

The Open Door

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

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



The session is seeking to be an example of how to live out one of those troublesome Biblical passages that I have been preaching on. On June 13, I preached about the importance of taking a Sabbath or break from daily activities. The word Sabbath is related to the Hebrew verb meaning “to cease, stop, interrupt.” It is not an easy task. We can easily tell ourselves that God really didn’t mean to put taking a rest within the top ten things of being a faithful person. I mean really, taking a rest is up there with acknowledging One God, honoring father and mother, not killing or coveting— really?

Ok— yes— it is in the top ten— really. So, July is going to be our church Sabbath month. We will have regular worship on Sundays at 10:30, but we will take a break from education and youth activities. As we cease, stop and interrupt regular activities, the hope is there might be some time to try something else. So if you find you do have some extra time on this Sabbath month here are some suggestions:

- Take some time to walk the Labyrinth (prayer walk) in the grass near the volleyball net.
- Recognize that the world can survive a day without us. (If God can rest for a day certainly the world can survive a day when we rest) Turn off the blackberry or iphone and play a game with family or friends.
- Turn off the TV and read a book.
- Prepare a meal for a neighbor who is going through a hard time.
- Take time to call on an old friend who you haven’t spoken to in a long time.

On the first Sabbath, God stepped back and rested in joy for what God had created. Sabbath is not just about rest but also about stepping back and looking in joy at all the blessings. Really!

Grace and Peace,
Helen



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SESSION NEWS—

Finances: From January to May 2010 our income has been \$56,301.40 and our expenses have been \$59,811.28. This means that we have spent \$3,510.08 more than what we have taken in. We will continue to watch expenses—especially over the summer when often income goes down.

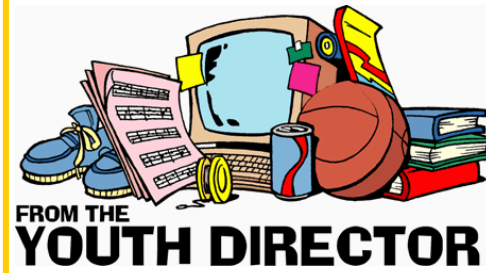
Presbytery Commissioner: Grace Goodeagle attended the Presbytery meeting as our representative on June 12. She reported that the Presbytery is seriously attending to Disaster Relief both in Haiti as well as domestic flooding and disasters. We are encouraged as a church to keep praying to find a way to help those victims.

Property & Maintenance: Bill Neill reported that the bus will be going for a restripe and check up after VBS. The session met with Neece Concrete and is waiting for a proposal for the parking lot.

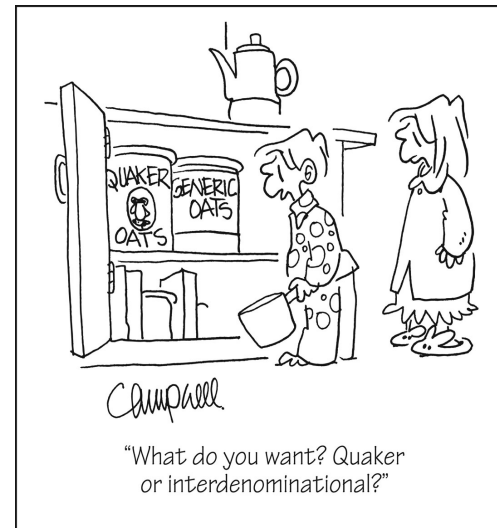
Worship: Dolly Gray gave the report. We will be starting a new bear ministry; this will be a tangible item we can deliver to people who we are praying for. The bears will join us in church on Sundays and then be delivered to someone in need with a letter telling them that the bear has been a part of our community and that it heard our prayers for the individual. They will then have something to hold onto to remember that we as a church are remembering them! The Bee Bag Ministry for the children has gone really well and the Seekers Sunday School class has gotten involved by contributing items for the bags! A request was put out that we once again try to arrange for Communion for the Home Bound members of our church. This will be looked into and attempted to find people able to deliver those.

Top Three Goals for 2010:

- (1) Picture Directory— This is up and running Jera Rendel showed us the cover and pictures are being taken on Sunday mornings.
- (2) Sunday Worship Songs- We are getting positive or no response from our new song selections. We have used the screen some and had many inserts. The session requested that we use the screen more.
- (3) Mission— We have recently collected and donated household items to the harbor, are sponsoring a trip to Goodland in August, and contributed \$250 to Boys and Girls club for their summer program.



