

The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

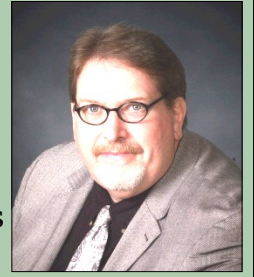
November, 2019

I read an interesting article recently encouraging churches to be actively involved in a “ministry of appreciation.” The idea is a simple one: we in the church ought to cultivate a culture of appreciation for the gifts and talents of church members and pastors alike and make it a practice to express our thanks for the tasks that are carried out in Christ’s name. I couldn’t agree more but I must admit I had never thought of expressing thanks as a specific ministry of the church. It makes sense.

We often speak of gratitude in church circles. We express gratitude to God in our worship. We remember the saints of the church in expressions of gratitude. We are grateful at times of personal need for the prayers of the community and for the casserole a pew mate delivered to our door. We are grateful for a visit while in the hospital. We express our gratitude for elders when they retire from active service. It’s not at all unusual for us to make expressions of appreciation for an anthem that was well sung or for a sermon that was meaningful to us. Today I am particularly grateful for the work of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee that has led us to a new associate pastor. There are myriad things to be grateful for in the life of our church and we strengthen our bonds as a community when we take time to express our thanks.

In all these things, it is God to whom we owe thanks. We may call it appreciation or gratitude or thanksgiving but the meaning is the same. We find in God’s gifts to us the need to joyously give thanks to God. The Psalmist writes, “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.” (Ps. 9.1) A note of thanks, an expression of gratitude, shared with another in God’s name, is indeed a wonderful deed. A ministry of appreciation for those who do the work of the church then is, in a very real

From the pastor



Rev. Drew Travis

sense, a ministry of appreciation to God. I like that thought.

This is a season of thanksgiving. As a nation, we take a day in November to express thanks to God for our life together and for God’s blessings we enjoy. Thanksgiving is an important part of who we are as Americans. This is also the time of the year when we make our commitment of time and talents and treasures to sustain the ministry of our congregation. But our tithes and offerings are more than that – they are our expression of thanks to God. These commitments are a ministry of appreciation.

Take some time to name those things for which you are grateful, “count your blessings,” if you will. Consider the goodness of God’s grace and the many ways that we bless one another in the ministry we do. When gratitude is present, take time to make an expression of thanks. Show your appreciation. Do something in response. That’s why we call it thanks-giving. It’s about gratitude and it is the beginning of generosity.

See you Sunday,

Drew

GIVE
thanks
with a
GRATEFUL
heart

Congregational Care

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



Our church family

- Wayne Harvey, Marijane's husband and Bianca's stepfather, passed away October 1st . His service was October 26.
- Linda Nolan fell and broke several ribs.
- Libby Teitsma fell in her garage and broke bones in her shoulder.
- Virginia Conner was admitted to LGMC because of several small TIA's.
- Ron Deeds was briefly in the hospital.
- Jimmy Callahan was in the hospital but now in rehab.
- Jackson Kennedy, newborn son of Andrea and Matthew Kennedy, was in NICU after a C-section. There will be a baby shower later.
- Don Williams had knee replacement surgery.
- Claudia Southern is recuperating from her neck surgery.
- Jamie Sanders's eye surgery went well. She is waiting on a pathology report.
- Sally Attebury is home from the hospital after a bout of pneumonia and other complications.
- Kathryn Hogue enjoyed being remembered on her 91st birthday.

Prayers of comfort and blessing go out to Ruth Ann Collins as she journeys through this stage in her life.

Our extended family

- Sydney Alvarado, Annelle and David Teal's niece, has Type 1 diabetes and was recently hospitalized with kidney failure. She will be going on dialysis and may need a kidney transplant. She is 23 years old.
- Denise Williams, Lorraine Schmitz's daughter passed away the morning of Thursday October 24th. Our prayers of sympathy and support are with Lorraine and her family during this time.
- Barbara Sloan's father died unexpectedly on October 26th.

Thank you to all who contributed to our college students' care packages!

