



# The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

October, 2021

## From the pastor

Rev. Drew Travis  
revdgtravis@gmail.com



I travelled to Amarillo this past week to be with my father. He's on hospice care and is closing in on his own resurrection. We didn't expect that he would live through the weekend. Though his condition is declining, as I write this he continues to live and breathe. We simply do not know when his resurrection will come.

I listened to the radio as I drove up. The discussion was about changing weather patterns and the challenges that creates for forecasting accurately what comes next. They spoke of the science behind forecasting and the tools they use to make their prognostications. They were clear to explain that forecasts are as accurate as possible but that the weather sometimes has a mind of its own. Hurricanes, for instance, can be seen developing and it's easy enough to predict landfall by the speed of the system. Those predictions are fairly simple and can be made while the storm is still far out at sea. Predicting *where* they will hit is a different story and those predictions can only be made accurately nearer to the storm's landing. Sometimes the storm has a mind of its own and takes an unexpected direction. Even with all our sophisticated scientific knowledge, some things remain hard to predict. We have no control over such matters.

I've thought much about that conversation this week as I've been with my father. Physicians and nurses and hospice personnel can interpret all the information. They can observe the patient and determine his or her emotional status. They can interpret the signs that occur when death is immanent. These professionals can even observe with skill the patient's readiness for death. They cannot, however, set the alarm with pinpoint accuracy for when death will come. Some things we simply do not control.

I needed to be in worship Sunday morning so I drove 25 miles to Plainview to worship with a community I know well. My grandfather served that congregation for 11 years. He was pastor when they built their unique building. My father led the groundbreaking service for that edifice. I would later serve the same congregation for 12 years. It's a wonderful worship space and one of the "thin places" that I've had the privilege to know in my life.

I sat down in the pew. Waved inconspicuously to a handful of folks who noticed my arrival. I stood to sing the opening Call to Worship. Not noticing the words to the verse were printed in the bulletin, I grabbed a hymnal and sang the wrong verse in my full-throated way. Everyone heard me. The pianist looked my way with a sit-down-and-shut-up kind of glance but I didn't have a clue as to why. (At least I am consistent – I often sing the wrong verse, you know.) I felt at home away from home.

After passing the peace, the liturgist rose to read just one simple verse of scripture from the 46<sup>th</sup> Psalm: "Be still and know that I am God." Those words were the only sermon I needed on Sunday. My breath steadied. My shoulders relaxed. My mind stopped running. I was still and I was reminded that the matters of life and death are in God's hands. I trust that. I was at peace. It was the only forecast I needed.

See you Sunday,

Drew



## Associate Pastor

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



Life is such an adventure! The opportunities never end! Over the past year or so, I have been feeling a nudge to pursue a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree. I have been discussing this with Drew and with the Session for the past few months. Last month, I received Session approval and submitted all of the documents and papers necessary for the admission process. I have been accepted at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and will begin my studies in January, 2022.

The Doctor of Ministry degree is a unique and interesting degree. It requires little time in the classroom (2 weeks per year) because the work of the degree is designed to be performed in the context of my existing ministry setting. In other words, the projects that I undertake in this effort will directly benefit and can be placed into service at First Presbyterian Church. I am entering the “Leadership for Wonder: Re-Enchanting Christian Life” track at APTS. This track emphasizes spiritual disciplines and development and is designed to help me think more deeply about doctrine, ethics, church life, vocation, and Christian contemplation from a distinctively spiritual perspective.

As mentioned before, both the soil and the fruit of my study are rooted in my current ministry context. This means that I will be planning and offering to implement programs or events within our church throughout the 3 year time of my coursework. These programs/ events will take shape as I work through the curriculum. I will keep the Session and the congregation informed, as appropriate, regarding the nature and implementation of these programs and events. Hopefully, the fruit of my DMin work will enhance the life of the church in this place, maybe even for many years to come.

So, what do I need from you as I enter this new adventure? I would love to have your moral support, but even beyond that, it would be a real blessing for you to be willing to “wonder” along with me to discern the spiritual discipline and development needs of our church. Life is tough these days, and I firmly believe that our lives and our mission in the world are enhanced when we draw near to God and recognize a few important things (list not all-inclusive):

- We truly are loved beyond our ability to understand by the Creator of all things;
- Our spiritual health is important to our effective work for God’s Kingdom in the world;
- We can find true and abiding peace when we take the time to allow God to fill us; and,
- We are better together!

I hope you are willing to “wonder” along with me, and I welcome your thoughts. Let’s have coffee! I am excited about this adventure and look forward to seeing what we can do together to “glorify God and enjoy God forever!”



