First Presbyterian Church

June 2021

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas

Session members:

Class of 2021 Sandy Corder and Kelly Holloman Class of 2022 Patricia Fields and Slade Weaver Class of 2023 Ronny Knight and Alice McGregor Treasurer Ronny Knight

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Session Highlights

The Session met on May 16. Here are highlights of that meeting. Next meeting will be 8/11.

• Concerning masks the following motion was passed. Masks are no longer required, but still recommended and strongly encouraged when moving about particularly for receiving communion and when social distancing is not possible.

- Pew cushions have been put back in place.
- A reception for graduates will be held following worship on May 30.

• The manse was broken into and vandalized by spraying the fire extinguisher all over. Ronny Knight and his son cleaned the mess up and new

extinguisher all over. Ronny Knight and his son cleaned the mess up and new locks were put on the doors.

• Offers have been negotiated and accepted for the sale of the manse. Closing should happen soon.

• The yearly financial audit will take place in June.

• Camp Gilmont information is available in the table in the narthex and/or from Alice.

• The Session discussed the probability of resuming family lunches before too long.

• The worship committee continues to explore avenues for pulpit supply. We look forward to having Kenny Rigoulot from Camp Gilmont in our pulpit in July.

• Treasurer's Report:

We started the month of April with \$51,969.00 in the bank, with an ending balance of \$49,441.00 for the month. A portion of this is in Donor Restricted funds.

For the first four months our total contribution income is \$8,668.00 below budget, a portion of is due to loss income from Manse rental.

The reconciliation detail report reflected no exceptions for the month

The Church sent \$1,340.00 to the One Great Hour of Sharing, \$1,000.00 came from a donation from the Reid Foundation.

Interest earned from Texas Presbyterian Foundation investments for the quarter was \$1,115.00 with balance of all investment accounts being \$85,741.80. The increase is less than the last quarter.

We have had some unexpected expenses that were not budgeted due to communications, phone and a new Quick Books Accounting program required Q.B.

Thanks, for your help during the year. Will be glad to answer your questions or get them for you.

Ronny Knight, Church Treasurer

Kristy Hargus, Bookkeeping

June 2021 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Sunday, June 6 (Proper 5) 1 Samuel 8:4–11 (12–15) 16–20 (11:14–15) Psalm 138 2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1 Mark 3:20–35

Sunday, June 13 (Proper 6) 1 Samuel 15:34–16:13 Psalm 20 2 Corinthians 5:6–10 (11–13) 14–17 Mark 4:26–34

Sunday, June 20 (Proper 7) 1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4–11, 19–23) 32–49 Psalm 9:9–20 or 1 Samuel 17:57–18:5, 10–16 Psalm 133 2 Corinthians 6:1–13 Mark 4:35–41

Sunday, June 27 (Proper 8) 2 Samuel 1:1, 17–27 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 8:7–15 Mark 5:21–43

June birthdays & anniversaries:

(Please notify the office if I do not have your birthday)

6 Jack Baber

11 Sean Drennan

20 Della White

26 Charlie England

27 Holly Clark Porter

Attendance:

May 2—16 May 9—17 May 16—11 May 23—18

June Sunday Schedule: June 6 - Jane Els June 13 - Jimmy Chapman and communion June 20 - Scriptures and Hymns June 27 - Jane Els



Jane's Journey

I think if anyone asked me my favorite Christian holiday it wouldn't be Christmas or Easter. I guess that makes me sound like a traitor or pagan, doesn't it? My favorite Christian holiday is only one day: Pentecost, the arrival of the Holy Spirit as described in Acts 2. And we get to celebrate it 50 days after Easter. This year it was May 23rd.

