



# Presbyterian News

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

[www.dumaspresbyterian.org](http://www.dumaspresbyterian.org)

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

October 2011

## Books, Books, Books

Abe Lincoln, according to history, educated himself by reading everything he could get his hands on. My generation read a lot before television moved into our home. I'm not sure we read as much as our parents and grandparents.

People now are investing in Kindles and Nooks and other machinery to access books. I am sorry to see the apparent decrease in books but am thrilled that people seem to be reading more and more these days. My advice to children and youth is that one path to success is reading. Being informed, knowing what is going on in the world, and having some expertise in an area or two are always good investments.

We are studying Revelation on Tuesdays at noon. It is one of the sixty-six books that comprise the Bible. The Bible is the story of God's unconditional love for us that is perfectly revealed in his Son Jesus. That is clear from beginning to end, Genesis through Revelation.

I frequently receive a book as a gift. I don't always finish the book and on occasion don't read the book after reading a summary on the dust jacket. How many people treat the Bible that way? How many people have missed the word that *by grace [we] have been saved through faith...it is a gift of God...for we were created in Christ Jesus for good works* (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Grace is this great gift of being loved by our Creator. Grace is the one thing the Christian church must reflect above all else. For we not only read The Book but we live The Book.

Peace and grace,  
*Pastor John*

# FINANCIAL FOCUS 2011

	<u>August</u>	<u>January-August</u>
PLEDGES	\$14,361.00	\$125,349.15
YOUTH PLEDGES	823.00	7,138.00
INTEREST INCOME	3,688.48	17,319.14
OTHER INCOME	<u>4,218.53</u>	<u>37,528.20</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$23,091.01	\$187,334.49
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>-22,401.10</u>	<u>-191,720.69</u>
NET PROFIT/LOSS	\$ 689.91	\$ -4,386.20

## Choir Rehearsal

October 18, 5:30 to 6:30 pm.  
Those unable to attend rehearsal on Sunday mornings are welcome to join us and learn new music at this time.

## Membership & Evangelism Committee

sends cards to our church friends every month. To stave off expenses, the committee requests donations of *birthday cards for all ages*. A cash donation to purchase the cards needed would also be welcomed. Please leave any donation in the church office.

## The Peacemaking Offering

supports the efforts of Presbyterians through their congregations, presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly to work for peace by tearing down walls.

25% kept by congregations

25% to presbyteries and synods

50% to Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

Your gift Sunday, October 2 will help cultivate a culture of peace.

**Please give generously.**

May we be ever mindful of those serving in the military: **Staff Sergeant Ryan Nevius**, Shona's son, **Jerod Maxwell**, the Bittners' grandson, **Lcpl Alfredo Ruiz**, **Lcpl Omero Porras**, our adopted soldier, and **all the men & women of our military fighting for our country.**



Sunday School 10 a.m.

Classes for Pre-school thru High School and Adults

Choir Rehearsal 10 a.m.

Worship Service 11 a.m.

## We would like to welcome new members

Shon and Cindy Williams with their two children A.J. and Sloan to First Presbyterian. We are very happy to add them to our church family.

The Reverend John Conley  
Office Phone: 935-4423  
Cell Phone: 930-5290  
Email: [jcfpc@amaonline.com](mailto:jcfpc@amaonline.com)

**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
2nd floor Mondays & Fridays  
8 to 9 p.m.

**Probation Counseling**  
meets with clients  
**Saturday, October 1 & 15, 9–**  
Noon, 2nd floor

## *Looking Ahead....*

Sunday, October 2, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship

Tuesday, October 4, ~ Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, October 5 ~ LOGOS

Sunday, October 9, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~Worship

After Worship ~ Youth Barbeque Fundraiser

Tuesday, October 11, ~ Noon Bible Study

6:15 pm ~ Stated Session Meeting

Wednesday, October 12 ~ LOGOS

Friday & Saturday, October 14 & 15, ~ Presbytery  
Mtg. - Plainview

Friday, October 14, Noon ~ Membership/Evangelism  
meeting

Saturday, October 15, 10:00 am ~ Sunday School

field trip to Wieck's Maze and pumpkin patch.

