The Bridge First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

September, 2022

From the pastor

Rev. Drew Travis revdgtravis@gmail.com



"But we've always done it this way." Well, at least for the last few years or for as long as memory serves. Habits are good. Consistency is comforting. Patterns of behavior are needed in life. No doubt these are all true. Yet, sometimes change comes and it feels a bit uneasy and we're not sure we are going to like it. Still, every now and then, we dip our toes in the waters of change and we give it a try.

We're going to try something a little different here at First Presbyterian, a little experiment, if you will. For the past many years – and for as long as I've been here as pastor – we have gone to just one worship service in the summer and then returned to our regular schedule of two services when September rolls around. It's a rhythm to which we are accustomed. Most of you have enjoyed this change and there are always comments about how good it feels to worship in a full sanctuary. Often, there are surprised responses like, "I didn't know they worshiped here! They must go to the other service!" It seems worshiping together in one service affords us an opportunity to claim a sense of community that we don't always feel when we worship at separate times.

With that thought in mind, several church members approached the Worship Committee with the idea that we continue with one worship service this Fall rather than returning to our regular schedule of two services. The Worship Committee had a spirited conversation about the pros and cons of doing so and voted to recommend the Session consider the idea. The Session, in turn, had another good exchange about the idea and decided to spend a few days pondering the proposal in prayer before taking a final vote. When the vote was taken, the Session decided to remain with one service for the time being.

The overwhelming factor for this decision, it seems, is that after so many months of COVID and being separated and isolated from one another, it simply feels wonderful to be together in worship – *all of us together*. It's about community. It's about feeling close to the family of faith. The sanctuary feels alive. The hymns are vibrant and the singing fills the room. The children are all present at the same time and often they spread across the front of the chancel during the Children's Time and it brings life to our gathering. The choir is in full force each Sunday and not moving back and forth from one service to the other on alternating Sundays. In short, worship feels alive and inviting and full of the Spirit. It simply feels good!

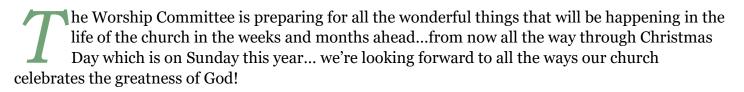
So, for the next couple of months we're going to do a little experiment and give it a try. **We will remain with one service of worship at 10:00 each Sunday at least through October 30**th. **Christian Education for both children and adults will be at 9:00 each Sunday**. The choir, or groupings of choir members in ensembles, will sing at each service. During the next couple of months, the Session will closely monitor our attendance to make sure we have room to accommodate everyone who comes. We will pay attention to our visitors and watch to see their response to worshiping with us. We will listen to your comments and hear what you have to say about the change. We'll pay close attention and we'll decide whether to remain with one service or return to two based on our experience. We're going to give it a try and we'll make adjustments and changes as needed going forward. We hope everyone will practice a little patience and exercise a willing spirit so we can see where this may lead. It'll be good for us to practice a little flexibility. Promise.

See you Sunday,

View

Worship

Julie Dean, elder juliebutlerdean@gmail.com



If you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to serve in a new way, we have a few opportunities for you to consider.

Are you able to push a button? Perhaps this easy but important opportunity is for you! We need two more volunteers to each be responsible for one Sunday per month to turn on the Live Stream of our worship service. All it takes is one click on the computer in memorial hall and the ability to push the pre-set buttons

on a remote control during the service. Bianca Brownfield and Kathy Long have already agreed to be two of the four needed volunteers. It will be set up as one volunteer will take the first Sunday of each month, another takes the second Sunday of each month and so on. Emily Graham has provided simple to follow written instructions and has also made a YouTube video for instruction.

Do you have a good speaking voice? We are looking for several members who would like to be the Liturgist during worship services. This too is an easy but important opportunity to serve. There are no long term commitments, just an occasional Sunday when you would be at the pulpit reading scripture.

Are you a baker? We've asked before but are asking again... we would love to have someone who would bake the bread for communion! Preparing the elements for communion is a beautiful way to serve if you feel called to do so.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities or would like more information please feel free to contact me via a phone call or text to (318) 751-8367 or email at juliebutlerdean@gmail.com.