At care/retirement facilities

Courtyards at Lake Granbury
Mary Skinner

Waterview at Lake Granbury
Kathleen Moore

The Cove at Lake Granbury
Eloise Pauli
Maddie Reed
Jean Teal

Quail Park
Ruth Garrett
Pete & Nancy Pauley
Marilou Schairbaum
John Cheney

Granbury Care Center
CH Tubbs

At home and/or receiving treatment

Shirley McDonald
Martha Ferrill
Ed Smith
Stan Bowlin
Winette Lovelady

Congregational Care

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



November Birthdays

4 Bill James	18 Gay Hanlin
7 Barbara Sloan	21 Brenda Wilkinson
10 Susan Higginbotham	22 Richard Hicks
11 Tom Sykes	24 Jo Beth Ross
13 Nancy Pauley	25 Sarah Bennett
14 Juanita Morgan	26 Carolyn Stringer
15 Allen Hardin	
17 Claudia Southern	



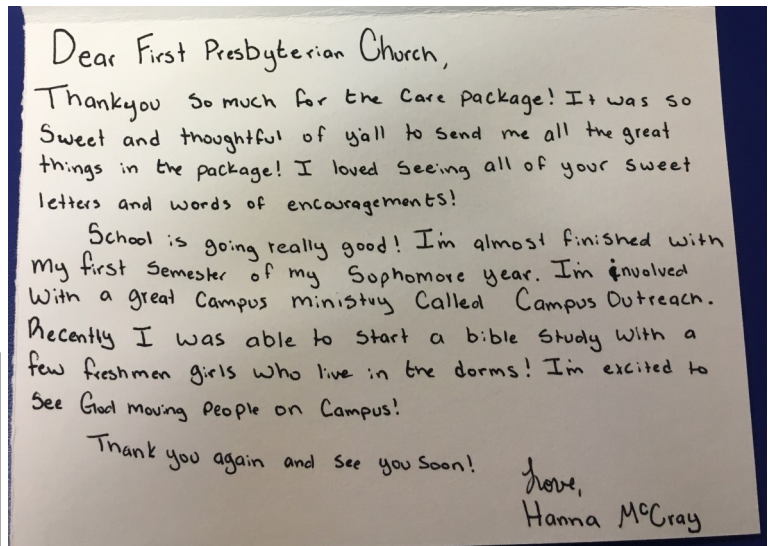
Anniversaries

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



F.U.N. Circle

Peggy Losher,
F.U.N. Circle coordinator



On November 25, 2019, FUN Circle will Deck the Halls for Advent and Christmas. If you can, please come join in the decorating fun at 9:00 am.

Administration

Roy Schoeneman, elder
wrschoeneman@charter.net



Prayer of the Month

Pat Collins
Prayer chain coordinator
huhwhat777@att.net



Church Attendance Report:

22 Sep: 181

29 Sep: 159

6 Oct: 148

13 Oct: 128

20 Oct: 142

Record of Giving and Budget Need:

Year-to-date (Jan – Sep 2019) Giving: \$368,577.93

Year-to-date (Jan – Sep 2019) Budget Need: \$350,887.52

Worship

Kathy Long, elder



Fall has finally arrived, and that means a busy time at First Presbyterian Church! In November, All Saints' Day is on November 1st. We will commemorate that day on Sunday, November 3rd. This is also when daylight saving time ends! Don't forget to "fall back" one hour before going to bed on November 2nd.

On November 10th, we will have information available regarding the purchase of poinsettias which will be placed in the sanctuary on the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st.

Be sure to check the calendar and bulletins for all the events scheduled for November!

Kathy, Worship Elder

Prayer of the month October

We give thanks to you, Lord, in all things, especially for our lives in Christ, our savior, who rescued us from death. The seasonal changes are making themselves known in the foliage and grasses as growth finally slows. Preparations have already begun for holidays ahead. Travel plans are laid. Gifts are being pondered. And we are looking beyond ourselves to see what others may require of us to bring thankfulness and celebration of Christ's birth into their lives. Keep the needs of others, less fortunate, with us as we make decisions for the use of our time and resources.

Many in hospital or treatment, Lord, are struggling physically, looking for strength and ease. Let us bring your light to them; let us carry the grace of Jesus as we make visits and phone calls and create small treats to bring. Even a gentle pat on the shoulder or a squeeze of the hand might bring comfort. Let our sincere prayers and smiles remind them of your constant presence, love, and care.

Our world, Lord, where can we begin to describe the suffering? Let us personally act where we can, support financially those in place to act, and send repeated prayers for your strength and comfort to those affected by war, weather-related disasters, and disease promoted by inability or ignorance. Remind us to pray first before condemnation, pray first before fear, pray first before sorrow, pray first before action, pray first before speaking. Erase the ugliness we sometimes think or utter regarding our political climate and replace those with constructive thoughts and actions. Remove the fear for the future we sometimes hold for our country and our grandchildren and great-grands and replace it with trust in you for the future, as you have always told us to do.

