AUGUST

2014

First Presbyterian Church, 300 Burleson, Smithville, TX

Newsletter

Sunday Schedule

Choir Practice – 9:30 am
Sunday School – All Ages 10 am
Fellowship in Library 9:45-10:45 am
Coffee and refreshments served
Worship Service - 11 am

Come for a visit, stay for a faith-lift.

A Note from Pastor Jane C. Johnson – Originally Written June 8, 2010, For the Dedication Page of our Cookbook "A Taste of Heaven"

Sometimes we wonder, 'What did I do to deserve this?' or 'Why did God have to do this to me?' Here is a wonderful explanation!

A daughter is telling her Mother how everything is going wrong, she's failing algebra, her boyfriend broke up with her and her best friend is moving away.
Meanwhile, her Mother is baking a cake and asks her daughter if she would like a snack, and the daughter says, 'Absolutely Mom, I love your cake.'
'Here, have some cooking oil,' her Mother offers.
'Yuck' says her daughter.
'How about a couple raw eggs?' 'Gross, Mom!'
'Would you like some flour then? Or maybe baking soda?'
'Mom, those are all yucky!'
To which the mother replies: 'Yes, all those things seem yucky all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake! '

God works the same way. Many times we wonder why He would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But God knows that when He puts these things all in His order, they always work for good! We just have to trust Him and, eventually, they will all make something wonderful!

God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He can live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart.

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we are here we might as well dance!

O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed are those who trust in Him. Psalm 34:8

Church Leadership

Pastor – Rev. Jane C. Johnson - 512.608.4293 Email - caperton6@austin.rr.com
Clerk of Session - Nancy Martin 512.661.8626
Pastoral Assistant - Susan Guedry 512.360.4930
Music Director – Lisa Maresh 512.308.7319
Worship Committee – Chairman Susan Guedry 512.360.4930
Mission & Outreach Committee – Chairman Janet Stephens 512.237.3814
Building & Grounds /Fellowship & Nurture Committees - Board of Deacons
Session Members - Susan Guedry, Jane Istre, Nancy Martin, Lori Lancaster, Jim McLaughlin, David Herrington, Janet Stephens
Board of Deacons – Dot Dillon, Moderator; Gloria Hurta, Hoyt Johnson, Kathy Ford, Kelly Hubley, Pat McLaughlin

Custodian – Anna Hernandez 512.237.3880

Web Site – www.fpcsmithville.org – Kathy Ford 512.321.4132

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

NEWS from Gwen Morris

The PW Fall Farmland Cluster meeting will be held on Saturday, August 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The women of the church will provide a salad lunch and dessert. We will learn about the PW Study for 2014-2015 entitled "Reconciling Paul – a Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians" by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty.

We will hear of some Mission work in our Presbytery, especially about Presbyterian Children's Home and Services.

As many as 70 women from our area will be in attendance. Come and fellowship, have a great meal and meet old and new friends.

More help is needed to provide salads and desserts for this meeting. If you can help, please contact **Gwen at 512-308-7791.**

There will be no Women's Bible Study meeting in August. We will resume on September 10, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. Join us then for study, fellowship and food. Everyone is welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, August 1 & Saturday, August 2
Garage Sale at Old Central School

Saturday, August 2 – Church Clean-Up Day

Saturday, August 9 – PW Fall Cluster Meeting Hosted by PW of FPC Smithville, 9 am – 1 pm

Saturday, August 16 – 5 pm- 3rd Annual Back to School Picnic & Swim Party at the Carr's.

Sunday, August 17 - Choir practice resumes at 9:15 p.m.

Sunday, August 24 - Music Sunday

Adult Sunday School News

We will continue the study of "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" by Joanna Weaver. The author reveals how to find intimacy with God in the busyness of life.

August 3 – The Better Part
August 10 – Lessons from Lazarus
August 17 – Martha's Teachable Heart
August 24 – Mary's Extravagant Love
August 31 – Balancing Work and Worship
Sept. 7 – Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. for discussion and fellowship led by Susan Guedry.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

First Presbyterian Church Session met on July 23, 2014 for their monthly Stated Session Meeting.

Pastor Jane reported she will be out on Sunday, August 24th in order to attend her 50th Class Reunion. Susan Guedry will fill in with our last Music Sunday of the Summer.

