

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the urban forest is increasingly being recognized for its benefits to public health and well-being? As a result, more cities in North America are including green space in their community health policies and promoting trees in the agendas. “Research shows that the presence of trees in a community can encourage people to be more physically active in addition to affecting their attitudes and behaviors,” says Jim Skiera, Executive Director of International Society of Arboriculture. Our own Fair Park is evident of these facts.

Among the ways trees improve public health:

- 100 trees remove 53 tons of carbon dioxide and 430 pounds of other air pollutants from the environment each year.
- Neighborhoods with trees experience fewer incidents of domestic violence and are safer and more sociable.
- People who use public parks and open spaces are three times more likely to reach recommended levels of physical activity than those who don't participate. (www.treesaregood.org)

Christian Education Green Team



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P. O. BOX 773

HENDERSON, TEXAS 75653-0773



THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HENDERSON, TEXAS

Volume 47

September, 2015

Issue Eight

Mission and Ministry

Does it sometimes seem odd to you that churches and other religious organizations ask you for money to fund their ideas? Other entities ask for money too, but often the request surrounds increasing their market share, or research to boost their profits. We here at First, have several people far smarter than I am, and certainly more experienced, who watch every amount contributed, and make certain that we can account for all monetary gifts and how/when/where they were spent. When committee moderators prepare to spend the funds allocated to them, they must account to, and obtain agreement from, others on their committee as well as members of the Session.

And every amount spent must contribute to the mission and ministry goals stated by this church. That means your Session members and your committee members must be in agreement concerning what those goals are, and that our funding consistently matches them.

It's one of the ways that we make certain that our monies are not lost, nor are they spent in ways we would disapprove of. Does *everyone* agree on how money is allocated? Probably not. But everyone is encouraged to be aware, and to voice any concern, so that your leadership may address that concern, and readjust if necessary.

Now I invite you once again to join in the work of any committee, voice your opinions about what work should be done, how the budget should be spent, and who should benefit from it. It's a very Presbyterian thing to do. And goodness knows, you're a *whole lot* smarter'n I am!

Blessings and Pax –

Candice

Then Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."

Matthew 19:21



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION GREEN TEAM



Sally Hosea was honored for her service as volunteer pianist. Thank you Sally!



Jan, Kathy & Lynn reading about the Heifer Project



The Preacher & Kathy go to school!!

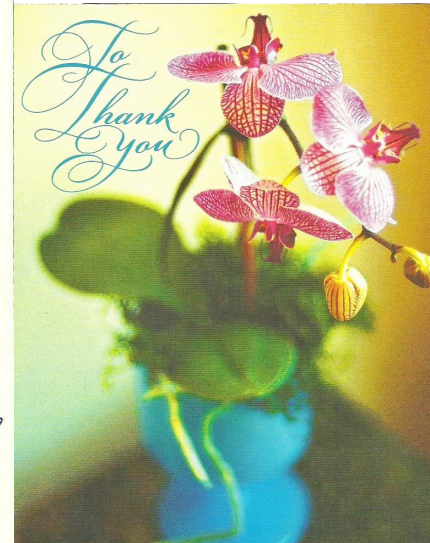


Tom, Juan & Bob getting the work started!

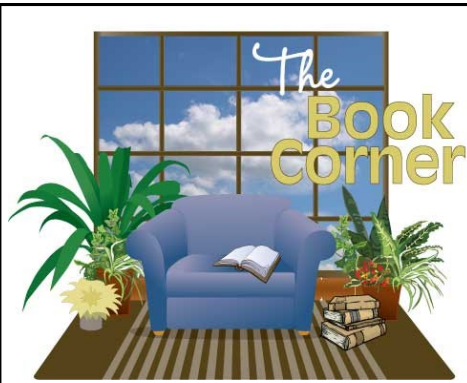


*Dear Candice and Church family,
A special thanks for your many acts of kindness while Bill & I were recovering from hospital stays and my long recovery at home - A big thank you for all your prayers, cards, visits, emails, phone calls & the delicious food - So blessed to have a loving and caring church family - God bless you all - Much Love,
Carolyn & Bill Beer*

*Presbyterian Church family,
Your special ways and generous heart make a beautiful difference.
Thank you so much.
Thank you all for the lovely card - We felt the love -
With grateful hearts
Cherise Welton*



*With Love & many prayers for all of my church family. I do so appreciate all of your loving concern & cards & prayers as I too, pray for all of you
In the name of Jesus
Billie M ande*



BOOK CORNER

BEATRICE'S GOAT by Page McBrier

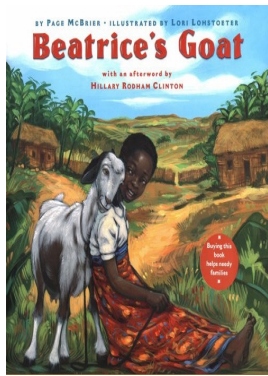
Beatrice's Goat is a children's book based upon a true story of a young girl named Beatrice. She lives in the village of Kisinga, Uganda with her mother and five younger brothers and sisters. Life is hard and the family is very poor. Beatrice

dreams of going to school, but knows that the family probably will never have the money for books and a uniform so that she can attend. And then one day everything changes; the family receives the gift of a goat! Beatrice names the goat Mugisa, which means lucky. The family's life begins to change. The goat soon has two kids. They have milk to drink and some to sell, and in time, Beatrice has enough money saved to go to school.

