

First Presbyterian Church
Granbury, TX

2023 Mission Study Report



Approved by Session
May 16, 2023

Approved by Grace Presbytery
May 23, 2023

Our Thanks

This report could not have been completed without the incredible support and significant input we received from the congregation and session.

Your Mission Study Team was privileged to receive your thoughts and dreams for this place we all cherish and love.

Mission Study Team Members:

Linda Allen

Nancy Bennett

Emily Graham

Darin Smith

Jim Wallis, Chair

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:

- Elected by Congregation
- Meeting with each other



Pastor Nominating Committee:

- Create Ministry Information Form
- Review Applicants
- Interview Candidates

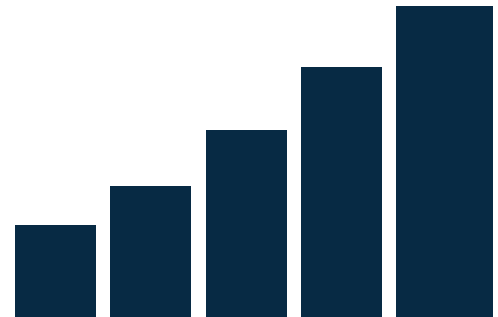




Table Of Contents

• FPC Session	4
• FPC Staff	5
• FPC Granbury: An Overview	
◦ Our Mission	6
◦ Our Vision	6
◦ Our Values	7
◦ Our History	8
• Fact Gathering and Analysis	
◦ Congregational Membership Report	9
◦ Valued Church & Community Programs	11
◦ Financial Status	13
◦ Community Demographics	14
◦ Pastoral Leadership	16
◦ In, Through, and Out of COVID	17
• Congregational Reflection	
◦ Overview	19
◦ Conclusions, Goals, & Suggestions	21
• Appendices	22

FPC Session



LINDA ALLEN
FELLOWSHIP



PAT LULEY
WORSHIP



BRAD BELL
USHERING



STEPHANIE MOSLEY
ADMINISTRATION



DAN CRISE
STEWARDSHIP



DARIN SMITH
LONG-RANGE
PLANNING



CONNIE DARNE
OUTREACH AND
MISSION



CLAUDIA SOUTHERN
NEW MEMBERSHIP



SYLVIA HICKEY
CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION



TERRY WORCESTER
PROPERTY



CRAIG LACY
CLERK OF SESSION



SUSAN YOUNK-KIDD
CONGREGATIONAL
CARE

FPC Staff



GAIL DECKERT
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

REV. SHERROLYN WEED
INTERIM PASTOR



EMILY GRAHAM
HANDBELL DIRECTOR
AND IT

KENTON SORKE
ORGANIST



PRISCILLA ALLEN
CHOIR DIRECTOR

GLENN GOFORTH
MAINTENANCE



ANGELA YOUNG
NURSERY ATTENDANT

MARIJANE HARVEY
LEAD NURSERY
ATTENDANT



FPC Granbury: An Overview



Mission

It is our calling to share the good news of the Gospel through generous outreach and hospitality, nurturing worship and study, compassionate care and fellowship, striving together to faithfully discern God's will for the ministry of First Presbyterian Church in this world.

Vision

Our congregation strives to develop and maintain a true sense of Christian community through hospitality and outreach. We encourage discipleship and spiritual growth through commitment and participation in Bible study, through meaningful worship, with inviting fellowship, and by pondering together what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

Our vision includes reaching out into our community and beyond with an inviting welcome to others. We have strengthened our Facebook presence, redesigned our website, and live stream our Sunday services in order to help us reach those who may be seeking a church home.

Our session and our membership are dedicated to the values which will help us realize this vision. We understand this is a blessing and seek to elect new elders each year who are committed to pursuing this vision as they serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

FPC Granbury: An Overview



Values

The church lives in the spirit of 1 Corinthians 12:27 “Each one of us is a part of Christ’s body. We all have different functions. But we are called to be his hands and feet since we are all called to serve one another and to love one another. “All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.” Accordingly, the Session is organized under the following categories: **Property**, building maintenance and repair; **Christian Education**, learning and spiritual enrichment for adults and children; **Congregational Care**, responding to the needs of members with compassion, care and effectiveness; **Fellowship**, planning social events and activities to involve and encourage member engagement; **Membership**, assuring new members are warmly received into fellowship, and are extended opportunities for engagement; **Administration**, care for the staff through personnel policies and support, **Outreach and Mission**, providing volunteer and spiritual support to those in need at the local, national, and worldwide level; **Long-Range Planning**, the planning for the church of tomorrow; **Stewardship**, develops and implements ways to encourage the pledges of financial support and time and talents from members; **Ushering**, the organizing of volunteers to welcome worshippers, receive the offering during Sunday worship, and help with communion; and **Worship**, providing meaningful worship experiences for congregants at Sunday services and special services.

One of the great strengths of this congregation is the diversity of perspective held by our members. We have talked before in worship and in study groups about how we are a "purple congregation." We are a family of God with members who hold traditional ideas and with members who profess progressive thoughts on matters theological, political and social. We are also a congregation with many who find themselves in the center between these poles. That diversity of thought, at times, makes for difficult conversations but those conversations enable us to assume a new understanding with one another that enriches the relationships we share in life of the church.

The Historic Principles of Church Order, adopted in 1788, quote the *Westminster Confession of Faith* in saying, “God alone is Lord of the conscience.” Presbyterians have always had the right and privilege to think the faith for themselves. The church does not tell us what to think but does encourage us to engage in thinking about theological, political and social matters.

FPC Granbury: An Overview

History

The history of the First Presbyterian Church of Granbury can be traced to the early settlers in Hood County in the mid-1800s. One of the earliest communities in Hood County was Walnut Creek, near Acton. Beginning in 1855, the residents, including some Presbyterians, shared a stone church building used by Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Reformed Christian congregations to conduct worship services.

The lot on which the church still stands was purchased for \$300 in 1892. The Ladies Aid Society was formed and immediately began planning events to raise money for the new church building. In 1894 the adjoining property to the east was purchased and a parsonage was built for the first full-time pastor, C.C. McConnell. Construction of the sanctuary was begun in March of 1895 and was completed in April of 1896. The congregation decided to wait until all debts on the building were paid before holding a formal dedication. The mortgage was burned on Saturday, November 6, 1897, and the dedication service was conducted the following day.



Early in the 1960s the presbytery felt that there was no future for the First Presbyterian Church in Granbury and began plans to close the church. Legend has it that when the presbytery committee came to talk to the members about this decision, Elder Jake Morris, better known as Mr. Jake, the father of long-time members Jeanell Morris and Annadell Teems, had conveniently misplaced the keys. His words of wisdom were, "We are getting old and if God does not want a Presbyterian Church in Granbury, He will let it die with us." The church never did close its doors and it certainly never died.

A new fellowship hall, office, and classroom building was built across the street from the historic church building in 1992. The annex, or Memorial Hall, was built next to the historic church sanctuary in 2005. It includes a meeting room, session room, a parlor, a memorial garden, and columbarium.

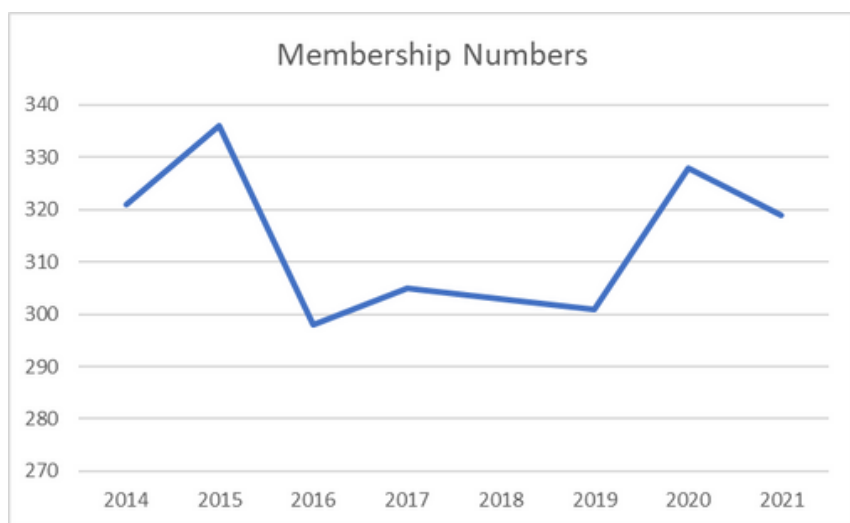




Fact Gathering and Analysis

Members of our Mission Study Committee were each tasked with a section of our fact gathering and analysis. The research was done, information compiled, and conclusions were drawn and then approved by the other members of the committee.

Congregational Membership



The membership of FPC Granbury has averaged 313 from the years 2014 through 2021, with a 11% dip at the start of 2016 due to a cleaning of the membership rolls, followed by an 8% increase from 2019 to 2020. Our average net membership gain in the 8-year sample data is 3 members, when considering new members, minus deaths of members. Average church attendance hovers at about 145, with a sharp increase in 2020 due to online

views of our services during the COVID-era. Service views were around 300 per week online, when combining YouTube and Facebook. Services were shared online to friends near and far. Our attendance in 2021 (mostly) post-COVID was 89% of attendance in 2019, pre-COVID. When comparing attendance numbers to membership numbers, 46% are in attendance weekly; however, we know this number also includes visitors and guests.

