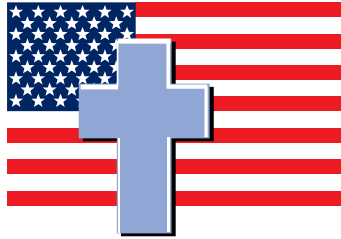


MAY 26th
MEMORIAL DAY



**On Memorial Day
Remember Those Who Served**



8

*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

Phone: 918-542-3388



I love May. There is something wonderfully delicious that is not just the warming temperatures or the thought that summer will bring, if not a chance to slow down, a chance for a shift or break from regular activities. It is also the joyous celebrations of years of study and accomplishments as well as the joy in completing tasks and the promise and possibilities of moving forward. And although keeping up with the times can be challenging and sometimes seemingly futile (for we know there will be more advances in a year if not in a few months), it is an incredible blessing that God has created us to always be learning and growing and reaching to know more.

There is a saying that anything worth doing is worth working at and I think that is true, often the things that are easy are things that we value less. Well, if you think about it, spending twelve years in school is certainly putting in the time and energy to achieve a remarkable accomplishment. We have four gradating from High School this year; Courtney Clay, Cory Rabel, Ariel Wenzel and Bryson Williams. We will celebrate and honor them on May 11th. CONGRATULATIONS to you, Courtney, Cory, Ariel and Bryson and may God bless you in your future plans.

Grace and Peace,
Helen






Presbyterians in the NEWS—

- Brent Rendel and the Rendel family were featured in the recent issue of “Progressive Farmer.” The article concerned the many innovative methods Brent uses in his farming.
- Abbey Ankenman is the Ottawa County recipient of a Youth Tour to Washington, DC, in the summer. The tour is sponsored by the Rural Electric Cooperative. Abbey wrote an essay entitled “How the Rural Electric Cooperatives Changed America” and was interviewed by the ten members of the Rural Electric Board of Directors. She was chosen from many contestants.

Goodland Boys’ Visit

The weekend of March 29 we had a lot of wonderful activity at our church. Twelve boys and three adults from Goodland Academy in Hugo, Oklahoma, came to join with our youth in fun and fellowship at our church. The Mission Committee along with Kim Wenzel and Helen Hutchison and the Presbyterian Youth were the host for the weekend. Each member of the Mission committee – Jeanne Fleming, Nancy Gee, Frank Gray, C. B. Roberts, David McManigal, Marilyn Stark, and Melinda Watterson took part in the planning and each had a responsibility for the weekend. Mary Kay McCoy and Carol Carden were in charge of the fun and games. The most fun of all for both the participants and the audience was the Bubble Blowing Contest. Each youth had two pieces of bubble gum. After chewing it a few minutes, there was a contest to see who could blow the biggest bubble. It was amazing how large some of them were!!! Bill Neill brought three huge bags of Pop-corn. Chris and Cathy Rabel helped with getting the church back together. It is great we have so many willing to help make these things happen.

In a special offering members contributed \$1,393.00 to help in the mission of the Goodland Academy.



FPC Drama—

Your door to fun and excitement! We are in the process of developing a Youth Drama Team that will be using drama as a mission tool in Ottawa county. We also desire to have interested adults be a part of the fun!

The adventure will include drama designed for mission work, and drama that showcases Biblical truth at our Wednesday evening service. No experience is needed. Some drama will begin immediately Tuesday afternoons from 4-5 p.m., and Sunday mornings in the youth room from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Once school is finished May 23, we will sit down and determine a summer schedule if needed. Please see our Youth Director, Kim Wenzel if you have questions.

We’ll Miss You

We have very mixed feelings about Johnie Wadleigh moving to Texas. She is such a long time valuable member that we hate to lose her but we are happy that she will be close to her son, Kevin, and his family. Johnie, we wish you the best!!!

Thanks Again, Archie

We are always so happy to see you both, Archie and Brenda. Thank you for coming when Helen is away. You have always brought out the best in us!!

Heritage Sunday

Across the Presbyterian Church, May 25 will be celebrated as Heritage Sunday. We are the church we are today only because many devoted members worked faithfully and hard through the years. Let us remember them especially on Heritage Sunday.

SESSION NEWS!

Notes from the Session Meeting:

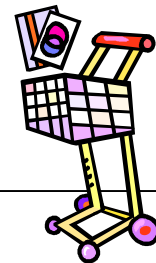
- **The Christian Education Committee** has been working hard to get vacation Bible School organized. This year we will again be coordinating with the Methodist and Episcopal churches in Miami. VBS will be on June 16, 17, 18 and 19 starting at 5:30 at our church. Cathy is looking for volunteers for many different duties and Helen will again offer an education class for the adults.
- **The Worship Committee** reported that this year Helen will present the Gospel of Luke from memory on September 7th.
- **The Finance Committee** reported that the finances for the first quarter looked good, we just continue to watch expenses.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNED!!

