



Presbyterian News

The First Presbyterian Church
First and Spruce Streets
P.O. Box 1118 - Dumas, Texas 79029
806-935-4423

www.dumaspresbyterian.org

John Conley, Interim Pastor
Brenda DeBons, Clerk of Session
Joyce Snow, Organist/Choir Director
Delma Stokes, Interim Youth Director
Joyce Wethington, Church Secretary

February 2011

I lived on Woodlawn Avenue in the Hyde Park section of Chicago one summer. I was near the University of Chicago and right next door to a home that is known this day as The Robie House. The Robie House was designed 100 years ago by Frank Lloyd Wright and according to Wikipedia is “renowned as the greatest example of Wright’s Prairie style, the first architectural style that was uniquely American.” Even a novice like me who appreciates stuff like that can’t miss the clean, straight lines that run parallel from story to story of homes found all over Mr. Wright’s hometown Chicago.

Architect Wright once told of an incident that had a profound influence on the rest of his life. He was nine years old and was walking across a snow-covered field with his reserved, no-nonsense uncle. As the two of them reached the far end of the field his uncle stopped him. He pointed out how “my tracks run straight and true as an arrow’s flight, while yours meander aimlessly from the fence to the cattle to the woods and back again. That’s an important lesson to learn.”

Years later the world-famous architect liked to tell how this experience greatly contributed to his philosophy in life. “I determined right then,” he’d say with a twinkle in his eye, “not to miss most things in life, as my uncle had.”

May we all enjoy each day that is as precious as we are to God. Look at the footsteps you leave this week. May there be days when getting from A to B is not as important as seeing the beauty along the way whether you are on the prairie or in the city.

God bless us all on every day the Lord has made,

Peace, *John*



FINANCIAL FOCUS 2010

	<u>DECEMBER</u>	<u>JANUARY - DECEMBER</u>
PLEDGES	\$14,785.00	\$202,313.58
INTEREST INCOME	1,618.70	24,170.86
INSURANCE PROCEEDS	0.00	31,829.44
OTHER INCOME	<u>3,467.19</u>	<u>38,711.19</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$19,870.89	\$297,025.07
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>-28,415.95</u>	<u>-277,423.40</u>
NET PROFIT/LOSS	\$- 8,545.06	\$ 19,601.67



Take Note:

CONGRATULATIONS!
TO MERT & FREDA
KEENEY CELEBRATING 65
YEARS OF MARRIAGE ON
JANUARY 24TH.
MAY GOD KEEP AND BLESS
YOU WITH MANY MORE!

ATTENTION:

We are in need of Sunday School teachers for the elementary classes. If you are interested in teaching for the Spring quarter which will begin March 6th thru May 29th, please contact Betty Whitson at 935-0126 or Delma Stokes at 717-7413.

Curriculum is provided. Please continue to pray for our Sunday school program. Teaching children about God's love brings them closer to God.

MISSION TRIP 2011

Currently I am working on putting together a mission trip for this summer. If you think you might be interested in spending a week in the summer dedicating yourself to Christ and those in need, please come to a Mission Trip meeting Tuesday, February 8th at 6:30 in the church parlor. If you are interested, but unable to attend the meeting, please give me a call at 717-7413. Bring your calendars.

Delma Stokes



SAVE THE DATE!

Vacation Bible School will be July 11-15th. We will need all the help we can get, so mark your calendars now. If you know you would like to be a part of this community event, please contact Delma Stokes or Tami Fangman.

Looking Ahead....

Tuesday Feb. 1st ~ Noon Bible Study 12:00-12:55 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 2nd ~ LOGOS

Tuesday Feb. 8th ~ Noon Bible Study 12:00-12:55 p.m.

~ Mission Trip Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 9th ~ LOGOS

Tuesday Feb. 15th ~ Noon Bible Study 12:00-12:55 p.m.

