

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be held July 15 to July 19 from 5:25 PM until 8:30 PM each evening. If anyone has any old sheets or potted artificial green plants, please let a person from the Discipleship VBS Planning Committee know. We are also looking for shop keepers and Tribe Leaders. If you are interested, please contact Diane Myers or Courtney Hawley.

CONGRATULATIONS

On Sunday, April 7, the group Music Sacra presented Bach's Mass in B Minor at First Presbyterian Church in Midland. One of the four Tenors was Scooter Tilley. Kathy Kuhn substituted for the Organist during the final rehearsal. It was a wonderful concert. Thank you, Scooter and Kathy, for all your hard work preparing for the concert.

Reception for Tommie Zuerker. Twenty Years of Outstanding Service to First Presbyterian Church (and hopefully 20 more!) Sunday, April 28, 2013 in the Fellowship Hall Immediately Following Worship (**Sunday School at 9:00, Blended Worship at 10:00; Reception Following**) Hosted by Presbyterian Women and Personnel Ministry. This is a wonderful opportunity to let our beloved Business Manager know how cherished and greatly appreciated she is!

Please keep these members in your prayers...Marivonne Brumbelow, Charles Jones, Matt Kuhlmann, Richard Callaway, Sue Hickman, Paul Miller, Sherry Miller, Tody Oakley, Tom Tilley, Ann Walker, Jane Willis, Paula Wright, Sam Field, Bettie Hawkins brother, the family of the late Don Lampman and Janet Ansley's Mother, Jane Kimbrough.

THE NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST WILL BE ON SUNDAY, MAY 12TH. LADIES WELCOME!!

Presbyterian Church Pathways

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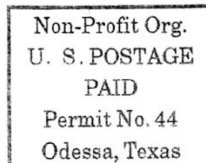
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Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8:30-4:00pm

Friday 8:30-12:00



Address Service Request

1st Presbyterian Church Newsletter

May, 2012

“Things I learned from Layman Lewis”

Character is a construct with which most of my clients have been unfamiliar. Yet we, and they, all have one. Psychological diagnostics have undergone a jagged and arduous metamorphosis since the late 1970's when I first was professionally using them. In those remote days, the term “characterlogic disorder” was used. It has given way to the term “personality disorder”, and even that seems to have fallen out of favor in diagnostic importance. The simple explanation is that professionals want to diagnose what they can treat and a disorder of character or personality is not treatable in psychology.

There is neither medication nor any therapy that can successfully address disorders of character. That must seem like a horrid lack of hope to therapists and such, and it must lend itself to an avoidance of the whole issue by the profession at large. That is just as well: character is largely spiritual in nature. It stands at the great juncture in each soul where will and spirit meet and merge into a person's life energy and its fruits. My experience tells me that there is only one hope for such a problem: a remaking of the character by Him who created us all.

God did not weave into our fabric broken character; it is generated in environmental factors that don't allow for good character development in formative years. As you may have noticed, in our fallen and almost-godless society, too many factors around young children fail to prepare their characters for reality and responsibility, for uprightness and perseverance and so many other desirable traits of character. (Desirable you say? desirable by whom? Oh, by man and by God... and by self, in the long run.)

Now, despite psychology's and society's seemingly-blind eye to it, character disorder is huge and growing. When

assessing how to fix the problem, there is really no place to start... but God. God is the only changer of hearts. He is the only repairer of persons. He is beyond doubt the only true remedy for crippling of character, of which we all certainly have some amount. I think most of us would truly be surprised to look inside ourselves and see the bulk of just what amount!

I sometimes envision our poor, broken characters in an allegory of sorts: if they could just be visibly seen, they would look leprous and palsied and paralytic and erupted with boils, staggering, bent and broken. I do so bless Jesus and thank Him endlessly that He has hidden Christians' character defects from Eternity by the veil of His blood!

Still, we each have responsibility to bring them into the light of His grace, to repent them, and receive His forgiveness. We have the privilege then of seeing even more of His character and making ourselves available daily for Him impartation of His character to us. This takes alertness, concentration, and commitment... all traits of the will. But is it all so important?

