

VOL. 65 NUMBER 4 • MAY 2023

THE AMBASSADOR

A publication of First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater

MAY HAPPENINGS

AT
FPC

Sunday, May 7

8:30 am Worship & Communion

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am High School graduate cake reception (HA)

11:00 am Worship & Communion

Recognition of graduating High School Seniors in worship

5:00 pm PYG Tears & Cheers Dinner (HA)

Sunday, May 14

8:30 am Worship & Communion

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

Receiving of confirmands in worship

Sunday, May 21

8:30 am Worship & Communion

Commissioning of Mission Trip team

9:45 am Sunday School

9:45 am Volunteer Appreciation Brunch in Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Worship

Mission Trip team leaves for Eagle, CO

Sunday, May 28 - Pentecost Sunday

Change to One Service at 11:00 am!

10:00 am Fellowship Time & Visioning Survey Questions
Discussion in Fellowship Hall

11:00 am Worship & Communion in Fellowship Hall

Mission Trip team returns to Stillwater

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The Summer Ambassador deadline is Thursday, June 8 at 5:00 pm. Articles may be submitted to fpchurch1889@stillwaterfpc.org.



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CHURCH OF STILLWATER

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Announcements

A Change is Coming: Online Giving

FPC is switching our online giving provider. Our mission is to better steward every gift contributed to our church and that's why we are beginning to use **Breeze** as our online and text-giving platform. You may be familiar with **Breeze** since FPC has been using it for several years as the church management system for member information (name, address, phone, email, etc.) and as our contribution record keeping system (through which your giving statements are created and sent).

We appreciate that some of you took advantage of Tithe.ly for online giving. Soon we will end our contract with **Tithe.ly**. Watch for more information on when and how to change.

Others of you may be familiar with online giving through the **Presbyterian Foundation** and their electronic giving arm, **Vanco**. We are continuing our connection with them through December 31, 2023. Many of you have set up monthly giving for your 2023 pledge through this system. **NO changes will be made to this at this time.**

A lot of thought went into switching online giving providers. This change means we will no longer have a monthly fee for giving software and can put that money back into the church. It also helps consolidate tools making daily administration tasks easier.

Watch for more information in the bulletin as we complete the change. Questions? Please contact me at cathy.fairbanks@stillwaterfpc.org.

You are each appreciated.
Cathy Fairbanks, Treasurer

Jenna Campbell to take Leave of Absence

Jenna Campbell, Director of Children & Youth Ministries, will be taking a leave of absence with tentative dates from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. During this time her family will spend a year accompanying her husband, Casey Campbell, to his prestigious acceptance into the Army War College in Carlisle, PA. The Army War College provides graduate-level instruction for senior military officers, as well as international fellows and civilians in the Pentagon, State Department, National Security Administration and more. The program develops leaders for service at a strategic level, with graduates receiving a Master's degree in Strategic Studies.

A portion of Jenna's leave will be spent on a three-month sabbatical developing curriculum. Jenna's terms of leave includes an agreement to make the curriculum available for the use of FPC Stillwater as well as to return to FPC Stillwater employment as Director of Children & Youth Ministries for at least twelve months upon her return in July 2024. Jenna agrees to present an overview of her sabbatical experience to the FPC Stillwater Session upon completion.

Letter from Kati

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:4-7 (NRSV).

What does it look like to rejoice in all things? If it be worshipping with excellent music and passionate hearts, our people have done that well in the season of Easter. If it be dancing and laughing with one another, our people do that daily, but especially at the Mission Trip Fundraiser, this was true. If it be working hard in the dirt to tend to the plants of the earth and pick up trash, our people have done that in the Stillwater community and in our own backyard of the church. If it be eating with the outcasts and standing up in the face of injustice, we are making strides with our faithful presence in the community. If it be visiting the sick and praying with the troubled in spirit, our Stephen Ministers guide us and tend to us with joyful compassion. For more examples of what it looks like to rejoice always, keep reading and join us in rejoicing by gathering at these worship, fellowship, and service opportunities this summer!

Grace and Peace,

Your Joyful Interim Minister,

Pastor Kati



Photos from upper left: FPC at Payne County Pride; spring redbud blooms; the outdoor fountain given in honor of Rev. Dr. Leah Hrachovec; the Easter Flower Cross; and the Mission Trip fundraiser.





