

The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

June, 2022

From the pastor

Rev. Drew Travis
revdgtravis@gmail.com



When we were kids, we played a lot of “guessing” games. We played them in various ways. Sometimes, we played them in the guise of knock-knock jokes. You remember: “Knock, knock,” says one of you. “Who’s there?” says the other. “Jimmy,” says the one. “Jimmy who?” says the other. “Jimmy the door and I’ll let you in,” the joker would say. I never thought that was a very good one, but my buddy Paul thought it was hilarious, and he told it to anyone who would listen. I think it must have been a joke of his own creation.

We would often play “20 Questions” on long road trips with the family. The player whose turn it was would think up a particular item, and the others in the car were allowed to ask questions, each one taking turns until they either guessed the item or asked the 20 questions and failed to figure it out. The first question was usually, “Is it living or dead?” or maybe, “Is it vegetable or mineral?” Someone would almost always ask, “Is it larger than a bread box?” Goodness, how many folk today would even get that reference? Everyone would think and ask and ask and think. The best players in the car were the ones who listened to all the answers to all the questions and were able to put together a good guess based on all the clues offered. They didn’t just listen to the answers to their questions, they listened to *all* the questions and *all* the answers and developed a composite answer.

I know many of us are now playing WORDLE on our computers and phones. It’s a guessing game. The object is to guess the word. Each word has five letters. You have six guesses in which to find the correct word. A new word is offered online at midnight each day. It’s a game intended to be played individually so that the only competition is with one’s self. However, there is now apparently a version intended to be played competitively with others. I enjoy playing it each morning, and I’ve learned a thing or two along the way. I’ve also learned that most of the words I know are six letter words!

I read a brief piece recently suggesting that religion is little more than a guessing game. I didn’t find much in the article that I agreed with. Can we answer all the questions of the universe in religious parlance with any great degree of surety? Perhaps not. But we can ask questions and learn. We can listen to one another and hear what is being said. We can study the scriptures and dig more deeply in order to understand their context. We can gather all the clues we can in order to appropriate what we know from our religious traditions and how they may inform our world today. Surely our prayers and our worship instruct us in this venture. Sometimes we do guess but hopefully we make informed guesses as we do. In the end, it’s not whether we make 6 attempts or 20 attempts that matters. It’s not a competition. We figure out what this faith is all about when we discover that He who stands at the door and knocks is the One who calls us to faith. I don’t think that’s guess work – I think we can rely on that. It is by God’s grace that we are called “children of God.” And so we are. That’s not just guesswork.

See you Sunday,



**Take Note: June 5 through
September 4**

**Summer worship schedule:
One service on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

Associate Pastor

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



Stephen Ministry Is Coming!

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.” – John 15:12

On Wednesday of my very first week among you, I attended choir practice – not to sing, of course (whew!!) ...just to meet people and to learn more about the music ministry at our church. I wasn't in the sanctuary for more than 2 minutes, when out of the choir loft flew...yes, she flew...a beautiful lady. She had a look of loving urgency on her face as she grabbed me by the shirt and exclaimed, “I have been waiting for you!” I accepted her hug and wondered why it was she had been waiting for me. She continued, “You are going to be the one to bring Stephen Ministry to our church!” It wasn't a question. It wasn't even a statement. This was a true proclamation! One I certainly couldn't refuse.

That was the first week of January, 2020. In March of that year, at the very beginning of Covid, that dear lady, Ruth Ann, succumbed to cancer and passed away, but not before we had met at least three times. Even in her last days of fighting her disease, Ruth Ann was seeking assurance that I had my marching orders and understood my mission. I promised her that we would get Stephen Ministry started in our congregation. Ruth Ann provided a generous donation to the church to cover the initial expenses...All was ready...

Then, Covid...

Fast forward to 2022. Now, as we have emerged from the pandemic, it is time to follow through on my promise. And I am beyond excited to get started.

