

First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater, Texas

September 2019

*The mission of our church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ
Our vision is to be an oasis of God's love.*

1311 McCaulley Office hours: M ~ F, 9:00 am ~12:00pm

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Pastor: Rev. Marie Mickey 979-574-6348

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Clerk of Session: Paula Huckabee

Elder of the Month: Alan Carmichael

It was Palm Sunday, but because of a sore throat little Johnny had to stay home with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying some palm fronds. Johnny asked what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by," explained his father. "Wouldn't you know it" Johnny said, "the one Sunday I don't go and he shows up!"

It's the end of August, school is back in session and schedules become hectic with lots of "to do" and "must do" events, organizational responsibilities, meetings, fund raisers, gatherings, and a whole host of things that fill our calendars. Our culture has come to idolize "being busy". The more we have to do the more self-affirmation we feel.

Too often attending worship does not always make the list for our time. It is understandable. We've made ourselves so busy that by Sunday we just want to relax. Did you know that attending worship can greatly improve stress, mental health and overall well-being? There is something about attending church that is calming, makes us feel connected and whole, and allows us to step back and breathe.

Some of the benefits of attending church include:

1. Connects us to God by allowing us to open ourselves to God and make time for God.
2. We learn to practice gratitude that allows us to reframe negative and frustrating situations into learning opportunities. Gratitude helps us to see how blessed we are.
3. When we attend church, we are transported to a place of worship and peace that we long for in our busy lives. It's a place of calm and joy, a respite from the busyness of our lives.

4. Attending worship reminds us that we are forgiven which enables us to learn to let go of the weight on our shoulders from the baggage we carry. Our hearts are softened.

5. Listening and singing hymns and religious music can uplift us and bring God's message in a way that might not otherwise be heard.

6. Attending worship helps us find deeper meaning in our lives. Stress, despair, sorrow, and frustrations can often make us feel isolated and unable to see the greater plan of our lives. Worship gives us greater sense of purpose and meaning.

7. Worshiping in community gives a sense of belonging, of being cared for, of acceptance.

The list could go on, but I think you see the importance of worship not only for yourself but others. And....Jesus shows up every Sunday! Join your fellow believers this Sunday at 10:45am and make it a habit.

*Peace,
Pastor Marie*

Hoyt Place

***We are excited to lead worship every
first Sunday of the month at Hoyt Place, from
9:00-9:30 a.m. We will sing,
and hear the Word of God and
share communion.
Come join us in this wonderful
Ministry of fellowship.***



- 1 Ruthann Campbell
- 8 Keith Brock
- 15 DeeAnne McFarland
- 22 Doug Richards
- 29 DeeAnne McFarland

Dates to Remember

- 1 Hoyt Place Worship ~ 9:00am-9:30am
Worship~ 10:45am Reverse Offering
Communion Class of 2019
- 2 Labor Day Holiday~ Church Office Closed
- 4 Planning~ 1:00pm~3:00pm
Presbyterian Women~5:15pm~ Mulberry Manor
- 5 Over the Hill Bunch~11:30am~ Skeet's
Choir Practice~ 5:30pm
- 8 Sunday School ~ 9:45am
Worship ~ 10:45am
Middle School & High School~ 5:00pm-6:00pm
- 11 Planning~ 1:00pm-3:00pm
- 12 Over the Hill Bunch~11:30am~Pizza Hut
Choir Practice~ 5:30pm
- 15 Sunday School~ 9:45am
Worship~ 10:45am
Little Ones & IBKs~ 5:00pm-6:00pm
- 18 Planning~ 1:00pm-3:00pm
Session ~ 5:30pm
- 19 Over the Hill Bunch~11:30am~ Whataburger
Choir Practice~ 5:30pm
- 22 Sunday School~9:45am
Worship~ 10:45am
Middle School & High School~ 5:00pm-6:00pm
- 25 Planning~ 1:00pm-3:00pm
- 26 Over the Hill Bunch ~11:30am~ Schlotzsky's
Choir Practice~ 5:30pm
- 29 Sunday School~9:45am
Worship~ 10:45am
Noisy Offering
Little Ones & IBKs~ 5:00pm-6:00pm



Update

Caroline Brennan
2757 S Glebe Rd Apt 301
Arlington, VA 22206-2729



- 1 Janice Gesin
- 5 Alma Green
Cathy Reed
- 7 Jarrod Gee
Bill Stroman
- 8 Arleen Kennedy
- 10 Paula Huckabee
Dorothy Stroman
- 11 Ty Crain
- 12 Landyn Rotan
Mollie Bennett
Larry Ludlum
- 13 Emily Hammit
- 25 Cayley Scott
Gary Brown
- 26 DeeAnne McFarland
- 28 Tripp Maxwell
- 29 Keith Brock
- 30 LaVynda Montgomery

Thank You

A huge 'Thank You' to all the people that helped with Paul Scott's service.... The bakers, decorators, servers, and clean-up crew.... Your participation was truly appreciated.

DeeAnne McFarland
Fellowship Committee

I want to thank everyone that stayed after church on August 25th and helped move furniture from Marie's and Becky's offices and also the Choir room. I also want to thank members of the Choir and DeeAnne for staying after church and painting the Choir Room before the new carpet was installed. Thanks to Keith Brock and Philip Brock for helping moving furniture back into the rooms.

Gary Brown
Buildings and Grounds Committee



Presbyterian Women will have our first meeting September 4. Please pick up your study book from the office.