Clerk Nancy Martin reported that as a result of the 2013 Statistical Report a number of the congregations authorized Ruling Elder Commissioners has changed. FPC Smithville now is allowed **2** Ruling Elders plus our Teaching Elder.

Elder Jane Istre reported the annual Church audit will take place in August.

The Building and Grounds committee reported all the water leaks in the basement have been fixed and the plastering will be done next week. The new carpet will not be installed until after the PW Fall Gathering on August 9th. The committee decided to install a second handrail on the staircase at the back of the church only and not in the front as that would obstruct access for moving items in and out of the basement.

Elder Janet Stephens reported to wait to donate anymore items for the Startup Garage sale for Born Again Emporium as they are out of storage room. The Sale is scheduled for Friday, August 1 and Saturday, August 2 from 8-3:30.

The session voted to donate 2 old wooden tables from the third floor to Born Again Emporium.

The Smithville Clinic has requested the use of the FPC Fellowship on Friday, October 17 to host a Thank you Volunteers Dinner.

Smithville Food Pantry JUNE/JULY Report from *Dorothy Dillon*

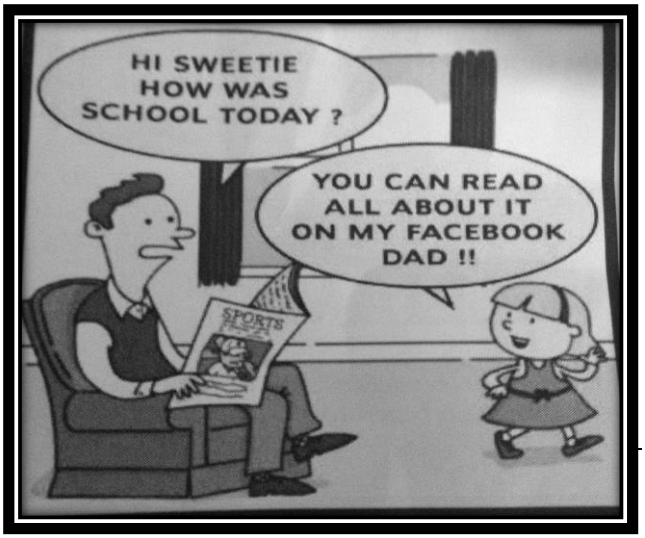
June

Date	Clients	Family Members	New Clients	Family Members
6/4	106	263	5	13
6/11	106	255	7	17
6/17	99	237	3	4
6/24	115	227	5	14
Totals	426	982	20	48

July

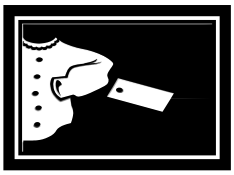
Date	Clients	Family Members	New Clients	Family Members
7/2	98	231	1	2
7/9	106	259	7	19
7/16	112	273	2	4
7/23	119	288	5	17
Totals	435	1051	15	42

Please bring your donations on First Sunday and place them in the basket at the covered dish luncheon. There will also be envelopes available if you prefer to give money. The Food Pantry can purchase food from the Capital Area Food Bank much more economically than you can purchase it at the store, so please consider giving by check/cash. If you have questions, please contact Dorothy Dillon.



MISSION AND OUTREACH REPORT
By Janet Stephens

UPDATE ON THE RESALE SHOP-"BORN AGAIN EMPORIUM"



The Born Again Emporium (BAE) is getting ready to open. There will be a huge sale on Friday and Saturday, August 1 and 2 at Central School from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Donations will be taken on Tuesday, July 29 and Wednesday, July 30. Clean out your closets and donate at the school.

Our Church has been assigned the following days/times to work:

- Mon., July 28 - 12 to 3 - price items
- Wed., July 30 - 12 to 3 - take donations and price items
- Fri., Aug. 1 - 7:30 to 11:30 - help with garage sale
- Please see Janet Stephens for details!

Church Attendance – June & July 2014

Prepared by Dorothy Dillon

Date	Members	Regular Visitors	Visitors	Total
6/1	28	3	10	41
6/6	27	1		28
6/15	27	1	2	30
6/22	37	3	1	41
6/29	22	2		24

Date	Members	Regular Visitors	Visitors	Total
7/6	26	1		27
7/13	24			24
7/20	26	3	1	30

COMMUNION SCHEDULE – August

Lori Lancaster, Nancy Martin, Janet Stephens, Kathy Ford

The first person listed will bring the bread, prepare the communion table, pick up the glasses at the end of the service, wash and put away the service trays.

