

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Legos are going green? They are currently made out of acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, which is a really strong plastic. Knowing how much the colorful little plastic blocks can hurt the earth, Lego's been trying to do things that are better for the environment, like using less paper in their packaging and investing in an offshore wind farm. Now, the Lego Group has announced the establishment of the Lego Sustainable Materials Center and will be hiring smart, amazing people to figure out materials that aren't harmful to the environment that can be used to make Legos instead. Thank you, Lego, for working hard to help us continue to bring our imaginations to life—without destroying the environment.

Christian Education Green Team



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## THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HENDERSON, TEXAS

Volume 47

August, 2015

Issue Seven

### Excellence

Competition in corporate America, and around the world is usually fierce. And the folks who do an “okay” job probably receive an “okay” salary and an “okay” experience with the company. Many of us wish instead, that we had the astounding money, amazing brain power, remarkable talent, or incredible beauty of the people we see in movies, or hear about on Wall Street. Yet, the people who achieve exceptional notoriety, whether in sports, industry, or on the silver screen, report that their accomplishments didn't happen overnight, but followed long hours of very tough labor and meticulous focus on the details. And too many of us don't really want to work that hard.

When Jesus fed the five thousand one afternoon, they were thrilled, and many returned the next day, seeking a free meal and a really entertaining sermon. When they realized that he didn't want them simply to eat, but to follow his example and to minister, they were disappointed. They didn't really want to work that hard. When he commanded the town leaders who were sin-free to “cast the first stone,” they shook their heads and wandered away. They really didn't want to work that hard.

Do we sometimes assume that the work we do for the church, because it's voluntary work, does not require excellence? If we do an “okay” job at the church, if we attend worship an “okay” number of times, if we put an “okay” amount of money into the plate, will we end up with an “okay” experience, and an “okay” amount of spiritual knowledge, and will Christ be pleased with his “okay” church filled with “okay” followers?

I hope we don't have to face the Son of God one day, with a mediocre achievement list in hand. I don't want to face the Almighty with excuses – justified though they may be. I don't want to see the disappointment in his eyes, and hear his low sigh, because he offered me everything in abundance, while I just wanted an “okay” life.

The Creator of the cosmos has provided us an excellent earth, and an extraordinary amount of days to share it. We have been fed, housed, educated, and spent our time as citizens of a remarkable world and a superb country. God has given us children and grandchildren whose smiles can light up a room! We have heard music and seen beauty and received an amazing bounty from this world, and overwhelming grace from a Sovereign who considers us heirs. Everything my Sovereign does is completed with excellence. In response, I have promised to give Christ my “all.” Have you promised the same?

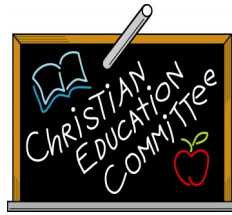
Wonder when that should begin.

### Candice

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

– Philipians 4: 8

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY MUSINGS BY BERT LOWE



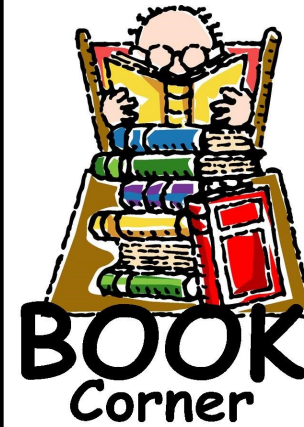
I've said it before and I'll probably say it again: The more I learn about being a Presbyterian, the prouder I am to be one.

This summer was an exciting one, not to mention "Memorial Day Tornado" in Henderson, Texas, of all places. One week later, on June 6, the Pastor and several Council members attended a Grace Presbytery Meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Tyler, Texas. There we experienced the height of Christian worship with our own Pastor Klein assisting in serving Communion to hundreds of Presbyterians. We listened to church business and voted on important matters, all conducted in the Presbyterian way—"decently and in order"—and enjoyed a hearty picnic lunch under shade trees on grounds of that grand old Presbyterian church.

