

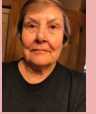
# The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

February 2024

## In The Interim...

Rev. Sherrolyn Weed, pastor



**J**anuary was an exceptional month and your pastor has been busy. We trained new elders, ordained three new elders, held our Session Retreat, said “farewell” to precious members of the church family, welcomed new members, and baptized five of our new folks. All in all we did very well. We survived very cold weather, and more than 60 hardy souls attended worship on the 14th.

Our congregational Meeting was called for the purpose of presenting the budget for the year head.

Welcome to 2024!



## A Note From The Pastor Nominating Committee

### 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
- ☒ Complete Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP)



#### Pastor Nominating Committee:

- ☒ MDP Approved by Session
- ☒ MDP Approved by Presbytery
- ☒ Reviewing Applicants
- ☒ Interviewing Candidates

## Worship

Pat Luley, elder



**F**ebruary will be an interesting month for our church. We will not have Communion on the first Sunday as we usually do. Instead, we will have Communion on February 11<sup>th</sup>, which is when we commemorate the Transfiguration of the Lord.

**Matthew 17:1-5** After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John, the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. <sup>4</sup> Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

Ash Wednesday is February 14<sup>th</sup>. This year, Rev. Sherrolyn Weed will lead us in a brief worship service to observe the date with a Communion and Imposition of Ashes service. However, this year it will be the White Brunch because the service starts at 10:30AM. If you wish to attend, sign-up sheets are in the narthex. There are also sign-up sheets for helping with set up, serving, clean up, and bringing food.

**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.**

### ***Worship Attendance December 28—January 21, 2024***

	<u>10:00 AM</u>	<u>On Line Views</u>
December 31	<b>88</b>	<b>48</b>
January 7	<b>104</b>	<b>23</b>
January 14	<b>67</b>	<b>43</b>
January 21	<b>97</b>	<b>35</b>

Elder In Charge for February—Pat Luley

## Prayer of the Month

Gloria Mitchell, coordinator



Dear God, thank you for the beautiful world you created. We also thank you for giving sounds to our world. Animals can communicate among themselves, and humans have voices which makes it better for us to communicate.

We enjoy hearing things like birds singing and ocean waves moving toward the shore. And you gave humans the ability to sing (some people anyway). You gave people the intelligence to create musical instruments. Our church services are even more special with the choir, the piano, organ, and sometimes even the bell choir.





## WINTER VBS 23-24



### 3 WEEKS X 3 DAYS EACH WEEK = 9 GREAT DAYS

Using 9 lessons from our beautiful Sunday School curriculum, the kids learned about Learning from Their Mistakes, Kindness, Sharing, Self-Control, Stillness, Patience, Service and Being an Instrument of Blessing to Others.

- The story of Jesus calming the storm taught about Stillness.
- They learned about Patience and the other Fruits of the Spirit.
- And the loaves and the fishes taught them about Sharing.



The 2023 Missions Study made it clear that many people would love to welcome more young families.

It was especially meaningful to offer this GIFT to our children and their families.

Thank you to all the volunteers & church staff who contributed their gifts, time and energy!

Thank you to Susan, Marijane, Nancy B, Tim, Nancy W, Julie D, Kathy, Scoash, Brad, Kay, Beverly, Derek, Emily, Bill & Jane and to Gail who helped register children and printed lots of art worksheets!!

### LESSONS



Susan & Nancy W. taught beautiful and lively lessons that made the material come to life!



### CRAFTS



### PLAYTIME INDOORS & OUTDOORS



The new playground was very exciting



IT WAS AN ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL TIME FOR THE KIDS TO LEARN AND BOND.  
THEY LEARNED ABOUT JESUS AND GOT TO SPEND TIME TOGETHER.

# Fellowship

Bev McKusick, elder



**FUN CIRCLE:** I want to thank each and every one of you that helped with CC's Carryon in January. Every item, every penny, every minute donated is greatly appreciated. It's for such a great cause. It's unfortunate that there is such a need for the 1<sup>st</sup> night bags. Thank you again.

We are meeting on **February 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:30** this month. Kay McMillian will be teaching how to make wonderful things with paper. If you have not been to a FUN circle that Kay is teaching, you are missing out on a lot of fun. We enjoy her classes so much that she is usually a repeat every year. Come and join in on the fun; you won't be disappointed. We will have a potluck following the meeting.

