

The First Press

MAY 2019



*“LISTENING IS A GIFT
OF OURSELVES
TO OTHER PEOPLE.”*

Howard Clinebell

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June-July Newsletter Deadline: May 24

Celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!!!

Every third Sunday of the month the Church provides a cake during fellowship time to celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries that occur that month. This is also the opportunity to contribute a dollar to the "Birthday Fund" for each year you are young! The Birthday Board is exhibited, envelopes and a box are available for your use or you may put your check in the offering plate. Please write on your check "Birthday Fund" so that it will be deposited to the correct account. The Birthday Fund goes towards scholarships for our graduating seniors.

Please join us on *May 19*, after Worship, to celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries!

May Birthdays

Beverly Black	May 08	Jonathan Gann	May 02
Lisa Boyd	May 14	Brian Geltner	May 17
Madalyn Boyd	May 30	Stephanie Grise Flemming	May 24
Zoey Boyd	May 27	Lynn King	May 01
Sarah Bumpas Bibles	May 08	Sandra Matheney	May 31
Jeff Carr	May 17	Larry Meyers	May 30
Timothy Carroll	May 10	Paul Mills	May 25
Elizabeth Chapmond	May 02	Janet Muse	May 19
Bill Creason	May 31	Ernest Nipper	May 02
Judi Creason	May 31	Annabelle Patterson	May 22
Leon Davis	May 27	Emily Pierce Herbranson	May 18
Margaret Feldman	May 06	Bill Randall, Jr.	May 01
Brissy Florini	May 20	Rebecca Sommer	May 26
Jesse Florini	May 20	Janet Tootie Van Pelt	May 27

May Anniversaries

Tom and Linda Rath	May 06
Jeff and Michael Carr	May 20
Orville and Ann Poole	May 22
Shane and Leslie Hardin	May 24
Steve and Kathy Hopper	May 25
Dino and Suzanne Paparella	May 25

God Bless You on Your Special Day!



LISTEN TO YOUR MOTHER

The other day I turned my calendar to the month of May and saw that Mother's Day is May 12. My heart skipped a beat as I thought of my mother. I wish I could talk with her again and tell her all that I'm doing. I can't believe it's been almost seven years since she died.

I then began remembering all the advice my mother would give me:

- Sit up straight; use good posture.
- Speak slowly and clearly; use correct English.
- Take your time; measure twice, cut once.
- Watch your step; look before you leap.
- Eat what's placed before you; try a new dish.
- If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything.
- Pay attention; read the directions.

The best piece of advice my mother gave me, however, was to listen carefully. You learn more by listening than by talking. That's tough advice for a minister! There's just something in my makeup that makes me want to tell you something instead of listening to you. I wonder why that is? I guess it's a defense mechanism. If I do all the talking, I can control the conversation. On the other hand, if I listen and let you talk, I'm vulnerable to allow you to steer the conversation.

Jesus did a good amount of talking. His words are so valuable that we print them in red in our Bibles. Yet, Jesus was a good listener too. I recall the time he saw Blind Bartimaeus in Jericho. The people urged Bartimaeus to be quiet, but Jesus stopped and asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" (Mark 10:46-52).

I also remember Jesus writing on the ground with his finger when pressed by the scribes and Pharisees to stone the woman caught in adultery (John 8:6). This indicates Jesus' refusal to engage in a verbal argument. Instead he chose to listen for God's solution to the situation.

Luke's Gospel mentions several times when Jesus withdrew from the crowds to spend time listening to God in prayer. The disciples were so impressed with his prayer life, that they asked him how to pray. This is when Jesus gave them The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4).

Jesus and my mother both have taught me that listening is an active endeavor. Listening requires intentional and focused attention. To hear what another person is saying, we must be willing to place our own concerns aside and be shaped and impacted by the views and experiences of the other person. Only when we hear and understand what the other person is saying can we expect to have a true conversation with our neighbor.

With Mother's Day just around the corner, let's commit to being better listeners. If your mother is still with you, begin a conversation with her about the ingredients in life that are most important to her. If not, ask someone if they will help you become a better listener by having a discussion on a difficult topic. In a culture so obsessed with our own opinion, I invite you to take time to listen deeply—to God, to others, and to the needs of the world in which we live. Remember that we worship a God who cares for us and is always listening when we pray. Take time to become a better listener and enjoy the benefits it brings to your faith.

Lacy



God, who stands at the door of our lives, let us listen for your voice and open the door for you to enter. May this listening be the pattern of our prayer and the source of our action. Amen.

Session Notes

Jessica Rowton has begun her work as Financial Secretary and has been reported as ready to go by Randi Oney who was been working with her. The Bargain Box Crew and others gave Randi a farewell party on Monday, April 29. Three deaths were noted in our Church Family since the last Session Meeting: Barbara Spindler on March 28, Yvonne Jones on March 31, and Joel Hamilton on April 8.