For me, the highlight of the day was a message from our much-loved Reverend Dr. Janet DeVries during her General Presbyter's report "Reformed and Always Being Reformed" based on John 3:1-12. She brought together the familiar Nicodemus story and a book she was reading by Eric Schmidt, one of the founders of Google. She wove scripture, theology and today's technology into suggestions for innovations in our church ministries.

Dr. DeVries challenged us with the question: "What would happen if we worried less about our failures and more about our lack of risk?" She asked each of us before we left the meeting to think about three people in our own ministry setting to collaborate with about ministry—to begin a steady conversation about what thriving ministry would look like and what we might do to get there. She suggested that "innovation and change in religious order was what Jesus was about, and was what Calvin sought in response to God's spirit blowing through the institutions of his day."

She left us with a rolling slide show of statements from Eric Schmidt's book, such as—"To innovate, you must learn to fail well. Learn from your mistakes." "It helps to see failure as a road and not a wall." "To be a thought



## BOOK CORNER

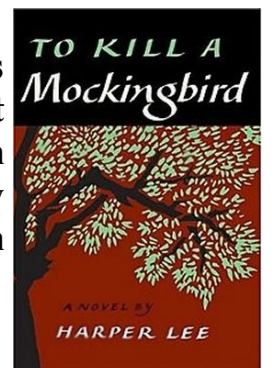
*"To Kill a Mockingbird"* is a Pulitzer Prize-winning book by Harper Lee. It is written from the viewpoint of Scout, a young girl about to enter the first grade as the book begins. She is the daughter of a town lawyer, Atticus Finch, who is widowed. Scout has an older brother, Jem, and the family has a Negro maid, Calpurnia, who cooks, tends house, and tries to keep Jem and Scout out of mischief.

The setting is a sleepy southern Alabama town in the mid-1930s. The book introduces kindly characters, some quite eccentric, who would be familiar to anyone who remembers Rusk County in the 1950s. People go to church, visit with each other in homes, and speak politely to one another, even if their politeness masks their real opinions. As the author states, people moved slowly then. All is well, except, of course, for the problem of extreme racial prejudice toward Negroes.

When a Negro man is falsely accused of sexual assault against a white woman, Atticus agrees to defend him. This, of course, provokes a crisis of conscience for the community and leads to lots of lessons in life for Scout and Jem. Scout finds that the attitudes that the community has toward blacks stand in stark contrast to how she feels about Calpurnia. Readers move to the roots of human behavior—to innocence and experience, kindness and cruelty, love and hatred, humor and pathos.

The most surprising thing about the book to me was its humor. On page after page, I found myself chuckling at an apt observation by the author. Harper Lee is a keen observer of the human condition. Her book is an easy read. I recommend it to anyone who is a student of human nature.

Jimmy Chapman



## 2015 CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The work of the 2015 Church Officer Nominating Committee has begun. Members are: Mary Lowe, Kathy Porter, and Carol Scoggins from the congregation; Tom Laney and Bert Lowe from the session. The purpose of this group is to nominate a “class” of church officers whose two year term will begin in January, 2016 and conclude in January, 2018. These officers are referred to as the Class of 2018; a class of officers ends their term every year. A church officer must be a ruling elder or be eligible to be ordained a ruling elder. Those nominated will be elected in a congregational meeting in late fall; nominations from the floor are accepted if the person being nominated has given prior approval. After election, the officers elect will experience training, study, and examination by the session and be installed in January, 2016. This committee, known as “CONC” met on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and has scheduled a meeting on August 12.

Another duty of CONC is to nominate three individuals from the congregation to serve on this committee in the year 2016. The session will elect two members and the congregation, three. The nominees will be presented for election by the congregation in January. Again, nominations may be received from the floor.

Tom Laney, Chair



*About Me* Hello First Presbyterian Church! I wanted to take just a few moments to tell everyone a few things about myself. My name is Lisa Temple. I was born and raised right here in Henderson. I have two wonderful children, Kincade and Kaitlynn. Kincade works in the oilfield while Kaitlynn is preparing to start the 4th grade. In my spare time, I like to relax with my family. I love to watch football and college softball. Kaitlynn and I enjoy watching movies, shopping and all things girly. Thank you all for being so nice, helpful and patient with me. I am enjoying my position here at FPC as your secretary!!

