

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF OWASSO

## OUR VISION

We are a church

Seeking to love  
and glorify God,

Growing in love,

Serving others.

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday Classes 9:30  
Children Choir

Coffee and Fellowship 10:00

Sunday Worship 10:30

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Prayer Group 6:00  
VBST

Bible Study 6:30

Choir Practice 7:15

[www.fpcowasso.org](http://www.fpcowasso.org)



COME EXPERIENCE GOD'S GRACE

*The Presbyterian*

# SPIRIT

FEBRUARY 2016

## Lent 2016

Dear Friends,

We are entering the very season of Lent. **February 10<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday**, and the beginning of that 40 day preparation for Easter. During Lent we remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us upon the cross. It is a personal journey of spiritual reflection and examination. Just as Jesus spent time alone in the wilderness, we too are called to spend time alone with God. We can **'give up'** things during Lent, like candy, internet, or TV, to remind us of Jesus' sacrifice. We can also choose to **'give back'** during Lent—giving more time to God, more time to church, more time to service. I encourage you to follow God's leading in your heart during this Lenten season.

Our theme during Lent this year is **"Forgiveness"**. I will be preaching each week on God's grace and forgiveness in our own lives, and the grace and forgiveness we are called to extend to others. Forgiving others is not easy, and it is not the same as forgetting that we have been hurt. Forgiving our-

selves can be even harder! But with the help of our Savior, and the power of the Holy Spirit, God enables us to forgive and be forgiven. It is a fundamental part of who we are as Christians, and something we remember every single week as we pray the Lord's Prayer.

My sermon series will be based on the book, *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study*, by Marjorie Thompson. I highly recommend this small book, and you can get it on Amazon in paperback, or the Kindle edition. Rev. Thompson is a Presbyterian pastor, and the author of *Soul Feast*.

During this season of Lent, we will be 'acting out' the practice of forgiveness in worship, during the hymns. We will have a large bowl of water at the front of the sanctuary—representing the cleansing grace of God. Beside it will be a basket of stones, representing people—including ourselves. You will be invited to take a stone and place it either beside the bowl, representing someone you are trying to forgive, or

inside the bowl of water, representing someone God has helped you to forgive. By Easter we will have a symbolic representation of the grace of God in our lives!

Join us for **Ash Wednesday service February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**. After worship and communion, we will once again 'nail our sins' to the cross. We will each take a small stone to carry with us during Lent, as a reminder of the power of forgiveness and grace.

As we continue through this Lenten season, we will also be hearing and singing some new music in worship, and enjoying the offerings of our Celebration Singers and the Celebration Dancers.

May God bless you and keep you, and show you the way of grace and mercy!

Joyfully,

Natalie



**February Birthdays**

- 3 Laura Brewer
- 7 Zachary Brown
- 8 Michael Arthur
- 14 Sandy Freeland
- 14 Matt Brooks
- 15 Becky Allen
- 17 Ashley Brooks
- 19 Henria Taylor
- 23 Anne Sheaff
- 26 Kelly Thomason
- 27 Lindsey Crowder

**Congratulations!**



## Day of Hope & Health

**Saturday, February 20th**  
**9:00am - 11:00am**

Join us for breakfast at the Open-Table café, then we'll assemble Presbyterian Disaster Hygiene Kits for disaster relief in the USA & beyond. Please RSVP to Pastor Natalie. We'll be joined by friends from the Presbyterian churches in Claremore, Vinita, Pryor, and Miami.

## Hygiene Kits for Presbyterian Disaster

Please bring these items to the foyer.

- hand towels (approximately 16" x 28")
- washcloths
- wide-tooth combs (remove from package)
- nail clippers (no metal files or emery boards; remove from package)
- bars of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- toothbrushes (in original packaging)
- Band-Aids® or other adhesive bandage strips
- Gallon ziploc bags (Please, no toothpaste)

## Journey to Easter

**Friday, February 19th**

at FPC—Speaker: Pastor Nate Burns

**Friday, February 26th**

at Silver Creek Nazarene—Speaker: Rev. Natalie Bell

**Friday, March 4th**

at First United Methodist—Speaker: Father LaChance

**Friday, March 11th**

at St. Henry's—Speaker: TBD



**\*If you can help with food on February 19th, please contact Becky Allen!**

## Golden Agers

We hope you will join us for  
 The Day of Hope & Health

**Saturday, February 20th at**

**9:00am at the Café &**

**10:00am to assemble hygiene kits**

Please RSVP to Dorothy by calling  
 918-272-2623.

## Sunday School

**9:30am in the SE classroom**

*Gospel Questions* led by Mark Hrachovec.

## Wed Adult Bible Study

**Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:15pm**

Come join us! We are studying the Gospel of John!