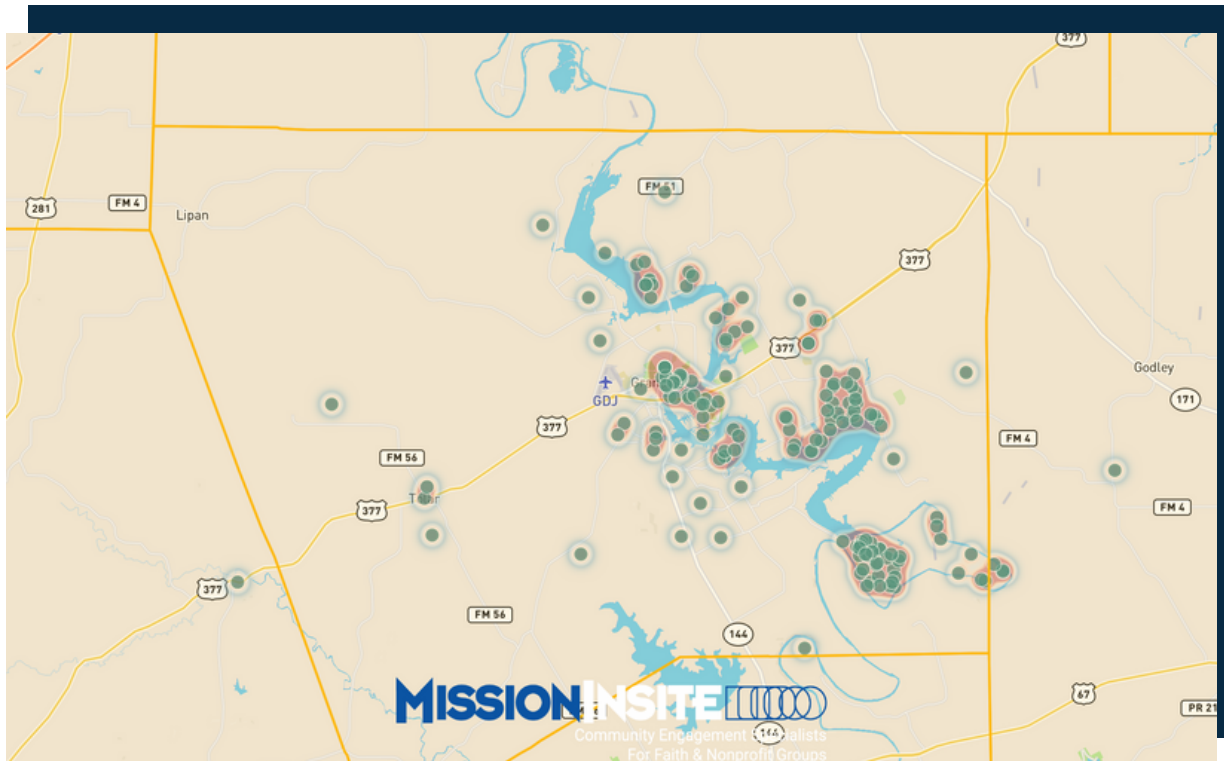
The membership of FPC Granbury is predominantly 65 years of age and older. When looking at the location of our members, they are principally in Granbury, and 83% are within a 15-mile radius of the church. There are three large clusters of members, the largest of which is 26% of members being in the gated neighborhood of Pecan Plantation. This information correlates with the age of members. Generally, many people who live in Pecan Plantation are retired. This information is also important to keep in mind when it comes to programming in our congregation. Many of these retired, older members do not want to, or feel safe to, drive in the dark. As a result, much of our programming is done during daytime hours, which can hinder or preclude younger people from participating.

Fact Gathering and Analysis

Congregational Membership

Additionally, a large portion of our congregation live in affluent neighborhoods in Hood County and may be unaware of the economic disadvantages of youth in our community. According to GISD information, 41.5% of students are economically disadvantaged. Members who participated in our engagement sessions expressed interest in raising our congregation's awareness of the needs of our community.

The congregation may skew older, but we are a vibrant and involved group of people who work and volunteer not just within our congregation, but within our community. Retirement also means that you're looking to feel purposeful in new and different ways other than your profession and many of our members can fulfill this need by participating in church activities.



Fact Gathering and Analysis



Valued Church & Community Programs

Our church members participate in many activities and interest groups, but the ones that they value the most involve learning, mission, fellowship, worship, and congregational care.

Most of our congregation are well educated and enjoy opportunities to learn. We have Sunday School for adults and children, a men's bible study that meets weekly, a Presbyterian Women's (PW) Bible study program that meets 9 months of the year, a Lenten Bible study, and a PW book study group. We traditionally hold VBS for the children of our church and community.



Mission and community outreach have a high priority and there are multiple valued programs. Among them are the support of residents in the Housing Authority near our church through holiday gift baskets and meal donations, and most recently the planting of flowerbeds for those who requested it. We provide lunch for Habitat for Humanity workers once a month. One of our Presbyterian Women circles assembles bags of essentials after another circle sews attractive bags.



These are provided to CPS to give to children as first night bags when they are removed from their homes. Our fall gift card program to purchase shoes for school age children is an enormous success. Presbyterian Women organize rummage sales twice a year, making several thousand dollars at each sale to be used for mission. The rummage sale is a mission of its own, because items are priced so that the economically challenged can afford nice clothing and household items.

Fact Gathering and Analysis



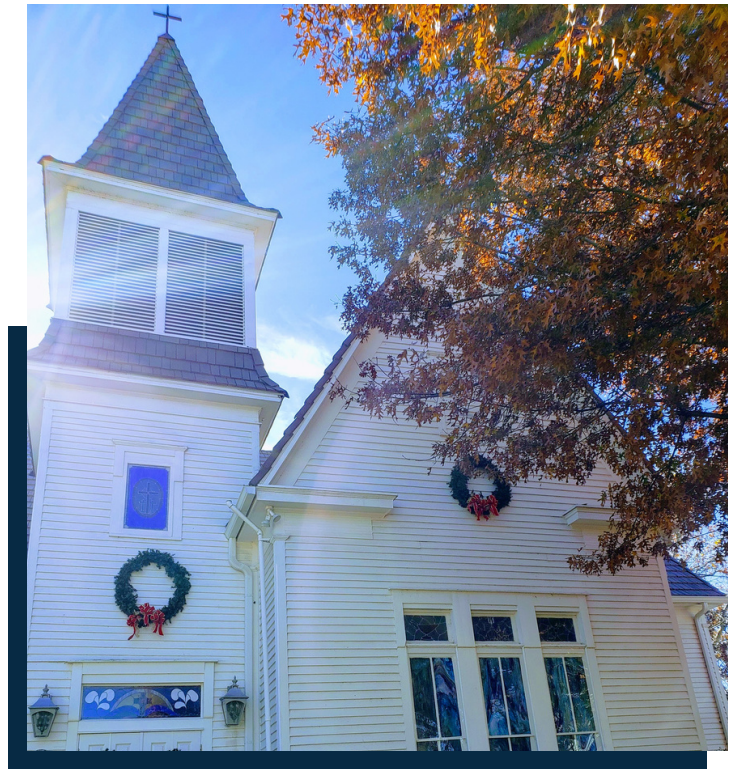
Valued Church & Community Programs



Everyone enjoys and needs fellowship activities and some of our popular ones are monthly “Fellowship, Food, and Fun” potlucks, our summer picnic, the July 4th parade and BBQ, our Easter Coffee, and our Christmas luncheon following the Choir Cantata.

Our congregation supports worship with our choir, bell choir, communion guild, ushering, and the online broadcasting of the service. We invest in our membership and visitors with “New Member Dinners,” an online church directory, an excellent website, and Facebook posts.

We meet the needs of our congregation in church and at home with family receptions after funerals, visits and communion to the home bound, hospital visitation and phone calls, and Flu and Covid booster shot clinics annually. Recently we have updated our Emergency Preparedness Plan with a trained Safety Team and security camera monitoring during church. The team is trained in first aid, Stop the Bleed, AED and CPR, and Active Shooter (CRASE).



Our church is centrally located in downtown Granbury. As a result, we enjoy providing hot chocolate for townspeople and visitors during the Christmas parade; and many, such as AA, music groups and civic organizations, make use of our facilities during the week. We also host musical programs during the Candlelight Tour as our historic building is open as a location on the tour itself.

Fact Gathering and Analysis



Financial Status

First Presbyterian Church Granbury is blessed to be financially healthy. Our annual budget is consistently based upon membership offerings (both pledged and non-pledged). We have been able to make many changes including new pews in the sanctuary in 2017 along with upgrades to our video and security systems without needing any additional capital funds. Our facilities are debt-free and approximately 15% of our budget each year is to Benevolences; United Mission Giving as well as local Mission & Outreach. During Covid, the Session made the decision to continue paying all staff (employees and contract) even when we were not worshipping in the sanctuary together. (See Appendix E)

In 2018, the Session authorized a Permanent Funds Ministry consisting of three separate Permanent Funds: General Endowment Fund, Benevolence Fund, and Capital Fund. Since the initial investment, these funds have been sustained by individual donations, birthday offerings and earnings from investment. Since this time, we've been able to add more than \$10,000 to the Missions and Outreach budget as well as make updates to our HVAC system with these funds. (See Appendix G)



Fact Gathering and Analysis



Community Demographics



First Presbyterian Church Granbury is located one block west of the town square in Granbury, Texas, a city in and the county seat of Hood County, Texas. Voted USA Today's Best Historic Small Town in America in 2019, 2020, and 2021, Granbury is a small-town rich in unique culture, deep Texas history, and southern hospitality. Granbury is located along US Route 377 approximately 30 miles southwest of Fort Worth.

The Brazos River flows past the east side of the city within Lake Granbury. Our members live primarily in the historic downtown area, Pecan Plantation, De Cordova Bend Estates, and Indian Harbor, though many are scattered throughout the county.

