

Volume 93

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First Presbyterian Church of Williamson

PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

Confessions of the Captain

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

John 20:1-8

The time of Lent is one of my favorite periods of the Christian year. While Christmas is celebrated by Christians and atheists alike, the first Christian holy day – and the most important in the church calendar – is Easter, a commemoration of the Resurrection of Christ.

During Lent, we forego many things, in memory of all that Christ gave up, and how God gave up His only Son. We may also consider how empty our lives would be without Christ, and the Resurrection. For this year, our Worship Committee took the suggestion of one member, and delayed Holy Communion until Maundy Thursday – the commemoration of the Last Supper. And while every Sunday in Lent is a “little Easter,” and therefore appropriate for celebration even during a reflective, quiet season, this is not a celebration of our hope in eternal salvation, as if we are looking forward to some “reward” for “being good.” Our reward is already received – in the companionship of Christ, and reconciliation with our God. Our lives are already much richer than they would otherwise be, and salvation is nothing more than an eternity spent

directly in God’s presence, a culmination of the lives we try so earnestly to live now.

So, Lent, with its contemplative weeks and joyous Sundays, and Easter, the greatest holy day of the Christian year, are times to remember our baptismal vows, recall the teachings of God and Jesus, and renew our commitment to the Lord. For this Easter, I ask everyone to look back over the past year, and ask, how have you been changed by God? What work is still left for God to accomplish in us? These questions, asked over and over, will lead us to find our true selves, know the peace that surpasses all understanding, and unite us, joyfully, with our Maker.

Thank You

My family and I enjoyed a wonderful time in China, time with family and friends, time to learn over again about the rapidly-changing city in which Jen was born, and time to teach our children about their Chinese heritage and culture. My parents-in-law were especially happy and appreciative of the time we had.

This was only possible because of the work that many people in the church did to keep things running smoothly. Our new Office Administrator, Havah Cindi Kuhn, kept things functioning day-to-day. Carleen Frost, our Clerk of Session, kept Deacons and I informed of pastoral needs. Sue Walters ensured our Worship services were of the same high quality we are accustomed to having. Sue and Tony Mangos volunteered their time (and courage!) to keep the pulpit filled, at no expense to the church. Vernon Frost worked with Tony on preparing for the Palm Sunday Breakfast. Countless others worked behind the scenes so that the worship and ministry of Williamson Presbyterian Church would proceed undaunted. I thank you all; it is such a blessing to minister here! But I suspect you who work so hard will find your reward, in the spiritual blessings that multiply one hundredfold.

Pastor Kirk

Easter Activities

As usual, there are a variety of activities you can participate in to make your Easter Season more meaningful, and increase your spiritual growth. If you would like more information about any of these, please ask Pastor Kirk.

Sunday, March 9, 10:00 a.m.	Easter Pageant (and Daylight Savings), Williamson Presbyterian
Sunday, March 16, 7:30 a.m.	Men's Palm Sunday Breakfast, Williamson Presbyterian Church
Thursday, March 20, 6:00 p.m.	Soup and Bread Maundy Thursday Supper, Williamson Presbyterian (please bring a soup or a bread)
Thursday, March 20, 7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service, Williamson Presbyterian Church
Friday, March 21, Noon	Crosswalk, then pot luck lunch, Williamson Reformed Church
Friday, March 21, 7:00 p.m.	FoC Good Friday Service, East Williamson Free Methodist Church
Sunday, March 23, 6:30 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service, Williamson Presbyterian Church
Sunday, March 23, 10:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Service, Williamson Presbyterian Church

Clerk of Session Report

Carleen Frost

Praise the Lord, O My Soul! This is a personal note this month to wish you all a Blessed Easter and to let you know the joy our precious Lord has given our family. He has blessed Vern and me with 2 joyful upcoming events. Sean and Amie are now officially engaged and tentatively plan on a ceremony in the spring of 2009. Erin and Josh are also officially engaged and have a wedding date in August of this year.

Easter Dates Trivia: Did you know...

This upcoming Easter on March 23 will be the earliest date for Easter in all of the 21st century. The last time Easter fell on March 23 was in 1913, and the next time won't be until 2160. The earliest possible date for Easter is March 22. This last happened in 1818 and won't happen again until 2285. The latest possible date for Easter is April 25, which happened most recently in 1943 and will happen next in 2038.

