

Memorial Messenger

Memorial Presbyterian Church
601 24th Ave. S.W.
Norman, OK 73069
(405) 329-3640
www.memorialpres.org

September 2012



Latest News

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for September is canned vegetables. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table. We will no longer place donations around the pulpit.

We will hold a brief **congregational meeting** after church on September 9, to elect two new deacons to fill vacancies. Loreen Upton and Holly Van Auken will be nominated. Nominations from the floor are in order, with the prior consent of the nominee.

As we are still searching for a Director of Children and Youth, we will not offer **Kid's Club** in September. Kid's Club is expected to resume on the first Wednesday of October. We plan to offer Children's Choir and Children's Hand-Chime Choir when Kid's Club resumes. Any changes to this schedule will be announced in the bulletin. At the recommendation of the Christian Education Task Force, the Session has decided to discontinue Wednesday Night Dinner.

Chancel Choir and the **Chancel Ringers** hand-bell choir are moving to new times, starting September 5. The Chancel Ringers will rehearse at 6:00 on Wednesday evening (as needed), and the Chancel Choir will meet at 7:00. All are welcome to participate. Please see Vince Leseney, Michael Yeager, or any member of either choir for more information. Come, make a joyful noise unto the Lord with us!

On September 16th, the Sunday morning **Adult Education class** will be starting a four (4) week series on "Faith, Health, and Maturing Years". The class, which meets in the parlor from 9:30-10:30, will by means of video, written materials and discussion, focus on the positive link between health and religious beliefs. We will focus on how distress can have a negative effect on our health; and will consider ways to minimize stress. Ruling elder Harry Wright, Ph.D. will be facilitating the four week series. New members are welcome, and encouraged to join in the discussion.

It is time to update the **church directory**. Please send the office your name(s), address, phone numbers, and email addresses. A form for this purpose will be included in the bulletin and on the information table. It is also available on page five of this newsletter. Many families now have multiple phone numbers and email addresses: Please state specifically to whom each number or email address belongs. Thank you!

A **new Presbyterian hymnal**, *Glory to God*, will be published in September 2013. Covenant Presbyterian Church, in the Village, will host a free workshop on September 15, 2012, from 10 a.m. to noon, to sing some of the hymns in the new hymnal and to introduce resources for further learning. Children's activities will be

provided as well. Several of our members and staff will attend, and Rev. Evans will help lead the workshop. See page six for more details if you are interested in going.

Save the Date—Potluck Dinner on October 7

Mark your calendars now to attend the potluck dinner on October 7 immediately following worship. October 7 is World Communion Sunday, and we are following that theme by asking you to bring your favorite international dishes. We will also have games and entertainment.

Highlights From the August Session Meeting

Session met Tuesday, August 21 at 7PM in the church library. They received and heard reports from all of the committees of session. The nominating committee presented their proposed candidates for the two vacant deacon positions. Session voted to hold a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 9th immediately following worship for the purpose of electing Loreen Upton to the class of 2013 and Holly Van Auken to the class of 2014. As always, additional nominations for church officers can be made at the time of the meeting, but the person you are nominating must have agreed to serve prior to the meeting. Building and Grounds is awaiting a quote on the stained glass window repairs that are needed and should have that quote prior to the next meeting of Session (September 18).

Stewardship Update:

January 1 to August 31, 2012

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2012 Budget
Pledges	\$99,986.00	\$103,333.28	\$155,000
Other Income	\$20,551.92	\$31,070.56	\$46,606
Total Income	\$120,537.92	\$134,403.84	\$201,606
Total Expenses	\$120,686.36	\$134,388.69	\$201,606

You never know when God might call you from your current circumstances to serve him in a new way. The Old Testament prophet Amos, who lived during the eighth century B.C., worked at two jobs before God called him to take his message to the land of Israel. What were Amos' prior occupations? Choose two answers.

- A. Caretaker of sycamore-fig trees
- B. Priest
- C. Vineyard owner
- D. Shepherd





Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7, NRSV)

Dear Friends,

If you were to ask me about one of my favorite concepts of living life as a Christian, it is the Greek word, “koinonia,” which is translated as “community.” God calls us to live in community, to live as brothers and sisters in Christ, worshiping and working together. As I live with and learn from others, I can grow in faith and grow in understanding of who God is. Our relationship with God is much more than a personal connection.