Hood County, TX borders Erath County, TX, Johnson County, TX, Palo Pinto County, TX, Parker County, TX, and Somervell County, TX. In 2020, Hood County, TX has 420.7 square miles and a population of 60k people with a median age of 46.6 and a median household income of \$71,253. Between 2019 and 2020 the population of Hood County, TX grew from 58,318 to 60,025, a 2.93% increase and its median household income grew from \$64,041 to \$71,253, a 11.3% increase. In 2020, the median property value in Hood County, TX was \$208,700, and the homeownership rate was 79.5%.

The 3 largest ethnic groups in Hood County, TX are White (Non-Hispanic) at 83%, Hispanic at 13% and Black at 1%. 51% of the population is female and 98.6% of residents are U.S. citizens.

None of the households in Hood County, TX reported speaking a non-English language at home as their primary shared language. This does not consider the potential multi-lingual nature of households, but only the primary self-reported language spoken by all members of the household. There are many examples in our community, however where translators are supplied, e.g., schools etc.

Fact Gathering and Analysis



Community Demographics

Hood County experienced a 20.4% population change from 2010 to 2020. The rate of growth in the coming years will be impacted by: Granbury Independent School District student capacity restraints; settlement of Waste Water Treatment litigation; Safe Community Implications - Expansion of Hood County jail (primary offenses Drugs – Fentanyl and Robbery/Theft Ring along the 377 corridor); and US 377 Cresson Relief Route TxDOT.

A large percentage of the workforce travels to Ft. Worth and other municipalities which offer a higher pay scale. The draw and retention of business (any type and size) is affected by density of available workforce and compensation/benefits. Most people in Hood County, TX drive alone to work, and the average commute time is 32.9 minutes. The average car ownership in Hood County, TX is 2 cars per household.

A large number of 501c3s strive to serve multiple population needs requiring financial support and volunteers to achieve their respective mission. The United Way of Hood County is currently considering creating a non-profit hub to encourage growing collaboration. Affordable and upscale home construction between Cresson and Ft Worth is rapidly developing. This may impact possible population growth in and around Granbury.

Hood County Food Insecurity and Poverty provides an ample opportunity base for community outreach.:

- Granbury Independent School District contains 10 schools and 7,469 students. 41.5% of students are economically disadvantaged.
- 8.6% of the population live below poverty line, which is about three-fifths of the rate in Texas (14%) about two-thirds of the rate in United States: 12.6% Children (Under 18) 12%+ Seniors (65 and over). The largest demographic living in poverty are females 18 - 24, followed by females 45 - 54 and then females 35 - 44. The most common racial or ethnic group living below the poverty line in Hood County, TX is White, followed by Hispanic and Other.
- Hood County has 25 Food Pantries: 10 are open weekly; 10 are accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; 6 Monthly by Appointment/Other; 2 provides clothing resale shops of donated clothes, sundries, furniture, and household items; 1 offers Women & Children Shelter; and 1 provides CASA Court Appointed Special Advocates.

Fact Gathering and Analysis



Pastoral Leadership

In 2013, Rev. Drew Travis, a fourth-generation Presbyterian minister, became our pastor. The congregation grew so much through his gentle spirit, tender care, and leadership that the church added a full time Associate Pastor and called Rev. Brenda Church on January 2020. This new position was a first for the church and for Drew. A two-pastor configuration was exciting and occasionally challenging as the Pastors and Congregation came to understand how the work would be done. Both pastors had their hands full preaching, teaching, tending to congregational and community needs, developing church leadership and the myriad array of administrative functions.

The life of the church took an unexpected turn with the onset of COVID. Among the chilling impacts of this disease was the loss of regular fellowship, isolation of membership, worship by the screen and the delayed Celebrations of Life of our beloved friends and family. The church emerged from this period a bit battle worn, but optimistic and faithful in what was, and what is to become. Our Pastors and Session were a powerful force for stability by keeping faith in God's promise of grace and reconciliation.

We now find ourselves in another time of transition. Brenda accepted a new call effective August 12, 2022, to the Tres Rios Presbytery to begin her work in San Angelo, and Drew retired in February 2023. Thanks to solid Pastoral leadership, the Session is well outfitted with ingenuity and creativity to serve the needs of the congregation and community. Volunteerism to serve on committees and leadership roles is healthy. Emotional energy channels to the positive with little evidence of theological or political polarization. On May 1, 2023, Rev. Sherrolyn Weed became our Interim Pastor.

Our church is currently searching for a new Pastor. This will be a solo pastorate position. The Session, with the help of the new Pastor and congregational engagement, will determine future personnel configurations. We look forward to the future of the ministry in Granbury.

Fact Gathering and Analysis



In, Through, and Out of COVID

GOOD NEWS

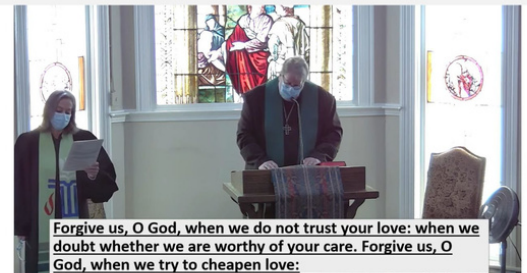
Over the span of two years (2018-2019), FPC had many signs of a lively and growing congregation. We hired our first Associate Pastor; installed new hardware and software to facilitate live streaming of the Sunday services on Facebook and YouTube; we created three Permanent Funds with the help of several generous gifts: General Endowment, Benevolences, and Capital Fund; added 40 new members; and the Long-Range Planning Committee began to develop plans to expand the Fellowship Hall. The church was on solid footing with an engaged congregation providing their time, talent and treasure to the ministry and mission of the church.

COVID REALITY

Then an unwanted visitor arrived: COVID-19. Things had to change in response to this unknown virus in our midst. In-person worship was suspended as trends in cases, hospitalizations and deaths ramped up. In March 2020, we shut things down - worship, meetings, fellowship gatherings, and hospital visits. We began to use the phrase “out of an abundance of caution” and began to make decisions with this in mind. We stayed home, trips were cancelled, plans were rearranged, masks were worn dutifully, and even visits to the doctor were delayed. We quit eating out, stopped gathering socially, and changed the way we do business. Our church was in a fortunate position, since we already had technology and processes in place to livestream our worship when many other churches were struggling. Our committees met via Zoom, and we developed new ways to provide Christian education, mission & outreach, fellowship, and spiritual support. Additionally, the church upheld the pay commitment to all employees, regardless of their ability to work due to changes in programming.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

Facebook • YouTube • FPCGRANBURY.ORG



SERVICE

Each Sunday at 8:45 am we debut our service on YouTube and Facebook. You can ALWAYS go back and watch later - all of the services are archived.

Services are currently recorded in advance and edited together, but that process is subject to change. One thing is certain - we will continue to worship with you Sunday mornings.

COMMUNITY

Join us at facebook.com/fpcgranbury for updates, photos, prayers, and more. And don't forget to like and share our posts.



OFFERING

Don't forget that you can give online at fpcgranbury.org/give

You can make a one-time offering, or you can set up recurring payments using your bank account or debit card.

*First Presbyterian Church
Granbury, Texas*

303 W. BRIDGE ST
FPCGRANBURY.ORG 817-573-2337

Fact Gathering and Analysis



In, Through, and Out of COVID

COVID REALITY CONT'D

An Ad Hoc Committee was formally appointed in July 2020 to work on related issues and to report back to the session for discussion and approval of any recommendations. The committee (and Session) agreed that in-person worship in our sanctuary was the most complex challenge. The church office returned to regular office hours on Monday, October 5th. Masks remained a requirement in all church buildings.

December 2020 saw a bit of normalcy that had begun to inch its way back into our lives, but a second wave, and new strains surged worldwide. “Normalcy” was again delayed. Thanksgiving and Christmas plans were cancelled, and families were looking for alternative ways to celebrate and still feel connected. FPC held parking lot services on occasion to help us feel connected, waving at friends from behind masks, 6 feet apart. We all knew someone who had been ill with the virus or who had died due to it. Drew announced in April 2021 that we would resume modified in-person services, with the inclusion of a new UV filtration system on our existing HVAC systems. With the knowledge that most of our members fell into a high-risk category, we offered both masked and mask-optional services, and we continued to livestream our services.

THE CHURCH ABIDES

Throughout this difficult time and moving into the current day, we rested on the shoulders of the saints who established our church more than 125 years ago. They faced perilous times yet survived because they kept “the main thing” the main thing. We found that what makes us resilient is our ability to remain steadfast, consistent, and authentic in our commitment to God, and to each other. This consistency led to great creativity in the traditions of Worship, Fellowship, Christian Education, Children’s Ministry, Mission and Outreach.

Congregational Reflection



Overview

Our committee hosted three different opportunities for members to come and give their input on three main questions: Who are we? Who are we called to be? Where is God calling us to go?

About 45 members attended our sessions (nearly half of our usual Sunday attendance), along with a few emailed statements. During the sessions, members of the MSC facilitated conversation about the current status of our church, the areas where improvements can be made, and suggestions for what should be done going forward in the search for a new pastor, as well as the continued success of our church.

These ideas fit into a few categories: membership, community awareness, facilities and maintenance, congregational care, pastoral expectations, and mission & outreach.

There is a divide within the responses when it comes to our church's goals for growth. Some feel that attracting young people and families is a requirement for our church to survive and thrive. Others think that our best avenue for growth is in retirees moving to town. Although we would like to have more young families, we know that our mission does not depend on them. Our church has many successful programs, but could do a better job at connecting current members to opportunities for service while being mindful of their physical capabilities and ability to participate.

