

The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

November, 2018

We remember those who guide us in our spiritual life

I lost a mentor today, someone who has guided me in my ministry and my spiritual life. I never met him but he had an influence on me and on my faith.

Eugene Peterson died today. Peterson was a Presbyterian minister, teacher, and writer. He published countless books on topics of the faith, on being a pastor, on things biblical. He was 85.

He apparently died as gracefully as he lived. I didn't always agree with him but I think it's fair to say that I always learned from him. You may well have a book of his on your shelf – he was the translator of the popular paraphrase of the Bible, *The Message*.

Once upon a time, when I was a young pastor, a friend suggested I read his book, *"A Long Obedience in the Same Direction."* I had read so much in seminary about the task I was taking on in ministry but I had not had the opportunity to read something of my own choosing for some time. The book opened up a new understanding for me. It meant much to me. It helped frame the message of my ministry and preaching.

In the book, Peterson details the Psalms of Ascent, Psalms 120-134. These Psalms are hymns of the Hebrews as they made their way up to Jerusalem. Marvelous poetry. Peterson made them come alive for me. In his honor, I think it's time for me to read the book once more and rediscover the passion his words created in me some 35 years ago.

Peterson's title comes from a Nietzsche quote, "The essential thing 'in heaven and in earth' is that there should be long obedience in the same

From the pastor

Rev. Drew Travis
revdgrtravis@gmail.com



direction, there thereby results, and has always resulted in the long run, something which has made life worth living." The quote itself is powerful.

Peterson's explication of its meaning in light of the Psalms made it more so. His ability to apply the quote to the ancient words of the Psalms in contemporary context spoke to me.

It is a call to obedient faith for the entirety of life, a way of living the faith each day that makes life itself meaningful and worth living. It is a reminder that in our lives of faith there is never a time when we can declare "we have graduated."

It is a lifelong pursuit to live the faith God has entrusted to our care. That's not a new idea but Peterson's ability to use the language and to frame it in terms that are accessible and inviting to those striving to live lives of faith moved me. The same is true for so many of his books I have read.

By all accounts, Peterson lived his life obediently to the very end. The headline announcing his death read simply, "Eugene Peterson Completes His Long Obedience." Enough said. Well done, good and faithful servant.

As we move toward our celebration of All Saints, I will have Peterson on my mind. There are others I recall and I am sure there are those exemplars of the faith that have guided you. Hold their memories fondly as we give thanks to God for all the saints.

See you Sunday,

Don't forget we only have 1 service on
Sunday, November 11, 10:00 AM. Followed
by Celebration Luncheon at 11:30 AM.



Congregational Care

Annelle Teal, elder
806-736-0158
tealad@sbcglobal.net



Care Facilities

Courtyards at Lake Granbury
Mary Skinner

Waterview at Lake Granbury
Kathleen Moore
Pat White

The Cove at Lake Granbury
Jim Bandy
Eloise Pauli
Maddie Reed
Jean Teal

Quail Park
Ruth Garrett
Pete & Nancy Pauley

At home and/or receiving treatment

Mary Skinner	Howard & Martha Ferrill
Ed Hughes	Ed Smith
Catherine Lehmann	Ray Llewellyn
Jimmy Callahan	CH Tubbs
Harley Murray	Stan Bowlin
Shirley McDonald	Carolyn Llewellyn
Shirley Shaffer	Ray Kelly
Dolores Goodall	Bob Gadbois
	Ruth Gump

Our Church Family

Bob Gadbois has been diagnosed with leukemia and is holding off on selling their house at this time.

Shirley McDonald is home and doing better. Continued prayers for her health are welcome.

Dolores Goodall is back in worship after a fall.

Jimmy Callahan is having issues with his blood pressure and seeking answers.

Shirley Shaffer had knee replacement surgery.

Jean Matthews underwent knee replacement surgery and is home.
Ray Kelly had shoulder replacement surgery Oct.29.

Ruth Gump underwent hip replacement on Oct. 30.

Military support

Our church sent donated Girl Scout Cookies to troops overseas with connections to our Granbury community. One unit sent back a thank you package for the Girl Scouts. It contained a letter, a unit pin, a photo and a woven blanket with their unit symbols.

We hope to send out more care packages. If you have a loved one that is or will be serving overseas this Christmas season, please email me with their name and address.



Howard White joined the Church Triumphant on October 30, 2018. A service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held November 10th at 2 PM. Reception immediately following at Waterview Clubhouse. Everyone is invited.



