



# *The Presbyterian Courier*

## *First Presbyterian Church of Ada, Oklahoma*

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### **To Witness for God in the World**

**June 2017**



*Season of Pentecost*

#### **TO REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS**

Jane Baltimore, Betty Childers, Jeff Frederick, Avery Anderson, Leonard Briley, serious health concern; Duane Baker, Brenda Carter, Amy Boatwright, Mary West, Debi Ory, Kristina Glick, Doug Plowman, Melissa Garner, Roz Pack, Darlene and Robert Cheadle, Jared Cavener, Tom Runnels, Bob Reynolds, Marsha Lackey, H.C. Ker, Kyle Tucker, Fran Balm, SPC. Michael Halsted, and our service men and women in the Armed Forces, the family of JoAnn Carpenter.

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**From the Pastor**

*The Holy Spirit – Fact or Fiction?*

Fact!

It was remarkable in *Coffee and Conversation* class about a month ago. We were in a unit about *Trinity*—God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In particular this was an opportunity to read some scriptures relating to the Holy Spirit, to engage some questions, and to share perspective. One of the questions was, *When have you “felt the Spirit?”*

As we shared testimony, what happened was—I *think*—well, we all felt the Spirit right then and there. Yeah, you could kind of tell. No “sound like the rush of a violent wind”, no “divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them and rested on each of them.” (Acts 2) But the Spirit was surely there, and there was grace.

Christianity proclaims the presence, love, power, and guidance of the Spirit of God. Jesus emphatically proclaimed this, and promised it for the people. We celebrate the special, promised, pouring out of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Some have said they have felt the Spirit powerfully; others say they tend to feel it gently but just as surely.

I write about this for the newsletter because I think a church that pays attention to the Spirit is bound to be faithful, interesting, beautiful, virtuous, and will strongly shine the light that Christ wanted us to shine (Matthew 5).

This Sunday, Pentecost Sunday, we begin the long season of Pentecost. Christ has come, Christ has died, Christ is risen, the Spirit is given... Creator and Creation may now be in growing relationship with each other... and human relationships can become something like divine. Christianity proclaims that God has done everything needed for the creation to honor itself and to honor God.

Let us encourage each other to pay attention to the Spirit as we live before God! Blessings,  
Scott

## Events

### Recurring Events - Sundays

9:30am

10:45am

after the children's message

4:00-5:30pm

**Church School for All Ages**

**Worship Service**

**Children's Church**

**Youth Group**



### Recurring Events - Mondays

6:00-6:45pm

**Yoga Fellowship**

### Recurring Events - Wednesdays

6:00pm

**Adult Bible Study, upper parlor**

7:00pm

**Choir Rehearsal** (in recess until August 16<sup>th</sup>)

### Coming up in June

1<sup>st</sup>

**FPC serves the dinner at Abba's Tables**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Tri-Presbytery meeting at FPC/Enid, OK**

4<sup>th</sup>

**Day of Pentecost; celebration of the Lord's Supper; Congregational Potluck**

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

**Vacation Bible School, 6-8pm, Westminster Fellowship Center**

10<sup>th</sup>

**Breakfast at JD's, 8am**

11<sup>th</sup>

**Session meeting, noon, office conference room**

18<sup>th</sup>

**Father's Day**

**Committee Meetings**



## Christian Education

**Vacation Bible School** will be June 7, 8, 9, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., and is for ages 3 and up. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help. The CE committee will be setting up and decorating Westminster Center Monday, June 5, at 6:00 p.m. We'd love to have the help if any of you are available.

The adult studies **Catalyst** and **Coffee and Conversation** will be meeting jointly for the summer in the upper parlor beginning June 4. Members will take turns leading each Sunday.

**Summer Children's Sunday School** will be movies and popcorn beginning June 4. Volunteers

are needed to rotate through the Sundays. Minimal preparation is required– we just need two adults to be in charge each Sunday.

**Children's Church** has been a great success since its implementation earlier this year. Children's Church will be in recess this summer, but will come back with a bang in the fall.