7:00 pm ~ Movie Night for High School Youth at  
the Stokes House

Sunday, October 16, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship

Tuesday, October 18, ~ Noon Bible Study

5:30 pm ~ Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 19 ~ LOGOS

Thursday, October 20, ~ Budget & Stewardship  
Committee Meeting

Sunday, October 23, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship

Tuesday, October 25, ~ Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, October 26 ~ LOGOS

Sunday, October 30, 9:30 am ~ All-Church Breakfast  
during Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship

After Worship ~ Congregational Meeting  
to Elect Elders

## *October Birthdays*

2	Frances Key
5	Chet Graves
7	Joe Brunson
9	Derek Molina
10	Paula Allison
11	Doris Hise
	Joel Owens
	Eddie Stallwitz
15	Tennille Cariker
16	Carl Speck
23	Kelsey Taylor
24	Betty Lovell
25	Helen Clifton
27	Freda Keeney
31	Jerry Askins

*May you all have a  
blessed day full of joy  
and happiness!*



## *Anniversaries*

1	Larry & Becky Lewis
3	Joe & Laura Brunson
10	Chet & Tiffany Graves
14	Larry & Ann Parrish
20	J.A. & Louise George



## *Prayer Concerns*

Let us remember these members and friends who are facing special challenges this day. The Taylor, Key, Beauchamp, Mercer and Shoop families who have lost loved ones. Kyle Carnahan, Brandy Ford, and Randy Sims who are recovering from surgeries. Frank Sartain, Harriet Abell, Jenny Lewis, Kyler Wilson, and Linda James who are dealing with cancer.

Hilary Cordero & Helen Gray are dealing with pain or other health issues.

Clark Frische is recovering from a serious accident; Kade Molina has a broken collarbone.

Gary Griffin is now at home but undergoing rehab in Amarillo several times a week.

Opal Perry is requiring special care away from home.

Our new church prayer partner, First Presbyterian Church of Borger.

*Dear Lord, we bring before you these, your children, who are ill, injured, suffering from cancer and other health problems. Grant them relief from their pain, healing of body and spirit. Bring assurance and hope as only you can give. Amen.*

### **Attention all sewers, gluers, glitter-appliers!**

Your talent is needed to help with the children's Christmas program. Please contact Marsha Hise 935-3604 or Joyce Snow 935-7657.

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## **HAPPENINGS AMONG THE YOUTH...**

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LOGOS has begun and is going strong. What an enthusiastic group of volunteers we have this year to help nurture the children in Christ. A special thank you to all of our LOGOS volunteers for stepping up and being a part of our children's ministry.

The Jr. High and High School Youth will be having their annual BBQ Fundraiser meal after the worship service on Sunday, October 9th. This helps raise money for the many activities that the youth do including the winter ski retreat. I hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join us for this meal.

The First Presbyterian Church of Canyon High School LOGOS youth will be joining us for LOGOS on Wednesday, October 12th. We look forward to hosting this group as they come and eat and also join us for our youth Wednesday night service.

On Saturday, October 15th, the Sunday School Children are taking a field trip to the Wieck Maze and Pumpkin Patch. Bring your families and join us! I will be taking the church van for those who need a ride. Parents are encouraged to attend with the young ones and if you are able to help carpool, please contact me at 717-7413. We will leave the church parking lot at 10:00 am. The maze is \$6.00 for children 13 and up, \$4.00 for ages 5-12, and free for children 4 and under.

The High School Youth will be having a Movie Night at the Stokes' House on Oct. 15th. First movie begins at 7:00 pm. Food and fun are always provided!

This 2011/2012 year, the Youth Group's motto is, "Battle Ready, It's Go Time!" This will be the basis of most of our sermons for the year. As most of you may have noted from our Youth Sunday, our focus is how much God has our backs in everything we do, and who else would we rather have with us when going into battle with sin, but God. Parents and adults are always welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings in the Sanctuary. ~ Delma Stokes

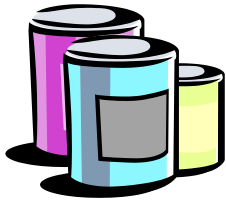
*"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." ~ Romans 12:12*