What is Stephen Ministry? The official answer states: “Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called *Stephen Ministers*—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.” Said another way, Stephen Ministry is a way for lay people to be trained to “listen, listen...love, love.” A trained Stephen Minister is paired up with another person who is in a season of difficulty. Stephen Ministry provides people just like you with the tools needed to confidentially serve another person in our congregation.

Last month, we registered our church as a Stephen Ministry church and paid the initial fee. The next step is sending two people to Stephen Leader training. Once trained, those Stephen Leaders will be equipped to lead the classes necessary for church members to become Stephen Ministers. Those who complete Stephen Ministry training will be officially installed as Stephen Ministers and will be, prayerfully, paired up with a person who has a need.

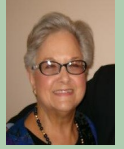
I feel confident that many of you will step up to be Stephen Ministers. And, as Presbyterians, we are often more willing *to help* than *to be helped*. So, it is our hope anyone who has a need will be willing to accept a Stephen Minister...someone to simply listen, encourage, and be present. We truly are better together. We are called to bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2), and Stephen Ministry is a wonderful way for us to do just that, one for another.

I wish we could re-name our church's Stephen Ministry. I like the ring of Ruth Ann's Ministry. But I guess there are probably rules against that. Still, my heart is happy to, finally, be able to begin to implement this ministry that was so near and dear to one as near and dear as Ruth Ann was to us.

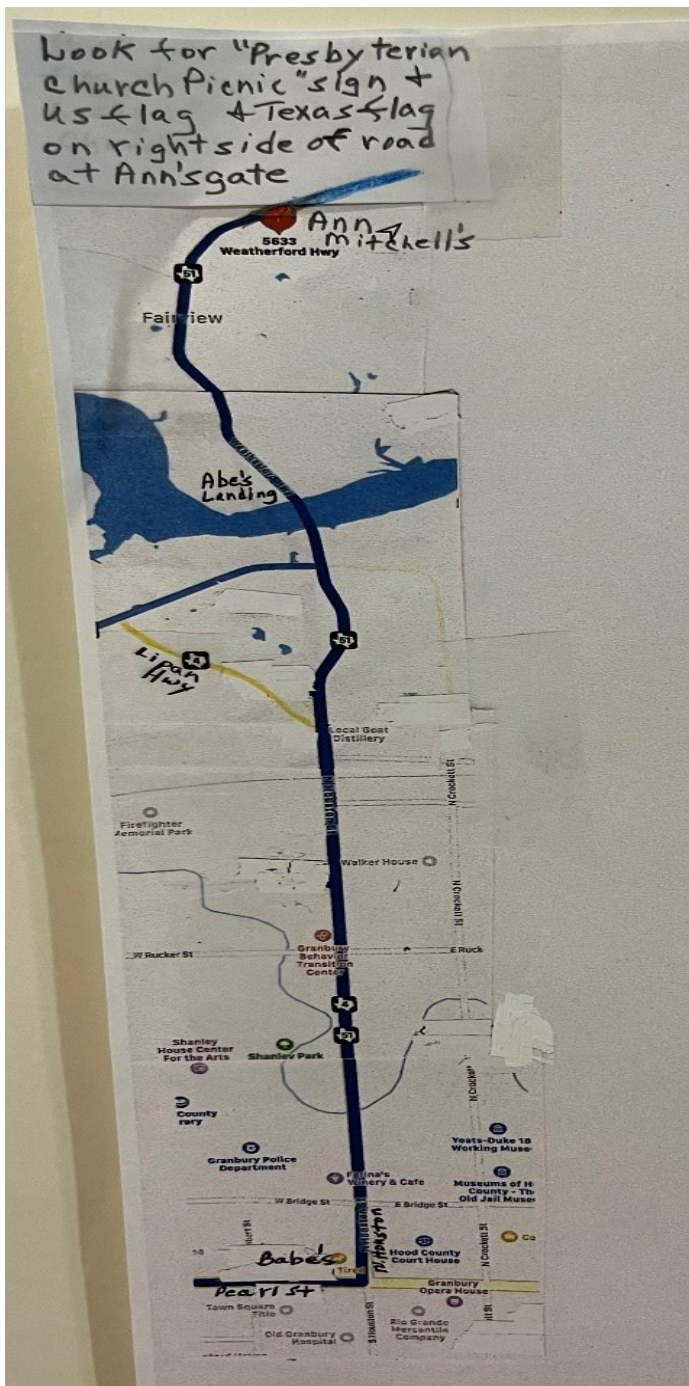
Stay tuned! More to come soon!