November birthdays



- 4
Bill James
- 7
Barbara Sloan
- 10
Susan Higginbotham
- 11
Tom Sykes
- 13
Nancy Pauley
- 14
Juanita Morgan
- 15
William "Allen" Hardin
- 17
Claudia Southern
- 18
Gay Hanlin
- 21
Brenda Wilkinson
- 22
Richard Hicks
- 25
Sarah Bennett



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November Anniversaries

- 4
Matt & Andrea Kennedy
Lynn & Robert Silvestri
- 10
Roy & Lynne Schoeneman
- 14
Cynthia & Daniel Fick
- 22
Wayne & Karen Delyea
- 28
Gardner & Carol Davis
- 29
Jimmy & Donna Callahan

Beautiful quilts were displayed in our sanctuary for Granbury Quilt Guild show.

Prayer of the Month

Marcia Sigrist
Prayer chain coordinator



Marcia is our prayer chain coordinator. Please contact her at msigrist824@gmail.com or call 817-279-1130 when in need of prayers. She writes beautiful, meaningful prayers to give the members of the prayer chain things to think about as they pray for specific things for our friends.

Especially for our new members, know that we have this group of prayer warriors, among a variety of other things we do for our congregation. If in need or are in doubt about what we do, just call us!

Here is Marcia Sigrist's prayer of the month.

Father God,

We come to you this morning with grateful hearts and thanks to you for your many gifts to us. We have the gift of the Holy Spirit with us to help us with our prayers.

Lord, we ask your best watch over us, and while we do not always know of specific needs, we know that you do. May they feel your presence in the morning when they wake and in the evening, grant them restful, healing sleep. Help them to cast their cares upon you to guide them in grace. Open doors for them Lord, to the caregivers that are best suited to care for them.

Help us to be the best support we can for them. Wrap them in your care and grant peace, healing and the beauty of your graceful presence.

These things we ask in Jesus' name... Amen





Keep it warm and cozy with fleece

It's that time of year again!!

If you'd like to help make blankets there is no sewing required. We have fleece blanket kits in the church office with instructions included. If possible, please return the finished blankets to the office by early December.

The Rainbow Room of Hood County supplies handmade blankets to children served both by Hood County CPS and the Paluxy River Child Advocacy Center.

If you have any questions, please contact Bianca Brownfield 817-751-2319

Outreach and Mission

Bianca Brownfield, elder
biancabrownfield@gmail.com



Your donations to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance help those impacted by disasters

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is offering immediate aid to the communities impacted by Hurricane Michael. This joins responses already underway for those impacted by other disasters. PDA has deployed teams to the affected presbyteries.

Emergency aid, assistance in the development of a short-term response plan, as well as a ministry of presence will be the priorities of the initial response.

Use the form below, or go to <http://pda.pcusa.org> for more information about how you can help

Yes, I want to help!

HM18-BI

International Disaster Relief — DR000194	\$
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Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Email Address:		

Please detach the reply form and return with your gift to your church; or mail with your check to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

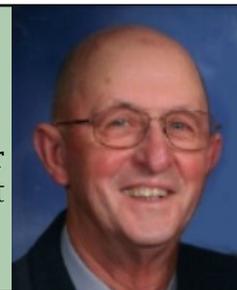


Library

Jane Seley
sjaneseley@yahoo.com

Administration

Roy Shoeneman, elder
wrschoeneman@charter.net



Pet preferences

Are you in the 63 percent of American households that have a pet? And in that 63 percent, if you have a dog you are in the 60 percent group. The rest of us have cats, fish, hamsters, etc. but how many have an alligator?

Well, such is the case in the household of Elsie and Homer Hickman of the coalfields of West Virginia. Elsie and Homer were high school sweethearts just as the Great Depression began.

Elsie turned down Homer's proposal of marriage and instead headed to Orlando where she began a relationship with Buddy Ebsen. But Buddy headed off to New York and left Elsie with her unfulfilled dreams. So off she went back to the coalfields and married Homer.

Elsie is constantly reminded of Buddy because of his unique wedding gift--an alligator named Albert who lives in their only bathroom. Eventually Homer gives Elsie an ultimatum--"Albert Or Me". So they set out on the journey to take Albert back to Florida.

"Carrying Albert Home" tells the sweet, funny and heartbreaking tale of their 1,000 mile journey. It's told with warmth and charm and is a testament to love.

This book is available in our church library. Check it out, read the delightful, charming story and see what you think.

Thanks for the help

A special "thank you" to Mary Gourley for volunteering her time providing administrative office support while Shanna Adkins, Admin Assistant, takes vacation time off in October.

I would also like to thank Emily Graham for her outstanding job of designing the church's new website and for keeping it up-to-date. Great job, Emily!

A great big "thank you" goes to Debbie Schneider for her wonderful work publishing the Bridge each month. Her skills and hard work are greatly appreciated.