## *SESSION HIGHLIGHTS*

- Session approved building use requests for the baby shower of Linsey Rehkopf Robinett on September 10 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and for a come and go shower for Amanda Hale, daughter of Larry and Kay Hale, on Saturday, September 17.
- Elder Marietta Reynolds presented the financial report noting that the cumulative net loss for the year is \$4,386.20.
- Rev. Conley conducted a memorial service for long-time member Frances Key on Wednesday, September 14; Frances passed away on September 10, 2011.
- Funeral services were held Saturday, August 6, 2011 to celebrate the life of Georgia Tyler, a long-term member of the church, who passed away August 2, 2011.
- Elders Ben Maples, Marietta Reynolds, and Brenda DeBons were appointed to a committee to make recommendations for the top 10 to do list received from Presbytery related to the adoption of the nFog which made changes to the Book of Order.
- The Budget and Stewardship Committee is requesting 2012 budgets from each committee by October 11. Elder Reynolds will meet with any committee that would like assistance in compiling their budget for next year.
- Session approved the request of the Buildings and Grounds Committee to install shelving on the south wall of the basement storage room by the middle stairs. Lewis Plumbing has been called to check on the air conditioner problems. Session authorized the Building and Grounds Committee to decide what signs should be installed on the parking lot to prevent parked cars on the lot advertising garage sales.
- The Fellowship and Nurture Committee served a meal to the family of Frances Key after her funeral service.
- Approximately 70 people attended the pot luck lunch after services on September 11. There will be a Youth Fundraiser bbq after church services on October 9. On November 6, Stewardship Sunday, a meal will follow worship services. The church family Christmas dinner will follow worship services on December 11.
- An all church breakfast is scheduled for the morning of October 30. Members of session will be responsible for the food preparation.
- Average attendance at church services during the month of August was 74.
- The Membership and Evangelism Committee is requesting input from the congregation and committees for information to be included in the newsletter. Please contact Joyce Wethington, Shelly Burnett, or a member of the committee if you have information for the newsletter. The deadline for submitting information is approximately the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- The Mission Committee collected school supplies donated by members of the congregation and delivered them to Dumas ISD to distribute to needy children. Volunteers are needed to deliver food or school supplies to the food pantry or the schools.
- Canned goods will be collected each communion Sunday to be donated to the Food Pantry. A food/paper goods drive will be scheduled in December. The Mission Committee is requesting mission statements from the non-profit agencies supported by the church so that information will be available to the congregation about the missions and operations of the non-profit agencies.
- Youth Sunday will be September 25. October 2 is World Communion Sunday. The new prayer partner of the church beginning on World Communion Sunday is First Presbyterian in Borger.
- Elder Joe Brunson is checking his schedule to determine whether he can serve as Commissioner to Presbytery on October 14 and 15 in Plainview.
- The \$500 book allowance, per the budget adopted for 2011, will be sent to Dillon Ferguson to assist with the cost of his seminary books.
- The Nominating Committee announced the nominations for the Session Class of 2014: Carolyn Stallwitz, Carol Ledbetter, Laura Brunson, and Mary Taylor. There will be a Congregational Meeting on October 30 to elect the elder class of 2014.

## Member Highlights... ~ Lorren and Natasha Coffin ~

Lorren Coffin grew up in Nebraska and graduated from Oseola High School. Natasha grew up in Dumas and graduated high school here. The couple married on August 18, 2008. They have a two-year old son – Hayden. Lorren works for Natures Way Compost and Natasha is employed by Accolade Home Care. Natasha said that she and Lorren especially like how welcoming and helpful they found the members of our church. They became members about six months ago. We are very happy to have them.



Canned goods will be collected each communion Sunday (the first Sunday of the month) to be donated to the Food Pantry. Please place your donations in the baskets provided in the Narthex.

We are still in need of Sunday School teachers for the elementary. If you are able to teach, please call Betty Whitson 935-0126 or Delma Stokes 717-7413 as soon as possible. Curriculum is provided.

- **Friends in Faith Sunday School class**
- meets every Sunday morning at 10am.
- This quarter our theme is about Tradition & Wisdom.
- Come learn more about the 2 individuals who exemplified wisdom in the Bible.
- Solomon in the Old Testament and Jesus in the New Testament.
- Grab a cup of coffee & come on down to the Fellowship Hall.
- We would love to have YOU join us!

Return Service Requested

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Dumas TX 79029



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Organization  
POSTAGE  
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