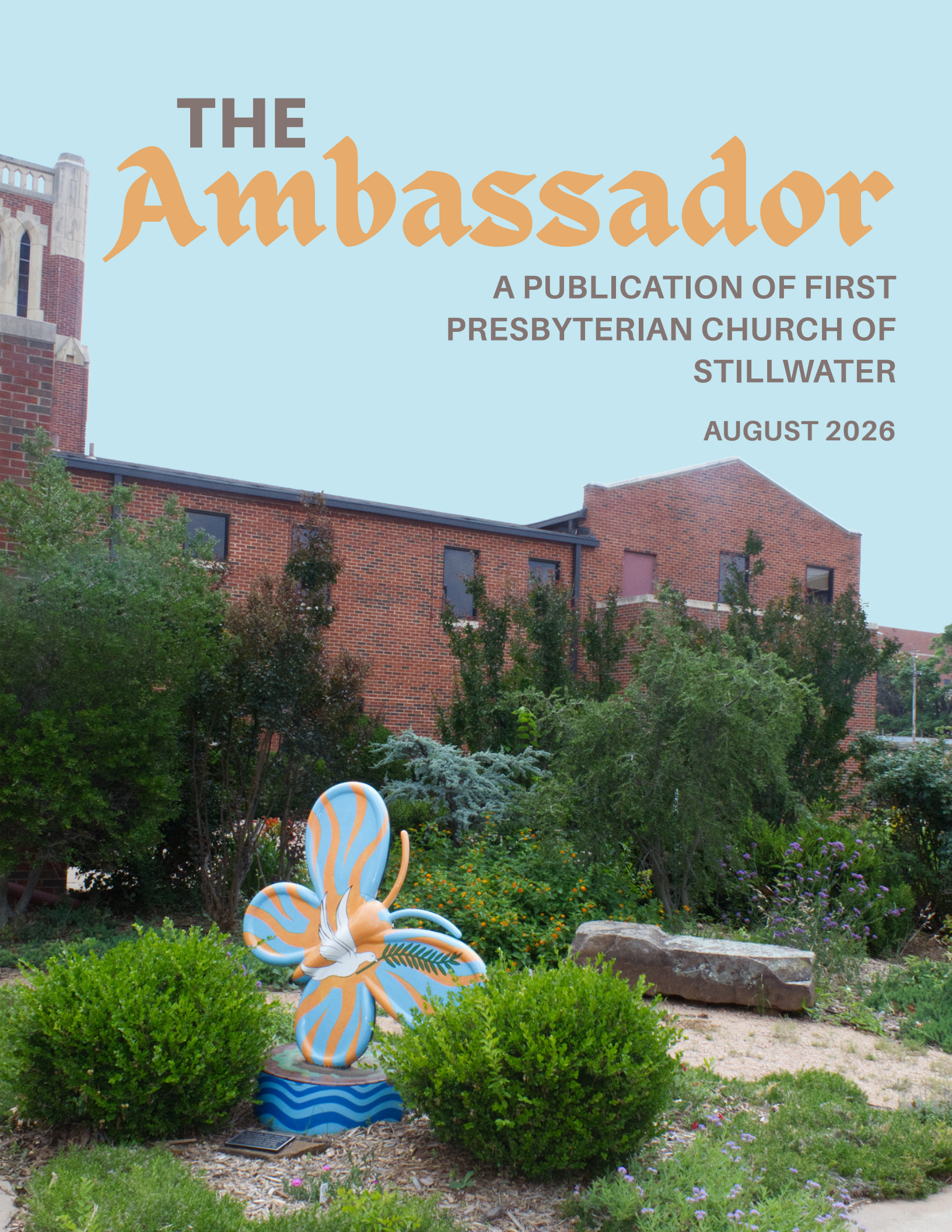




THE Ambassador

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
STILLWATER

AUGUST 2026

THIS Issue

A message from Pastor
Peter Olson

Children & Youth
Ministry Save the Dates

Donation Request

Upcoming Events &
Bible Study

Financial report

Walking Together: FAITH IN THE ORDINARY

For the last two weeks, I have been enjoying time among God's creation. There have been quiet mornings by the water, long conversations with family, and time gathered around a campfire beneath a sky full of stars. One of my favorite moments was mentoring my kids in the art of making the perfect s'more. The best marshmallows aren't made by holding them high in the flames. Instead, we crouched low to the ground, patiently finding just the right spot above the glowing coals where the marshmallow slowly turned golden brown without bursting into flame.

It struck me that faith and community often grow in much the same way.

