

34th Volume
April 2014 Edition

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April At A Glance

- 6 - Communion Sunday
- 9 - Session Meeting
- 13 - Palm Sunday with Communion
- 17 - Men's Breakfast, 8 am
- 17 - Maundy Thursday
6:00 supper & service
- 20 - Easter Potluck
- 21 - Presby. Women, 1 pm
- 26 - Church-wide Cleaning & Landscaping Day
- 29 - Grace Notes Deadline
- 30 - Taste of Grace

Pastor's Pen

As Christians, we rightfully make a big deal out of Easter. After all, the resurrection of our Lord is the greatest miracle in all of God's history with us. Believing that Christ rose from the grave is at the very core of our Christian faith.

But before Christ can rise, he must suffer and die on our behalf. Jesus' teachings and actions of sacrificial giving, his suffering, and his death are the events that shape the focus of Lent. Now is a time for new beginnings, and a time to return to the Lord.

Use this time to reflect on your own life; discover what inside of you needs to be gone; and then pray for a renewing Spirit. Use our prayer stations in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall as aids.

Just as the barrenness of winter gives way to new life each spring, may your spirit be renewed through the season of Lent.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Tori



A Lenten Prayer

Gracious and merciful God,
Throughout these forty days of Lent,
May I listen to the cries of the poor.
May I see the needs of those who are sick,
lonely, and outcast.
Give me the courage to call everyone,
"my brother, my sister."
Send Your Holy Spirit upon me,
That I might be a message of acceptance
and joy to all I touch,
And may my life reflect the love and sacrifice of Jesus.
I ask this in the name of Christ my Lord,
Who is the example of perfect love. Amen.

FINANCIAL HEALTH

Grant Kernan

with Joyce Burns, Treasurer

February Operating Income	\$7,522.33
February Expenses	8,830.00
February Net Income:	(1,307.47)
Operating Account Balance	\$42,097.40
General Memorial	4,807.95
Music Funds	853.98
Flower Fund	86.64
Property Projects	708.34
Congregational Care	650.00
Children's Ministry	291.91
Mission-General	3,822.14
Mission-Indian Taco	1,000.00

*Monies available to the Session: \$54,318.36

The Finance and Building & Grounds teams will be meeting to discuss a capital campaign to raise funds for our depleted B&G funds. This fund is crucial to our ability to respond to emergency needs such as an air-conditioning breakdown or plumbing leak. Please be praying about how you can contribute.

SESSION

Rev Teri Summers-Minette, Moderator
Ford Griggs, Clerk of Session

March Session Highlights

- Session was moderated by Ken Bailey, pastor at Pilgrim Presbyterian Church in Vinita, since Pastor Teri was out of town.
- Linda Folsom led Sessions' Bible study, *The Way*, by Adam Hamilton.
- Discussed a possible priority of building projects.

Next meeting will be Wed., April 9 at 7 pm.

CLEANING & LANDSCAPING

Saturday, April 26
from 9:30-3:00

AND the week before.



Maundy Thursday Supper & Worship April 17th

6:00 pm - light supper
6:30 pm - worship



**You, your family, friends and
visitors are invited to an**

Easter Luncheon

following worship on April 20

**The church will provide
hams, rolls and drinks**

Visitors will be our guests

**For more information call
Judy Anderson, 918-786-5243**

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Edna Sparkman

During the week of April 21-26 the congregation will be cleaning the building and doing landscaping. There will be a list of jobs from which you can choose 1 or 2. Supplies will be available. Most of the jobs are simple and small. The bigger jobs will be done on Saturday, April 26 from 9-3. Come for an hour or stay all day.

We have a bid for installing several new light fixtures. Hopefully the contractor will be here soon.

We also talked to Universal Signs about fixing some issues with the street sign. This will have to be a project that gets put on the capital campaign list because of the proposed cost.

Thanks to everyone who took the B&G Projects Survey on March 30. It will help us plan our Building Campaign.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Suzie Teehee with Linda Folsom

Adult Learning

Dan Summers-Minette

On Sunday mornings at 9:30 am, the Adults meet in the "Old Choir Room" off Fellowship Hall. We continue working our way through the book of Genesis. Please join us -- no experience required!

KIDS GATHERING

Linda Folsom

We are following the stories of Jesus' teaching and healing including Matthew 26: 6-13 where the woman recognized Jesus for who HE was. During April, we will continue the study of the Passion narrative found in the Gospel of Matthew..

MARKETING

Ford Griggs

We've discovered that hiring a webpage designer won't do us any good unless we have 1-2 **more** people to help keep our pages fresh and current. If you can give 15-20 minutes per week for this, contact Ford: 918-914-1980. We can train you!

We'll be talking about ways to do evangelism in the next months. Let us know if you have suggestions.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Kay Gray

Thanks to Ginger G. for sending birthday cards in March. She's also doing them during April.

We are in the process of changing our meeting time from Tuesday to either Monday or Friday. We'll keep you posted.

Please let Kay or Pastor Teri know if you or someone else who is in the hospital, recovering from an illness or surgery, or who just needs a little TLC from Grace.

FELLOWSHIP

Judy Anderson

Thanks to all who furnished refreshments for Fellowship. Everything was good. Now we need volunteers for April. Please take a turn -- it does not need to be elaborate. Want to thank Betsy for donating napkins.

The Think Green Potluck was a huge success. Thanks to everyone that helped to set it up and to those that helped me clean up. You always come through. Thanks especially to Max and Teresa for decorating. I have a feeling I will be thanking them every month.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Lowell Crowl

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Thursday, April 17 at 8 am. Bring your appetites and a friend. If there is no speaker, we will do a Bible study.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN of GRACE

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the PW of Eastern Oklahoma Presbytery Cluster gathering here on April 5. It was such a great success.

