

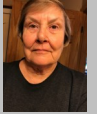
The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

September 2023

In The Interim...

Sherrolyn Weed, pastor
sherrolynweed@gmail.com



In the wake of the devastating wildfires that hit the island of Maui in Hawaii, many of us are more aware of disaster relief efforts, but we may not fully appreciate the work our Presbyterian churches are doing to help in other situations all over the world.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is currently working to assist in Ukraine helping as 1/3 of the population has been displaced due to 8 years of increasing Russian aggression that has escalated into all-out war for the past two years. PCUSA has contributed \$8 million to Ukraine during this time.

What we probably are unaware of is the many other situations all over the world where our contributions are working to alleviate the suffering of God's children: Pakistan has experienced catastrophic flooding. The Philippines was hit with Typhoon Rai. India is experiencing the Kerala Floods. Cyclone Freddy in Malawi, Madagascar and Mozambique has displaced more than two million people.

All over Latin America and the Caribbean Islands hurricanes Ian, Iota, Eta, Laura, Dorian, Irma, Fiona, and Maria have impacted our neighbors.

An explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, an earthquake affecting Turkey and Syria, measured 7.8 on the Richter Scale.

Fourteen million men, women, and children in Yemen are starving due to repeated outbreaks of diseases, especially cholera.

The new nation of South Sudan is dealing with 4 million displaced persons, and tornadoes here within the continental USA have left our brothers and sisters homeless and helpless.

We can be proud of the work being done in Christ's name by our monetary contributions, but there are other ways to help as well through *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*. There are mission trips to allow personal awareness and assistance. We can sign up to stay informed about the needs of our brothers and sisters throughout the world by signing on to the Rapid Information Network on the website. Prayers of the people include those we know already and those whose needs are just as great, even if we have never met them.

Blessings,
Sherrolyn

A Note From The Mission Study Committee

Continued prayer for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) as they continue the work of finding a new pastor. Committee members are: Lawson Allen, Scoash Moore, Connie Gilmore, Julie Dean, Bianca Brownfield, and alternate - Les Staples

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



Hello, September!

As I write this newsletter, I am remembering the Fellowship, Food, and Fun event we had in August. It was just last night, so the memory is vivid! Our theme was Asian cuisine, and I had no idea that so many of our members have lived in Asian countries.

Bianca Brownfield has lived in Mongolia and Korea. She brought Gimbap, which she said is always popular for Korean picnics. That is a Korean sushi roll. It has dried seaweed, rice, and cooked vegetables, all in a beautiful roll. Marijane Harvey has lived in China and Taiwan. She brought authentic Chinese rice, and there wasn't a grain left. Beverly McKusick has lived in Thailand and visited Japan, and she brought Lumpia. That is a traditional Filipino spring roll that looks like a miniature eggroll. We also had coconut shrimp, homemade egg rolls, orange chicken, fried rice, Pad Thai, and the list goes on. If you weren't there, you missed a great meal!

So, on to September! This month, we will have our Fellowship, Food, and Fun event on **Sunday, Sept 24th at 5:00 PM.** Our theme will be *Southern Comfort Food*. My mouth is already watering! Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, mac and cheese, pinto beans with cornbread, cheese grits, corn on the cob, banana pudding and the list goes on. Plan on coming with your favorite comfort food, games you like to play, and a desire to get to know your fellow church members better!



I hope somebody brings this recipe for ***Banana Pudding!***



BEST Banana Pudding

2 large boxes Instant Vanilla Pudding
5 cups milk (to make pudding with)

Once the above pudding is made, combine it with a large tub of Cool Whip, 8 oz of Whipping Cream (whipped), and 12 oz of sour cream.

You will also need 8 ripe bananas and 2 boxes of Vanilla Wafers

Layer cookies, pudding mixture, and bananas in that order. Repeat. Top with cookies. This takes a big pan – bigger than a 9X13. Chill until serving time.

Flu Shot Clinic After Church September 17,
There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex soon.

Worship

Pat Luley, elder
paluley@gmail.com



The summer just flew by! It is September, and all our regular church activities resume. We will continue having one service on Sunday mornings.

I want to thank *Jane Seley* for coming out of her retirement to play the organ for us since Kenton moved on. Starting in September, *Janet Everitt* will accompany the choir, and Jane will continue as our interim organist. An Organist search committee, headed by Priscilla Allen, met several weeks ago, and the search for Kenton's replacement is underway.

