



The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

July, 2021

From the pastor

Rev. Drew Travis
revdgtravis@gmail.com



Sometimes when I need a break from things, I sneak over to the sanctuary and simply sit in the quiet. It's good to be alone with one's own thoughts every now and then. Usually when I am in that space there are people all around and the sounds of preparing for worship or the words of our sacred gathering fill the air. There is normally activity in that space when the doors are open and I am thinking about what needs to be done as I direct the event.

I have a different relationship with our sanctuary when I am there on my own and my experience is changed. The sanctuary is 125 years old and we are preparing to celebrate its anniversary. Our ministry in Granbury began in 1879 but the building was completed in 1896 and the worshipping community began to gather in April of that year. In November of 1897, a formal dedication of the building was held and the mortgage was burned. Our sanctuary has been a place of worship and an identifiable mark of our congregation for 125 years now. Think of the stories and the people and the occasions that have occurred in that space over the course of those many years.

"If these walls could talk . . ." I like to ponder all that has taken place between those four walls when I spend quiet time in our sanctuary. I think about all the people that have come and gone, all those who have ascended the steps to that special building to sing praises and spiritual songs, to listen to the word read and preached, to be part of the community of faith that gathers at 303 West Bridge to worship. And in that place they have been baptized and they have been married. And in that place they have gathered for funerals to celebrate those who will gather there no more. And in that place they have been part of an ever-changing community striving to be faithful to the God who calls us. So many different faces. So many different names. So many different personalities. So many. I wonder what stories could be told if those four walls *could* talk. I wonder what stories would be told if those walls *would* talk.

Sometimes, in the silence of that room, I try to coax those stories out a bit. I listen intently to see if I might hear a tale of faith. Often my mind does wonder to a remembrance of someone I have encountered in my eight years as pastor here and the movements of his or her life that have graced and enriched our communion. But sometimes, all I hear is the old clock on the wall and the steady *tick tock* of its metronomic cadence and I remember the passing of time and the passing of personalities and the steadiness of God's presence even as the world changes all about us. That is a story in itself and I believe those walls are talking when I hear it.

There is much to celebrate in that place – 125 years of stories of faithfulness. Next time you take a seat in our sanctuary, listen to see what you can hear. You may be surprised.

See you Sunday,
Drew





- 2 Cindy Akers Peters
Emily Graham
Lynn Silvestri
- 5 Carol Davis
- 6 Donna Barden
- 7 Roy Schoeneman
Helen Furr
Meghan Teal
- 9 Andrea Kennedy
Jay Thomas
- 11 Hank Wurtz
- 12 Anne Mays
Carol Hengels
- 13 Dan Crise
Liz Lacy
- 14 Derek Faulkner
- 15 Earl Darne'
- 17 Joe Ethridge
- 18 Debbie Schneider
Pat Collins
- 20 Betty Simpson
Bianca Brownfield
- 25 Max Jewell
Rhiannon Orbe
- 26 Judy Rose
- 27 Nancy Wilmeth
Sharon Wilemon
- 28 Ruth Gump
- 29 Shawn Deeds
- 30 Sylvia Hickey
- 31 Ray Llewellyn

July Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3 Bill and Laneal James | 8 Mike and Pam Christopher
Craig and Liz Lacy |
| 7 John and Hannah Briese
Linda and Charles Somervill
Jacci and Jack Southern | 17 Jimmy and Margie Randles
Richard and Sue Root |
| 18 Earl and Sandy Haberkamp | |



At care/retirement facilities

Courtyards at Lake Granbury

Mary Skinner

Quail Park

John Cheney, Charles Basket,
Dolores Groom

Waterview at Lake Granbury

Ted Dolan, Nita Collinsworth

Prestonwood Court, Plano

Linda Reed

The Cove at Waterview

Jean Haight, Eloise Pauli

Town Village Crossing, Arlington

Linda Bowlin

New Address

Jean Haight
The Cove #205
101 Watermark Blvd.
Granbury, TX 76048



Linda Reed
7001 W Plano Pkwy #310
Plano, TX 75093
Ph. 972 662-3960

Linda Bowlin
1250 W Pioneer Pkwy. #2206
Arlington, TX 76013

SPECIAL BLESSING

Heavenly Father, please surround our family and friends with your comfort, peace and strength. Help us to care for those hurting and in need, being instruments of your unending love. Amen.

