

Some Thoughts on Being Prepared

“BE PREPARED is more than a motto, it’s a way of life.” So begins the informational brochure describing the Boy Scouts of America that can be given to anyone interested in learning about Scouting. First Presbyterian Church, the church on this corner after a long and healthy time of discussion and interaction with the Boy Scouts of America has invited Troop 130 to be chartered through our church, First Presbyterian Church.

My understanding is that Troop 130 has been in McPherson for many, many years. Recently it has been meeting at New Hope here in town. The Troop, Troop 130 which consists of a Pack of Cub Scouts (16-20 boys) and a Troop of Boy Scouts (4-6 boys) will begin to be using our facilities on a regular basis very soon... once all of the paper work is filled out and a few details are finalized.

The Troop of Boy Scouts will be meeting on Monday evenings throughout the year and will begin meeting here soon, while the Pack of Cub Scouts will be meeting on Tuesday evenings but meets only concurrently with the School Year and so will not meet formally in our building until the Fall.

The Troop brings with them a full set of leaders, and a full set of boys both young and old that are looking for a church to not only house them but fully support them. The Session of our Church has made the decision that this will be a very good thing to do for this Troop and our church at this particular time in our history. We have a host of Eagle Scouts that have come through our church and a long history of loving and supporting the Scouting movement. This also represents an opportunity for us as a church. Yes there will be some time and effort given in support of the boys. Yes there will be some wear and tear on the building. Yes there will be an increase in the use of the building for all of the events but...

But it still represents a wonderful opportunity to minister to the community and more specifically to this group of boys and their families. It certainly could lead to some level of growth for our church along the way. Now back to the Boy Scout Motto: BE PREPARED!

Recently I did another funeral. I have done 10 times as many more funerals than I have done weddings in recent years. That’s not an exaggeration! I get asked to celebrate many funerals by both funeral home directors for those who are not part of our church because they have no one to minister to them because they don’t have their own pastor. I did another funeral last week as well and frankly, looking at the landscape of our own membership, I expect I will be asked to do several more for our members this coming year. In the funeral I celebrated yesterday, I read from the Apostle Paul’s words to his young son in the faith Timothy which contains this very idea... the idea of always being prepared! This is what Paul says:

^{2Ti 4:2} Preach the Word; *be prepared in season and out of season*; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. ^{2Ti 4:3} For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ^{2Ti 4:4}

They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ^{2Ti 4:5} But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. ^{2Ti 4:6} For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. ^{2Ti 4:7} I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ^{2Ti 4:8} Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Do you see Paul's admonition? It is the responsibility of every Christian to always be prepared. Paul uses the words "in season and out of season" which means: **ALWAYS!** I believe that Paul is suggesting to Timothy to always be ready to share Jesus Christ when ever the opportunity arises and presents itself. The word that is often used to describe this phenomenon is evangelism - or in today's vocabulary, "sharing our stories." This is what we commanded to be prepared to do with these potential new disciples and their families and it appears to be identical to the way of life they intend to teach to the Scouts. It should be more than a motto for us as well, it has to become a way of life! Is it yours?

With hearts aflame,

H Dick

Worship Assistants

USHERS:

5- Doug & Tammy Curtright
 12- Doug & Tammy Curtright
 19- Delbert & Jane Moore
 26- Delbert & Jane Moore
 Usher Supervisor: Delbert Bohn
 Offering Depositor: Jeff Warren
 Deacon On Duty: Pat Gatz

CHANCEL FLOWERS & FELLOWSHIP HOST

Please consider signing the form in the Fellowship Hallway, for flowers or fellowship Sunday mornings.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Heidebrecht, Pat Gatz, Jean Callender, Jeanne Swick.

Women's Evening & Morning Circle

Morning Circle meets every 3rd Thursday at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Evening Circle meets every 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm in Adult Sunday School room. Any questions contact Crystal Warren.

Evening Circle

No Meeting in July
 No Meeting in August

Morning Circle

No Meeting in July
 August 20th at 9:30 a.m. at Perkins

Pastor Dick is in the church office Monday through Thursday.

Cindy Miller is in on Monday and Wednesday.

Gabby Fischer is on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

NEWS

As a result of our church conducting the funeral and meal for the Steven Schwartz family on June 18th, Women's Circle meetings will resume in September. Circle will still meet on August 20th at 9:30 a.m. at Perkins.

Heart to Heart Child Advocacy Center is a company that works with children who have been in sexually abused homes. The company began in Newton, but has a center here in McPherson in the city building. Heart to heart is looking for someone who loves to work with children on a day to day basis. It's 30 hours a week and the starting pay is \$12/hour. No experience or degree is required. If interested or know someone who would be interested contact the Newton center at 316-804-4603.



THANK YOU

What a special caring church family I have. Thanks for the fellowship committee for my birthday cake they served and Jeanne for her singing telegram and for the pretty flowers. Thanks to everyone for the many beautiful cards. I had a very special birthday.

Love & Prayer, Maxine Bohn

To our brothers and sisters in Christ at First Presbyterian Church of McPherson: Greetings to let you know that your church was lifted in prayer on Sunday, May 31st, by the congregation of First Presbyterian, Coffeyville.

Blessings, Pastor Diane Massey



**DEADLINE FOR August NEWSLETTER IS
July 27th**

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

- 1- Donna Unruh
- 7- Laura DeWitt, Teri Kubin, Roger Stucky
- 12- Doug Curtright
- 14- Dennis Moennich
- 18- Catherine Martin
- 22- Marc Martin, Erin Schmidt, Hannah Wilson
- 27- Mark Heidebrecht
- 28- Lavera Lane
- 29- Harold Sales
- 30- Judy Carson
- 31- Vincent Dale

ANNIVERSARY

- 1- Rod & Rhonda Martin
- 11- Kevin and Linda Hadduck
- 12- Don & Jan Burgett
- 31- Morris and Marsha Mills