



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



June 2018

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas

PASTOR'S PEN: REV. DR. JERRY CARPENTER

"Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name, two or three are met together, You are in the midst of them; Alleluia, Alleluia! Touch we now Your garment's hem." (#504, Presbyterian Hymnal)

We are in the season of the Holy Spirit, the season after Pentecost. It will last a long time....until Advent begins. It is also called "Ordinary Time" because the Holy Spirit works in our lives in the midst of our daily lives, in the ordinary happenings that we do daily. The Holy Spirit is the gentle force that meets us where we are and ministers to our needs to make us aware of the needs of others. Jesus called the Holy Spirit our advocate and counselor. He said that he had to go away so that the Holy Spirit could come. The Holy Spirit is Jesus in a way that all humankind can know him at once unlike when he was limited to the human body that he possessed when he lived among humans and tried to teach them the way to live.

Each week in June our worship will have some meaning that will bring us closer to one another and to God through the working of the Holy Spirit. YOU are needed in worship and fellowship because you are an important part of the Body of Christ. No one else can do what you do because you have been given gifts and talents to serve God that only you can share with others. Our worship is richer when you are present and our work is lighter when you share the load. First Presbyterian Church cannot be all it was meant to be if you are not there among us.

So, come as you are, and bring all you are to God each week in worship and fellowship, in study and work. Join your brothers and sisters in Christ and offer your talents to God in concern and service as we reach out to others in our world around us who need to know the love of God as only we can give because we are a unique representation of the Body of Christ in Winnsboro, in Wood County, and all of Northeast Texas. We need YOU and we are all richer when we are together in body and spirit. I hope to see you in worship soon.

Email address: revdrjerry@peoplescom.net



ATTENTION: NEW PRAYER REQUESTS MONTHLY

In order to keep our prayer requests current, our prayer list will start fresh at the beginning of each month. To keep your prayer request in the bulletin, write it on the back of an offering envelope, the attendance sheet or a piece of paper (please make sure your name is on it) or contact the church office, firstpres@peoplescom.net or 903-342-3011. We do not need the reason, unless it is death or an accomplishment, which go under a different heading. Also, please give relationship to you so others know who they are praying for. And PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY.

As our prayers are answered, we give God thanks. For those with continued needs, we continue to pray.

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jerry Carpenter

Session members:

Class of 2018

Becky Poe

Class of 2019

John Clark and Molly Lennon

Class of 2020

Louis Bond and Armel Crocker

Treasurer

Jerry Poe

Contact us:

Tina Hammer, Secretary

PO Box 493

301 S. Walnut St.

Winnsboro, TX 75404

Office: 903-342-3011

Fax: 903-342-3011

Email: firstpres@peoplescom.net

revdrjerry@peoplescom.net

Office hours: M-Th, 9-noon

FPC Website:

www.easttexasgrace.org

Cross and Crown articles:

firstpres@peoplescom.net

Attendance:

April 29—36

May 6—36

May 13—31

May 20—24



Noisy Offering

June: Camp Gilmont

July: Gilbreath Mem. Public

Library, children's collection

August: WISD school supplies



Jane's Journey

A few people have asked me for a copy of the story I told in my sermon a few weeks ago. Here it is:

Dick Kueser was a big man. He was tall and broad and big. He had a chipped tooth and wore a black cowboy hat when he drove his 18-wheeler rig. At 2 a.m. on a deserted road he looked scary to a young woman whose car was broken down on the side of the road. But she didn't have much choice when he pulled over to ask her what was the problem. She told him she thought her car was out of gas. She thought if she could get to a phone she could call her father and he could come help her. (Obviously, this is an old story from days before cell phones were invented.) Dick was thinking of his own daughter who was about the same age and urged her to get in his truck for a ride to the gas station just up the road. He could tell she was apprehensive. He knew his appearance probably scared her to death.

On the ride to the gas station Dick kept up a light banter about his daughter in college but his passenger was clearly uncomfortable, hugging the door stiffly. Once at the gas station she hopped out of the truck and started toward the pay phone only to stop half-way, her shoulders sagged in defeat. "What's wrong?" Dick called out. "I left my purse back at the car. I don't have money for the phone." (I told you this was before cell phones.) Dick got out of the truck and reached in his pocket, pulling the entire contents of his pocket up in his massive hand and held everything out for the girl to pick. "Here, get you a quarter," he instructed. She took a quarter, went inside, made the phone call and came back to the truck.

Dick told me that after she talked to her father everything changed. She was relaxed and talkative as they waited. She told him about school and he talked about his own daughter. He father eventually arrived and she introduced them and prepared to get in his car to leave. But Dick wasn't ready to part, "Before you go I want to ask you a question. You were obviously wary of me until you talked to you father. But after you made your phone call you were so much more relaxed. I just want to know what did your Dad say to you on the phone?"

"Oh, no—if wasn't anything he said to me. It was you. When you held out your hand to me to give me a quarter for the phone I saw all the things in your pocket and I saw that you carry a pocket cross. That's when I knew you are a Christian and I knew I would be safe."