~ Session Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 16th ~ LOGOS

Friday & Saturday Feb. 18th & 19th ~ Presbytery Meeting in Albany, Texas

Sunday Feb. 20th ~ Youth Sunday and Youth Fundraiser Meal

Tuesday Feb. 22nd ~ Noon Bible Study 12:00-12:55 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 23rd ~ LOGOS



Birthdays

- 1 Brogan Cheevers
- 5 Karen Owens
- 7 Riley Cheevers
- 8 Kory Evenson
- 9 Shona Moore
- 10 Krista Brown
- 12 Dustin Jones
- 13 Shelly Philley
- 14 Tyler Brunson
- Aimie McWilliams
- Louise Tindle
- 19 Mike DeBons
- Manny Franco
- 21 Darren Sykes
- 22 Luke Evenson
- Mandy Nevius
- 25 Marcus Sartain
- 27 Brittney Stokes



Anniversaries

- 4 Carl & Kathy Speck
- 15 Gary & Stephanie Griffin
- 27 Mike & Brenda DeBons
- Chris & Elizabeth Mercer



Members & Friends

Let us remember those whose lives are challenged with illness or loneliness, loss of a family member, and other problems we don't know about.

Our prayers are with **Lenora Morton** who requires care away from home.

Please include in your prayers our church prayer partner, **Westminster Presbyterian Church** in Lubbock.

Continue to keep these other loved ones in your prayers: **Tatum Cartrite**, as he continues having medical issues and treatments, **Marcus Sartain** recovering from a serious fall, **Bill Parkey** recovering from a cornea replacement, **Jerry Askins** recovering from gall bladder surgery, **Larry Lewis** as he deals with blood sugar issues, and **Shelly Philley** recovering from an appendectomy.

Let us not forget those serving in the military. **Ryan Nevius** and **Jerod Maxwell** (Carl & Maxine's grandson) and all the other members of our military.

We ask for prayers for the families that have lost loved ones. Please pray for the family of **Billie Overton**. Billie was such a treasure in this church and will be greatly missed. Also for the family of **Dorothy Mary Neely**, Dorothy and her husband William "Bill" were members of our church till 1971. While here, Mrs. Neely taught Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and sang in the choir.

Lord, we ask that you comfort all our friends and family. Amen.

'Happenings' Among the Youth

February 2011 will be a bit different for most of us. As most of you are used to our Annual Valentine Dinner with the youth, this year we are hoping you will take your "beloved" out to Talon Point for the benefit dinner and dance for Tatum Cartrite and his family on Saturday, February 12th.

Tatum was a member of our LOGOS youth group since Jr. High school. He has been through a tremendous amount of medical issues since graduating Dumas High School in 2008. You will find an invitation to this event in this newsletter and I hope you find it in your heart to attend this event. Take your Valentine out for an excellent steak dinner and be entertained by the Agave Posse Band and check out all the silent and live auction items while helping a young man that spent so much of his time here in our church.

The youth will be participating in a Youth Sunday Service on Sunday, February 20th. I hope everyone will be able to attend this special service to support the youth that work hard to put this service together.

A special note to the 2011 Seniors and college students. Scholarship applications will be available February 15th and will be accepted until April 15th. If you have any questions about the scholarships, please contact Betty Whitson or myself. If you would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, please contact the church office.

May God continue to bless this wonderful church,

~ Delma Stokes

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- The life of Billie Overton was celebrated in a memorial service conducted by Rev. Conley on January 3, 2011. A meal prepared by the Fellowship and Nurture Committee was served to her family after the service.
- Rev. Jerry Howe conducted services for Weston Futrell on December 20, 2010. After the memorial service, the Fellowship and Nurture Committee served a meal to the Futrell family.
- Rev. Conley baptized Sullivan Christopher Heck during services on Sunday, January 9.
- The elder class of 2013 (Betty Whitson, Shelly Burnett, Doel Cordero, and Ben Maples) was installed by Rev. Conley also on Sunday, January 9.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for January 30 after the Soup Fest lunch in the basement. Committee chairs, including chairmen whose terms ended December 31, 2010, are reminded to provide their written reports to Joyce Wethington as soon as possible.
- Members of the Congregation are invited to volunteer to make soup, stew, or cornbread for the Annual Congregational Meeting. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.
- Session is considering the responsibilities and functions of the church committees to determine if they should be amended to better meet the needs of the church and the congregation. Since the descriptions for the committees are included in the church directory, church directories will not be available until late February or early March.
- Elder Larry Parrish was elected Commissioner to Presbytery for the February 18-19 Presbytery meeting in Albany.
- The Fellowship and Nurture Committee has finalized details for the 2011 fellowship events.
- The marriage of Morgan and Shannan Heck was celebrated on December 18, 2010.
- Rev. Conley notified Session that he will be out of town on January 23. The Worship Committee has arranged for Rev. Mark Heaney to preach that Sunday.
- The Building and Grounds Committee reported that a new door stop on the east door of the building had been installed as well as a security chain on the door going to the laundry room in order to keep small children from going into the laundry room. Dumas Air Conditioning and Heating was called to repair the north heating unit in the sanctuary which had a short in it.



