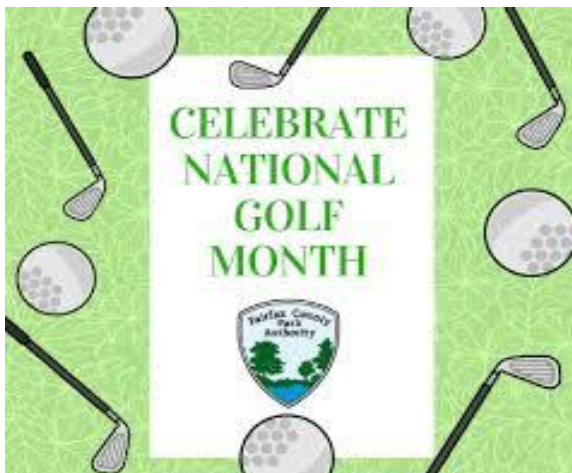


Psalm 42 offers lament. It asks a lot of questions. The same questions that we often ask but might be afraid to say out loud. “Why? Where? When? How long? All these questions go unanswered: “When?” “How long?” “Where?” “Why?” Yet above the prayer of aspiration [and desperation] a tattered flag of faith and hope still flies: “Hope in God; for I shall again praise him.” That simple word “again”—vague and undefined, but real—seeks to answer the painful question “When?” It doesn’t dare claim “soon”; instead, it more modestly claims “someday.”

Brian McLaren in “Naked Spirituality”, counsels us to create room to bring our desperate feelings before God: You ask, “When? How long?” because you know—or at least you believe—or at least you hope—that your panting, gasping, famished feelings of unfulfilled longing, abandonment, and confusion won’t go on forever. A sense of peace and fullness will come *again, someday....*

Hold your *when* or *how long* or *where* before God. Make space for your disappointment, frustration, and unfulfillment to come out of hiding and present themselves in the light. Don’t rush, even though you’ll be tempted to see these times of spiritual dryness and aspiration as a mistake, a sign of failure you want to put behind you. Instead, slow down and hold this moment as an opportunity to express and strengthen spiritual desire.

Pastor Ray





August 2	"Always Enough"	Matthew 14:13-21
August 9	"Walking on Water"	Matthew 14:22-33
August 16	"The Table Scrap Feast"	Matthew 15:21-28
August 23	"Gifted and Called"	Exodus 2:1-10, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20
August 30	"Calling the Elders"	Jeremiah 15:15-21, James 5:13-16

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:

August 5	Being Presbyterian in Dysvangelical America: Conclusion
August 12	Choosing Between Banquets of Empire and Kingdom
August 19	Beyond the Altar
August 26	In the Room of Prayer, There's No Right Way

Adult Sunday School

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

August 2	Enough to Make a Difference
August 9	Enough for Transformational Giving
August 16	Enough Is Good for the Body
August 23	How Much Is Enough to Leave Our Children?
August 30	To Be Announced

BACKPACK PROGRAM

We are grateful for the leadership of Dave Foster, who organizes our weekly food program with children at Roosevelt Elementary School. Since school started this year, we are averaging about **30** backpacks per week.

If you have not previously assisted with this ministry and would like information, don't hesitate to get in touch with Dave Foster or the office. Thank you to the congregants who have helped pack backpacks this year. Cindy Holt, The Shaffers, the Schmiedekes, David Foster, and Janice Johnson.



MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission program is partly sustained by gifts from the Myers Sisters' bequest and gifts from members. You can designate gifts to "Local Mission" or "Global Mission." We did not have a meeting in July.

The Deacon's Shoe Ministry: **The Deacons have delivered 17 pairs of shoes in 2026.**

Food Pantry: The food pantry served **61 households** and **121 individuals** in the month of June 2026.



FPC Miami Presbyterian Women's Luncheon

In July, the ladies' luncheon featured sandwiches and sides, and they visited the Dobson Museum. In August, the ladies will be going out for lunch.



Next Luncheon: Tuesday, August 11th at 11:30 am



AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	3 10-Noon Food Pantry	4 10-Noon Food Pantry	5 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm KBZ	6 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm G.A.	7 10-Noon Food Pantry Purple Heart Day	8
9 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship 11:30 Deacon Mtg	10 10-Noon Food Pantry	11 10-Noon Food Pantry 11:00 Mission Mtg 11:30 Ladies Luncheon	12 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm KBZ	13 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm G.A.	14 10-Noon Food Pantry	15
16 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	17 10-Noon Food Pantry	18 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm Session Mtg	19 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm KBZ	20 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm G.A.	21 10-Noon Food Pantry	22 PW Fall Mtg. 1st Presbyterian Church, Tulsa 9:30am
23/30 9:15 Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	24 10-Noon Food Pantry 31 10-Noon Food Pantry	25 10-Noon Food Pantry	26 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm KBZ	27 10-Noon Food Pantry 7pm G.A.	28 10-Noon Food Pantry	29