Pentecost Sunday May 28th

Come Celebrate the Identity & Impact of our church, as we tell our stories and look for the Spirit at work this Pentecost! We move to one service on May 28th, and worship will take place in Fellowship Hall.

- 10:00am: Fellowship Time & Visioning Survey Questions Discussion
- 11:00am: One worship service with Communion

Congregational Visioning Survey

Our Growth and Sustainability Taskforce has released a survey to help us refine our congregational vision for the future. We have already had a generous response, and we appreciate your participation! If you have not completed the survey yet, please set aside some time to do so. The taskforce will be visiting with many of our church groups in order to facilitate small group conversations and listening sessions in response to the survey. You can fill out a digital copy ([link here](#) or in your First Things email) or paper copies are available in the Narthex display case.



Pentecost Offering

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with the church of the past, continuing to inspire the church of today, and pointing us to the church of the future. Each year, this celebration is marked by receiving the Pentecost Offering which nurtures the faith of those who are the church to come. 40% of the Pentecost Offering stays in the community of Stillwater to initiate or support programs for young people. In past years, FPC has supported CASA for Kids and Payne County Youth Services with our portion of this offering. This year, we will be collecting the Pentecost Offering on Sundays, May 21 and 28.

Summer Bible Study

Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine

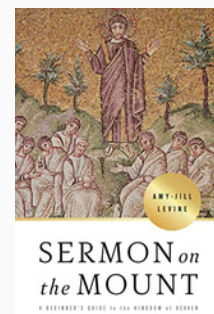
Wednesdays, June 21 - July 26

5:30 pm Potluck

6:00 pm Bible Study

You are invited to join us this summer for an in-depth look at the Sermon on the Mount. Using Dr. Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*, we will learn and grow together through the reading of Scripture, video lessons from the author, and discussion. Through Dr. Levine's engaging method of biblical interpretation, we hope to come away with a solid understanding of the Sermon on the Mount in its historical and theological context.

Each week, we will begin our time by breaking bread together with a potluck before we move into Bible study. All ages are welcome, and childcare will be available.



Intergenerational Ministry



SUMMER GiFT JUNE 2-4

@ Lake McMurtry
Stay overnight or just come
for the daily activities



Summer GiFT: Generations in Faith Together "Connect"

June 2-4, 2023

Registration deadline is Wednesday, May 24th

Join in the fun at this summer's Generations in Faith Together (GiFT). Summer GiFT will take place on the west side of Lake McMurtry with activities on Friday night, all day Saturday, and ending with worship on Sunday morning. Participants are invited to camp overnight (RV and tent camping available) or just come for the daily and evening activities.

Our theme for Summer GiFT is "Connect." Through our time together, we'll explore connections with God, one another, and creation. Through small and large group activities, games, nature activities like hiking, fishing, kayaking, and fellowship around the campfire, we hope that we will all leave this experience with closer connections with people of all ages and a deeper connection with God and God's creation.

Registration is open at www.stillwaterfpc.org/gift

For more information or to help with GiFT by donating your time or supplies (or money), contact Jenna Campbell at jenna.campbell@stillwaterfpc.org or 405-372-5580.



GIFT SCHEDULE - JUNE 2-4

FRIDAY

3:00p RV/tent set up
6:00 Dinner & S'mores
7:00 Evening Celebration
7:30 Small Group Activity
8:00 Campfire Sing-Off
8:30 Vespers

SUNDAY

8:30 Breakfast
9:30 Worship
1:00p RV/tent check out

SATURDAY

8:30a Breakfast
9:30 Morning Celebration
10:00 Small Group Activity
10:30 Large Group Games
12:00 Lunch
Aft. Outdoor activities
(fish, hike, kayak, paddle board, yard games)
6:00p Dinner
7:00 Creation Connection
9:00 Outdoor movie

West side of Lake McMurtry



Fair Trade Store News

The FTS is sponsoring a new group from Uganda called Project Have Hope which is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works to empower families in the Acholi area in northern Uganda. They sell fair trade and upcycled goods to support women and provide female entrepreneurs with the tools to grow their businesses. The women make paper bead bracelets, very colorful trivets from pop bottle caps, jewelry, dolls, and more. Visit the FTS on Sundays and see more of their crafts and products. To learn more about this group and look at their crafts, go to their online store: <https://projecthavehope.org/pages/shop>

Children's & Youth Ministry



*Volunteer
Appreciation Brunch*
Sunday, May 21 @ 9:45 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

All Children's and Youth ministry volunteers – Faith Kidnection teachers, Spirit Link teachers and shepherds, Children and Worship volunteers, youth Sunday school teachers, PYG sponsors, Children's Committee members, Youth Committee members, major event coordinators.