If you cannot be at church when it is your turn to be in charge of the preparation for communion, please call the Elder listed after you to prepare the communion in your place and ask one of the other Elders to serve in your place. Those who serve communion also collect the offering and should ask for a back-up before the service if you will not be able to collect the offering. Backup Elders: Nancy Evans, Gwen Morris, LaVerne Herrington, Alan Ford, John Saunders, Sammye Hodges, and Susan Guedry.

The 3rd *Annual Back to School Picnic and Ice Cream Social* will be held at the home of Fredee and David Carr on Saturday, August 16th starting at 5 p.m. Directions to the Carr's on Hwy 304 will be furnished at church. Bring your appetite, your swim wear, and some ice cream, the rest of the food will be furnished.

Recipe of the Month

ZUCCHINI SQUARES – Nancy Martin

1. Mix together: 3 eggs 2 cups grated zucchini
   1 cup cooking oil 2 cups sugar 3 tsp. vanilla

2. Sift and add to above:
   2 ½ cups flour 1 tsp. salt 2 tsp soda
   ¼ tsp baking powder

3. Then add:
   ¾ cups chopped dates or raisins
   1 cup chopped nuts
   Bake on greased and floured cookie sheet or jelly roll pan for 25 minutes at 350 degrees.
   Cool and frost.

Frosting:

4 oz. cream cheese, softened 1 tsp. vanilla
2 ½ cups powdered sugar

Mix until creamy, adding just enough milk to spreading consistency.

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BOOK REVIEW FOR AUGUST – CONTRIBUTED BY SUSAN GUEDRY

Angle of Repose by Wallace Stegner

This is one of the best books I have read in a long time. It was one that I couldn't wait to read the ending, but I didn't want to read it because then the book would be over. I truly understand why it won the Pulitzer Prize!

This is two stories intertwined with each other. The first is a college professor battling a terminal illness which has placed him in a wheelchair with little to no mobility. He has returned to his grandparents' home to research and write the story of his grandmother, Susan. One story is the professor coming to accept his imminent death and lack of independence – as well as finding out who his grandmother really was. The second story is the story of his grandmother, Susan, an artist and author in the 1880's. Susan leaves her comfortable life in New England to join her husband, Oliver, a self-taught engineer who is constantly searching for his dream. The story tells of their lives in the western US and Mexico – their loves, and their hates – their joys and their sorrows. This is a well written book with many details and descriptions of life in mining camps in the 1800's.

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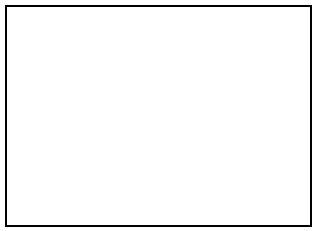
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Susan Guedry 	2
3 **8th Sunday after Penecost** *18th Sunday in Ordinary Time* **Worship at 11** **Communion** **Covered dish lunch** Brook Hurta *Homelessness/Affordable Housing*	4	5	6 *Hiroshima Day*	7	8	9 Jennigale Webb
10 **9th Sunday after Pentecost** *19th Sunday in Ordinary Time* **Worship at 11** *Higher Education*	11 Brook & Debbie Hurta 	12	13	14 Jane Johnson 	15 Billy Web 	16 Pat & Jim McLaughlin John Gosselink
17 **10th Sunday after Pentecost** *20th Sunday in Ordinary Time* **Worship at 11** Susan & Gary Guedry Sammy Hodges Anna Hernandez *Youth in the Church*	18	19	20 Nancy & Bob Martin Nick Johnson 	21	22 Haden Bell Mark Morrell Lydia Johnson 	23 Sophie Morgan
24 **11th Sunday after Pentecost** *21st Sunday in Ordinary Time* **Worship at 11** *Public Education*	25	26	27 Gary Guedry Zachery Odum 	28	29 Barbara Maresh 	30
31 **12th Sunday after Pentecost** *22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time* **Worship at 11** Janice & Max Butler