

Open Door

2022

We received a surprise gift in the mail last week. A letter from the presbytery and a check for \$1,000! The gift comes with a challenge.

“Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery affirms Christ’s urgent call to be a church of action, where God’s love, justice, and mercy shine forth and are contagious.” We are to take the money and find a way to serve our community within the framework of the PC(USA) challenge of Matthew 25. This 3-prong challenge encourages us to eradicate systemic poverty, dismantle structural racism, and build congregational vitality.

The first thing we are going to do is pray and study. Please join us on Sunday mornings in July as we ponder the topics of systemic poverty, structural racism, and congregational vitality. Please join us as we pray for a new way to reach our community with a vision for bearing witness to God’s love, justice, and mercy.

We look forward to the leading of the Spirit as we think about innovative ways to be the church in our community and our world today.

*Pastor Ray*



When Ila Mae and Madeline Myers made their will leaving everything to our church, they had only one request.....that the church have flowers placed on the Myer graves in the Seneca cemetery on Memorial Day and Christmas. And the Bank did that for many years. But the fund left for that purpose was depleted leaving the bank without instructions. So, our church has made an arrangement with a florist in Seneca to place the flowers as requested. After the florist placed them, she sent this picture. I think that that Ila Mae and Madeline are pleased.



### **Pentecost Sunday**

Pastor was dressed all in red for our Pentecost Sunday Service.

I guess you'd say "he was on fire".... lol



- July 3** Serve Others
- July 10** No Bystanders
- July 17** Hungry for God
- July 24** Pray Without Ceasing
- July 31** Taking & Giving



#### **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 6** I Timothy 2
- July 13** I Timothy 3
- July 20** I Timothy 4
- July 27** I Timothy 5

#### **Adult Sunday School**

**Sundays at 9:30am on Zoom and in Person!**

- July 3** Eradicating Systemic Poverty
- July 10** Dismantling Structural Racism
- July 17** Building Congregational Vitality
- July 24** Matthew 25 Challenge
- July 31** The Heidelberg Catechism



## 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 47 students by providing weekend “backpacks” of simple, nutritious food.

From January 1 to the end of School (May, 20 2022) we gave out 783 backpack bags.

As we break for summer with backpack I would like to express my appreciation for the support we have received from the congregation. These are the folks that do the job of packing 10 food items into each of 47 bags that we are delivering to Roosevelt school on a weekly basis: Janice Johnson, John and Melinda Thiesing, Nancy Gee, Betty Lou Ankenman, Kathy Prince, Cindy Holt, Frank Denny, Charles, Kit, and Berkeley Ulrey. Thanks also to our stalwart community partners who provide food items and financial assistance: Quapaw Tribe, Community of Christ church, and Friends church. Enjoy the summer and I look forward to seeing you again in the fall.  
Dave Foster



The Mission Committee met on May 17, 2022. Those present discussed some different places and organizations that may benefit from our donations. This month the committee decided to donate \$300.00 to Mercy Corp.

For the entire year, the Mission Committee has made gifts of \$800.00 to Global Missions and \$600.00 to Local Missions. In addition to a founding bequest from the Meyers Sisters, other church members supplement these gifts each year. Consider a gift to the Mission giving of your local congregation!

FPC Miami Church ministries of the Backpack program and the food pantry have been a blessing to our community. 125 food pantry bags and 783 backpacks have been handed out so far this year.





PLEASE JOIN US  
to CELEBRATE the

**80**<sup>th</sup>

BIRTHDAY of

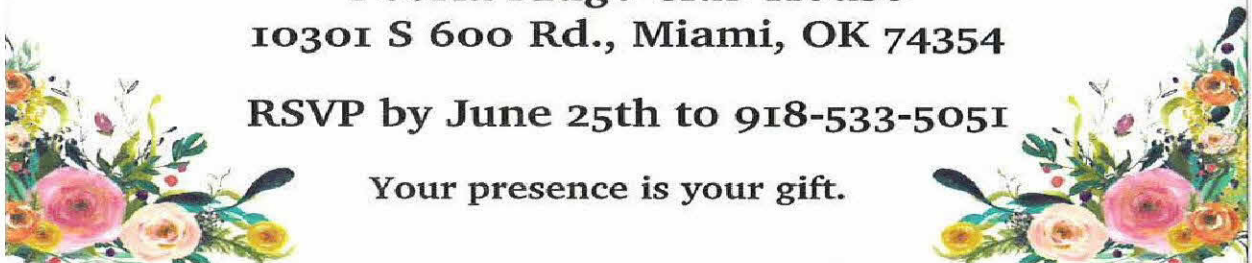
*Melinda Thiesing*

Saturday, July 9th, 3:00-5:00pm

Peoria Ridge Club House  
10301 S 600 Rd., Miami, OK 74354

RSVP by June 25th to 918-533-5051

Your presence is your gift.



Please make sure you RSVP so that they know how much food to prepare.