PWG's next meeting will be Monday, April 21 at 1.

PW Church-Wide Birthday Potluck Dinner Sunday, May 18

Mark your calendars and watch for more info.

What's the answer to Catechism Question #45:
Why did Jesus have to suffer the way he did?
You can find it on page 4.

A Hearty Thanks to All

A hearty thank you for all the cards, phone calls and especially the prayers during my illness. They are comforting and mean so much to Shirley and I. I am off of chemo treatments and just visit the cancer center every two weeks for blood tests. Each blood test shows improvement. It will take 8 to 9 months for my blood to build back up. In the mean time I have to be very careful about infections. I get tired and weak so quickly like a 75 year old man. (Hey wait a minute, I am a 75 year old man!)

*Thanks and God bless you,
Homer*

MISSIONS Marcy Livesay

Taste of Grace

Despite a rainy day, Taste of Grace served about as many meals at the March serving as in February. Many thanks to the following people for helping with Taste of Grace in March: Bonnie, David, Cathy, Edna, Judy, Gary, Ginger G., Marcy, Sharon, Trish and Teri.

If you want to volunteer, but can't be at the volunteers' meeting on Sunday, April 7, please let Marcy know how often you can help. If we have enough teams of people, we may offer Taste of Grace on a weekly basis.

The next *Taste of Grace* will be Wed., April 30 from 4:30-6:00pm. Barbara & Bonnie will be our chefs!

Indian Taco Sale, now on Friday, May 16

If you are able to help either the day of the sale or any time before it, please contact Cathy Griggs at 918-801-5164. There are many different ways to participate, including taking around order forms or filling to-go cups the day before or helping to deliver or serve the day of the sale. Thanks for any time you can give to this church-wide effort!

Angel Card Ministry

Distribution has begun of the Angel Medallion Cards! These are now located in Rapid Remedy and three doctors' offices. They would have been in even more places but the first 50 were taken so quickly that another order for the medallions had to

be placed after four days! They have come in, with more cards made up. While the original distribution sites will be refilled (yet again!), additional sites will be located.

It takes only about 30 minutes to put 50 cards together. If you would like to help assemble the cards or have a suggestion of places in the community to locate them, please contact David or Marcy at 918-786-1895.

Please keep the Missions Team in your prayers as we work to help people and help Grace in Grove to be more visible as a church that cares!

EMAILED GRACE NOTES

Starting this month, if we have your email address, we are emailing your copy of Grace Notes. This has the potential of saving the church \$350 per year.

If we have your email address, and you'd like a hard copy every month, please tell Jo Ann, 918-786-6191.

Here's the answer to Catechism Question #45: *Why did Jesus have to suffer the way he did?*

The cross, with all its severity, reveals an abyss of sin swallowed up by the suffering of divine love.

"However cruelly we may treat each other, sin is against primarily against God. God condemns sin, yet never judges apart from grace. In giving Jesus Christ to die for us, God took the burden of our sin into God's own self to remove it for once and all."

Dwight Mission Work Day

A group of Dwight alums has started organizing work weekends to try to accomplish small/medium projects that need attention at Dwight. The work weekends are open to all ages and abilities, including families with small children. "We can find tasks for everyone."

May 2-4 is the next work weekend, Veronica Coffey, 405-408-0979, is organizing the event. She'll need a firm commitment by Monday, April 21. The next work weekend will not be until the end of summer or early fall.

WORSHIP & MUSIC
Scott Crow, Director of Music Ministry
with Ruth Nandico

Palm Sunday

We will have the Procession of the Palms with all the children and liturgists carrying palms into the sanctuary.

Maundy Thursday observations
will begin at 6:00 pm on Thursday, April 17

We will begin with fellowship and a light repast of soup and unleavened bread in remembrance of the Last Supper. This will be followed by worship at 6:30 pm.

Our worship is called a Tenebrae Service and is loosely based on the Good Friday "Tenebrae" services which date back to early church history. There are seven Tenebrae or "shadows" that represent seven stages of the Good Friday events. After each part of the Passion story is read, a candle is extinguished. Finally, all but the Christ Candle are doused and the sanctuary silently stripped of its paraments.

This moving service offers us an opportunity to meditate on Christ's last days, praying that the shadows decrease and the light of Christ in our lives increase.

*We have a secret, just we three,
The robin, and I, and the sweet cherry tree.
The bird told the tree and the tree told me,
But nobody knows but just we three.*



If the first robins mean spring is here. IT IS HERE!. These first robins are mostly males. They are showing good color and are the starters of migration from the southern states and warm costal areas. Soon we will see the females, paler in color, and last years late young still showing dark speckled breasts

*But of course the robin knows best,
Because she built the – I shant tell the rest:
And laid the four little –something in it–
I'm afraid I shall tell it every minute*



The females are the nest builders. When you begin seeing mud in the bird bath, you know they are gathering grasses and small twigs and cementing them together into a cozy nest. These nests can be in shrubs, trees, or a window ledge. Soon they will contain usually four blue eggs. Both the male and female are good parents. Both bring food for the hatchlings, but the female does the brooding.

*But if the tree and the robin don't peep,
I'll try my best the secret to keep:
Though I know when the little birds fly about
Then the whole secret will be out.
(Author Unknown)*



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH GOD WITH
PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES OF GRACE

Week of April 6	Suzie Teehee
Week of April 13	Keith & Rolla Wagner
Week of April 20	Jean Billinger
Week of April 27	Cheryl & Jack Netherton

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

April 2	Bonnie Anglewitz
April 3	Pam Cederstrom
April 6	Lowell Crowl
April 17	Amber Kernan Madisyn Oglesby
April 20	Pastor Teri
April 21	Krayton King

