

The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

March, 2020

Frederick Buechner reminds us that in many cultures there is a long-standing custom of giving a tenth of each year's income to some holy use. For us, it's the idea of the biblical tithe. He continues to say that when Christians faithfully observe the forty days of Lent they are doing the same thing with roughly a tenth of the year's days. Recall the gospel story – after Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan, he went into the wilderness and there spent 40 days “asking himself what it meant to be Jesus.” Buechner insists that Lent is a time for us to do essentially the same thing – to ask ourselves, one way or another, what it means to be who we are in light of God's love. (Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking*)

Buechner then suggests some questions that he believes assist us in discovering who we as God's creatures in this world. I share them with you as questions to ponder during Lent.:

If you had to bet everything you have on whether there is a God or whether there isn't, which side would get your money and why?

When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it that you most like and what do you see in it that you most deplore?

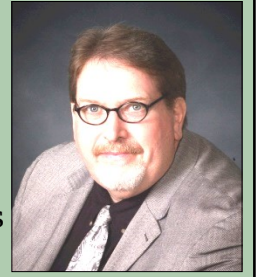
If you had only one last message to leave to the handful of people who are most important to you, what would it be in twenty-five words or less?

Of all the things you have done in your life, which is the one you would most like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember?

Is there any person in the world or any cause that, if circumstances called for it, you would be willing to die for?

If this were the last day of your life, what would you do with it?

From the pastor



Rev. Drew Travis

Lent is just around the corner. It's our opportunity to offer 40 of our days considering questions like these about ourselves and considering who it is we might become in God's presence and love. I invite you to spend time doing so.

The church will offer several opportunities to help you along the way. Ash Wednesday begins with our White Breakfast and includes communion and the imposition of ashes. Each Sunday night during Lent we will gather in the Fellowship Hall to study the book “Forgiveness” by Marjorie Thompson. Brenda Church will lead us. On Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday we will mark Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and recall the events of that last week of his life. Each day at noon during Holy Week there will be a brief service in the sanctuary which will include scripture, prayer, and Holy Communion. We will gather in the sanctuary for a service of Tenebrae on Good Friday and mark the crucifixion of the one who comes to save. And, of course, on Easter Sunday we will celebrate Christ's victory over death and the promise that we will share in a resurrection like his.

I hope that you will be present to take part in these opportunities for study and for worship. I also hope you may spend some time on your own pondering the questions that Buechner poses. These are indeed special days for those of us who claim the faith. It is my prayer that we may do what is necessary to discover our faith and what makes life holy as we journey together. Come join us.

Drew

Congregational Care

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



Prayer of the Month

Pat Collins
Prayer chain coordinator
huhwhat777@att.net



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- Bernice Deeds is mourning the loss of her brother, her last remaining sibling.
- John Stahlman had back surgery and is home recuperating.
- Jay Thomas's hip replacement surgery was moved up to this past month. He is doing well.
- Richard McCarthy had a corneal transplant on his other eye.
- Wanda Moon had a bad fall. She is recovering from hip surgery in rehab at Harbor Lakes.
- Bret Diedrich's eyesight has worsened and he is moving to Fort Worth. We will miss him in the Narthex Sunday mornings.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

- Donna Callahan's friend, Rhonda Smith Logan, passed away from throat cancer in January.
- Mary Lee McCarthy's mother is ailing and not doing well. Mary Lee is helping her sister take care of her in Florida.



**Coy Wallace has a new address:
Briarwood Assisted Living
620 Ely St.
Allegan, Michigan 49010**

To our congregation, if you know of anyone who would appreciate a home visit, please let Annelle Teal or the church office know of your concern. Thank you!

MARCH PRAYER OF THE MONTH

The blessing from our White Breakfast:

Heavenly Father

You are a beacon, an anchor, a stronghold, ever present in our comings and goings, and holding us fast from creation to immortality.

We thank you for our lives in Christ, certainly our most valued blessing, and for the good health that allowed us to be present this morning. We ask for inspiration and strength to help our brothers and sisters not present and ask that you lead us to extend our care to the sick (in body, mind or spirit), and the poor who struggle for sustenance and warmth.

Give us strong and curious minds capable of learning as we journey with you toward Jerusalem and the cross. Forgive us, father, our lapses of judgment, our lapses of civility, our lapses in kindness, and our lapses in faith. Strengthen us to be worthy travel companions with you in the weeks leading to Easter. We know the story ends with victory but we are not to forget the anguished, cruel path that precedes it.