# JULY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 10-12 Food Pantry	2
3 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Fellowship 11:30 Choir	4 Office Closed 	5 <sup>1</sup> 0-12 Food Pantry	6 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	7 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 GA	8 10-12 Food Pantry	9 Private Function Fellowship Hall
10 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Fellowship 11:30 choir 11:30 Deacons mtg	11 10-12 Food Pantry	12 10-12 Food Pantry	13 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	14 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 GA	15 10-12 Food Pantry	16
17 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Fellowship 11:30 choir	18 10-12 Food Pantry  6:00 4States 4 Equality	19 10-12 Food Pantry	20 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	21 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 GA	22 10-12 Food Pantry	23 Private Function Fellowship Hall
24 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Fellowship 11:30 Choir	25 10-12 Food Pantry	26 10-12 Food Pantry	27 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 KumBaZoom	28 10-12 Food Pantry  7:00 GA	29 10-12 Food Pantry	30
31 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Fellowship 11:30 Choir						



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Steve Carden.....7/2    Brent Rendel.....7/15  
 Shelley Thomas.....7/3    Cheryl Hartman.....7/18  
 Richard Seybolt.....7/3    Barbara Ballinger.....7/21  
 Lyndee Fuhrman.....7/7    Taylor Zabel.....7/21  
 Liz Fullbright.....7/9    George Reeves.....7/23  
 Jera Rendel.....7/9    Susan Russell.....7/27  
 Melinda Thiesing.....7/9    Gary Sommer.....7/27  
 Job Rendel.....7/12    Bill Thomas.....7/31

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



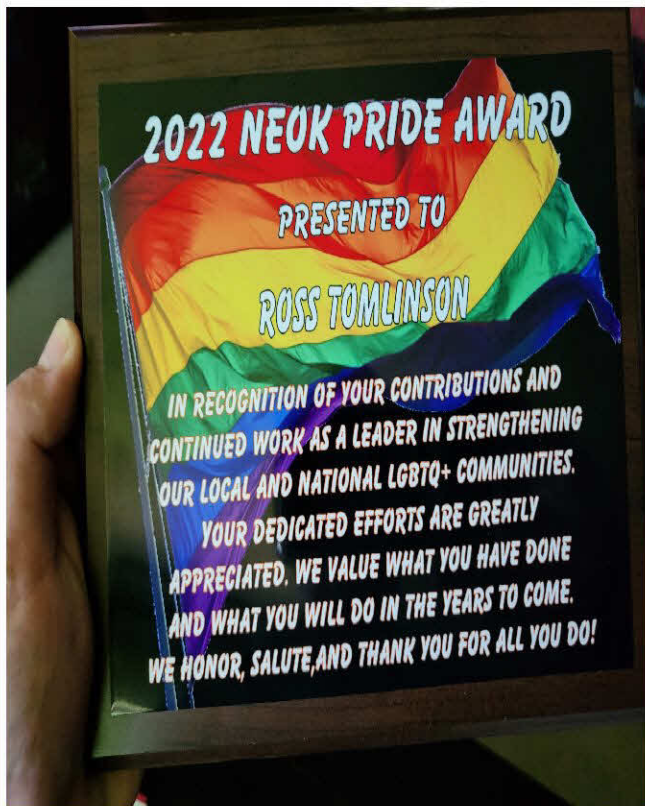
### 4-State Youth 4 Equality

A group has formed to provide a safe place for area teens to explore their uniqueness as created and loved by God. First Presbyterian is happy to offer space for this group. The first vision for this group came from the story of a young gay man who has experienced bullying in an area school and rejection by his local church. We look forward to learning and growing together.

### Miami Pride Fest

The 2nd annual Pride Fest was held at Riverview Park on Saturday, June 18th. The church had a booth in which we handed out pamphlets and bracelets. The bracelets had the church name, address, & phone number printed on them.

Thanks to Pastor Ray, Bill, Tim, Ross, & Abbey for representing the Church. Ross was also awarded the 2022 NEOK Pride Award this year.



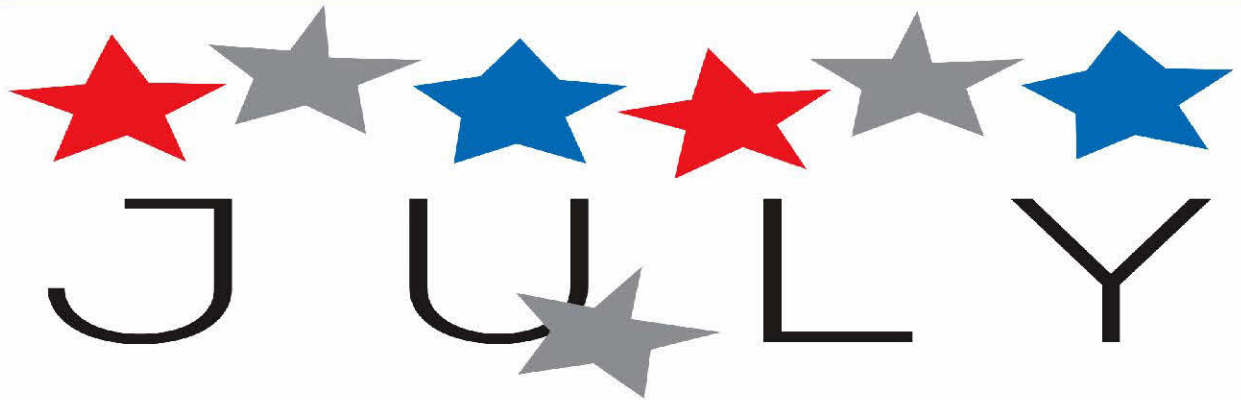


Servers in the Lord's House		
	Coffee Host	4 States Youth 4 Equality
July 3	Open	July 18 Open
July 10	Nancy Gee	
July 17	Open	
July 24	Open	
July 31	Open	