We often expect God to be found in the roaring flames, the busiest seasons of life. Yet Scripture reminds us that God is just as often encountered in the ordinary: around tables, beside lakes, in gardens, and in the rhythms of daily living. Growth usually comes less from spectacular moments than from patient attention, steady practice, and time spent close to the warmth of God's presence.

FPC Staff

As our congregation enters another season of ministry together this fall, I hope we remember that lesson. We do not need to chase every blazing fire. Sometimes the deepest transformation comes from drawing near to the steady embers of God's love, listening carefully, and trusting that the Spirit is already at work among us. Watching with rapt awe as the marshmallow slowly transforms before us.

May you find time this month to slow down, enjoy the beauty around you, and discover again that God often does God's finest work in the quiet, steady warmth of the ordinary. Savor the walk, my friends.

Blessings from your pastor,

Pastor Peter Olson



Pastor Peter Olson

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CHILDREN & YOUTH Ministries

Dates to Note

Aug. 30 - (9:15-10:45 a.m.) Leader Launch event for children's and youth volunteers to get to know each other and see their impact!

Sunday School and PYG will resume Sept. 13!

Leader Launch

Sunday, August 30th - 9:15-10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

All 2026-2027 children's and youth volunteers are invited to an exciting morning to connect with other volunteers, and be inspired by how your role fits into the larger vision and purpose of children's and youth ministry. Save the date and join us!

FPC Youth Summer 2026

stillwaterfpc.org/youth

AUG.

4	11:30a - 12:30p	Taco Tuesday @ Chipotle
13		Stillwater School Starts
21	7p - 8p	Fun @ Frios
30	9:30a - 10:45a	Leader Launch

SEPT.

3	7:30p - 8:30p	PYG Parent Gathering
7		Labor Day
13	9:45a - 10:45a	Sunday School Resumes
	5:30p - 7p	PYG Fall Kickoff



Summer Splash

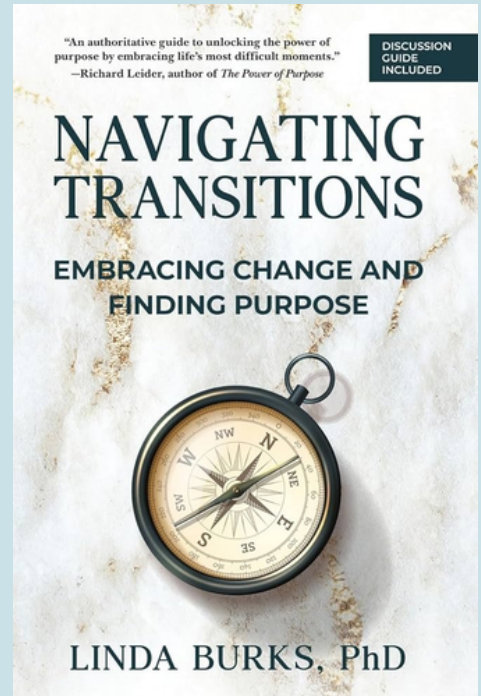
Children's Ministry hosted a Summer Splash at the Berry Creek Clubhouse on July 17. Kids had fun swimming together and enjoyed hot dogs and snacks while they played together.

ADULT & FELLOWSHIP Ministries

Adult Sunday School

Faith & Fellowship, a book study/discussion class, meets on Sunday mornings at 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The class is led by Linda Burks, author of *Navigating Transitions, Embracing Change and Finding Purpose*. As a congregation in transition, we may find this book helpful in embracing the changes and encouraging healing along the way. If you have not yet attended a discussion but would like to start, that is no problem. Please join us when you can.

For sourcing the book, the church library has 2 copies to check out. You can also purchase a copy on [Amazon](#) (\$16.99), Kindle edition (\$7.99) or free with Kindle Unlimited. We would love to have you join our class! If you have questions, please get in touch with [Lisa McGaw](#).



Adult & Fellowship Ministries Committee

Food, Fun & Fellowship

Saturday, August 22, 2026

Shelter #1 at Couch Park, 5 - 7:30 p.m.

The Adult & Fellowship Ministries Committee will host an opportunity for all of us to gather for a meal, games, and hymn singing. The committee will provide burgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings. We're asking all who attend to bring a dish to share. In case of bad weather, the event will be moved to the Fellowship Hall at the same date and time.

JUNE 30, 2026 Income/Expense Report

	June	Year to Date
Giving	\$31,596.94	\$307,923.14
Other Income	\$7,821.85	\$68,818.73
Total Income (royalties, perpetual pledges, event income, etc.)	\$39,418.79	\$376,741.87
Expenditures	-\$57,900.20	-\$337,062.44
Net	-\$18,481.41	\$39,679.43

Historically, contributions to First Presby decrease during the summer as members travel. Just a reminder: FPC continues to pay utilities, salaries, and insurance premiums in June, July, & August.