The Finance Committee is in the process of moving most of our investment accounts to the Texas Presbyterian Foundation. TPF is a non-profit organization which charges low fees for demonstrated excellent management. After this transfer, the Legacy and Endowment funds will be at TPF. The Krone Trust, which was left to the church earmarked for property management only is, by terms of the will, managed by Regions Trust which took over the business of Arkansas Bank and Trust.

Other items from the Session reports:

- Our older youth will be selling birdhouses which they painted and decorated. They are also planning a float trip on the Caddo.
- The Building and Grounds Committee is working with the Boy Scouts to find appropriate service projects.
- We will again have a cookout for our May Family Night Supper at Baseball Trail Park on Whittington Avenue (Fellowship Hall is rain location.)
- Lacy will be on vacation two weeks during June. Scheduled pulpit supply is Lance Jones and Ada Claire Danhof.

Kathy White,

Clerk



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The PW Mission Committee outreach project, “Days for Girls,” meets on *May 9, at 9:00 a.m. (the second Thursday of each month)*. Please join us as we finish up our “Days for Girls” project, and begin planning our next one. You can read more about the “Days for Girls” project at www.daysforgirls.org

The PW Day Circle Bible Study meets *Tuesday, May 21, at 10:30 a.m.* (the third Tuesday of each month), to study our 2018-2019 PW/ Horizons Bible Study, **God’s Promise—I am With You**.

The Women's Wednesday Study for spring is, Bad Girls of the Bible, and What We Can Learn From Them by Liz Curtis Higgs. From familiar bad women, like Jezebel and Delilah, to lesser known sinners, Sapphira and Michal, the author takes us on an Old Testament journey to discover new truths about Biblical women. Please join us for this informal discussion as we meet weekly in the church library, Wednesdays at 10:30.

Please join PW for our 5th Wednesday Night Out on May 29 at Fisherman's Wharf. We will meet at 6:00 for an evening of fun, food and friends. The restaurant is located at 5101 Central. If you have any questions, please call or text Jackie Edwards at 501.625.2025. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.


PW SYNOD OF THE SUN INSTALLATION AND GATHERING

The end of July you are invited to Tulsa to support our own Kathy White as she is installed as the new moderator of Synod of the Sun! The dates are **July 25-27th** (Thursday-Saturday). Full **early registration** cost is \$175 which includes 6 meals, 5 workshops, and entertainment. Of course, if you drive to Tulsa you’ll want a place to stay. They have a deal for you at the Holiday Inn Tulsa City Center for \$109.00 a night. That includes the tax too!

Your **early registration** must be turned in by **June 1st**. Late registration cost is \$190.00 between June 2nd and July 10th, and hope there is a room available.

Registration forms can be found on the PW bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Let’s find roommates and carpool to Tulsa. Sally Pierce, Cluster 3 leader, is spearheading this adventure. Let her know if you are attending. Remember Saturday morning, August 24th is Cluster 3 fall gathering at Kirk in the Pines in Hot Springs Village. **So save that date!!!!**

STATISTICS			
April Attendance:			
Dates	Worship	Visitors	Sunday School
4/7	107	9	18
4/14	112	8	17
4/21 Easter	200	35	n/a
4/26	98	6	9
March Financial Statistics:			
	Year to Date	Budget:	YTD% of Budget:
Pledge Income:	66,765	269,902	25%
Other Income:	11,348	56,105	20%
Legacy Income:	25,000	100,000	25%
Total Income:	103,113	426,007	24%
Total Expenses:	104,914	442,801	24%
Income to Expense:	(1,801)		
MAY COMMITTEES - DIACONATE - SESSION			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committees Meet: The week of May 13th. Contact your Moderator for specific place, date, and time. • Session Meets: Wednesday, May 22, 6:30p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. • Diaconate Meets: Wednesday, May 22, 6:30 p.m. in the Library. 			

BARGAIN BOX	
April Sales and Donations	
4/3	250.00
4/10	397.00
4/17	427.00
4/24	341.20
Memorials	65.00
Total	\$1480.20
April Expenditures	
Habitat for Humanity	500.00
CCMC	500.00
OCC	300.00
Total	\$1,300.00
<p>Bargain Box is always in need of most items. We can always use clean clothes, working appliances, and unbroken household items. If you are unsure about your donation you can always check with a Bargain Box volunteer. We appreciate your donations. 100% of our sales go to help organizations in Garland county. THANK YOU!!!</p>	
<p>Won't you consider volunteering in the Bargain Box on sales days? By giving your time you would be helping your neighbors, nursing students (scholarships), and children in distress. Please Rosemary Nipper, 501-525-0153, if you'd like to learn more, or to sign up!</p>	
	<p>LIKE us on our new Facebook page, "First Presbyterian Bargain Box."</p>
<u>Bargain Box Workers for May</u>	
• 1st	Becky Sommer and Gwen Davis
• 8th	Kathy McConkie and Sally Pierce
• 15th	Frances Bateman and Margo Garnett
• 22nd	June Scully and Rosemary Nipper
• 29th	John and Frankie Ochsner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Church Office will be CLOSED, Monday, May 27, in Observance of Memorial Day.