As C.S. Lewis pointed out in *Mere Christianity*: “The point is not that God will refuse you admission to His eternal world if you have not got certain qualities of character: the point is that if people have not got at least the beginnings of those qualities inside them, then no possible external conditions could make a ‘Heaven’ for them.” I think he is saying that if we are not willing to meet God at least part way in the work He does in us, then we don't really have much taste for that work and its world. “O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.” Psalms 34:8

Rae Chell Martinez MRC, MA
Presbyterian Children's Home & Services



Our next week for hosting FAMILY PROMISE will be June 2-June 9. This is a busy time of year so please mark your calendars to keep us updated as we make plans. Two of the families we had in March (Kira and Pam) are still in the program at this time, and two more families are being interviewed. As you are well aware situations can change overnight. The volunteer sign-up board will be in the foyer on May 19th, 26th and June 2.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We are almost to the end of another Bible Study. Mona has done a wonderful job as study leader and we do appreciate her doing it for us. Speaking of Mona—she did a wonderful job spearheading the arrangements for the Tres Rios Presbytery PW meeting at our church. There were 13 from our church in attendance along with others from all over the presbytery. It was enjoyable to visit with PW's from other churches. The food was delicious and the tables were attractively decorated by Nina Rice and Martha Moore. Thanks to all of you for your work.

The PW's also planned and hosted a reception after the memorial service for Donald Lampman. There were several of you who furnished "goodies" and we thank you very much for it. The family was most appreciative also. We have another event at the end of the month that will be mentioned in the next newsletter. And, believe me, you certainly don't want to miss that! It is an appreciation reception for our Tommie Zuerker who has given us 20 years of her life.

There were 8 people at our Morning Circle and 14 at the Evening Circle at the April meetings. You who are not coming don't know what you are missing. We have a good lesson, lots of fun, and delicious food. Why don't you join us for one of our meetings in May? The meeting date is May 9. The Morning Circle meets in Fellowship Hall at 10:00am. Martha Moore has planned a brunch for the

ladies so don't eat breakfast if you come. The Evening Circle will meet in the home of Betty Dale, 3536 Maple, at 6:30pm for a salad supper. Each person is asked to bring a salad to share with the others. We hope to see you at one or both if you want to. We'd love to have you!



A Special Honor to one of our own!!!

Sondra Eoff, chairman of the Odessa Chamber of Commerce, presents Paul Crump Jr. with a plaque signifying his induction into the Business Hall of Fame during a luncheon Thursday, April 11th at the Odessa Country Club. Crump is a co-owner in the Sewell Family of Dealerships, along with Ron Sewell and Collin Sewell. Before joining the Sewell Family, Crump worked as a service representative and sales representative for Ford Motor Company's Dallas District.



In case you haven't noticed, take time to admire the beautiful flower arrangements added to our freshly cleaned fireplace in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks, PW.



Saturday the CIA Project

Denny Williams, Steve Ashley, Rodney Hurt, Eric Jurado, Angel Carasco, Eric Allison, and Milton Thompson all worked with some members from Westminster Presbyterian church to refurbish the house at 106 E 35th. They painted the house, repaired and painted all the trim, replaced screens, and trimmed the trees. It was a rewarding day of work that started at 8:30 and finished at 4:15, thanks to all those who helped!

SPRING GATHERING - FIRST ODESSA

Saturday, April 20, 2013



A BIG thank you to all who participated in the Spring Gathering for 2013, coming from Big Springs, San Angelo, Sonora, Marfa, Alpine, Ft.

Davis, Ft. Stockton and El Paso, TX. We had two wonderful mission speakers, Dick Mc Farlin from Midland, TX with Marion Medical Mission and Victoria Bannister from Alpine, TX with Casa Hogar Orphanage just across the border in Mexico. We had 45 in attendance and from the comments that were made, everyone enjoyed the presentations and the silent auction was a big hit as everything went home with someone. We had a very generous offering of over \$1,100 that will be split between the two missions. We thank you very much. Besides the offering, donations by individuals were made to Marion Medical Mission and Casa Hogar. The bath towels and cake mixes overflowed the table to the floor. There will be a lot of Happy Birthday Blessings at Casa Hogar. Again, a BIG thank you for such an out pouring of love and support to two very worthy causes.

Mona Rood

Treasurer for Tres Rios



EASTER EGG HUNT

The Discipleship Ministry would like to thank the Youth and parents for hiding over 600 filled Easter Eggs on Easter morning ready for the Easter Egg Hunt. They would also like to thank all the members of the congregation for filling and bringing the Easter Eggs.

CANNED FOOD SUNDAY

The next canned food Sunday will be Sunday, May 19. Remember, that despite the boom in the basin, not everyone has enough to eat. Please mark this date on your calendar and be generous with your donations. We need to overflow the shopping cart! The collected cans are picked up by Catholic Charities.

PENTECOST OFFERING

Outreach Ministry announces that the Pentecost Offering will be taken on May 19. Watch for special offering envelopes in the pews or you can write "Pentecost Offering" on your check. There will be other ways that you can make your donation if you are technologically minded. The local church gets to keep 40% of this offering for use with youth mission projects. If you have an idea for a project, please contact a member of the Outreach Ministry.

REMEMBER OUR MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES....Danny Alsap, Beau Babcock, Brent Cook, Bennett Dobbs, Mark Foyle, Janice Henderson, Brett Hickman, John Kelly, James P. Moore, Kyle Nelson, Buddy Simonds, Nicole Yarbrough, Roger and Leslie Watkins and Garrett Zuerker.

Benevolent Donations

During the past month, we have received Thank You notes from the following organizations for the donations that were sent by First Presbyterian: Catholic Charities, Door of Hope Mission, Goodland Academy, Presbyterian Pan American School, Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services, Safe Place and Samaritan Counseling Center.

Thank you, Presbyterian Women, so much for the reception after the Memorial Service for Don.
The Lampman Family

TREASURER'S REPORT

March, 2013

Receipts for March, 2013: 18,525.31

Disbursements for March, 2013: 21,452.99

Receipts Year to Date 2013: 58,661.63

Disbursements Year to Date 2013: 78,791.71

I know why I am here and my only real focused goal is to live each day to the fullest and to try and honor God and be an encouragement to others. What the future holds is firmly in God's hands, and I am very happy about that!
Ken Hensley

MAY, 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 MEALS ON WHEELS 5:30 Meal 5:45 Prayer Show 6:00 Praise Practice 6:45 Choir Practice	2 10:00 AM PW Coordinating Team Newspaper	3 Men or Men-Bunch Evs. Involvement	4 Men or Men-Bunch
5 9:45 AM Praise Service 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Children and Youth Sunday School	6 7:00 PM Thomas 9:00 PM Service Cantor: Linda	7 Men's Ministry 9:00 PM Service	8 5:00 Meal 5:30 Prayer Show 6:00 Praise Practice 6:45 Choir Practice	9 10:00 AM PW Circle 10:30 PM PW Circle @ Terry Dale	10 Evs. Involvement	11
12 Men's Breakfast 9:45 AM Praise Service 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Children and Youth Sunday School	13 5:30 Finance 7:00 PM Service	14 7:00 Service	15 5:00 Meal 5:30 Worship 5:45 Prayer Show 6:00 Praise Practice 6:45 Outreach Ministry 6:45 Choir Practice Cantor: Linda	16	17 Evs. Involvement	18 12:00 Noon PW Birthdays Luncheon Thanksgiving
19 CANNED FOOD SUNDAY 9:45 AM Praise Service 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Children and Youth Sunday School	20 7:00 PM Service Max & Carol Dalton	21 6:00 PM Outreach 6:00 PM Personnel 6:15 PM Fellowship	22 5:00 Meal 5:30 Prayer Show 6:00 Praise Practice 6:45 Involvement Ministry 6:45 Choir Practice	23 NEWSPAPER DELIVERY	24	25 Men's Ministry 9:00 PM Service Cantor: Linda
26 9:45 AM Praise Service 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Children and Youth Sunday School Bobby Young Bob & Corinne	27 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Memorial Day	28 6:45 PM Discipleship	29 5:00 Meal 5:30 Prayer Show 6:00 Praise Practice 6:45 Choir Practice	30	31 Evs. Involvement	