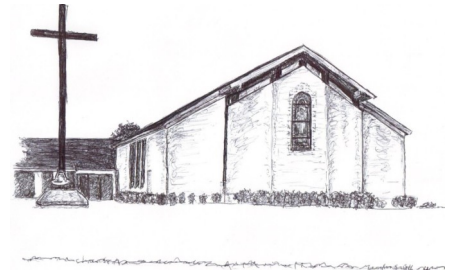


Presby News

May 2015



FROM THE PASTOR

BE CAREFUL LITTLE LIPS WHAT YOU SAY

These words are directed to me as well as to anyone who chances to read this piece in the newsletter. The Bible warns us to “Be not rash with thy mouth” (Ecc. 5:2). I would do well to take these words to heart as would you.

In 1870 there was a certain bishop who did not heed the advice of the Holy Scripture. The bishop heard an educator say that in fifty years men would “fly like birds.” The bishop pontificated with this statement: “Flight is strictly reserved for the angels and I beg you not to repeat your statement lest you be guilty of blasphemy.”

Ironically, the mistaken bishop was Milton Wright, the father of Wilbur and Orville Wright. It was only 33 years after the bishop put his foot in his mouth that the Wright brothers made their famous flight. Or in other words “they flew.”

Preachers and teachers need to be careful about voicing their opinions dogmatically as well as the opinions of others as if they were Scripture. Someone has said it well: The Bible suffers as much from the ignorance of its friends as it does from the attacks of its enemies.

For me, when someone speaks in the Name of God, if it does not sound like something Jesus said or would say, I have my filters in place. If it is harsh and rigid, if it excludes the little people, it is not liberating and freeing, if it is not welcoming to those who are downtrodden, sinful and lost when they come to Him in sincere repentance, well you know what I think.

Sometimes truth is seen best in poetry.

I think true worth is in being, not seeming...
In doing each day that goes by
Some little good...not in the dreaming
Of great things to do by-and-by.
For whatever men say in blindness,
And spite of the fancies of youth,
There is nothing so kingly as kindness,
And nothing so royal as truth. -Author unknown

Doyle L. Bailey



SPECIAL DATES

- May 7 - National Day of Prayer
- May 10 - Mother's Day
- May 14 - Ascension of the Lord
- May 18 - Session Meeting
- May 19 - Healthworx Meal
- May 24 - Pentecost Sunday
- May 24 - Congregational Luncheon
- May 25 - Memorial Day (Office Closed)



Minutes of Stated Session Meeting
First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Louisiana
March 16, 2015

The Session met in the church library, 357 Windermere Boulevard, Alexandria, Louisiana. Ron Sutto called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm and opened with prayer.

Members Present: Bill Higgins, Jim Hockensmith, Elizebette Kennedy
Treasurer Present: Jim Smolenski
Elders Excused: Jack Ready
Guests Present: Doyle Bailey, FPC Temporary Stated Supply Pastor; Ron Sutto, Moderator
A quorum was present.

Finance Report: Jim Smolenski

The financial statements for February, 2015, were distributed to the Session. The February, 2015 bank statements were reviewed and initialed by Session members.

Motion: That the Session approve the February, 2015 financial statement as presented.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Seconded: Bill Higgins Motion: Carried

Approval of Minutes:

The Session members reviewed the minutes for February 23, 2015 Stated Meeting of the Session.

Motion: That the Session approve the minutes of the February 23, 2015 Stated Meeting of the Session.

Moved: Ron Sutto Seconded: Jim Hockensmith Motion: Carried

Clerk's Report: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SESSION ACTIONS:

Congregational Life/Christian Education Committee Report: Jim Hockensmith

The Session discussed the expense for "These Days" devotionals every quarter. A donation from the members might help defray costs. A devotional App is available for smart phones entitled "D365." The Session members agreed that FPC and Woodland Presbyterian Church in Pineville will worship jointly on April 19 (at Woodland) and July 5 (at FPC). The Session noted the importance of informing members of these joint services and offer car pooling, if needed.