Peace and Love, Julie

Worship Attendance July and August

		<u>10:00 AM</u>	On-Line Attendance
September elder in charge	July 24	79	42
Dan Crise	July 31	126	58
	August 7	115	29
September 4th	August 14	103	29
Communion Sunday	August 21	131	39







Stewardship

Dan Crise, Elder dancrise13@gmail.com



Opportunities for Christian Stewardship abound all around us. In his marvelous sermon a few weeks ago, Pastor Drew preached that as followers of Christ, we are blessed each day in answer to our prayer for daily bread from God that is well beyond the individual needs of most, if not all, the members of our church. In fact, as Drew emphasized, the excess of our daily bread is like "icing on the cake". Drew challenged how we might use the excess icing we've been blessed with to ice the cake of others who are less fortunate than ourselves and who are in need of the basic necessities for living, like food, shelter, and clothing, that we take for granted. In a nutshell, Drew's message was a call to Christian Stewardship.

In praying the Lord's Prayer, the plural form is used for all the pronouns. We say: *Our* Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give **us** this day **our** daily bread and forgive **us** our debts as **we** forgive **our** debtors; and lead **us** not into temptation, but deliver **us** from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

When saying this prayer with the highlighted words in the plural form, we implicitly are not only appealing to God for ourselves, but also just as importantly on behalf of others while in our faithful service to God. The inherent message is that we are praying with and for all of God's children for daily bread, many of whom are without clothes on their back, a roof over their head or food on their table. The image of bread as used in the Lord's Prayer and elsewhere throughout the Bible signifies God's love and protection for all of us. As Christian Stewards, through this prayer we commit to provide help and support for all of our brothers and sisters, not only in spirit but also through more tangible means. In praying for proverbial bread and other necessities of life for those who are deprived of them, we become vested as part of God's hand at work. In scripture, James says:

"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill.' and yet you don't supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead" (James 2:15-17 NRSV)

So, as Christian Stewards, let's all ice the cake of our brothers and sisters who really need it! As we approach Consecration Sunday when we will individually pledge our financial support in helping to sustain our church ministry and mission in the coming year, think also how we can both individually and collectively ice the cake of those in need, both in the local community and beyond.



Presbyterian Women

Nancy Burks Worcester, moderator nancybw@gmail.com



veryone is invited to the regular Presbyterian Women meeting on September 9 at 10:30. Bring your favorite dish and your best ideas for our upcoming meetings. We will talk about what's planned and have a fun time of music, food, and fellowship! For more information contact Nancy Worcester at 817-578-0478

PW Bible Study will begin on Sept 6th at 10 AM. We're also offering an evening study at 7 PM on the same day (future lessons dates for evening will be determined by participants). Books can be picked up in the church office.

Membership

Marla Caraway, elder marlahill1001@gmail.com



We have enjoyed quite a few visitors this summer and some have expressed an interest in join in! It's always good news when we welcome others into our worship services or into membership at FPC.

Summer worship has been great with an almost completely filled sanctuary. It makes for a wonderfully spirit filled worship. I've been challenging myself to move around more. It's not always comfortable. I worry that I might be in "someone's space." And if I feel that way, imagine what a visitor feels. But if we move around a bit, it gives us the opportunity to worship next to someone we don't know well, maybe even a visitor. We might also have a few words with someone face to face that we've never met. I would encourage each of you to move around on Sunday mornings. Find a new seat for the day. Visit with folks that you don't normally sit by. Find a visitor to introduce yourself to and welcome them warmly. We will all be the better for it.

Membership Committee is putting together Visitors Gift Bags that will be delivered on Sunday afternoons after worship. As Membership Committee members, we don't always meet our visitors during worship. We look forward to having some interaction with them within a few days of their visit.



We will be hosting the next Inquirer's Meal on Sunday, September 25, 2022 (formally New Member and Prospective Member Dinner). If you are a new member, or a visitor that would like to learn more about us, please do plan to attend. The catered lunch will be right after worship service. Please contact me to RSVP (817-422-2169).



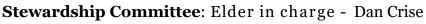
abyrinth Update

As you may remember, the 125th Committee hopes to gift the community with a labyrinth in Shanley Park to commemorate our history. We are excited to inform the congregation that the Parks Board has unanimously approved the labyrinth to be built in Shanley Park. A committee has been named and will begin meeting early in

September to move forward. Seed money is available from our 125th campaign, but we will be asking for support from the congregation to make the labyrinth a reality. At this time, the committee is seeking a representative from The Labyrinth Company in Greenville, South Carolina to work with us on design and materials. We ask for your prayers as we endeavor to bring this meaningful gift to our community.