Fellowship

Linda Allen, elder
lindaallen33047@gmail.com



We started our **Small Group Dinners** at the beginning of June. However, if you did not get an opportunity to sign up and would like to, please call Linda Allen at 432-290-3506. If it is early enough in June, we will try to add you.



Our annual Church Picnic will be on **Saturday, June 4th starting at 6:00 PM**. It will be at Ann Mitchell's ranch. This year the church will provide fried chicken as the main dish. The congregation will bring the sides and desserts. You also need to bring lawn chairs and you may bring games such as corn hole, etc. **Ann lives at 5633 Weatherford Highway**. Here is a map.



Congregational Care

Susan Younk Kidd, elder
susanyouнк@gmail.com



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

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

AT HOME AND/OR RECEIVING TREATMENT—Edith George, Ed Smith, Bill Lowe, JD Finlay, Dave Barnett, Rita Hart, Rene Metcalf, Sheila Higgins, Jim and Theda Deaver, Bill Wood, Sharon Wilemon, Lorraine Schmitz, Janice Ragonese, and Carol Gadbois.

CONCERNS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Peggy Losher who is in the hospital recovering from a stroke.

Marina Kuyl as she battles some health issues.

Janice Ragonese as she seeks treatment for a sprained knee.

Pastor Drew Travis who has health issues.

Ron Simpson as he works to regain his strength and ability to walk.

Dave Barnett as he deals with multiple health issues.

Rita Hart as she deals with the effects of her brain tumor.

Maureen Walker as she recovers from hip surgery. She would love to have visitors at Courtyards!

Carol Gadbois as she awaits medical treatment, trying to coordinate doctors.

Claire Mitchell Copeland who has multiple health issues.

Lorraine Schmitz who is at home under the care of Hospice.

Rick Caraway as he recovers from hip surgery.

Marla Caraway as she deals with health issues.

Richard McCarthy as he seeks treatment for eye care.

Charles Somervill as he mourns the loss of his brother.

Tom Sykes as he mourns the loss of his mother, Mary Sykes.

Wanda Moon as she has knee surgery on the 14th of June.

Derek Faulker on the death of his mother.

AT CARE/RETIREMENT FACILITIES

Courtyards at Lake Granbury: Maureen Walker

Waterview at Lake Granbury: Ted Dolan, Nita Collinsworth

The Cove at Waterview: Jean Haight

Quail Park: Dolores Groom, John Cheney

The Oaks: Betty Werbung

Prestonwood Court, Plano: Linda Reed

Town Village Crossing, Arlington: Linda Bowlin

Rosemont, Humble TX: Betty Dean

Martin Crest, Assisted Living

Weatherford: Dee Holt

Bridgewater Memory Care: Bill Lowe

Lewisville Estates: Ed and Fran Smith

Glen Rose Rehab: Ron Simpson

CONCERNS FOR OUR EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

- **Janis Thornton**, daughter of Juanita Morgan, as she seeks cancer treatment.
- **Kent and Lora Reeves**, son of Peggy Losher, as he recovers from multiple surgeries and gun shot wounds.
- **CJ Cluck**, grandson of Beverly McKusick, on his continued cancer recovery.
- **Jim Dean's** parents and sister as they navigate multiple health issues.
- **Earnestine Sutherland**, who is having cancer treatments.
- **The Ukrainian family** that has been part of Marla Carawy's daughter's life, as they shelter from the siege.

SPECIAL BLESSINGS

Jamie Cooper, daughter of Gary and Brenda Towers, whose biopsy yielded good results.