AT HOME AND/OR RECEIVING TREATMENT

Diann McHaney, Winette Lovelady, Edith George, Martha Ferrill, Ed Smith, Bill Lowe, JD Finlay

WE MOURN THE PASSING OF OUR CHURCH MEMBER

* Jimmy Callahan

CONCERNS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- * Linda Bowlin on the loss of her beloved husband, Stan.
- * Rita Hart as she deals with the effects of a brain tumor.
- * Ann Mitchell, as she recovers from hip surgery after a horse injury.
- * Dave Barnett
- * Donna Callahan on the passing of her husband, Jimmy.



CONCERNS FOR OUR EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

- * CJ Cluck, 8 year old grandson of member Beverly McKusick as he continues chemo after his amputation.
- * Debra Wallace, eldest daughter of Carol Boyd, as she recovers from COVID.

CHURCH JOYS AND BLESSINGS

- * Edith George will be celebrating her 100th birthday June 30th.
- * Mary Skinner will celebrate her 99th birthday July 4th.



Dear FPC family,
Thank you all so much for the lovely shower for Allison. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful church family. We are grateful that our children are being raised in a church with such kind people.

Love, Tony, Emily, Elliott and Allison Graham



Bridge Circle

Bridge circle will begin August 2, 2021 at Fellowship Hall.

We will play from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. Please let Lorraine or Raye know if you are interested in playing.

We are a friendly group and like to enjoy bridge and fellowship. Beginners and experts are welcome. We will have more details as we see how much interest we have. Men and Women are invited!!



Raye Kliemann 817 579-1238

Lorraine Schmitz 682 205-1335



Associate Pastor

Rev. Brenda Church
rev.brenda.church@gmail.com



What's Your 125?

What? 125 years??? We sure don't look that old! As most of you know by now, this year marks 125 years since our sanctuary was built. Now that we are pretty much back to normal after Covid, we are ready to celebrate BIG! And we need your help!

An Ad Hoc Committee of the Session, headed by Susan Kidd, is hard at work planning all kinds of events. We'll do everything from ice cream socials, to music events, to movie night, to a special luminary vigil for all those who have gone before us at FPC. There will be games, and puzzles, and laughter. We'll plaster our new logo on just about everything that doesn't move. And we'll find a good way to make a lasting difference in our community by sponsoring a community mission project. Our first event will happen in conjunction with the July 3rd Independence Day parade BBQ and Hot Dog celebration. We hope you will come help us kick off our BIG celebration. We plan to wrap up our 125th celebration with a special Homecoming worship service in the Spring of 2022! It will be a very meaningful time. Rumor has it, Drew may even wear a petticoat!!! :)

The Ad Hoc Committee is busy putting together a timeline of events. We plan to have one event each month beginning with our July 3rd celebration. As soon as we solidify a few things, we will publish the entire timeline, so you can make your plans. There will be many, many ways for you to help with these events in the coming months. Our committee is small and there is no way we can pull this off by ourselves...so we are counting on YOU!