Bless our church and those who lead it. Give them the courage of their convictions as they make decisions and work on our behalf. Bless the food we are about to eat and the many hands that prepared it. We are grateful.

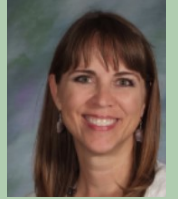
In Christ's name, we pray.

Amen

If you would like prayers for yourself, a friend or a loved one, please contact Pat Collins at the email above.

Congregational Care

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



March Birthdays

1	14
Kathleen Moore	Curt Armstrong
Marijane Harvey	19
2	Shanna Adkins
Betty Dean	Steven Wilkes
3	20
Richard Root	Glenda Smith
Robert Gadbois	23
6	Carolyn Llewellyn
Elliott Graham	Doyle Seley
8	Mike Cress
Angela Young	25
Gary Lewis	David Treat
9	28
Felicia Peters	Doris Dinkel
10	Tim Bennett
Jean Matthews	29
11	James Witt
Ben Mays	Mark Bishop
Richard Sanders	30
12	Linda Allen
Elizabeth Clements	31
13	Jean Teal
Gloria Mitchell	Randy Clements
Rebecca Bennett	
Susan Kidd	



At care/retirement facilities

Courtyards at Lake Granbury

Mary Skinner
Shirley McDonald

Waterview at Lake Granbury

Kathleen Moore
Pat White
Ted Dolan

The Cove at Lake Granbury

Eloise Pauli
Maddie Reed
Jean Teal

Quail Park

Ruth Garrett
Pete & Nancy Pauley
Marilou Schairbaum
John Cheney
Charles Basket

The Oaks of Granbury

CH Tubbs

March Anniversaries

8
Jack and Diana Burton

31
Greg and Sharon Wilemon



Martha Ferrill
Ed Smith
Stan Bowlin
Bill Lowe
Jeanie Smith
Jean Haight
Edith George
Warren Rutz

Administration

Roy Schoeneman, elder
wrschoeneman@charter.net



Church Attendance Report:

19 Jan: 184
26 Jan: 148
2 Feb: 143
9 Feb: 166
16 Feb: 149
Installation Service: 120

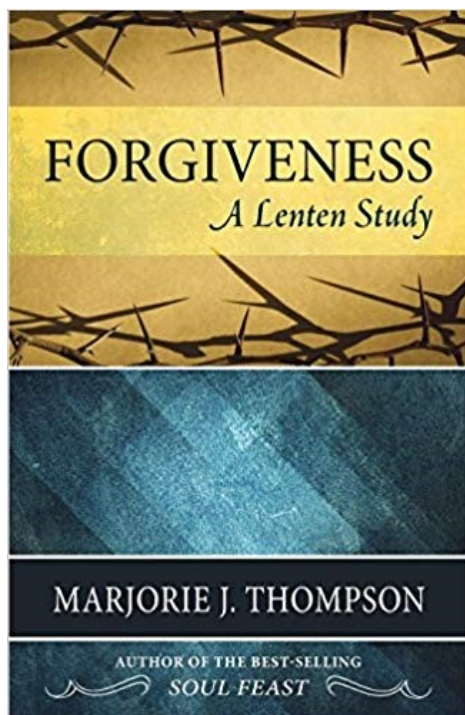


KIDQUAKE MARCH 27-29

Have you ever wanted to try Summer Camp? Kidquake is a weekend camp for 1st-6th Graders held at Glen Lake Camp in Glen Rose. Interested? Call or email Nancy Bennett 817-578-1827 nbennett0803@gmail.com Scholarships available!

Christian Education

Nancy Bennett, elder
nbennett0803@gmail.com



Mark Your Calendars for our

Sunday Evening Lenten Study

March 1st—April 5th

5:30—7:00 PM

Rev. Brenda Church will lead us in this six week study. Books are available through the church office (\$10) or via Amazon.com.

Kindle edition is available as well.

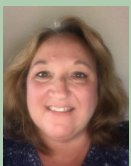
Dinner will be "BYO"



Worship

Julie Dean, elder

juliebutlerdean@gmail.com



This month as we worship and study together we will travel through the heart-wrenching journey of Jesus' death before we are able to rejoice in His resurrection. If you would like to continue studying on your own please pick up a copy of "In Pursuit of Jesus - 15 Easter Reflections" available in the narthex of the sanctuary.