For those hurting and in pain, we ask your blessing and your healing. We also ask your blessing for the caretakers, struggling to help their loved ones with patience and perseverance. Give them strength for the days ahead and help them to feel your love and grace. In Christ we pray.

WE NEED YOUR HELP: There are times we get calls from members needing transportation to church, doctors, or other appointments. If you could help with this, please let Susan Younk know (817 573-9153 or susanyounk@gmail.com) or contact Gail at the church office.

Outreach and Mission

Bianca Brownfield, elder
biancabrownfield@gmail.com



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Missions Lunch

JUNE 26TH 11:00AM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Come learn about the local missions that our budget supports. Speakers from two local agencies will share with us what their agency does for Granbury and its citizens. Learn more about local non-profits we support through funding and projects.



Prayer of the Month

Wanda Moon Prayer chain coordinator
wanda1az18@gmail.com



Dear Father,

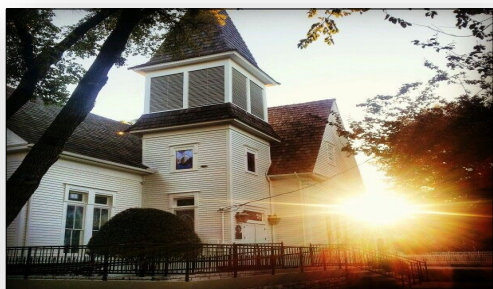
Every leaf on every tree and bush remind us of Your presence, dear Lord. We thank you for Your presence in all parts of our lives. Thank you that the Holy Spirit can be with us in all our experiences if we ask.

We acknowledge You love us and all the people of the world and will bring calm out of chaos. But some things still trouble us. For instance, the fires in Texas, and the upheaval in Ukraine. We ask that you let us know--in ways we understand--that You and the Holy Spirit are with us everywhere and that You have a plan that is loving.

Please be with the leaders in our church, with the leaders of our country, and the leaders of all countries of the world. Give them strength and understanding to do Your will.

We thank you for the many Volunteers -- seen and unseen --which help our church function to the glory of Your Kingdom. Give them the strength, energy and intuition to do the tasks you've assigned them to do.

We ask in Jesus' name, AMEN.



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September 4
Summer worship schedule:
One service on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

Presbyterian Women

Nancy Burks Worcester, moderator
nancybw@gmail.com



Presbyterian women enjoyed their final regular meeting of the year with a program on Dyslexia and Dysgraphia by Ruth Ann Jewell.

Connie Darne' and Brenda Hafner were accepted by the nominating committee as Secretary and Treasurer for the next two years. They will be inducted at the June 5th worship service.

Fourteen women attended Mo Ranch Woman's Conference May 20-22. We will report on our experience in a future Bridge Article.

Worship

Julie Dean, elder
juliebutlerdean@gmail.com



June Elder in Charge– Craig Lacy

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Worship Attendance—April and May 2022

	<u>Date</u>	<u>8:45</u>	<u>11:00</u>	<u>Combined in-person Total</u>	<u>On Line Attendance</u>
April	4/24/2022	49	67	114	29
May	5/1/2022	39	74	113	16
	5/8/2022	51	47	98	22
	5/15/2022	42	75	117	20
	5/22/2022	45	58	103	15

Membership

Marla Caraway, elder
marlahill1001@gmail.com



The Membership committee has created an “Information and Interest Form” and has been distributing them after church on Sunday mornings, hand delivering them to those that are not able to attend church, and mailing out others. Please contact the church office to pick them up if you prefer.

We want to know better who we are as the people who make up First Presbyterian Church in Granbury, Texas. We want to know about you and your family. We want to better understand your needs and those things you are looking for your church to provide. We want to learn about your talents and interests so we may better utilize the gifts of each person who gathers to be part of this community of faith. We want you to know where you might plug in to the committee structures of our congregation so we may better do the *church work* that enables us to do *the work of the church*.

