

# The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

June, 2020

It's interesting to me how history runs in cycles. What has happened before happens again. It's not always the same but there are parallels. Most of us are experiencing a pandemic of this nature for the first time. We've not been here before and that has caused more than a bit of anxiety as we've tried to maneuver our way through this maze without previous experience.

We've all seen the comparisons to the Spanish Flu pandemic early last century. I've been intrigued by some of the similar situations we find ourselves in as a nation to that crisis. Black and white photographs have marked in our minds what our world looked like 100 years ago. Much has changed in that passage of time but the masks look pretty much the same.

The world has been through this before. The church has been through this before. I was reminded of that fact this past week when I ran across a hymn written by Ulrich Zwingli. Zwingli was one of the voices of the Protestant Reformation and served the church and community in Zurich. In 1518 he began to write a hymn that became a trilogy known simply as Zwingli's Plague Hymns. The Black Plague hit Europe and within a few months during 1519-20, between two and three thousand people died in Zurich alone.

During the crisis, Zwingli ministered tirelessly to his community. He was described as one with "fearless, unworried, self-forgetful fidelity in the discharge of his pastoral duties in that dire time." In fact, Zwingli became ill himself and almost died. He wrote the three hymns during the course of the plague – at the beginning, in the midst of the plague, and when he was in recovery.

I found his words meaningful and the parallel to our current situation fascinating. I offer you his trilogy as a bit of history, as a reminder that recovery comes and the world – and the church – will move on from this. Thanks be to God.

## *Beginning of the malady –*

"Lo, at my door –  
Gaunt death I spy!  
Hear, Lord of Life,  
Thy creature's cry!

"The arm that hung  
Upon the tree,  
Jesus, uplift  
And rescue me.

"Yet, if to quench  
My sun at noon  
Be thy behest,  
Thy will be done!

## From the pastor



Rev. Drew Travis

"In faith and hope  
Earth I resign  
Secure of Heaven –  
For I am thine!"

## *In the midst of the malady –*

"Fierce grow my pains:  
Help Lord, in haste!  
For flesh and heart  
Are failing fast.

"Clouds wrap my sight,  
My tongue is dumb:  
Lord, tarry not,  
The hour is come!

"In Satan's grasp  
On hell's dark brink  
My spirit reels –  
Ah, must I sink?"

"No, Jesus, no!  
Him I defy,  
While here beneath  
Thy cross I lie."

## *On recovery –*

"My Father God  
Behold me whole!  
Again on earth  
A living soul!

"Let sin no more  
My heart annoy,  
But free it, Lord,  
With holy joy!

"Though now delayed,  
My hour must come,  
Involved, perchance  
In deeper gloom.

"It matters not;  
Rejoicing yet  
I'll bear my yoke  
To heaven's bright gate."

See you online Sunday,  
*Drew*

# Congregational Care

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



## Wedding bells are ringing!

**May 1, Marla Hill married Rick Caraway**

**May 30, Gyla Roberson married Darrell Jones**

### Joys & Concerns

#### Our Church Family

- Elaine Sparks passed away April 30. We are keeping her daughter, Ann, in our prayers.
- Jim Callahan has been in and out of the hospital. He and Donna need our prayers as tests continue.
- Libby Teitsma had her shoulder repair on May 5.
- Brenda Hafner had skin tests on May 5.
- Dave Barnett had an ablation and is doing well.

#### Our Extended Family

- Jean Haight turned 95 on May 14!
- Shanna Adkins's father, Dwayne Eby, is awaiting surgery to replace a battery in his pacemaker. This requires him to be off blood thinners and his heart is already weak, so even routine surgery is stressful and risky.
- We continue to keep Drew's brother, Karl Travis, and his entire family in our prayers. He's been having some good days along with the bad.
- Dylan Travis is back home after his 3rd hospitalization. He had to have his shunt repositioned and there are some vision changes, but things are better.
- Nancy Bennett's mother is still in rehab getting better.

