



Presbyterian News

The First Presbyterian Church
First and Spruce Streets
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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

September 2011

The Church

We use the word “Church” in many different ways. “I’m going to church” might mean I am attending worship or maybe I am just on my way to the building. We use church with a small “c” to refer to a particular church and with a capital “C” to refer to a denomination—The Methodist Church—or to the company of all Christians.

When it comes to the building, we try to make good use of our church so members and others in our community benefit from us being on the corner of First and Maddox. Alcoholics Anonymous comes here every Monday and Friday night and we have made a room available for them to talk, support one another, and heal.

We use that same room upstairs every other Saturday morning as a courtesy to U.S. District Court for probation counseling. We do this because we believe we can and should show hospitality to our neighbors.

Our building is used throughout the year for wedding and baby showers for people related to you, the members of this church. The parlor, fellowship hall and the adjoining kitchens are the most used rooms. We have asked people to pay the nominal fee of \$35 in exchange for us seeing they have heat/AC and that we have their room cleaned before and after they use it.

The session composed of 12 elders is charged with seeing that the building is used often and treated well. Thanks to all of you who treat the church—the people and the building—with respect. There is always work to be done, things to repair, and improvements to be made so everyone who passes by or enters the doors knows this is a church where they are accepted and welcomed to serve Jesus Christ as His Church.

John

Looking Ahead....

Friday, September 2, 8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

Sunday, September 4, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship

Monday, September 5 ~ Labor Day - Church Office
Closed

Wednesday, September 7, 6:30 pm ~ LOGOS Parent
Meeting

Friday, September 9, 8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 10, 9 - Noon ~ Probation Counseling

4 pm ~ Jr. High Movie Night

Sunday, September 11, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship

~ Patriots Day Meal after Worship Service

Monday, Sept. 12, 8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, ~ Noon Bible Study

6:15 pm ~ Stated Session Meeting

Wednesday, September 14 ~ LOGOS Begins

Friday, Sept. 16, 8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

Sunday, September 18, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship

Monday, Sept. 19, 12 noon ~ Member/Evang Mtg.

8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

Tuesday, September 20 ~ Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, September 21 ~ LOGOS

Friday, Sept. 23, 8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 24, 9-Noon ~ Probation Counseling

Sunday, September 25, 10 am ~ Sunday School

11 am ~ Worship ~ Youth Sunday

Monday, Sept. 26, 8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

Tuesday, September 27 ~ Noon Bible Study

Wednesday, September 28 ~ LOGOS

Friday, Sept. 30, 8 pm - 9 pm ~ AA Meeting

9:30 pm - High School leaves for

Canyon Presbyterian Church Lock-In

September Birthdays

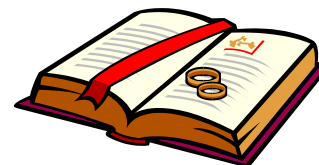
- 2 Callie Sims
- 3 Camden Williamson
Preston Williamson
- 6 Larry Lewis
- 8 Hayden Coffin
- 9 Jayci Stokes
- 15 Bob Clifton
- 16 Larry Parrish
- 28 Robin Kehoe
Ross Sims
- 30 Susan Graves

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



Anniversaries

- 4 Ralph & Edye Cunningham
- 21 Howard & Evelyn Bose
- 26 Jim & Paula Allison



Prayer Concerns

The following members and friends are facing special challenges in their lives and need our prayers.

Our church prayer partner, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Lubbock. Opal Johnson Perry requiring care away from home. Gary Griffin and Doel Cordero are taking physical therapy. Jenny Lewis, Harriet Abell, Kyle Carnahan, Marjorie Walker, Kyler Wilson and Cheri Thompson are dealing with Cancer issues.

Delwin McGee's brother, Max, is recuperating from bypass surgery.

We also remember the family of Georgia Tyler as they mourn the loss of their mother and grandmother.

*Lord, You are the Good Shepherd who gave Your life for the sheep.
Hear our prayer for all who are in need, sorrow or sickness.
Bind up the injured, heal the sick and inspire those whose faith is broken. Amen.*

HAPPENINGS AMONG THE YOUTH...

It's official..the school year has begun. Now as we get back into the routine of bedtimes, and setting alarms for school, athletic practice and games, and deciding what activities our children will be involved in for the year, let us not forget how important it is to get back into the routine of going to church and Sunday school. We offer Sunday School classes for Pre-school (age 3) through adults. Call me or call the church office for more information. We would love to see you on Sunday mornings!

LOGOS begins this month and the Leadership Team has met numerous times in order to prepare this 2011/2012 year to be a great year for the children and youth of this community. Parents, old and new, please keep in mind how important the parent and staff night is for LOGOS registration. This is the time we cover what's new and any changes made for the upcoming year. Please make it a priority to attend. Parent night is Wednesday , September 7th at 6:30. There will be food and a nursery for children. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 717-7413. Remember, there will be a drawing for 1 free tuition and also \$5.00 off per child when you register your child on this evening.