VBS is scheduled for June 16 through the 19th. If you would like to help out just contact Cathy Rabel.



Let's get back in the habit of bringing food items for the Ministerial Alliance Food Bank!!!



MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH FAMILIES

The Beck Family

Betty Jo Dean and George Beck

Not only did Betty and George grow up in our church, their Presbyterian roots go way back. Their grandfather, Thomas W. Bowen, became a Presbyterian minister soon after he came to the United States from England in the 1880's. Their Mother, Natalie, came from Michigan to Miami to be a teacher. Their father, Charles Beck, was born near Afton in the Cherokee nation but moved to Miami where his family could own land. They were members of the Miami Presbyterian Church since the 1920's. Natalie was active in the Ladies' Aid Society and taught Sunday School. Charles served on the Board of Trustees.

George and Betty have a combined total of 150 years membership in our church!! George had a Perfect Attendance record of seven years in the Sunday School. To maintain this he had to go to a little Baptist Sunday School on their family vacations to Wisconsin instead having fun with his dad and brother! Also one time Harry Ballinger, the teacher, took the Sunday School class to the hospital for their session because George was there with pneumonia.

Before retirement, George ran Beacon Marine and Betty was a Special Education teacher in the Junior High. They have been faithful members of our church and have acted in many capacities. George has been ordained as both Deacon and Elder. Betty has been a Deaconess and a Deacon and a Sunday School teacher. She chaired a committee which wrote our church history in our centennial year, 1999. She currently works in the Archives and maintains the Heritage Case.

Betty's three children, Dianne, Tom, and Cathy all grew up in our church. George has enjoyed traveling and golf in his leisure. Betty has spent much time and energy on Genealogy. She is active in Friends of the Coleman. She leads the Bible Study at Allgood's Retirement Home and enjoys knitting.

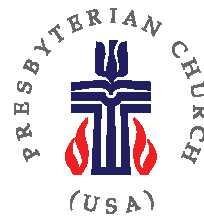
The Beck family has enriched our church and community for about a century.



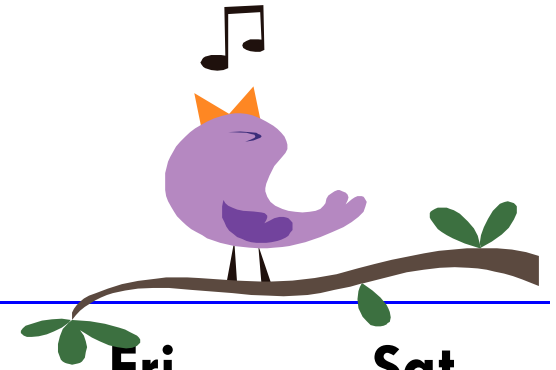
3rd—Mary Newkirk
 7th—Shelly Ferris
 9th—David Stark
 10th—Matt Whalen
 11th—Lou Mirjanich
 12th—Gayle Waylan
 13th—Al Newkirk
 14th—Tom Pinson
 15th—Phillip Carden
 17th—Carol Carden
and David Hemmingson
 18th—Abbey Ankenman
 19th—Charlie Russell
 22nd—Kolin Williams
and Isaac Rendel
 28th—Jerrell Davis
and Jessica Bolton
 30th—Arlene Seybolt
and Sally Willard

USHER DUTIES FOR MAY

Ushers, Coffee Host &
 Communion Preparers—
 Mike & Sally Willard



May 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00— Men's Breakfast	2	3
4 9:30-Sunday School Class 10:00-Choir 10:30-Worship/Com.	5 3:45-Karate 6:30-Cub Scouts	6 3:30— Drama Class 7:30-Worship Committee meeting	7 3:45-Youth Bible Study & Karate 6:00-Kum ba yah	8 7:00 p.m.—Parent & Youth Meeting	9	10
11  Mother's Day 9:30-Sunday School Class 10:00— Choir 10:30-Worship	12 3:45-Karate 6:30-Cub Scouts 6:30-Womens Community Group	13 3:30— Drama Class	14 3:45-Youth Bible Study & Karate 6:00-Kum ba yah	15 4:00-Mission Committee meeting	16	17
Loose Offering to Deacons 18 9:30-Sunday Class 10:00— Choir 10:30-Worship 11:30-Deacon mtg.	19 3:45-Karate 6:30-Cub Scouts	20 3:30-Drama Class 7:00—Session meeting	21 3:45-Youth Bible Study & Karate 6:00-Kum ba yah	22	23	24
25 9:30-Sunday School Class 10:00— Choir 10:30-Worship	26 Office Closed Memorial Day	27 3:30-Drama Class	28 3:45-Youth Bi- ble Study & Karate 6:00-Kum ba yah	29	30	31