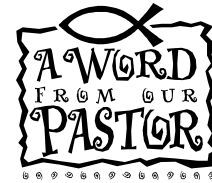


The Open Door

First Presbyterian Church
1410 NE Veterans Blvd.
Miami, Ok. 74354

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Helen Hutchison
Phone: 918-542-3388



I am not one who loves new technology. It is a challenge to use a new system and I tend to stay with what I know. When I moved to Miami five years ago my cell phone was old and so I went to get a new phone with a Miami number. It was funny because I spent a long time in the store arguing with the clerk because I only wanted a phone. I did not want a camera. I did not want an internet connection. I only want a phone that could call in an emergency, if I got stuck on the road. I have been happy with that until the last couple of months. Carol Carden got an I-phone for Christmas. Every time I have seen her since then she is very excited and wants to show me some new thing she has found on her phone. For the first time it made me think– hey that could be fun! What kinds of things could I do with a phone like that.

My problem with new technology though does not cross over into new faith discussions. I am glad that it is almost time for a new confirmation class. It is always a joy to spend time with young people talking with them about faith, about where they see God in the world and how they understand our church traditions. Often, their wonderful new insights help me to grow in my faith. It is always a pleasant reminder that through different cultures, languages, nuances and understandings the message of God's love for us continues to be shared and expressed. The Good News is not tied to a particular phrase or word– it is how we use our own current language and understandings to share the truth of the Creator that we know and worship.

Like my experience with the cell phone, these new ways of saying God's message can sometimes seem like gibberish; very different and disconnected from the traditions that we grew up with. Can you guess what this is?

dad@hvn, ur spshl. You rule, up and down. We need grub and a break. Will pass it on. Resq us from the evil 1. 4 ur always the most xcelent dude. Yo.



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

Several years ago a British Christian Web site called ship-of-fool.com asked for people to condense the Lord's prayer into 160 characters (the maximum text that would fit on a regular cell phone screen— this was before twittering). The passage above was the winning translation.

Maybe instead of being frustrated with new approaches, we can be thankful that God's message continues in whatever way people speak and whatever way people can listen and understand! Maybe then, we can look forward to what is coming— We can be like Carol Carden whose excitement and joy at a new program, and a new way to remain connected family and friends (I think she has 8 Scrabble games going at one time) spills out to create excitement and joy with those around her. Thank you Carol!

Grace and Peace,

Helen

Our Heritage

The Heritage Case this month features Dr. Harry Curtis. He was our minister from 1923-1959. He was a caring and intelligent person, a great minister who was pastor to the entire town. Four of our members grew up in our church and became members under Dr. Curtis. Four of our members were confirmed by Dr. Curtis – Tom Bomford, Melba Cordell, Melinda Watterson and Betty Dean. Thelma Carey and Bob Linton joined our church early in the ministry of Dr. Curtis. In the Heritage Case we have several items from Dr. Curtis. We have his Mortar Board and Hood from his receiving his Doctor of Divinity

from College of the Ozarks. We have his well-worn Pulpit Bible and Pocket Records of his marriages and funerals. In the center is a small picture of the portrait that Charles Banks Wilson painted of Dr. Curtis. The original burned in the fire. On the round table in the Narthex, there are books of letters received by Dr. and Mrs. Curtis when he retired. Also there is the book containing pictures and articles about the events in his ministry. Those of you who knew him remember him fondly.



Presbyterians in the News- -

- Emily Gray was featured on the front page in a section called “Smile of the Day.”
- Meredith MacQueeney was listed on the Principal's Honor Roll.
- Olivia Fairbanks and Kolin Williams were listed on the Faculty Honor Roll.
- Isaac Rendel was shown with his class holding the book his class published.

Our Sunday School

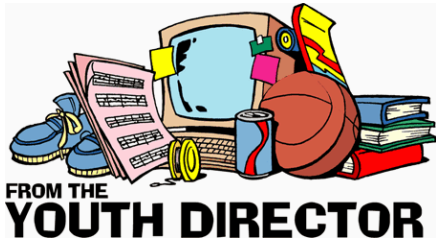


The Primary Department was studying the “Parable of the Prodigal Son.” The teacher told the children to look in their Bibles in the New Testament to the book of Luke. A third grader said, “You should look in the “L”s!”



Thanks to Dave McManigal who printed the photographs and Nancy Cordell who did the calligraphy we have pictures of each of our ministers since 1912 and also our Interim Pastors and Assistant Pastors. We have them in a book on the table in the Narthex and soon we will have copies of the pictures in the frames and ready to hang.





On January 16 we had a lock in at the church with about fifteen kids. A special thanks go out to Abrina the “Phone Patrol” and Lashell the “ref”, to Shelly the “Wizard”, and to Billy, the “gamester”. I couldn’t have done it without you. The group of kids had a great time and I appreciate everybody that

helped to feed them. It definitely takes a community to help raise children. Next month, the older youth group will be going back to the Tulsa Day Center on Feb. 28. After that, we will be going to the mall and be getting back between 8:00 and 9:00. For this visit, we will be doing a toothbrush drive. If people can bring a toothbrush, we will take them to the day center when we go. Also, we have changed things around on when kids come to church. On Monday, I will be teaching the younger kids, fifth grade down. Starting Feb 1, Helen will be starting the confirmation class with the junior high kids on that Monday. That will go on for a few months. On Wednesday, I will be holding youth group for sixth grade and up. We have a lot of things going on the next couple of months, and I am excited about the group of kids that we have. Thanks to everybody for your support. I do appreciate it!