VBS was a great success this year with the help from many in our church, as well as the First Methodist church and the Episcopal church. This year was the story about Joseph in Egypt. The kids had a great time making mud bricks and then stacking them together later in the week. We had so many helpers from the church it would be hard to name all of them, and I do not want to forget to mention anybody! So thank you very much for all the hard work. Also, last month we sent four kids to Dwight Mission where they had a blast. Logan changed his name to Rinco, Jacob came back hoarse, and Josh and LaDonna both want to go back next year. This month, John, Carmen, and Billy will be going to Triennium which will be held at Purdue University. Sounds exciting!



Update from Our Mission

Market — Our last collection was for local missions we collected \$117. We are now collecting funds for scholarships for Dwight Mission and others that we provide scholarships for.

Church Directory NEWS- -

We will be wrapping up the directory this month so if you have not had your picture taken or submitted one to Jera please e-mail her at: jerallynn@ruralinet.net or give a current picture to Jera to scan.

Presbyterians in the NEWS -

- Grace Goodeagle won First Place in Bowling in the Ottawa Tribal Elders Olympics.

A prayer for summer



A rippling sea of green and gold
Is shimmering before us
As wind stirs the tall corn,
Wave after green wave rises high,
Reaching for the summer sun.

Lord God,
When you summon seeds
From these furrowed fields,
How readily they obey!

Like the myriad crops,
Help us grow steadily;
Help us stretch, ripen
Round out, unfold.

In the warm rays of your strength,
Help us yield goodness!



Our Church Family

MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILIES

Thelma Pickett

Thelma spent her childhood in Southwest Nebraska. She was the oldest of 4 children. Her dad was a Machinist and her mom was a stay at home mom. She and her husband, Jerrell, went to school together in Nebraska and they married young. They lived in Nebraska several years. Their oldest three children, two girls and a boy, were born there – the oldest daughter died as an infant. When Jerrell had a job with a Feed Company, they moved to South Dakota where the youngest son was born.

In South Dakota they had a small farm with many animals – pigs, chickens, cows and sheep. Sheep were Jerrell's favorite animal. The farm was a wonderful place for the children to grow up.

Thelma started taking piano lessons when she was five years old. By the time she was ten, she was playing in worship for special occasions like accompanying the Junior Choir. The church decided to pay for Thelma to take organ lessons when she was twelve. From that time on she played for regular worship, weddings, and funerals. Music has been an important part of her life.

Thelma worked over twenty years in a school kitchen. She loved her work with the children. It was very gratifying to make a child's favorite meal!!

Thelma has always liked crafts and quilting and sewing. She likes to cook and shares that talent by baking cookies for Bible School and for dinners at the church.

When Jerrell was 54 years old, he was diagnosed with MS. For two years Thelma was able to take care of him at home but then because he was falling often he had to go to the Nursing Home where he lived 6 years before his death in 2006. The last year of his life he and Thelma were both diagnosed with Colon Cancer. She has had surgery and treatment (which she still continues.)

In 2009 she moved to Miami to live with her son, her middle child. As soon as she settled in, she decided to look for a church. She decided to come to our church first. And she never went to another church!!!! We are blessed. Thelma has gotten involved in many activities in Miami – the Tuesday Morning Study, Curves, and the Book Discussion Group at Chapters. She goes with a small group to the Quapaw Nursing Center to have a Bible Study with Thelma Carey and to visit Patricia Trolinger. If you get to know Thelma better, you will be so happy that she is a member of our church family.

Household Items for the Harbor

Thank you for the MANY items. We had a pickup and a van full. One Saturday six members and Helen met, packed up the items and took them to the Harbor. Really we took them to the temporary place – the Apostolic Assembly Church. The new facility on D SE is still being prepared for the move. Residents were appreciative of the items. After the short work session, Jim and Jeanne Fleming took everyone out for Donuts. A good experience for all!!




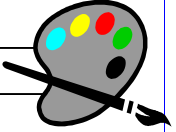
Birthdays

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 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00- Gamblers Anonymous	2	3
4  10:30-Worship/Com. 8:00-AA mtg.	5 Office Closed	6	7	8 7:00- Gamblers Anonymous	9	10
11 10:30-Worship 8:00-AA mtg.	12	13	14	15 7:00- Gamblers Anonymous	16	17
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 9:00—12:00 ART FOR FUN!! MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY ~~~~~ JULY 12-16 </div> 						
18 10:30-Worship 8:00-AA mtg.	19	20	21	22 7:00- Gamblers Anonymous	23	24
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Pastor Helen will be at Ghost Ranch July 19-27. She will be back in the office on July 28. </div>						
25 10:30-Worship 8:00-AA mtg.	26	27	28	29 7:00- Gamblers Anonymous	30	31
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Pastor Helen at Ghost Ranch </div>						