All these things we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

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

October 14, 2019



Moving adults and children from crisis to self-suffic

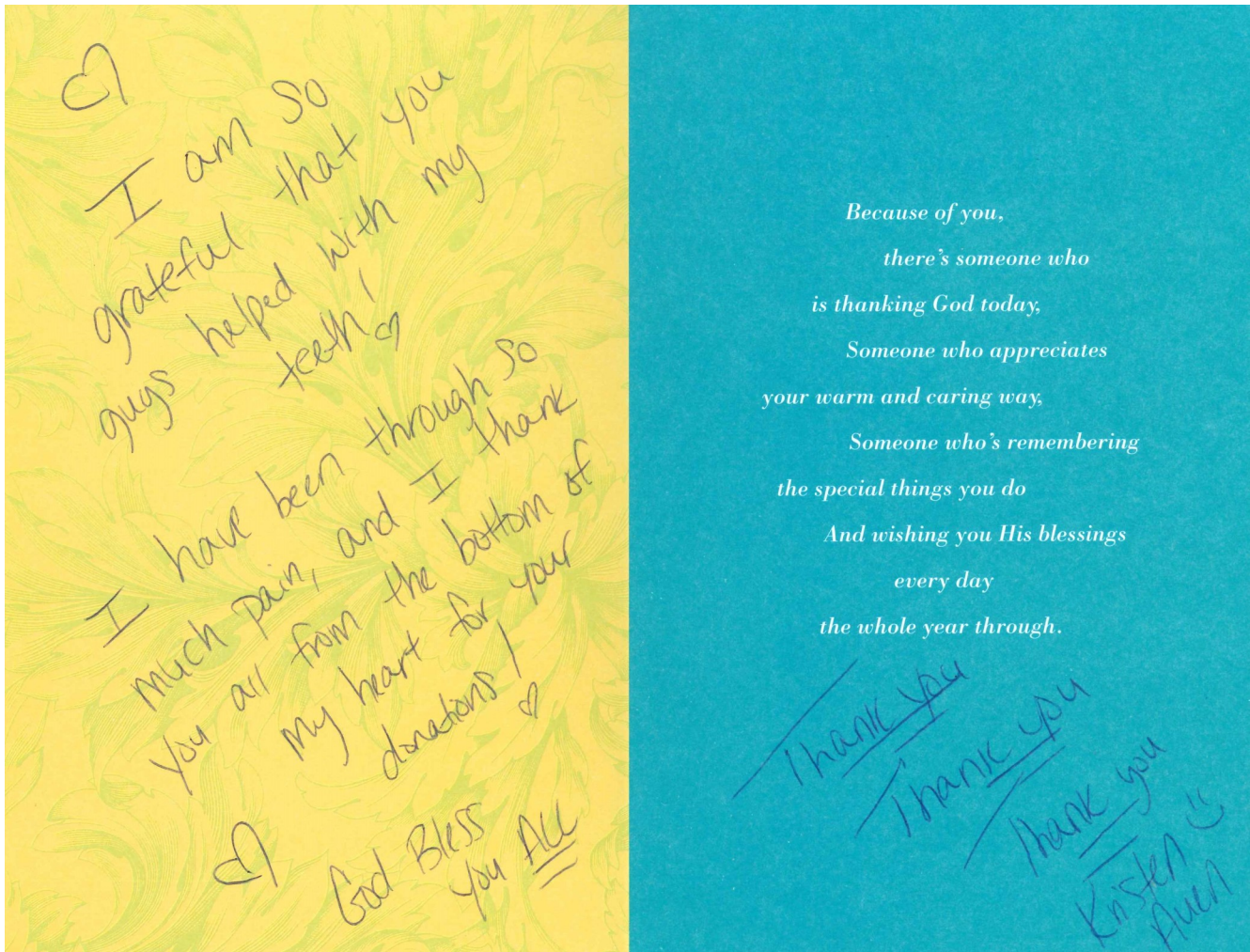
First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so very much for your continued monthly support to Mission Granbury - EARN program.

Your very generous support helps Mission Granbury continue our program support to those in need here in Hood County!

Warmest Regards -

Monty Lewis - Board Secretary



I was overwhelmed by the kindness and support given to me during the past couple of months as I underwent my eye surgery and recovery. There were prayers, cards, visits and even casseroles from more people at FPC than I could count. I told Drew that I was just filled with a sense of peace throughout the whole ordeal. So I want to thank our entire church family. I am both humbled and truly grateful.