Awareness is two-sided; our congregation is not aware of the true depth of the needs in our community regarding housing, finances, and hunger. Also, our members feel that the community isn't fully aware of what we do for the community, and what the Presbyterian church is like: welcoming, accepting, and a mix of all political views. It was suggested that more effort be put into marketing ourselves better, and increasing the community's understanding of what our church is like. An overwhelming number of respondents stated that when they came to our church, it immediately felt like "home." Perhaps our strategy needs to focus on how to get people to come for the very first time.

Congregational Reflection



Overview

One hurdle to getting people to come could be our buildings. The historic building does not necessarily reflect the congregation and worship that is held within. We are a dynamic and welcoming group with a vibrant, music-filled service that reinforces our Christian foundations. Our buildings could have better signage, a striped crosswalk between them, continued maintenance of our service streaming technology, and improved children's facilities and a playground to help show that we value our members of all ages.

It was suggested that congregational care should be completed by more than just the pastor. A team should be assembled and equipped from the congregation to assist with the care, relieving some of the burden from the pastor.

Many members expressed the desire to have a young pastor, far from retirement, who is involved in the community, recruits members to our congregations and is accepting of and encouraging when it comes to the differing views of our members. We hope for a pastor who will live, work, and love beside us as we fulfill our mission to God and the world.

We understand that the age of our congregation may limit us at times, but we have financial resources to share as well as the desire to reach out in the way of short-term projects. Many of our members volunteer their time independently, and do not rely on the church to sanction their efforts. "Worship develops discipleship." A suggestion was made to have name tags for our members to wear when they volunteer that highlight their membership at First Presbyterian Church.

Congregational Reflection



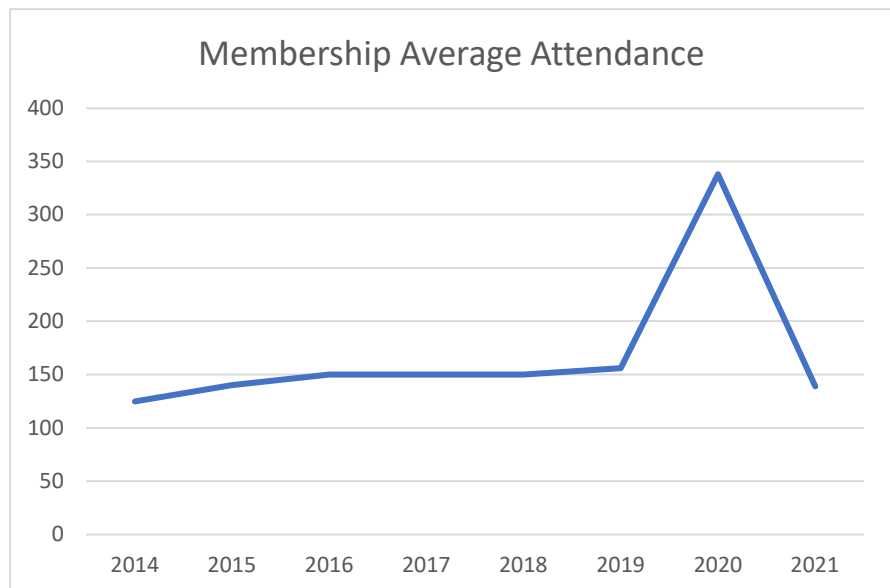
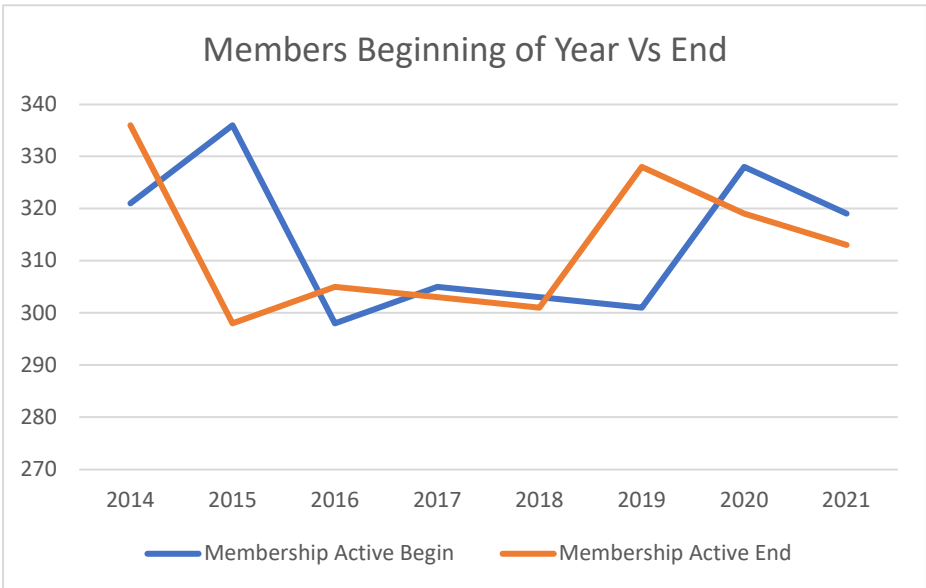
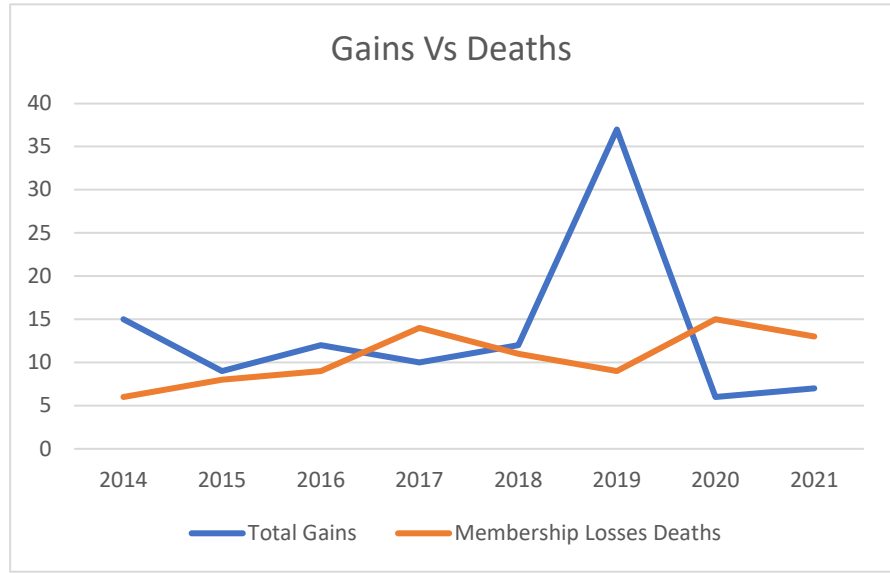
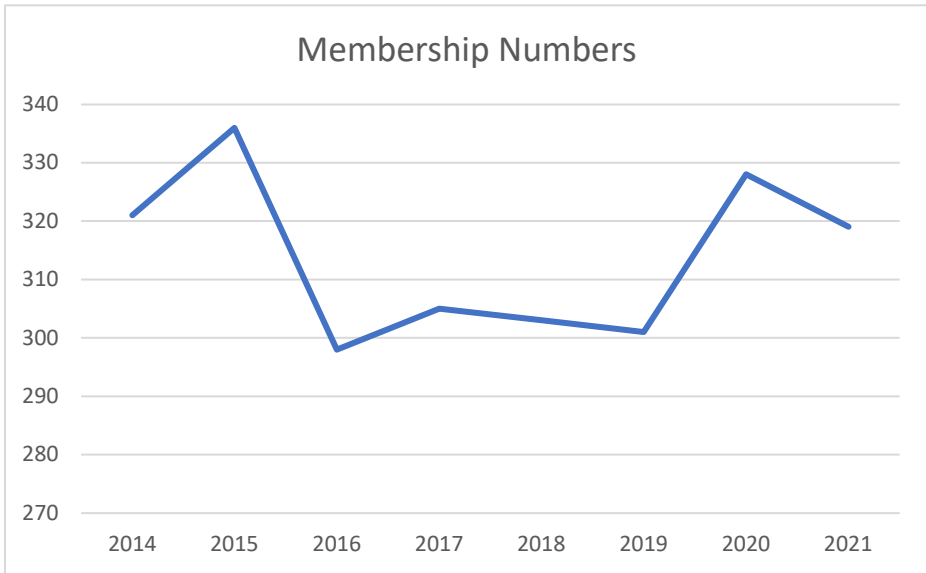
Conclusions, Goals, & Suggestions

- During the conversations of the Mission Study Committee, we felt that our church has a need for more marketing and awareness of our church. We should work on branding our church: a logo, a slogan, and facility signage.
 - “Come who you are” was suggested as a slogan.
 - We would like to move our branding from that of an old, historic church to a vibrant, engaged, open-minded congregation.
- The labyrinth should be completed with as much community awareness as possible.
- A playground should also be completed quickly and with the involvement of the congregation with a ribbon cutting.
- Continued maintenance of and upgrades to our technology for our church service streaming, as well as the sound system in the sanctuary, should be prioritized for our members who are at home or traveling.
- We need to make it easier for members and visitors to navigate our campus by understanding the layout and being able to move within and to and from buildings. Easily available maps for visitors and new members may help. A crosswalk between Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary would also be beneficial.
- Make people aware that our church is a safe space for all believers. We are the hands and feet of Jesus and live that in the world. “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” -Ephesians 2:10