Please take just a few minutes to fill out a form on each member of your family. Help us get to know you a bit better. Think about where you might like to share your gifts with our congregation. Let us know how we may better serve your children. Share some contact information with us in case an emergency arises. Help us know how we may better be the church for you because “we are the church together!”

You may return your completed form(s) by either mailing them to the church office, dropping them by the office, or placing it in basket located near the entrance of the church. Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this task. We look forward to hearing from you, and getting to know you better!

Christian Education

Sylvia Hickey, Elder
sylvia.hickey1969@gmail.com



The Christian Education Committee is diving into one of the best and most important programs of the year - a great time and method to educate our children – Vacation Bible School! There's a lot of excitement about the decision to hold the 2022 VBS the week of June 13th – 17th and with the direction of Emily Graham and the selected curriculum, "Passport to Peace," plus the wonderful number of FPC volunteers who have been recruited, children will learn 20 peacemaking strategies, giving them tools they need to follow Jesus' way of peace.

We can always use you to be a volunteer for the 2022 VBS! There are never too many volunteers, both adult and teens. Also, if you have a child, grandchild or neighbor or friend's child or grandchild who would enjoy attending, please start organizing your list of little VBSers for preregistration!!

We continue to work to employ a new Lead Nursery and Nursery Attendant. This has been a process which has required us to update many of our regulations and position descriptions to be in line with more current job regulations. Our Nursery sub-committee Chairman, Ruth Ann Jewell, has worked hard in May and has had the Nursery well-staffed with church volunteers. Many more church members have taken the Ministry Safe training and background check to keep our children properly protected and staffed.

The CE Committee is also looking into an upgraded play area, located just outside the Nursery rooms in Fellowship Hall. We are working with the Property Committee to get this project approved and in action.

The Library renovation project is underway. In the May Bridge article and in our May Sunday Bulletins, we have asked for members or committees who may have stored anything in the Library area in the Administration Building to please move, remove, box, mark and even throw out anything that could have been placed in this area by May 31st. Well, May 31st has arrived and if we go into the Library area and you haven't claimed your stored items, *they will be rehomed or repurposed.*

The most important part is to have enough volunteers to get the Library project going. So, our next step is to organize a group of volunteers to finish the clean out and start making plans. If you are interested in working on the Library project, please email me at sylvia.hickey1969@gmail.com with your name, phone / text number(s) and we'll get started!

The CE Committee is also looking for some fun Summer activities! Movie Night and Family Movie Night have been discussed – Stay Tuned!!

We hope you will be watching for the information on Fall '22 Sunday School classes because we will have 2 Adult and 1 Children's class starting September 11th. If you have not participated in the past, it's a great way to learn about our church, the Presbyterian faith, Biblical stories and make new friends! We will announce the Sunday School topics soon.

Have a great June –
Sylvia Hickey
CE Committee



But the *Fruit of the Spirit* is
love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness and self-control.

During the Session retreat, we examined how we glorify God and show the 'fruit of the spirit' within the works of our church. Each month, a different elder will write about his or her faith in action and what is being done within his or her committee.

At our 2022 session retreat, we talked about the fruit of the spirit and how it is shown through the work of the church. Our congregation has a long tradition of giving to our community. Through gifts of volunteer time and donations we contribute to many efforts to care for the needs of Hood County citizens and the most vulnerable among us.

Mission and Outreach Committee: Elder in charge - Bianca Brownfield

What does "Mission and Outreach" mean to our congregation?

Each month, we contribute to Presbyterian Missions through Grace Presbytery which supports a wide variety of work both in our area and abroad.

We also support several local non-profits through the budget and service projects. These local donations serve our Hood County neighbors with basic needs (food, shelter and clothing). As special needs arise, we develop projects to meet them. On occasion, we give emergency funding to individuals who come for help. In the past year, we have helped with heating and medical bills, rent and housing emergencies, and gas purchases for stranded travelers.

How do we decide on what local projects to support?

Our committee is committed to finding creative ways of building community through the gospel of love, the message of peace, and works of kindness. If you share these goals, please join us!

