

My granddaughter Layla started kindergarten this year. She spent the morning before that first day of school in tears. She didn't want to go. It would be a new place, strange people, and different teachers. Dad walked her to school and left feeling quite anxious. At the end of the day, Layla came running up to mom and dad with the news that "This was the best day EVER!"

So often we are filled with dread over the future. We fear change. We like familiar patterns. Perhaps we even spend time crying as we anticipate new things. Often, those fears are unfounded. Like Layla, we might come bounding out from a new experience with joy and gratitude!

When we are confronted with changes, let us remember that we are never alone! God is with us! And God speaks these words through the prophet Isaiah: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" (Is. 43:19). Whatever we worry about, God is already there to make a way.

Pastor Ray



FPC Miami Ladies had a little road trip on Saturday August 24th. They travelled to Bartlesville for a day of fellowship at the PW of EOP Fall Workshop.

They enjoyed a good meal, conversation, and learned some things in workshops about the Lord in different subjects throughout the day.



NEOK PRIDE
Miami's 4th annual
Pride event will
happen on Saturday,
September 21st from
12:00pm – 6:00pm
at Riverside Park.

The event is a celebration of diversity. It is family friendly and will feature activities and over 30 vendors. Our congregation will have a booth to share our welcome and our ministry. Please join us on that day!



Sept 1	“Cornbread Wars”	Mark 7:1-23
Sept 8	“Humility and Jesus”	Mark 7:24-37
Sept 15	“Why Are We Following Jesus?”	Mark 8:27-38
Sept 22	“Choosing Our Operating System”	James 3:13-4:8a
Sept 29	“What Did I Do to Deserve This?”	Numbers 11:4-29

SEPTEMBER

Kum Ba Yah aka Kum Ba Zoom

We meet every Wednesday on ZOOM for fellowship, study and prayer at 7:00 PM. The link to the Zoom Meeting is sent in the Wednesday email each week.

Kum Ba Yah topics:

- Sept 4** Serving as Living Examples
- Sept 11** Living in the Spirit
- Sept 18** James 1: Temptation
- Sept 25** James 2: The Law of Liberty

Adult Sunday School Sundays at 9:30am

- Sept 1** Intro to the Sermon on the Mount & the Beatitudes
- Sept 8** Jesus Fulfills the Law & Wisdom within Laws 1
- Sept 15** Wisdom within Laws 2 & Warning about Religious Practices
- Sept 22** The Lord's Prayer
- Sept 29** Wealth and Worry

BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are grateful for the leadership of Dave Foster and Janice Johnson who organize our weekly food program with children at Roosevelt Elementary School. We are currently serving 51 students by providing weekend “backpacks” of simple, nutritious food.



We would like to thank all the volunteers for their hard work and dedication. From helping pack the backpacks, to their generous donations. With out you, we couldn't make this ministry what it is today. We have given **841 backpacks** since the beginning of January through the first half of May.

MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee met on August 27th and decided to make a Global Missiong donation of **\$300 to The Red Cross** and **\$300 to Doctor's Without Borders**.

The Mission program is sustained in part by gifts from the Myers Sisters bequest as well as gifts from members. You can designate gifts to “Local Mission” or “Global Mission”.

The Deacons Shoe ministry has delivered **13** pairs of shoes in the year 2024.

The Food Pantry distribution average for last year (2023) was 54 bags/month. So far, in 2024, we have given out **47** bags of food, as of **August 28, 2024**. Your contributions of food and dollars makes a difference in many lives.

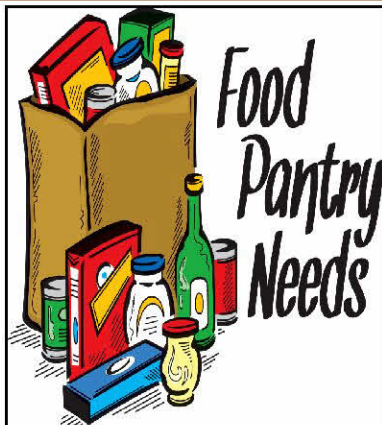


A large, white, stylized dollar sign (\$) is centered on a yellow rectangular background.