Join us Sunday, May 21, when you will be honored at a brunch for the time and love you have invested in our children and youth. Thank you for sharing the fruit of the Spirit with our kids this year!

Preschool Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Our Children's Ministry committee will be honoring and thanking our amazing Presbyterian Preschool staff and teachers with a lunch and gifts on Friday, May 12th. Dana and the teachers pour their hearts into our Preschool and we are grateful for the ways they extend FPC's ministry into the community by touching the lives of our Preschool kids and their families.

FPC Selected as a Pilot Church for the Christian Parenting Project!

We are pleased to announce that FPC has been chosen as a pilot church for the Christian Parenting Project through GenOn Ministries. The project aims to connect the church in meaningful ways with families. As a pilot church, we will try out proposed resources for parents/grandparents/caregivers, kids, and the connections between home and church.

As a pilot church, FPC will get:

1. Digital resources to support parents, grandparents, and caregivers to:
 - grow in faith and spirituality
 - parent their children from a place rooted in God's love
 - feel supported, equipped, and empowered to answer God's call to the ministry of parenting
2. Digital resources that equip families to grow in faith together. Each resource will:
 - be simple and connect to routines and rituals families are already doing
 - connect ordinary moments to Bible stories, prayers, and activities that help families experience God's presence
3. Training, mentorship, and a community to support the connections between church and home

The goal of the project is to discover the best ways to equip families of all shapes and kinds to love God and each other, and live a life rooted in the life-abundant faith Jesus teaches. Virginia Charter and Courtney Savage will be working with Jenna Campbell on this project to strengthen and support families in our church.



Youth Ministry

PRESBYTERIAN • YOUTH • GROUP



Presbyterian
Youth Group

For ALL 6th-12th graders

Sunday evenings

PYG is a time for connection, fellowship, discipleship, and living our faith. At PYG, we play, laugh, pray, study scripture, serve, ask big questions, and grow as faithful disciples. Join us!

May

7 - Tears & Cheers Dinner (5:00 - 6:30pm)

14 - No PYG - Happy Mother's Day!

21 - No PYG

PYG activities will resume in the summer!

Sunday, May 7
5:00-6:30 p.m.
Hospitality Area



Tears

(Celebrate High
School Seniors)



& Cheers

(Welcome Rising
6th Graders)

At Tears & Cheers, our high school seniors and our rising 6th graders are our guests of honor for a catered meal and fun and games! All youth grades 5th-12th are invited.



Sunday, May 7

High School Graduate Recognition

10:30 a.m. Cake Reception (Hospitality Area)

11:00 a.m. Senior Recognition in worship

Confirmation Recognition Sunday

May 14 at 11:00 am worship

Our confirmation class has engaged in deep study and faith sharing during this school year. Share in their confirmation journey as we welcome them as members during the 11:00 am worship service on Sunday, May 14. Many thanks to Carolyn Caldwell, Rusty Rex, and Casey Campbell – our faithful Confirmation leaders. And thanks as well to our congregation members who served as mentors with our confirmands.

Congratulations, confirmands: **Laura Bennett, Sarah Bennett, Reese Campbell, Margaux Melancon, Corinne Savage, and Noah Taylor**

Congratulations to our High School Graduates!

We celebrate your accomplishments and thank God for all the ways you have blessed this congregation with your life and faith through the years. Congratulations!

Mabrie Baldwin; Sofie Jones; Ella Parsons

Adult Education & Fellowship



Seasoned Adults

Monday, May 15

5:30pm gathering,

6:00pm dinner,

and 6:45pm program in Fellowship Hall



Our program for May will include a presentation from Jim Beckstrom about the upcoming Dancing Turtle Festival, which will take place June 16-17, as well as information and a time of listening with our new Growth and Sustainability Task Force.

Seasoned Adults is back! Thank you to everyone who contributed their gifts for coordinating and planning our April gathering! You are invited to join us for another gathering on Monday, May 15. Some things are changing, so please read the following carefully.