Your giving is important and appreciated. If you have any questions, contact cathy.fairbanks@stillwaterfpc.org. Blessings to each of you.

~ Cathy Fairbanks, Treasurer

Troop 820

July is typically a slower month for troop 820 as we rest after summer camp and prepare for a busy fall season.

During July we went on a day trip to the OKC Zoo and the newly reopened Oklahoma National Guard Museum.

The zoo gave the scouts an opportunity to learn about wildlife of the world as well as the US and Oklahoma. At the National Guard Museum, scouts learned about the history and equipment of the Oklahoma National Guard. When we visited, the museum had a special hands-on exhibit where scouts had an opportunity to handle replica firearms.

Also in July, our troop provided service work for the annual Altrusa Backpack Buddies distribution to the Stillwater community.

In August we have a camp planned for Will Rogers Scout Reservation and to visit the Ponca Indian Tribe's 100th anniversary powwow. In September we are planning a 9 mile float trip in Broken Bow.



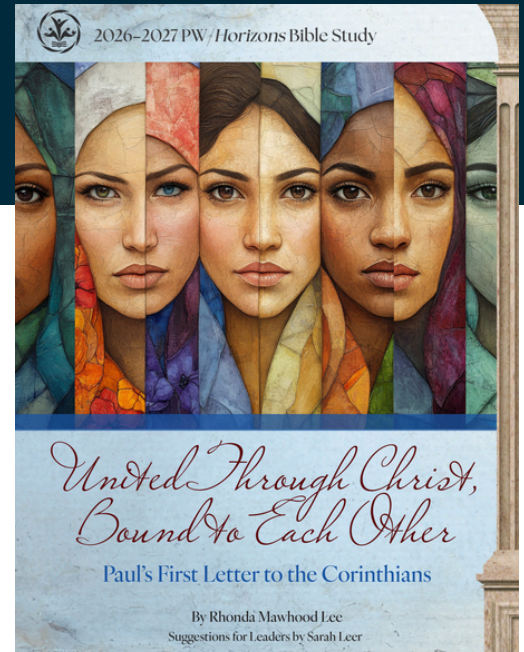
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Bible Study

Presbyterian Women Bible Study resumes September 9 at 10 a.m. For those who have pre-ordered the Horizons Bible Study book, they will be distributed on Wednesday, July 29 from 10 a.m. to noon in the Fellowship Hall.

The cost of the book is \$15. If you already subscribe to Horizons Magazine, you should have received the 2026-27 study guide in the mail this past spring.

For those who have not previously participated and would like to join, please come on Wednesday, July 29 from 10 a.m. to noon and order a study book. These will be ordered and delivered during the September meeting. We are looking forward to beginning again and seeing all who join.



Pantry Donations

Second Mile Sewing needs donations for hygiene bags we are putting together for Pioneer pantry.

We need travel sizes of:

- Shampoo/conditioner
- Shower gel or bar soap
- Lotion
- Chapstick
- Travel size wet wipes
- Deodorant

Please put donations in the Second Mile Sewing donation box located behind the Welcome Desk in the Narthex.

This is separate from the Deacon drive for Pioneer Pantry but we encourage all to support both drives as the need is great.

AUGUST 2026



FPC Pipe Organ's 70th Birthday

Organ Recital

Sunday, August 16, 2026 at 3 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater

Organists Lucia Unrau, Brett Carver, and Rebecca te Velde will perform an hour-long concert to celebrate the FPC pipe organ's 70th birthday year and its recently completed renovation. Admission is free and all (all ages!) are invited. Of particular note: video projection will allow the audience to watch the performers via a camera at the organ console! A reception will follow afterwards in the Hospitality area, generously provided by Presbyterian Women. Please join us, and invite friends to this festive concert!

First Presbyterian Church

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Postage

Worship at FPC

9:45-10:45 a.m. Sunday school classes for all ages

11 a.m. Worship Service

Sign up for our Newsletter!

First Things, our weekly newsletter, will keep you up to date on everything going on in our congregation. Events, Sermon links and more!



Want to add to The Ambassador?

Send articles to mallory.kizer@stillwaterfpc.org

THE Ambassador HIGHLIGHTS

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THE NEXT AMBASSADOR
DEADLINE IS AUGUST 28, 2026

OUR Purpose

The Ambassador is a little piece of church brought right to you! We know that life doesn't always make it easy to be with us in person or keep up with everything FPC is doing, and that's exactly why this newsletter exists. Our goal is to keep every member of our church family in the loop on events, announcements, and the everyday blessings happening in our community, so you always feel connected, cared for, and part of something bigger.