

Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery presents Cursillo (Kur-see-yo)



Who: Anyone 18 yrs. old or older that wants to grow in their faith journey.

What: It is a three-day faith renewal event designed to foster and support an individual's long-term commitment to living the Christian life.

Where: Nestled in the beautiful surroundings of Dwight Mission near Vian, OK.

When: Oct. 7-10, 2010

Have a question about Cursillo ask: Abrina Kneeland, Ron Whaley,
Sandy Ankenman, Doris Price or Jessica Pierson.

Home Communion

May we serve you? We have resumed taking communion to our homebound church members. Communion Sundays are the 1st Sunday of the month. We visit in the homes in the afternoon. Let Pastor Helen or the church office know if you would like us to come so we can plan accordingly.

Elders Grace Goodeagle and Nancy Gee



The Open Door

First Presbyterian Church
1410 NE Veterans Blvd.

Miami, Ok. 74354

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Helen Hutchison

Phone: 918-542-3388



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*

Every two years the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA meets. Presbyteries send representatives, both elders and pastors, to deal with issues that are present in churches, presbyteries, synods and our larger communities. In July the General Assembly met in Minneapolis. The week was full of committees (of course you had to know that) and a meeting of the full assembly. The following are some summaries of what the General Assembly put out to explain some of the more "hot button" issues. Certainly this is just the bear

bone, but I hope it gives you an idea of what discussions are going on in the larger church.

The Middle Governing Body Commission

The 219th General Assembly (2010) has created a Middle Governing Body Commission to act upon request of presbyteries and synods to reorganize.

Ordination Standards

The 219th General Assembly (2010) proposed a change to the PC(USA) Constitution regarding ordination standards by a vote of 373-323-4. The proposed change would state "Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life (G-1.0000). The governing body responsible for ordination and/or installation (G.14.0240; G-14.0450) shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of office. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation (W-4.4003). Governing bodies shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates." This action does not change the Constitution. It is a first step in the process. A majority of the 173 presbyteries would have to vote in the affirmative to approve the replacement by July 2012.

Civil Union and Marriage Issues

The General Assembly approved both the Final Report and the Minority Report of the Special Committee to Study Issues of Civil Union and Christian Marriage and ordered they be sent out for study by the wider church. The vote was 439 in favor, 208 against, with 6 abstentions. By this action (sending both reports for study) the Assembly maintained the definition of marriage as "a man and a woman." With the action to send the reports for study, no change has occurred, or is pending. By sending both reports to the wider church, it is the hope of the Assembly that Presbyterians will find helpful background information on civil unions and marriage, as well as material to help individuals and groups remain together as they work through these difficult issues.

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New Form of Government (FOG)

The General Assembly voted to recommend a revised Form of Government to the presbyteries with a vote of 468 in favor, 204 against, and 6 abstentions – a 70%-30% margin. The current Form of Government has served the church ably over the past quarter century. The proposed Foundations of Presbyterian Polity and Form of Government are intended to help the church better meet the needs of mission in the 21st century. The proposed new Form of Government lifts up the constitutional standards that are essential to our life together, while at the same time empowering councils (governing bodies) at all levels to respond more effectively to the ministry and mission needs that each faces. The revised Form of Government must now be considered, and approved by a majority of presbyteries, before July 10, 2011, in order to replace the existing Form of Government.

Actions regarding the Middle East

The General Assembly approved a comprehensive report on the Middle East – its first since 1997. The paper calls for:

- An immediate cessation of all violence, whether perpetrated by Israelis or Palestinians;
- The reaffirmation of Israel's right to exist as a sovereign nation within secure and internationally recognized borders;
- The end of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories;
- An immediate freeze on the establishment and expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, and on the Israeli acquisition of Palestinian land and buildings in East Jerusalem;
- And many other steps toward peace in the region.

The General Assembly rejected immediate divestment from Caterpillar (which was recommended at the last General Assembly) in favor of continued corporate engagement with Caterpillar and other companies profiting from the sale and use of their products for non-peaceful purposes and/or the violation of human rights.

I am certain more discussion and information will be forthcoming. If you want more details I can provide some resources for you.

Grace and Peace,
Helen

What would you like to see the church do in the coming program year?

On August 11th at 6:00pm at Helen's house there will be a dinner and discussion to focus on Kum Ba Yah or Wednesday Family Night. Can you believe that we have had this ongoing congregational gathering and worship for over 5 years? It has run in many different forms, set ups and time frames. Currently we have a youth program after school, at 5:00 the chime choir practices, at 6:00 we have a congregational dinner, 6:30 is worship and 7:00 is choir practice. We have at times had education for all ages and have had the leadership of worship rotate and had Helen lead. Here are some questions: are there some of you who would be interested in attending if we changed/added some things? If we changed set up or times would that allow others to attend? Anyone who has ideas, suggestions, hopes is invited to Helen's house for dinner and brainstorming (just please let her know so we have an idea of how many).

Presbyterians in the NEWS—

- Thelma Carey won the Spelling Bee at Higher Call Nursing Center. This is the second time in the last three Spelling Bees that she has won.
- Victoria Vazquez was pictured on the front page of the Miami News Record helping with Art for Fun. She is the artist who taught the children about pottery.
- Melissa Bekemeier is an artist with Art for Fun. The theme this year is multi-cultural art. Besides the Native American art the students will do some Egyptian, some Japanese, and some Russian art.

News from Dwight

Job and Elia Rendel had a delightful week at Dwight mid July.

Presbyterian Youth Triennium

Every three years the Presbyterian Church USA has a meeting at Purdue University for Presbyterian Youth. Approximately 5,000 young people from all over the United States attend. The theme this year is FOR A TIME LIKE THIS from Esther 4:14. Carmen Rabel, John Gray, and Billy Thomas will join others from Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery to attend. We will want to hear all about it!!

FYI—All church property, before loaned out, will need to be approved by Session. (chairs, tables, etc.) Please submit a request prior to the Session meeting which meets on the third Tuesday of every month.

Recyclables

Our church is much more aware of the need to recycle. Thanks to Cheryl Hartman for taking the items from the church to Red Cedar Recycling.

Mission

Frank Gray delivered the check for \$250 from our church to the Boys and Girls Club. The money is to help with their summer program. They were very pleased to receive it.

July 22 was our turn to furnish food for the Community Health Center. Melinda Waterson, a member of the Mission Committee, purchased Pizza and took it to the Health Center. People who come are there for several hours sometimes and it is over the dinner hour. Mary Garrette is appreciative of our helping with the food.

Art for Fun

Our Fellowship Hall was buzzing with activity the week of July 12. For the 15th year the Arts and Humanities has sponsored an art camp for the children in Miami ages ten to twelve. It has always been in our Fellowship Hall – first at the old church and later in our new building. Sally Rollins and our own Melissa Bekemeier have been the artists each year. Nancy Gee and Marcia McManigal have been a part of the staff. Last year and this, Victoria Vazquez has been a special artist with the program. Each year about 25 young people have a great week doing something they really enjoy. We are so pleased that our wonderful facilities can be used for such a worthwhile project.

Our Labyrinth

Many people, members and others, have found walking the Labyrinth meaningful. There is a brochure in the church which will help you understand and have a prayerful experience as you walk and talk with God.

JUNE Financial Report

June Income - - - -	\$ 9,250.68	June Expenses - -	\$13,134.06
Yearly Income - - -	\$65,552.08	Yearly Expenses -	\$72,945.54



MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILIES

Mark Hybiak

Mark is a relatively new member but he became active as soon as he joined and he has been a part of many of our activities. He is an Usher, a faithful member of the Seekers Sunday School Class and always a part of the Kum Ba Yah Wednesday eve activities.

Mark was the next to the youngest in a family of 7 sons and one daughter. He spent the first twenty years of his life in Sterling, Colorado. After he finished Junior College there, he attended Hastings College, a Presbyterian related college, and earned his Bachelors Degree in Religion. He considered becoming a minister but he changed his path. He married a girl he met in college and moved to her area, near Lincoln, Nebraska. In the next years, he moved to Kansas City, to Denver, and back to Kansas City. Each of these places, he worked in sales.

In 1985, he had back surgery related to a horseback riding injury. In 1995 he met and married a girl from Monett, Missouri, and they moved to Grove. They were both involved in Medieval Reenactment and performed all over the Midwest. Mark became an accomplished archer, using a long bow like English bowmen. He has worked with a group from Joplin and became a Safety Marshall for archery. He has had a lifelong love of history.

In 2006, he became single and moved to Miami. Through the years he had a close relationship with God but not with churches. On Christmas Eve in 2008 he came to our candlelight service. He started attending our church and has been very faithful ever since.

Mark's personal hero is Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Theologian in the reformed tradition who was a leader in the movement to remove Hitler and was placed in a concentration camp and martyred for his beliefs.

Mark has an interesting hobby – he makes wine. His favorite is Mead, a wine made from honey.

Mark is an avid reader. He is especially knowledgeable about history. One book he recommends highly is JOHN ADAMS by David McCullough.

Get to know Mark better. He is a great addition to our church family.



3rd-Betty Dean and
John Gray
4th—John Lomax
5th— Kathy Prince and
Truman Pitman
6th— Martha Elliott
11th— Bryson Williams
13th—Max Martin
16th—Jordan Zabel
21st—Autumn Ankenman
25th—Pris Fullerton and
Kaitlyn Mallatt
28th— Marion Zajic

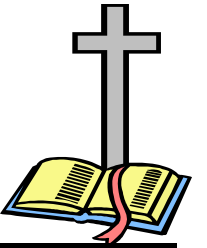
**Usher Duties
for August:**

Ushers: Kathy Prince and Frank Gray
Coffee Host: Frank Gray
Communion Preparers:
Frank Gray and Harold Price

**Childs Day Out
Informational Meeting
Aug. 8th at 11:45**

Looking for volunteers twice a
month on Wednesday mornings.
Interested parties contact
Barbara Reeves.

August 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30- Wor- ship/Communion 8:00- AA mtg.	2	3	4	5 7:00-Gamblers Anonymous mtg.	6	7
8 10:30- Worship 11:45-Childs Day Out mtg. 8:00 AA	9	10	11 6:00-Kum ba yah meeting at Helen's	12 7:00-Gamblers Anonymous mtg.	13	14
15 Loose Offering to Deacons 10:30- Worship 8:00- AA mtg.	16	17 10:00- Tuesday Morning Class 7:00-Session mtg.	18	19 7:00-Gamblers Anonymous mtg.	20	21
22 9:30-Sunday School 10:30- Worship	23	24 10:00- Tuesday Morning Class	25	26 7:00-Gamblers Anonymous mtg.	27	28
29 9:30-Sunday School 10:30- Worship	30	31 10:00- Tuesday Morning Class				