Lesson book is paid by Presbyterian Women. If you lose your book, Becky can order a second book. The cost will be \$10.00. Marie has graciously offered to lead the first lesson. I have listed the dates of our meetings and the Lesson numbers.

September 4: Lesson One

We will meet at Mulberry Manor at 5:15 for business meeting and bible study, dinner at 6:15.

October 2: Lesson Two

November 6: Lesson Three

(We will plan our Christmas Dinner)

December 4: Lesson Four

January 8: Lesson Five

February 5: Lesson 7

March 4: Lesson 8

April 8: Lesson 9

May 9: Lesson 10

We are excited about the enthusiasm we have received for our year of study and fellowship for PW. Bring thoughts and ideas for the way we can be stewards helping people at home and places of concern to all of us.



Welcome back to school and our regular Sunday night events! We will continue like we did last year, meeting each Sunday evening from 5:00-6:00pm. We alternate weeks. We loved seeing you guys all summer for our Summer Fun activities and can't wait to get back together again on Sunday evenings.

Little Ones and IBKs (In Between Kids)
is 3 yrs. - 5th grade

Bring friends! The more the merrier!!

September 8: Middle School and High School

September 15: Little Ones and IBKs

September 22: Middle School and High School.

September 29: Little Ones and IBKs.

LouAnn and Cayley

Update from the Westacott's

Amy, Alice, and I are doing well in San Antonio. I have been hired full time at USAA, which is wonderful! Alice has been enjoying all the activities San Antonio has to offer - the zoo, the children's museum, and the aquarium are some of her favorites!

We hope this finds ya'll well! We were saddened to hear about Jack Aycock, and miss all ya'll.

Dorian, Amy, & Alice



(Mores pictures on bulletin board)

Session Minutes

Stewardship and Finance: *Financial Report was unanimously approved.*

Building and Grounds: *Gary Brown reported that Knight Carpet will be replacing the carpet in the secretary's and pastor's office and choir room.*

There was standing water in the boiler room. Elliott Electric discovered a hole in drainage pan. It was repaired with epoxy, but will need to be permanently repaired during the winter months along with coils and other parts due to age.

Boo Nemir reported that Jim Gesin has thoroughly cleaned the bell located in the garden area.

Columbarium: *Reverend Mickey announced that the Columbarium Committee has purchased beautiful hand carved boxes from India for cremains. Riley Sawyer will be forwarding a bid for installation of the Terrazzo Tile in the Columbarium.*

Christian Education: *Lou Ann Cumbie announced that Sunday Night Bible Study for students will begin after Labor Day.*

Fellowship: *DeeAnne McFarland reported that plans have been made to serve lunch for the family of Paul Scott following his service on Saturday.*

Mission and Outreach: *Doug Richards announced that an advertisement for FPC has been purchased for the Football Program. Mitch Moore has taken pictures to be included in the advertisement.*

Moderator's Report: *Reverend Mickey reported that the Ministerial Alliance Life House should be open in a couple of months. Life House bedrooms will be available for individuals referred by the Police Department for need of overnight accommodations.*

She requested Session consider attending the Presbytery Meeting to be held in Colorado City on September 27th and 28th.

Swimming and Golf at the Country Club



Kallen Moody, Harper Gee, Peyton Gee,
Brynlee Scott and Averi Moody



Games at the Cumbie's



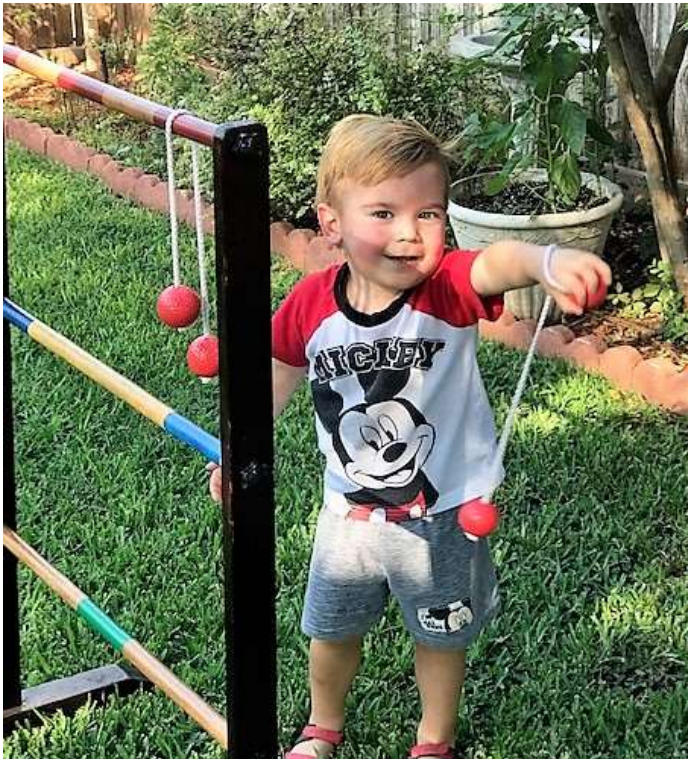
Rev. Marie Mickey, Doug Richards,
Lou Ann Cumbie, Arleen Kennedy



Brandie Gee, Dennis Cumbie



Emily Hammit, Kallen Moody



Owen Hammit

Blessing of the Backpacks



Sunday August 18



Rev. Marie Mickey, Kirk Stroman,
Peggy Elliott, Lou Ann Cumbie, Ali Moore,
Katie Reed, Caleb Reed