

The Church & You September 2018

First Presbyterian Church Oklahoma City



Welcome Leigh Miller!

Hello friends. I am delighted, very pleased, glad, happy, joyful, thrilled, elated, excited, and very grateful to God to announce to you the hiring of Leigh Miller to be our Director of Christian Education.

My deep gratitude to members of the DCE Search Committee; Beverly Brown, DiAnne Bryant, Paula Denner, Matthew Gray, Brooke Kivett, Larry Nichols, Mickie Smith, and Sophia Smith for their diligence and dedication to their task. Well done!

The following is a little bit of information about her. -John McKinnon

Leigh (née Barnett) was born in Nashville, TN and grew up in Dallas TX.

Leigh's parents joined Highland Park Presbyterian Church when she was a baby, she has no childhood memories in which the church was not an important part. Leigh began working with middle school youth when she was a student at the University of Texas at Austin. She helped to lead weekly youth fellowship and mission program offerings, and was a committed volunteer staff person on weekend retreats and Spring Break trips to Florida. Over the summer she would return home, where she remained active in the college ministry at church. She was on summer staff for the children's ministry one summer, and after her graduation from UT with a degree in history, she was a college summer staff intern. Leigh felt called to teach, but she also felt a strong call to youth ministry.

Leigh went back to school and earned her Master of Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond VA. While there she met her husband Mitchell Miller who was finishing up his final year at Union Theological Seminary. Mitch's first pastorate was to a small Presbyterian church in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia, and the following Spring Leigh was graduated from PSCE. While they served this small church together, Leigh eventually accepted a call to a Presbyterian church across the border in Hagerstown, MD as the DCE. In 1999, they moved their now growing family to Fallston MD. Their son Nathan was born while they were still in West Virginia and Emma came along two years later after they moved to Fallston, MD.

The Millers moved to Oklahoma in 2009 when Mitch accepted a call to Santa Fe Presbyterian church. Leigh has continued to serve and lead the Christian Education Committee, teach youth in Sunday School, and help to plan and lead mission and fellowship events. She has served on the Indian Nations Presbytery Youth Committee since 2016 and is currently its chair. Now that both of their kids are off to college, Leigh can return to full time vocational ministry, sharing the gospel of Jesus through the educational and missional ministries of the church. Teaching, particularly church history and theology, really brings her joy. She loves building relationships with young people, and seeing Christ at work in their lives. She says that, "being able to share in those spirit awakening moments in the lives of children and young adults is absolutely amazing!"

Pastor John



Garden Work- Easier with Friends

September Reserve the 3rd volunteer opportunity takes us no farther than our Community Garden! We will meet in the garden at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15th. We will clean, weed, trim and beautify the plots and garden area as the summer harvest comes to an end and fall planting takes shape. Bring your garden gloves and tools and enjoy a lovely morning of fellowship and outdoor experience. For more information contact elizabeth@hatcher.com



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 14th at 3 p.m.

Courtyard - All Welcome

Our *Blessing of the Animals* is a special time with your pet family members. Bring your cat, dog, bird, goat, bunny, guinea pig or whatever species you have at your house! There will be a photographer to take family pictures of you and your pets. (free)

There will be a short service and then individual blessings. There is also a time of remembrance for pets who are no longer with us. The social hour for pets and their people will include pet treats, human treats and maybe some other freebies! Come and spend time with your pet.



Carren MacLemore appreciates all prayers for her great-niece Raegan.



All-Church Lunch

Sunday

September 16th

12:05

Watchorn Hall

Come honor the
new members
of our church!

Catered by Junebug.

No charge.

No need to RSVP.

Help Decorate the Church for Christmas

The Worship Committee is looking for interested, dedicated, strong and healthy volunteers to set up the sanctuary for Christmas. We know this seems early to think about, but this year we are making some changes to the past system.

The Myers family has generously headed this up for many years, and we need to give them a much needed break, while at the same time thanking them from the bottom of our hearts for their many years of service.

If this need fits your abilities, please contact me, John Harris, at connieshobbies@cox.net or phone me at (405)388-8922, or call the church and have Stephanie put a message in my box. It is not a glamorous job, but makes the church look glamorous for Christmas. We anticipate this will take place during the Hanging of the Greens. -John Harris



Shepherd Sisters Art Display

Have you seen the Shepherd Sisters art installation in the Chapel hallway? The descriptive write-ups add information about the artists, as well as the famous *Te Ata* painting (the original of which now hangs in the State Capitol). You are invited to stop by and enjoy this link to our past!

Fall Adult Ed.