If you would like a copy of this devotional but are unable to attend church services please call or text me at (318) 751-8367. I would be happy to bring or mail one to you.

If you would like to purchase an Easter lily in memory or in honor of someone, order forms will be available beginning March 1st, also in the narthex.

See you in church!

Julie

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26



F.U.N. Circle

Peggy Losher,

F.U.N. Circle coordinator



F.U.N. CIRCLE



FUN CIRCLE meets March 25th at 10:00 AM with our Spring Style Show by Becky Barton of Stuff 'n Nonsense. This will be followed by a Potluck lunch. Everyone is invited.

Presbyterian Women

Margaret Gulinson

PW Moderator

mgulinson@gmail.com

682-936-2312 (H) 214-868-7455 (C)



You are invited to the 2020 Women's Retreat, March 6-7, in San Angelo, TX. It is hosted by Palo Duro and Tres Rios Presbyteries. The theme is "Tending the Flame". Seek answers to these questions and more: What will be our legacy as Presbyterian Women of the 21st Century? What is the good work that God is currently working among us? Charged with "tending the flame", what is God calling you to do? Our very own Rev. Brenda Church will give the homily Friday night. She and Linda Allen have been involved in this event in the past, and both are attending. If you are interested, they can answer your questions and send you a registration form.

Our March 13th meeting will be "Backyard Birding" by Annie Yselton, Master Gardener. She will present a 30 minute Power Point program. Come and learn about our feathered friends!

Our program will be followed by a business meeting. The Search Committee comprised of Ruth Gump, Kathy Long and Brenda Staples, will announce the nominees for new officers for the coming year. Officers rotating off the Coordinating Team will be 2nd Vice Moderator, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian. If you are interested in being part of the PW leadership, let one of the Search Committee members know. The election will be at our luncheon on May 8th.

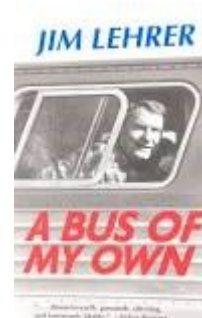
The Rummage Sale, our biggest fundraiser, is coming up on April 3rd & 4th. The money raised each year goes to scholarships, charities and the church. Watch for more information and volunteer sign-up sheets in a few weeks. We need your discarded items. But, please refrain from donating large items such as furniture until the week of Mar. 30th. We have limited storage. We couldn't do this without you! Thank You!

Mo Ranch Women's Conference is May 29 – 31. This year is of special interest to our church because Shannon Johnson Kershner, Sr. Pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago will be presiding. She is Jimmy and Sherry Johnson's daughter. If you are interested in going, please go to the website, www.moranch.org for more information. We would love to get a group of women to go with Sherry. If you have not been to a conference at Mo Ranch, you are really missing out on a fun, inspirational and wonderful experience. More information is coming soon. Save the date!

Dates to Remember:

- Mar. 2 Bridge, 10AM
- Mar. 3 Bible Study, 10AM
- Trinity Mission Birthday Party, 2 PM
- Mar. 13 "Backyard Birding" by Annie Yselton, Master Gardener, and business meeting.

- Mar. 18 Book Circle – [A Bus of My Own, Jim Lehrer](#), 10AM
- Mar. 25 F.U.N. Circle – Luncheon & Spring Style Show by Stuff n' Nonsense
- Mar. 30 – Apr. 2 Spring Rummage Sale Prep
- Apr. 3 & 4 Spring Rummage Sale, 8am – 5pm and 8am – 2pm, respectively



Fellowship

Linda Allen, elder
lindaallen33047@gmail.com



We are doing something a little different for dinner during the Lenten study. Everyone will brown bag it – bring your own dinner. The Fellowship Committee will provide iced tea and water. This should make it easier on everyone. You don't have to cook, and the Fellowship Committee doesn't have to set up and clean up!