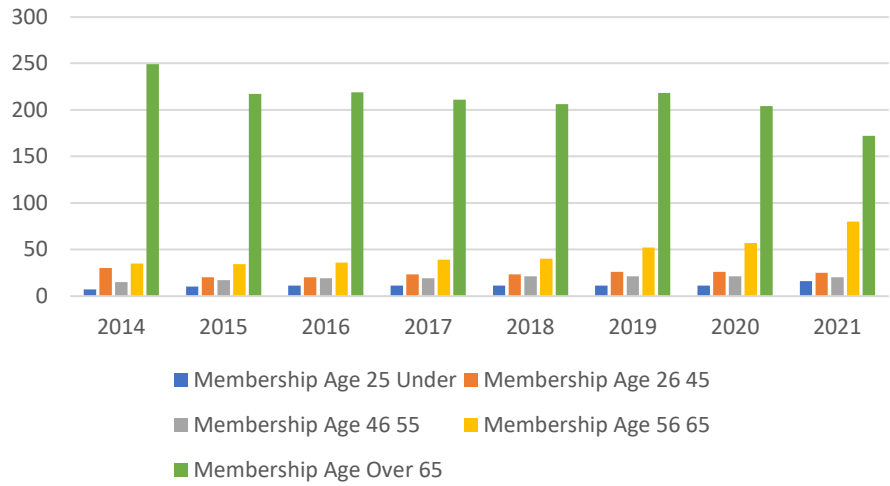


Appendices

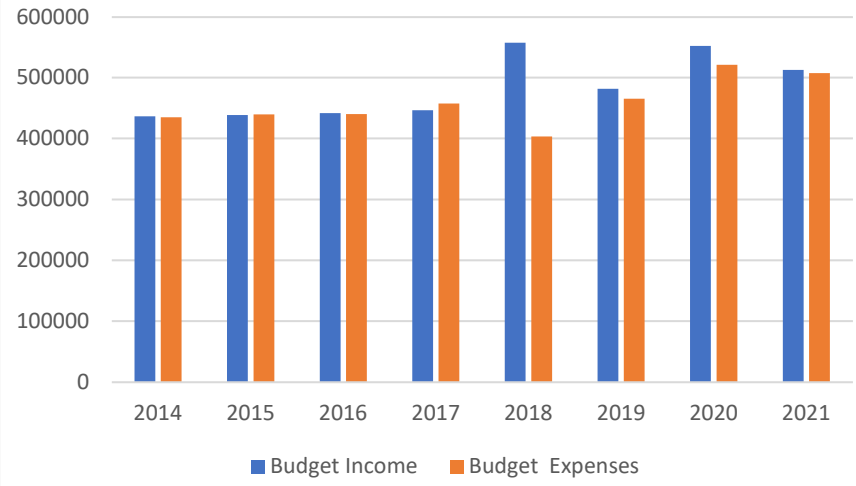
- A Membership Data Graphs
- B Congregational Engagement Questions
- C Congregational Input and Comments
- D Expense Comparison Chart
- E Narrative Budget 2023
- F Offerings Analysis
- G Permanent Funds Ministry Brochure
- H Balance Sheet March 31, 2023
- I Community Demographics Sources



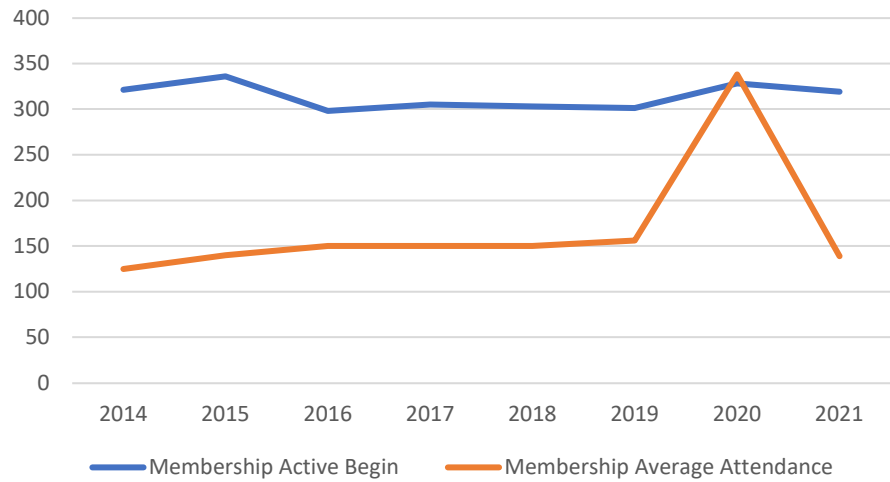
Membership Age



Income Vs Expense



Membership Vs Attendance



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

Your voice and participation are vital in the work of hiring a new pastor to lead FPC Granbury. Please consider the following prompts when responding via congregational meeting, email submission, or chat with a Mission Study Committee member.

Who Are We? *(John 15:1-17)*

Like every church, FPC Granbury has its own identity. This identity comes from our history, membership, leadership, and relationship with our community and beyond.

What are some of the ways our church defines itself? What do you see as the strengths of our church? In what ways do specific activities or programs you may be involved show the community who we are? Is this the image we want to promote of ourselves within the community?

Join us in conversation

April 13, 6 pm; April 14, 10 am,
or April 23rd following service.

All meetings in Fellowship Hall.

Who Are We Called To Be? *(Romans 12:9-21)*

The calling of a new minister provides the opportunity to look not only at where we've been, but also where God is leading us. Covid shutdown and its effects, growth in our community, and changes in the needs of our congregation can affect our church's ministries and programs.

Are there needs within our congregation or community that FPC Granbury should address? Are there any specific issues that you feel God is calling us to address? If this congregation is to thrive (and not just survive), what programs should we bolster? Eliminate? Create?

Where is God Calling Us To Go? *(Matthew 28:16-20)*

Matthew 28:16-20 concludes with Jesus telling his disciples to "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

With God's help, what possibilities do you see in our church? What message would you give to a new minister about what our church could become with his or her help?

// 2023 MISSION STUDY COMMITTEE

JIM WALLIS, NANCY BENNETT, LINDA ALLEN, EMILY GRAHAM, DARIN SMITH

RESPONSES MAY BE SENT TO: MISSIONSTUDYCOMMITTEE@FPCGRANBURY.ORG

Congregational Input and Comments

Membership

“Worship grows discipleship”

Maybe our worship, faith and programming

Want more young families

Need more young people, but don't know the formula to attract them

Our church is lacking in younger people and families

Need younger minister to attract young families

Can't keep them once they're teens

Kids come, then parents

Kids want facilities and gymnasiums

Our congregational makeup isn't strange when considering community demographics.

Granbury growing with retirees, can't necessarily find new young members

Need young people, but we can't get them if we don't have anyone to take care of their children.

Building is old, walk in and see old people.

Retirement is a piece of the puzzle. You tend to do what you want.

Increase Church Awareness about our Community

Discussion within church about homelessness and poverty in Granbury

Members aren't aware how poor the community is – BRA, OTS, Mitchell Bend

Members speaking, one was unaware of the “projects” housing areas

Increase Community Awareness about our Church

People hardly know we are here.

They think we are just a wedding chapel, or a cute little old church

We don't advertise what we're doing

We're neutral, we don't affiliate with a particular party, we're a purple church. We are safe space to have differences of opinions.

We should send pictures and info to the Hood County News

We are “hiding our light under a bushel”

Facilities and Maintenance

People visiting may not come back because of lack of space.

Our parking may deter people from even coming in.

Make our building more appealing to parents and children.

Build a playground for the children we have and nursery improvements

Signage for buildings, maybe a striped crosswalk from FH to the Sanctuary, a consistent logo

Our building is used by other groups in the community, which should continue and perhaps expand

Our technology for our service streaming needs to be maintained and upgraded to provide continued access for our homebound and traveling members.

Congregational Care

Our congregational population is aging and facing new health challenges.

Put together a team to visit members in the hospital, helps with congregational involvement and keeps load lighter for the pastor

Church has need for pastoral care, want new pastor to understand the needs of that

Serve the membership we have

Identify a need and help with driving to treatments, feed, keep an eye on them, etc.

Small church feel, get to know the people better. Some congregational care is inherent to this.

Pastoral Expectations

Want a pastor who isn't looking to retire soon.

We want someone involved in the community

Want a younger pastor to bring in new families

Outgoing, friendly, theologically progressive

Willing to accept our melting pot congregation

Can encourage members to accept their differences

Believes in the Bible and gospel

Recruits people to our congregation

We don't want someone who tells us how to vote, but someone who tells us to use our joy and love and concern and talents to help in the community.

Want a pastor who understands the needs of people over 50.