# First Presbyterian Celebration Singers

**Ages K—6th Grade**

**Sundays from 9:30-10am**

The Children's Choir will offer special music in worship on **February 14th!** Nursery is provided for younger siblings, and Sunday School is available for Adults! Parents, please sign up to bring a breakfast snack. \*Starting Feb 14, kids will join their parents for a worship seminar at 10:00am.



**SAVE THOSE LABELS!**

**Save Box Tops for Mills Elementary and the entire Campbell's Soup Label for the Goodland Boys Academy.**

## Youth Group

Youth Group is on Wednesday nights, from 6:00-7:30pm, for students in the 6th-12th grade!

Join leader Kat Hale for crafts and Bible study!



## VBS Twilight

VBST is on Wednesday nights, from 6:00-7:30pm, for ages 4—5th grade!

We provide a free meal, and kids earn prizes! Sign up in the foyer to volunteer or attend!

## Parenting Class

Parents meet each week on **Sundays at 9:30am**. Join us for *Parenting through the Bible*. We are using [www.cornerstonesforparents.com](http://www.cornerstonesforparents.com) as a resource. We will start a six week worship seminar for the whole family on February 14th. Presented by Mary Frances, we will talk about different forms of worship expression! Kids will join the class at 10:00am, after the Celebration Singers rehearsal.

## Celebration Dancers

The kids of VBST use dance in worship each week and will dance in worship on **Sunday morning, February 28th**.

Kids please wear black for this dance.

## Worship Seminar

Have you seen the kids dance during worship service? Would you like to learn more about it? Join Mary Frances for a 6 week seminar which explains different forms of worship expression! This class will be from 9:30-10:20am on Sundays in the Adult classroom from February 14th-March 20th. **Everyone is invited to attend!**

# Sundays

9:30

Classes

10:00

Coffee and Fellowship

10:30

Worship

# February 2016

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>7</b> 9:30—Children's Choir 9:30—Adult Classes 10:30—Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:30—Ash Wednesday Service 7:15—Choir Rehearsal	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:00—Valentine's Fundraiser for the Café at Bailey Education Foundation
<b>14</b> 9:30—Children's Choir 9:30—Adult Classes 10:30—Worship Celebration Singers in Worship	<b>15</b> Presidents' Day	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:00—VBST/Youth 6:30—Adult Bible Study 7:15—Choir Rehearsal	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 12:15—Journey to Easter @ First Presbyterian	<b>20</b> Day of Hope & Health 9:00—Breakfast at Café 10:00—Assemble kits at FPC
<b>21</b> 9:30—Children's Choir 9:30—Adult Classes 10:30—Worship 11:30—Committee Mtg	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:30—Session Meeting	<b>24</b> 6:00—VBST/Youth 6:30—Adult Bible Study 7:15—Choir Rehearsal	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 12:15—Journey to Easter @ Silver Creek Nazarene	<b>27</b> 6:00—Bunco @ FPC
<b>28</b> 9:30—Children's Choir 9:30—Adult Classes 10:30—Worship Celebration Dancers in Worship	<b>29</b>					

# February Worship Volunteer Schedule

**Communion Servers:**  
 Dave & Nancy Herdman  
 Rod & Marcia Taylor

Susan Brown  
**Ash Wed:** Susan Brown(Intinction)

**Greeters**

**Feb 7** Bill & Patti Perkins  
**Feb 14** Bill & Patti Perkins  
**Feb 21** Jeff & Amy Crowder  
**Feb 28** Ken & Becky Allen

**Counters**

Laura Brewer & Kerry Hartley  
 Marcia Taylor & Suella Barnett  
 Bill Herleth & Brian Thomason  
 Bob Bass & Bill Perkins

**Ushers**

**Feb 7** Kerry & Toni Hartley  
**Feb 14** Lue & Kristi Buster  
**Feb 21** Dorothy Steven & Barbara Moore  
**Feb 28** Arley & Judy Owens

**Sound Technicians**

Kerry Hartley  
 Hap Pinkerton  
 David Herdman  
 Bob Bass

**Liturgists**

**Feb 7** Eddie Sturgeon  
**Feb 14** Mark Hrachovec  
**Feb 21** Kathy Brandon  
**Feb 28** Amy Crowder

**Acolyte**

Mackenzie Robertson  
 Cierra Brooks  
 Kyra Pinkerton

Arley Owens, Sherry Sossamon, Theresa Jankosky, Stephanie Miessen, Shannon Latchem (friend of Perkins), Nicole (Rev. Natalie's sister), Phyllis Diane (Kat's cousin), Kelly Balakovits (breast cancer-friend of Perkins), Brad Baron, Suella & David Barnett, Debby Dodd (Doug Hespe's sister), Cheryl Brooks, Patti Perkins, Sandy McFadden (Eileen's daughter), Dana Sheaff, Kay Browning (Shirley Baxter's sister), Cheryl & Michael Arthur, Carol Cassmeyer (Ron Brewer's mother), Barry & Mary Beth Ward, Yvonne Phillips, those seeking jobs, encouragement, or assistance, victims of storms and violence worldwide, our leaders, our service men and women, as well as our veterans, our sister church in Malawi, Africa. **\*Please email the church or Pastor Natalie to update prayer list! Let us know of any changes!**



If you cannot serve on the date scheduled, please arrange for a substitute, and let the office know, or call the office early in the week.

