



BEULAH & MONTEREY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH e-Newsletter

AUGUST 2025

August Celebrations

Birthdays

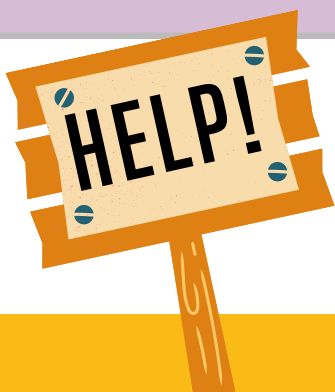
August 3 – Sandie Stinnett
August 4 – Patsy Simmons
August 10 – Linda Freeman
August 13 – Derek Simmons
August 15 – Amy Frayer
August 20 – Holden Chambers
August 27 – Lauren Mason & Linda Sherman
August 31 – Fred Frye

Anniversaries

August 5 – Bucky & Norma Reynolds
August 9 – Bill & Mary Lou Cox
August 18 – Brit & Heath Chambers
August 22 – Jessa Fowler & Chris Swecker
August 23 – Mark & Cindy Swecker
August 27 – Jeff & Betty Gail Hiner

Prayer List

Dale Simmons, Caroline Sponaugle, Russ Fant, Cheyna Mason, Kaden Wimer, Joe Simmons, Terry Bradley, Miriam Helmen, Jane Jones, Bobbie Jo Gardner, Carol Furr, Wayne and Teresa Bradley (Bill/Mary Lou's friends), Sarah Collins-Simmons, Patricia Donaldson, Chris Weaver (Christy Fields' mother), Keith Beumer, Tim Duff, Claudia Bedwell, Miles Johnston, Becky Magee, Ramona Arbogast, Marlene Reynolds, Barbara Hevener, Ray Mueller, Bill and Mary Lou Cox, Mike and Lisa Jamison, and Amy Vaus.



Monterey Presbyterian is seeking to someone help update the sign board at the church pavilion on a monthly basis. Interested parties should contact Betty Gail Hiner in person or at 540-468-2040.

In addition to those on our prayer list, we continue to pray for all those affected by recent storms and, in particular, those affected by the devastating flooding in Texas. We remember that the suffering and impact continues even when the story is no longer part of the news cycle.

Monterey Presbyterian member, Brit Chambers, has a special connection to the camp that was so tragically affected and provided this information:



The Texas Hill Country is a beautiful place and the towns of Kerrville, Hunt, and Boerne have an especially strong hold on my heart. My sister and I spent five weeks of every summer from the ages of 6 to 16 on the banks of the Guadalupe. The landscape is unique and draws thousands from all over Texas for holidays, especially in the summer. The river is cold, surrounded by Cypress trees. The devastation on July 4th is extremely personal for our family. My sister and I have many friends who picked their girls up on July 5th from a school in Ingram,

and we have several friends that, instead, gathered at a funeral home to learn the fate of their missing daughters. Both camp directors who perished in the flood are fused into every summer memory I have. This will take a long time to recover from, and I'm not sure I can put into words what the entire state of Texas lost when that river rose 26 feet in 30 minutes. We covet your prayers as we navigate the losses and are thankful for all, including several teams from Virginia, who have stepped in to help in the recovery process and continue to battle rising flood waters.

If anyone feels led to give financially, I highly suggest <https://www.thepatgreenfoundation.com>. Pat's sister-in-law Julia, who perished in the floods alongside her husband and two sons, grew up in the same cabin as me each summer. Their daughter was at camp and was the only survivor in their immediate family. I know that the organizations included in the donation link have been vetted and the money will stay in Texas to support recovery efforts.

-Brit Chambers

Leading Our Worship in August

August 3: Reverend Chris Scott

August 10: Will Cox, Lay Leader

August 17: Reverend Adam White

August 24: Reverend David Hindman

August 31: **NO** 5th Sunday Hymn Sing or Worship

See below for information on a special discussion at Monterey Presbyterian.



Mark Your Calendars:



Sunday, August 10: Beginning at 5pm on August 10th, Monterey Presbyterian will host their annual Ice Cream Social. Everyone is invited to enjoy this special meal and time of fellowship.



Saturday, August 16: A WRE General Council Meeting and Luncheon will be held at Highland Baptist Church at 12:30pm. Anyone interested in providing input on WRE and how to involve middle and high school youth is welcome. Please RSVP to 540-292-0456 or hgrdnr@yahoo.com



Sunday, August 31: The traditional 5th Sunday Hymn Sing will *not* be held. Instead, everyone is invited to join Tate Dunn for FROM CALL TO BENEDICTION. Have you ever wondered why we attend church? What draws us to worshipping together in a building? We currently have one Mennonite minister, two Methodist ministers, and a seminary student serving our churches, yet they all lead us using a Presbyterian order of worship. Join us at Monterey Presbyterian at 11:15am for a discussion about why Presbyterians worship the way we do and, whether the service is traditional, contemporary, or a blend, what aspects of the service are most important and meaningful to us.



Our church family said farewell to Tim and Karen Allen whose last day at church was July 13. We have been blessed by their presence and their innumerable contributions to our churches over the past few years. We wish them all the best in wherever life's journey takes them next.



Despite this sadness, we have had lots to celebrate recently!

Congratulations to Lauren Mason who attended 4-H Congress at Virginia Tech at the end of June and was elected to the state cabinet. She's the first cabinet member from Highland in nearly 20 years!

Congratulations to Joe and Ruby Simmons who celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in July and enjoyed a spectacular party with friends and family.



David and Julia Blanchard celebrated the graduation of their daughter, Mary Winters, from the University of Virginia.

Then, on June 7, they celebrated the marriage of daughter Grace to Noah Dunlap in a beautiful, Highland County ceremony.

Amy Frayer and Hannah Meyerhoeffer experienced an amazing adventure throughout the United Kingdom and Iceland.



Cash Chambers also had an international adventure, serving people in the Dominican Republic on a 4-H Service Trip.