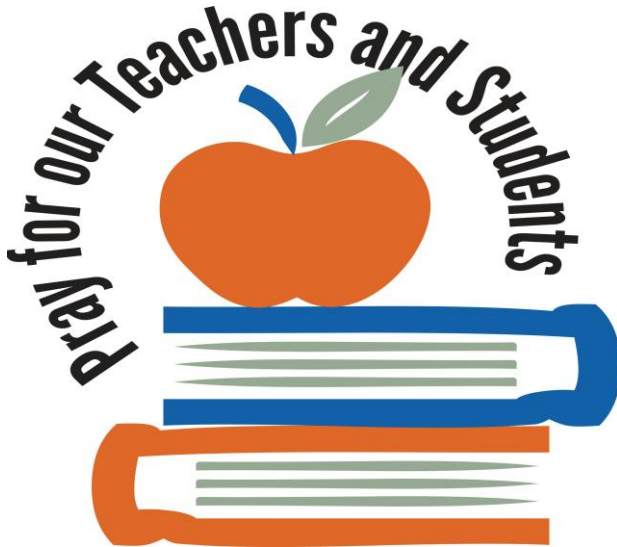
Marcus Gray 8/1	John Lomax 8/4
Kareen Gorton-Edwards 8/3	Kate Prince 8/5
Irene Waylan 8/3	Bill Hancock 8/8
John Gray 8/3	Autumn Fuhrman 8/21



Another school year is starting, which means it's almost time to be filling Backpack Bags for Roosevelt Elementary.

Ross has a sign-up sheet in the backpack room and the office.

If you have any questions, feel free to speak with Dave Foster, Ross, or Pastor Ray.



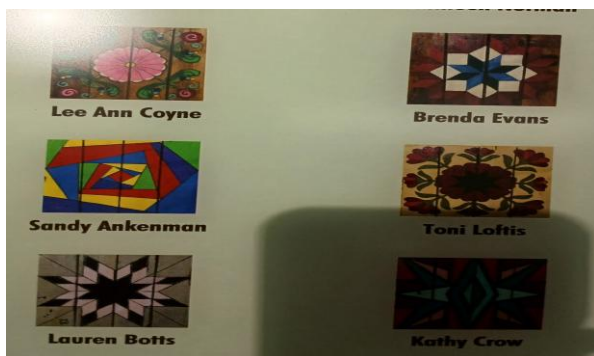
August 13th marks the first day of classes in Miami Public Schools.

Please pray for the teachers, students, parents, bus drivers, and all other staff to have a great school year.



AUGUST

In July, the FPC Miami Women toured the Dobson Museum. The Barn Quilt on the wall has a square from Sandy Ankenman. There were also a couple of pictures of the Ankenman barn. Afterward, they returned to the church and enjoyed sandwiches and chips.



“Nothing is impossible, the word itself says
‘I’m possible.’”

—Audrey Hepburn

“I cannot express how important it is to
believe that taking one tiny—and possibly
very uncomfortable—step at a time can
ultimately add up to a great distance.”

—Tig Notaro

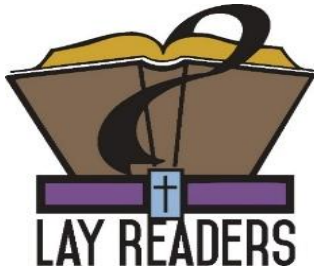


On the first Sunday in August,
we will have a cookout.

The Fellowship Committee will
supply the hot dogs,
hamburgers, and buns.

Could you please bring sides
that complement the main
course?

We will eat indoors.



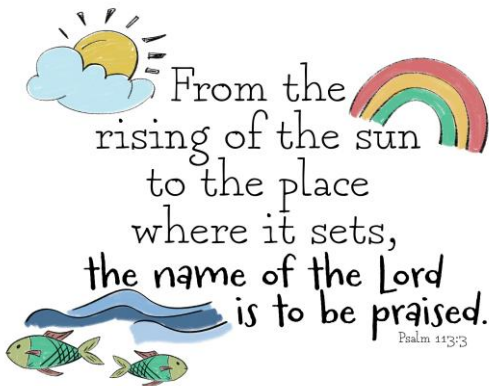
Aug 2	Diana Schmiedeke
Aug 9	Abbey Ankenman
Aug 16	Grace Goodeagle
Aug 23	Tim Keith
Aug 30	Ross Tomlinson

Servers in the Lord's House

Coffee Host

Backpack Packers

August 2	Tim & Ross	Summer Break
August 9	B-Day Sunday Cari	Summer Break
August 16	Open	Summer Break
August 23	Open	Summer Break
August 30		



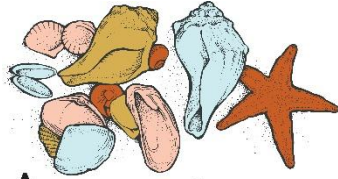
In the waiting...God is working.

Prayer LIST

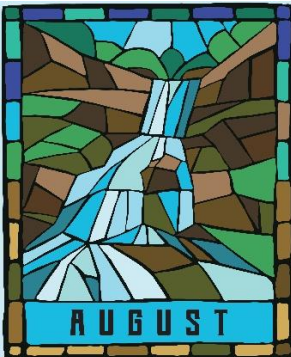


Dianna Minick	DeMaris Gaines
Ross Tomlinson Sr.	Dolly Gray
Virginia Blakeburn	The Heiberts
The Goods	Isaac Rendel
The Chitekwe	Susan Russell
Doris Price	The Lomaxes
The Whalens	Bill Hancock
Betty Lou Ankenman	Ross Tomlinson Jr.

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



August



Isaiah 41:10:

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."