- Lisa Temple

leader, you have to have a thought”—and many more.

We want to be companions with you in this ongoing Reformation in Christ.

All God’s blessings,

Bert Lowe, CE Ministry Team leader

Team Members: *Jimmy Chapman, Pat Laney, Jan Pennal, Kathy Porter, Lynn Tieken, Rev. Candice Klein, Team Members*



## COUNCIL ACTIONS

July 16, 2015

- Worshiped and prayed together
- Reviewed feedback for Men of the Church Sunday
- Reviewed feedback for Preacher Rotations
- Reviewed feedback for new church secretary
- Moved communion from first Sunday to second Sunday in August
- Dedicated funds for Kathy Porter to attend Big Tent in Knoxville, TN
- Approved the Sanctuary Renovation Commission’s request to negotiate and contract with All Seasons Windows in Longview for new sanctuary windows
- Determined that an undesignated \$5000 donation to FPC be allocated to Mission (10%) and Sanctuary Renovation Fund (90%)
- Discussed the Church Officer Nominating Committee’s work
- Determined that it is time for committees to begin assessments of achievements in 2015 and make goals for 2016





**VBS WAS A HIT!**

### **YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER (YAV)**

**On August 24<sup>th</sup> Mary Medina, granddaughter of John and Lynn Tieken, will fly out of Houston, bound for Boston, MA. She will become a Young Adult Volunteer with the Presbytery of Boston for one year. She will be assisting with the community garden there, and serving at the local food pantry, engaging in the mission of Presbytery congregations to secure healthy, just, and sustainable food for all people. At the heart of the program are practices aimed at cultivating spiritual growth, vocational discernment, and leadership development, along with social and congregational transformation. Mary, along with her parents and very proud grandparents are excited about this step in her life. Mary is required to raise \$3,000 as part of her commitment to the YAV program. Her home church, Covenant Presbyterian Church in College Station, TX along with friends and family will help her. And you may help, too. Should you choose to participate, checks should be mailed to:**

**BFJYAV (Boston Food Justice Young Adult Volunteer)**

**Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church**

**155 Powder House Blvd.**

**Somerville, MA 02144**

**(Please include BFJYAV-Mary Medina in the memo line)**

**Having left home myself at age 18, I know well the pangs of home sickness. So Lynn and I ask that you keep her in your prayers for her safety, growth, and God's protection, and maybe even drop her a card or care package.**

**We are delighted to witness the next generation of God's people in mission.**

**John Tieken**



## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

We have experienced some wonderful diversity in July from the preaching styles of three other Presbyterian pastors, Reverends Vickie Griffin of Jacksonville, Gordon Blackman of Longview Alpine, and Kendal Land of Longview. And, there's more to come: Rev. Debbie Tipps, Associate Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Henderson, will preach on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Sacrament of Communion will be held on August 9<sup>th</sup> following our pastor's return from the PCUSA "BIG TENT" in Knoxville. Also attending this bi-annual event are Kathy Porter and Jimmy Chapman.

We are reeling from the double whammy of losing the services of Mary Tidwell as Music Director/Organist and Sally Hosea as volunteer Pianist. Mary is moving over to First United Methodist Church, and Sally is "retiring" from over ten years as accompanist, interim music director, and piano soloist. Although she has loved the work and has expanded her musical proficiency, it has presented a great demand of time and energy. We can only be very grateful to her for sharing her musical talent and gift of leadership.

We wish Mary our best in her future with the Methodists. She and Jack Brooks are paired again, and they make a great team. The choir will always remember Mary's patience, her sense of humor, and her infusions of joy as we worked together to praise God in music.

Tom Laney for the Worship Committee



From Communications –

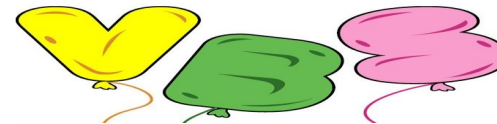
**Reminder**

Just a reminder, if you haven't completed your information update, please do so. You can pick up a form in the Narthex or fill out the form included as an attachment on the electronic Pipeline.