Twentieth century theologian Karl Barth describes the image of God consisting not only in the vertical relationship between human and God, but also in the horizontal relationship between humans. The image is not something a human is or does. Rather, the image is related to the fact that God willed into existence a being that, like God, can be a partner.

At a recent retreat with your session members and deacons, we talked about our community here at Memorial Presbyterian Church. We talked about the need for connecting to one another in the congregation. It is my belief that we are a group of good, strong, Christians, but we fall short in strong community.

It is my goal for the next few months to begin work on building community among the members and friends of MPC. I don’t know exactly how this will be playing out, but there will be opportunities to connect with people you don’t know well, and likely get better acquainted with some you thought you knew! No pressure; just an opportunity to grow in faith!

As we continue the search for a Christian Educator, I am excited about the fall Sunday School classes for our Children and Youth! Our fall will kick off on Sunday, September 9. New teachers and new curriculum will add to the great kids for a wonderful experience.

Grace and peace,
Tracy

You are invited to join in a discussion of literature and faith led by Tracy Evans, using **Listening for God**. In this accessible reader, ten contemporary literature selections encourage the participants to investigate how life and faith merge in surprising ways and places. Included are selections from: Flannery O'Connor, Frederick Buechner, Patricia Hampf, Raymond Carver, Annie Dillard, and Alice Walker.

Monday evenings, 6:30 to 7:30
September 10 – October 27
Books will be available after Labor Day.

Book of the Month

The book of the month for September is *If The Church Were Christian: Rediscovering the Values of Jesus*, written by Philip Gulley, and published in 2010. The author explores how the institutional church has lost its way in that it has drifted from the basic teachings of Jesus who inspired its creation. He thinks the church as we know it has lost its soul, and offers thoughts on how we might focus more on meeting needs rather than maintaining institutions. — Harry Wright

This book will be displayed in the Library throughout the month of September, and will be available to borrow.



September Birthdays

Sept. 1	Larry Upton, Sr.
Sept. 4	Trisha Bunce
Sept. 6	Sumi Abunaw
	Odette Eckel
Sept. 8	Jona Thiessen
Sept. 10	Donna (Vint) Wright
Sept. 11	Terry Cast
Sept. 14	Mike Cole
Sept. 15	Rebecca Cole
Sept. 18	Alexandra Pennington
Sept. 20	Mariolise Sama
Sept. 28	Lucy Lanning
Sept. 29	Cynthia Robb
Sept. 30	Susan Beck

Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

John Beall, Jr., (brother of Thiessen family friend) is recovering from brain trauma after being thrown from a horse.

Mike Beard has been battling pneumonia.

Janice Crump

Jim Eckel has cancer and emphysema.

Bob Goodner's knees continue to heal.

Vince Leseney had surgeries to remove melanoma and faces decisions as to further treatment.

Jayelle Martin continues to recover from surgery.

Phyllis Johnston, mother of Sandy Johnston, has two bad discs in her neck, as well as vision loss due to Giant Cell Arteritis.

Peggy Strunk had surgery to remove colon cancer.

Those who grieve

Family of Helen Blackstone

DIRECTORY UPDATE

It is time once again to update Memorial Presbyterian Church's *Directory of Members and Friends*. We may not have your name, address, telephone number, or email address, or something about them may be wrong. We would also love to share your birthdays and anniversaries in the Messenger and bulletin if you don't mind giving them. Please fill out this sheet and return it to the church office, *even if you believe your information to be up to date*, so that we may ensure the accuracy of the new directory. You may also choose to email your info to mempres1@sbcglobal.net. Many families now have multiple phone numbers and email addresses. Please help us out by specifying to whom each phone number or email address belongs. Thank you!