## Prayer of the Month

Pat Collins, Prayer chain coordinator  
pat.collins37@yahoo.com



I see from Facebook posts that some families are melding once again. Perhaps carefully and safely, but perhaps only hopefully. I don't know what to think about that but do pray that everyone who could wait no longer, for whatever circumstance, remains safe and well. And, I heard on the news that a woman who was 103 recovered from the Corona virus! That made me feel hopeful. Waiting out this time has been difficult for me. I imagine it has for everyone. While I would like every day to be filled with unicorns farting glittery rainbows, most days are getting a little gritty. Too much reality taking place. Too little entertaining diversion. Too much sameness and me-ness in conversations. What do we have to talk about, really? However, my list of things to complain about is sneakily growing in the gloom in the corners of my mind. Discipline and vigilance is called for and I am getting weary far too early in the journey.

I adopted some new spiritual practices. Before getting out of bed in the morning, I declare aloud that this is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice in it! I say more prayers before my feet hit the floor, promising some level of productivity (which I may or may not achieve). Of course, I had a spiritual discipline before our world changed, but I am holding it a little tighter to me. Good mental health isn't guaranteed to any of us and while I know some have no difficulty in that area, I know many who challenge dragons daily, myself included. Aging takes its toll there, too.

So, we are Christians for the long haul and now, Coronavirus vigilants, as well. (Lysol in hand, we gallop around the house!) I think what that really means is caring enough about others to mask up when we are out but mostly still staying home a lot. It means washing your hands scrupulously when you have been out or handled mail or packages. (The Doxology is perfect accompaniment.) It means remembering to pay your pledge and donating to charities if you are led to do so. It means tuning in and watching our church services on-line instead of receiving handshakes and smiles from our brothers and sisters in Christ and somehow finding a way to be okay with that — with the help of God. It means staying alert to the needs of neighbors and not overlooking any opportunity to be thankful and generous.

Dearest Lord Jesus — We are still in the Easter season and praise and thank you for the atonement you made for us so that we could be reconciled with God, even in our brokenness. You are mighty and the works of beauty surrounding us are gifts we will remember to partake in daily. Lift us up, God. Keep us strong and resolute in caring for the world in ways that don't come naturally and cause us discomfort. We ask your healing for those who are ill, Father. We ask that resources be provided where needed so that hunger can be stopped. Protect the children, Lord. Show us ways to be helpful and serve our fellow humans and to love them as we love ourselves and as you love us and everyone. Keep our church leaders healthy and faithful to you, and inspire and bless their service to our church. Keep us going, Lord, even when we feel we can't. Let us feel your presence sustaining us. Strengthen our minds and hearts. Remind us how to be better servants. We feel ourselves winding down, Lord, in these days of slowness. Remind us that you are not finished with us, God. We will be called to action and strength and we will be ready, with your help.

In Christ's name. Amen.

Pat Collins

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



## June Birthdays

<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>
Julia Hinterleiter	Carol Gadbois
<b>2</b>	Dana Sutton
J.D. Finlay	Dee Holt
<b>3</b>	Don Williams
Bernice Deeds	<b>19</b>
<b>4</b>	Madison Reed Jr.
Shirley Shaffer	Ted Goller
<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>
Arlona Herbel	Jim Dean
Bert Cunningham	<b>22</b>
Neita Daughtrey	Fred Crawford
Peggy Lewis	<b>25</b>
<b>9</b>	Gwen Clay
Emily Holmes	<b>26</b>
<b>11</b>	Bill Lowe
Lillian Ethridge	Pam Christopher
<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>
Lorraine Schmitz	Nancy Blakely
<b>15</b>	<b>28</b>
Pepper Davis	Ron Deeds
Stephen Reinke	<b>30</b>
<b>16</b>	Bret Diedrich
Jacci Southern	Edith George
	Robert Werbung



