

The Open Door

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

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Summer is definitely here. If we seem to not feel that we are in the summer season all we have to do is take a step outside and feel the heat. This has not been one of the pleasing days of summer slowing down and enjoying- it has been a jump to the very hot and humid weather that reminds us of the season. Even with the complaining about the weather there are several other markers that we have shifted into a summer mode:

- The Chicago mission trip was quite an experience. You have a right to be proud of the participants who did things like:
 - make 936 food boxes for seniors
 - serve lunch at a homeless shelter two blocks from Obama's house
 - help in a garden to assist in beautifying a neighborhood
 - tutoring women in a homeless shelter who were preparing to take their G.E.D. test
 - playing with children in a homeless shelter
 - assisting at thrift stores that were raising money for non profits in the community.

On top of all of this, we were able to spend some time walking around Chicago, the downtown, china town, Navy Pier and the Point, right on the lake. The leader of the program in Chicago told us that he felt it was his job to make sure that we were uncomfortable at least three times during the week. And he definitely did his job. From work settings that showed some of the difficulties in a big city to taking the Chicago public transportation of trains and buses, we were definitely in a different environment. Our group was willing to continue to serve even when a bit uncomfortable and willing to work through these experiences and see God's hand in them. (Ok I admit, many gave me dirty looks when we first arrived and said "Helen, what have you gotten us into" but by the end of the week the dirty looks turned to joy as the youth recognized their accomplishments and how much they had learned and grown.) The youth are excited to share these experiences with the congregation. Thank you to those who kept us in prayers during that week (especially in those uncomfortable moments it was nice to know prayer was holding us up) and thank you to Carol Carden and all who helped provide the wonderful travel packs. We definitely knew that you were all with us on this journey.

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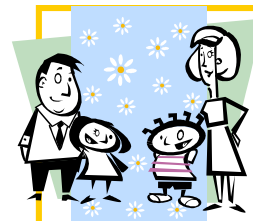
- Vacation Bible School with the Methodist and Episcopal churches took us to Rome to spend time in a Roman market place and to spend time with Paul. It was a great event for all ages.
- This summer for our summer worship series we are spending time with classic black and white movies. We began the series with To Kill a Mocking Bird and will continue to see what these classic movies have to teach about putting scripture into everyday life situations. In upcoming sermons you can expect: Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (this one we have to do around the July 4th holiday), 12 Angry Men, The Three faces of Eve, Guess Whose Coming to Dinner and several more.
- The Tuesday morning class continues to meet through the summer. In July we are starting a new class looking at the history of anti Semitism and trying to understand how one group of people has been often targeted for oppression, ridicule and terrible treatment. Understanding might help us to recognize and reform these behaviors in our day.

As we enjoy this wonderful time of the summer season, let us continue to experience God in our rest, work and play.

Grace and Peace,
Helen

Vacation Bible School

Next best to going to Rome was to go to Bible School set in Rome in Paul's time. Our church participated with the Methodists and Episcopalians. Last year it was at our church but this year it was at the Methodist and Episcopal churches. A very innovative idea is that the children were not grouped by age but groups of eight children ranging from 5 to 11 were with 2 adults to for a family with a Roman name like Flavius or Darius. Dinner was served at the Methodist Church followed by worship called "Extol" in their sanctuary. Olympics were held on the lawn of the Episcopal Church. Our Kim took the role of Paul and interacted with the children. One room was darkened into the Catacombs, the dark caves where early Christians worshipped. In the church was the most wonderful market you can imagine. There were different booths – food from Roman times like grapes and olives, a paper folding booth, a jewelry making booth, a booth with scribes and calligraphy, a booth to make a victor's crown, an architect booth, and a booth which sold Togas and made pictures of the family groups. It was a wonderful experience for leaders and participants. Susan Russell was Co-chairing the event. Pastor Helen led the adult study. Our youth who have been dressed like Romans are Ariel and Priscilla Wenzel, Carmen Rabel, and Josh and John Gray. Other adults taking leadership were C.B. Roberts, Jamie Gray, Nancy Gee, Jera Rendel, Carol Carden, Mary Kay McCoy and Kim and Kathy Wenzel. Thanks to all the people that furnished cookies.



Child's Day Out

With the support of the mission committee and the session a children's day out program for preschoolers will begin in August.

The purpose of the First Presbyterian Church Child's Day Out program is to:

- Provide a safe, caring, supportive environment for parents and children.
- Create a meeting ground within our community for parents, and give parents a break.
- Establish an opportunity for children to develop appropriate social skills.

The program starts August 19, 2009, on Wednesday's only, from 8:15 to 11:45 a.m. This program will be open for two children ages 3 months to 1 year, and eight children from 1 year to 4 years old. The cost for each Wednesday will be \$7.00 for the first child and \$5.00 for each additional child. Snacks will be provided.

The success of the children's day out program will depend on involvement of our church family. We need help to nurture and care for the children involved in the program. There are opportunities to read to children, play with children, sing with children, rock babies, provide and prepare snacks and to relate to and support parents.