Session Highlights cont.

- Session approved a Lenton book project in which members of the Congregation will be able to contribute scriptures, stories, poems or prayers for the Lent season. Carolyn Stallwitz has volunteered to contribute drawings for the book. The Lent season begins March 13.
- Officers of the corporation were elected for the coming year: President – Joe Brunson, Vice-President – Brenda DeBons, Secretary – Jan McBee, and Treasurer – Marietta Reynolds.
- Officers of the church were elected for the 2011 year: Clerk of Session – Brenda DeBons, Treasurer – Marietta Reynolds, and Assistant Treasurer – Mert Keeney.

- Committee chairmen are as follows:
 - Budget & Stewardship Marietta Reynolds
 - Building and Grounds Doel Cordero
 - Christian Education Betty Whitson and Arlisa McBee
 - Fellowship & Nurture Joe Brunson
 - Membership & Evangelism Shelly Burnett
 - Mission Larry Parrish and Ben Maples
 - Worship Jan McBee
 - Personnel Ben Maples
 - Scholarship Betty Whitson
 - Good Samaritan Fund Pete Mhoon
 - Congregational Nominating Brenda DeBons and Joe Brunson

- Since there were several committees with just a few volunteers from the Congregation, the members of the Congregation who have not signed up for a committee will be encouraged to consider volunteering to serve on a committee to further the work and mission of the church.



Noon Tuesday Bible Study of LUKE with the Pastor

You are welcome to join us in the Conference Room by the parlor every Tuesday. Some people bring their lunch (mainly Carl and Kathy Speck) and others drink a cup of coffee (Mert Keeney) and we start at noon and finish by 1.

The Gospel of Luke will be the foundation for February. The Gospels are a good place for us followers of Christ to grow in knowing the One we follow. Luke tells us right off the bat that he is trying to present *an orderly account..that [we] may know the truth concerning the things about which [we] have been instructed.* Luke 1:3-4

I will try to be orderly enough that whenever you come that lesson will stand on its own. Some of you may make most of the studies. My guarantee is that everyone who comes will appreciate Luke's stories of Jesus and come to a fuller understanding of the living God.



AN INVITATION FROM **FRIENDS IN FAITH**

We have invited our interim pastor, John Conley, to lead our class for a few months. Beginning on February 6th, we will study GENESIS: The People of the Old Testament. Come join us any and every Sunday.

We gather from 10:00 -10:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. You can drink a cup of coffee, listen, ask questions, and then get to worship in plenty of time. For newcomers, there is access by an elevator and stairs! So, no excuses...

Come Join Us!

A Time for Tatum

Come enjoy a steak dinner and dance to Agave Posse Band for the benefit of the Cartrite family.

DATE: Saturday, February 12, 2011

TIME: 7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

PLACE: Talon Point

Rooms will be available. To reserve one, please call 935-5598.

Admission is \$50.00 per person which includes a steak dinner, dance and drinks.

There will be a live and silent auction. Tickets available at Karen Mader's shop, Jack Oldhams and Valero.

For more information, questions or to make a donation, please contact:

Karen Mader 570-6580

Carl or Kathy Speck 935-7062 or
930-1969

Brooks or Kim Brown 935-9923

Peyton Legg 922-8877

***Must be at least 21 yrs old to attend.

Join us on Sunday mornings:

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

There are classes for pre-school thru High School and adult classes

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Come join us for our Worship service where we enjoy each other's fellowship
while receiving the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Everyone is welcome!

Pastor's Hours & Information

Reverend John Conley

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 10:00 - 3:00

Office Phone: 935-4423 Cell Phone: 930-5290

Email: Jcfpc@amaonline.com

Return Service Requested

First Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1118
Dumas TX 79029



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