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.





All of the fruit of the spirit are vital aspects of Christian Stewardship but perhaps the most influential one is the fruit of love. Stewardship reflects our gratitude to God's love for us and for the many gifts He has entrusted to us. Christian Stewards bask in the wonder and awe of God's love. The more deeply one grows in the return of their love to God, the more they grow in their heart to believe stewardship as a Christian way of life. The spirituality of stewardship enables us to recognize the greatness of God. God who created us with a Father's love. God who redeemed us

with the sacrifice of His Son. God who enriches us by the sending of His Spirit. As Christians, we recognize God's gifts are to be used to glorify Him and to share with our brothers and sisters within His Kingdom, as it is deeply rooted in scripture. Together in our journey of faith, may God bless us and may we respond as faithful disciples, and by extension, as faithful stewards with the spirit of love.

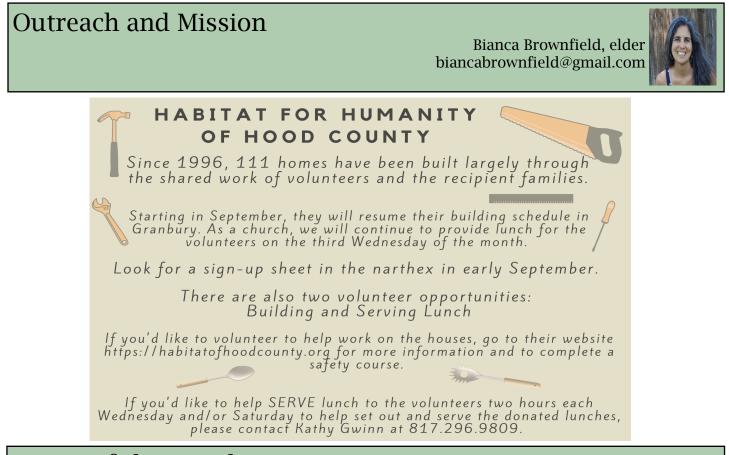


The Stewardship Committee is currently planning Consecration Sunday, which will occur on November 13, 2022. This will be a time when we will give prayerful thought about how much God is asking each of us to pledge for the financial support of our church ministry and mission for the Year 2023. Information on Consecration Sunday will be sent out to everyone in a few weeks. Although it will be a glorious day to celebrate our love to God, we should not consider this a singular Stewardship event. We all should think of

Stewardship as a way of living and as part of our daily lives each day of the year in committing to the discipleship of Jesus Christ.



Join us Sunday, September 11th for our Sunday School Rally Day! Watch for more news.



Prayer of the Month

Gloria Mitchell, coordinator glomitch5300@gmail.com



We know that God sometimes works in mysterious ways. And I think the saying "When one door closes, another one opens" often refers to God's ways.

I recently read an article in Guideposts that falls into that category. A lady named Allie worked in childcare for 30 years and loved it. When COVID hit, she lost that job and couldn't find another in childcare. God had a new plan for her. She began working in an assisted living center. When told she would be taking care of patients with dementia, she was not pleased. But it turned into a blessing. She grew to love many of her patients. One door closed and another opened.

I had a similar situation almost 20 years ago. I had worked 17 years, as a teacher assistant with students who had learning problems. I was devastated when I learned that my job would not be there the next year, because I loved working with students. Not able to find another position, I decided to retire but work as a sub in 2 school districts. I subbed in many schools and made many friends. An acquaintance asked if I would sub for her, but I declined. I didn't want to work with students who had special needs. But while subbing at that school, I observed her students during breakfast duty, and liked them so I gave it a try. I loved working with them there, and at other schools also. They hold a special place in my heart. As in the story above, the door that opened for me also turned into a blessing.

Dear Lord, we thank you for the mysterious ways you sometimes work, creating the wonderful events that happen in our lives. When we are discouraged, help us to know that better days are ahead. Schools have begun their fall semesters. Please help the teachers as they handle the many challenges of teaching. Help the students absorb their lessons and help them remember to be kind to each other. And most of all, please keep all the schools safe.