Worship Attendance July—August

	<u>10:00 AM</u>	<u>On Line Views</u>
July 30	110	37
August 6	112	26
August 13	107	34
August 20	99	28
August 27	96	29

September Elder of the Month Connie Darne'

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



Some months back, Tim Kidd mentioned darkness and light in his sermon. It was too long ago for me to remember exactly what he said, but perhaps it was without darkness there would be no light. And I feel that without darkness we would not appreciate light. That brings our different seasons to my mind also. Without winter weather and the absence of leaves on trees, we wouldn't appreciate spring as much when it arrives. And we're all really going to appreciate fall after such a hot summer.

We sometimes wonder why bad things happen to good people. We will never know. But a few of the results are people learning a lesson, people realizing they weren't supposed to be heading in that direction, and some are more appreciative and thankful when the bad situation is over.

Bad situations don't last forever, and we need to remember that. There will be light at the end of the dark tunnel. And sometimes if we look closely, we might see bits of light before the situation is over.



Dear God, please help us to remember that you will not give us more than we can handle. We need to come to you for help when we are facing big challenges and hard times. Help us appreciate the good things in our lives and be thankful when the bad times are over.

In Christ's name, Amen.

Stewardship

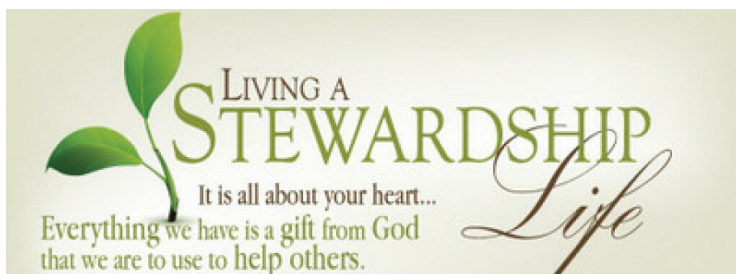
Dan Crise, Elder
dancrise13@gmail.com



Stewardship is commonly defined as the prudent and responsible guardianship of something generally of great value which has been entrusted to one's care. For Christians, stewardship is about recognizing and appreciating the bountiful gifts we have all received from God and what we should do with them in service to Him as His stewards. There are various citations of biblical scripture that emphasize this point. For example, ***"Like good stewards of the grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."*** (1 Peter 4:10 NRSV).

What gifts have we received from God? The short answer is everything, beginning with the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us. Knowing that God created our world and everyone and everything in it is the foundation of our faith as Christians and by extension Christian stewardship. As scripture tells us, ***"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and all those who live in it."*** (Psalm 24:1 NRSV).

Serving as Christian stewards sounds easy, and it is easy because it is serving God. He is the creator of all and the giver of all. Through what God gives, we are also expected to give a portion back to help others in need. It is through stewardship of the gifts God has given us that we are able to support the ministry and mission of our church.



On the other hand, stewardship can also be difficult. That difficulty can come with a natural inclination to think that what we have, we have earned, and that it is ours to do with as we want. Perhaps it is greed and selfishness that unfortunately can be a sinful part of us as humans.

Yet, how can so many of us as Christians who have been given everything by God, such as our very lives, food, clothing, shelter, forgiveness, divinity, and an eternal inheritance, be reluctant to contribute our fair share to help others? With *Consecration Sunday* coming on *November 12, 2023*, we will all have the opportunity as stewards of God to pledge our fair share on that glorious day.

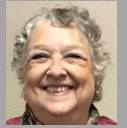
**One service on Sundays
at 10:00 a.m.**

**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!

F.U.N. Circle & Sewing Circle

Bev McKusick
F.U.N. circle coordinator



FUN Circle will be meeting on **September 27th at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall**. This month we are going to be making prayer/inspirational beads. Linda Allen did this activity when she was at Mo Ranch and said she had a lot of fun making them. I think I have most of the supplies, but if you have some beads or beaded jewelry that you want to donate for this project, please bring them. I also thought it would be fun to have a “What I Made On My Summer Vacation” show. If you made something during this long hot summer, or any other time, and you would like to share it with the group, please bring it. We will have a **pot luck** afterwards. Hope to see you there.

SEWING Circle: We have made some changes to the Sewing Circle. We are not setting up scheduled meetings. Whenever we have a project to do, we will schedule a longer day to work. We did this in July, and it worked out great. We finished the project and even took ourselves out to lunch. We will send out dates and times for these meetings via email blasts and Facebook. If you have a project that you would like the sewing circle to do please let me know.



