



First Press
 2500 Church Street, Belton, TX 76513
 254-939-2115 fpcbelton@gmail.com
www.fpcbelton.org



July 2022

From the Pastor's Desk



DOMINE, DOMINUS, NOSTER

Latin makes well-known phrases seemingly sound more eloquent, mysterious and important. Psalm 8 begins with "Lord, our Lord..." or DOMINE, DOMINUS, NOSTER. King David, pictured with his harp seems to be singing with the angels as the scribe encodes his lyrics and musical notation.

1LORD, our Lord,
 how majestic is your name in all the earth!
 You have set your glory
 in the heavens. *(Continued on page 2)*



Dads & Donuts



Patriotic Service

Pastor's Desk (cont.)

2Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your
enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

3When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,

4what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?

As the King of creation YAHWEH (the Lord) made dependent humans his royal partners. Recently Queen Elizabeth celebrated the longest reign of a British monarch at 70 years. Sadly, she was unable to attend her celebration because of mobility issues while the people cheered their favorite head of state. She is only 96!

This month we celebrated our independence from the British monarchy. I wonder if our lack of a king deprives us of the visceral sense of God's Kingship. Perhaps another Brit said it best: "All the world's a stage. All the men and women merely players." Shakespeare certainly grasped and communicated the elegance and power of monarchs and the relatively short lives of humans in "As You Like It" and through his other plays reflective of his culture. Absent from his poetry seems to be a sense of the grandeur of the King of the Universe in juxtaposition to mere mortals though the Bard was most certainly a believer.

Shakespeare is thought to have been officially a Protestant whose father was Roman Catholic, a faith outlawed during his lifetime. Perhaps a re-reading of the plays and sonnets of Shakespeare seen through the lens of the emergent Protestant theology could shed light on his personal faith as expressed through the Bard's pen.

The question to ponder as we move into a more casual time of year, might be- do we reflect the glory of our King who has made us "a little lower than the angels?" Good for poolside, beach or travel reading would be the Psalms with the thought in mind that these were the songs of a people in or returned from exile. May your summer be renewing wherever travel takes you or you enjoy a "staycation." *

**My family and I traveled to North Padre Island to enjoy the goodness of God's creation in celebration of our wedding and my husband's birthday. My profound thanks to you for the generous thoughts and gift for our anniversary which were a welcome financial assistance in our celebration.*

Rev. Kathy Vineyard, H.R.

FINANCIAL DATA

JANUARY - JUNE

Total Income	\$39,212.27
Total Expense	\$45,662.70
Net Income	6,450.43



A Stated Meeting of the Session was held on June 27, 2022. Highlights include:

Clerk of Session--Penny noted that Loretta Serur has expressed interest in joining the church. The Session will meet with Loretta on July 10 after worship. She also reported that she received a building use request from John Bicknell and Loretta to have their wedding on September 24 at the church with a dinner to follow in the Fellowship Hall. This was joyfully approved. Penny also presented the Treasurer's Report, which was approved, and noted that the new copier/printer has been installed, based on a contract renewal with CTWP that was approved by email vote.

Worship & Welcome--Kay reported that attendance for June averaged 42 people with Father's Day being the best attended service with a total of 45. There were many positive comments about Pentecost and our indoor picnic, which people enjoyed greatly. We had a good group on Father's Day as we honored Dads and fed them donuts and cookies. The music was exceptional all month with great Vocal Choir anthems and we had two Sundays when the Chime Choir played, which is always a blessing. Kay has pulled together a banner project team and they are working on a plan to replace old, worn out banners. The Session had an initial discussion about a Heritage Sunday in October.

Buildings & Grounds--Terry has found a cabinet which might work for Erin's needs- to provide a place where she can store educational materials and secure them. He will check with her before purchasing and installing. The Session also turned over security issues and disaster drill planning to Buildings and Grounds for discussion and ideas.

Congregational Care--Melinda reported that the mailing of cards continues. Patricia is working on updating congregational information for her, to include new members and address or other contact information changes.

Missions--Julie noted that the Presbyterian Women's Meeting for Grace Presbytery, held at our church, went very well and we received numerous compliments and thank yous for the planning and hosting. She also reported that July is the time that we begin promoting Helping Hands' Project Apple Tree and she is working on a collection plan. She also reminded the Session that our church will be preparing dinner for volunteers at the Body of Christ Community Clinic on July 14, and she will be recruiting cooks for that.

Moderator's Report--Rev. Kathy noted that the weekday Bible Study of the Book of Galatians is set to begin on July 7 and will be held each Thursday in July at 11:00 am. She also stated that she has talked with Johnnie Schilling about our technology issues and discussed additional ways to stream our Sunday services. He will be exploring other options, such as live streaming on Face Book.



**It's
Confirmed!
Polka Sunday
Will Be Held
October 16th**



**Men's Group Meeting
August 9 at 6 pm
at the church**

Father's Day



Class of 2022



Patriotic Service





Men of the Church



Man at Work



July 10th