# Congregational Care

Susan Younk Kidd, elder  
susanyoung@gmail.com



## AT HOME AND/OR RECEIVING TREATMENT

Diann McHaney, Edith George, Martha Ferrill, Ed Smith, Bill Lowe, JD Finlay, Dave Barnett, Paula Jenkins, Donna Callahan

## CONCERNS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- Fran Smith on the passing of her brother, George from COVID
- Steve and Nancy Wilmeth on the passing of Steve's daughter Tammy
- Winette Lovelady as she goes through rehab from hip surgery
- Renee Metcalf as she recovers from spinal surgery
- Barbara Buffalo as she recovers from hip surgery
- Mary Hayden as she recovers from a broken foot
- Dolores Goodall as she recovers from illness
- Lorraine Schmitz as she recovers from surgery
- Dave Barnett for multiple health issues
- Paula Jenkins as she recovers from knee surgery
- Rita Hart as she deals with the effects of her brain tumor



## SPECIAL BLESSING:

Jim and Joanne Wallis on their 55th anniversary. Doyle and Jane Seley on their 64th anniversary. Marty and Ruth Gump on their 65th anniversary. Pastor Drew back at church after recovering from COVID. The Brownfield family (3/4) after recovering from COVID. Lorraine Schmitz on the successful surgery that eased her pain.

Heavenly Father, please surround our friends and family, who are grieving and in pain, with your loving presence and help us to be instruments of your strength and healing in their lives.

## AT CARE/RETIREMENT FACILITIES

**Courtyards at Lake Granbury:** Mary Skinner

**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

**The Oaks:** CH Tubbs

**Quail Park:** Dolores Groom, John Cheney,

**Heartis, Webster TX:** Martha Ferrill  
**Rosemont, Humble TX:** Betty Dean

## CONCERNS FOR OUR EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

- CJ Cluck, grandson of Beverly McKusick, on his continued treatments for cancer.
- Kathy Yoder (former church admin) on the passing of her husband Gino, from COVID.



- 2 Tim and Nancy Bennett
- 4 Nick and Laura Duecker
- 5 Gregory and Pamela Gifford
- 14 Joe and Felicia Peters
- 15 Curt and Debbie Armstrong
- 20 Jerry and Pepper Davis

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Jerry Davis        | 17 Frank Hengels      |
| Marla Caraway        | 18 Mary Hayden        |
| 2 Janna Sullins      | 19 Margaret Gulinson  |
| 3 Charles McKusick   | 20 Lachlyn McPhie     |
| Jack Dapogny         | 25 Marjorie C. Wherry |
| Kathryn Hogue        | Roger Deeds           |
| 4 Dana Reinke        | 28 Mary Hattox        |
| 6 Betty Smith        | 29 Virginia Conner    |
| 9 Jane Seley         | 31 Robert Silvestri   |
| 11 Judy Butler       |                       |
| 14 Christian Luersen |                       |
| Joe Peters           |                       |
| Mary Lee McCarthy    |                       |

## Prayer of the Month

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



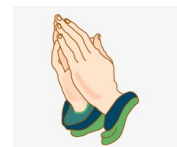
There is a design trend currently happening where pieces of wood and sometimes stone are utilized in furnishings without the sides being trimmed and squared up. They call the pieces “live edge.” It makes sense. The edges are what you find in life: oddly shaped and sometimes rough. The natural edges are often filled with imperfections and sometimes discolorations, but artists and designers are embracing as-is, whatever as-is turns out to be. I’m tempted to go down the rabbit hole reflecting on the psychology driving this trend. Certainly the events of the past eighteen months have been beyond our ability to trim up and make square. Celebrating and embracing what-is is a hard place to get to. Most of us approach what-is beyond our control being dragged kicking and screaming.

We all pay nominal or more-than-nominal honor to the belief that God is in control but frankly often want to believe that God’s control would result in edges trimmed and squared up. And, as the old song said, “That ain’t necessarily so”. I think proof for this is God’s relationship with us. He accepts our rough and ragged edges, our cracks and dark places, our sags and knots and loves us just the way we are. Our live edges sneak up on us, and sometimes we are completely blinded to our rough spots. But God sees and knows all and still loves us eternally. You gotta love a God like that. And he wants that. He wants our love, and he wants us to share that abundant love with all those other live edges out there, in their rough beauty, just as they are.

Heavenly Father,  
We give thanks for your love and are grateful for our good fortune in being blessed by our life in Christ. Help us appreciate the live edges of others as we make our way through our days — even if we would prefer trimmed up and square.

We pray for all the caretakers. Give them strength to keep doing the jobs they do. We pray for the educators and ask that their days be inspired and rewarded. Bless the children. We ask for healing for the sick and solace for the grieving. We pray for our church, it’s ministers, and all its workers. We pray for those who have no one to pray for them.

We pray all in the name of Christ.  
Pat Collins





# Presbyterian Women

Nancy Burks Worcester, moderator  
nancybw@gmail.com



Presbyterian Women met on September 1 with 24 attending.