The process for RSVPing for Seasoned Adults is changing. We still ask that you RSVP by 5:00 pm on the Friday before the program (May 12 for the May gathering), and we ask that you use this form to RSVP (<https://stillwaterfpc.breezechms.com/form/873302>). If you prefer to RSVP over the phone, please call the church office and Pastor Jenny will assist you. Cost for dinner is \$12. You can pay online when you fill out the RSVP form or you can bring cash or a check when you come to the gathering.

Seasoned Adults are generally members of the congregation who have reached retirement age, but we recognize age is just a number. Anyone, gently seasoned or even slightly overcooked is welcome to attend. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact the church office. These events are open to all, so invite your friends! Please just remember that everyone attending must RSVP, including those only attending the program. This helps us know how many tables and chairs we need to set up!

Mark your calendar for May 15 and keep an eye on your email inbox. We hope to see you there.

Adult Sunday School Classes - Sundays @ 9:45am

- "Feasting on the Word" - led by Denise Rex, this class follows the Revised Common Lectionary (the Scripture readings we hear on Sunday mornings) and meets in the Upper Room (south end of 2nd floor).
- "Faith & Fellowship" - facilitated by Tim Hardin, Faith & Fellowship decides as a class on their course of study. This class meets in the Multipurpose Room and will continue to meet weekly at 9:45am over the summer months.

Faith on Tap

Meets at Stonecloud Taproom (917 S. Husband St.) at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month - May 4 and June 1. You are invited to join us for fellowship, conversation, and games! While Stonecloud does not serve food, you are welcome to bring your own dinner or snacks.



From the Organ Bench



Chancel Choir

May 14 is the choir's final Sunday of the season, and there is no rehearsal on Wednesday, May 10 (party!). If you see a choir member, please thank them for their dedication and beautiful music-making this year! The choir will be on summer hiatus until Sunday, August 20, with regular Wednesday rehearsals resuming on August 23.



2023 Choral Scholar Graduates

- **Amanda Barber** has served as a soprano Choral Scholar and cantor since the beginning of her freshman year at OSU in 2018. She completed her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Music Education in 2021 and has now completed her Master of Music in Choral Conducting. She is currently interviewing for a choral teaching position.
- **Sam Markmiller** has served as a tenor Choral Scholar and cantor since 2020. He is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with minors in Philosophy and German, and this fall he will begin a Ph.D. in Pure Mathematics at the University of Oklahoma.

We will dearly miss Amanda and Sam in our choir and church family, but we wish them every blessing as they embark on the exciting next chapters of their lives and careers!

Organ Happenings

- Tuesday May 16, Rebecca te Velde will be the organist at *Tuesdays at Trinity*, 12:05-12:35pm, Trinity Episcopal Church in Tulsa [live-streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/trinitytulsa>]
- 2023 AGO Southwest Regional Convention (American Guild of Organists) will be held in Tulsa June 27-30. All convention concerts are open to the public and admission is free!! (<https://agotulsa2023.com>)
- Wednesday, June 28, at 11:00am, Brent te Velde will perform at Holy Family Cathedral in Tulsa. His program will include the premier of an organ composition by Rebecca te Velde, commissioned by the convention. (<https://agotulsa2023.com/recital-brent-te-velde/>)

First Friday Peace Jam

May 5 - 6 PM Potluck Supper
7-8:30 PM Music Jam
in Fellowship Hall



Bring a dish to share, or you can just come for the music.

This is for all ages – invite your friends! There are maracas, triangles, two djembe, tambourines, and a keyboard available for anyone to play. This is for everyone, church and community. You can eat, play, sing, or just listen and enjoy! (And feel free to leave whenever you need to.) Please join us on May 5th!