Communications Team



**VBS  
WAS A  
BLAST!**





# AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 <i>Rev. Debbie Tipps Preaching</i>	3	4	5 <i>Worship Meeting 6:30pm</i>	6 <i>Christian Education Meeting 2:00pm</i>	7	8
9 <i>Communion</i>	10	11	12 <i>Nominating Meeting 6:00pm</i>	13	14	15
16	17 <i>AAB 4:30pm</i>	18 Mark Davis Matthew Price	19 Tom Laney	20 <i>L.E.A.N. Meeting 2pm</i> <i>Session meeting 7:15pm</i>	21	22 Hunter Davis
23 <i>Pipeline Deadline</i>	24	25	26	27	28 Tammy Hillin	29
30	31					



August 1, 2015 is the first day we can start relinking our Kroger Plus Card for the 2015/2016 program to continue supporting our church. Then starting August 30, any time we shop at Kroger using our Kroger Plus Card, we will be accumulating rewards. Here are the steps in creating a new or relinking an existing account:

1. Aug 1, 2015 is the first day you can link your Kroger Plus Card.
2. All supporters must have a registered Kroger Plus Card account online to be able to link their card to our church.
3. Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 800-576-4377 and select option 4 to get your Plus Card number.
4. If you do not have a Kroger Plus Card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.
5. Register online at [www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com)
6. If you are a new online customer, click on SIGN UP TODAY in the 'New Customer?' box to register
7. To sign up you will need to enter your zip code, click on favorite store (Henderson, or wherever you live, if not Henderson, that has a Kroger) , enter your email address, create a password, and agree to the terms and conditions.
8. Once you are done entering your information you will get a message asking you to check your e-mail inbox and click on the link within the body of the e-mail that was sent. Already have an account?
9. Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
10. Once you are logged in, click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
11. Update or confirm your information.
12. Enter your organization's number (82009) or name of organization (First Presbyterian Church, Henderson) or select your organization from the list and click on confirm.
13. To verify that you enrolled correctly, you will see FPC Henderson on the right side of your information page.
14. Remember, a customer must swipe their registered Kroger Plus Card or use their Alt ID when shopping for each purchase to count. If you have problems signing in or creating an account please call Online Account Customer Service: 1-866-221-4141.

**\*\*Please feel free to call me, Jan Pennal, if you have any questions. If I do not know the answer to your questions, I will find it out for you. If you need help in getting signed up or relinked, ask anyone with computer knowledge to help you\*\***



## MISSION'S HEIFER and OUTREACH'S FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY



By participating in Heifer International, **TOGETHER, WE HAVE THE POWER OVER HUNGER AND POVERTY!** Pierre Ferrari, President and CEO says, "By 2020, Heifer International will help 4 million families escape extreme hunger and poverty and secure living incomes that will make them self-reliant and financially resilient".

Wow! Isn't this a wonderful mission to be part of?

Your Mission team is excited to head up our first Heifer International month long program starting Sunday, August 2 and ending on Sunday, August 30. The Heifer International "Education and Action" Program will be just that.....one of education and action. Be on the lookout for the various ways you can learn. There will be hallway posters of Heifer facts, brochures in classrooms, fellowship hall and narthex, and you will hear weekly stories in our Minute for Mission time before worship. During the whole month there will an opportunity for you to act, as sign up posters will be placed in the fellowship hall clearly marked with all the Heifer animals and other ways (like irrigation pumps and the gift of clean water) you can help contribute.

Mark your calendars !!! On Sunday, August 30, your outreach, mission and fellowship teams will come together for our Friendship Sunday! Start planning now to invite friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc to experience our special worship here at FPC .....and our even more special hospitality! Please bring a dish as we will have our usual "potluck" luncheon for our guests. The final tally of our Heifer actions will be announced and in the true spirit of Heifer, we will "pass on the gift" by showing our guests a 15 minute video of Heifer International.

We are in hopes this will be a very meaningful mission and time of outreach for each of you and

God Bless the animals as we learn and act upon what giving really means!

Jan Pennal, chair

P.S. A note about the Kroger Community Rewards Program--FPC Henderson #82009

Kroger donates 1.5 million to local churches, schools, and community organizations yearly. This is a great way for each church member to support our mission work!