*The above information was found at
www.earthandsky.org.*

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

February 13, 2008

- Meeting held on Wednesday, February 13, 2008
- Committee members present were E. Collier, J. DeBrine, T. Van Der Mallie, L. Collier members not present were F. Petty and Rev. K. Baker.
- Total pledges for expense of **\$55,050** and benevolence of **\$4790** were received as a result of the 2008 financial stewardship campaign. These sums were very similar to the previous year totals.
- Reviewed monthly and YTD tracking of financials
 - a. January income of **\$11,864** and expenses of **\$8391** were about as expected with early year pledge dollars collected significantly outpacing what we anticipate for an "average" month due to individuals that pay their pledge in full during the first month of the new year.
- Continued discussing manse issues

As of our meeting date, the manse had not as yet “closed” but was still anticipated to do so during February.

We “brainstormed” a list of financial items we’d like to address as a committee in 2008.

Many of the identified tasks were identical to the routine tasks we worked on in 2007 with a couple of new areas added in.

- Miscellaneous
 - a. We discussed the Session meeting room (adult Sunday school room) and a “vision” to upgrade this meeting room using funds from the Memorial Fund and perhaps the Fuller Fund.
 - Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Collier
Finance Chair

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women met on Tuesday, February 12th at noon. January Minutes were distributed. We had a discussion regarding carpet in the sanctuary entryway. Also, we discussed the annual Spring Fling. It was moved and seconded that there will be **no** Spring Fling by the PW this year. The motion was passed.

Blanket Sunday will be February 24th.

World Day of Prayer will be held on March 7th at 1:00 PM at the Pultneyville Methodist Church. All local churches will take part, and everyone is welcome.

We then made our cookie plates for Valentine’s Day, our gift of love to shut-ins. We delivered 15 plates with lots of delicious cookies.

Our Bible study was led by *Lois DeWitt* who covered the introduction to our new study – *Above and Beyond – Hearing God’s Call in Jonah and Ruth.* Our next meeting is March 11th at noon with each bringing a bag lunch. The second Bible lesson, *Reluctant Prophets and Faithful Foreigners* will be led by Lois DeWitt. Anyone is welcome to join us.

MISSION OUTREACH EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Mission Committee is offering 1/2 scholarship for those attending the Women's Conference of Faith. We need to have a count to order tickets. Deadline is March 10th. See Cindi Kuhn or call her (585.314-7586) if you are going.

Our committee would also like to welcome anyone who would like to join. If you can't commit to joining maybe you could donate just a block of time for our Wellness Day we are putting together. If interested let Cindi know.

We also need to know whom all of our graduating seniors are this year. If you have a senior this year please let Cindi know. Our Committee meets March 11th at 4:30 PM. Please feel free to join us; we meet in the adult Sunday School room.

Deacon’s Report

The Deacons held a meeting on February 5. At this meeting, Linda Collier and Wendy Freida were welcomed as new Deacons. New officers were elected. The new Moderator is Jean Dobson, the

Treasurer is Linda Collier, and the Secretary is Wendy Freida. Thank you notes were sent to our exiting Elder's and Deacons. Thank you notes were also sent to the new Elders. Valentine cards were sent out this month as well. Our next meeting is set for April 4th.

New Elders and Deacons

The Session and Board of Deacons have been working to keep their ministries going as some members retired from their positions, and new ones came aboard. The Deacons are now organized by Jean Dobson, their new Chair. Your Session members are listed below; please don't hesitate to contact one about your questions or concerns!

Clerk of Session - Carleen Frost
 Finance - Eric Collier
 Hospitality - Jack Dobson
 Sunday School - Ruth Ensmen
 Property - Vernon Frost
 Mission - Cindi Kuhn
 Congregational Life - Fred Petty
 Personnel - Paul VanDerMallie
 Worship - Sue Walters

Revised Deacons List

A thru C Linda Collier 589-9314
 D thru F Jean Woodard 589-9560
 G thru K Georgia Snyder 589-5164
 L thru P Lucila Lopez 589-2383
 Q thru S Wendy Freida 524-5992
 T thru Z Jean Dobson 589-8940, 483-8890

Their contact info is in the directory. Please thank these willing servants for all the work they do!

