

The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

August, 2022

From the pastor

Rev. Drew Travis
revdgtravis@gmail.com



Believe it or not, things do change around the church. As much as we joke that *we've always done it this way* (and often that is the truth), we can't keep change from happening even at the church house. New members come and members who have been important to the life of the church move away. Friends we have worshiped with for years enter the Church Triumphant and new faces move into the pew next to us. Children grow up and move out on their own. Trusted music leaders who have graced us for many years with their talents and commitment retire and new musicians step into their shoes and teach us a different tune for the future. The church is not a building, it really is the people. When the people change, the church is changed.

We're about to experience change as a congregation when Brenda Church moves to San Angelo to accept a new call to service. She's been a big part of our congregation for the past 2+ years and her presence here has changed things. We'll miss the ministry and activity she led for us. She brought ideas and different perspectives on the way we do business. She provided worship leadership and was a presence when we gathered as a community on Sunday mornings. She led several studies during her time here that allowed folks to think the faith anew. She provided much needed pastoral care to our members, visiting in homes and sharing with families during times of illness and death. Her ministry in these areas will be missed. I know well that I will miss the relief she provided me in several ministry tasks. I am particularly grateful for her leadership during these past months when my health prevented me from being 100%. Grateful indeed.

On Sunday, July 31, we'll hold a congregational meeting after worship and the congregation will vote to request Grace Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship between this congregation and Brenda Church effective August 12. That action allows her to be transferred to and received by Tres Rios Presbytery to begin her work in San Angelo. Hold Brenda in prayer as she embarks upon this new ministry. She is excited by this offering in ministry and I know she's ready to hit the ground running. It's a big change for her.

After the congregational meeting on Sunday, I hope you'll join us in Fellowship Hall for some cake and punch as we celebrate Brenda's time here. It will be a good time for you to express your appreciation to her and say "thanks" for her ministry in our midst. We'll be different without her.

What happens next? The Session will have a discussion about staffing patterns going forward and we'll make those decisions after we do some study and thinking and visioning about the future. It's a good opportunity for us to do a little reconnoitering. We'll keep you posted on that conversation.

Yes, things do change even around the church. I've got to believe that change is an opportunity for growth. And the good news is that God is with us through it all. I'm beyond grateful for that.

See you Sunday,





Dear Friends! -- I am so grateful for this season in my life when the Lord has placed all of us in the same space! It has been such a blessing to minister to you and to serve alongside each of you! As I reflect on our time together, I am reminded of your love, generosity, and faithfulness...both individually, and as a community of faith. You are strong! You know who you are! You are faithfully responding to God's call to be a dedicated and welcoming congregation here in Granbury, Texas.

My continuing prayer for you as a congregation is that you will remain dedicated to truth, service, cooperation, and the art of honoring one another. I am reminded of Paul's words in Romans 12: 11-18:

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

This is my continuing vision for you at FPC-Granbury and also for my new calling. Nothing can stop a church that is dedicated to things such as these. The times are precarious and there is much work to do...including the work of drawing together, even in your diversity. God will be glorified by your loving commitment to one another, your abiding relationship with Jesus, and your fierce and steadfast faithfulness to that which honors God. I can't wait to see, from the outside in, the wonderful ways that God will continue to use FPC-Granbury to bring about life-changing blessings for the Kingdom of God...even here...even now.

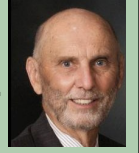
I will miss you...but I take you with me in my spirit...for truly we are brothers and sisters in Christ! And that is no small thing! May you continue listening, discerning, and serving with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

God's best blessings,
Pastor Brenda



Stewardship

Dan Crise, Elder
dancrise13@gmail.com



Christian stewardship is about establishing priorities. Knowing that God created our world and everyone and everything in it is the foundation of our understanding and acceptance of Christian stewardship. As scripture tells us, ***“The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and all those who live in it.”*** (Psalm 24:1 NRSV)

All that we have and all that we are as individuals are gifts from God. The gifts that we have been blessed with include not only our belongings, property, and money, but also our time, our character traits, our intelligence, our creativity, our special skills and talent, our interpersonal strengths, and any other facets of our lives that we may possess. Jesus tells us, ***“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom... For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be.”*** (Luke 12:32 and 12:34 NRSV)



Biblical stewardship beckons us to use all these gifts in God-pleasing ways, not for God’s benefit but for sharing our abundance with all of God’s people, particularly those less fortunate than ourselves. After all, that is a core element of our church mission. The more each of us aligns our individual life with God’s purposes and we give from our hearts, the happier and more fulfilled we become. And why not? We learn to live more fully as disciples of Christ. We grow in awareness and set new priorities that bring us closer to God.