## June Anniversaries

<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>
Lawson and Linda Allen	Mark and Saunya Bishop
<b>2</b>	Debbie and Greg Schneider
Les and Brenda Staples	Kim and Scott Wylie
<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>
Shanna and Aaron Adkins	Drew and Rhonda Travis
<b>6</b>	
Janna and Kim Sullins	
<b>9</b>	
Paul and Emily Holmes	
Jimmie and Sherry Johnson	
<b>12</b>	
Carolyn and Jim Stringer	
<b>14</b>	
David and Claudia Southern	
<b>17</b>	
Sallie and Peter Garland	
Ray and Carolyn Llewellyn	
<b>18</b>	
Shawn and Roger Deeds	
<b>19</b>	
Mark and Lori Collinsworth	
<b>22</b>	
Carrie and Robert Young	



## At care/retirement facilities

### Courtyards at Lake Granbury

Mary Skinner

### Waterview at Lake Granbury

Pat White  
Ted Dolan  
Nita Collinsworth

### The Cove at Lake Granbury

Eloise Pauli  
Maddie Reed

### Quail Park

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

### The Oaks of Granbury

CH Tubbs

### Autumn Hill Manor (Weatherford)

Dee Holt

### Bridgewater Memory Care Granbury

Kathleen Moore

At home and/or  
receiving treatment



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

Kathleen Moore's new phone  
number:  
817-573-7720 ask for Hepburn  
house then ask for Kathleen  
Moore room 212

Shirley McDonald has a new address:  
5435 Garden Circle  
Granbury, TX 76049  
817-910-8551

**OUR  
New  
ADDRESS**



**YOUR FAITHFUL AND DEDICATED SUPPORT TO THE FINANCIAL NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.**



***Record of Giving and Budget Need:***

Updated Year-to-date (Jan – Apr 2020) Giving: \$251,543.93

Year-to-date (Jan – May 2020) Budget Need: \$224,039.79

A very special “THANK YOU” goes to Emily Graham for her many dedicated hours spent recording, editing, and posting each service and pastor’s updates!



## ONLINE GIVING

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GRANBURY OFFERS ONLINE GIVING. THIS FEATURE IS PROVIDED THROUGH THE PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION. YOU MAY TITHE USING A DEBIT/CREDIT CARD, OR A CHECKING OR SAVINGS ACCOUNT.

CLICK THE GIVE NOW BUTTON FROM THE ONLINE GIVING PAGE OF THE FPC, GRANBURY WEBSITE TO BE REDIRECTED TO THE SECURE PAYMENT PORTAL.

<http://fpcgranbury.org/online-giving/>

### Secure

**The payment systems follow Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standards, and donor information is never shared with anyone except the church receiving their gifts.**

### Convenient

You can pay online using the payment portal, or you can download the app to pay through your phone.

**GivePlus for Android**

**GivePlus for iPhone**

**Recurring  
Payment Option**

**Easily set up one-time, weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual payments. You can edit or delete the schedule at any time.**

### Low Fee

**The fee for this service is 2% of each transaction. You can choose to pay this fee when you make your donation via debit/credit – and even that is tax deductible!**

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Shanna Adkins at [office@fpcgranbury.com](mailto:office@fpcgranbury.com) or 817-573-2337

"If you gave money for a lily during Easter, we will be glad to refund that money to you if you desire. If we do not hear from you, we will simply include your lily money in the general fund and credit your giving statement."

# Presbyterian Women

Margaret Gulinson

PW Moderator

mgulinson@gmail.com

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



Our purpose as Presbyterian Women is to continue to develop an inclusive and caring community. Our members have been doing that in various ways by: praying for others, enhancing our virtual worship services, making masks for our first responders and others, grocery shopping for those who cannot leave their homes, chatting with isolated people over the phone, feeding those in need, and many more. No one asked you to do it, you just did it! We are very proud of all of you who have worked very hard to spread our love to others in this uncertain time, easing the difficulty, stress, anxiety, fear, and loneliness in our community.

