



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
OF
UVALDE**

OCTOBER

Sunday, 4th

World Wide Communion
Sunday

Peacemaking Offering

Sunday, 11th

Congregational Meeting
to Elect Elders & Trustee

Tuesday, 13th

Presbyterian Women
Bible Study

Sunday, 18th

Children's Sabbath

Tuesday, 20th

Christian Education and
Worship Committee

Sunday, 25th

Reformation Sunday

Tuesday, 27th

Session Meeting
Building & Grounds
Committee

November 1st

Annual Congregational
Meeting & Luncheon

CHURCH WITH A HEART



October 2009



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK . . .

We are not alone! That is one of the messages of World Communion Sunday, which our church will celebrate with Christians around the world on October 4. As we take the cup and bread of Communion we are in union with Christ, and through Christ we are in union with our brothers and sisters everywhere.



According to the National Council of Churches USA, "World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) originated in the Presbyterian Church (USA). In 1936, the first Sunday in October was established as Worldwide Communion Sunday, and the Lord's Supper was celebrated in Presbyterian churches in the United States and overseas. From the beginning, it was planned so that other denominations could make use of it and, after a few years, the idea spread beyond the Presbyterian Church.

The day has taken on new relevancy and depth of meaning in a world where globalization often has undermined peace and justice -- and in a time when fear divides the peoples of God's earth. On this day we celebrate our oneness in Christ, the Prince of Peace, in the midst of the world we are called to serve -- a world ever more in need of peacemaking. "

On this special Communion Sunday, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper in a manner different from usual. As an act of unity with all our brothers and sisters in Christ, we will be using different breads that represent different groups of people around the world.

I hope that each of you will be able to be a part of this special Sunday. It is my prayer that as we eat the bread and drink from the cup, that we, in unity with Christians all over the world, may experience God's Kingdom on earth.

Blessings,

Pastor Nancy

CHURCH WITH A HEART, October 2009

Let's stay in touch...

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OCTOBER SPOTLIGHT

Mark Black

Mark Black grew up as the ninth of ten children in Western Arkansas. He was educated at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. So Mark was raised and went to school within fifty miles of where Audra Elrod goes to college. Mark completed his studies in plant pathology at North Carolina State. A job offer as an Extension Plant Pathologist at Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center (part of the Texas A&M system) brought Mark to Uvalde and our church. Mark volunteers at our worship service at Amistad, plays the organ or piano at the church, and has landscaped our grounds using native plants. Mark has a son named Cameron. Mark enjoys hiking and learning about native plants. He has a tree farm in Arkansas with two different kinds of pine.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

We have wonderful church directories with pictures and contact information. If you would like one, they will be available on the narthex table in the church lobby.

IMPRESSIONS from Alice Gorman of NANCY WILLET'S INSTALLATION

Alice Gorman felt that Nancy Willet's Installation as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Uvalde went quite satisfactorily and was well represented by a commission of Mission Presbytery. Nancy's friends and family came from as far as Colorado. Members of Nancy's former church and people she went to school with at Perkin's School of Theology at SMU were in attendance. There was a large turnout from our church for which we are thankful. Alice enjoyed the special music, talks and sermons. As a member of the choir, Alice sang with them in German.

Alice and Kelly Lindenborn were in charge of organizing the food for the reception after the service. They recruited volunteers to bring sandwiches.. Alice made a delicious punch. The socialization was fun and an elder from Nancy's former church came to each table and introduced herself. It was a memorable occasion and we are so happy Nancy is with us! Now it's official!

Prayer Concerns



Please join us as we pray for:

Church Family Members:

Ted Brook, LaWanda Butler, Ray Dabney, Audra Elrod, Elizabeth Gonzalez, Edie Huddleston, Gus Neutze, Mary Lee Reynolds, June Richardson, Jackie Rutherford, Muryle Shurley, Garry Smith, and Ed Taylor

Friends and Loved Ones:

Robert Driskoll, friend of Bob Coble

Lee Dubose, aunt of Ray Dabney

Phillip Gorman, son of Alice Gorman

Alice Hunnicutt

James Loch, grandfather of Bryan & Brittany Loch

Jacqueline McClure, daughter of Mary Lee Reynolds

Danny Nichols, husband of Bob Coble's niece

Laura Sasser, daughter-in-law of Augusta Matthews

Deborah Schafer, friend of Jackie Rutherford

Natalie Speer, niece of Edmond Speer

Lydia Hernandez Trickey, Elizabeth Gonzalez' sister

Danny Willet, Pastor Nancy and Bob's son

Family and Loved Ones in the Military:

Will Dabney, son of Ray & Laura Dabney

Brandon Davis, great-nephew of Edmond & Kittie Speer

Derek Elrod, grandson of Dayse Elrod

Tyler Hamiter, nephew of Edmond & Kittie Speer

Jeremy Hedrington, nephew of Jeff Mortensen

Will Jaegli, son of Glen & LuAnn Jaegli

Kevin Wimberley, grandson of Charles & Penny Wimberley

When you or someone you care about needs prayers during difficult or challenging times, please call the church office for inclusion on all Prayer Concerns lists.

Handbell Choir Rehearsals – Mondays, 5:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsals – Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

IMPRESSIONS of RALLY DAY



Dayse Elrod explained that Rally Day was held last August 30th after vacation and before school started, and encouraged people to come back to church. Augusta Matthews mentioned that Kelly Lindenborn suggested that food be served and Ray Dabney cooked hot dogs and hamburgers.

WHAT DOES THE LIBRARY MEAN TO YOU?

A woman pushing a stroller tells me that she comes to the library every two weeks and her three year old son is starting to learn to read. An 82 year old former Coyote came from out of town for the 100th anniversary football game and finds a book to read on the plane ride home for 50 cents from the library bookstore. A visiting nurse stops by to take a test on the computer. Our very own Bernie Dishman works in the archives.

The El Progreso Library is currently facing a financial crisis with their building fund. When I was considering moving to Uvalde, a picture of this beautiful building on the website was a selling point to me. Hopefully, the building will be paid off in two years, but it will be rough going until then. If you would like to see this vital community resource keep its doors open, your generous donation would be appreciated.

CHURCH WITH A HEART, October 2009

Former Pastor Ken Waddell Greeting & Update:

God is good all the time, even when taint crystal clear to us! After 8 1/2 great years pastoring with ya'll at FPC, Uvalde, I fell from grace because I thought I heard God's Call saying, "Although you were born a Texan, you're a Southerner by the grace of God." So, we packed up the family and moved (not to Beverly, but...) to NW Georgia. Five years later that Georgia congregation, like Uvalde, went through a time of discernment and expansion. After 5 very good years of spiritual growth, and another church building project, which doubled the size of the facilities for ministry, I resigned for a time of rest and renewal which morphed into a season of pastoral counseling and chaplaincy. Now I'm growing, learning and thriving as a Pastoral Counselor, Hospice & Hospital Chaplain, and a part-time Pastor. These ministries happen in four different towns within a 50 mile radius to which I commute on my Suzuki 800vz. Speaking of my favorite things, my 257 Roberts is still in great shape, and brings a smile to my face, although I miss putting it to the best harvesting use it found in and around Uvalde.

"Rev. Mother," Bridget, commutes 50 miles to Pastor Chickamauga Presbyterian Church. She thrives (now for about 1 1/2 years) in this community of faith, just South of Chattanooga, on the edge of the largest Civil War battle-field, as the only female pastor around these parts!

Until God calls me elsewhere (maybe back to Texas someday) I expect to keep living in Calhoun where Avonne and Chantelle are in HS and Middle School, and Isaac comes to visit from Kennesaw, where he's beginning his 2nd year in college. Avonne's goal is to graduate from Calhoun HS in May 2011, with lots more exceptional experiences in band, dramatic plays, ensembles and All-State Chorus. Chantelle, also has lots of great friends and is on the drumline, in chorus and loves to play lots of sports. Isaac believes he may, eventually, become a Physical Therapist. So if you get carried away, on life's stage, and break a leg, maybe Ike can get you back up and running!

Speaking of running, I didn't mean to run on so long. I miss the Saints at FPC, Uvalde and am thankful for your continued faithful service! May God bless you all in your new pastoral relationship and in all you do to share one another's burdens and joys!

With Fond Sacred Memories and Prayerfully,

Ken kounselor08@gmail.com

PEACEMAKING OFFERING, 2009

The congregations of Mission Presbytery respond generously and graciously to the denomination's Peacemaking Offering, received by most churches on World Communion Sunday (October 4, this year). Churches retain 25% of this offering for peacemaking uses within their congregations, another 25% is used by the presbytery, and 50% is funneled on to General Assembly in support of the denomination's peacemaking program.

This year the Presbytery's portion will be used to inform and educate members of our presbytery on the issue of immigration.

Julia Thorne, PCUSA Assoc. for Immigration Concerns and an immigration attorney, will conduct regional workshops in Mission Presbytery to enlighten our members on the varied ramifications of this difficult matter.

Further information will follow in a couple of weeks.

Moneta Prince,
(Westminster, Austin),
Chair, Mission Outreach & Service Division

CHURCH WITH A HEART, October 2009

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Session held its stated September meeting on September 29, 2009. After sharing prayer concerns, Pastor Nancy opened the meeting with prayer. In the absence of the Treasurer, Pastor Nancy gave the Treasurer's report stating that giving was slightly up this month, but we still have more expenditures than income. The Session approved for the church office to mail out a year-to-date giving sheet to all giving units in the church. Beginning in January, the church office will send these statements out quarterly.

Michael Robinson reported for the Worship/Christian Education/Congregational Care/Membership and Mission Committee. The Session approved dropping Bill Mitchell from our church rolls, upon his request. It was also reported that the FPC Youth Connection will be having a pizza party and planning session on October 4 at the home of Tim and Monique Wilson.

Eddie Huddleston reported for the Building and Ground/Personnel/Budget, Finance and Planning Committee. She reported that the committee is looking into different investment strategies for a Certificate of Deposit that will come due this month. The Session also approved for our congregation's 25% of the Peacemaking Offering that will be collected on October 4 to be combined with other churches in our cluster. The combined offering will be sent to an area peacemaking project. There are several options available.

The date of **November 1** was set for the **Annual Congregational Meeting and Luncheon**. At this meeting, the budget will be presented to the congregation for any discussion and questions. Also, at this meeting, the various committees and groups in the church will give a report of what they have done this year. Pastor Nancy will introduce to the congregation a new committee structure for our church, and members will have the opportunity to become a part of these committees that day.

Pastor Nancy gave an offertory prayer for the work of these committees. There was no unfinished business that needed to be discussed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income:

Month of August: \$10,069.80

Year to Date: \$65,291.68

Expenses:

Month of August: \$11,210.75

Year to Date: \$78,539.12



Should you have questions concerning the finances of the church, please contact Treasurer, Barbara Abbott, or Bookkeeper, Nita Alderson.

To save the church printing and postage costs, please consider receiving your newsletter by email. Send your email address to fpcunews@gmail.com



A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. "What food might this contain?" the mouse wondered. He was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap. Retreating to the farm yard, the mouse proclaimed this warning : "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The pig sympathized, but said, "I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers."

The mouse turned to the cow and said, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The cow said, "Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap . . . Alone . . .

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house -- the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it. It was a venomous snake whose tail was caught in the trap. The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital. When she returned home she still had a fever.

Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup. So the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient. But his wife's sickness continued. Friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. But, alas, the farmer's wife did not get well... She died.

So many people came for her funeral that the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them for the funeral luncheon. And the mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness.

The next time you hear someone is facing a problem and you think it doesn't concern you, Remember... When one of us is threatened, we are all at risk. We are all involved in this journey called life. We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.