It's that time of year again, and the rummage sale is coming up fast. Put these dates on your calendar. *October 1st* after church we will need help *setting up* tables and clothing racks. *October 2nd thru 4th* you can drop off donations between the hours of 8 - 4. *Thursday* drop off hours are 8 until noon. **The actual sale is on October 6th from 8 - 4 and October 7th 8—2.** Please store your donations at home until that week because we have no room to store them at the church.

September is a great time to clean out your closets, garages, and storage sheds. This is the sale to get rid of your unwanted winter clothing, coats, and your fall and winter holiday decorations.

Some of the items we **cannot** take are: mattresses, VHS tapes, electronics, copy machines, heavy furniture (our backs are not getting younger), and large appliances.

The rummage sales are the only fundraiser for our Presbyterian Women's organization, and we use the money to help local charities.

Be sure to look in the Sunday bulletins for more information and volunteer sign-up forms. There are different ways to volunteer, so fill out the form and put it in the offering plate.

Thank you in advance for all your donations and for your volunteer help.



Outreach and Mission

Connie Darne, elder
conniedarne@gmail.com



Summer is over, and hopefully it will begin to cool down. The Outreach & Mission Committee is already planning our Thanksgiving and Christmas outreach projects for the residents of the Housing Authority. For Thanksgiving, residents sign-up to receive a turkey and food to prepare side dishes. Last year we provided 42 meals and expect close to that same number again this year. We were fortunate last year that People Helping People provided us with the food for the side dishes, and we are hopeful they can do that again this year. We also include Advent calendars and puzzle books along with the food.

Our plans for Christmas are to provide hams and a “soup in a jar mix” for those residents who sign-up. All residents are given a Christmas bag filled with goodies, i.e., hand lotion, flashlight, socks, lip balm, kitchen towels, dish cloths, potholders, hot chocolate mix, cookies, and mixed nuts. Families are also given popcorn tins and a family game. We also plan to make Christmas wreaths.

If anyone has a hobby or talent that they would like to share with us in completing these projects, we will be more than happy to have your input. You will be hearing more about this as we finalize plans and begin work.

The next Habitat for Humanity lunch is Wednesday, September 20, 2023.



MISSION SPOTLIGHT—PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE (PHP)

People Helping People was established by the Lake Granbury Ministerial Alliance in 1983. There are no paid employees working with this agency, only volunteers. The Board of Directors is composed of representatives from various churches. FPC Granbury members Saunya Bishop and Meg Moore currently serve on the PHP Board of Directors. PHP’s mission since its inception has always been to help anyone who has fallen on difficult times.

People Helping People is the oldest and largest food bank in Hood County. PHP purchases about 7,000 pounds of food a week through the Tarrant Area Food Bank. Food distribution occurs on Tuesday, Thursday, and the first Saturday of each month to approximately 150-200 families on a weekly basis.

There are two resale areas where some of the donated clothes, furniture, and household items are made available to the public. Proceeds from the resale areas help pay for food needed for distribution. The Resale Areas are open Tuesdays, Thursdays, and the first Saturday of each month (weather permitting) from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Donations of food and almost any gently used items (except mattresses) are accepted on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

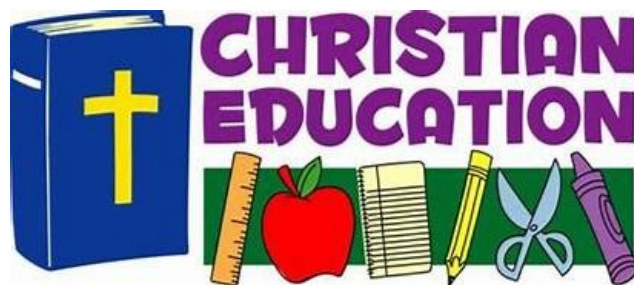
Volunteers are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact:

Mary Cepak,
Executive Director, PHP
306 Kings Plaza, Granbury, TX 76409
817-573-7801
director@granburyphp.org



Christian Education

Sylvia Hickey, elder
sylvia.hickey1969@gmail.com



Many things are happening during the month of September through Christian Education.