Each year PW raises money for donating to various charitable organizations, from the proceeds of our Rummage Sales. This year we only had the fall sale because of the COVID-19 restriction. So, the donation amounts reflect the lack of funds. However we did make the following donations in March. We thank all of you for helping us with the sale. We couldn't do it without you!

Meals on Wheels	-----	\$1227.00
Weekend Food for Kids	-----	\$1227.00
Forward Training Center	-----	\$818.00
Couch Surfer Ministry	-----	\$409.00
Friends for Animals	-----	\$409.00

Normally in May, PW has our Officer Elections and a wonderful yearend salad luncheon before the start of summer when we plan programs for next fall. However, with cancelled meetings and gatherings, and not being able to meet in person, election of new leaders was conducted by email. The COVID-19 Pandemic has pulled us into the world of technology, like it or not! Congratulations to our newly elected officers for 2020-2022.: 2nd Vice Moderator-Patricia Luley, Treasurer-Stephanie Mosley, Secretary-Beverly McKusick, and Historian-Julia Hinterleiter. Special thanks go to these ladies who are rotating off the Coordinating Team: Jamie Sanders, Emily Holmes, Mary Hayden and Paula Jenkins. Your service is appreciated more than you know.

I'll close with a prayer, printed in the Presbyterian Women Quarterly Newsletter, that Marilyn Stone, chair of the Inclusive Community Committee, prayed at each of the PW Town Square meetings in March/April.

## **A Prayer for Today** (author unknown)

Loving God, your desire is for our wholeness and well-being.

We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.

We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.

We pray may love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.

Help us to practice physical distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence, you who do not abandon.

We pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

# Fellowship

Linda Allen, elder

[lindaallen33047@gmail.com](mailto:lindaallen33047@gmail.com)



Fellowship.... We need it, but how do we do it safely? Last month our best suggestions for fellowship involved social media and phone calls. Facebook has been a fun way to see our children at home and at play. We have gotten to enjoy beautiful backyards, flowers, family photos, and baby birds. Best of all, we have gotten to attend wonderful worship services over the internet. Thank you Drew, Brenda, Emily, Jane, Marty, and all those church members that it takes to make this possible. What a challenge to preach to an empty sanctuary and make us feel that we are there! Zoom meetings make it possible for the session and our prayer group to meet. While I am thankful for the technology that allows for these various ways of communicating, it is just not the same as being together!

So, what is our next step? Can we inch forward in fellowship safely? According to lots of medical personnel and scientists, "outdoor spaces with higher degrees of ventilation are less problematic environments for spreading Covid 19. The risk outside is incredibly low especially if you stay 6 feet apart... Droplets fall to the ground quite quickly and aerosols are dispersed by air movements and even more by breezes and winds." In other words, if we get together outside and stay 6 feet apart the chances that we could spread the virus are very low. We must keep in mind that not all outdoor activities are created equal. A few people visiting outdoors does not pose the same risk as having a party or gathering with friends and family who are sharing food. The food itself isn't the risk but touching shared dishes or utensils could be.

Until we are able to do church-sponsored fellowship events, here are some ideas for fellowship that you may decide to do on your own. All of these have a very low risk:

- Driveway visits. Bring your lawn chairs to another church friend's driveway. Sit on opposite sides of the driveway and visit. If there's shade and a nice breeze that's perfect.
- Brown bag picnics. Don't share food and maintain 6 feet apart.
- Go visit a church friend at their home. Ring the doorbell, then you stay outside 6 feet away from the door. They stay inside and you can visit for a while. Bring a lawn chair if you want.
- Dock visits. Boat over to a friend's dock and visit. You stay on your boat and they can stay on their dock. This is fun! I have done it. Take your cell phone with you so you can let them know you are at their dock.
- Arrange to meet somewhere on the lake in your boats.
- Go for a walk with friends. Just maintain 6 feet apart.