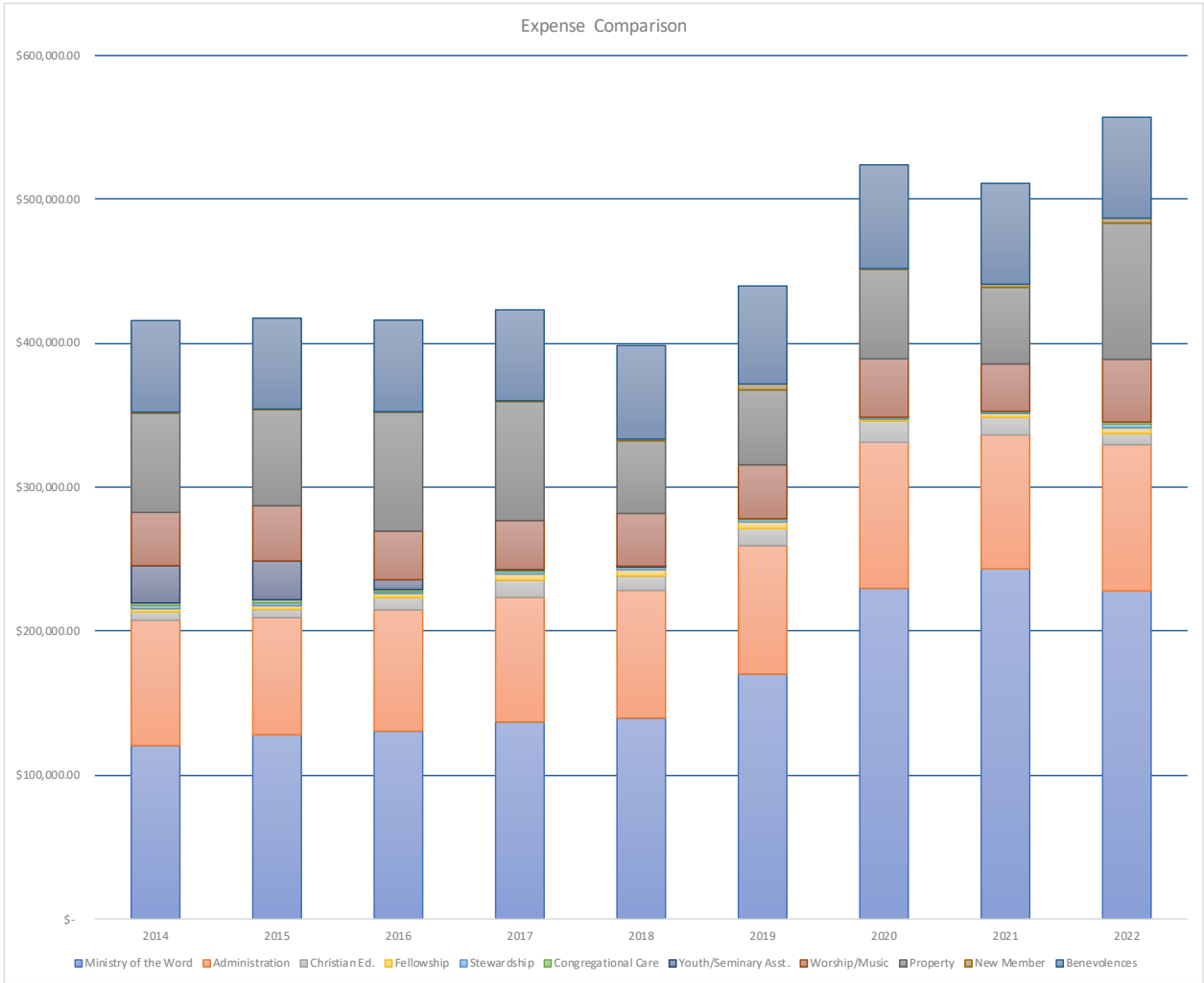
Mission and Outreach – locally and through Presbytery and Synod and General Assembly

Small groups within the congregation and individuals do a lot of work in the community, not really an en masse group project

We do better with short term, concrete projects

Nametags for members to wear on volunteer projects

Long term, our church is better committing to projects financially only



First Presbyterian Church, Granbury, Texas

2023 Budget



Our Mission

It is our calling to share the good news of the Gospel through generous outreach and hospitality, nurturing worship and study, compassionate care and fellowship, striving together to faithfully discern God's will for the ministry of First Presbyterian Church in this World.

We welcome those whom God welcomes

Our Vision

Our congregation strives to develop and maintain a true sense of Christian community through hospitality and outreach. We encourage discipleship and spiritual growth through commitment and participation in Bible study, through meaningful worship, in inviting fellowship, and by pondering together what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

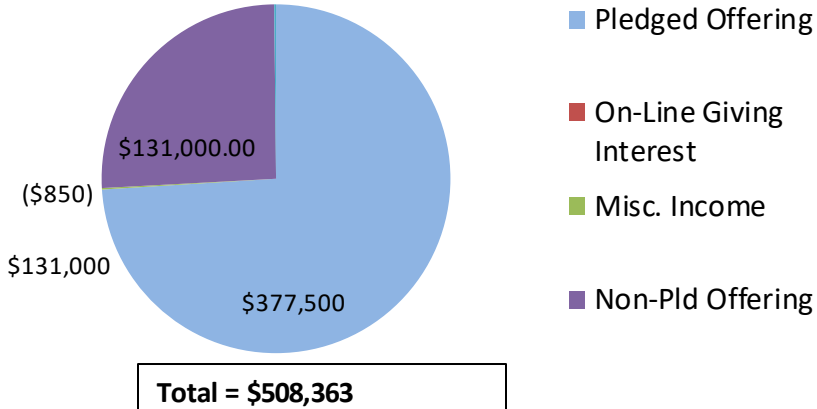
Our vision includes reaching out into our community and beyond with an inviting welcome to others. We have strengthened our Facebook presence, redesigned our website, and live stream our Sunday services in order to help us reach those who may be seeking a church home.

Our session and our membership are dedicated to the values which will help us realize this vision. We understand this is a blessing and seek to elect new elders each year who are committed to pursuing this vision as they serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

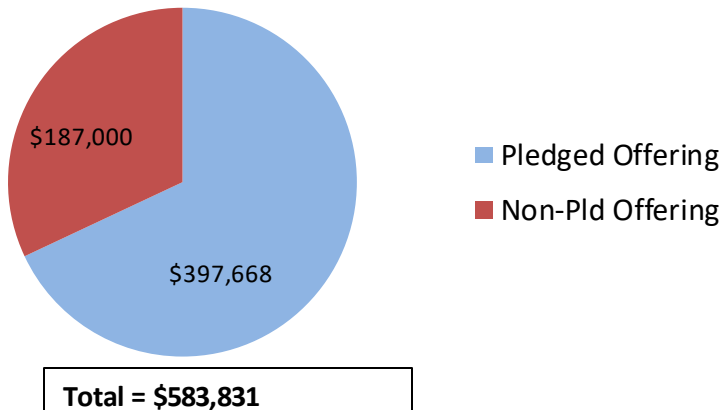


Comparison of 2023 Budgeted Income to 2022 Budgeted Income

2023 Budgeted Income

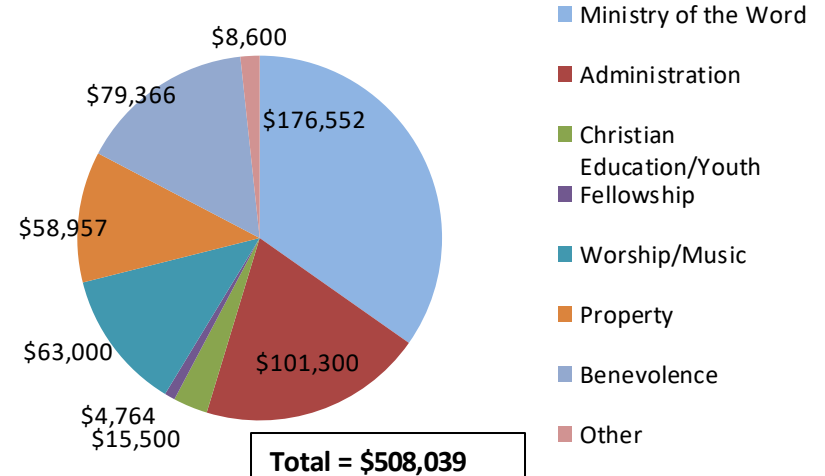


2022 Budgeted Income

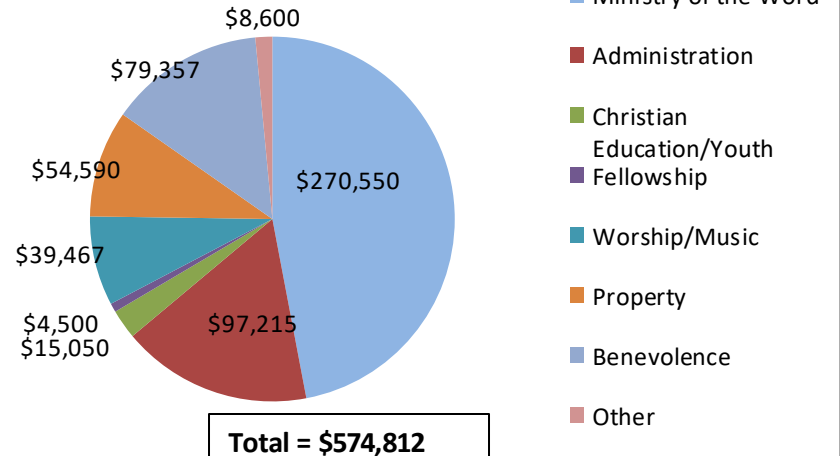


Comparison of 2023 Operating Budget to 2022 Operating Budget

2023 Operating Budget by Category



2022 Operating Budget by Category



2023 Operating Budget Presented in Narrative Format

Page 1

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

2023 Budget \$176,552



FPC welcomes all persons to worship with us in a traditional setting that strives to preserve the history, music, and liturgy of the PC(USA). Each Sunday we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and his saving grace in an encounter that is relevant to our modern understanding of scripture and applicable to our daily lives. Special worship services are conducted throughout the church year including Ash Wednesday, Advent, Good Friday, Easter, and Christmas Eve. Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month and baptism is arranged as requested. Children are encouraged to participate in the worship service.



There is a Children's time for those age 8 and under with a mini-sermon by the pastor after which they may attend Children's Church; a program which continues their learning experience through Bible stories and creative projects.



WORSHIP AND MUSIC

2023 Budget \$63,000

This Committee works to help provide a meaningful worship experience for congregants at regular Sunday services, at special worship services, and to assist in implementing the procedure developed for funerals and weddings. The Music Ministry programs of the Church consist of a Sanctuary Choir and Bell Choir. The Choirs are directed and accompanied by three contract providers consisting of a Music Director, Pianist/Organist; and Bell Choir Director.