Nursery Caregiver List

It is very important that we have two people in the Nursery at all times.
If you are unable to work on your scheduled Sunday, please switch with someone.
Thank you. –Joyce Blied

Date	Adult Caregiver	Phone	Youth Caregiver	Phone
2-Mar	Sue Walters	589-9767	Celia Frieda	524-5992
9-Mar	Jennifer Smith	483-6220	Adeline Steffen	524-9175
16-Mar	Ann Governor	589-5170	Celia Frieda	524-5992
23-Mar	Jennifer Rothfuss	1-585-734-0669	Adeline Steffen	524-9175
30-Mar	Sue Walters	589-9767	Celia Frieda	524-5992
6-Apr	Cindi Kuhn	1-585-314-7586	Charity Baker	589-8437
13-Apr	Jennifer Rothfuss	1-585-734-0669	Celia Frieda	524-5992
20-Apr	Sue Walters	589-9767	Christian Baker	589-8437
27-Apr	Ann Governor	589-5170	Adeline Steffen	524-9175

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Fellowship of Churches

The **Palm Sunday** breakfast is being put on by our church, Tony Mangos and Curt DeBrine are in charge of organizing it, for March 16th starting at 7:30 AM. If you are able and would like to help, contact either Tony or Curt, and come and enjoy Sunday morning fellowship, with a speaker to be determined.

Good Friday Cross Walk is set starting at the Reformed Church in town at noon. Then join the FOC at the East Williamson Free Methodist Church for a 7:00 PM service. Choirs from the community will take part in this service as well. After worship the film "The Passion" will be shown.

Also, the **Easter Sunrise Service** will be held at our Church at 6:30AM.

Yes, **Apple Blossom** is just around the corner and our community of pastors will participate in the annual Apple Bin Race - under the name of "Faster Pastors." They will also bring back a past favorite "Pie in the Pastor's Face." For a small fee, you'll be able to try your best to see if you can help increase your pastor's daily caloric intake!

Respectfully,
Vern Frost
 Representative to the FOC

Property Committee 2008

As you know I'm the new property chair this year, with Paul, Terre', Tony, Rich, and Harold so far. If anyone wants to be involved, just ask anyone on the committee. Our next meeting is March 24th at 6PM. We will need volunteers for different projects throughout the year.

Things are going along well thanks to the hard work of last year's Committee. The roof and south big windows paint job will begin this spring; the soundboard should be relocated in back of the sanctuary, Ad-Hoc Committee is working on a congruent plan for the interior of the church (paint, carpet and design).

As you see there is going to be a lot small jobs that can be done by you. We are working on a master plan to break out what needs to be done, in relationship to the Ad-Hoc design plans.

So pray for us in what looks like an eventful year, that the right decisions are made to bring our building to exceptional standards in the community to bring Glory To God.

Respectfully,
Vern Frost
 Property Chair

March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 9:30 AM Session Planning
2 9:30 AM Children's <u>Choir Practice</u> 10 AM Worship Service	3	4	5 12 Noon <i>Bulletin Due</i>	6	7 7 PM Friday Night Fellowship Frost's 4024 Main St.	8
9 9:30 AM Children's <u>Choir Practice</u> 10 AM Worship <u>Service</u> <i>Birthday Sunday</i>	10	11 12 noon PW Meeting 4:30 PM Mission Meeting	12 12 Noon <i>Bulletin Due</i>	13 10 AM Bereavement <i>Group</i> 2:30 PM <i>The Haven</i> 6:45 PM Choir Practice	14 7 PM Friday Night Fellowship Frost's 4024 Main St.	15
16 9:30 AM Children's <u>Choir Practice</u> 10 AM Worship Service	17	18 6:00 PM Bldg Use Mtg	19 12 Noon <i>Bulletin Due</i>	20 2:30 PM <i>The Haven</i> 6:45 PM Choir Practice	21 7 PM Friday Night Fellowship Frost's 4024 Main St.	22
23 <i>Easter Sunrise Service- 6:30</i> 9:30 AM Children's <u>Choir Practice</u> 10 AM Worship Service <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	24 6:00PM Property Mtg	25	26 12 Noon <i>Bulletin Due</i>	27 10 AM Bereavement <i>Group</i> 2:30 PM <i>The Haven</i> 6:45 PM Choir Practice	28 7 PM Friday Night Fellowship Frost's 4024 Main St.	29 5-7 PM Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner
30 9:30 AM Children's <u>Choir Practice</u> 10 AM Worship Service	31					

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