where parents can take pics of their youngsters. AND we need volunteers!!!

Volunteer tasks include: setting up; cleaning up; dividing up the donations to Christian Concerned; monitoring games and craft activities. (We're asking for a voluntary donation of non-perishable food to be given to Christians Concerned.) And remember: many hands make the work light!

Submitted by: Robin Caldwell

### Prayer Corner

#### Let us keep our family and friends in our prayers:

Beverly Chalkboyer, Emily Ritter, Charlotte Utley & Terry Evans

#### Let us remember those unable to attend worship service:

Colleen Winn, Jack Munn and Beverly Moody

#### WE are Also in Prayer for:

Our Government and President, Our Pastor, Session, Diaconate & Drs. Leslie and Cindy Morgan, missionaries in Bangladesh

### CLERK'S CORNER.....

I haven't been writing for the FAW recently because Rev Mike is so good about keeping everyone updated and aware of what is going on and what is coming up, I haven't had to. However, this got my attention. At the September session meeting, Rev Mike informed the session that October, in the Presbyterian Church, is Pastor Appreciation Month. Mike, not surprisingly, feels that the staff that works so hard for the church, and all of us, should be honored rather than the pastor. I agree that we have a wonderful staff and that they need to know how grateful we are for the work they do and we need to thank them often. However, being a pastor is often a thankless job and I think Rev Mike deserves our thanks and to know how much we think of him and his family. They have added so much to the life of this church.

In case you would like to send a card or thank them in person and are not familiar with our staff, the cleaning ladies and the volunteers, they are as follows:

Our staff does a wonderful job and we are so very happy that they are working for FPC. Don't know what we would do without them.

Anna Adams; choir director and accompanist

Venessa Swanson; Church secretary, Financial secretary and Facebook co-administrator

Kelly Evans Henderson; nursery attendant and Facebook co-administrator.

Our wonderful cleaning ladies are technically not our employees. They work for Euresst Services. However, we are so very grateful to Sylvia, Maria and Doyle for keeping our church so clean and welcoming. They are dependable, hardworking and will do anything they possibly can for us. As far as the session is concerned, they are valued members of our church family.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention all of the volunteers that keep this church running. They include members of the session, who head almost every committee. Members of the diaconate who are the hard working backbone of the church and individuals like Elizabeth Pitts-Hibbard who is in charge of our social media, Steve Reasor who handles the audio equipment for church services, Robin Caldwell, children's Sunday School teacher and Mike Steil, adult Sunday School teacher. I am sure I missed someone and, if so, I apologize.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
Joan R Drake, Clerk of Session

**OFFICERS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**ELDERS**

Class of 2016  
Robin Caldwell  
Sue Beall

Class of 2017  
Joan Drake  
Mike Grantham

Class of 2018  
Joanne Flanders  
Bennie Drake

**DIACONATE**

Class of 2016  
Vacant  
Chip Woods

Class of 2017  
Nancy Grantham  
Mike Steil

Class of 2018  
Margo Jones  
Coy Elliot

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

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**Assistant Treasurer**  
Jerry Fleming 252-9559

**Secretary and Newsletter "Faith- At-Work"**  
Venessa Swanson 255-5769  
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We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on October 2, 2016 during the worship service.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT FAW ENTRY IS  
October 21, 2016**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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First Presbyterian Church  
**"FAITH - AT - WORK"**

704 West Ash Avenue  
Duncan, Oklahoma



Issue 10

October 2016

Earlier this week, we kicked off our newest book study and discussion on the topic of civility. Civility is a term that is used quite broadly, but in essence, what we mean by the term is something like "public kindness." Civility, according to one helpful definition, is "formal politeness and courtesy in behavior and speech," and, as such, is a vitally important component in maintaining the health not only of personal friendships but of larger bodies like the church or even our nation. Where civility wains, discord inevitably rises - a reality we have become all too aware of within our own political arena.

As Christians, however, civility is not optional. Whatever political stance we happen to take, or whatever party we happen to align ourselves with, our higher allegiance to Christ means that we are not free to join our fellow partisans in demonization and name-calling. Why? For starters, it is because we recognize the inviolable and indelible preciousness of each human life. As early as Genesis 1:26, God begins to point us toward our call to civility. "Let us create humankind in our image," says God, leaving no room for doubt as to whether human life has an intrinsic value that demands respect. In our book study, we are utilizing Richard Mouw's helpful little book entitled *Uncommon Decency*, and Mouw explains that civility is not unlike an exercise in art appreciation. In the same way that an earthly artist is gratified when his works are praised, our Heavenly Father, argues Mouw, is also honored and glorified when we praise and respect His works of art.

Of course, the reality is that we are always coming in contact with individuals and ideas that challenge our most deeply held assumptions. Does civility require that we sacrifice what we believe in order to get along? Does it mean that we must remain silent in the face of challenges to our faith? Mouw argues that it is moments like these that put our commitment to civility to the fullest test. While there may in fact be times in which we must speak a disagreeable word, Mouw invites us to adopt a "Just War Theory" way of discerning whether there might be better options available. By this he means that we should always seek to do the least amount of harm and avoid hurt by any means possible. While there may be causes worth fighting (or speaking) for, in other words, let us do so in a way that is as constructive (as opposed to destructive) and as loving as possible depending upon the circumstance. While something evil and egregious like human trafficking or child abuse might call for a stern, swift and unwavering condemnation in the loudest voice possible, a friendly discussion about whether God is real need not devolve into shouting and swearing.

In the end, the commitment to civility is the commitment to see the inherent goodness and godliness in every person, even those with whom we have sharp disagreements, and to think, speak and act accordingly. In the same way, civility assumes a recognition of our place as part of a greater, common good as well as of our duty to be about the promotion of that good. And that begins in the church even as it extends beyond it. Can we seek to speak in ways that build up rather than tear down? Can we recognize the importance of forgiveness and quick reconciliation? Can we squash personal grudges so that conflict in one part of the body might not hurt the larger whole? And, above all, can we put on eyes to see the beautiful artistry of God that is evident in each one of His creations, and always seek to treat each one in such a way that we bring honor to the Artist Himself?

On the journey with you,

Mike