



July
OPEN DOOR

2021

Our congregation was recently represented at Miami's first ever Pride Festival for the LGBTQ community. There were plenty of surprised looks from visitors when they came across a CHURCH...not spewing hatred or condemnation, but instead offering grace, welcome, and a listening ear. Thank you for being such a loving, welcoming community of believers.

In that spirit, I would like to offer a true story that is a modern twist on Jesus' parable of the prodigal son. A Filipino friend of mine came out to his family when he was 15 years old. His father and older brother beat him severely and he ran away from home. For several months he lived on the streets of Manila. Manila is an over-crowded, rough city and he was one of millions of people living on the edge of poverty. It was possible that he was gone forever.

His family was politically connected and financially well-off. Unlike the prodigal son story, this young man's mother began to search for him. She and her contacts scoured the city. After almost a year, he was found and brought home. She didn't wait by the window. She went after him. And before she brought him home, she sat the rest of the family down. To her husband, her other son, and her three daughters she made a declaration. We almost lost this boy. He has been found. You will welcome him, love him, and accept him. If you cannot do that, you are no longer a part of this family.

God is like that mother. He doesn't just wait. He comes to call his children home. And he makes it clear that the rest of us who are waiting need to be just as loving, welcoming, and nurturing as God is.

P. S. They all lived happily ever after, letting mom guide them in love and acceptance.

Pastor Ray

The Mission Committee asked that we include the following article to tell about one of the organizations they chose to support in June.

ReaLove, Inc. has set up a "free to you shop" in downtown Miami where Foster Families can go to obtain clothing and other supplies they need for their foster children.



You can find more information @ <https://www.facebook.com/ReaLoveInc>

ReaLove, Inc. WHO WE ARE

We are a group of people who believe that there are individuals, families, and organizations who are going above and beyond in their own communities. So often single parents, foster parents and community organizations get overlooked and under celebrated. We saw that there was great need to make those people realize their worth and value in Christ by celebrating them, right where they are. Our mission is simple: Seek Christ, Equip People, Empower Communities so that we can SEE lives changed. When you give to ReaLove, Inc. you are advancing the message of ReaLove in helping establish small groups to equip people with the life

changing gospel of Jesus Christ. Your gift helps empower foster families and single parents/widows with resources that will help them succeed in every day life.

We actively celebrate families who are serving in communities to introduce people to the Real Jesus. We also are passionate about partnering with local youth sports organizations to develop successful leaders for Christ.



Another school year begins in August, and that means backpacks! We will again be providing much needed food assistance to the poorest among us, providing weekend food packages for students at Roosevelt Elementary who might otherwise have no food through the weekend. It is our goal to provide basic, nutritious food for 2 breakfasts, two snacks, and two dinners.

Because of the reconfiguration of the elementary schools in Miami, Roosevelt Elementary has seen a significant increase in their student census. Last year we fed between 65 and 70 students each week. This year, we expect around the same number.

Your help in the past has been essential as we provide basic needs. Last month we published that the backpack program finished the school year with a negative {125.00} balance. The church quickly received a check for 125.00 designated for the backpack program! Thank you!!!

Please think about making a donation to support this program this coming school year! Thank you for all you do to provide for the least among us.



- July 4** "Patriotism, Nationalism, and the Kingdom of God"
July 11 "Genuine Faith"
July 18 "An Invitation to Sabbath"
July 25 "How Do We Use Our Power?"

Church Picnic...JULY 11th after worship.
Watch the Sunday Bulletins and Wednesday emails
for more information!



Kum Ba Yah aka Kum Ba Zoom

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

Kum Ba Yah topics:

- July 7** Love
July 14 Joy
July 21 Peace
July 28 Gentleness

Adult Sunday School Sundays at 9:30am on Zoom!

