

The Open Door

**First Presbyterian Church
1410 NE Veterans Blvd.**

Miami, Ok. 74354

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Helen Hutchison



I know I have mentioned my trip here and there in sermons, in classes or in individual conversations. I hope I have not bored you with continuing references, but it amazes me how just in regular things parts of my learning and experiences come out in daily events. It is an ever present reminder that God uses our experiences to continue to challenge and support us on our life and faith journeys. It was definitely an experience that invited me to look at the Scriptures in a new way as well as invited me into more study. It is like the old adage, “the more you know, the more you know you don’t know.” I was amazed at how much the land and the stories of the land could add to my understandings of history and of geography of the Bible and how those intertwine. Just ask Lucille Vanatta (who has sat through the Crusades class for the second time) to see how my trip was able to add much more to the discussion of the history of the Holy Land and hopefully will continue to add to the discussion as we approach the current situation there. Spending a month in Israel was truly a blessing. I thank you for your indulgence and support for my dream to travel and experience the Holy Land. I hope to share some pictures and a little more detail about the trip and experience on October 21st. We will have a congregational dinner (potluck as usual) and then have a chance for discussion. I will show some pictures and share with you and overview and then open up the conversation for questions. Please feel free to bring any questions. It was because of you that I was able to go and so I hope you can also share some of the experience with me.

Grace and Peace,
Helen Hutchison



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

Presbyterians in the NEWS —



-Twila Dickerson, our organist, was pictured presenting a check to the American Legion Post from the Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

- George Beck was featured in an article about his growing up in Miami. Except for some time in the service, he has lived in Miami all of his life. His high school graduating class just had a 70th reunion!!!!

HERITAGE CASE

The Heritage Case this fall features the Pig Roast. We have been having Pig Roasts at least 25 years. We have pictures of many years. The cooker has changed more through the years than Dick Seybolt has!!!!

Youth Highlights—

Well fall is now here and it is time to enjoy the beautiful colors that it will bring. The youth have plenty of fun activities to do this fall. The ropes course trip went well with 7 youth attending. Below are some of the activities that are planned:

- October 1st & 3rd**—Karate Belt Testing
- October 5th**—Tailgate and Lock-In party
- October 13th**—Commaze trip for grades 1-5.
- October 20th**—Helping Hands Fundraiser/ This will be an auction for the Karate youth to purchase some much needed Karate equipment (floor mats, protective gear etc.) The youth, paired by two's, will go help up to four hours at the highest bidders home or business.
- October 21st**—Skating/cookout party at Baxter Springs.
- October 27th**—7:00 p.m. Girls Movie Night

Session News-

The elders remain very busy and active with their responsibilities. At the session meeting in September:

1. A presbytery representative was present to talk about the Presbytery budget. They are visiting all sessions and asking churches to increase their mission giving to the Presbytery.
2. The session has continually been worried about the budget. We have so many wonderful programs and happenings and people are fabulous in contributing it is a struggle when we see the monthly report with more expenses than income. The session approved appointing a long range budget task force to do financial planning for the next five years. If you have thoughts or suggestions please talk with Dave McManigal, the Finance Chair or Pastor Helen.
3. The regular Wednesday night program has begun and we now have several educational opportunities for all ages: Nursery, Kindergarten-2nd grade, 3rd grade-5th grade, Junior High, Senior High and Adults. Thank you to all who are willing to teach, it takes many people to make this evening flow.
4. Wednesday evening will also include table buddies to help some of our younger people sit down and eat.

This is your session- if you ever have any question or concerns please come to a meeting and let us know your thoughts or just come to a meeting if you would like to hear all that is going on!



How is being a Christian like being a pumpkin?

God sees us, picks us out of the dirt, cleans us off, takes the yucky material out of us by forgiving us, puts a smile on our faces and places a shining light within us for others to see.

Jesus said: "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16, NRSV).

by Dave Foster



A delegation from Malawi will be visiting FPC Miami and Grace Presbyterian Church in Grove November 4 thru November 8. We will be working on an agenda for their visit in October. So stay tuned for more on this later.

Neeli begins clinicals in October where she travels to different hospitals in the area to get hands-on nursing training. Please pray for safe travel for Neeli as she begins this new phase of nursing school at NEO.

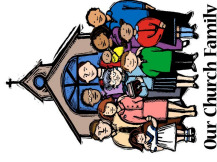
We are partnering with Immanuel Baptist on our Hearts and Hammers project this year. The project is painting the outside of a rather large house so between the two churches we should have enough workers to get the job done. Scott Ferris is bringing some of the FPC youth which will be a big help. Lunch is being provided at our church by the following angels of mercy Victoria Vazquez, Melba Cordell and Melinda Watterson. Thanks to all the volunteers who stepped forward to make Hearts and Hammers a success.