~ Teresa Mayhue

## **Congregational Life and Membership**

### *Welcome New Member / Directory Update*

David Horne  
324 Asbill Ave  
Yukon, OK 73099  
(405) 249-9976  
DLHYukon@yahoo.com



### *from the Kroekers*

*Bette Cole of the Catalyst Class thought the note below from Lillian and Marvin Kroeker to the Catalyst class would be suitable for the newsletter. Certainly it is.*

To: Catalyst Class, First Presbyterian Church of Ada, OK

We know that the members of the Catalyst Sunday School Class, along with us, deeply mourn the loss of JoAnn. We remember her faithful commitment to the leadership of the class, her joyful enthusiasm, hope-filled faith, warmth, gentleness, thoughtfulness, humility and generosity with her time and talents without seeming rushed or impatient. Most inspiring was her courage in coping with her illness and her concern for others as she shared her love for Christ and the church. What a fine example she set for us. Although we are sad, we rejoice in the memory of her rich legacy that will live on to comfort and inspire us.

How we wish we could be with you today as you share your thoughts and memories of JoAnn. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all of the church family.

With love,

Lillian and Marvin

May 28, 2017

***Baptisms***

We rejoice in two recent baptisms! Margot Olivia Sweatt on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and Roman Zaire Walls on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017. God bless Margot and Roman, and their families!



***Coming Soon! P90X***

A P90X exercise class will meet three times weekly, evenings at FPC, in the WFC Hall. Please contact Matt or Ellen Sweatt for more information, or to express interest, and stay tuned!



**Deacons Corner**

After a busy year of diaconal activities, particularly in service to the Ada High School, the deacons can take a bit of a rest. But we want the church to know that we are here, and if you want to share a joy or a concern...if a crisis of any kind befalls you...or if you simply could use a listening ear and a partner in prayer, we are here.

The 2017 Commissioned Deacons are: Bill Brooks, Betty Childers, Emily Clifton, Timothy Elliott, Jeremy Pippenger, and Miriam White.

## **Indian Nations Presbytery**

It's been about 10 months since the retirement of long-time Executive Presbyter the Rev. Aaron Carland. Obviously that means Indian Nations is a presbytery "in transition." INP is looking afresh at its past, present, and future—it's mission, structure, and way of being a presbytery.

The Mission Strategy Group—which serves as the council for the presbytery—formed a Transition Task Force to guide the presbytery in its transition. The MSG also secured the help of a reputable consultant, a retired PC(USA) minister, the Rev. David Sawyer, who has been working closely with the task force. Scott White serves on the Transition Task Force.

The task force has conducted a number of listening sessions throughout the presbytery and has gathered a lot of information and stories from congregational members. (Four FPC Ada elders participated in the listening session in Paul's Valley in late April.) Next, the task force will study this information, and will produce a "hopeful hypothesis" and some suggested adjustments to improve the structure, workings, and spiritual life of the presbytery. Please keep the Transition Task Force and the Presbytery as a whole in your prayers!

Scott and I will attend the Tri-Presbytery Meeting of all three Oklahoma presbyteries in Enid, OK this Friday and Saturday. I'll keep you informed of presbytery news. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the mission and life of Indian Nations Presbytery, or the connections between FPC/Ada and the presbytery.

~ David Butler, Commissioner

## **Music Department**



To my dearest congregation:

I would first like to thank my wonderful, dedicated choir members for showing up week after week, making beautiful music with your voices and hearts, and worshiping our Lord with me through song. Your friendship and dedication to this church means more to me than you'll ever know. I especially want to thank you all for joining us in the beautiful anthem for Dr. Joann Carpenter's service. As always, we will be taking a break from choir rehearsal this summer and picking back on

**August 16th** for another full year of choir rehearsals and Sunday anthems. This summer, you can all look forward to hearing beautiful music from Karah, Abby, Missy, Timothy, Teresa, instrumental arrangements, Carolyn, Bonita, Miriam, vocal duets and trios, possibly some bell choir arrangements, and any other collaborations I'm forgetting or haven't created yet. I want to invite all of you to join choir again in August even if you've never come or haven't attended in a while. We have a wonderful time together every Wednesday night from 7-8 PM, and we are truly

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a family as we support one another through this life. Please don't hesitate to call, text, or email if you have any questions or ideas, and thank you all for supporting our ministry to this church.

In Christ's love,  
Johnna Compton

## **Personnel Committee**

*Welcome Jessica Black, new Administrative Assistant / Secretary at FPC*



I just wanted to write a quick hello introducing myself. I really enjoy the atmosphere here. I am very pleased to be a part of the team. I am really hoping to excel here at the church and also contribute in my own way. I have no doubt this is a new positive beginning. I am truly grateful. Feel free to stop in and see me.