You've got the idea! If it is outside, especially with a nice breeze, fellowship is possible. Make sure you stay 6 feet apart and no sharing of food. Brown bagging is OK. Keep hand sanitizer close for extra protection. Keep your groups small.

Your session knows how much you long for a return to normal. We all want to worship together in the sanctuary again. We long for all of us to gather around food and fellowship. Your session is working on how to proceed safely. We need your prayer and patience.

## Associate Pastor

Rev. Brenda Church

rev.brenda.church@gmail.com



This year, the long, long Church liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins the first week in June. Ordinary Time is comprised of those weeks of the year that are outside the major Church seasons of the year that we celebrate...like Advent, Epiphany, Lent, and Eastertide. I have always loved Ordinary Time. We get to wear and adorn our sanctuary in green...the color of growth. There is a broader range of focus in the lectionary, the standard which informs our preaching texts. Ordinary time brings with it a sense of freedom...relaxation...and a slower, less focused pace. I always long for Ordinary Time when it comes each year.

This year, my longing for Ordinary Time is even stronger. In fact, anything ordinary sounds pretty good to me here in mid-2020 when it seems nothing in our world, and certainly not in my life, have seemed very ordinary! It's been an extraordinary year, that's for sure! So, what do we do when we enter the Church season of ordinary time, when nothing around us seems ordinary? I think we might seek to hang our hats on the things that do not change. I am sure you can come up with a number of good and positive things that do not change, even in extraordinary times.

Here are some of my thoughts regarding good things that do not change...no, not even in the year 2020:

God loves us with an unquenchable love. NOTHING can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus! (Romans 8: 35-39) God loves you from before you were formed in the womb. God loves you when you have made mistakes and fallen short. God loves you in your best moments. God loves you when almost everything else falls away. God is love (1 John 4: 7 and 16).

We who call ourselves Christians, love one another. Now, I know this one, unlike the one before, has a human element, so it's not perfect...but because God is love, and because of the Holy Spirit (God abiding in us), we DO love one another...even in our imperfections and our disagreements...because our love really does depend more on God than on ourselves. (1 John 4 sums that up pretty well...take a look!)

Christ has conquered ALL evil, sin, and sickness (even this earth-stopping virus)...ALL of the schemes of the evil one. Jesus tells us so himself in one of my favorite verses, John 16:33: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Jesus has ALREADY conquered sin and death.

Shanna (and likely you too...if you have read this far) would probably like me to wrap this up...so here is a quick, non-exhaustive list of other things that do not change.

God works ALL things...even bad ones...for good for those who love him (Romans 8:28)

Jesus is coming back to take us home. (John 14: 1-4)

Our heavenly inheritance is imperishable, unfading, undefiled, and kept for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-5)

In fact, we Christians are imperishable! (1 Corinthians 15: 53-58)

And on and on and on go the unchanging promises of our God!

I hope you can find freedom and relaxation in this period of Ordinary Time that we are entering. But more than that, may this be a period of growth for each one of us. What a blessing to be children of God! What a blessing to stand firm, even in the midst of the uncertainties of this life...all because we stand on the firm foundation, which is our GOD! Blessings, my friends!