Fall Education Opportunities for Adults

EVERGREEN CLASS

Time: Sundays at 9:40 a.m.

Location: Room B-11 (basement level)

Contact: Elizabeth Hatcher

The Evergreen Class is currently completing a study of the book *Chosen?: Reading the Bible Amid the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* by Walter Brueggemann. *Chosen?* explores the situation in modern-day Israel that raises questions for many Christians who are easily confused when reading biblical accounts of God's saving actions with the Israelites.

NEW BEGINNINGS CLASS

Time: Sundays at 9:40 a.m.

Location: Room 213 (second floor)

Contact: Jim Borgstadt

Looking for variety? New Beginnings is the class for you! This fall we will study a wealth of interesting subjects with a different topic each week. Group discussion will follow a short introduction to the word or concept being studied and review of the ten most relevant scripture references.

BUILDERS CLASS – God's Messy Family

Time: Sundays at 9:40 a.m.

Location: Room 215 (second floor)

Contact: Kim Pittman-Carisoza

Take a look at the lives of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, and Esau, "messy" families in the stories in Genesis, and you'll recognize a pattern to their lives: they are called, they mess up, and God continues to redeem them. Sound familiar? Find out how your "messy" family fits into God's family and how you are part of God's plan for the world.

MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Time: Mondays at 7:30 a.m.

Location: Ingrid's Kitchen, 3701 N Youngs Blvd, OKC

Contact: Jim Borgstadt

What better way to start your week than with breakfast and the Bible! Throw in thoughtful discussion and great fellowship, all that is missing is YOU.

Volunteers at the Heart of Mobile Meals

This summer has thrown a few curves at us. We had volunteers with broken bones, illness, other family concerns, vacations, and even a sudden death which meant other volunteers and a few new ones answered the plea to make sure this ministry stayed viable. Kim Crawford-Welch delivered meals during her summer vacation, Barbara Charlet is available for last-minute call for meal delivery, Walter Stumpf with recruited young helpers and Linda Herider worked additional days as cook and driver and Linda's son, James, Jr. helped deliver, too, Kay Brown and Roberta Carter drove additional routes, Nancy Myer took on additional cooking assignments, and Sheila came out of retirement to help several days. Wilbur Thorsen signed up to deliver meals and even recruited a partner to help him - her name is Judy Watson. Others stayed constant for all or part of the summer: Mary Ann Doolen, Nita Cadenhead, Diane Nola, Diana Kelley, Mary Fitzhugh, Scott Buxton, Richard Hollander, Brian Upp, Kova and Bud McLean, Betty Bruce, Carren MacLemore, David Poole, Lolietta Miller, and Krista Myers.

We should all be grateful for the spirit of this group. Many of us are at a time in life when we are slowing down; WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET. So, if you have some spare time on Mondays and/or Fridays and would like to help prepare or deliver meals, please give me a call. Those who prepare meals - 2-3 hours required; those who deliver meals - about an hour. We invite you to check us out - come down and have a cup of coffee and a donut with us about 10:00 on either day. - Gayle Cox, Coordinator, 943-3734 or gaylecox1@cox.net

First Presbyterian Church

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Business Administrator–Becki Walden
Director of Christian Education - Leigh Miller
Director of Communications–Kathy P. Rangel
Director of Music & Arts–Dr. Warren Puffer Jones
Facilities Coordinator–Jack Lancaster
Organist–John L. Edwards
Pastor–The Rev. John McKinnon

Sunday Worship Hours

8:30 a.m. Chapel
11:00 a.m. Sanctuary

Sunday School – Children and Youth

We had a very successful Rally Day with Paul’s Adventures! Regular classes have begun for all ages. All children and youth are welcome to attend! Here are a list of classrooms and teachers:



Nursery (ages 4 weeks to 4 years)

Sundays 8:15 a.m. —12:15 p.m. in room 110
Contact: Leigh Miller
Nursery Staff: Carolyn Bearshield, Lexi Hendrix

Preschool

Sundays at 9:40 a.m. in room 112
Contact: Debbie Pittman

Kindergarten–2nd Grade

Sundays at 9:40 a.m. in room 217
Contact: Cyndi Stumpf

3rd Grade–5th Grade

Sundays at 9:40 a.m. in room 216
Contact: Elaine Buzan

6th–12th Grade Youth

Sundays at 9:40 a.m. in the Youth Lounge (basement level)
Contact: Paula Denner, Jim Rogers

The Youth Sunday School Class will study individual books of Scripture and focus on identifying the major themes presented, what they mean, and how they are intended to influence our individual life of faith and our life as a church.



-Leigh Miller