Our retreat will be November 5 with Rev. Christi Robbins. More information to follow.

This month's speaker was Michael Reed, co-founder of Couch Surfer Ministries. He talked about how this wonderful ministry to homeless men started. It is a sober-living and Bible-based program designed to help homeless and jobless men get on their feet again. They will soon be opening a women's shelter, which will house 10 women and up to 4 children. Both the men's and women's shelters are run completely on private donations. They currently need help with painting, drywall repair, gardening, landscape decorating, clothes, kitchen supplies, and more. We voted to help by donating all coats and jackets from the garage sale donations and whatever else they need. They also agreed to take all of our leftover garage sale items. If you would like to help this amazing ministry you can call Michael at 817-663-5384.



IT'S FINALLY TIME! After missing the last three, we are at last going to have a (safe and socially distanced) garage sale. To that end, here are some guidelines:

On Sunday September 26 we will need some help to begin set-up for the following week.

Donations may be brought to Fellowship Hall on the following schedule:

September 22-24 and 27-29 from 9-5 Someone will be in Fellowship Hall to accept your donations. Please save your larger items for the week of sale.

**THIS YEAR:** Inside FH will be ONLY clothing, furniture, and items that could be damaged by rain. Everything else will be set up on the parking lot and tarped during the week so that the sale can take place outdoors. We are asking that all indoor workers and indoor shoppers wear a mask. This includes people who price and sort during the week.

The sale itself will be Friday Oct 1 from 8-4 and Saturday Oct 2, from 8- 2. **WE NEED TARPS FOR THE SALE.** If you have one we can borrow or keep, please bring it to the church at any time. If you would like to volunteer, have questions, have a tarp, or need items picked up, please call Nancy Worcester at 817-578-0478.



The Presbyterian Women have voted to donate any items remaining after the sale to

## Couch Surfer Ministries

to assist in setting up their women's shelter.



# 125th Anniversary



Dear Friends,

The 125th Celebration got off to a great start with Horns and History night on Friday, the 17th. Earl Haberkamp, Ted Dolan, Lauri Morgan and David Talmage rocked the room with their lively pieces. As The Granbury Saxophone Quartet played, foot tapping and shoulder swaying were seen throughout the sanctuary. What a talented group of musicians!

Dan Vanderburg, not to be outdone, delivered wonderful insights into what life was like during the late 1800's. Dan's vivid descriptions took us back 125 years to a time in Granbury when dirt streets, church groups, cotton farmers, and bars took center stage in town.

We thank The Granbury Saxophone Quartet and Dan Vanderburg for making the First Presbyterian Church 125th opening celebration such a success.

The 125th Team



Please join us for THE PUMPKIN PALOOZA EVENT

When: Sunday, October 24 2:00 PM

(Starting in the Sanctuary then moving outside).

Featuring: Our wonderful Nancy Worcester and Waco!

Warm up act: Pastor Drew with his guitar.

EVERYONE is invited to come and enjoy games, food and fellowship as we honor some children in our community as well as the children in our congregation. Dress up in costume or come as you may ... please be part of this celebration!



Please RSVP by October 15th with the number of children attending by calling the church office, as we have some special treats for them! (Children, grandchildren or young friends are very welcome!)



## Fellowship

Linda Allen, elder  
lindaallen33047@gmail.com



We would normally be enjoying Small Group Dinners for the Fall months. However, due to the extremely high Covid count in Hood County and the fact that our hospital is full and transfers to neighboring hospitals are not possible, we are going to delay for another month. We fervently pray that the count will drop to a safe level, and we can resume fellowship events!

### Layered Green Salad

(this may sound boring, but it is a great salad)

- 1 head Romaine lettuce, torn up
- 1/2 bag frozen English peas
- 1 bell pepper chopped
- 3 green onions chopped including green stems
- Grated Cheddar cheese
- Crumbled bacon (5-6 slices)

In a big bowl layer all of the above ingredients in the same order they are listed. Repeat layers 4 or 5 times or until you have used all of the ingredients.

### Dressing: DON'T DRESS SALAD UNTIL TIME TO SERVE

- 1 c mayonnaise
- 2 T sugar, stir with mayo, then add 1 more tablespoon sugar and stir again
- 1 T vinegar, stir and add 1 more tablespoon vinegar and stir again.
- Adjust sugar and vinegar to taste. Should be sweet and tangy

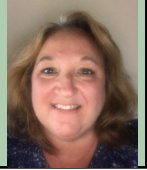




# Worship

Julie Dean, elder

juliebutlerdean@gmail.com



Welcome to Priscilla Allen, our new Music Director! Priscilla and her husband Larry have recently moved to Granbury from Dallas. Priscilla has a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Baylor University, Master of Education with concentration in vocal music from the University of North Texas, school administrator certification from Texas A&M Commerce, and post-graduate coursework at the University of Vienna, Austria.