SEPTEMBER

September



Food Pantry

Did you know that the FPC Maimi Food Pantry, on average provides 55 bags/month or 1.5 bags/day to people right here in our community. We distributed 644 bags of food from the pantry alone in 2023. Many of the people coming for the pantry are not only food insecure but also homeless.

Your prayers, food donations, monetary donations, and volunteering for this ministry are greatly appreciated and always needed. The need is ongoing, and your support is crucial in our mission to serve the community.

It's a true blessing to serve the people of our community.

Matthew 25:44-45

44Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' 45Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'



SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	2 Labor Day 	3 10-12 Food Pantry	4 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm KumBaZoom	5 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm GA	6 10-12 Food Pantry	7
8 Grandparents Day 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship 11:30 Deacons Mtg 	9 10-12 Food Pantry	10 10-12 Food Pantry 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon	11 Patriot Day 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm KumBaZoom 	12 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm GA	13 10-12 Food Pantry	14
15 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	16 10-12 Food Pantry	17 10-12 Food Pantry 11:00 am Mission Meeting 7:00 pm Session Meeting	18 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm KumBaZoom	19 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm GA	20 10-12 Food Pantry	21 International Day of Peace 
22 First Day of Fall 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Spaghetti Dinner 	23 10-12 Food Pantry	24 10-12 Food Pantry	25 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm KumBaZoom	26 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 pm GA	27 Native American Day 10-12 Food Pantry 	28
29 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Fellowship	30 10-12 Food Pantry					



Nancy Niehaus	9/2	Davina Aguilar-Avila	9/21
Sherry Hiebert	9/3	Illeana Aguilar-Avila	9/21
Jack Liwai	9/6	Karin Shaffer	9/21
Miaka Liwai	9/11	Kim Good	9/22
Eugen Waylan	9/18		

*Should your name be here?
Please let the office know your birth date so we can include you!*

Shoe Drive

Supporting the Deacon's Shoe Ministry at
1st Presbyterian Church



The Deacons at First Presbyterian Church Miami are making a significant difference by providing a pair of sneakers and three pairs of socks to any student in need attending Ottawa County schools.

We ask for your help in donating sneakers and socks to this cause.

Sizes toddlers to Adult

Most popular sizes needed 3 youth - 9 1/2 adults.

Currently, we have an urgent need for boys' and men's sneakers.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the Church.

First Presbyterian Church Miami

Church Phone: 918-542-3388

Church email: secretary@fpcmiami.com

Church website: www.fpcmiami.com

Church Facebook: www.facebook.com/fpcmiamiok

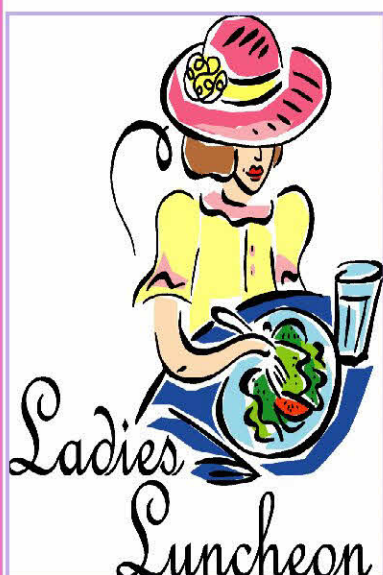
Servers in the Lord's House

	Coffee Host	Backpack
Sept 1	Open	Thur Sept 5 Clyde & Karin
Sept 8	Open	Thur Sept 12 Open & Open
Sept 15	Open	Thur Sept 19 Open & Open
Sept 22	Open	Thur Sept 26 Open & Open
Sept 29	Open	

Please call the office or talk to Pastor Ray to sign up for server slots!