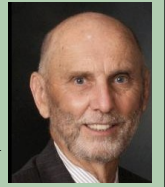


Truly I tell you,
whatever you did for one
of the least of these
brothers and sisters of mine,
you did for me.

Matthew 25:40

Stewardship

Dan Crise, Elder
gil429169@aol.com



We're six months away from the pinnacle stewardship event in our church calendar. That will occur on Consecration Sunday in early November as it does every year. This is when we will give prayerful thought about how much God is asking us to individually pledge for the financial support of our church ministry and mission in the upcoming year. Although Consecration Sunday is indeed a glorious day to celebrate in our spiritual journey, we should not consider stewardship to be limited to a singular occurrence once a year. We should think of stewardship as part of our daily lives 365 days a year in committing to the discipleship of Jesus Christ.

For Christians, stewardship is about recognizing and appreciating the gifts and blessings that God has generously bestowed upon each of us together with the responsibility as stewards of these gifts to use them as God would have us do. Understanding and practicing good stewardship is a crucial expression of our faith. All of us have been granted unique God-given gifts of time, talent, creativity, ingenuity, strength of character and other special skills and attributes. As followers of Christ and stewards of these gifts, we are called upon to use them in service to God and our church. That said, stewardship extends well beyond pledging money at our Consecration Sunday celebration in November.

There are countless opportunities to use our God-given gifts in serving the church. Random examples include, but definitely are not limited to, joining and working on a committee, helping with the garage sales, visiting home-bound members, driving members to church who are themselves unable to drive, participating in our benevolence programs, to just name a few. These examples represent stewardship at work.



To that end, the Membership Committee recently sent out an "Information and Interest Form" for all members and friends of the church to fill out and indicate those areas and functions where their God-given gifts can be contributed to our community of faith and also how the church may better minister to you. Please fill out and return these forms as requested. It's important. In doing so, further opportunities for personal stewardship of your gifts might be identified.



Please remember to ***lock all doors***,
if you are the last person to leave any
of the FPC buildings.
For all our safety!

June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship - Live Stream and Face Book	30 Church office Closed - Memorial Day 5:30 PM AI-Anon	31	1 9:00 AM Organist Meeting - Admin	2 10:00 AM CE Committee Meeting - Fellowship Hall 1:00 PM "It's Brunch-Time Somewhere" Bible study - Admin Building	3	4 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Friends of Bill W. - MH 6:00 PM FPC Church Picnic at Ann Mitchell's
5 Brenda - Study Leave Communion Today 10:00 AM Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	6 Brenda - Study Leave 10:00 AM CE Committee Meeting - Admin Building 5:30 PM AI-Anon	7 Brenda - Study Leave	8 Brenda - Study Leave 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM PEO Meeting - FH	9 Brenda - Study Leave	10 Brenda - Study Leave	11 Brenda - Study Leave 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Friends of Bill W. - MH
12 10:00 AM Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	13 9:00 AM Monthly Property Meeting - Square Cafe 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Memorial Hall - Pecan Book-marks 5:30 PM AI-Anon	14 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School	15 Brenda - Vacation 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School	16 Brenda - Vacation 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School	17 Brenda - Vacation 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Vacation Bible School	18 Brenda - Vacation 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Friends of Bill W. - MH
19 Brenda - Vacation 10:00 AM Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	20 Brenda - Vacation Bridge Ardeles Due 5:30 PM AI-Anon	21 Brenda - Vacation 5:30 PM Session - Admin Building	22	23	24	25 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Friends of Bill W. - MH
26 10:00 AM Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook 11:00 AM Missions Lunch - FH	27 5:30 PM AI-Anon	28	29	30	1	2 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Friends of Bill W. - MH

Watch this space for changes to our calendar. View current calendar on our website [FPCGranbury.com](https://fpcgranbury.org) and Click on Calendar at the top of the page. Or click on the link below <https://fpcgranbury.org>

Summer worship schedule begins Sunday, June 5 and continues through September 4: One Service at 10:00 am.



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

**IMPORTANT
REMINDER**

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To:

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