I know you are so excited you can hardly contain yourself...and your question at this point is probably: **“What Can I Do NOW?”** Your second question might be: **“And what is all of this What's Your 125 business anyway?”**



One of the early ideas of the committee was to ask each church member to contribute \$125.00 to help fund our celebration along with the community mission project. As we discussed this idea, it was pointed out that Presbyterians are already really good at giving money...and wouldn't it be more fun if we encouraged people to do something more varied, or active, or tangible. So, we decided to let people decide for themselves what their personal 125 will be. We would like everyone...from the youngest of us to the oldest to participate. You are certainly welcome to give \$125.00 if you'd like...or 125 pennies, or nickels, or dimes. Or, you can choose to do something else...such as jump rope 125 times and video it...or you might choose to write 125 cards of encouragement to others...or draw...or write...or run...or walk...125 somethings...just whatever you'd like to do to help celebrate this important milestone. It can be serious, or silly, heart-wrenching, or laughter-inducing. Anything at all that you'd like to do...no holds barred. Well, it does need to be legal and moral...there is that! :) We are hoping that parents will let kids decide what they'd like to do and then help them make that a reality. We can't wait to see what everyone comes up with.

So, put on your thinking caps. In the very near future, the committee will devise a way for you to let others know about your 125! At some point, we'll come together to celebrate everyone's 125! More details to come...but for now....be thinking...

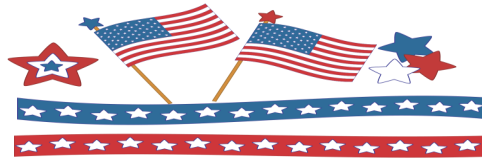


What's Your 125???



Fellowship

Linda Allen, elder
lindaallen33047@gmail.com



Our next Fellowship event will be the July 4th BBQ at Fellowship Hall following the parade. The parade will start at 10:00 AM on Saturday, July 3rd and will pass the Administration Office first and then the Fellowship Hall. When the parade is over, we will be ready to serve BBQ sandwiches and hot dogs with all the fixings. Due to the heat, we will have tea, lemonade, and water available in Fellowship Hall earlier than the food. If you have family and friends in town for the festivities, we encourage you to bring them.

Here is a good summer salad recipe on those days when it is just too hot to cook.

Asian Chicken Salad

Half big bowl of shredded cabbage (bag of cabbage/slaw mix)

2 c chicken (chopped)

1 c sliced almonds

1 c Craisens

Diced red onion (as much as you like)

1/3 cup black sesame seeds

1 loose cup cilantro leaves

Dressing: Put in food processor and blend all together

½ c olive oil

1/3 c Balsamic vinegar

¼ c Soy Sauce

2 pods minced garlic (or to taste)

¼ c honey

Fresh ginger (1 ½ inch peeled)

¼ c Sesame oil

1/3 c water





Prayer of the Month

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



Most of you are familiar with the Prayer of a Seventeenth Century Nun. I seriously question the 17th Century part. I'm not sure droll was a quality practiced by nuns of that time. But, whatever the source, I know it made its way into the PW Bible Study hour several years back. I don't know who brought it at that time. A calligraphic copy of the prayer has been on one or another of my walls since somewhere in the 1980's and while subtraction reminds me that is forty years and counting, it's relevance to me to has only increased.

I am going to paraphrase here and there but not enough so you won't recognize it. I hope it sits well with you for these days and times.

Lord, you know better than I know myself, that I am growing older and will some day be old. **KEEP ME FROM GETTING TALKATIVE** and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. **RELEASE ME FROM WANTING** to try to straighten out everyone's affairs. **MAKE ME THOUGHTFUL**, but not moody, helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but you know I want some friends at the end. **KEEP MY MIND FREE** from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. **SEAL MY LIPS** from my many aches and pains. They are increasing and my love of reciting them is getting sweeter as the years go by. I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others pains. **HELP ME TO ENDURE** them with patience. Teach me the glorious lesson that it is occasionally possible that I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint. Some of them are hard to live with; but a sour old woman (or man) is one of the crowning works of the devil. **HELP ME** to extract all possible fun out of life. There are so many funny things around us and I do not wish to miss any of them.

And my additions:

Father, give me patience and understanding with myself when what was once simple becomes difficult. Let me recognize when others are experiencing the "new-difficult" and grant me patience to walk with them through those minutes. Father, my world is small and staying current has become a responsibility and a painful chore, no longer just the routine of "what one does." Keep me seeking what is current so my prayers can be pointed and direct. You do not tire of us, let us not tire of the neediness all around us so we can pray with you for situations here and abroad.