Questions? Please contact Jim Beckstrom (james@beckstromgroup.com)

Prayer Concerns

Edie Abrahamson
 Lavon Alexander (Howard)
 Gary Allen
 Amanda
 Nick Amidon (Garoffolo)
 Shea Arnett (N. Thomas)
 Christopher Aupperle (Aupperle)
 David Awtrey
 Luz Barber
 Baker
 Betty Bays
 Leola Beckstrom (Beckstrom)
 Ann Benson
 Mandy Blackburn
 Rose Marie Bligh
 Rita Breuninger
 Helen Britton
 Brooks
 Belinda Bruner
 Wayne Cartwright (Koeppe)
 Paula Cavett (te Velde)
 Nancy Chapa (Fagan)
 Allison Christy (Breuninger)
 Abby Clapp (Clapp)
 Darlene Collyar (Silver)
 Conrado and Miriam (Wells)
 Andee and Kannon Cooper (Hrachovec)
 Heather Davidson
 Sara Davies
 Martha Dearing (Meinke)
 Matthew Durham (Shawley)
 Lori Fagan
 Jeanie Findahl
 Mike Flowers
 Joyce Freeman (Osborn)
 Ed Gallegos (Wilkinson)
 John Gelder
 Lauren Glynn (Stewart)
 Jim Gunn
 Halana (Leffingwell)
 Alana Harding (Redburn)
 Ben Harris (Wilkinson/Frohock)
 Kendall Harvey (Shaw)
 Mary Ann Henley (Henley)
 Charla Hilger (Roscoe)
 Charity Hitch (Plum)
 Nikki Hoffman (Matthews)
 Carolynne Hopkins
 Linda Houck
 Sharon Huckleby (Silver)
 Sandy Ives
 Patty Jacobs
 Paul Dean Jenkins (Nipp)
 Brenda Johns (Taylor)

Larry Johnson (te Velde)
 Ted Joy (Taylor)
 Patty Keys
 Patsy King
 Mary Jane Kirchenbauer (Breuninger)
 Margy Knox
 Pauline Kopecky
 Dottie Kraemer
 Karen Krehbiel (Breuninger)
 Heather Lanners
 Hank Lett
 Tracie Lively
 Alyssa Matal (Krehbiel)
 The McCoy Family
 Larry McDonald
 Stephanie McMillan (Taylor)
 Philip Meadows
 Tresa Miller (Miller)
 Jean Moore (Stangl)
 Anne Mullen (Mullen)
 Nora Nagaruk (Stangl)
 Chancey Nickerson
 Michelle Nicholson
 Pricilia Nkem
 Our Service Men & Women (Kraemer)
 Frances Phillips (Taylor)
 Jean Potts (Bills)
 Daniel Powell
 Paul Quarles (Bobo)
 Tim Rains (Silver)
 Lisa Reavis (Stewart)
 Larry & Margaret Redburn (McCarley)
 Sara Roberts (Osborn)
 David Schmidly (Shaw)
 Bill Segall
 Karen Shippey (Swim)
 Jeffrey Silver
 David Smith (Cooper)
 Ted Smith
 Doug Smotone (Schlais)
 Perry Sneed (Johnson)
 Jamie Stephens
 Christine Stone (Fairbanks/Cornelius)
 Phyllis Taylor & Helen Brake
 Pat Thomason (Silver)
 Tyler
 Upendo Kids (Shawley)
 Nettie Vick
 Jill Wahnoutka (Savage)
 Emily Walker (Walker)
 Darrell Warren (Silver)
 Marilyn Waters-Seig
 Lynda Williams
 Scott Williams
 Jackie Young (Osborn)

MILITARY MEMBERS

Members & family members of our church family who have been deployed in service to our country:

- Jordan Buterbaugh, Marines (Case)
- Justin Fowler, Navy (Fowler)
- Col. James 'grata' Greenwald, Air Force
- Matt Krehbiel
- 1st Lt. Eric Murphy, Army (Fairbanks)
- Miles Smith, Recruit Division Commander, Department of the Navy (Schlais)
- SGT Bryn JT Williams, Army (Williams)





Preschool Update

The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (DHS) is our licensing body for preschool. They provide the regulations and rules by which a child care facility becomes licensed and they monitor them bi-yearly or tri-yearly. These monitoring reports are available to anyone either on the DHS website or in a pocket folder on the shelf in the hallway of our facility. DHS also offers a star rating system for child care facilities in the state. Our facility has been a two star facility for many years. The system was out of three stars but in order to be 3 star certified, a facility had to be Nationally Accredited and that costs a lot of money. So we have always been content to just stay two stars.