Now here's the best part of the story....the part I didn't tell you. Dick Kueser had a stutter. He wasn't an eloquent speaker. Yet he preached a sermon that day without saying a word. He merely held out his hand to offer a quarter for the phone.

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We have pocket crosses by the front door to the Sanctuary and in the Reid Building. Take one. Better yet take it and give it away to someone. Then come back and get another one. We can become the church congregation who preaches sermons without saying a word. If you need something to say, here's what you can say: "Jesus loves you." Then give your cross away. And come get another one. And repeat as often as you can.

If you have keys to the Manse, please return them to John Clark or the office. Upkeep has been turned over to a property management company.



General Fund Summary - Jan - Apr 2018			
	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income	\$17,683.56	\$17,799.96	\$116.40
Expense	\$ 18,930.15	\$17,116.24	\$1,813.91
Net	(\$1,246.59)		

Note: Bank balance 4/30/2018 was \$48,295.20. Restricted funds totaled \$12,159.75, while unrestricted funds totaled \$36,135.45. (Uncleared checks total \$1,517.10 leaving \$34,618.35 available for normal bills.)

HELPFUL READING: Luke 11: 1 - 13

(submitted by Ruth Shelton)

HIS WORD FOR YOU: How to get your prayers answered.

Now the confidence we have in him is this, that he listens to us whenever we ask anything in accordance with his will; and we know he listens to whatever we ask, we know we obtain the requests we have made to him. (I John 5: 14, 15, MOFFATT)

PRAYER: Lord, I do not want to waste the years left to me on this earth. Nor do I want to go through life as a spiritual beggar, in rags, subsisting on the leftovers and the crumbs when I can be a child of the King, dressed in princely garments, feeding at your banquet table.

Thank You, Lord, for making it so clear that rags and crumbs are not Your will, that Your giving, loving heart wants to dress me in the best robes, put rings on my fingers, and welcome me to your table.

Yet Lord, I know that the gift of the Spirit is not for my joy alone; rather He is given as power for service. You alone can kindle in my heart the deep, fervent desire to be used like that. Take from me lukewarmness. Give me Your own holy passion.

Thank You, Lord. Amen.

Taken from: THE HELPER, How Do I Receive the Helper, pp 34, 35; by Catherine Marshall; Chosen Books Publishing Co.

If you did not stay up for the KLTV- Channel 7 sports report on Monday, May 21st, you missed a wonderful report about our very own **BETTY CORDER!!**



Betty Corder, resident of Autumn Wind Assisted Living Center, was selected by their Activities Director, Michael Herrera, for one of the Center's regular Miracle Moment Awards.

With the assistance of the Winnsboro High School Lady Raider's Basketball Team, Betty was made an honorary MVP of the team, given a Lady Raider's t-shirt, a medal and her own basketball.

The girls were so impressed by Betty's outlook on life. She told the girls, "Through hard work, you can accomplish anything...never give up...fight on...every day. I fight every day to walk! I am going to walk!"

The Lady Raiders, in turn, challenged Betty! In one year, they want her to come back to the gym and, standing, shoot a free-throw shot with her basketball.

Of course, Betty had her First Presbyterian Church cheering section there to cheer for her, and now all of us need to continue to cheer and encourage Betty as she works hard to achieve her goal!

You are encouraged to regularly check out our church website: easttexasgrace.org where we post:

- Weekly worship bulletin (posted by Thursday)
- Monthly Cross & Crown (posted first week of the month)
- Up-to-date church phone directory (call office for password)
- Google calendar of church events, birthdays, etc.
- Lots of photos along with notices of Special Events
- Videos of choir and chimes performances

Thank you to our Treasurer Jerry Poe and Assistant Treasurer Becky Poe for their dedication and diligent work.

NOTE: For an updated calendar, please go to easttexasgrace.org

June

Sun 27	Mon 28	Tue 29	Wed 30	Thu 31	Fri Jun 1	Sat 2
<p>Noisy Offering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Session 	<p>Memorial Day</p> <p>Office closed</p>		<p>Ruth Shelton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6pm Supper & Bible basics: "Hov 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 11:30am PW luncheon ● 12pm Al-Anon
<p>3</p> <p>Communion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2pm Bible study 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Jack Baber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6pm Supper & Bible basics: "Hov 	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Al-Anon
<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2pm Open house Central Christi: 	<p>11</p> <p>Sean Drennan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2pm Bible study 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Clair Agnew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6pm Supper & Bible basics: "Hov 	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Al-Anon
<p>17</p> <p>Family Lunch</p> <p>Father's Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2pm Bible study 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9am Session reports due 	<p>20</p> <p>Della White</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6pm Supper & Bible basics: "Hov 	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Al-Anon
<p>24</p> <p>Noisy Offering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9am C&C articles due ● 2pm Bible study 	<p>26</p> <p>Charlie England</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Holly Clark-Porter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6pm Supper & Bible basics: "Hov 	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Al-Anon