Bless our church, it's leaders, and it's members. Help those who are ill recover. Bring ease and peace to those who mourn. Bless the children, Lord, and keep them safe. Show us each moment how we can be a witness for you and bring your presence wherever we go.

In Christ's name, we pray.
Amen.



Presbyterian Women

Nancy Burks Worcester, moderator
nancybw@gmail.com



Presbyterian Women take a break in the summer, but watch out for exciting new things for the fall. And look elsewhere in this month's publication for news about The Bridge Club!



Membership

Marla Caraway, elder
marlahill1001@gmail.com



The Membership Committee and several session members enjoyed a fun BBQ dinner with 10 new and prospective members on June 13th in Fellowship Hall. It was so much fun getting to know this new group of folks. We all felt a sense of excitement and energy with a lot of good laughs! One group is already planning an “ax throwing” outing!! We will have a new group of members to present to the congregation soon. We hope you will seek out those who are new among us and welcome them with open arms (or an elbow bump).

Instant
Church Directory™
Online

Be on the lookout for some
exciting updates for our Membership
Directory!

Summer seems to be moving on quickly and many of us are relishing this time to get some vacation time in. Once we all settle back in after summer, the membership committee will start work on a **New Directory**. We’ve already made some changes in our online directory by adding a denotation to honor those that we have lost in our church family.

With new faces in worship, and the baptism of precious Allison Graham, we rejoice in the new life and future of First Presbyterian Church.

Invite a friend or neighbor to join you for some free BBQ after the Fourth of July Parade in Fellowship Hall!



Allison Kay Graham was Baptized June 20th. Allison is the daughter of Tony and Emily Graham and Elliott’s little sister! Welcome Allison, to the family of the household of God!



Do you feel called to serve the church but want something you can do from home? The Communion Guild is looking for someone to bake bread for our communion services. We need two loaves for the first Sunday of each month. You would also need to provide bread for special services, Christmas Eve for example.

If you are a baker this could be a wonderful way for you to, as stated in our Book of Order, be a part of The Ministry of Members by being involved in the ministry of Christ's church. (Section G-1.0304)



Prayerfully consider if you are being called to serve the church by baking bread for communion. If you are interested, please call Julie Dean at (318) 751-8367.



The admin office recently received a bit of a face-lift. Stop in take a peek, and enjoy some coffee!





Christian Education

Nancy Bennett, elder
nbennett0803@gmail.com



With two worship services continuing through the summer, we will have both Adult and Children's Sunday school available at 10:00 AM.



Richard McCarthy will be leading the Adult Sunday School with a few guest leaders along the way. Come grab a donut and/or a cup of coffee and join us in the main room of Fellowship Hall.

We will also have Sunday School for children of all ages. Come find us in Fellowship Hall in the room diagonally across from the nursery.



And if you are looking for something mid-week, beginning Thursday, July 15th through the end of August, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall Sunday School room, Pastor Brenda is offering a weekly Bible Study on the Book of Philippians. Please call, text, email her or the church office to sign up.



2021 First Presbyterian, Granbury Elders

Have you wondered, "*who do I call?*"
Pastors' Drew and Brenda
are always available!

Don't hesitate to call we are here to serve you!