- July 4** The Apocrypha Intro
July 11 First Esdras
July 18 Second Esdras
July 25 Tobit



June 2021							June 2021							June 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

August 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

July 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	2 10-12 Food Pantry	3
4 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	5 10-12 Food Pantry	6 10-12 Food Pantry	7 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	8 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	9 10-12 Food Pantry	10
11 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Deacon Mtg CHURCH PICNIC!	12 10-12 Food Pantry	13 10-12 Food Pantry	14 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	15 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	16 10-12 Food Pantry	17
18 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	19 10-12 Food Pantry	20 10-12 Food Pantry	21 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	22 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	23 10-12 Food Pantry	24
25 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Church Picnic	26 10-12 Food Pantry Newsletter Submissions Due	27 10-12 Food Pantry	28 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	29 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	30 10-12 Food Pantry	31

Servers in the Lord's House

	Usher	Coffee Host
July 4	Open	Open
July 11	Janice Johnson	Open
July 18	Janice Johnson	Open
July 25	Open	Open

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

Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery (EOP)

A Tri-Presbytery meeting will be held next year. In the meantime, EOP met via zoom on June 5. Church business was conducted. The worship service was zoomed from the First Presbyterian Church, Bartlesville with CP Kristy Rodgers. Committee reports were given. Of special note for Pastor Ray and me was the approval of EOP's Covenant of Partnership Memorandum of Understanding with Malawi and passage of a new account titled Native American Church Improvement Fund. There were videos. The first one was with Rev. Dr. Nelson, GA, who spoke on the Anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre and a second video featured the First Presbyterian Church in Claremore.

Grace Goodeagle, Commissioner



JULY
BIRTHDAYS

Steven Carden ... 07/02

Richard Seybolt ... 7/3

Shelley Thomas ... 7/3

Lyndee Fuhrman ... 7/7

Liz Fullbright ... 7/9

Jera Rendel ... 7/9

Melinda Thiesing ... 7/9

Job Rendel ... 7/12

Brent Rendel ... 7/15

Cheryl Hartman ... 7/18

Barbara Ballinger ... 7/21

Taylor Zabel ... 7/21

George Reeves ... 7/23

Susan Russell ... 7/27

Gary Sommer ... 7/27

Bill Thomas ... 7/31

Should your name be here?

Please let the office know your birth date so we can include you!

July 2021 Daily Lectionary

These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship.

Old Testament

Epistle

Gospel

[Year One]

07/01/2021	1 Sam. 13:5–18	Acts 8:26–40	Luke 23:13–25
07/02/2021	1 Sam. 13:19–14:15	Acts 9:1–9	Luke 23:26–31
07/03/2021	1 Sam. 14:16–30	Acts 9:10–19a	Luke 23:32–43
07/04/2021	1 Sam. 14:36–45	Rom. 5:1–11	Matt. 22:1–14
07/05/2021	1 Sam. 15:1–3, 7–23	Acts 9:19b–31	Luke 23:44–56a
07/06/2021	1 Sam. 15:24–35	Acts 9:32–43	Luke 23:56b–24:12
07/07/2021	1 Sam. 16:1–13	Acts 10:1–16	Luke 24:13–35
07/08/2021	1 Sam. 16:14–17:11	Acts 10:17–33	Luke 24:36–53
07/09/2021	1 Sam. 17:17–30	Acts 10:34–48	Mark 1:1–13
07/10/2021	1 Sam. 17:31–49	Acts 11:1–18	Mark 1:14–28
07/11/2021	1 Sam. 17:50–18:4	Rom. 10:4–17	Matt. 23:29–39
07/12/2021	1 Sam. 18:5–30	Acts 11:19–30	Mark 1:29–45
07/13/2021	1 Sam. 19:1–24	Acts 12:1–17	Mark 2:1–12
07/14/2021	1 Sam. 20:1–23	Acts 12:18–25	Mark 2:13–22
07/15/2021	1 Sam. 20:24–42	Acts 13:1–12	Mark 2:23–3:6
07/16/2021	1 Sam. 21:1–15	Acts 13:13–25	Mark 3:7–19a
07/17/2021	1 Sam. 22:1–23	Acts 13:26–43	Mark 3:19b–35
07/18/2021	1 Sam. 23:7–18	Rom. 11:33–12:2	Matt. 25:14–30
07/19/2021	1 Sam. 24:1–22	Acts 13:44–52	Mark 4:1–20
07/20/2021	1 Sam. 25:1–22	Acts 14:1–18	Mark 4:21–34
07/21/2021	1 Sam. 25:23–44	Acts 14:19–28	Mark 4:35–41
07/22/2021	1 Sam. 28:3–20	Acts 15:1–11	Mark 5:1–20
07/23/2021	1 Sam. 31:1–13	Acts 15:12–21	Mark 5:21–43
07/24/2021	2 Sam. 1:1–16	Acts 15:22–35	Mark 6:1–13
07/25/2021	2 Sam. 1:17–27	Rom. 12:9–21	Matt. 25:31–46
07/26/2021	2 Sam. 2:1–11	Acts 15:36–16:5	Mark 6:14–29
07/27/2021	2 Sam. 3:6–21	Acts 16:6–15	Mark 6:30–46
07/28/2021	2 Sam. 3:22–39	Acts 16:16–24	Mark 6:47–56
07/29/2021	2 Sam. 4:1–12	Acts 16:25–40	Mark 7:1–23
07/30/2021	2 Sam. 5:1–12	Acts 17:1–15	Mark 7:24–37
07/31/2021	2 Sam. 5:22–6:11	Acts 17:16–34	Mark 8:1–10