Sincerely,

Jessica Black

Administrative Assistant

## **Presbyterian Women Organization**



The Presbyterian Women of FPC/Ada have just completed this year's Horizon's Bible study called "WHO IS JESUS".

The PW Organization does several projects throughout the world. Of great concern for our world is Human Trafficking of all ages. Our PW have invited a speaker to enlighten us on what we can do. In our church Janet Theus

will do a Minute for Mission. After service we will host a Potluck Luncheon in WFC...then a Forum will commence.

We are inviting all Ada churches, police department, schools, and organizations that care about children, youth, and persons that are not part of a family unit or group...all interested are invited. This potluck and forum will be held on Sunday July 16, 2017. Stay tuned for more information!

~ Greta Thompson

## Session News



Come be a part of the **potluck** to be held this Sunday, June 4, in the Westminster Center immediately following the worship service. There will be food, fellowship, and discussion about church finances.

The **next Session meeting** will be June 11 at 12:00 noon in the conference room in Westminster Center. This is a May and June combination meeting.

The **Tri-Presbytery meeting** of the Indian Nations Presbytery will be June 2 and 3 in Enid. Registration information is online. The pastor and two designated commissioners usually attend, but anyone is welcome.

~ Teresa Mayhue, Clerk of Session

### Elders Installed on Session

#### Class of 2018

Linda Wells, Worship

*Vacant*

Kay Shaw, Congregational Life and Membership

Amy Elliott, Personnel

BJ Thompson, Worship

#### Class of 2019

David Butler, Worship

Broc Hays, Mission and Evangelism

Teresa Mayhue, Christian Education

Carolyn Rauch, Stewardship

Terry Holman, Mission and Evangelism

Clerk of Session: Teresa Mayhue

Elder of the Month for June: Kay Shaw

## Treasurer's Report

	April 2017	YTD	Year Budget	% of Year Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$23,633.92	\$65,238.93	\$160,074.64	40.8%
<b>Expenses</b>	\$16,895.99	\$78,330.02	\$283,456.16	27.6%
<b>Net</b>	\$6,737.93	\$(13,091.09)	\$(123,381.52)	10.6%

Assets	April 2017	March 2017	Change
	\$140,338.23	\$134,559.39	\$5,778.84



## Worship

We give thanks that the Rev. Linda Snelling led us in worship on May 14<sup>th</sup>, and that the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade children led us in worship May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Coming this Sunday... a joyous Pentecost Sunday celebration, with Holy Communion.

~ Linda Wells

### Flowers for the Worship Service

June

4<sup>th</sup>: from BJ, Tami, and Sarah in honor of Charles Isaac's Birthday  
11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>: *open*

July

2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>: *open*  
16<sup>th</sup>: from Melissa Shaw in honor of Ron and Beth Area's Birthdays  
23<sup>rd</sup>: from Bruce and Brenda Hall in honor of their Grandchildren's Birthdays  
30<sup>th</sup>: *open*



### Worship attendance for May

May 7 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>71</b>
May 14 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>77</b>
May 21 <sup>st</sup> :	<b>100</b>
May 28 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>66</b>

## Youth Group



Pool Party!

Summer Youth Group kicks off this Sunday at 4pm with a short study and a pool party at Mimi Douglas's house, 2431 Mayfair. Youth, see you there!

~ Ashley Hampton

## Birthdays

Happy Birthdays! To:

June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Emily Hays	June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Charles Isaac Thompson
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Claude Baltimore	June 5 <sup>th</sup>	Kurt Jackson
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Johnna Compton	June 5 <sup>th</sup>	David Piercy
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dexter Elliott	June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Rhonda Shivley
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Shawn London	June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Rick Shaw

June 18<sup>th</sup> Pamela Jackson  
June 20<sup>th</sup> Nancy Thompson  
June 21<sup>st</sup> Anthony White  
June 24<sup>th</sup> Bonita Blackburn

June 25<sup>th</sup> Wyatt Robson  
June 27<sup>th</sup> Maddox Cowart  
June 28<sup>th</sup> Hayley Coble



## Wedding Anniversaries



Happy Anniversaries! To:

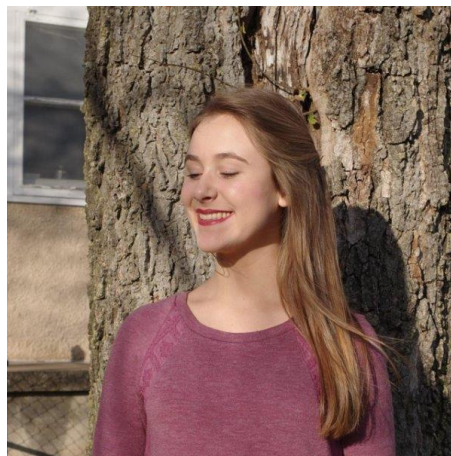
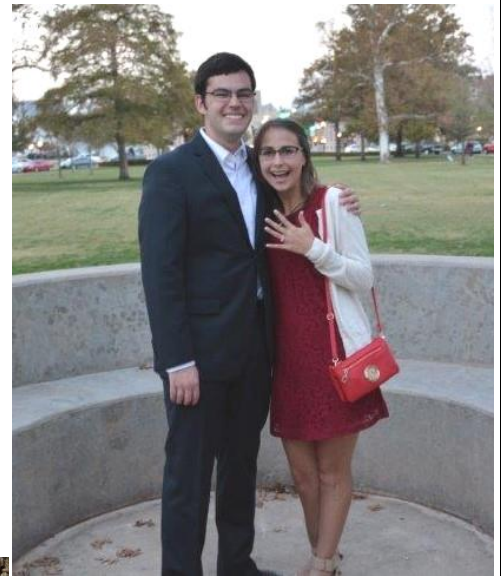
June 1<sup>st</sup> Kenneth and Carolyn Rauch  
June 6<sup>th</sup> Scott and Miriam White  
June 20<sup>th</sup> David and Deanna Piercy  
June 24<sup>th</sup> Charles and Lisa Peaden

## Congratulations

Congratulations to **Joe Pesheonoff** and **Taylor Freeman**, who were married Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>!

Congratulations *again* to Joe and Taylor, who graduated from the University of Oklahoma, Joe with the degree in Mechanical Engineering and Taylor with the degree in Human Resources Management. Next year Joe will be working at Cameron, a Schlumberger Company, and Taylor will be attending The University of Oklahoma's Law School.

Congratulations to our High School Graduates **Max Elliott** and **Teresa White**.



Congratulations to our Junior High School Graduate **Sarah Thompson**.



Congratulations to our Elementary School Graduates **Dexter Elliott** and **Deven Gray**.

*We regret any omissions there may be in our graduates list...please let us know who we missed and please send in a photo and we'll include it in the July Courier.*



## Thank Yous!

Thank you to **Nancy Thompson**, who represented FPC at the National Day of Prayer service on May 4<sup>th</sup>, which incidentally was quite excellent.

Thank you to **Ava Morton** who made baptismal towels for Margot Sweatt and Roman Vargas.

Thank you to **Brooke Holman** and **Melissa Shaw** for heading up Youth Sunday on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you to the **whole church** for your extraordinary ministry toward the family and friends of JoAnn Carpenter. The memorial luncheon was a particularly sizeable effort. Thank you Kay Shaw, Mary Hampton, Emily Clifton, Greta Thompson, Karah Thompson, Carolyn Rauch, Teresa Mayhue, Mary Jean Mayhue, Joan Butler, Margaret Barton, Carol Peshehonoff, Missy Shaw, Miriam White, Regina Robertson, and Nancy Thompson.

## Volunteers in Christ Always Needed!

Here are some opportunities to serve: on a committee (Christian Education, Congregational Life and Membership, Mission and Evangelism, Worship, Stewardship, and Personnel);

teach a church school class: nursery through adult.

in the Sunday morning worship service (acolyte, greeter, usher, liturgist, choir member, children's message).

*Just let the church office know and we will connect you with the right team.*

## Next Courier Deadline

*Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. News and photos are always welcome!*

**First Presbyterian Church**

**301 East Kings Road**

**Ada, Oklahoma 74820**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**June 2017**

**The Presbyterian Courier**



**First Presbyterian Church Staff**

Jessica Black, Administrative Assistant

Bonita Blackburn, Organist/Pianist

Johnna Compton, Music Director

Ashley Hampton, Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Tom Hampton, Interim Treasurer

Linda Priest, Lele LaFleur, Nursery Caregivers

Karah Thompson, Custodian

The Rev. Scott M. White, Pastor