I pray that this school year has begun positively for your children and for all the parents and grandparents. Please remember to give praise and pray for the teachers and administration of the schools. They work so hard to see that our children are given the education needed for a successful future, but it is up to the parents and church to give our children the spiritual foundation needed to become children of God.

"Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." Romans 10:17 (NIV)

May God continue to bless this wonderful church~ *Delma Stokes*

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Rev. Jim Wallace and Rev. Don McDonald of the Presbytery Committee on Ministry met with Session to discuss the process for calling a permanent minister. Both indicated they felt the church had made significant progress in the last eight months. Their questions to Session were: Where is the Church? the Congregation? Members of Session expressed their ideas and feelings about the church and the congregation. Rev. Conley and the Session would like to have input from the Congregation regarding the questions from the representatives of the Committee on Ministry. One of the questions to be answered is "What is our mission and how do we go about working toward our goals and objectives?" Session suggested small group meetings to provide opportunities for members of the congregation to voice their ideas and opinions. The very tentative time frame agreed to by Session was to spend this fall answering the questions posed by the Committee on Ministry. Early in 2012, Session will select the process for calling a minister and will notify the Presbytery Committee on Ministry of their decision.
- Elder Marietta Reynolds presented the financial report and noted that \$75,000 of the bonds from the Oldham contribution had been called. The bond funds were invested in utility stocks to maintain the return percentage as much as possible. There was a transfer of \$10,000 from the Special Fund account to the General Fund bank account to provide for the July and August bills.
- Rev. Conley conducted a memorial service at 12:15 p.m. on August 7 for Lenora Morton, a long-time member of the church, who passed away on July 26, 2011.
- Funeral services were held June 27, 2011 to celebrate the life of Myrtle McDonald, a long-term member of the church, who passed away June 22, 2011.
- Volunteers filled in for church secretary Joyce Wethington during her vacation and for Maria, absent due to the death of her step-father.
- Due to destruction in the Jr. High and Sr. High meeting rooms, Session approved locks on these doors to keep small children out of the rooms when no one is there.
- The Fellowship and Nurture Committee made donations in memory of Larry Graves and Lenora Morton and provided those attending the funeral services of Myrtle McDonald with coffee and cookies after the services.
- The church picnic was a great success. Special guests were Rev. Ben Seller and his family who were visiting Dumas. Members of the Police Department and Fire Department are invited to the lunch after church services on September 11. There will also be a lunch served after church services on November 6, Stewardship Sunday.
- The Mission Committee is sponsoring a project to collect school supplies to donate to schools or needy students.
- A Minute for Mission will be added to church services to inform the Congregation about the agencies supported by the Church. Session approved a Mission Committee project to collect canned goods on World Communion Sunday. The canned goods collected will be donated to the Food Pantry.
- An all church breakfast was scheduled for August 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Everyone is urged to attend for a great breakfast and good fellowship. The Fellowship and Nurture Committee will make arrangements for the breakfast.
- Average attendance for worship services during July was 76.
- The Nominating Committee met August 10 and 24 to begin working on nominations for the elder class of 2013.



Member Highlights...

Doel and Hilary Cordero were married on July 24, 1971 in England where Doel was serving in the U.S. Air Force. After living in several places in the states, they moved to Dumas in 1989 where Doel managed the Sherwin-Williams Paint store until he retired. The couple and their two daughters, Hazel and Lily, have been members of our church for about fifteen years. Among other positions in which she has served, Hilary has been a teacher in LOGOS and in Sunday School. Doel has also served in a number of positions including that of an Elder. He also works with our young people and has accompanied them on several mission trips. We thank you both for all you do.

Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today

That is the title of our Noon Tuesday Bible Study. We will begin on September 13th and meet through November 8th. That is nine weeks covering almost the entire book of Revelation.

21st Century people who know their New Testament and who can “tweet” understand Wadya wnt? Gzu axd. She zd, I wnt my 2 boyz 2b yr bff. In like manner the seven churches of Asia Minor understood the writings of John of Patmos.

I have read several books that claim to have discovered the keys to the book of Revelation as well as the answer to the theory of the End Times. My conclusion is that fear sells and these authors need us to buy their books.

My understanding of this last book in the Bible is this: Revelation is NOT code, it is NOT a prediction; the anti Christ does NOT appear, there is NO rapture. It is a book of HOPE. There is NO battle...the non battle was won on the Cross.

Please come, bring your lunch if you like and eat and study, and be prepared to be enlightened not frightened. Call Pastor John if you have any questions.

Return Service Requested