This past year, DHS changed their rating system to a five star system and there were two ways to get to be a five star facility. You could be Nationally Accredited as before OR you could apply for a 5 star rating without being Nationally Accredited. After months of paperwork, writing, and lots of picture taking to create a portfolio to submit, we recently received our results and we are now a FIVE STAR FACILITY! Thank you to the teachers for all their hard work on this endeavor. Thank you to the church for supporting us by providing this beautiful facility to house our center! All this comes together to give us the chance to be the hands and feet of Jesus every day for our children and their families! We are so blessed!



Scout Updates

- In **April**, Troop 820 held a scout skills camp at Lake McMurtry. This was the first camp since our new scouts crossed over giving them a chance to integrate into the troop and learn the initial skills necessary for troop camping. Also in April, 820 had scouts attend the Order of the Arrow Spring Fellowship where one new scout was inducted into the OA and 4 other members achieved Brotherhood status in the organization. Troop 820 volunteered at the Special Olympics Cornhole Tournament. In **May**, FPC troops will participate in a church bake sale on May 7. We plan to visit the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, OK and will camp in the vicinity. Other activities include flag placement at Fairlawn Cemetery for Memorial Day, volunteering at the Special Olympics Summer Games, and volunteering at the Stillwater Area Cub Scout Day Camp to support our local Cub packs.
- **BSA Troop 888 Scouts** reeled in three merit badges (Fishing, Fly Fishing, and Fish & Wildlife Management) and earned the challenging Complete Angler Award by attending Fish Camp at Zbase High Adventure Camp near Tulsa. Each Scout caught and cleaned a fish as part of the experience and then prepared and seasoned the fish for our final meal of the weekend and it was delicious. Last month, Scouts enjoyed a weekend of camping locally at Stapley where they worked on cooking, physical fitness, flag etiquette, knots, and tent care. Scouts watched a classic Scouts BSA movie under the night sky and had the honor of conducting a U.S. Flag retirement for a long time supporter of our scouts and troop. If you know a girl age 11-17 who is interested in joining us, please contact Melissa Huber at troop888gbsa@gmail.com.



Summer Camp for 3rd - 12th graders June 11-16!

Oklahoma week at Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center

Ferncliff is a Presbyterian camp and conference center located in Little Rock, AR. Oklahoma presbyteries are planning on the week of June 11-16 to send Oklahoma campers to Ferncliff. They are making plans to arrange for transportation for that week. Jenna Campbell will be attending as a volunteer that week and we hope to get a great group of FPC children and youth to join other Oklahoma campers at Ferncliff.

Oklahoma presbyteries have generously helped us lower the cost to \$400 for the week (transportation costs for a possible charter bus will be an additional cost). To get this special \$400 pricing, you must register using the www.ferncliff.org/oklahoma link.

NEW! Due to a generous donation given in honor of our own Jenny Broyles, we have extra funds for financial assistance! We have plenty - so please email Jenna if you could use some help paying for camp!



SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 11-16, 2023

Oklahoma Campers Week @
Ferncliff Summer Camp
Little Rock, AR

For entering 3rd graders - 12th graders

Find out more and register at
www.ferncliff.org/oklahoma

FPC GARDEN WORK DAY: THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all who came to help at the FPC Garden Workday on April 22! A morning of hard work gave beautiful results and our garden spaces are ready for the growing season.



PW NEWS



PW/Circle will meet Wednesday, May 10, at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Jenny will lead the women in lesson nine, Sabbath and Community, the final lesson of Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight.

Following the lesson, the women will be celebrating 101 years of the Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women – *So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.* – Galatians 6:9-10 For 101 years, Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering has helped fund mission projects that improve lives.

Beginning in September, Pastor Jenny will lead the women in the 2023-2024 PW/Horizons Bible Study: Sacred Encounters: The power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Act by Olive Mahabir. All women of the church are invited to join us on May 10 for a time of learning, fellowship and lunch catered by Hello Catering. There is no charge for the lunch. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Mary McKinley, PW moderator (405-377-4367).

Session Organization

The Session is organized into the following areas of responsibility. If you have an interest in serving in a certain area or for a specific event, please reach out to one of the elders assigned to that ministry or contact the Church Office.