Jamie Sanders

Presbyterian Women

Margaret Gulinson
PW Moderator
mgulinson@gmail.com



Thank You! To all of you who donated to, or worked on the Rummage Sale last month. We made over \$4,600.00! Your donations are now someone else's treasure. We appreciate each of you who supplied food, donated items, labored, (and bought) at the sale. Nancy Worcester and team did it again! What angels all of you are! ***We do church together.***

The PW Fall Retreat will be our next big event, Nov. 1st at Hood County Library, 10 AM – 3 PM. Come enjoy a Sabbath with us. Rev. Melinda Veatch will encourage us in "Seeking Sabbath: The Way to Serve". Coffee and breakfast goodies and lunch are included. The cost is \$10.00. A reservation sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. You may also call or email Saunya Bishop at 706-271-8064 or angelfaith10@hotmail.com to make reservations or ask questions.

The Christmas Luncheon and Program is right around the corner, Monday, Dec. 9. The Melody Bells will be singing for us. Signup sheets for servers and food preparation will be at the Retreat. Be sure to mark your calendars for one of our favorite celebrations!

CC's Carry Ons, back by popular demand, is scheduled for Jan. 29, 2020, 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. Charlotte Staples (Yes, she is related to Les and Brenda Staples, dedicated FPC members.) started this program to benefit foster youth when CPS removes them from their parents' home. We will assemble "First Night Bags" for the children who sometimes leave their home with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Take advantage of the holiday sales or your trips to Costco to buy the needed items. The CPS needs more 0 to 18 months infant bags than any other size. We will focus on these sizes in order to make complete bags. Collect the following items to fit in a gallon size ziplock: 5 diapers, baby wash, pacifier, socks, pajamas, cuddle toy and explore toy. Jan. 29th, bring them to the meeting where we will be God's hands and feet for these little ones!

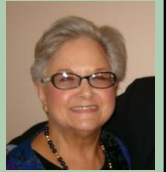
The following lists other items always needed. Bring them if you want, there is nothing she can't use. Travel size shampoo, conditioner, lotion, tooth paste, tooth brushes, lip balm, & deodorant; pull-ups for 2T, 3T and 4T; underpants size 2T through 10/12; socks newborn through adult small; pajamas/sleep-shirts/sleep shorts 0 months through 10years; \$10 Pilot Cases for kids; small suitcases back packs or duffel bags; pacifiers – new, baby bath packs from Dollar Tree; Taggie sized cuddle blanket toys; infant toys and teething; Beanie Babies (used is ok, Charlotte wash them); small flashlights; little kid toothbrushes; gallon size zip lock bags; string back packs; shower scrunches; hair brushes; nail clippers; and diapers size 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Good sources: Dollar Tree, Walmart, Amazon for travel size toiletries. For more information go to CC's Carry Ons Facebook page.

Dates to Remember:

- Nov. 1 PW Retreat, 10:00AM – 3:00 PM, Hood County Library, 222 N Travis St, Granbury, TX 76048
- Nov. 4 Bridge Circle, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 AM
- Nov. 5 Jeanell Morris Bible Study, *Love Carved in Stone*, 10:00 AM
Fellowship Hall, Sunday School Room.
- Nov. 5 Trinity Mission Nursing Home Birthday Celebration 2:00 PM,
600 Reunion Court, Granbury, TX 76048
- Nov. 20 Audrey Wallace Book Discussion Circle, Upstairs in the White House, J.B. West, Admin. Bldg.
Conference Room, 10:00AM
- Nov. 25 F.U.N. Circle Deck the Halls for Advent and Christmas
- Dec. 9 Christmas Luncheon and Program
- Jan. 10 PW Meeting: Prison Book Ministry, Nancy Worcester, bring books to donate.
- Jan. 29 CC's Carry Ons

NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27</p> <p>8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>28</p> <p>1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>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>31</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00 AM PW Meeting</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 AM Co-ed Bridge 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00 AM Jeanell Morris Bible Study Circle 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM Trinity Mission Birthday Party</p>	<p>6</p> <p>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>7</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:00 PM New Member Dinner</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>11</p> <p>1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Cranbury Knitters 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Disciples Bible Study</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 AM - 2:00 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>14</p> <p>9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 PM GSO Concert</p>
<p>17</p> <p>8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bridge Articles Due 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM DAR 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30 PM Session</p>	<p>20</p> <p>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</p> <p>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>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Deck the Halls Advent/Christmas FUJN Circle 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Disciples Bible Study</p>	<p>27</p> <p>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>28</p> <p>Office Closed for Holiday</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Office Closed for Holiday</p>	<p>30</p>



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

The Fellowship Committee is planning two events before Christmas.

We will be serving hot chocolate in front of the Administration Building during the Christmas Parade. This will start at 6:00 PM. The parade starts at 6:30 on November 29th.