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



**Everyone have a safe and happy 4th of July**

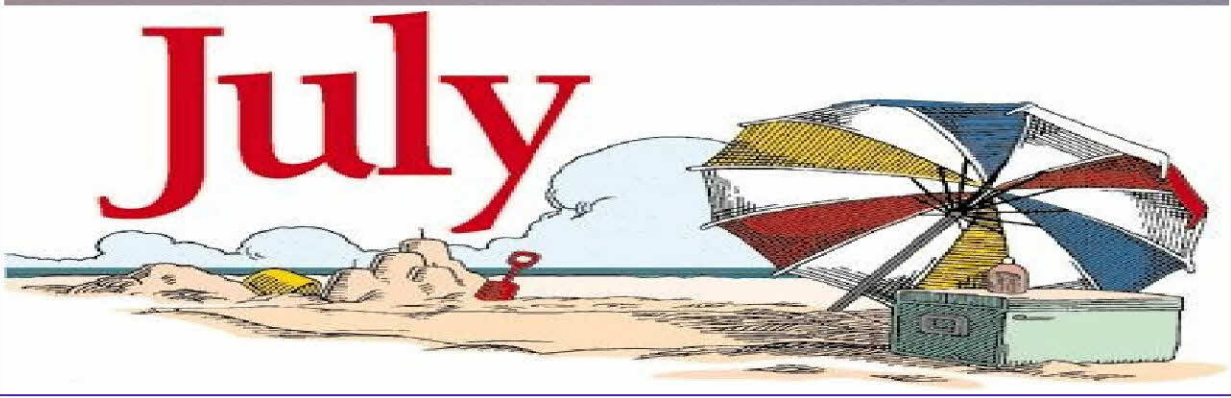
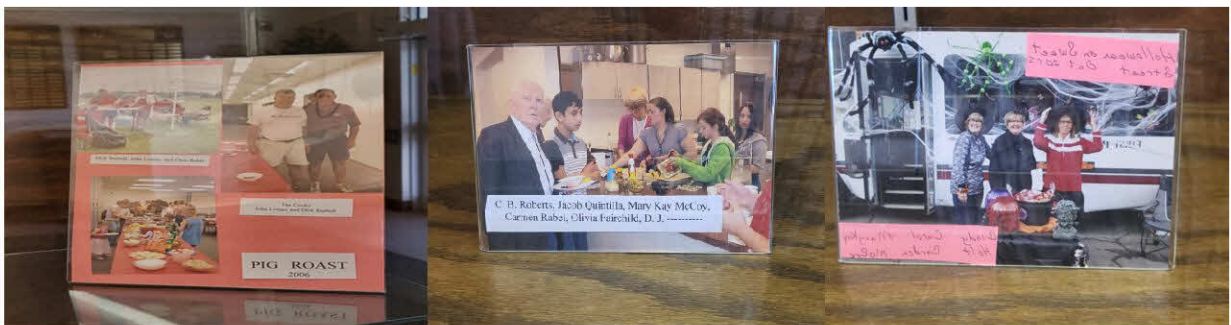




## OUR HERITAGE CASE

It is fun to remember good times we have had with our church family through the years. In the case we have placed pictures of many times we enjoyed being together. There are pictures of Swimming Parties, Zip Line, Picnics, Pig Roasts, etc. Take time to look at the case and see if it brings back good memories to you.

Heritage Committee.... Nancy Gee & Judy Able





## Some Fun Facts About July

National Blueberry Month	July 1 - American Zoo Day
National Ice Cream Month	July 4 - National Hillbilly Day
National Hot Dog Month	July 7 - World Chocolate Day
National Picnic Month	July 11 - International Town Criers Day
National Baked Bean Month	July 15 - National Give Something Away Day
National Grilling Month	July 18 - Amazon Prime Day
World Water Color Month	July 21 - Take a Monkey to Work Day
National Culinary Arts Month	July 24 - National Marine Week
Independent Retailer Month	July 27 - Bagpipe Appreciation Day
National Anti-Boredom Month	July 29 - National Lasagna Day
National Contract Sewing Month	July 31 - National Jump for Jelly Beans Day
National Cell Phone Courtesy Month	





Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

## Ephesians 3:20-21 NRSV



*The First Presbyterian Church  
1410 N.E. Veterans Blvd.  
Miami, OK 74354*