50 Years Ago!

C.B. Roberts and Tom Cordell was ordained as Elders.
Paul Gay and Tom Bomford were ordained as Deacons.

10 Years Ago!

On January 15 the Architect for the new church came to meet with various groups to talk about their wishes for the new structure.

MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILIES

Gene and Waymeth Cantrell



If you were asked “Who are the most faithful members or our church?” I know the Cantrells would be one of the first you would name.

Gene grew up in Galena, Kansas, the oldest of five children. Waymeth grew up on a farm east of Galena, the tenth of twelve children. They attended different elementary schools but they went to the same High School where they began dating. They were married in 1943 (Count that up! It is 66 years together.) before Gene, who was in the Navy, went overseas to serve in the South Pacific. Waymeth worked for a group of attorneys while Gene was away. When Gene came home in 1946, they moved to Joplin where Gene worked in banking and Waymeth worked in Real Estate. Gene was called back into the Navy during the Korean conflict. After his discharge they lived in several places where Gene worked in banking.

Gene grew up in the Baptist Church and was baptized when he was nine years old. Waymeth attended a small church near the farm when she was growing up. The church was in a one room school. Since their marriage, wherever they have lived, they have been active in a Presbyterian Church. Together they have sponsored Youth Groups. Waymeth always taught children in Sunday School and Gene taught the adults. Gene has always been a Bible student. Although he has read the Bible several times, he continues to study it. He has taught an adult class in our church since 1977. Isn’t that wonderful!

The Cantrells moved to Miami in 1976 so Gene could begin the Miami National Bank.

Waymeth has worked in many capacities but the work she liked the best was data processing. She enjoys various art work, including needle work such as crocheting, needle point, and embroidery.

The joy of their life is Kaitlyn, a grand niece, who has lived with them all of her twelve years. They became her legal guardian when she was ten months old. Kaitlyn is now in the seventh grade. She is active in our Youth Program. One of Gene’s favorite times was when he worked part time at the Baptist School where Kaitlyn was a student. Kaitlyn is indeed fortunate to have such a loving family.

Although it has not always been easy, Waymeth said she wouldn’t change her life if she could.

The Cantrells can be our role models as devoted, hard working church members.



Birthdays

12th– John Prince
 Steve Charlton
 14th—Sue Giffhorn
 15th– Barbara Reeves
 16th–Bernie DuVall
 25th– Mika Bolton
 26th– Chris Leggett



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## FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY:

Ushers, Coffee Host &  
 Communion Preparers:  
 Mike and Sally Willard

# February 2010



| Sun                                                                            | Mon                                                                       | Tue                                                            | Wed                                                                                                                                          | Thu                               | Fri       | Sat       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Every Sunday at 8:00 p.m. the AA group will be meeting in the fellowship hall. | <b>1</b><br>4:00– Confirmation Class<br>4:00– Youth                       | <b>2</b><br>10:00-Tuesday morning class                        | <b>3</b> 8:15– Childs Day Out prog.<br>3:45-Youth<br>5:15– Chime practice<br>6:00– Kum ba ya dinner<br>6:30-Worship<br>7:00– Choir practice  | <b>4</b><br>7:00– Men’s Breakfast | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>7</b> 9:30– Class<br>9:30– Choir<br>10:30-Worship/Com.<br>6:00-HS Study     | <b>8</b><br>4:00– Confirmation Class<br>4:00– Youth                       | <b>9</b><br>10:00-Tuesday morning class                        | <b>10</b> 8:15– Childs Day Out<br>3:45-Youth<br>5:15– Chime practice<br>6:00– Kum ba ya dinner<br>6:30-Worship<br>7:00– Choir practice       | <b>11</b>                         | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> |
| <b>14</b> 9:30– Class<br>9:30– Choir<br>10:30-Worship<br>6:00– HS Study        | <b>15</b> <u>Office closed</u><br>4:00– Confirmation Class<br>4:00– Youth | <b>16</b><br>10:00-Tuesday morning class<br>7:00– Session mtg. | <b>17</b> 8:15– Childs Day Out prog.<br>3:45-Youth<br>5:15– Chime practice<br>6:00– Kum ba ya dinner<br>6:30-Worship<br>7:00– Choir practice | <b>18</b>                         | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b> |
| <b>21</b> 9:30– Class<br>9:30– Choir<br>10:30-Worship<br>6:00– HS Study        | <b>22</b><br>4:00– Confirmation Class<br>4:00– Youth                      | <b>23</b><br>10:00-Tuesday morning class                       | <b>24</b> 8:15– Childs Day Out prog.<br>3:45-Youth<br>5:15– Chime practice<br>6:00– Kum ba ya dinner<br>6:30-Worship<br>7:00– Choir practice | <b>25</b>                         | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b> |
| <b>28</b> 9:30– Class<br>9:30– Choir<br>10:30-Worship<br>6:00-HS Study         |                                                                           |                                                                |                                                                                                                                              |                                   |           |           |