What's not to like about a day when you get to wear red and eat birthday cake? I preached at two churches that day so I took a basket full of individually wrapped Little Debbie snack cakes to pass out. I discovered that no matter your age people

will always enjoy a little birthday cake. I wore my Holy Ghost outfit that I debuted here at Winnsboro years ago. It was so magnificent that I'm sure it is burned into your memories. If you didn't get a chance to see it then just imagine me wearing a sheet with big black eye holes and a halo. I'm afraid I didn't get many laughs and scared a three-year old into tears. I might have to re-think the outfit.

But I do enjoy preaching on Pentecost. I really enjoy the Holy Spirit. I can feel it stirring within me sometimes in the morning as I wake. A thought will come to mind that is not a memory, that is clearly a new idea that comes from outside of myself. Where else could it come from but from God?

As I read and re-read the Acts 2 scripture in preparation for the sermon on Pentecost I realized that I had always thought of the story as being about the disciples learning to speak in different languages in preparation for their ministries to spread the word of Christ around the world. But as I re-read the story, I saw that it was also about listening and understanding the different languages spoken.

My new understanding from the Holy Spirit this year is that our work in 2021 is to listen to each other.

We have had a difficult time lately in our country in so many of our relationships. And most of our problems could be improved if we were able to listen to each other better. Sometimes it's not so much that we don't speak a different language but that we don't sit down and give each other enough time to digest the words and stories behind the words. It's hard to walk in each others' shoes. And we live in stressful times. Just about everyone I know is under some kind of stress right now: fear of disease, violence, financial woes, loneliness.... and the list goes on.

I hope each of us has someone they can talk to. And if you don't, I hope you know that you can call me or any of the elders of our church. The gift at Pentecost was beyond the language of speaking in tongues; it was the language of listening. It was the language of love.

Graduation Reception

Please join us this Sunday

On May 30, immediately following worship*, we will have a reception to honor our high school graduates Charlie and Reani as well as college graduate Sarah.

Please plan to stay after church and join us on the church lawn by the gazebo for cake, punch, and accolades for these two young adult members of our church and the granddaughter of one of our treasured members!

We will have a place to collect any cards and/or gifts that you might wish to bring.

*Please note that worship has been ending somewhere between 11:45 -12:00.

Drink Up This Summer

By Sandy Corder



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With all the rain and cool weather this fall, it is easy to forget that summer is on its way. With the East Texas humidity, we tend to drink a lot of cool or cold drinks.

Many of us reach for water and commercially prepared drinks like sports drinks and sodas. When trying to clean up our body, mind and spirit, though, there are some better alternatives.

Water, though wonderful, can be as struggle for many who crave flavor and commercial drinks are chock full of additives and preservatives. Here are some ideas and recipes to make this summer your most cool, calm and collected:

Flavor with Lime, lemon, orange or ginger

Flavoring the water lightly with lime, orange, lemon or ginger adds a little extra punch to your water ration. Keep a chunk of fresh ginger in the bottom of your cup or bottle. Ginger helps with many ailments, but be cautious during the heat of the day as it also heats the system from the inside! Keeping lime, lemon or orange wedges in the water can also help give a boost of nutrients. Any fruit will do, though – try watermelon, cantaloupe, and any other fruit that strikes your fancy. Gatorade replacement Squeeze lime, lemon, or orange into a glass of water, add a pinch pink Himalayan salt and a tablespoon of raw cane sugar.

Soda replacement

Ingredients 8 pods green cardamom, cracked 1 tablespoon fresh ginger, grated 1 cup raw sugar 1/2 cup water zest of one lime 1 1/2 ounces lime juice, fresh 1 pinch pink Himalayan salt sparkling water, club soda, or sparkling cider

Directions:

In a small, dry pot, toast cardamom over medium heat until fragrant. Remove pot from heat. Add ginger, sugar, water salt, and lime zest. Place back on heat and simmer until sugar is dissolved, about 5 minutes. Cool syrup; strain and discard solids. Into glass, pour one or two teaspoons syrup (or to taste) and add lime juice. Add ice and stir to blend. Top with sparkling water, club soda, or mineral water. Stir gently and serve immediately.

June 2021