Evangelism, Worship, and Mission Committee Report:

The Session discussed:

Special Children's Sunday School Class will be offered on Palm Sunday.

A Sunday School Award for the children was discussed.

The 4th Sunday Fellowship Meal (March 22) following the morning worship.

The Maundy Thursday Worship Service (April 2).

Personnel Committee Report:

The Session discussed staff tenure and future salary increases.

Property Committee Report: No Report

Pastor's/Moderator Report:

Doyle Bailey reported that his wife, Barbara, will be teaching the Children's Sunday School Class on Palm Sunday. He also reported that the Maundy Thursday Service will be very meaningful, and Easter Sunday will be creative and participatory.

Old Business:

The FPC credit card has not yet been opened for church purchases. The Session will check into the cause of the delay.

Sherry Kenny is willing to help with Estate Planning at no cost to the church. The Session agreed by common consent to ask Sherry to lead the Estate Planning Conference.

New Business:

Debbe Clegg submitted her resignation from the Session, effective immediately. The Session accepted Debbe's resignation by common consent

Ron Sutto stated he will work on the "Listening Team" next month. He suggested having the meeting during the 4th Sunday Congregational Luncheon on April 26.

Motion: That the Session continue to send the same amount of money to the Presbytery of South Louisiana.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Seconded: Bill Higgins Motion: Carried

Adjournment:

Motion: That the Session Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith Seconded: Bill Higgins Motion: Carried

The Stated Meeting of the Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m. with a closing prayer by Doyle Bailey. The next Stated Meeting of the Session will be April 20, 2015.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes taken by: Elizebette Kennedy

/cs

***FPC WILL HOST
THE MEMBERS OF
WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
AT 11:00 AM
SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2015
IN A
JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE***

Be sure to mark your calendars.

**WATCH FOR DETAILS . . .
FOR AN INFORMATIVE
CONFERENCE TO BE
HELD AT FPC
JUNE, 2015**



May Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
May 3	Vacancy Sulin Best (Oct-May) Helen McDaniel (May-Oct)	Jim Hockensmith	Elders: May 3: Bill Higgins May 10,17: Jim Hockensmith May 24,31: Elizebette Kennedy Communion Team: Bill Higgins/Roger Best
May 10	Vacancy	Dirk Benade	
May 17	Bob Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Bill Higgins (May-Oct) Roger Best (Oct-May)	
May 24	Jim Hockensmith Vacancy	Jim Smolenski	
May 31	Vacancy	Jim Hockensmith (May-Oct) Bill Higgins (Oct-May)	



May 6 - Jeff Huffman

May 15 - Jace Torres

May 28 - Debbe Clegg

The combined choirs of
**Woodland Presbyterian
Church and FPC on Sun-
day, April 19, 2015 in the
Sanctuary of Woodland
Presbyterian Church.**

What a great job they did!

Thank you all!



First Presbyterian Church

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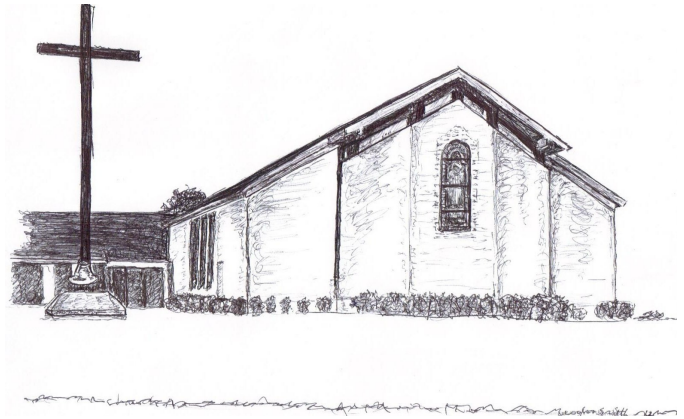
Doyle Bailey, *Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Choir Director*

DeAnna Brister, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Secretary*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

5:45 Fellowship Dinner

6:30 Prayer/Bible Study

7:15 Choir Practice

First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

Come experience God's love at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday School—9:45 a.m., Worship—11:00 a.m.