In addition to directing music at FPC, Priscilla is an educational consultant and tutor.

Larry, a retired school administrator, works in real-estate.

Priscilla and Larry have 2 children, Amanda, a physician in Georgia, and Mark, whose business is in Fort Worth. Grandchildren Ava and Luke recently visited the church and enjoyed getting to ring the bell.

Priscilla's interests include travel, genealogy research, collecting children's books, anything historical, and most of all music. She is playing piano at the DAR House at the State Fair this month and also sings in the Granbury Civic Chorus.

We are blessed to have such a wonderfully gifted music director at FPC!



Priscilla Allen, FPC Music Director,  
with her husband Larry







## F.U.N. Circle

Gloria Mitchell, F.U.N. circle coordinator

[gwmitch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gwmitch@sbcglobal.net)

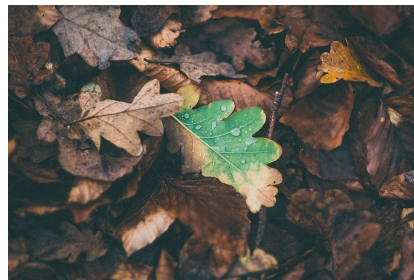


Wednesday, October 27, we'll be meeting at Elizabeth Crockett's gravesite in Acton, at 10:00. You will see the very impressive statue of Elizabeth and learn a bit about her and her family. Afterward we'll go over to Acton Nature Center to eat our picnic lunches. And those interested can join us on a hike in the nature center.



### October Lullaby

by Kathryn Timpany



Soft rain falling  
drops and drops and drops  
soft leaves falling  
one and then another  
and then a handful  
and then a burdened branch  
lightened and eased  
like fears dropping away  
from our anxious hearts  
like enemies forgetting to hate  
like death becoming light  
and warmth settling like a shawl  
around cold bones  
just life circling and cycling  
and sometimes so gentle  
so gentle so gentle  
you almost believe in love  
after all and after all is said  
and done and finished  
love remains  
remains

# MAKE MUSIC WITH US

Interested in joining our choir or handbell choir?  
We would love to have you join us.  
Call or text for more information:



## CHOIR

972-742-5509

Priscilla Allen, Music Director

## HANDBELLS

817-578-5420

Emily Graham, Handbell Director

## HANDBELLS

5:30 - 6:30 WEDNESDAYS  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

PLAYS IN SERVICE ~6 TIMES/YEAR

## CHOIR

6:30 - 8:00 WEDNESDAYS  
MEMORIAL HALL

SINGS IN SERVICE  
WEEKLY



# October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Flu Shot Clinic	<b>27</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:00 AM Set up for PW Rummage Sale	<b>28</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:00 AM Set up for PW Rummage Sale	<b>29</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:00 AM Set up for PW Rummage Sale 5:30 PM Choir Practice - Sanctuary	<b>30</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:00 AM Set up for PW Rummage Sale	<b>1</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:00 AM PW Rummage Sale	<b>2</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:00 AM PW Rummage Sale 10:00 AM Communion Guild
<b>3</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book	<b>4</b> Brenda - Vacation Large Sunday School - NW Corner - Reserved for Garage Sale 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Bridge Circle - FH 6:30 PM Al-Anon	<b>5</b> Brenda - Vacation Trinity Mission Party 10:00 AM PW Bible Study - FH	<b>6</b> Brenda - Vacation 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal - FH 6:30 PM Choir Practice - MH	<b>7</b> Brenda - Vacation 11:30 AM Clergy Group - FH	<b>8</b> Brenda - Vacation	<b>9</b> Reserved - Possible Rose Wedding Reception - FH Brenda - Vacation
<b>10</b> 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book	<b>11</b> Drew - Out of the office 9:00 AM Monthly Property Meeting - Square Cafe 6:30 PM Al-Anon	<b>12</b> Drew - Out of the office 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Granbury Knitting Guild - FH 5:30 PM Mission & Outreach Meeting - FH	<b>13</b> Drew - Out of the office 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM PEO Meeting 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal - FH 6:30 PM Choir Practice - MH	<b>14</b> Drew - Out of the office	<b>15</b> Drew - Out of the office	<b>16</b> Drew - Out of the office 2:00 PM Bridge Street History—Sanctuary
<b>17</b> Drew - Out of the office 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and on Face Book	<b>18</b> 6:30 PM Al-Anon	<b>19</b> 10:00 AM Policy Review - Admin Building 11:30 AM Clergy Group - FH 5:30 PM Session	<b>20</b> Bridge Articles Due 10:00 AM Book Circle - Being Mortal by Atul Gawande 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal - FH 6:30 PM Choir Practice - MH	<b>21</b> 10:00 AM Personnel Committee Meeting - Admin Building	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>

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. Bridge deadline is the 20th of each month.**



**To:**

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