Clerk: John Gelder

email: john_gelder@me.com

Treasurer: Cathy Fairbanks

email: cathy.fairbanks@stillwaterfpc.org

Adult Ministry:

Jenny Bobo (chair)

David Silver

Children's Ministry:

Courtney Savage (chair)

Jean Aresco

Communications & Connecting:

Jill Stoutzenberger (chair)

Cathy Conway

Fellowship & Family:

Donna Koeppe (chair)

Stewardship & Finance:

Kiah Butcher (co-chair)

Tim Krehbiel (co-chair)

Cathy Fairbanks

UKIRK (University):

Lisa McGaw (chair)

John te Velde

World Mission & Denominational Concerns:

Kathy Thomas (chair)

Worship & Music:

Dustin Reavis (chair)

Ken Belanus

Youth Ministry:

Rusty Rex (chair)

Belinda Bruner

Trustee Liaison:

Judy Ferrell

Personnel:

Kiah Butcher (co-chair)

Jenny Bobo

Lisa McGaw

Endowment Liaison:

Donna Koeppe

Nominating Committee:

Cathy Conway (chair)

Kathy Thomas

Session Summary

The session met on Tuesday, April 11th with attendees in person and by zoom. Our treasurer, Cathy Fairbanks, presented the concluding portion of financial training for the elders. The session discussed "Transforming Partnership", chapter 3 of Neighborhood Church.

- The Legacy gift committee was approved to add the recent disbursement of \$821 from the Goforth estate to the Joy Offering #9840. Concerning monies received from Joy Smith estate, the session approved a request to use \$5,000 to fund Pay it Forward Projects, while the remaining \$18,995 will be held until cost estimates are presented to the Committee for two projects: the chancel choir microphone and renovation of stairwells to East choir loft and organ pipe loft.
- Approval for the University Committee to raise funds to send students to the UKIRK National Conference.
- Approval of Stewardship's recommendation that electronic giving including credit cards and other methods be made available for all offerings received through the Church. Further, any transaction fees incurred by receiving electronic contributions be charged to line item #6010 Banking fees, unless otherwise designated. Note: The Church will be migrating away from receiving credit card payments through Tithely towards receiving all electronic payments through Breeze.
- Two baptisms have been approved: Noah Taylor on April 30th and Abigail Collins on June 18.
- The leave Agreement for Jenna Campbell was approved with tentative dates of leave from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. See details on page 2.
- Received request to host next Tri Presbytery event, May 31 - June 1, 2024.
- The next Presbytery meeting is a two-day event, May 8 & 9, in Guymon.

The next Stated Session Meeting will be Tuesday, May 9, at 5:30pm in the Multipurpose Room.

Monthly Income / Expense Report

	March	Year to Date	% of Budget
Giving	\$ 42,768.63	\$ 153,661.94	24.80
Other Income	\$ 6,803.25	\$ 29,558.00	33.40
Total Income	\$ 49,571.88	\$ 183,219.94	25.90
Expenditures	\$ 57,819.46	\$ 186,318.40	25.20
Net	\$ (8,247.58)	\$ (3,098.46)	

The May Ambassador
First Presbyterian Church
524 S. Duncan St.
Stillwater, OK 74074
405-372-5580
www.stillwaterfpc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Worship at First Presbyterian

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 am Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Hybrid Worship Service

Change to One Service

Sunday, May 28 - Worship at 11:00 am

Midweek Prayer

Wednesdays 12:10pm via Zoom

MAY 2023

THE AMBASSADOR



Intergenerational Mission Trip
Another way to participate



A huge thank-you to all those who helped with the cooking, set-up, clean-up, donations to the auction, video/slide show, and check out for the fund raiser on April 30th. It was a great success and between the live auction and silent auction, over \$7,000 was raised for the mission trip fund!

We still need your help. Beginning Sunday, May 7, a food ladder will be in the Narthex with cards on it. Please consider taking a card, purchasing the item listed, and returning the item with the card to the table in the Narthex on Sunday, May 14th. Examples of items needed are a 24 oz. box of Honey Nut Cheerios or a 16 oz. can of baked beans. Some cards will be for a \$10 or \$20 WalMart gift card to use for perishable items to be purchased in Colorado such as eggs, milk, or fruit. If you are unable to return items on Sunday, May 14th, please bring them to the Church Office between 10:00am and 5:00pm by Wednesday, May 17th.

Many thanks from the participants of the mission trip for your help with supplies.

The 2023 Mission Trip is May 21-28 and we are going to Eagle, CO. If you have not signed up and still want to go on the trip, please get a form from Pastor Jenny and sign up quickly!