If that sounds appealing, why not pick an aspect of your life that you would like to expand and share in stewardship with God’s purposes? Perhaps it might be in your interpersonal relationships and help with other people, particularly with those in need of comfort and care who are grieving over the loss or bad health of a loved one? Maybe giving more of your time in service to our church in worship activities or helping on a committee? Possibly contributing your unique and individual talent and skill to a community service program? The list goes on with countless other ways to engage in Christian stewardship.

The good news is that we all will have the opportunity as part of our church’s predominant annual stewardship event, which will occur on Consecration Sunday, November 13th, to individually pledge our financial resources in helping to fund our church ministry and mission for next year. That glorious event will further open the door to great personal fulfillment and joy in our praise to our Lord.



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.

Membership Committee: Elder in charge - Marla Caraway

Jesus tells us that we are known by the fruit of the Spirit. Paul listed the fruit as love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. Personally I would like to think I am known for all of the fruit, but we are always evolving in our faith. The time I spend in serving God and our church fills me with joy - joy as I experience honoring my God, who has given me so much.



The Membership Committee works in our church to especially advance love, joy, and kindness to all who enter our walls. We desire for everyone to feel love and joy as a part of our community of faith. Last Month, we welcomed Joyce Yingling into the membership of our community of faith. Joyce is a joyful person and you can see that in the smile that is always on her face. We're so happy to have her!

We continue to host Inquirers Gatherings on the second Sunday of each month. These gatherings are intended to provide an opportunity for questions about our church to people who may be interested in joining.

The committee (and especially Gail!) are filled with joy over our new software system. It will provide us with many ways to use the data that we have regarding membership. It will take a few days to get it up and running, but once it's in, it's in, and we'll just continue to build on it. The information gathered through the Information and Interest forms are being used to build this data. So if you've not returned your forms, please do!



Speaking of joy... I'm hoping you've also enjoyed the little people who've been around this summer. Some are new faces, and some are grandkids. I've loved watching the lively group during The Children's Sermon!

My prayer for us is that we experience joy in all we do, and that we bring it to others.

May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13



GIFT CARD DRIVE

SHOES FOR KIDS

Thank you for all your contributions!!



total raised
\$1,561

If you'd still like to contribute,
you can mark your donation in
the offering plate or visit Gail in
the church office

WE SHARED A LITTLE

Summer Fun

WITH OUR NEIGHBORS
AT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY

11 FAMILIES HAVE RECEIVED A
GIFT CARD OF THEIR CHOICE.

WHAT A BLESSING TO SHARE
FAMILY SUMMER FUN!!



Prayer of the Month

Gloria Mitchell chain coordinator

glomitch5300@gmail.com



We know that we can ask God for help when we are anxious, fearful, upset, or depressed. We can also pray for his help when we have problems to solve and questions we need answers for. God is always aware of how we are feeling, and sometimes sends help before we even pray about a problem. I wanted to share two special messages he sent me.

Back in 1975, we were expecting our second child. We already had a son and I kept wondering if this one was going to be another boy, or a girl. I felt a message come to me that said, **“Make way for another little girl.”** I wondered what that meant, since our other child was not a girl. I hoped it meant, “Make way for another little girl **in the world.**” I think I was right. Our daughter was born in September.

A few years later I received another message, from God. I had just brought our son home from elementary school. I was seated between my children on the couch. Our son was quite a challenge at times. I don't remember what he had done that time, but I was so upset I felt like screaming! Then I received a message that said, **“But I love my kids,”** and I thought, “But I'm not upset with both of them.” Instantly my mood changed. My anger was gone, and I felt at peace.

We're going to be losing Brenda Church in a few weeks. She has been such a wonderful part of our congregation. We're really going to miss her, but the church in San Angelo will be very fortunate to have her.

Dear Heavenly Father,

We pray that Brenda's future at the new church will be very positive and uplifting as she shares your word and your love with the new congregation. May the new church feel blessed by her, as we did. We pray for the nearby wildfires to be contained soon. We pray for protection for the firefighters, the homeowners, their homes, and the animals in those areas. Thank you that we can go to you with our prayers. Help us to be receptive to the messages you send us.