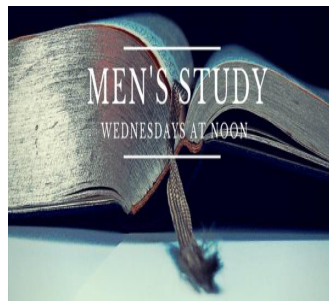
2023 Operating Budget Presented in Narrative Format

Page 2

Christian Education & Youth Programs

2023 Budget \$15,500

Provides learning opportunities and spiritual enrichment in Christian Education for children, youth and adults. Nurture and grow Youth Programs by planning meaningful activities that promote the spiritual growth of the youth through fellowship, Bible study, and mission outreach. Summer programs include Vacation Bible School and Camp opportunities for youth. Other activities include operation of Nursery, Church Library and support of Prison Ministry.



CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

2023 Budget \$4,764

The Fellowship Committee plans and organizes events throughout the year that promote and strengthen our Christian faith together with fellowship and unity among church members in a relaxed, safe, and comfortable atmosphere. Coordinates, through the Bereavement Committee, preparation of meals for families as needed.



2023 Operating Budget Presented in Narrative Format

Page 3

NEW MEMBER MINISTRY

2023 Budget \$4,100

Welcome
New Members

Assures that new members are warmly received into the fellowship of First Presbyterian Church and to extend to them opportunities to become actively involved in the Church's life and mission. Assist Clerk in ensuring that the official Church membership roll is accurate and documented.

Welcome! There is a place for you. We welcome those whom God welcomes. We hope you will join us.



Appendix E

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

2023 Budget \$2,000

Our mission is to be sensitive to the various needs of our Church members and respond to those needs and concerns with compassion, care, and effectiveness. The Congregational Care Committee will minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to anyone who is in distress.



God answers prayers

ENR

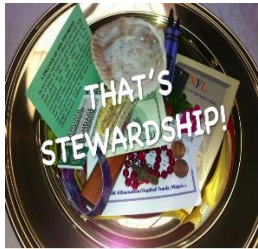


2023 Operating Budget Presented in Narrative Format

Page 5

STEWARDSHIP

2023 Budget \$2,500



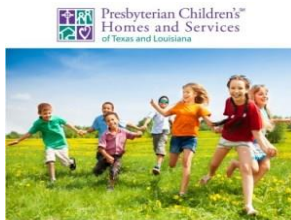
Develops and implements effective ways for encouraging and gathering the giving of financial support, personal time, and talent by Church members through fostering awareness and understanding of Stewardship. Annual Stewardship Campaign culminates with a celebration meal after Consecration Sunday worship service.



MISSION AND OUTREACH

2023 Budget \$79,366

Provides volunteer and spiritual support to those in need at the local, national, and worldwide level by administering the personal commitments and financial contributions of the congregation to selected missions and outreach initiatives. Undertakes opportunities to demonstrate our faith in action through hands-on assistance, advocacy, and gifts of financial support for denominational programs.



Call us: 817-579-6866

24 Hour Crisis Hotline
844-579-6848
Supporting survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault



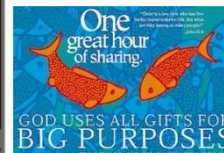
Ruth's Place
Bringing Health & Hope To Families

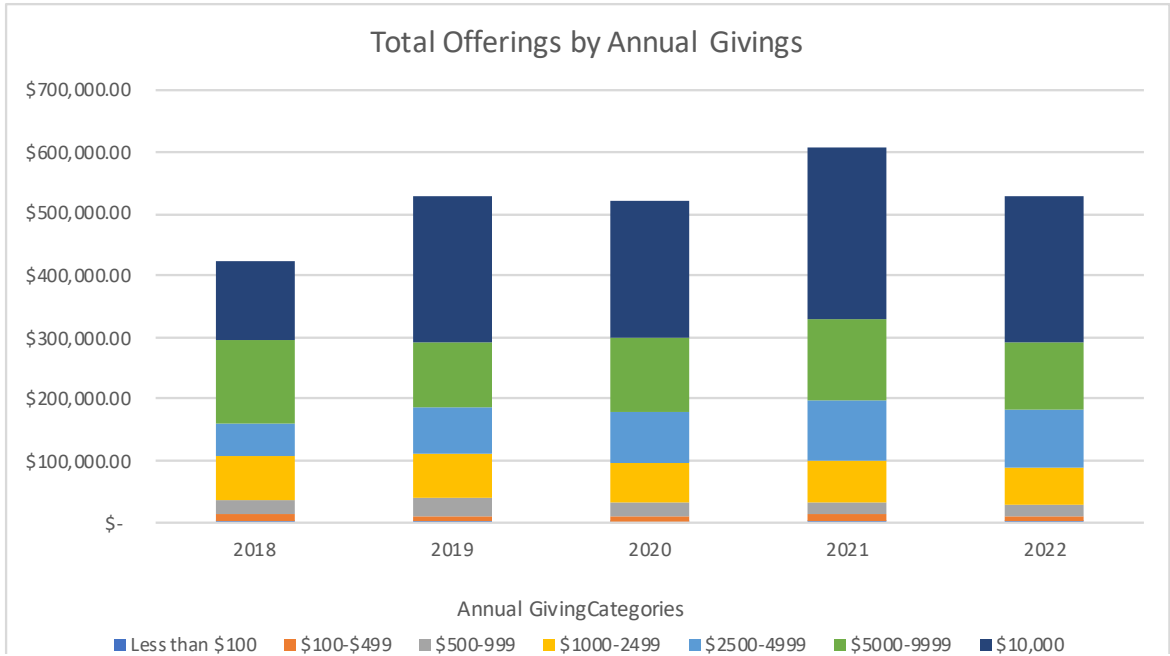
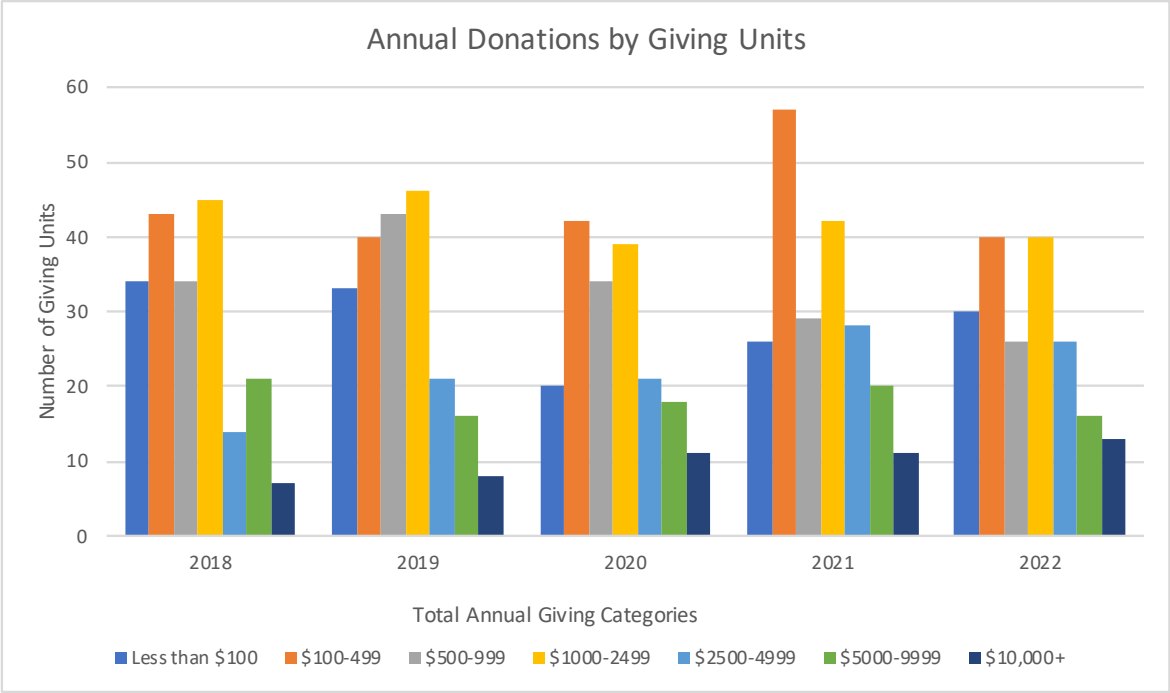
Ruth's Place provides high quality healthcare and social services to low income Hood County resident through the generosity of donors and volunteers.



Providing meals for Habitat for Humanity Volunteers every third Wednesday during the building season. Call for more information or volunteer to help.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1866, Granbury, TX 76048
817-573-2812





Purposes continued...

The purpose of the *General Endowment Fund* is to support the mission of the Church by providing, through its investment earnings, contributions to the *Benevolence* and *Capital Funds*; while also serving as a contingency fund should catastrophic and unforeseen circumstances arise.

Distributions from the Funds

Distributions from the *General Endowment* and *Benevolence Funds* occur annually (beginning in 2020) according to a formula. That formula defines the amount of the distribution from each of these two funds as the lesser of (i) 4% of the balance of the fund as of the preceding calendar year end; or (ii) 80% of the sum of earnings of the preceding three calendar years divided by 3. The distribution so calculated for the *General Endowment Fund* is divided equally between the other two funds.

The distribution from the *Benevolence Fund* is provided to the church for use by the Missions and Outreach Committee. The intent of this distribution formula is to allow the Funds to grow to some extent so that over time distributions may also grow. Session may alter this formula by amending the governing document. There is no distribution formula for the *Capital Fund*; rather Session may from time to time approve distributions from this fund in accordance with its purpose.

2

Appendix G

A Note from Drew

At its root, stewardship is simply taking good care of what God has entrusted to us. Stewardship begins with gratitude, as does faith. Because so many have been faithfully generous over the years and due to the careful oversight of the Session, FPC has been blessed with financial resources that we have secured to ensure the sustainability of our ministry.