FPC Miami Ladies Luncheon Tuesday, July 9th, 2024

We had another wonderful time of fellowship at the August Ladies Luncheon. Everyone enjoyed Cindy's scrumptious homemade Lasagna. Cari toasted some garlic bread on the grill, and some other sides were provided to make it another fantastic meal at the FPC Miami Ladies Luncheon. This month, the ladies were joined by some guests, including Robert's daughter, Robert, and Ross.



September's Ladies Luncheon's main dish has already been announced. Are you ready, Ladies? You're in for a treat... Ross will be cooking for you this luncheon. He's making meatloaf and his famous homemade mac & cheese. So ladies, if you haven't been to a Ladies Luncheon yet this year, come on out and join the other FPC Miami women for a great time of fellowship.

We're also planning to begin a Bible study called "Badass Women of the Bible"

Please join us next month for fun and fellowship at the FPC Miami's Ladies Luncheon.

**Next Luncheon - Tuesday, September 10th
at 11:30 am**

Fellowship Hall Decorations are bright and cheery!



Looking down the hallway to the fellowship hall, you see the doorway outlined with bright, bubbly, joyful yellow balloons, and even more cheerful and brighter yellow tablecloths draped atop the tables.

Has this bright and cheerful décor gone unnoticed?

You bet not!

While waiting for their food pantry bags this past month, several people commented, "Are you having a party?"

It's so bright and cheerful down there. It's decorated so nicely." I respond, "Oh no, we love to decorate and be cheerful here."

Thanks once again Cari & Shawn for the wonderful job decorating the church. Oh, and your little helper Abbey this past month too! Your efforts have truly made a difference, and we are so grateful.



August Presbytery:

On August 19, Pastor Ray and Grace traveled to Broken Bow to meet with other Presbytery members to tour four Native American churches where the EOP Native American Work Group has helped to make improvements to their churches.

The next day we went to the First Presbyterian Church in Broken Bow for the EOP Summer Presbytery Meeting. The Agenda included:

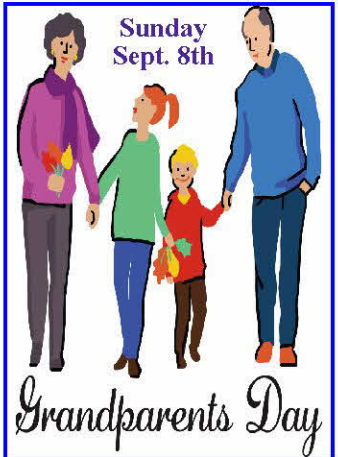
- Reports from GA delegates
- Name change for the Resourcing, Redevelopment, and New Church Development Committee to Hope and Spirit
- We celebrated Pastor Ray's 42 years of service, along with other Ministers, who received certificates and gifts for their years of service. Ray also got a mug.
- Presbyterian Women's Report
- Sermon by CRE Melinda, "Lost Hikers"

Business was conducted: Upcoming OK Presbyteries and leaders Training

We were in Choctaw Country and several Choctaw were there. The opening prayer was given by a Jr. Princess in sign language, the Choctaw Agency and Community Choirs sang in their native language, lunch was tacos with fry bread and most of all, testimonies by the congregations thanking EOP so they can do more outreach.

For NAWG (Native American Work Group) members, we were pleased to see the work that was done. We thank the EOP for providing funds. We have made a difference, and we're not finished yet.

Grace Goodeagle



SEPTEMBER

<p>LAY READERS</p>	Sept 1	Karin Shaffer
	Sept 8	Diana Schmiedeke
	Sept 15	Abbey Ankenman
	Sept 22	Melinda Thiesing
	Sept 29	John Lomax



Psalms 113:1-3

1 Praise the Lord!
Praise, O servants of the Lord;
praise the name of the Lord.
2 Blessed be the name of the Lord
from this time on and forevermore.
3 From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of the Lord is to be praised.



*The First Presbyterian Church
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