As a reminder, here is the small group dinner information for March:

MARCH:

Group 1: **Deanna Haltom and Lorraine Schmidt**, Mary Gourley, Judy Butler, Jerry and Pepper Davis, Brenda and Les Staples

Group 2: **Connie and Earl Darne**, Karen and John Stahlman, Bev and Don Williams, Linda and Charles Somervill

Group 3: **Julie and Jim Dean**, Linda and Lawson Allen, Peggy Losher and Jay Thomas, Vanessa and Derek Faulkner

Group 4: **Pat Luley and Pete Marquez**, Buck and Nancy Lewellen, Connie LeClair, Neita Daughtrey, Nancy and Tim Bennett

Group 5: **Ruth and Marty Gump**, Lori and Mark Collinsworth and Nita, Ken and Allyce Peters, Carol Boyd and Jerry Althouse

Group 6: **Claudia and David Southern**, Bill and Bianca Brownfield, MaryLee and Richard McCarthy, Dave and Dennie Treat

Group 7: **Rhonda and Drew Travis**, Haywood and Meg Moore, Libby and Jerry Teitsma

Group 8: **Maureen Walker and Elinor Foote**, Sallie and Peter Garland, Margaret and Mike Gulinson

CHEESEBURGER SLIDERS

(Ingredients for 12 sliders)

2 lbs ground beef

1 t salt

2 t pepper

2 t garlic powder

6 slices cheddar cheese or grated cheese

12 Hawaiian Rolls (other rolls can be used)

2 T butter melted

Combine beef, salt, pepper, and garlic powder in a 9X13 rimmed baking dish, mixing thoroughly, then pressing into a flat even layer. Bake for 20 minutes or till no longer pink. Drain liquid and set the cooked beef aside.

Slice the rolls in half lengthwise. Place the bottom half in the same baking dish. Place the cooked beef on the rolls, followed by the cheese. You can add chopped onions if you want. Top with the remaining roll tops. Brush the top of the rolls with melted butter. Bake for 20 minutes or until the bread is golden brown and the cheese is melted. Slice into individual sliders, then serve.

Associate Pastor

Rev. Brenda Church

rev.brenda.church@gmail.com



Lent is upon us! Scripture tells us that “to obey is better than sacrifice” (1 Samuel 15:22). Many of us will seek to give something up during Lent. I often give something up as well, and agree it can be a good practice if it sets our hearts and minds more firmly on Christ. We do well to remember, however, that our God desires our obedience over our sacrifice...over our ritual...over our own religiosity. Several years ago, my good friend Janice Six presented a sermon introducing a new take on “giving up” for Lent. She encouraged us, instead of, or in addition to, “giving up” something that we “Give UP!” to God. Instead of just looking down in regret for all the ways we have failed, that we look up and recognize anew the wonderful gift of grace God has granted us. That Lenten season, she encouraged us to consider “Giving UP!” to God our praise, our worship, our thanksgiving, our whole self....rather than or in addition to “giving up” a prized item or a habit. “Giving UP!” puts a different, more positive spin on Lent. It helps us remember what it means to be sinners saved by grace...repentant, yes, but wholly aware that we are already and completely forgiven!! Hallelujah!!

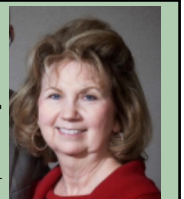
To “Give UP” ourselves is to obey. God desires that we obey even more than God desires that we give up chocolate...I am just sure of it! When we obey God’s Word and abide in Christ, drop our burdens, and place our whole selves into the hands of God, it is then that we are able to truly worship, to truly give thanks, and to bear good fruit for God’s kingdom. There is rest, peace, and security in abiding in Christ to such a degree. So, this Lent...let’s consider our willingness to look up and then “Give UP!” our very selves to God, who loves us more than we could ever imagine! Hey, could someone pass that chocolate?!?

-Brenda

Membership

Brenda Staples, elder

Brenda@flytx1.com



A small, rectangular wooden nametag with the text “Hello my name is” written on it.

Please make it easier for others at church to learn your name by wearing your nametag at worship and other church events. This will make it easier for our new Associate Pastor, Brenda Church, as well as new members to feel at home and call you by name.

New members receive a free nametag, but if you have lost your original church nametag, you can give Shanna a call at the office, and she will order you a replacement for \$10.05.

Library committee

Where is the Library?

Our Library is located in the Administration Building at 202 W. Pearl Street at the corner of Lambert Street. The parking lot is in the back and the entrance is there also. The hours are from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00P.M. Monday – Friday; if the door is locked just ring the bell and Shanna will let you in.

It is a “self-serve” Library – the instructions for checking out a book are on the table in the Library.

Books are loaned for 2 weeks and you may renew them. When you are ready to return the borrowed book put it in the box labeled for that purpose. Now you may be wondering what kind of books you will find, or you may wonder how to find a certain book. We have fiction such as the Mitford series, Miss Julia series and many other fiction books. Our Library has most of C.S. Lewis’ books. We also have many Book Circle books that the Hood County Library does not have; we also have some that the HCL does have.