Men's Breakfast will be October 4th and 18th at 7:00 a.m.
 Please come and join in on the food and fellowship!!

A Special
THANK YOU

Thanks to all who helped out with the pig roast/cookout it was a great success. There was plenty of great smoked meats to eat with other wonderful foods for the sides. Games were played and all had a glorious time.



MORE ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

LUCILLE VANATTA

Lucille was born in North Miami and spent her growing-up years in Commerce. Her childhood was happy with attention from a special aunt in addition to her parents. Her aunt lived so close that Lucille could walk to see her. With all of this attention, she just “skipped” first grade! She graduated from High School in 1936. She attended and graduated from Oklahoma A. & M. which is now Oklahoma State University.

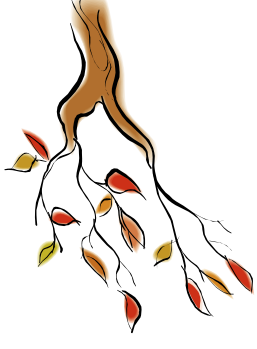
She returned to Commerce and began teaching. She met Jack Vanatta, a young farmer, and they were married. He had only a small farm but through the years they bought adjoining land to make a good sized farm. Their first child was Ronnie and in four years they had twins, Bill and Mary. Lucille was a full time homemaker for twelve years. When she went back to teaching, it was in Miami, first at the Junior High then at the High School. She enjoyed her teaching and she was a favorite teacher to many students.

Lucille was baptized into the Christian Church in Commerce when she was 17 years old. But in 1961 she became a member of our church. She has done so many things for our church through the years. She was active in Presbyterian Women; she attended the National Meeting of Presbyterian Women at Purdue more than once and was featured in the “Cloud of Witnesses” at one of the meetings. She was an Elder and was a Commissioner to Presbytery. She was a Sunday School teacher for many years.

After Jack died her son took over the farm and Lucille moved to her current home on West Central which was across the street from the 1926 Church.

She loves to travel. Before she retired she took one trip to Europe but after her retirement, she took many trips. She went to the Holy Land twice and in connection with one of those trips she went to Turkey and Greece.

She has been active in Retired Educators, Reviewer’s Club, and a Reading Group. In addition to reading, she enjoys crocheting and walking for pleasure. She loves to cook and from time to time surprises a friend with an Angel Food Cake. What a wonderful addition she has been to our church for many years.



October Birthdays



2nd—Don Trolinger
and Kristal Sommer
3rd—Jeff Stevens
7th—Dorothy Davis
8th— Lisa Hemmingson
9th— Krystal Blevins
10th-Nolan Newkirk
11th-Lyssa Turner and
Melissa Bekemeier
15th-Karissa Whalen
16th-Linda Elmburg
22nd—James Stevens
24th— Meredith MacQueeney
and Frank Gray
26th— Warren Wilbur
27th— Cy Elmburg
28th— Pat Carden
29th—Bill Ankenman



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
|  9:30— Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30- Worship/ Communion | 1 3:45-Adult Karate Belt test | 2 10:00-Crusades 7:30-Worship Commit- tee meeting | 3 3:45-Karate Belt Test 6:00-Kum ba Yah | 4 7:00-Men's Breakfast | 5 6:00—Youth Tailgate and Lock-In Party | 6 9:30-CornMaze Trip grades 1-5 |
| 7 9:30— Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30- Worship/ Communion | 8 3:45-Adult Karate Class | 9 10:00-Crusades 10:00-Crusades | 10 3:45-Karate 6:00-Kum ba Yah | 11 4:30-Mission Committee meeting | 12 9:30-CornMaze Trip grades 1-5 | 13 9:30-CornMaze Trip grades 1-5 |
| 14 9:30— Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30- Worship | 15 3:45-Adult Karate Class | 16 10:00-Crusades 7:00-Session mtg. | 17 3:45-Karate 6:00-Kum ba Yah | 18 7:00-Men's Breakfast | 19 10:00 - Helping Hands Fundraiser Auction | 20 10:00 - Helping Hands Fundraiser Auction |
| 21 2:30-Skating/cookout party 9:30— Sunday School 10:30- Worship 6:00 Congregational Dinner /Israel Pictures Loose Offering to Deacons | 22 3:45-Adult Karate Class | 23 10:00-Crusades | 24 3:45-Karate 6:00-Kum ba Yah | 25 7:00-Girls Movie Night | 26 7:00-Girls Movie Night | 27 7:00-Girls Movie Night |
| 28 9:30— Sunday School 10:00-Choir 10:30- Worship | 29 3:45-Adult Karate Class | 30 10:00-Crusades | Happy Halloween 31 3:45-Karate 6:00-Kum ba Yah |  | | |

First Presbyterian Church
Miami, Oklahoma