In Jesus name, Amen

Fellowship

Linda Allen, elder

lindaallen33047@gmail.com



FPC FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Small Group Dinners : We have a group of members and friends of the church who are participating in small group dinners this summer. We will start another group in September for the fall. Get-togethers can be dinner, breakfast, brunch, or lunch in your home or at a restaurant, whatever works best for you and your group. They are a wonderful way to get to know each other! Sign-up will be in the narthex by mid-August.

Here is a nice summer pasta salad that feeds a bunch.

Vermicelli Salad (20-25 people)

2 boxes (yellow) Fideo or bag of Vermicelli – cooked and cover for 5 minutes only

4 T salad oil

3 T lemon juice

1 T Accent (this is MSG – suit yourself about adding it. I usually add it)

Mix these 4 ingredients and let sit overnight.

The next day add:

½ c chopped onion

1 c green pepper chopped

1 c celery chopped

1 c ripe olives chopped (optional)

1 large can chopped pimentos



Mix it all together with ¾ pint of mayonnaise or until moistened .

Hint to make mixing it easier, I use a spaghetti server to rake through the overnight mixture. It tends to stick together, and you have to get it separated before adding the vegs. Just rake across the top until it is loose.

Worship

Julie Dean, elder
juliebutlerdean@gmail.com



June 5 through September 4
Summer worship schedule:
One service on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Worship Attendance June and July

	<u>10:00 AM</u>	<u>On-Line Attendance</u>
June 26	118	37
July 3	113	39
July 10	120	39
July 17	116	106



August Elder in Charge —Stephanie Mosley
August 7 - Communion
August 7 & 21—Summer Choir

Christian Education

Sylvia Hickey, elder
sylvia.hickey1969@gmail.com



We continue to work to employ a new Lead Nursery Caregiver and Nursery Attendant. If you know anyone who loves children and could use some extra income, please let us know. Our Nursery sub-committee Chairman, Ruth Ann Jewell has worked diligently to have the Nursery staffed each Sunday this Summer, until we are back to our regular services in September. We appreciate your hard work, Ruth Ann.

The Library renovation project is underway, as a great group of volunteers met on June 30th and sorted out the trash from items for the Rummage Sale and items to be taken to Mission Granbury. We are now ready to box up the books and supplies and prepare to clean, paint, lay out the Library and make it an orderly, comfortable and inviting part of our Church. We will also provide Pastor Drew a place to meet with staff and members privately.

The most important part is the CE Committee's need for volunteers! If you are interested in working on the Library project, if you love children and could volunteer to help in the Nursery, if you are interested in helping with selecting curriculum for Sunday School, and so much more, please email me at sylvia.hickey1969@gmail.com with your name, phone / text number(s) and let's get started! You Are Needed!

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 August –
Sylvia Hickey, CE Committee

Presbyterian Women

Nancy Burks Worcester, moderator
nancybw@gmail.com



As in years past, FPC Fort Worth is hosting a luncheon to learn more about this year's PW Bible Study. All Presbyterian Women are invited to hear Carol Bechtel, author of the 2022-2023 PW/Horizons Bible Study, "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight". Join us Tuesday, August 16 in the FPC Fort Worth Great Hall. 10 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Program, 12 p.m. Lunch (\$8).

Nancy Bennett will be collecting RSVPs to register us as a group. Please call her at 817-578-1827, or email at nbennetto803@gmail.com by August 2nd. The \$8 for lunch is not due until the date of the program. Nancy will also organize for us to carpool if you are interested.

Watch for our Bible Study sessions to begin in September. You can learn more about the study at <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible-study/>

The book cover features a vibrant, abstract illustration of three figures in colorful, patterned dresses holding up large, colorful umbrellas (yellow, red, green) against a blue sky with white clouds. The text on the cover includes the title 'CELEBRATING SABBATH' in large white letters, the subtitle 'Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight', and the author's name 'By Carol M. Bechtel'. There is also a small note 'With Suggestions for Leaders by Laura Mariko Cheifetz'.

2022-2023 PW/Horizons Bible Study

CELEBRATING SABBATH

Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight

By Carol M. Bechtel

With Suggestions for Leaders by Laura Mariko Cheifetz

In the nine lessons of this Bible study—with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts—we'll consider Sabbath

- as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality
- as God's intent for all of creation that includes busy women too
- as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday
- as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust that God will provide
- as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God's plans for our precious lives
- as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care.

Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives.

Congregational Care

Susan Younk Kidd, elder
susanyouнк@gmail.com



HAPPY BIRTHDAY everyone born in the month AUGUST



2 Christopher Smith
Rhonda Travis
3 Nancy Bennett
5 Jane Johnson
7 Emily Holmes
8 Cory O'Carroll
9 Deborah Sanders
Donna Callahan
10 Jim Deaver
13 Connie Gilmore
Cynthia Horner
15 Howard Lovelady

19 Mark Collinsworth
20 Wanda Moon
William McMillan
25 Richard McCarthy
26 Cindy Cress
28 Kaila Wilkes
29 Beverly McKusick
30 Anne Hults
Hanna Briese

2 Jamie Sanders and James Witt
5 Andy and Lou Ann Attaway
12 Derek and Vanessa Faulkner
14 David and Dennie Treat
17 Terry and Nancy Worcester
23 Ted and Trish Goller
24 Gary and Brenda Towers
25 Mike and Margaret Gulinson
27 Richard and Paula Hicks
28 Max and Ruth Ann Jewell

AT HOME AND/OR RECEIVING TREATMENT—Edith George, Bill Lowe, JD Finlay, Dave Barnett, Rita Hart, Rene Metcalf, Sheila Higgins, Jim and Theda Deaver, Bill Wood, Sharon Wilemon, Lorraine Schmitz, Peggy Losher, Wanda Moon, Kay McMillan and Carol Gadbois.

CONCERNS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Marina Kuyl as she battles some health issues.

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 continues to recover from hip surgery.

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

Claire Mitchell Copeland who has multiple health issues.

Lorraine Schmitz as she receives Hospice care at home.

Marla Caraway as she deals with health issues.

Richard McCarthy as he seeks treatment for eye care.

Bill & Kay McMillan as she recovers from knee surgery and he deals with health issues.

Wanda Moon as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.



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:

Fran Smith

CONCERNS FOR OUR EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

- **Janis Thornton**, daughter of Juanita Morgan, as she seeks cancer treatment.
- **Kent and Lora Reeves**, son and daughter-in-law 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.
- **Ernestine Sutherland**, who is having cancer treatments.
- **The Ukrainian family** that has been part of Marla Caraway's daughter's life, as they shelter from the siege.
- **Bill**, son-in-law of JD Finlay, as he deals with throat cancer.



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.

If you know of anyone who needs to be contacted for a care or concern, please email me at susanyounk@gmail.com) or contact Gail at the church office.



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

August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	1 6:30pm - 7:30pm AI-Anon	2	3	4 10:00am CE Committee Meeting - Fellowship Hall	5 Church Office Closed - Summer Hours 10:00am - 11:00am Brunch Study - Book of Mark - Fellowship Hall 2:00pm - 6:00pm Wedding Prep - Fellowship Hall 4:30pm - 5:30pm Wedding Rehearsal at Sanctuary	6 9:30am - 11:30am Friends of Bill W. - MH 3:00pm Goodman/Smith - Wedding
7 Communion Today 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	8 9:00am Monthly Property Meeting - Square Cafe 1:00pm - 3:00pm Memorial Hall - Pecan Bookmarks 6:30pm - 7:30pm AI-Anon	9 9:00am - 12:00pm Granbury Knitting Guild - FH	10	11 11:00am Outreach and Mission	12 Church Office Closed - Summer Hours	13 9:30am - 11:30am Friends of Bill W. - MH
14 Second Sunday Inquirers 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	15 6:30pm - 7:30pm AI-Anon	16 5:30pm Session - Admin Building	17	18	19 Church Office Closed - Summer Hours	20 Bridge Articles Due 9:30am - 11:30am Friends of Bill W. - MH
21 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	22 6:30pm - 7:30pm AI-Anon	23	24	25 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Bells - Trish Goller - MH	26 Church Office Closed - Summer Hours	27 9:30am - 11:30am Friends of Bill W. - MH
28 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	29 6:30pm - 7:30pm AI-Anon	30	31	1 10:00am CE Committee Meeting - Fellowship Hall 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Bells - Trish Goller - MH	2	3 9:30am - 11:30am 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**

**June 5 through September 4
Summer worship schedule:
One service on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

To:

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