In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Fellowship





Here we are at the end of summer. Kids and teachers head back to school and the church gears up for fall activities. One of our fall events is our **Flu Shot Clinic**. It is scheduled for Sunday, October 9th. Ron's Pharmacy will be in Fellowship Hall after church to administer flu shots and also COVID boosters should anyone need it. If you have Medicare, be sure and bring your card for their records. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex later in September.

There is a new round of Small Group Dinners starting. It will be for September through November. We normally skip December because it is so busy. The sign-up sheet has been in the Narthex since Sunday, August 14th and it will be taken up after church on the 21st. If you missed the sign-up, you can still text Linda Allen (432-290-3506) and let her know you want to join. All of our members know how much fun they are and, for our new members, don't miss this opportunity to get to know everyone and enjoy great food. Get-togethers can be dinner, breakfast, brunch, or lunch in your home or at a restaurant, whatever works best for you and your group.

I just found a new crockpot recipe and it was so easy and delicious! You might want to try it.

Crockpot Salisbury Steak

4 pre-formed hamburger patties – place in bottom of crockpot

Add salt and pepper, a little Montreal Steak Seasoning, 1/2 cup chopped onions, and 1 cup sliced mushrooms. (If you don't have fresh mushrooms, add canned ones when meat is almost done.)

Mix ¹/₄ cup flour with 1 cup beef broth and stir or shake till well mixed. Pour this over the top of the meat. Cook on high 4 hours.

Mark-Your

The dates have been set for the Fall Rummage sale. The sale will be **Calendar** on *Friday October* 7th and Saturday October 8th. We will have volunteer sign up sheets starting the middle of September. We will

need volunteers starting October 2nd after church, with setting up tables and clothing racks and then throughout that week with sorting and pricing sale items and, of course, volunteers during the sale. This is a great time to start cleaning out those closets and hopefully soon it will be cool enough to work in the sheds and garages.

We do not have the storage space at the church so *please* keep your items at home until October 2nd thru 6th. We will also provide drop off times closer to October. Due to the lack of space and also trying to save the backs of the volunteers we cannot accept large heavy furniture, large appliances (including microwaves), mattresses, bedframes, tv's, computers, and printers. We will provide a more detailed list as we get closer. Fundraising

Lots of work but so much fun and it is the main fun raiser for PW. The money we make helps many charitable organizations.



F.U.N. Circle

UN circle has lots of exciting things happening this year. We are starting on **September** 28th at 10am in the Fellowship Hall, and will be

refreshing the flower arrangements we use for special events. Don't worry if God didn't bless you with the flower arranging gift, he passed me by on that one too, just come and have fun with us. There is always something you can help with. It's not always about the project but the fellowship with people who share your faith. I think of every event I attend as a recharging station. It recharges my faith in God before I head out into the community.

> If you have wire cutters please bring them. We will also need Styrofoam, sphagnum moss, and flowers. So if you want to clean some items out of your craft room, this is the perfect opportunity.

We will close our meeting with a potluck lunch. Sandwiches, salads, and of course desserts.

October 26th Kay McMillan is going to teach us how to make greeting cards and other fabulous things with paper. One of the first times I went to F.U.N. circle Kay was teaching this class. I have to tell you it has been my favorite of all the FUN circles. You don't want to miss this one!

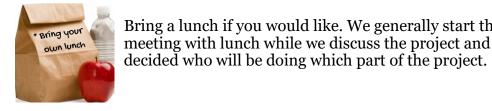
I also want to give a heads up for January and February. We will be making bags again for C.C'S *Carry On.* I mention it now because sometimes you run across some really great bargains on the items we will need. I will get the list put together for the October article but if you have helped us before you know most of the items we need.

Have a wonderful Labor Day and we will see you on the 28th.

ewing circle will begin on **Tuesday September 20th** at noon in the Fellowship hall. We have been asked by the Worship committee to make a new banner for the sanctuary. This is a new type of project for most of us, so if you have experience in making banners please join us. If you don't have any experience in sewing or banner making we also have plenty things to keep you busy. We are also looking for future projects. There are several things that have been suggested for the nursing homes but I have found that other groups are providing those items so keep the suggestions coming.