This brochure tells a bit about how these funds are managed, how the income from these dollars is utilized for mission, and how you can participate in sustaining the vital ministries we carry out in Christ's name. This giving has already enabled capital improvements and outreach and it will continue to do so. As we celebrated the 125th anniversary of our sanctuary in 2021, we also celebrate the promise of this support to carry us faithfully into the future as a congregation. We invite you to be a part.



The Permanent Funds Ministry

Year-End Report
December 31, 2022



First
Presbyterian
Church
Granbury, Texas



Origin of the Funds

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Granbury authorized the Permanent Funds Ministry at its Stated Meeting on August 9, 2018. This action created three separate Permanent Funds: The *General Endowment Fund*, the *Benevolence Fund*, and the *Capital Fund*. Transfer of the initial investment from the accounts of the church occurred on September 30, 2018. Since that initial investment, the funds have been sustained by individual donations, birthday offerings, and earnings from investments.

Purposes of the Funds

Each fund has its own stated purpose. The purpose of the *Benevolence Fund* is to support the mission and outreach ministry of the church through its investment income, adding to the charitable giving of the church. To date, the Fund has added \$10,133 to the Missions and Outreach Budget.

The purpose of the *Capital Fund* is to invest in major expansion, improvement or renovation of the physical facilities of the church not foreseen or provided for in the operating budget or capital fund-raising campaigns (if any) of the church. In 2020, the fund provided \$7,600 to the church to acquire and install "air-scrubbers" all of the church's HVAC systems. This project was specifically in response to the pandemic, but will also improve air quality and the health of congregants for many years to come.

Purposes Continued ...

1

Governance of the Funds

The Permanent Funds are administered by a Permanent Funds Ministry Committee, consisting of the chair appointed by Session, the Moderator of Session and any other Teaching Elder of the church, the Treasurer, and two at-large members of the congregation appointed by Session. The Clerk of Session acts as a liaison between the committee and Session. The committee may accept ex-officio members for advice and counsel. The Committee meets at least quarterly to review the financial statements of the funds, to evaluate the on-going suitability of its investments, and to formulate recommendations for Session action if needed. The Permanent Funds Ministry Committee reports to and is overseen by Session.

Investments of the Funds

The balances of the funds are invested in “mutual fund type” vehicles administered by the Texas Presbyterian Foundation (“TPF”). TPF has been in existence for nearly a hundred years, and over that time has gradually increased its scope. Today, it helps manage over \$1 Billion in assets for both individuals and organizations. Its purposes are “to provide people of vision and generosity the source to express their faith through charitable, philanthropic and planned giving;” and “to provide institutions, organizations and individuals the disciplines of faith with trusted, modern business practices and standards.” TPF offers institutions such as our church 11 separate investment funds (each with its own types of investments and risk/reward

Investments continued...

considerations), plus its flagship fund – the Balanced Fund, which is a managed blend of the other funds. TPF employs multiple investment management firms to execute its mission, and rigorously oversees the results of each.

The First Presbyterian Permanent Funds are today invested in the TPF Balanced Fund. Session and the Permanent Funds Committee believe that this investment is a reasonable and conservative acceptance of some amount of risk for a reasonable rate of return. While it is believed that over time the returns will be positive, it is also recognized that losses may occur from time to time depending on the economic cycles.

Sustenance of the Funds

The funds are sustained not only by their investment earnings, but also by the generosity of the congregation. As of June 30, 2022, individual donations of nearly \$30,000 have been received, and Birthday Offerings over \$5,100 have also been contributed. (Please see the Appendix for the latest information.)

Results of the Funds

Financial information, by calendar year and cumulative since inception, is included in the Appendix to this document.

Appendix
First Presbyterian Church of Granbury—Permanent Funds Results of Operations
December 31, 2022

	General Endowment Fund	Benevolence Fund	Capital Fund	Total
Inception - December 31, 2019				
Initial Investment (09/30/18)	200,000	75,000	75,000	350,000
Individual Donations	-	-	11,551	11,551
Birthday Offering	-	-	-	-
Distributions Made	-	-	-	-
Distributions Received	-	-	-	-
Investment Gain/(Loss)*	19,551	7,332	8,621	35,504
Value at December 31, 2019	219,551	82,332	95,172	397,055
2020				
Individual Donations	-	-	4,383	4,383
Birthday Offering	579	-	461	1,040
Distributions Made	(5,214)	(1,955)	(7,600)	(14,769)
Distributions Received	-	2,607	2,607	5,214
Investment Gain/(Loss)*	33,450	12,779	15,042	61,271
Value at December 31, 2020	248,366	95,763	110,065	454,194
2021				
Individual Donations	1,200	-	4,950	6,150
Birthday Offering	2,161	-	-	2,161
Distributions Made	(9,931)	(3,831)	-	(13,762)
Distributions Received	-	4,966	4,966	9,931
Investment Gain/(Loss)*	29,606	11,784	14,066	55,455
Value at December 31, 2021	271,401	108,682	134,047	514,130
2022				
Individual Donations	7,750	-	-	7,750
Birthday Offering	1,962	-	-	1,962
Distributions Made	(10,856)	(4,347)	-	(15,203)
Distributions Received	-	5,428	5,428	10,856
Investment Gain/(Loss)*	(47,522)	(19,049)	(23,512)	(90,083)
Value at December 31, 2022	222,734	90,713	115,963	429,411
Cumulative Since Inception				
Initial Investment (09/30/18)	200,000	75,000	75,000	350,000
Individual Donations	8,950	-	20,884	29,834
Birthday Offering	4,702	-	461	5,163
Distributions Made	(26,001)	(10,133)	(7,600)	(43,734)
Distributions Received	-	13,001	13,001	26,001
Investment Gain/(Loss)*	35,084	12,846	14,217	62,147
Value at December 31, 2022	222,735	90,713	115,963	429,411

*Includes Earnings +/- Unrealized Gains/(Losses)

First Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet
As of March 31, 2023

	<u>Mar 31, 23</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10100 · Checking / Savings	
10120 · FNB Checking	114,243.54
Total 10100 · Checking / Savings	114,243.54
10300 · Restricted Funds	
10310 · TPF-General Endowment Fu...	241,323.07
10320 · TPF-Benevolence Fund	96,151.85
10330 · TPF-Capital Fund	122,914.77
Total 10300 · Restricted Funds	460,389.69
10400 · Investment Funds	
10410 · TPF MMA	85,355.61
10420 · TPF Balanced Fund 53777	197,928.22
Total 10400 · Investment Funds	283,283.83
Total Checking/Savings	857,917.06
Total Current Assets	857,917.06
Fixed Assets	
15152 · Fellowship Hall - 300 W Bridge	200,556.77
15153 · Fellowship Hall Parking	40,000.00
15154 · Church Sanctuary - 303 W Bridge	250,000.00
15155 · Church Sanctuary Parking	75,550.00
15156 · Parking Lot - 217 W Bridge St	85,508.00
15157 · Admin. Bldg. - 202 W. Pearl	179,193.54
15164 · Furniture and Equipment	45,360.00
15165 · Memorial Hall - 301 W Bridge St	192,228.59
15166 · Columbarium	30,103.64
15167 · Memorial Wall	564.94
15168 · Computer Equipment	6,485.54
15169 · Air Conditioning Systems	52,229.12
Total Fixed Assets	1,157,780.14
TOTAL ASSETS	2,015,697.20
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	

First Presbyterian Church
Balance Sheet
As of March 31, 2023

	<u>Mar 31, 23</u>
Credit Cards	
20200 · Chase Credit Card 7978	628.81
Total Credit Cards	628.81
Other Current Liabilities	
20302 · Memorial - Music	1,115.87
20303 · Memorials - Undesignated	7,610.00
20308 · Youth Fund Payable	692.79
20311 · Misc. Holding Funds	853.58
20313 · Lilies and Poinsettias	225.00
20322 · Christian Ed Reserve Fund	3,500.00
20325 · Pastor's Discretionary Acco...	500.00
20333 · 125 Anniversary	8,875.35
24000 · Payroll Liabilities	29.84
Total Other Current Liabilities	23,402.43
Total Current Liabilities	24,031.24
Long Term Liabilities	
20341 · Columbarium/Memorial WallF...	32,680.69
20343 · Associate Pastor Fund	16,916.73
Total Long Term Liabilities	49,597.42
Total Liabilities	73,628.66
Equity	
30010 · Net Assets-Unrestricted	1,245,716.26
30030 · Net Assets-Perm Restricted	353,500.00
32000 · Retained Earnings	216,534.34
Net Income	126,317.94
Total Equity	1,942,068.54
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	2,015,697.20

COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS SOURCES

Data USA, Hood County, Texas <http://datausa.io/profile/geo/hood-county-tx>

U.S. Census Bureau Quickfacts: Hood County, Texas Source: 2020 Decennial Census, www.census.gov/quickfacts/geo/chart/hoodcountytexas/PST045219

Granbury, Texas Demographics - Presbyterian Church (USA): Source: Research Services, research@pcusa.org and compiled at: <https://maps.nazarene.org/DemographicsPresbyterian>

Hood County Census Reporter <https://censusreporter.org/profiles/05000US48221-hood-county-tx>

MissionInsite, <https://maps.missioninsite.com>

United Way of Hood County, 2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT, www.unitedwayhoodcounty.com/policies-stewardship

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY, Economically Disadvantaged Status Reports <https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/adhocrpt/adstc.html>

Granbury Independent School District, www.granburyisd.org

Granbury Independent School District Budget – Summary, Fiscal Year 2022-23, Adopted 8/22/2022, www.granburyisd.org/budget

Granbury Independent School District, www.usnews.com/education/k12/texas/districts/granbury-isd-101054