I wanted to take this opportunity to let everyone in the congregation know how very much I have appreciated the opportunity you gave me to be your organist/choir master these past two years. You are some of the dearest people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing and worshipping with. As I have told some of you, the decision to move on was a very difficult one. In the end, it was the needs of my family that tipped the scales in favor of a move.

I will always treasure the time I have had with you. And, as I have told the choir many times - I love you all!

Fondly,  
Mary Tidwell

## *Into the Church Triumphant*

Peggy Flynn Cummings Morgan

1926 – 2015

*Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:*

Members of the Congregation: Carolyn Boren and Bill, Jack Clark, Jane and Tolly Dill, and Diane Dill, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, Claudia Morgan-Gray and the Morgan family, Debbie Murphy, Mariella, Jan, and the Pennal family, Bob Ratliff and Cindy

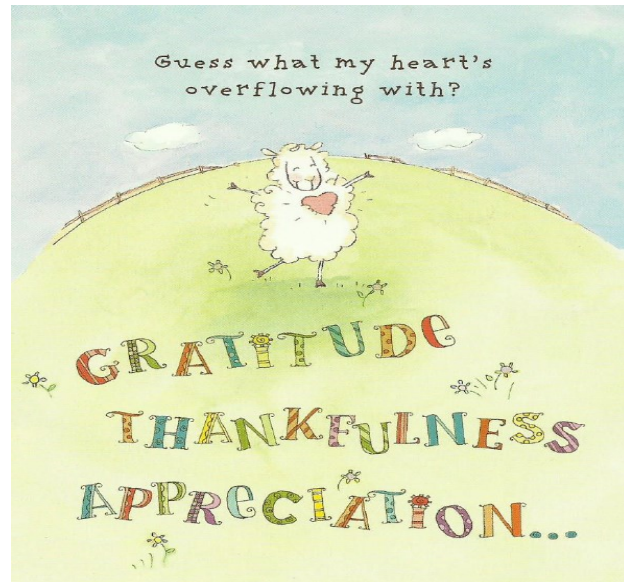
Connected Family: Connor Bradshaw – Porter's grandson and Tammy Hillin's mother, Gigi

Friends and Neighbors: Our many families traveling this summer

Those loved ones known only to God



# KIND WORDS.....



...and **BLESSINGS!**

Thanking the LORD  
for thoughtful you!

Dear Candice & FPC Henderson,  
Thank you all for your love and care of all my family during daddy's illness and recent passing into his new life in heaven. The worship service was a wonderful celebration! I know he loved it. We certainly did. Our hearts were full. We appreciate your visit, Candice, to his bedside where you encouraged us and listened to our stories. It was such an important time for us. Thank you. Also, thanks to all the kitchen servants for all you did to help make the reception time sweets organized. You honored us all with your love.

God bless you,  
**Dayspring** Lynn Pennal  
Pastor

To my Church family  
Thanks

Thought I'd send this little hello to let you know that I think of you often and pray that God will bless you with His love and care.

I pray for you as I know you do for me in my new home with my daughter Nina.

With love + best wishes for all  
Billie Mack

## OUTREACH

The back to school drive is underway at press time of this newsletter. At last count we had met 47% of our 100% goal. It will be exciting to see how many notebooks, folders, crayons, pencils, markers, glue and Kleenex we can finally amass. With our hearts centered on helping....truly helping the less fortunate school children of Rusk County, we simply cannot go wrong. So, thank you in advance. Thank you for your contributions to this wonderful cause. But.....even though the school supplies drive will officially end on Sunday, August 2, the actual day the supplies are due is Thursday, August 20. On that day, we will deliver our collected supplies to the Civic Center where Betty Elder and staff will distribute them on Friday, August 21. Soooooooo, if by chance you still wish to contribute to our "stack" you certainly can do so. Drop your school supplies in the narthex school box or leave your monetary gifts in the church office up until **Back To School** Thursday, August 20. Again, thank you for your dedication!!

God Bless our children,  
Jan Pennal, chair



Marty Baughman had a birthday surprise for Kimber on Sunday--miniature pigs!! They were enjoyed by everyone!



Happy Birthday!