Name/Names _____

Children's names _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell # (Name) _____

Cell # (Name) _____

Email (Name) _____

Email (Name) _____

Name and birthday of each person in household

Wedding Anniversary _____

Discovering “Glory to God”

*A new hymnal for the
Presbyterian Church (USA)*

Saturday, September 15, 2012

10 a.m. to Noon

*Onsite registration and refreshments
will begin at 9:30 am in the Youth Center.*

A FREE workshop sponsored by
The Covenant Academy of Worship & Fine Arts
Covenant Presbyterian Church
10100 Ridgeview Drive, Oklahoma City OK 73120
For map and directions, go to www.covenantokc.org

Workshop Co-Leaders:

Ann Peele Thomas – Director of Music Ministry, Covenant Presbyterian, OKC

Rev. Tracy Evans – Pastor, Memorial Presbyterian, Norman

Rev. Matt Meinke – Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian, OKC

Meryl Nash – Outreach & Hospitality, Covenant Presbyterian, OKC

General Information and related hymn articles will be available for pickup, and resources on the internet will be introduced. Sing through all the hymns in the Sampler with us and discover “**Glory to God!**”

Meryl Nash will meet and greet children in attendance beginning at 9:30 and then will lead them to the children’s rooms for activities and a scavenger hunt!

To pre-register: Contact Ann Thomas at music@covenantokc.org, or 405.751.2546; or send your information (see next page) to Terry Cast, mempres1@sbcglobal.net.

Discovering "Glory to God"

Registration Form

Name/s *(please print)* _____

Address _____
street city/state ZIP

email address: *(please print)* _____

daytime phone: _____ cell phone: _____

Your church: _____

Are any children attending with you? **YES / NO** How many? _____

Ages and names of children: _____

Are there any special needs/allergies of the children that we should be aware of? **YES / NO**

If yes, explain: _____

----- **CUT HERE** -----

Please return this completed form by mail to:

**Ann Thomas
Covenant Presbyterian Church
10100 Ridgeview Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73120**

To register by email:

Copy and paste the top part of this form into an email and send to: music@covenantokc.org.

If you have not received a confirmation email reply within 24 hours,
contact Ann at cethomas1@prodigy.net.









Thank you and we look forward to making music with you and learning new hymns!!!!



AMAZING ANIMALS

God created a rich variety of animals to live on the earth.

Directions: Write the name of each animal next to its picture.
Then fill in the correct letters to complete Psalm 104:24, NIV.

	1	_____	4		2	_____	9
	14	_____	20		12	_____	8
	17	7	13		19	_____	_____
	18	10	3		6	15	_____

“How _____ are your _____,
 8 6 15 11 12 2 3 20 13
 O _____! In _____
 1 2 3 4 12 7 13 14 2 8
 you _____ them _____;
 8 6 14 9 6 1 1
 the _____ is _____
 9 6 3 10 16 17 18 1 1
 of your _____.”
 19 3 9 6 10 18 3 9 13

Answers:
 leopard, dove, donkey, worm, fish, camel, butterfly, ant
 “How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the
 earth is full of your creatures.” (Psalm 104:24, NIV)

Memorial Presbyterian Church

September 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Celebration of the Lord's Supper 10:55 A.M.	3 Office Closed for Labor Day Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	4	5 League of Women Voters 11:15 A.M.— 1:30 P.M.	6 Serve at FFF 10:00 A.M.	7	8
9 Congregational meeting 12 P.M. Worship & Music meeting 12:15 P.M.	10 Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	11 Mission & Evan- gelism meeting 6:00 P.M.	12	13 Christian Edu- cation meeting 6:30 P.M. Building & Grounds meeting 7:00 P.M.	14	15 Discovering Glory to God @ Covenant Pres. 10 A.M. to noon
16 Deacons 12:00 P.M. Stewardship 5:30 P.M.	17 Boy Scouts 7:00	18 Session 7:00 P.M.	19	20	21 October Messenger Articles Due	22
23	24 Boy Scouts 7:00 P.M.	25	26	27	28	29 Boy Scouts' car-wash fundraiser 10 A.M.—2 P.M.
30	SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE Sunday School 9:30 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments 10:30 A.M. Worship Service 10:55 A.M.		WEDNESDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE Chancel Ringers 6:00 P.M.* Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.		*as needed	