



Please tear out Poinsettia form and return it to the church office if you would like to order a Poinsettia for the sanctuary. Poinsettias costs will be \$14.00 each. Please have form turned in by December 14th. (One plant with multi-blooms)

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



Once again, I find that my hopes and wishes for you this Advent and Christmas Season are spoken in a poem of Ann Weems.

**Star-Giving**

What I'd really like to give you this Christmas is a star...

Brilliance in a package,

something you could keep in the pocket of your jeans  
or in the pocket of your being.

Something to take out in times of darkness,

Something that would never snuff out nor tarnish,

Something you could hold in your hand,

Something for wonderment,

Something for pondering,

Something that would remind you of

what Christmas has always meant:

God's Advent light into the darkness of this world.

But stars are only God's for the giving,

and I must be content to give you words and wishes and  
packages without stars.

But I can wish you life

as radiant as the Star

that announced the Christ Child's coming,

and as filled with awe as the shepherds who stood  
beneath its light.

And I can pass on to you the love

that has been given to me,

ignited countless times by others

who have knelt in Bethlehem's light.

Perhaps, if you ask, God will give you a star.

May the joy, hope, love, promise and peace of the Christ child be with you throughout the season and the coming year.

Grace and Peace,  
Helen



**First Presbyterian Church, Miami  
Annual Christmas Dinner  
December 13, at 6:00 p.m.**

Mike and Sally Willard have volunteered to serve us their delicious baked ham again this year. The congregation will supply the rest of the meal. Bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share. We are doing a great job of “going green” and saving money by bringing our own table service.

**Presbyterians in the NEWS —**



- Greg and Winnie Hiebert were pictured at the Math Night for Parents at Nichols School.
- Jeanne Fleming was pictured receiving the award for “Project Pride” for the Security Bank.
- Mary Kay McCoy was pictured receiving a grant from the Miami Public Schools Enrichment Foundation.
- Winnie Hiebert was pictured with her first grade class at Nichols. Her teacher is Mrs. Barker.
- Logan Zabel, a senior at Northern Colorado, played his final football game on November 14. He plays in the starting position of Linebacker.
- Nancy Gee was pictured as a Blood Donor celebrating reaching her lifetime goal of ten gallons.

**Gobble Gobble Good News—**



We set up 10 tables for the Thanksgiving dinner and we needed more seats. Some guests even sat on the edge of the stage!

The dessert table was over flowing, so we had plenty of yummy treats to share with the AA meeting that followed our Thanksgiving feast.

Thank you to those that prepared a turkey, Frank Gray, Frankie Gray, Doris Price, Melinda Watterson and Sherry Hiebert.

**50 Years Ago—**

**Christian Ed Department:** Norris Viers— Superintendent of Sunday School, Bob Gee—College Class, Neil Norton— Superintendent of Junior Department, Mrs. John Roberts—Superintendent of Primary Department, Mariners Class— John Wallace, Caravan Class— Byron Wyatt.

**10 Years Ago—**

**Special Presbyterian Women’ s Meeting—**All Presbyterian Women are invited to come to a round-table discussion concerning our new church building. We will have a noon covered dish luncheon during which, Nancy Gee will lead the discussion. Come for lunch or if you wish just a cup of coffee. This is your opportunity to have some input into the planning of our new building.



It has been an exciting couple of months for the youth group. We’ve done many scavenger hunts, picked up walnuts, and we have even done a coat drive for the month of November. It’s coming up to the holidays now, and we all have much to be thankful for. This church has a great bunch of kids, and we are all thankful for them and their families. On December 6th, we are going to be going to the Tulsa Day Center, where we are going to watch some children, so the parents can have some time to themselves. Time to ourselves is very important, but so often overlooked. It gives us time to be thankful to God for what we have, and to often reflect on what is going on. Many times, when my husband is driving his semi on a long road, that is when he prays and talks to God. He calls it his favorite time of the day. Many warm wishes to you all, and Merry Christmas!



## Heritage

Remember last year when the Heritage Committee prepared an update on our church history? The proceeds were to be used to have printed and framed pictures of our ministers through the years. That project is almost complete. We have collected the pictures. Dave McManigal has refined them and printed them the same size, 8 x 10. Nancy Cordell has done some calligraphy, and they are being framed. They will be ready to hang soon!!!

## Mission News—

The church received a letter of thanks from the “Cuba Connection”, a mission of the General Assembly of our church. Here is an excerpt:

“We appreciate the contribution from the First Presbyterian Church for the Presbyterian Cuba Connection. It comes at a very important moment of need of the church in Cuba, with some unforeseen maintenance and renovation needs for facilities and the need to equip the Synod office after the recent death of Miriam Alban. I have a trusted channel who will go to Cuba in ten days and the funds will be put to use immediately.”