Our ongoing library project will be completed, and an Open House has been planned. Everyone is invited to the Administration Building to see the library and learn how to enjoy this part of our church. All are invited to see the library after church on **September 10th**. Our thanks for planning, organizing, packing, and unpacking, shelving, and decorating goes to: Linda Somervill, Linda Allen, Kathy Long, Saunya Bishop, Priscilla Allen, Pat Luley, Beverly McKusick, Nancy Bennett, and Liz Lacy. A big thanks to our Property Committee chairmen, Derek Faulkner and Terry Worcester for having the new shelving built, stained, and the room painted.

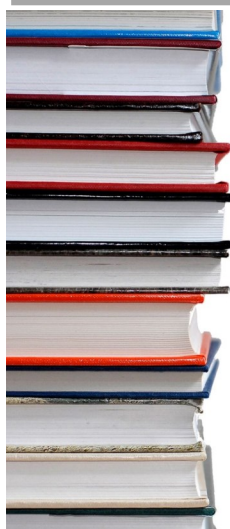
Presbyterian Women will begin again in September, and Men's Wednesday Bible Study continues.

Don't forget that the Sunday after Labor Day, **September 10th** is also **Rally Day** to meet and kick-off our Sunday School classes for the new year. Meet us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 for donuts and coffee, and introductions for the new classes for September through May 2023-24.

Richard McCarthy presents one adult Sunday School class which includes sharing a video, followed by class discussion. Pastor Jimmie Johnson will be starting a new adult Sunday School class on the "Book of Mark." The children's Sunday School begins again with selected classes through the fall and goes right into Christmas.

There is a place for everyone each Sunday between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. ***Come and join us on Rally Sunday, September 10th and find your perfect place for fellowship and learning.***

Library News!



LIBRARY
Open House

**CHURCH LIBRARY/MEETING ROOM
OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 11:00 AM
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

Come see our new multi-purpose space and the materials available to both adults and children.

Congregational Care

Susan Younk Kidd, elder
susanyouнк@gmail.com



- 1 Kim Wylie
- 2 Andy Attaway
- 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 Meg Moore
- 19 Ann McLaughlin
- 21 Nathaniel Copeland
- 22 Alana Collinsworth
- 23 Donna McCleery
- 24 Tommy McHaney
- 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 Hickman and Sheila
Wood-Hickman

CONCERNS FOR OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

Sallie Garland as she recovers from a stroke. **Rita Hart** as she deals with the effects of a brain tumor. **Ted and Trish Gollar** as they deal with the effects of Ted's brain tumor. **Theda Deaver** as she navigates declining health. **Eva Zapata** as she recovers from back surgery. **Sharon Wilemon** as she recovers from severe COVID. **Mark Bishop** recovering from shoulder surgery.

AT HOME AND/OR RECEIVING TREATMENT

Gardner Davis, Dave Barnett, Carol Gadbois, Claire Mitchell Copeland, Donna Callahan, Larry Walker, Sandi Ricketson, Reann McHaney, Julie Barnett, Bill Wood, Lorraine Schmitz, Jackson Fulgham, Carolyn Stringer, and Ann McLaughlin as they all deal with multiple health issues.



CONGRATULATIONS! Laura and Tanner Bauer along with her two sisters Avila and Rilynn **Welcome Lainey Rose** Bauer to the family on June 20, 2023. She weighed 7 lbs 16 ozs and 20 inches long. **Grandparents Anne and Ben Mays are tickled pink.**



We mourn the passing of so many of our church family:
Kenneth Morgan, husband of Juanita Morgan
Linda Nolan's son, Steve Proctor, who died in a motorcycle accident.
Alicia, Hardin's son, Misael who died in a motorcycle accident. Misael is the stepson of Allen Hardin.
Janice and Les Ragoneses daughter, Heather, who passed away from a heart attack.
Faith Goodman, wife of Ed Goodman.

We pray for God's arms to surround and comfort these families in this time of grief.