On our shelves are Reference books that we do allow to be signed out and other non-fiction books including some biographies. We have a good selection of children books located on the Red Cart in Fellowship Hall near the nursery. There is another cart in Fellowship Hall with Adult books. Books on the cart are rotated every month or so.

Now about finding a certain book – we have a Card Catalog which is divided - Author/Title cards are interfiled alphabetical and Subject Headings are filed separately. Just remember how we looked up a book before Libraries were computerized. Happy hunting! Our shelves are arranged as in any Library by Dewey Number. If you cannot find what you would like you may call Sheila @ 817-579-5722 and I’ll try to find it or borrow it for you.

We are happy to receive donations of books you no longer want if they meet our needs or you may give a book in Honor of or in Memory of someone.

Does this sound interesting to you? We have a Library Committee that meets the third Tuesday at 1:00 August, October, January, March & May. The Committee makes decisions on book purchases. We process the books and get them ready for the shelf. If you would like to be part of this, please call Sheila Higgins at 817-579-5722 or e-mail at smhig35@gmail.com



Dear Friends – Words cannot adequately express my gratitude for the many, many ways you have welcomed me and all of the effort that you have put forth to get me up and running here in Granbury. Over and over again, you have anticipated my needs and brought forth solutions often before I had a chance to ask. You have made this transition much easier and I am simply blown away at your willingness to inconvenience yourselves in order to meet my needs and make me feel welcome. The Installation service and reception were wonderful and entailed so much work and attention to detail. You welcomed my family with open arms and met their needs while they were here as well. My office is beautiful because of your self-less effort and your willingness to use your gifts. My move here was stress free because, despite not having sold my house, I didn't have to worry about one thing as I packed my two suitcases and came. That's simply unheard of...but apparently, this is just the way the saints at First Presbyterian roll! I am so grateful for that! You have been as Christ to me at a pivotal time in my life. You have made it easy for me to heed God's call. And on top of all of that, you have befriended me genuinely and without reservation. I can't wait to see what adventures we will have going forward! I am SO happy to be here!

Joyfully,

Brenda



Administration

Roy Schoeneman, elder
wrschoeneman@charter.net



Volunteers Needed: Our video streaming ministry needs your help. We are now streaming BOTH services each Sunday. This allows our members (and friends near and far) to watch along at home on YouTube or Facebook when they can't be with us in person. We are also able to stream our service in Memorial Hall, Fellowship Hall, and the Nursery.

We need help in the following areas: sound system, streaming start/end, and remote control of the camera (this literally means you can sit in your pew and push a button on a remote to move the camera to the right position). If you are tech savvy, or even just a WILLING volunteer, we would love to have your help.



If interested, or you want to learn more, please call, text, or email Emily Graham at 817-578-5420, vwemilygraham@gmail.com

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Lenten Study	2 10:00 AM Co-ed Bridge 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	3 10:00 AM Jennell Morris Bible Study 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM Trinity Mission Birthday Party	4 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir	5 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Clergy Group 5:30 PM Facilities Planning	6	7
8 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Lenten Study	9 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	10 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Granbury Knitters 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Disciples Bible Study	11 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir	12 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles	13 10:00 AM PW Meeting	14
15 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Lenten Study	16 Bridge Articles Due 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM DAR 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	17 1:00 PM Library Meeting 5:30 PM Session	18 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 - 7:15 PM Bell Choir	19 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Clergy Group 2:00 PM Membership Committee 5:30 PM Facilities Planning Committee 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Oddfellows Lodge	20	21
22 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Lenten Study	23 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	24 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Disciples Bible Study 6:00 PM New Member Dinner	25 10:00 AM FUN Circle 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir	26 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles	27	28
29 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Lenten Study	30 prep for rummage sale 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	31 prep for rummage sale	1 prep for rummage sale 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir	2 prep for rummage sale 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Clergy Group	3 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Spring Rummage Sale	4 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM Spring Rummage Sale

Men's Conference May 1-3

**It's Time to Stand Tall:
Who Are We Going to Be When Things Go Wrong?**

Keynote: Rev. Tom Are Jr.

Pastor: Village Presbyterian Church, Prairie Village, Kan.



Women's Conference May 29-30

Marking Grace: Here I Raise My Ebenezer

Keynote: Rev. Shannon Johnson Kershner

Pastor: Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago.

Scholarships are available

To:

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