This book is a story of how Heifer International helped one family with a gift of a goat and shows how different life can be in other parts of the world and how little it takes to bring hope and changes to developing countries.

The book is very beautifully illustrated by Lori Lohstoeter with rich, vibrant colors. Although the book is targeted for the age group of 4-8, the story with the pictures can be enjoyed by all ages and tells in a very simple, gentle way, how just a small gift can make a big difference in the lives of those living in poverty.

Kathy Porter
Christian Education Team Member



FROM COMMUNICATIONS –

Have you sent in your update yet? If not, please do so. Forms are in the Narthex and there is an attachment to the electronic version of the Pipeline.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS CERTIFIED AS A NATIONAL PCUSA EARTH CARE CONGREGATION

[Henderson, TX] –First Presbyterian Church was certified as an Earth Care Congregation by Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Environmental Ministries through February 2017. This honor speaks to the great commitment that First Presbyterian Church has to caring for God's earth.

To become an Earth Care Congregation, this congregation affirmed the Earth Care Pledge to integrate environmental practices and thinking into all facets of its church life and completed projects and activities in the fields of worship, education, facilities, and outreach.

The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that make the commitment to take seriously God's charge to "till and keep" the garden.

"It is exciting that First Presbyterian Church is dedicated to intentional care of, and action for, God's earth. The congregation's activities and commitment will inspire others to answer God's call to care for the earth," says Rebecca Barnes, Associate for Environmental Ministries for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The Earth Care Congregations program was started in 2010 by PC(USA) Environmental Ministries. The goal of the program is to inspire churches to care for God's earth in a holistic way, through integrating earth care into all of their church life. The Earth Care Congregation certification honors churches that make that commitment and encourages others to follow their example.

For more information about First Presbyterian Church's earth care program contact Kathy Porter at 903-646-0162 or kathyporter301@gmail.com. For more information on the Earth Care Congregations program go to www.pcusa.org/earth-care-congregations.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

“The Great Pulpit Exchange” received very good reviews as did the preaching of Rev. Deborah Tipps, of First United Methodist Church, Henderson, filling in for Rev. Klein who was attending PCUSA “Big Tent” on August 2nd. Also on that Sunday, Sally Hosea was presented with a plaque in gratitude for her ten years of dedicated service as our pianist.

Committee expenses for the year are close to estimated yearly projection. From the 2015 worship budget of \$3,370, we have \$1,406 remaining. Actual expenses have been \$1,964. A generous memorial was made in memory of Neil Pennal to the Worship Committee by the Pennal family. The Committee will make plans to use this for a special purpose to honor Neil.

The Committee is considering two documents: one is to provide procedures for church funerals and, if approved by session, it will be included in the Administrative Operations Manual for the Session. The other is a form to be made available for individuals of the congregation to make their funeral/memorial service wishes known to the pastor.

Our pastor and Kathy Porter related to the Committee some good ideas concerning worship from the “Big Tent” conference. These ideas will be considered in future planning.

Theological Education Sunday is September 20th. A seminary student from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Gary Matthews, will preach and be our guest that weekend.



Worship Committee

Tom Laney, Chair

To Our Gracious & Faithful Church Family,

There is no way we can ever thank you enough for your prayers for us, the food you brought to us and your love and caring for us! We love you and thank you. Please continue to pray for us. Bob is healing greatly, Cindy not so much. So your prayers would still be appreciated!!

In Christ's Love,
Bob & Cindy Ratliff



connection with God.

The Stewardship committee will soon begin planning for our activities this fall and the Stewardship drive for the 2016 Budget. For now we ask that you look back to your 2015 commitments to this church and to the 2015 budget. Where are you at fulfilling your 2015 commitments? If you are unsure, contact our church secretary. She can let you know how much you have given so far this year. Next month we will send out a pledge summary to all who have pledged or have given to our church. All pledges are accepted with deep gratitude and recognition of the sacrifices each of us makes in our lives.

Thank You

Bill Stanley, Stewardship Committee



STEWARDSHIP
COMMITTEE

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The Fellowship Committee is working with the Outreach Committee for the Friendship Dinner following Church Service on Aug. 30. This will give members an opportunity to invite a friend not only for worship but also a chance to visit with others who will be invited. The program will provide more information on the Heifer Foundation which offers help not only in this country but also overseas to people in need and they learn to help others.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY



About You and *KIDS FOR GOD!*

Have you ever thought about being a volunteer in the Kids for God mid-week program at First Presbyterian Church? Let me put this another way. Would you like to make a difference in the life of at least one child you may not have met yet? Do you have a burning desire to show God's love to children? KIDS FOR GOD is a golden opportunity to make a difference by simply showing God's love. And thank God, God equips the called. Pick up the phone, answer that call. Leave your name and number at 903-657-2529 and ask a Kids for God volunteer (Kathy, Lynn or Bert) to get back to you. And she will.