Church Attendance Report

23 Sep: 141

30 Sep: 141

7 Oct: 126

14 Oct: 124

Giving and budget need

Year-to-date (1 Jan – 10 Oct)

Giving: \$309,953.09

Year-to-date (1 Jan – 10 Oct)

Budget Need: \$348,768.00

F.U.N. Circle will join Presbyterian Woman at retreat

On November 2, F.U.N. Circle will join PW for the retreat at Glen Rose from 9:30 to 3:00.

November 26, F.U.N. Circle will Deck the Halls for Advent/ Christmas. Workers usually arrive around 8, 8:30, 9 A.M. This activity is not

limited to members of the Circle. We encourage mass participation by all women and men of the church.

We will find you a job that you're bound to love.

Membership

Brenda Staples, elder
Brenda@flytx1.com



Brad Bell



Lynn Rogers



Kathryn Hogue



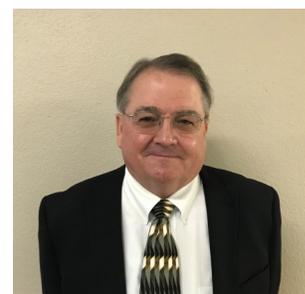
Bret Diedrich

Welcome to our new members

On Sunday, September 23 our church joyously welcomed five new members.

Tom Sykes was received into membership by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church in Ballinger, Texas; Bret Diedrich was received by letter of transfer from Tryon Presbyterian Church in Tryon, North Carolina; Mary Kathryn Hogue was received by letter of transfer from Fredericksburg United Methodist Church in Fredericksburg, Texas; Brad Bell and Lynn Rogers were received by Reaffirmation of Faith.

Please give all of these new members a big welcome to our congregation at your first opportunity.



Tom Sykes

Worship

Kathy Long, elder
Kathy_long@charter.net



Don't forget to turn your clock's back!

Daylight saving time ends on November 4th! A big reminder to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on November 3rd!

During the month of November, we will have information regarding the Christmas poinsettias in the bulletin. There will be forty poinsettias available to purchase at \$10 each. This is a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one or friend.

First Presbyterian Bell Choir will be playing on November 18th. They will play "What Wondrous Love." On Saturday, December 8th at 6PM, the Bell Choir will play during the Candlelight Tour. On Sunday, December 9th, they will play their Christmas selections at both Worship services. An additional octave of chimes was recently purchased and now our Bell Choir has three full octaves of chimes.

Your Worship Committee will be meeting November 6th. We welcome all thoughts and suggestions regarding our worship services.

We do church together!
Kathy

NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 Arts & Crafts Show Reformation Sunday 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 2:00 PM Membership Committee Meeting 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>30 9:00 AM Jeanell Morris Bible Study Circle 11:00 AM Worship Committee 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM Trinity Mission Birthday Party</p>	<p>31 Reformation Day 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice</p>	<p>1 All Saints Day 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles</p>	<p>2 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Joyce Higginbotham</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 Daylight-Saving Time Ends 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>5 RSVP for Celebration Luncheon due 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 10:00 AM Co-ed Bridge 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>6 10:00 AM Jeanell Morris Bible Study Circle 11:00 AM Worship Committee 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM Trinity Mission Birthday Party</p>	<p>7 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM Beta Sigma Phi 5:30 PM Session</p>	<p>9 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Margie Randles 10:00 AM PW Meeting</p>	<p>10 2:00 PM Howard White Witness to Resurrection</p>
<p>11 Veterans Day 10:00 AM Consecration Sunday - One Service 11:30 AM Celebration Luncheon</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Lamda Pi Women Educators 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Granbury Knitters 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM PEO meeting set up 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Disciples II Bible Study</p>	<p>14 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM PEO 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice</p>	<p>15 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Oddfellows Lodge #237</p>	<p>16 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Julia Hinterfeiler</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>19 Bridge Articles Due 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM DAR 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>20 10:00 AM Book Circle 11:00 AM Habitat Lunch 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice</p>	<p>21 10:00 AM Book Circle 11:00 AM Habitat Lunch 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice</p>	<p>22 Office Closed for Thanksgiving Thanksgiving Day 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles</p>	<p>23 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Bernice Deeds Office Closed for Thanksgiving</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>26 8:30 AM Deck the Halls 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>27 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Disciples II Bible Study</p>	<p>28 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles</p>	<p>30 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Raye Klemann</p>	<p>1</p>

2018 First Presbyterian, Granbury Elders

Administration, Roy Schoeneman
Christian Education, Nancy Worcester
Clerk of Session, Mike Gulinson
Congregational Care, Annelle Teal
Property, Lloyd Sigrist
Fellowship, Linda Allen
Long-Range Planning, Jerry Althouse
Membership, Brenda Staples
Outreach & Mission, Bianca Brownfield
Stewardship, Jack Gilmore
Ushering, Ann Mitchell
Worship, Kathy Long



Having fun on the square at Granbury's Oktoberfest.

To:

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury
202 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048