May Liturgists

- **May 5th** Ian Poole
- **May 12th** Ian Poole
- **May 19th** Jacob Mills
- **May 26th** Jacob Mills

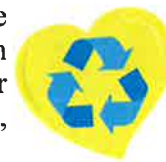


Family Night Supper Annual Outdoor Picnic Baseball Trail Park

Wednesday, May 8, 2019 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Grab your lawn chairs; we're going on a cookout at the Baseball Trail Park! The Fellowship Committee will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. Members are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to complement the meal. If it should rain, the park has a covered picnic area, or if necessary, we will hold it in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for the fun!!!

Recycle Aluminum—Help the Earth—Help Others!!! Bring your aluminum cans to the church for recycling! Rev. Sellars collects the cans, turns them in to the recycling center and adds the proceeds to the Pastor's Discretionary fund. Please place cans in the kitchen, in or by the Aluminum Recycling Bin. No foil please; the recycling center will not accept it. Your aluminum can contributions, large or small, do make a difference!!!



The Mission Committee has Haiti Education Foundation T-shirts for sale in the Fellowship Hall. Help support our mission in Haiti with a purchase of these colorful T-shirts! Shirts are \$15.00, payable to H.E.F.

Jackson House Donations in May: Bathroom supplies. First Presbyterian provides two people to bag and hand out groceries every Monday, 1:00-3:00 p.m. **If you'd like to volunteer, please call Jeanette Cline, 701-0399.** Put your faith in action and become part of FPC's efforts to feed the poor!

2019 Flower Board—Pick your date and include your special dedication. If you do not wish to write it on the board, or if space does not allow, please call, email or visit the office. You may do this at any time well in advance of your day. **Cost is \$38.50**



We are grateful to everyone who purchases flowers that enhance our Sunday worship experience. Those donating flowers are welcome to take them home following the worship service. Otherwise we will make sure they are delivered to someone who is ill or homebound as a reminder of our prayers and presence.

YOUTH Events: Any event info will be sent by text, mail, email, Instagram, and the church's FB page. Please make sure and respond ASAP to any communication or RSVP when noted. Thanks!

Instagram: hspresyouth

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs



My creator, my desire is for my spirit to hear your spirit. I pray for listening ears, eyes, heart, mind, and soul. Throughout each day, help me to listen to the sacred around me, to rest in your calm, and to move in your urging. Remind me that you are always near, that your overwhelming love for me and for all your creation provides the true meaning for what this life is about. As your love fills my being, I pray for courage to share that love with others. My soul is comforted and healed by your grace. Help me to remember to listen.



Memorials Received in April in Memory of...

Joel Hamilton

from

Pat and Jackie Edwards

Jan Kelley

Bill and Mary James

Barbara Spindler

from

Joe Allshouse

Kay Skoog

Tim and Helen Bumpas

Kathy McConkie

Judy Hoefler

Steve and Karen DeMott

Pat and Jackie Edwards

Jan Kelley

Maisie Moreland

Larry and Jan Meyers

Bill and Mary James

Yvonne Jones

from

Steve and Karen DeMott

Kathy McConkie

Judy Hoefler

Jamie Williams

Pat and Jackie Edwards

Joan Jones

Bill and Mary James

Bob and Sally Pierce

Al and Betty Kate Carney

Bernard Harst

(Tom Harst's Father)

from

R. G. Nickels

Dorothea Schmid

(Kathy Harst's Mother)

from

R. G. Nickels

Ed Etl

(Peggy Leonhard's Father)

from

Kathy McConkie

Pat and Jackie Edwards

Helen Hamilton

from

Jan Kelley

How to Reach Us

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 213 Whittington Avenue
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 Business Office Hours
 Monday – Thursday: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
 Friday: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Rev. Dr. Lacy S. Sellars, Jr.
 Home: 501.318-9904, Cell: 501.282.0209
 Email: revlacy@sbcglobal.net

Support Staff

Ms. Yasmin J. Martin, Communications Coordinator,
 Email: firstpreshs213@sbcglobal.net
 Ms. Randi Oney, Financial Secretary,
 Email: randi1948@sbcglobal.net
 Mr. Randall Pierce, Sexton

Ms. Deleen Davidson, Choir Director, 501.463.4514
 Mr. Elsen Portugal, Organist, 501.693.8388
 Ms. Jamie Randall, Youth Director, 501.622.8878
 Mr. William Randall, Jr., Children's Choir, 501.622.8878
 Ms. Linda Glover, Church School Supt., 631.375.0817
 Ms. Jan Meyers, Historian, 501.624.2282

Ms. Kathy White, Clerk of Session, 501.626.4859
 Mr. James Matheney, Treasurer, 870.866.5242
 Ms. Helen Bumpas, Moderator, Presbyterian Women, 501.767.6997
 Ms. Jackie Edwards, Board of Deacons, 501.625.2025



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