# Christian Education

Nancy Bennett, elder  
nbennett0803@gmail.com



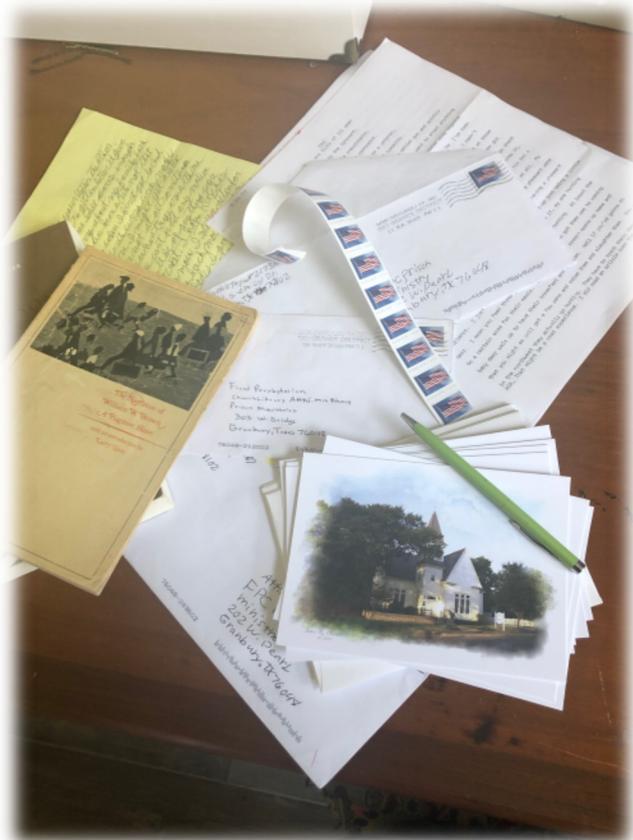
Just like many things in 2020, VBS will look different this year! The Christian Education Committee is working on a couple of different options but either of them will provide our children with new ways to experience the wonderful creation that God has given us! Hopefully, this flexibility will allow more children than ever to participate!

And although our format will be very different, if you want to be a part of this year's VBS, please contact Nancy Bennett @ 817-578-1827 or [nbennett0803@gmail.com](mailto:nbennett0803@gmail.com)

And if you have a child or grandchild that might be interested in receiving materials for VBS, please let us know! Look for registration information soon!



**VBS 2020**



*"I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Matthew 25:36*

Our Prison Ministry needs more people to write letters to the men and women that we support.

Interested? Please contact:

Nancy Worcester

817-578-0478

[nancybw@gmail.com](mailto:nancybw@gmail.com)

## Membership

Brenda Staples, elder  
Brenda@flytx1.com



During this time of being at home so much, I invite you to use some of your time to pray for our church, our members, and especially the visitors who were perhaps seeking a church home before we had to stop worshipping in the sanctuary due to COVID19. Those left in limbo without a church home and family can especially use our prayers and concern. May the Lord grant us wisdom and keep each of us in his care as we navigate through this difficult and challenging time.

Join us for worship online each Sunday on Facebook or Youtube. You may access our website [www.fpcgranbury.org](http://www.fpcgranbury.org).

Call the church office if you have needs at 817-573-2337.

**Let Us Lift You Up**

Send us your prayer requests

[www.fpcgranbury.org/prayer](http://www.fpcgranbury.org/prayer)

817-573-2337

“Please watch for news regarding events which occur when we are no longer prohibited from face-to-face gatherings.”

## JUNE 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
			12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir Practice	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Clergy Group		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service		6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Disciples Bible Study	5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir Practice	5:30 PM Facilities Planning Committee		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	Bridge Articles Due 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Al- Anon	5:30 PM Session	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 Practice	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		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Al- Anon	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Disciples Bible Study	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir Practice	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 5:30 PM Facilities Planning Committee		
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Al- Anon		12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM Bell Choir Practice	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		

**2020 First Presbyterian, Granbury Elders**

Administration, Roy Schoeneman  
Christian Education, Nancy Bennett  
Clerk of Session, Mike Gulinson  
Congregational Care, Annelle Teal  
Property, Derek Faulkner  
Fellowship, Linda Allen  
Long-Range Planning, Jerry Althouse  
Membership, Brenda Staples  
Outreach & Mission, Bianca Brownfield  
Stewardship, Jack Gilmore  
Worship, Julie Dean

If you would like to receive a paper copy of the bridge please let Shanna know , 817-573-2337.

If you are receiving a paper copy and only need the email version please let Shanna know, [office@fpcgranbury.com](mailto:office@fpcgranbury.com).

**To:**

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