The church email: office@fpcgranbury.com
Phone: (817) 573-2337

Administration, Stephanie Mosley
Christian Education, Nancy Bennett
Clerk of Session, Mike Gulinson
Congregational Care, Susan Younk-Kidd
Fellowship, Linda Allen
Long-Range Planning, Terry Worcester
Membership, Marla Caraway
Outreach & Mission, Bianca Brownfield
Property, Derek Faulkner
Stewardship, Jack Gilmore
Ushering, Brad Bell
Worship, Julie Dean



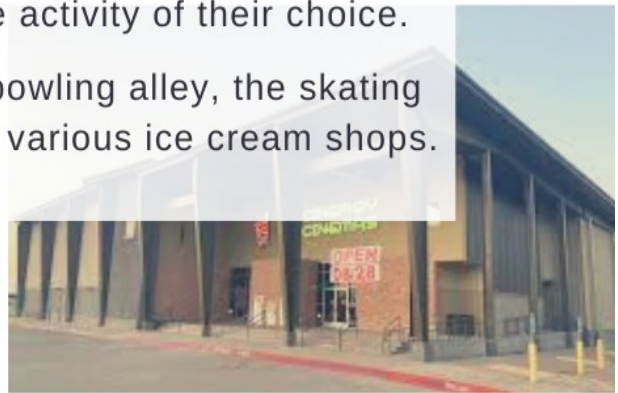
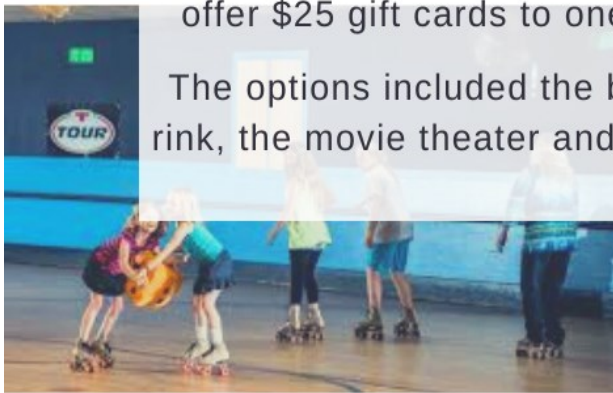


Outreach and Mission

Bianca Brownfield, elder
biancabrownfield@gmail.com



In June, the missions and outreach committee chose to share a little summer fun with the 16 families living in the housing authority. We voted to offer \$25 gift cards to one activity of their choice.



The options included the bowling alley, the skating rink, the movie theater and various ice cream shops.



What a joy to contribute shoes to the Hood County Rainbow Room and all they do for our kids in foster care.

Our contribution of gift cards for shoes allows a CASA volunteer or a caseworker to take a child to pick out new shoes that they like and that fit!!

July 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book	28 6:30 PM Al-Anon	29 2:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting	30	1 1:00 PM Personnel Committee - Admin Building	2	3 10:00 AM Communion Guild BBQ and hot dogs in Fellowship hall following the parade!
4 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book	5 Office Closed - Holiday 6:30 PM Al-Anon	6	7 10:00 AM Staff Meeting	8	9	10
11 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book	12 6:30 PM Al-Anon	13 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Granbury Knitting Guild - FH 10:00 AM Music Director Search Committee 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Meeting - FH	14 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM PEO Meeting - FH	15 6:00 PM Phillipian's Bible Study - Fellowship Hall Sunday School Room	16	17
18 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book 6:30 PM Lenten Devotional Zoom Conversations	19 6:30 PM Al-Anon	20 Bridge Articles Due 5:30 PM Session	21	22 6:00 PM Phillipian's Bible Study - Fellowship Hall Sunday School Room	23	24
25 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book	26 6:30 PM Al-Anon	27	28	29 6:00 PM Phillipian's Bible Study - Fellowship Hall Sunday School Room	30	31 10:00 AM Communion Guild

Watch this space for changes to our calendar. View current calendar on website <http://fpcgranbury.org/> Click on calendar at the top of the page.



To celebrate your birthday (or that of a family member or friend), and in thanksgiving for God’s gift of grace, please consider making a gift of your own, in the amount of \$1 for each year of your (or your honoree’s) life, to sustain the permanent endowment funds of the church.

Please notify the church office when you make your gift that it is a birthday offering. If honoring someone else, please so note. If giving online, please provide this information in the “Notes.”

Any announcements for inclusion in the bulletin need to be received by Thursday noon.



To:

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