We are asking that YOU prayerfully consider sharing your time and talents with the children and families of our community by finding a fun way to be involved in this endeavor. Involvement can be on a weekly or intermittent basis.

Books and preschool toys are also needed to begin the weekly sessions.

Please contact Helen, Barbara or Doris for more information and to volunteer your time and talents.





Presbyterians in the NEWS—

- Meredith MacQueeney was listed on the Principal's Honor Roll at Will Rogers Middle School.
- Josh Gray and Angel Mills were listed on the Faculty Honor Roll at Will Rogers Middle School.
- Abbey Ankenman was listed on the Principal's Honor Roll at Miami High School.
- Abrina Kneeland and LaShell Thomas were listed on the Faculty Honor Roll at Miami High School.
- Dulcinea Wenzel was a part of the Student Ensemble when the Soma Dance Company presented MUSIC IN DANCE.

Heritage Case

The Heritage Case this month features Vacation Bible School through the years. There are many pictures, some of many years past when those now grown were children. There are some handicraft items from previous years. Good memories!!!



Presbyterian Women's Triennium

Presbyterian women from all over the world will meet in Louisville, Kentucky, July 11 to July 15. The wonderful meeting is held every three years. Nancy Gee will be a participant this year. She and Marilyn Hurley have attended each triennial meeting except one since 1976.



MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILIES

Dorothea Tebeck

Our church would not be the caring, active congregation that it is today without long time members like Dorothea who have done so much for so many years.

Dorothea grew up in Mexico, Missouri, with loving parents and a brother.

Later she had a sister the age of one of her daughters!

After graduating from High School, she went to work in Kansas City at Montgomery Wards. There she met E. L. Tebeck, known as Tee, who was head of the Automotive Department at Montgomery Wards. They were married in Fulton, Missouri, and moved to St Louis. Later they moved back to Kansas City where Tee became Western Auto Representative who traveled in four states. Dorothea worked for Wolfe Brothers until their first baby girl was born. Traveling all of the time was hard. Tee liked to be home so he became manager of the Western Auto Store in Carthage, Missouri. In 1951 the Tebecks, including another baby girl, moved to Miami where Tee opened the Western Auto Store here. In the next few years two more daughters were born.

The family became active in the Presbyterian Church and immediately felt at home here. Dorothea has fond memories of Presbyterian Women, of serving dinners and having plays in the church basement, and working in Bible School. She especially has warm memories of Rev. and Mrs. Harry Curtis.

Dorothea was a busy lady. Her first concern was for her family. Her best family memories are of meals together and packing up the station wagon to go to Mexico, Missouri!! Through the years she was active in the Modern Mothers Club and always gave time to groups like Girl Scouts and PTA where the girls were involved. Bowling was a hobby. She and Faye Berentz won the Doubles State Championship.

Dorothea was a 50 year member of the Red Cross. She went with other members to Eastern State Hospital to enrich the lives of the patients. They played Bingo, went shopping, and even took them to the Rodeo!! Dorothea always helped with the Bloodmobile and was Director of the Ottawa County Red Cross at one time.

She was a charter member of Miami Little Theater fifty years ago. She was in many plays. She particularly remembers her part in the opening play, MALE ANIMAL. She also served on the first Board of Friends of the Coleman and has been active in the restoration of the Coleman ever since.

Dorothea was a Unit Secretary at Miami Baptist Hospital for twelve years before retiring.

Keeping her life interesting are her four daughters who have always enjoyed her and each other. Teresa and Deidre (Dee Dee) are retired and live at Aspen Wall on Grand Lake. Linda lives in Edmond and Cindy lives in Seneca. Dorothea has six grandsons and two granddaughters. She has six Great Grandchildren and two more on the way.

Our church is blessed to have had Dorothea as an active member for 58 years!!



Birthdays

1st—Priscilla Wenzel
 2nd—Steven Carden
 3rd—Dick Seybolt and Shelly Thomas
 5th—Mike Victory
 9th—Melinda Watterson, and Jera Rendel
 10th—Geoff Nolte
 12th—Job Rendel
 14th—Marilyn Hill
 15th—Brent Rendel
 18th—Cheryl Hartman and Jacob Gray
 19th—Brenda Lawrence
 23rd—George Reeves, Jamie Prince and Abrina Kneeland
 24th—David McManigal
 27th—Gary Sommer and Susan Russell
 31st—Bill Thomas



July 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Church Office Closed	4 <i>Independence Day!</i>
5 9:30-Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30-Worship/Comm.	6	7 10:00- Tuesday morning class	8	9 12:00- Mission Committee mtg.	10	11
12 9:30-Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30-Worship	13 9:00—12:00	14 10:00 Tuesday am class 7:00- Session mtg.	15 MONDAY THROUGH	16 FRIDAY ~~~~~	17 JULY 13-17	18
19 <i>Loose Offering to Deacons</i> 9:30-Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30-Worship	20	21 10:00- Tuesday morning class	22	23	24	25
Dwight Mission Summer Camp						
26 9:30-Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30-Worship	27	28 10:00- Tuesday morning class	29	30	31	