Christian Education Ministry Team

Bert Lowe, team leader

STEWARDSHIP AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN HENDERSON

Stewardship begins with an understanding that everything we have comes from God. We are blessed in so many different ways by a God who is active in our own lives as well as scripture, history and all of creation. Grateful for the gifts, large and small, which God has given us, we are invited by God to respond to God's First Presbyterian Church by generously giving back, by sharing the gifts and blessings that have been bestowed upon us, and by caring for the world which God has entrusted to us.

Stewardship is about getting involved – giving your time, sharing your gifts and talents, and supporting the church financially. Your involvement enables First Presbyterian Church to do its work and ministry. We strongly believe: the more involved you are, the more we can do for God.

Every fall the Stewardship Committee hosts a Sunday luncheon so that members can learn (or relearn) about our many ministries and the ways in which they can get involved. In recent years, the Session and its committees have also been working on making First Presbyterian Church more environmentally friendly by involving all our members to think "Green". It is these successful ministries that make us uniquely First Presbyterian Church.

In addition, pledging benefits First Presbyterian Church. The church depends upon your financial contributions, in addition to your commitment and participation in other church activities, to do its work and ministry. Making a pledge enables our Session to better plan how to use our resources. The Session establishes an annual budget based upon the total amount pledged to the church. While regular non-pledged giving is important, a pledge helps the Session plan more accurately and better enables our ministries to thrive and grow.

Pledging is about your relationship with God and First Presbyterian Church. Pledging to First Presbyterian Church is different from financial contributions you might make to your alma mater or charitable organizations. A pledge acknowledges that everything we have comes from God. It allows you to share your many blessings while simultaneously furthering God's mission of love and compassion in the world. Pledging gives you an opportunity to put your faith in action and deepen your

MISSION AND OUTREACH

At press time (August 24) all of the mission and outreach events are coming up, or, are too early to report on. The outreach's Friendship Sunday and the end of Mission's Heifer "Education and Action" will all happen on Sunday, August 30. We have ended the outreach back to school supplies drive. We collected 98% of our 100% goal which was simply outstanding!! We will have more information in the October pipeline about how many children were served through this wonderful Betty Elder program.

Wednesday, August 26, will be the first day of Kids for God. Many thanks to Bert, Lynn, Kathy and Sue for seeing to this outreach for many years. We ask that you be in prayer for all God has in store for the kids this school year.

The next big event will be our neighborhood party on Saturday, Oct 24. Please set this day aside to get involved and help out. If we all do a little, it will not fall on a few and we can serve our neighbors in the true spirit of giving.

Thanks from your Mission and Outreach teams for your willingness to serve our neighbors in the many programs our Lord has sent our way.

Peace,
Jan Pennal, chair



FROM YOUR PERSONNEL COMMITTEE –

We are hard at work trying to find a replacement for Personnel Committee Mary, which is not easy to do! Thankfully, she is still programing the organ for us and we have had Tom Laney push the buttons (or whatever it is that he does up there) for the last few weeks. Thank you, Tom. We have interviewed one person and have another scheduled. Several colleges have been contacted and we are trying to get the word out that we are searching. It appears that organists are becoming harder and harder to find. However, that being said, we just want you to know that we are working on it and are confident that we will find just the right person for us.



September 2015

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------|-------------------|
| | | 1 Cindy Ratliff | 2 | 3 Christian Education Meeting 2:00pm C.O.N.C. Meeting 5:30pm | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Communion | 7 Office Closed for Labor Day | 8 | 9 Worship Meeting 6:00pm | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 L.E.A.N. Meeting 2pm Session meeting 6:30pm | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Theological Education Sunday | 21 AAB 4:30pm | 22 | 23 | 24 Lynn Tieken | 25 | 26 Tom DeLoach |
| 27 | 28 Elaine Davis Pipeline Deadline | 29 | 30 | | | |

COUNCIL ACTIONS

August 20, 2015

- Worshipped and prayed together
- Reviewed *Great Preacher Rotation*
- Reviewed guest pastor's preaching, Rev. Deborah Tipps
- Heard feedback from Rev. Klein and Kathy Porter on *Big Tent* experience
- Decided on number of nominees for Ruling Elders for 2016
- Made plans for Friendship Sunday, August 30th
- Made plans for seminary student to preach on September 20th

Into the Church Triumphant

Nelwyn Stuart (Gigi) Thompson
(mother of Tammy Hillin)

Nov. 3, 1934 - Aug. 11, 2015

Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:

Members of the Congregation: Carolyn and Bill Boren, Jack Clark, Jane and Tolly Dill, and Diane Dill, Tammy Hillin and family, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, The family of Peggy Morgan, Debbie Murphy, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, The Personnel Committee, searching for an organist, The 2016 CONC, searching for Ruling Elders

Connected Family: Connor Bradshaw – Porter's grandson

Friends and Neighbors: Our college students returning to school, The teachers, administrators and parents of school students

Those loved ones known only to God



Prayer
Requests