Next, there will be a Christmas Luncheon following the Choir Cantata on December 15th. The Fellowship Committee will be serving homemade chili with all the fixings. The congregation is asked to bring cookies / desserts. There will be a bulletin insert the Sunday before the luncheon as a reminder.

WATCH US ONLINE

Sundays at 11:00 am
fpcgranbury.org/live



Facebook and YouTube
Search: FPC Granbury

Previous services also available for playback

This summer, many of you noticed that I live-streamed our combined Sunday service from my cell phone attached to the front pew. Now, after the work of many hands and minds, we have a professional camera system setup to stream our service. We are now able to stream to both Facebook and YouTube. Streaming to YouTube allows us to show the service on our new smart TVs in Memorial Hall, the nursery, and Fellowship Hall. This allows our nursery attendants to hear our service, gives overflow options during full services, and allows moms with fussy babies to watch from Memorial Hall.

We are currently streaming our 11 am service each Sunday. You can find a digital copy of each week's bulletin, the link for online giving, and the link to view our service on both Facebook and YouTube by visiting www.fpcgranbury.org/live. You can also search FPC Granbury on Facebook or YouTube to watch on your phone, tablet, computer, or smart TV. The videos of previous weeks are archived if you want to go back to watch a sermon you missed, hear an anthem again, or listen to our handbell choir.

If you have any trouble watching, I'd be happy to help.

Emily Graham, 817-578-5420, wwemilygraham@gmail.com

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

Last fall the congregation elected an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, composed of Mark Collinsworth, Connie Darne', Ann Mitchell, Linda Allen, Derek Faulkner, Marty Gump, and Mike Gulinson. During this past year we have worked faithfully and diligently.

We are very pleased that God has blessed us with someone we believe will be a tremendous asset to our church. Our congregation voted unanimously on October 27, 2019, to extend a call to Reverend Brenda Church. Rev. Church has served as stated supply pastor at FPC Ballinger, TX for the past three years. She brings many skills, including worship leadership, Christian education experience, a mission focus, and organizational ability. Above all, she has a passion for pastoral care. Her enthusiasm and energy seem boundless. She will help enhance our ministry to our elderly and home bound members, increase our outreach to potential members and visitors. She is as excited about our church and our community as we are about her. We feel certain that the Holy Spirit has led her to our church! We anticipate she will begin as our Associate Pastor in early January 2020. We hope you will join us in welcoming her to our church family.

The APNC would like to extend a sincere **THANK YOU** to the congregation for your prayers and support of our committee. We could not have done this work without you and faith that God was guiding us.



The **Men's Study Group** meets each Wednesday at noon in the Admin Building. Bring your lunch and come join us. We are currently viewing Rob Bell's "Nooma" series and considering "Short Stories by Jesus" (a study of the parables) for later in the fall. You are invited!



Membership

Brenda Staples, elder

Brenda@flytx1.com



Our church is blessed to have several new members, and the Membership Committee has sent out invitations to invite those who have joined in 2019 plus other frequent visitors to attend a Welcome Dinner on Friday, November 8th.

Please continue the wonderful job that you as a congregation have been doing to recognize visitors and greet them. You can be a tremendous help if you will wear your name tags on Sunday to help the new members learn our names. When our new Associate Pastor comes onboard this will be a great help to her as well. I have found that carrying my name tag in the car that we drive to church is a good way to have it handy on Sunday. (Just sayin'.....I'm forgetful!)

Even though our committee will run some ads this year in Showcase magazine and the Hood County News, our church's best advertisement is still YOU, the church family, by word of mouth. If you love our church and the good works we do here, don't hesitate to share this with others who might be interested!

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35

Administration

Roy Schoeneman, elder
wrschoeneman@charter.net



Online Giving:

Have you heard of an "e-tithe"?

Giving to the church on a regular basis has never been easier. Visit <http://fpcgranbury.org/online-giving/> and set up a recurring "e-tithe" to make an automatic offering every week, month or year, in whatever denomination you choose.

Want to go green?

Forget about paper checks, check stubs, donation receipts and handwritten notes. Using <http://fpcgranbury.org/online-giving/> to support our mission is the paperless way to track your family's charitable giving.



There will be more information to come as we grow this option to tithe/give to the church. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Shanna Adkins at office@fpcgranbury.com or 817-573-2337.

2019 First Presbyterian, Granbury Elders

Administration, Roy Schoeneman

Christian Education, Nancy Bennett

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, Ruth Ann Collins

Worship, Kathy Long

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.

To:

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