Worship Attendance	
Jan 3	48
Jan 10	51
Jan 17	75
Jan 24	73



## Giving Statements

**Giving Statements for 2015 will be mailed this week!** If you find any error in this record of your giving, please call the church office and leave a message for Stephanie. Because of your contributions of talent, resources and money, we've seen God at work in our midst, giving us new opportunities to grow and serve. Once again, thank you for your generosity!

## 2015 Annual Reports

2015 Annual Reports are available in the foyer!

## BUNCO at First Pres

Saturday, February 27th at 6:00pm

Bring a friend, and an appetizer for fun, fellowship & prizes!

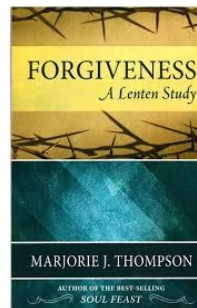


## Elder & Deacon Officer Training

Saturday, February 6th  
9:00am - 11:00am

Please join us for the informative and refreshing retreat! All elders and deacons are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Pastor Natalie.

## Our Lenten Theme: Forgiveness



We will be studying *Forgiveness: A Lenten Study* starting February 7th, with a sermon series and weekly questions. You can buy the kindle edition or a book on Amazon.com

## 2015 — Finance Review

*\*We now have 28 pledges of \$101,109 for 2016—Thank You!*

Program & Budget	YTD
Giving	145,679
Expenses	(154,439)
	<u>(8,760)</u>
Funded fr Savings	9,277
	<u>(517)</u>

## Online Giving Program

Your generous gifts can be made through Online Giving, with the option of setting your recurring or onetime gift. It's a personal choice. Many of us are choosing automated payments to help in budgeting or simplifying the payments that we want and need to happen regularly. **How do I start Online Giving?** Go to [www.fpcowasso.org](http://www.fpcowasso.org) and click on the DONATE button to complete the enrollment online. You have a number of date options to set monthly or semi-monthly recurring giving, including designating to special funds such as Building or Pastor's Fund. Or, you may print or pick up a paper form from our church office to take with you and return or mail.

## Contacting the Staff

Office Phone: 918-272-1063

The office is open Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM-2:30 PM.

Rev. Natalie Bell can be reached Monday-Thursday at the Church or on her cell. Friday is Rev. Natalie's Sabbath.

<b>Pastor</b>	Natalie Bell	(918) 671-7203	fpcowassopastor@att.net
<b>Children/Youth Minister</b>	Mary Frances Holland	(828) 620-1294	maryfrances0218@oru.edu
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Stephanie Jennings	(918) 272-1063	fpcowasso@att.net
<b>Choir Director</b>	Cara Grant	(918) 376-3041	caramariegrant@yahoo.com
<b>Nursery Director</b>	Lori Brooks	(913) 547-1243	lorirbrooks@yahoo.com
<b>OpenTable Community Café</b>	Melinda Foster	(918) 376-4947	www.opentablecc.org

The Presbyterian Spirit is published by First Presbyterian Church of Owasso each month to inform members and friends of church activities.

To submit information, please contact the Office.

**Calendars, newsletters, sermons and giving options are available on our website.**

[www.fpcowasso.org](http://www.fpcowasso.org)

## Worship This Month

- 7th **Forgiveness: Who Needs It?**  
Luke 15:11-32  
Communion
- 10th **Ash Wednesday**  
Communion
- 14th **Self-Examination**  
Psalm 51
- 21st **Honesty: The Inner Struggle**  
Matthew 5:43-48
- 28th **Repentance: A New Mind**  
Luke 23:32-43

## Meetings

- Committee Day** - February 21st at 11:30am
- Session Meeting** - February 23rd at 6:30am

## Join the Choir

Join us during Lent as we prepare special Easter music! If you'd like to donate towards special Easter music and accompanist, mark your check "Music." Thank You!



## Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday

**February 10th**  
6:30pm with  
Communion and  
ashes





## *Valentine's Dinner*

Saturday, February 13th  
at 6:00pm

Help support the OpenTable Community Café at the Bailey Education Foundation at their **Wine and Chocolate** dinner. Tickets are \$50/each and you can purchase them from Pastor Natalie!



First Presbyterian Church of Owasso

12800 East 85th Street North

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