Memorial Day Remembrance



Each year at Christmas & Memorial Day we remember Madeline and Ila May Myers. Ila May and Madeline were sisters who were active in our church from their High School years. Ila May was head of the Welfare Department – now called the Department of Human Services- and Madeline was a teacher.

They owned the farm where they grew up but they lived together in Miami. The last few years of their lives they lived in a Nursing Home. Since they had no heirs, they decided to leave their assets to our church. When they talked to our attorney, they had only one request. They asked that the church place flowers on the family plot in the Seneca Cemetery each Christmas and Memorial Day. Of course the church agreed.

Those who knew their plans to leave their assets to the church, presumed their assets were their farm and the house where they lived. After their deaths, when the bank box was opened, it was discovered that they had stocks and bonds worth a great sum of money. Our church is still benefitting from this bequest. We are grateful and pleased to honor the request to place flowers on the family plot at the cemetery. We have an arrangement with a florist in Seneca to ensure these flowers are placed.



The Mission Committee met on June 15, 2021.

The committee present discussed some different places and organizations that may benefit from our donations. It was decided to donate from their Local

Mission Funds: \$800.00 (\$300.00 to ReaLove Inc. a group dedicated to helping foster families in the local area and \$500.00 to the local Boys & Girls Club to help with their summer programming). From their Global Mission Funds: \$400.00 (\$200.00 to Serving Christ Ministries & \$200.00 to Mercy Corps).

We will continue to investigate ways our Mission funds can help others both locally and globally. If you have any ideas we would love to hear from you! Please call a committee member or join in the next meeting!

Thank you everyone for your continued support, we do great things here at First Presbyterian, Miami!

This article is late in publication. I should have inserted it last month but I missed it!

Thanks to the generous donations of several families and the hard work of a several people we had an awesome sale we called "Grandma's Attic" in May. We earned almost \$3000.00 at the sale on the first weekend in May. The next weekend Shawn ran a "free sale" and cleaned most everything left out! He collected \$300.00 in donations during the free sale and those dollars were put in the Deacons Fund!

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU
To everyone who donated, bought, priced, hauled, sold, packaged, collected and worked this sale!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1410 NE VETERANS BLVD. MIAMI OK

thank
YOU

Dear First Presbyterian Church,
Thank you so much for your generous donation.
Your partnership make a huge difference in our community!

Thanks! Debbie Hillestad
Salvation Army, Director



*The First Presbyterian Church
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