Bring a lunch if you would like. We generally start the

Everyone is invited to join us regardless of your sewing skills or even if you want to learn a new hobby.



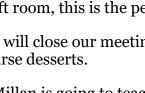


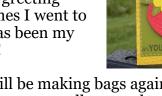




Bev McKusick







Congregational Care

Susan Younk Kidd, elder susanyounk@gmail.com





- 1 Kim Wylie
- 2 Andy Attaway Annelle Teal
- 3 Marty Gump
- 4 Wanda Lowe
- 5 Lori Collinsworth
- 6 Brenda Staples
- 9 Barbara Buffalow
- 10 Jack Burton Sabrina Brownfield
- 11 Les Staples
- 12 Trisha Chandler
- 14 Peter Garland

- 15 Jean Goody Jimmy Randles Paula Hicks Raye Kliemann
- 16 Marcia Sigrist Meg Moore
- 19 Ann McLauglin
- 21 Nathaniel Copeland
- 22 Alana Collinsworth
- 23 Donna Ann McCleery
- 24 Tommy McHaney
- 27 Christine Mercado
- 28 Brenda Towers
- 30 John Stahlman



- 2 Jack and Connie Gilmore
- 3 Jim and Joanne Wallis
- 7 Gary and Peggy Lewis Doyle and Jane Seley
- 8 Marty and Ruth Gump
- 14 Howard and Brenda Hafner
- 22 John and Karen Stahlman
- 27 Doug and Sheila Wood-Hickman
- 30 Lloyd and Marcia Sigrist

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

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.
- **Earnestine 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!

2022
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Sep

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	29 6:30pm - 7:30pm Al-Anon	30	31 1 10:00am - 12:00pm PW Steering 10:00am CE Committee Meeting - Admin Buil Building 10:00am - 12 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Belles - MH Memorial Hall	1 10:00am CE Committee Meeting - Admin Building 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	2	3 9:30am - 11:30am Women's AA - MH
4 Communion Today 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	5 Church office Closed - Labor Day 6:30pm - 7:30pm Al-Anon	G 10:00am - 11:00am PW Bible Study - FH Study - FH Study - FH	7 8 4:30pm Staff Meeting 10:0aam -12 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Belles - MH 11:00aam Out 4:00pm - 6:00pm Nominating 11:00aam Out 5:00pm - 6:00pm Nominating 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall 8	8 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH 11:00am Outreach and Mission	9 10 10:30am - 1:00pm PW Women's AA Meeting and Poluck - FH - MH	10 9:30am - 11:30am Women's AA - MH
11 Rally Sunday! 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	12 Drew - Vacation 9:00am Monthly Property Meeting - Square Cafe 1:00pm - 3:00pm Memorial Hall - Peean Bookmarks 6:30pm - 7:30pm Al-Anon	13 Drew - Vacation 9:00am - 12:00pm Granbury Knitting Guild - FH	14 Drew - Vacation 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall Reiopm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall	15 Drew - Vacation 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	16 Drew - Vacation	17 Drew - Vacation 9:00am - 12:00pm The Bridge Street History Center - Sanctuary 9:30am - 11:30am Women's AA - MH
18 Drew - Vacation 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	19 Drew - Vacation 6:30pm - 7:30pm Al-Anon	20 20 21 Bridge Articles Due Drew Vacation 10:00am B Drew - Vacation 10:00am - 112:00pm - 3:00pm Sewing Citcle Humanity 12:00pm - 6 Admin Bui Admin Bui Admin Bui Remorial 1 Memorial 1 Rehearsal	ook Circle 11:00am Habitat for 1:00pm Men's Study - Iding :00pm Choir Practice - fall Fall	22 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	23	24 9:30am - 11:30am Women's AA - MH
25 9.00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	26 6:30pm - 7:30pm Al-Anon	27 5:30pm Session - Admin Build- ing	28 10:00am FUN Circle - Fellow- ship Hall - Potluck lunch 3:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall	29 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	90	1 9:30am - 11:30am Women's AA - MH

The church office is open Monday—Thursday, 7:30—4:30.

Watch this space for changes to our calendar. View current calendar on our website FPCGranbury.com and Click on Calendar at the top of the

page. Or click on the link below https://fpcgranbury.org



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.



One service on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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Granbury, TX 76048

202 W. Pearl St.

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury