

The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

March, 2023

A Note From The Mission Study Committee

Interim Pastor Committee is currently meeting and interviewing candidates

THE ROAD TO A NEW PASTOR



Mission Study Committee:

- Selected
- Meeting with each other
- Meeting with congregation



Mission Study Report:

- Completed
- Approved by Session
- Approved by Presbytery



Pastor Nominating Committee:

- Selected
- Meeting with each other



Pastor Nominating Committee:

- Create Mission Information Form
- Review Applicants
- Interview Candidates

What happened so far?

The team was selected (Linda Allen, Nancy Bennett, Emily Graham, Darin Smith, and Jim Wallis) and briefed on the scope and responsibilities by a representative of Session (Connie Darne') and Grace Presbytery Committee on Ministry (Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski).

What is our first task?

We will undergo a comprehensive reflection upon the history of our church, review its current status, and set the direction for the future of the congregation in all the areas of church life and the community we serve.

How will we do the work?

We will invest time in: congregational reflection, gathering and analyzing data (demographics, financial information, church programs and activities, etc.) and envisioning the future of the congregation and its ministries.

How long will it take to produce the Mission Study Report?

We have just begun, so we do not have a firm *when will it be done answer*. We have a detailed checklist for the work ahead, and the time it takes varies by congregation

How will we communicate with the congregation?

We will communicate in every possible way we can, and as often as we can, in whatever medium available. We assure you the communication will be 2-way. Your engagement in the process is the ultimate lynchpin to learning who God is calling and names as our new Pastor.

Worship

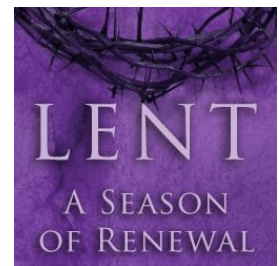
Pat Luley, elder
paluley@gmail.com



February 19th, we had a record attendance on Drew's last Sunday in the pulpit. There were 191 attendees! A huge thank you to Brad Bell for setting up more chairs and gathering extra hymnals so we could accommodate everyone in the sanctuary. It was crowded, for sure; but no one seemed to mind squeezing in to fit one more person in their pew.

I'm sure many of you are wondering "Who's going to lead us in worship now that Drew's gone?" You can put your mind at ease. As members of the Interim Search Committee, Connie Darne' and I met with Tim Kidd and Jimmie Johnson several weeks ago and worked out a schedule that will carry us through Sunday worship until the end of April. We are hopeful that we will have an Interim Pastor on board by then. If not, both Tim and Jimmie have volunteered to lead us in Sunday morning worship as long as necessary. We owe Tim and Jimmie a HUGE thank you for their dedication to helping our church carry on.

February 22nd, Ash Wednesday, we began the season of Lent with our White Breakfast and Service. The purpose of *Lent is to prepare us for Jesus' Easter resurrection. Just as Jesus withdrew to the Judean wilderness for 40 days and nights of prayer and fasting (Matthew 4:1-11), we are called to follow His example so that we, too, may overcome the darkness in our lives.*



Worship Attendance January & February

	<u>10:00 AM</u>	<u>On Line Views</u>
January 29	122	35
February 5	125	28
February 12	144	45
February 19	191	83

***March Elder of the Month
Dan Crise***



**One service on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
The Session will continue to monitor our attendance and assess the need for a second service and we will continue to listen to the needs and opinions of the congregation on this matter.**

Prayer of the Month

Gloria Mitchell, coordinator
glomitch5300@gmail.com



Sam Houston's column in the Hood County News on January 21 was very inspirational. The title was **Everyone Fails, but Failure Does Not Necessarily Equal a Loss**. He was pleased when I asked his permission to use part of it in our newsletter.

He mentioned Trevor Lawrence's 3 interceptions in a game that left his team behind 27-0. He performed much better in the second half, and they won the game 31-30. He also mentioned Abraham Lincoln losing a senate race 2 years before he became president. And Richard Nixon lost the presidential race in 1960 and a senate race in 1962, then became president in 1968. We all have setbacks, but it's how a person deals with and works through the setbacks that matters. It is maintaining faith that hard work and dedication will eventually pay off.

Dear God, please help us remember that a setback does not always indicate a total failure. You are always with us. With our hard work and dedication, along with your help, we can accomplish great things. We just need to ask for help. Also please help us support and pray for others who are going through hard times. We ask in Jesus' name, Amen.



Stewardship

Dan Crise, Elder
danrise13@gmail.com



As we enter the Season of Lent, perhaps it's a good time of the year to reflect on the importance of our Christian stewardship principles and how we can best put them into practice. Christian stewardship is an integral element of faith for all those who have responded to the invitation of Jesus to follow Him. It underscores the psalmist's affirmation that **"the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and all those who live in it." (Psalm 24:1)**

So what does this mean in our life of faith? If we believe that our time, talents, and treasures have come from God and must be administered faithfully as God would have us do, then we are by extension functioning as stewards in God's domain. This is true for all of us as individuals and also collectively for us as a congregation.

A simplified definition of Christian stewardship might be expressed as the manner in which we care and use the gifts God has entrusted to us employing ways and means that serve God's purposes. This simplified definition includes such things as helping our brothers and sisters in need, caring for the environment that God created, managing our own health, and tending and nurturing our interpersonal relationships, among a host of many other examples. Christian stewards might be asked by God on their judgment day, "How well did you manage the gifts I bestowed upon you?" Will you be able to confidently answer this question?





PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MAR 10 MEETING & POTLUCK-10:30
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

APR 10-13 RUMMAGE SALE PREP
MTW 8-5 TH 8-12

APR 14-15 RUMMAGE SALE
FRI 8-5 SAT 8-2

MAY 12 MEETING & POTLUCK-10:30
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**FOR MORE INFO CALL
NANCY WORCESTER 817-578-0478**

Christian Education

Sylvia Hickey, elder
sylvia.hickey1969@gmail.com



The Christian Education Committee is working hard on many projects. Our **Adult Sunday School classes** led by Richard McCarthy and retired Pastor Jimmie Johnson, meet in Fellowship Hall. Richard's class begins a new video / discussion class on February 26th. If you don't get to start at the beginning, come when you can – it's easy to catch up. Retired Pastor Jimmie Johnson will be starting a new Presbyterian 101 class soon. Let Gail know in the office if you are interested, and we'll make sure you get the information about a start date. Our **Children's Sunday School class** is going well with Nancy Worcester and Nancy Bennett leading the children in songs, art, and Biblical verses and stories – Lent and Easter are just around the corner.

The Library bookshelves are up and being painted as is the conference room outside of the Pastor's Office. Our goal is to have an Open House in late March or early April.

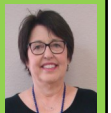
Our **Nursery** is doing well under the direction of our Lead Nursery Attendant, Madison Huse, who is doing a commendable job! We are very thankful for the Church volunteers who have made commitments to be the 2nd person in the Nursery as needed.

Our most exciting news is that we have a new Assistant Nursery Attendant, Angela Young. Angela worked in our Nursery before Covid 19 but was unable to continue. Angela let us know she was interested in working in our Nursery again. In 2 days Angela applied, Connie Darne and I met her for an interview, passed our approval, and the Session voted in an online meeting to hire Angela. **Our Nursery is now staffed full time!**

And finally, **Vacation Bible School** is the CE Committee's next project. We have begun our planning and have scheduled VBS for the week of July 10th – 14th. Get ready to bring your children, and invite your neighbors and grandchildren for a fun week at First Presbyterian Church. We have had a fabulous group of volunteers and will need you again this year. Gail will let volunteers know if they need new Ministry Safe certifications.

The Labrinth Lowdown

Marla Caraway
marlahill1001@gmail.com



Welcome to a new feature in The Bridge called The Labyrinth Lowdown. We know many of you have been wondering what's happening with our park project. The Labyrinth Project Team is still hard at work and will be bringing you updates each month right here in The Bridge! First things, first. Yes, it will be difficult losing Drew's vision and leadership on our team after his retirement, just as it will for every other committee at FPC. However, our team will continue this mission with faith and renewed energy as we look to God to guide us. We are so excited to see what this year brings! Tune in to next month's Labyrinth Lowdown for more.



**IMPORTANT
REMINDER**

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

Outreach and Mission

Connie Darne`, elder
conniedarne@gmail.com



Thank you to all who worked to give us another year of the Ash Wednesday White Breakfast to begin the season of Lent. It was a beautiful breakfast, memorable service, and a solemn time to reflect on personal thoughts, as well as the world around us. Lent is the time of the year when we participate in One Great Hour of Sharing. This is a special offering that supports three programs of the PCUSA. They are Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which receives 32% of the offering; Presbyterian Hunger Program, with 36%; and Self-Development of People, with 32%. These programs benefit people throughout the world. Please take a moment to reflect and consider how you can help. We will have inserts in the bulletins and One Great Hour of Sharing offering envelopes available during Lent.



The Outreach & Mission Committee is embarking on a new service project with our neighbors in the Granbury Housing Authority. We are going to refurbish the small flower beds for those who request. We plan to prepare the bed with soil and/or mulch, plant flowers, vegetables, and/or herbs. We have sent a flier to the Housing Authority to identify residents desiring this service. We would very much appreciate volunteers who want to join us in the project. As we get more information and more definite plans, I will keep you informed.

BUILDING GOD'S HOUSEHOLD WITH THE SUFFERING AND VULNERABLE

SEASON OF LENT - February 22-April 9, 2023

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single largest way that Presbyterians join together to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world. Each gift helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations through three impactful programs:



REBUILDING HOPE -
PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER
ASSISTANCE
32%

Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters.
SPECIAL OFFERINGS ACTION KIT



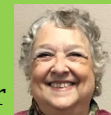
GROWING FOOD
SECURITY-
PRESBYTERIAN
HUNGER PROGRAM
36%

Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.



PARTNERING
IN PROGRESS-
SELF-DEVELOPMENT
OF PEOPLE
32%

Invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty, and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills.



SEWING CIRCLE

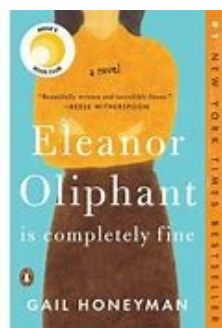
The sewing circle will be meeting on March 21st at noon. We will be sewing quilt tops for a mission in Ft Worth. Bring a brown bag lunch if you would like. I've found that sewing is a lot more fun if you're sewing with a great group of people.



FUN CIRCLE



This is an exciting month for FUN circle because it's our annual **FASHION SHOW. Stuff N' Nonsense** will be doing a fashion show for us on March 22. It's always great fun, and you get to see a lot of the new spring and summer colors that add style to your wardrobe. To make it even better, we will have a potluck afterwards. The fashion will start at 10:30am. We have some great models this year, so you won't want to miss it.



PW BOOKCIRCLE
title for March 15 is
"Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine"
by Gail Honeyman
Pat Collins will lead the discussion.

The next Habitat for Humanity lunch is
Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

Congregational Care

Susan Younk Kidd, elder
susanyouнк@gmail.com



- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Marijane Harvey | 14 | Curt Armstrong |
| 2 | Betty Lynne Dean | 18 | Allison Graham |
| 3 | Craig lacy | 19 | Steve Wilkes |
| | Richard Root | 20 | Glenda J. Smith |
| | Robert Gadbois | 23 | Carolyn Llewellyn |
| 6 | Elliott Graham | | Doyle Seley |
| 8 | Angela Young | | Mike Cress |
| | Gary Lewis | 25 | Dave Treat |
| 9 | Felicia Peters | 28 | Doris Dinkel |
| 10 | Norma Jean | | Tim Bennett |
| | Matthews | 29 | Mark Bishop |
| 11 | Ben Mays | 30 | Linda Allen |
| 12 | Elizabeth Clements | 31 | Randy Clements |
| 13 | Gloria Mitchell | | |
| | Rebecca Bennett | | |
| | Susan Younk Kidd | | |

- | | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 8 | Jack and Diana Burton |
| 31 | Greg and Sharon Wilemon |



AT HOME AND/OR RECEIVING TREATMENT

Dave Barnett, Julie Barnett, Rita Hart, Rene Metcalf,
Theda Deaver, Bill Wood, Sharon Wilemon,
Lorraine Schmitz, Carol Gadbois, Marina Kuyl

SPECIAL BLESSINGS:

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 susanyouнк@gmail.com or contact Gail at the church office.

AT CARE/RETIREMENT FACILITIES

Moved to a Facility in Cleburne

Maureen Walker

Waterview at Lake Granbury

Ted Dolan, Nita Collinsworth

AVIVA (formerly "Quail Park") Granbury

Dolores Groom, John Cheney

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, Granbury

Bill Lowe

Lewisville Estates, Lewisville

Fran Smith

CONCERNS FOR OUR EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

- **Janis Thronton**, daughter of Juanita Morgan, as she seeks cancer treatment.
- **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 receiving cancer treatments.
- **The Ukrainian family** that has been part of Marla Caraway's daughter's life, as they shelter from the siege.
- **Joan Smethers**, sister of Max Jewell as she seeks treatment for lung cancer and **Miles** grandson of the Jewells .
- **Bonnie**, friend of Judy Butler, experiencing health issues.
- **Dave Kennison**, friend of the Gulinson's, as he recovers from a series of strokes.
- **Terry Marint** (Cylvia Hickey) as he deals with cancer treatments.
- **Wanda Langston** friend of Susan and Tim Kidd, as she navigates health issues resulting from a stroke.

CONCERNS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Marina Kuyl who is receiving hospice care at home.

Gardner Davis as he battles multiple health issues from long-term COVID.

Dave Barnett as he deals with multiple health issues.

Julie Barnett As she recovers from gallbladder surgery.

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

Carol Gadbois as she deals with multiple health issues. Carol and Bob's great-grandson, 9 months old, also needs your prayers as he deals with a very serious health condition.

Claire Mitchell Copeland who has multiple health issues.

Lorraine Schmitz as she receives Hospice care at home.

Rick and Marla Caraway as they mourn the loss of Ricks brother Kirk

Richard McCarthy as he seeks treatment for eye care.

Ted and Trish Gollar as he deals with the effects of a brain tumor.

Donna Callahan as she deals with multiple health issues.

Larry Walker as he deals with health issues.

Theda Deaver as she navigates declining health.

Sandi Ricketson as she navigates health issues.

Priscilla and Larry Allen on the death of Priscilla's brother, Clyde Phillips.

Dennie Treat as she prepares for surgery to remove a kidney stone.

Reann McHaney as she deals with health issues.

Faith Goodman as she goes through cancer treatments.

Ann McLaughlin as she deals with health issues.



All of you who were at church on February 19th know what a wonderful celebration of Drew's ministry to First Presbyterian Church Granbury we had! There were 191 in church and almost that many at his luncheon. The day was a perfect mix of gratitude, funny stories, lovely memories, family, long time pastor friends who serenaded us, and of course, sadness. We wish Drew and Rhonda a wonderful retirement!

I have had lots of compliments on the caterer who provided our meal. If anyone has a need for his services, he can be reached at jtscustomcatering@yahoo.com. His name is **Joe McWilliams**, and his phone number is **817-240-2712**. He is very easy to work with and does a great job.