AT CARE/RETIREMENT FACILITIES

Anchor Away, Crowley

Maureen Walker

Waterview at Lake Granbury

Ted Dolan

AVIVA Granbury

Dolores Groom, John Cheney, Lorraine Schmitz

Prestonwood Court, Plano

Linda Reed

Town Village Crossing, Arlington

Linda Bowlin

Rosemont, Humble TX

Betty Dean

Bridgewater Memory Care, Granbury

Bill Lowe

Lewisville Estates, Lewisville

Fran Smith

**CONCERNS FOR OUR EXTENDED
CHURCH FAMILY**

- **Adrian Barrios**, 6 year old family member of Jim and Julie Dean, and Judy Butler, who has been diagnosed with Leukemia. We pray that God will heal and surround him and the family with strength and healing.
- **CJ Cluck**, grandson of Beverly McKusick, on his continued cancer recovery.
- **Jim Dean's** parents and sister as they navigate multiple health issues.
- **The Ukrainian family** that has been part of Marla Caraway's daughter's life.
- **Joan Smethers**, sister of Max Jewell, as she seeks treatment for lung cancer and **Miles**, grandson of the Jewells.
- **Connie** and **Andrea**, friends of Judy Butler, experiencing health issues.
- **Dave Kennison**, friend of the Gulinsons, as he recovers from a series of strokes.
- **Terry Martin** (Sylvia Hickey) as he deals with health issues.
- **Donna**, neighbor of Liz and Craig Lacy, as she recovers from a bad fall.
- **The Gollars** niece Michele, and new baby, Cole.

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. Amen.

If you know of anyone who needs to be contacted for a care or concern, please email me at susanyoung@gmail.com or contact the church office by calling 817.573.2337 or emailing office@fpcgranbury.com.

If you need transportation to a doctor's appointment, etc. please contact the church office, Tim Bennett, Dan Crise, or Susan Young. We are pleased to help!





Presbyterian Women

Sept. 8th - General Meeting - 11 AM
Program: Bible Study Introduction
Potluck Lunch

Oct. 3rd - Bible Study - 10 AM
Lesson 1
Memorial Hall

Oct. 6/7 - Rummage Sale



Presbyterian Book Circle

All meetings are held in the Administration Building

All ARE WELCOME!



OCTOBER 18 Leader: Marijane Harvey

Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks; In 1665, a young man from Martha's Vineyard became the first Native American to graduate from Harvard College. Upon this slender factual scaffold, Brooks has created a luminous tale of love and faith, magic and adventure.

NOVEMBER 15 Leader: Gwen Clay

The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave; The instant bestselling mystery and Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick that's captivated more than a million readers about a woman searching for the truth about her husband's disappearance...at any cost.

DECEMBER no meeting

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook	28 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon	29 12:00pm - 2:00pm CNP Admin	30 12:00pm - 1:00pm Men's Study - Admin Building 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall	31 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	1	2 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH 2:00pm - 4:00pm Set up for 90th Birthday - FH Hall
3 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook 11:30am - 1:30pm Marty 90 years! Fellowship Hall	4 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon	5 1:00pm - 2:00pm PW Board - Admin	6 10:00am Mission and Outreach - Fellowship Hall 12:00pm - 1:00pm Men's Study - Admin Building 1:30pm - 2:30pm Staff Meeting 2:30pm - 3:30pm Worship Committee Meeting - Admin Building 4:30pm - 6:00pm Choir Practice - Memorial Hall 6:00pm - 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal - FH	7 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH	8 10:30am - 11:30am Presbyterian Women's Meeting - Fellowship Hall	9 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH
10 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook 11:00am - 12:00pm Library Open House - Admin Building	11 9:00am Monthly Property Meeting - Square Cafe 1:00pm - 3:00pm Memorial Hall - Pecan Bookmarks 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon	12 9:00am - 12:00pm Granbury Knitting Guild - FH 10:00am - 11:00am Membership Meeting - Admin Building	13 9:30am - 12:30pm PEO Meeting - FH 10:00am - 11:00am CE Committee Meeting - 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	14 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH 12:00pm - 2:30pm PNC	15	16 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH
17 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook Flu Shot Clinic—Fellowship Hall 11:15am - 12:15pm Safety Team Meeting - Sunday School Room Fellowship Hall	18 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon	19 5:30pm Session - Admin Building	20 Bridge Articles Due 10:00am Book Circle - The Measure by Nikki Erlick - Admin Building 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	21 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH 12:00pm - 2:30pm PNC	22	23 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH
24 10:00am Worship Service - Live Stream and Facebook 5:00 pm Fellowship, Food, and Fun—Fellowship Hall—Southern Comfort Food	25 6:00pm - 7:00pm AI-Anon	26	27 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	28 10:00am - 12:00pm Melody Belles - MH 12:00pm - 2:30pm PNC 1:00pm - 2:00pm Memorial Service Nolan (Sanctuary, FH, MH)	29	30 10:00am - 11:30am Women's Way Out- MH

Watch for changes to the 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.

To:

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