The Mission Committee voted to contribute \$500 to a mission called THE ARK. This is a faith based homeless shelter for persons with addiction problems. It was housed in Picher but has been bought out and The Ark is relocating to a facility near Quapaw. Those who live there have jobs obtained for them with the help of the directors. They pay for their housing from their salaries. The persons need to be transported to the jobs. The committee is giving the donation for transportation. We know about this mission through Harold Price who is a volunteer there.

**STEWARDSHIP NEWS—**The season recognized that everyone is getting many requests for funds. Not only is it the season for giving, but the last years economic struggles have made it a time when many wonderful organizations are needing support. Because of this, we have not done a huge stewardship campaign. But, like all the wonderful organizations, we are planning our budget for the next year. Please prayerfully consider your pledge for the next year and turn in a pledge card to assist the session in being good stewards of the ministry and mission of this church. If you have misplaced the pledge card that was mailed to you, there are cards available in the narthex. Thank you for your consideration and support.



## MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

### Doris and Harold Price

Doris and Harold grew up in Perry, Oklahoma; they were high school sweethearts! Doris is the youngest of three daughters. They grew up on a farm. Harold is the youngest of three children. After graduation Harold went to Phillips University and Doris went to Oklahoma State University. But for the second year, Doris joined Harold at Phillips! Doris earned a Bachelor Degree and Masters Degree in Speech Pathology. Harold earned a Bachelor in Sociology. Harold earned a Masters of Social Work at Missouri University. Doris and Harold remained in Columbia for nine years. Cate was born there. When Cate was two years old, the family moved back to Oklahoma to be closer to family. They both worked for Grand Lake Mental Health. When the Speech Pathology program was discontinued, Doris worked one year in the Miami Public Schools. She had a Children’s Shop for a few years then went back to work with children in a program of the state called Sooner Start. It is a program for young children who might be considered at risk developmentally. Just this year she retired from that program. After a few years at Grand Lake Mental Health, Harold worked at the Family Life Center in Riverton, Kansas. Now he is working as a Drug and Alcohol Counselor for the Seneca Cayuga Tribe.

Although they had grown up in churches, just before coming to Miami, they had not been active. Their time in our church began when Mary Kay McCoy invited them to a Fellowship dinner. Both she and Carol Carden nurtured them in faith and they became active in the church. Each of them has been a Deacon and Elder.

Cate graduated from Pittsburg State University with a degree in Business and she earned a Masters of Business from Baker University. She and Brian Adams have been married nine years. They live in Wichita, Kansas.




Doris and Harold love to travel. One of their favorite places to visit has been Montreal, Canada. Harold enjoys woodworking in his spare time and Doris has begun jewelry making since she retired. She and Barbara Reeves have done the planning and preparation work and started the CHILD’S DAY OUT program. It is a program in which everyone wins – the children, the parent or grandparent caregiver, and the church members who have ready laps and energy to play.

What dedicated Christians! We are proud they are in our church family.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2nd—Jeraldine Wilcox  
 6th—Rick Whalen  
 7th—Bill Neill and David Foster  
 9th—Karen Norris  
 10th—Bood Abel  
 12th—David Prince  
 13th—Chris Ankenman  
 16th—Larry Clay  
 17th—Shirley Bomford  
 19th—Kathleen Johnson  
 23rd—Paul Gay and Andrew Clay  
 29th—Tiffany Williams



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>Joy</b> <i>will be</i> <b>Collected through Dec. 20</b>		<b>1</b>  Presbytery mtg.	<b>2</b> 8:15- Childs Day Out 3:45-Youth prog 5:15 Chime Choir 6:00-Cong. Dinner 6:30- Worship	<b>3</b>  <b>7:00- Men's Breakfast</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:30-Sunday School 9:30-Choir 10:30-Worship/Com. 6:00-HS Bible Study	<b>7</b> 4:00-Exercise Class	<b>8</b> 10:00- Tuesday morning class	<b>9</b> 8:15- Childs Day Out 11:30-Mission Com. mtg 3:45-Youth prog 5:15 Chime Choir 6:00-Cong. Dinner 6:30- Worship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Angel Tree Gifts Due 9:30-Sunday School 9:30-Choir 10:30-Worship 11:30-Deacons mtg. 6:00 Congregational Christmas Dinner	<b>14</b> 4:00-Exercise Class  Poinsettia Orders are Due	<b>15</b> 10:00- Tuesday morning class 7:00-Session mtg.	<b>16</b> 8:15- Childs Day Out 3:45-Youth prog 5:15 Chime Choir 6:00-Cong. Dinner 6:30- Worship	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:30-Sunday class 9:30-Choir 10:30-Worship 12:00 Give out Christmas Baskets 6:00-HS Bible Study	<b>21</b> <b>NO Exercise Class</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>No Activities</b>	<b>24</b> <u>Church Office Closed</u> 7:30- Music 8:00- Lessons and Carols Candlelight & Communion	<b>25</b> Church Office Closed 	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:30-Sunday School 9:30-Choir 10:30-Worship 6:00-HS Bible Study	<b>28</b> 4:00-Exercise Class	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>No Activities</b>	<b>31</b>	