As Fellowship Elder, I will be getting back to planning ***Evenings of Fellowship and Food***. This will be instead of Small Group Dinners. We will invite anyone who wants to come to bring a dish for a pot luck meal and games that you enjoy playing. We might pick a certain type of food, like Chinese or Mexican. I'm still thinking about the specifics. There will be ample advertising before each event. Hopefully, depending on how everyone likes it, we can have an event once a month. I think it is very important while we search for an interim minister and then a permanent pastor, that we stay close as a congregation!

Cinnamon Bubble Bread

Rhodes frozen dinner rolls (regular size, not Texas size)

Spray Bundt pan well with Pam

Place 11 frozen dinner rolls on bottom of pan

Place 12-13 rolls in next row

Add Topping:

1 small box Butterscotch pudding (not instant)

1 cup brown sugar

Chopped pecans and/or raisins if desired

2 t cinnamon mixed with ¼ cup sugar (add next to last)

1 stick melted butter (last)



Put in cold oven overnight with a cookie sheet under it for overflow. Next morning, bake for 30 minutes at 350. Let it rest 15 minutes in pan, then turn out onto big enough plate to catch the sauce. (Place plate on top of Bundt pan and invert quickly so as not to drip sauce). This is great when you have company and need an easy breakfast.

March 2023

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday																			
26 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	27 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon 7:00pm Mission Study - Administration	28 10:00am - 11:30am The Church Sings It's Faith - Bible Study - Priscilla Allen - MH 6:00pm - 7:00pm Mission Study Committee - Administration	1 10:30am - 11:30am Mission and Outreach - Administration 12:00pm - 1:00pm Men's Study - Admin Building 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - FH	2 10:00am CE Committee Meeting - Admin Building 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	3 2:00pm - 3:00pm Interim Search Committee - Admin	4 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH	5 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	6 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon 7:00pm Mission Study - Administration	7 10:00am - 11:00am PW Bible Study - FH 7:00pm - 8:00pm PW Bible Study - FH	8 12:00pm - 1:00pm Men's Study - Admin Building 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - FH	9 9:00am - 10:00am Worship Committee - Admin 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH 11:00am Outreach and Mission - Admin	10 10:30am - 11:30am Presbyterian Women's Meeting - Fellowship Hall	11 10:00am - 12:00pm Labyrinth Committee - Admin 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH	12 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	13 1:00pm - 3:00pm Memorial Hall - Pecan Bookmarks 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon 7:00pm Mission Study - Administration	14 9:00am - 12:00pm Granbury Knitting Guild - FH 10:00am - 11:30am The Church Sings It's Faith - Bible Study - Priscilla Allen - MH	15 10:00am Book Circle - Admin Building - Elinor Oliphant is Completely Fine 10:00am - 11:00am Habitat for Humanity - Admin Building 12:00pm - 1:00pm Men's Study - Admin Building 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - FH	16 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH 2:00pm - 4:00pm Worship Committee Meeting - Admin Building	17 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH	19 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	20 Bridge Articles Due 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon 7:00pm Mission Study - Administration	21 10:00am - 11:30am The Church Sings It's Faith - Bible Study - Priscilla Allen - MH 12:00pm - 3:00pm Sewing Circle - FH - Bring Lunch 5:30pm Session - Admin Building	22 10:00am FUN Circle - Fellowship Hall 12:00pm - 1:00pm Men's Study - Admin Building 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - FH	23 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	25 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH	26 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	27 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon	28 10:00am - 11:30am The Church Sings It's Faith - Bible Study - Priscilla Allen - MH	29 12:00pm - 1:00pm Men's Study - Admin Building 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - FH	30 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	31 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH

Watch for changes to the 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>

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



Celebrating Birthdays

Celebrating Birthdays

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.

To:

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