



If you are interested in purchasing an Easter Lily to help decorate the sanctuary just call the church office, costs will be \$16.00 each. Orders are due by April 11th.

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



*The First Presbyterian Church*  
 1410 N.E. Veterans Blvd.  
 Miami, OK 74354

## The Open Door

**First Presbyterian Church**

**1410 NE Veterans Blvd.**

**Miami, Ok. 74354**

**Pastor: Reverend Dr. Helen Hutchison**

**Phone: 918-542-3388**



Last month I wrote about the Jewish Festival of Sukkot. My hope was to introduce you our plan for Vacation Bible School called Jesus' Holy Days. We are going to spend time on June 26, 27, and 28 learning about Jewish festivals that

Jesus would have celebrated.

### Shavuot

In the Bible, Shavuot is called the Festival of Weeks (Exodus 34:22, Deuteronomy 16:10); Festival of Reaping (Exodus 23:16), and Day of the First Fruits (Numbers 28:26). It occurs 50 days after Passover and has sometimes been compared to the Christian Pentecost with the giving of the Law similar to the out pouring of the spirit. On Passover, the Jewish people were freed from their enslavement to Pharaoh; on Shavuot they were given the Torah and became a nation committed to serving God.

Shavuot is also connected to the season of the grain harvest in Israel. In ancient times, the grain harvest lasted seven weeks and was a season of gladness (Jer. 5:24, Deut. 16:9-11, Isa. 9:2). It began with the harvesting of the barley during Passover and ended with the harvesting of the wheat at Shavuot. Shavuot was thus the concluding festival of the grain harvest, just as Sukkot was the concluding festival of the fruit harvest. As one of the three pilgrimage festivals (including Passover and Sakkot), part of Shavuot is making a pilgrimage to the temple with harvest offerings.

One of the traditions on Shavuot is to read the book of Ruth. The Book of Ruth is connected to Shavuot with its descriptions of the barley and wheat harvest seasons and Ruth's desire to become a member of the Jewish people, who are defined by their acceptance of the Torah. Moreover, the lineage described at the end of the Book lists King David as Ruth's great-grandson. According to tradition, David was born and died on Shavuot.

On the second day of Vacation Bible School we will be competing in the amazing Race as teams seek to be the first to gather all Ten Commandments. As we learn about Shavuot we celebrate being God's people and the knowledge that as God's people we follow God's law.

Helen

## More About Our Church Family

### Jim and Jeanne Fleming

Jim grew up in North Carolina in a family with two brothers who are 15 and 16 years younger than he. He attended college and seminary in South Carolina and earned both a Doctor of Ministry and a Doctorate in Christian Education and met his wife, Libby. She was a music major and taught music in universities and in a private setting. Libby and Jim had three children, one boy and two girls. Today they all live in South Florida; one daughter is an Optician and the other two children are in Retail.

Jeanne grew up with eight siblings in a small Kansas town where her father was a carpenter. Jeanne's parents gave her an "attitude of wonder" at the world. Jeanne has a rich Presbyterian heritage with a Great Grandfather who was the first Presbyterian minister in Kansas and four aunts and uncles in church vocations.

Jeanne met Jeff at Emporia College in Kansas. They were married before Jeff went to Europe with the Air Force during WWII. After the war, Jeff and Jeanne moved to Japan, where he was stationed for three years. After he left the service, he earned a Masters and a Doctorate in School Administration and School Finance and spent the next twenty years as Superintendent of Public Schools or in Community Colleges. He was a problem solver and stayed in one school until it was running smoothly then he went to another school to work on another problem.

After twenty years of public service Jeff bought a small bank in Arkansas and later The Security Bank in Miami. Both Jeff and Jeanne traveled between places frequently. Their daughters, Carol and Mary Kay, and their families moved to Miami and the husbands worked in the bank for a period of time.

Jeff and Libby both died of cancer. Jeanne had always been a full time mom but she now was faced with bank decisions. She realized she had talented employees so she learned by observation and just being there.

Jim was Pastor and Libby was Organist in Clarksville when Jeanne and Jeff were there. Jim latter served a small church in Huntsville, Arkansas. He and Jeanne were married in 1992. Jeanne has five children: Carol and Mary Kay live in Miami, one son lives in Wyoming and another in Colorado. The youngest son, Jay, died of cancer in 2000. His wife, Ginger, lives in Arkansas. Jeanne has 13 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. When they are all together, they like to play games. Scrabble is a favorite and Jeanne is the champion. They also like to work jigsaw puzzles and in the winter they usually have one going. Our church family is so enriched for having Jim and Jeanne as a part of us.



## Easter Sunday April 24, 9:00 a.m.

Come for an Easter Breakfast,  
an Easter egg hunt for kids and at 10:30  
an Easter worship service.

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### EOP News -

An Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery (EOP) meeting was held in Jenks on March 1.

-Jamie Gray is enrolled as an Inquirer in the process of ordination as a minister of Word and Sacraments.

-Reports were given: Congregational giving has declined; EOP staff cutbacks; 2011 Revised Mission Budget approved and Trustees reported on the closure of a church. I attended a Christian Education workshop.

*Grace Goodeagle, Presbytery Commissioner*

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## HOLY WEEK in Review

The Holy Week Services will all be at 12:00 p.m.  
(30 minute service and then lunch)

**Monday**

**Assembly of God**

**Tuesday**

**All Saints Episcopal**

**Wednesday**

**First Methodist**

**Thursday**

**Bethany Christian**

**Friday**

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**



### Child's Day Out

It is so much fun at our church each Wednesday with ten children three years old and younger playing in the Nursery and in the Play Yard. Our youngest, Abigail Hollandsworth, turned one year old last week. She has been coming all of this year. The other children love her and talk to her when they come. The caregivers, mothers and grandmothers, really appreciate some time alone and the children are learning so much.



### Deacons

The Board of Deacons have had an organization meeting. We have made plans to improve our mission - "sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Christ." That quote is from the BOOK OF ORDER. Especially we are making a more concerted effort to be in touch with our members who can not get out very often. Besides visits and calls from the Deacons, the members who are mostly homebound would appreciate hearing from you also. These members are Martha Elliott, Waymeth Cantrell, Dorothea Tebeck, Bernie Barnes, Marian Zajic, Thelma Carey and Mary Freeman.



### Mission

Not that we are satisfied with ourselves, but our church does a lot in the area of mission. During Lent, we are taking part in the One Great Hour of Sharing. Please help us reach our goal of \$1000. The Goodland boys will be here May 7. We had planned to have them in April but the weekend that was good for them was the Miami High School Senior Prom. Please be a part of greeting and hosting the boys. Jim Hill will cook hamburgers. We will need others to bring dishes to support the meal. John Lomax and men who help him will be cooking breakfast for the boys on Sunday morning. And the Fellowship Committee will plan a dinner for after Worship. Another project - we provided a meal for the patients waiting to see a doctor at the Community Health Center March 24. These people come about 4:30 to get their names on the list and sometimes they are not finished until about 8. So a simple meal is welcome. Thanks to you, the congregation, for making all of these projects possible.



This year we are going to do something a little different on Maundy Thursday. We will still gather for a potluck dinner, please bring a dish to share: a main dish, salad/veggie or dessert. Also please remember that if you bring your own plates and silverware you cut down on the expense and the trash. After dinner we will move to the sanctuary for a Tenebrae service that will include communion by intinction. The Tenebrae service is a service of darkness that takes place on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday. It is a very meaningful way to help us understand the full meaning of Easter morning.

Dinner starts a 6:00 and worship will begin around 7:00.

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### Presbyterians in the News

- Monday, March 14– Yes, that was Grace Goodeagle in the Miami News Records Storm Spotters photo and she was also on Joplin’s KODE-TV News speaking about Indian lawsuits.
  - Nancy Gee is one who helps with the extensive inventory of the Dobson Museum.
  - Meredith MacQueeney was pictured with the top ten percent of eighth graders who were honored by the Rotary Club.
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### Have you seen the church bus?

After using the bus regularly for the past five years it was time for a make-over. One of the session goals this year was to clean up the church bus. Thank you to Dick Seybolt the bus has undergone a transformation and maintenance overhaul. In order to keep the bus looking good we will now be parking it close to the front doors underneath the awning. Please be aware that if you are coming to the church you should plan on parking and walking in.

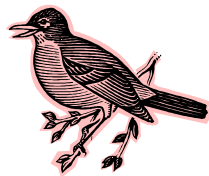




2nd—Melba Cordell  
 4th—Tom Cordell  
 8th-Thelma Carey and  
 Waymeth Cantrell  
 12th— Michael Leggett  
 16th-Sarah Mirjanich  
 18th-Jake Gray  
 23rd-Sarah Lomax  
 24th— Elia Rendel

**USHER DUTIES  
 FOR APRIL**

**Ushers**—Mark Hybiak and  
 Tom Pinson  
**Coffee Host**— Pat Landers  
**Communion Preparers:**  
 Mark Hybiak and Frank Gray



# April 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AA meets every Sunday in the Fellowship Hall at 8:00 p.m.					1	2
3 9:30-Class & choir 10:30-Worship/Com.	4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Pastor Helen at Conference</div>	5	6 8:30- CDO 3:45-Youth 5:15- Chime 6:00-Cong. Dinner 6:30-Worship 7:00-Choir	7 <u>5:30-Sr. High Group</u> 7:00-Gamblers Anonymous	8	9
10 9:30-Class & choir 10:30-Worship	11 Last day to order lilies!	12 10:00-Tuesday morning class 5:30-Mission mtg. 6:30-Worship mtg.	13 8:30- CDO 3:45-Youth 5:15- Chime 6:00-Cong. Dinner 6:30-Worship 7:00-Choir	14 <u>5:30-Sr. High Group</u> 7:00-Gamblers Anonymous	15	16
17 <u>Palm Sunday</u> 9:30-Class & choir 10:30-Worship 11:30- Deacon mtg. Loose Offering to Deacons	18 5:00- Session mtg.	19 10:00-Tuesday morning class	20 8:30- CDO 3:45-Youth 5:15- Chime 6:00-Cong. Dinner 6:30-Worship 7:00-Choir	21 6:00- Maundy Thursday congregational meal 7:00-Worship	22 <u>Good Friday</u> Church Office Closed	23
24 <b>Easter!</b> 9:00-Easter Breakfast and activities 10:30-Worship	25	26 10:00-Tuesday morning class	27 8:30- CDO 3:45-Youth 5:15- Chime 6:00-Cong. Dinner 6:30-Worship 7:00-Choir	28 <u>5:30-Sr. High Group</u> 7:00-Gamblers Anonymous	29	30