**FELLOWSHIP:** February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. It's the month of chocolate, Valentine's cards, special dinners, and expressing our love to those who are special to us. I was looking for a special dessert to share with you for Valentine's and found this yummy looking cake. It's a chocolate cake with cream cheese and German chocolate frosting. What could be better? I made it for the Session retreat to make sure it tasted good. It was a big hit. I want to thank them for being my testers.

## German Chocolate Cake, Cheesecake Style

### Cake Ingredients

1 package German chocolate cake mix  
2 8oz packages cream cheese  
1 1/2 c. sugar  
4 eggs lightly beaten

### Frosting Ingredients

1 c. evaporated milk  
1/2 c. cubed butter (not margarine)  
1 c. sugar  
3 lightly beaten egg yolks  
1 tsp vanilla  
2 1/2 c. shredded coconut  
1 1/2 c. chopped pecans



Prepare cake batter according to directions on package; set aside. in a small bowl beat cream cheese and butter until smooth. Add 4 eggs and beat on low until well blended.

Pour 1/2 of the batter into a greased 13" x 9" baking dish. Gently pour the cream cheese batter over the cake batter. Gently spoon the remaining cake batter over the top and spread to the edge of the pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 70 to 75 minutes. Toothpick should come out clean. Cool on a wire rack for 1 hour.

Frosting: In a heavy saucepan combine butter, evaporated milk, sugar, and egg yolks. Cook and stir over medium-low heat until thickened and a thermometer reads 160 degrees or until it is thick enough to coat the back of a metal spoon. Remove from heat. Stir in vanilla, then fold in coconut and pecans. Cool until frosting reaches spreading consistency. Frost cooled cake. Refrigerate leftovers. Enjoy.

**February 18<sup>th</sup> at 5pm we are going to have Fun and Games night with a potluck. Bring a game you would like to play and a favorite dish. Even if you don't want to play games, come and get to know your fellow church members.**

**SEWING CIRCLE:** We are **not** having scheduled meetings, but we do have a couple of projects that we will need to start working on, so keep your eyes open for a blast and Facebook notice for a sewing circle date and time.





## SPOTLIGHT ON MISSION: Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services (PCHAS)

In 2023, PCHAS celebrated 120 years of service. In 1903 a young mother approached her church and asked its members to raise her four young children after she died of tuberculosis. The church purchased a home, hired a matron, and Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services was born. The Mission, Vision, and Values Statements as taken from the PCHAS website are:

**Mission:** We provide Christ-centered care and support to children and families in need. PCHAS' mission is a restatement of the biblical call in James 1:27 that true religion is this: *to look after orphans in their distress.*

**Vision:** PCHAS believes that the most powerful way to help children is by strengthening their families. We accomplish this by living into our philosophy of care, which is to be family centered strength focused, and goal driven.

**Values:** We are a faith-based Christian organization which strives to serve like Jesus. We meet our clients where they are and treat them with respect. We focus on our clients' strengths rather than their problems. And we encourage our clients to focus on their future rather than their past. When we do this well, we help children and families find hope and know the love of God.

Last October FPC Granbury Presbyterian Women volunteered with a fall festival for the children living in the PCHAS Itasca location. Nancy Worcester's picture is included on the PCHAS website, [www.pchas.org](http://www.pchas.org). We can help support PCHAS through volunteering, mentoring, and monetary donations.

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!!

The Christmas Project for the Granbury Housing Authority was a huge success!! We provided 75 Individual and 25 Family Gift Bags, and 49 hams and soup-in-a-jar to the residents. These items were delivered on December 19, 2023. In addition to the Housing Authority residents, we provided two additional families with hams and gift bags, for a total of 51 hams and 102 gift bags.

Thank You to the congregation for the donations of gift items, money, and time helping with the assembly and delivery of the items. And, of course, we could never get it all done without the help of Gail Deckert. Thank You, Gail!

The next Habitat for Humanity Lunch is Wednesday, February 21, 2024. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex on February 11 and 18. Thank you for your participation in this project.

The next Habitat for Humanity lunch is  
Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

# Congregational Care

Susan Younk Kidd, elder



- |   |               |    |                  |
|---|---------------|----|------------------|
| 3 | Greg Gifford  | 9  | Stephanie Mosley |
|   | Jack Gilmore  | 11 | Kathy Smith      |
|   | Kay McMillan  |    | Kelton Conner    |
|   | Paul Holmes   | 13 | Linda Bowlin     |
| 7 | Howard Hafner | 14 | Wayne Delyea     |
| 8 | Ted Dolan     | 18 | Vanessa Faulkner |
|   |               | 21 | Trish Goller     |
|   |               | 23 | Joanne Wallis    |
|   |               | 26 | Beverly Williams |
|   |               |    | Bill Gould       |
|   |               | 27 | Drew Travis      |
|   |               | 28 | Bill Wood        |

- |    |                             |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 7  | Frank and Carol Hengels     |
|    | Christopher and Kathy Smith |
| 14 | Steve and Nancy Wilmeth     |

## AT CARE/RETIREMENT FACILITIES

**Anchor Away, Crowley:** Maureen Walker; **Waterview at Lake Granbury:** Ted Dolan;  
**AVIVA Granbury:** Dolores Groom; **Town Village Crossing, Arlington:** Linda Bowlin;  
**Lewisville Estates, Lewisville:** Fran Smith;  
**Good Samaritan Society - Lake Forest Village:** Juanita Morgan

**Members with Health Issues:** Gardner Davis, Dave Barnett, Rita Hart, Claire Mitchell, Ted Gollar, Larry Walker, Donna Callahan, Reann McHaney, Ann McLaughlin, Carol Davis, Stan and Renee Metcalf, Maureen Walker, Carol Gadbois. Marlin Massengale as he is seeking treatment for lymphoma. Sandi Ricketson as she receives chemotherapy. Bill Wood who is on Hospice Care.

**Special Joy:** Mike Gulinson had successful heart surgery and is back to church and active!

## CONCERNS FOR OUR EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY

- **Jim Dean's** parents and sister as they navigate multiple health issues.
- **Gloria Mitchell's** brother as he deals with prostate cancer.
- **Gary Lewis's** sister, Judy, dealing with cancer.
- **Peggy Lewis's** brother, Gus, whose health is declining
- **Charles Somervill's** sister, Laura, she is in Hospice Care.
- **Max Jewell's** sister, Joan Smethers, as she seeks treatment for lung cancer and grandson Miles.
- **Connie and Andrea,** friends of Judy Butler, experiencing health issues.
- **Michael and Margaret Gulinson's** friend, Dave Kennison, as he recovers from a series of strokes.
- **Terry Martin** (Sylvia Hickey) as he deals with health issues.
- **Louise Deems** mother, who is on hospice.
- **Terry Worcester's,** daughter, Janice, as she is facing health issues.
- **Priscilla and Larry Allen's** friend Richard, who has had surgery for cancer.
- **Richard McCarthy's** children's mother, Helen, as she navigates health issues.
- **Dan Crise's** sister-in-law, Marianne, as she navigates health issues
- **Beverly McKusick's** granddaughter, Brooke, as she recovers from illness.
- **Marla Caraway's,** daughters friends, who are in the Ukraine.

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

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

**We mourn the passing of our members:** Sallie Garland, Lorraine Schmitz, and Theda Deaver. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and loved ones.

**Members who are mourning the deaths of Loved Ones:** Kelton Conner and family, Brittany Clifton, Claudia Southern, Juanita Morgan, Linda and Keith Nolan, and Janice and Les Ragonese, Peter Garland and Darla Dunn (Theda Deaver). Tim and Susan Kidd; Tim's mother, Marjorie, passed away.



**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.

## Stewardship

Dan Crise, Elder



At our recent congregational meeting held at the end of January, the church budget for 2024 was presented for general information. A question we might ask ourselves is, "What does the church budget personally mean to me?" Instead of just dollars and cents, perhaps we should consider the budget as an opportunity for us all to invest in the reign of God and provide the means to fulfill the hopes and intent of what we want our ministry and mission to accomplish in the coming year. Our budget is essentially a statement of faith and how we as stewards of God's gifts will make the most and best use of His abundance. As the Bible tells us, "***The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.***" (Proverbs 16:9)

The budget for the coming year was developed and approved by the Session with the assistance of Nancy Bennett, our Treasurer, in a process of allocating estimated pledged and non-pledged income with anticipated planned expenditures over the course of the coming year. The financial gifts we receive from members of our church family, whether they be pledged or non-pledged, will have a major impact on enriching our individual journeys of faith, will strengthen the bond of fellowship among each of us, and will enable us to achieve our ministry and mission goals for the year.

As we think about our individual planned financial gifts to the church this year, the frequency, timing, and amount of the gifts are factors to consider. For those of us over 70 and a half years of age and who have an eligible IRA account, a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) as permitted by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service with tax advantages might be a plan for a church donor to consider. These transfers offer eligible older Americans a great way to easily give to the church or other charity before the end of the year. Further, for those over 73 years of age, QCDs count toward the IRA's owner's required minimum distribution for the year. A meeting will be scheduled by Nancy Bennett, our Treasurer, at a date to be determined to present the benefits and requirements for QCDs.



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

**One service on Sundays  
at 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School  
9:00 a.m.**



## Lenten Traditions



### White Breakfast

- Lutheran tradition of Fastelavn - the last day that bread was baked with white flour before Lent
- Introduced to our church and hosted each year by Presbyterian Women. This meaningful meal and service includes communion and the imposition of ashes



### Shrove Tuesday

- Shrove means to be absolved of sin
- Often includes the burning of palms for Ash Wednesday
- Traditional meal includes pancakes and other sweets
- Ringing of the church bells to remind people to repent



### Mardi Gras

- Carnival is the liturgical season between Epiphany and Lent
- The festival of Mardi Gras can last from Epiphany to Fat Tuesday or just a few days
- Parades as well as eating and drinking are enjoyed before the season of Lent when fasting begins



### Fasting

- Fasting traditionally is food based and many "give something up" such as chocolate, meat or alcohol
- More recently, people include social media, negativity or phone usage
- Alternatively, you could "give up" skipping something good for you like a devotional or sabbath time



### **HELP WANTED**

**We are looking for a few volunteers to help in Library organization. We meet for 1 hour every other week (sort of). Text Sylvia Hickey at 817-894-9590 if you are interested.**





# First Presbyterian Church

## New Elder's Class of 2026



### Congregational Care Elder - Susan Younk Kidd

Dear Friends, as a re-elected Elder for Congregational Care, my background is known to many of our congregants but not all. Growing up in Troy, Michigan (suburb of Detroit) my family attended St Andrews Episcopal Church, which was a break off from the local St Paul's Cathedral. The church was close knit, active, and formative during my childhood years.



After attending college at Grand Valley University in Grand Rapids, Michigan and getting a degree in Special Education, I moved to South Padre Island, taught in Brownsville and married my late husband, Tom Younk. After 5 years in that area, Tom and I moved to Granbury. Exploring several churches in Granbury in 1983, we visited First Presbyterian Church and never looked back. At the time, church attendance was about 30 members each week (yes, we have grown a bit). The church used propane heaters for winter and fans for the summer months, but the church fed us spiritually and communally. It was and is a place where one can feel blessed by God and fellow worshippers.

One of the greatest rewards of my life was working with children who had severe and profound disabilities. It was a 40-year career that allowed me to be part teacher and nurse, part physical and speech therapist, part musician, and part mother to all the students. Many of the children would be with me for ten years, so the relationships with the children and their families were strong. During those years, many of my students passed away from complications due to their disabilities, and I turned to God for my strength and comfort as I tried to comfort their families.

In 2012, death took on a new meaning for me when Tom, my husband of 33 years, was killed in an automobile accident. My church, my friends, and my faith in God blessed me from the moment of his death onward. There is something about this experience that brings one closer to our God, and it is something I draw on whenever I am with those going through health issues, end of life, or spiritual longing.

I met my husband, Tim Kidd, here at First Presbyterian Church in Granbury. He and his late wife, Susan (yes, he married 2 Susans) attended here occasionally with his aunt, and Tom and I knew him as an acquaintance. After he provided pulpit supply in 2014, we began a friendship which turned into love, and we married in this beautiful church on December 28th, 2014.

### Membership Elder - Linda Somervill



I grew up in a small rural community near Lubbock, Texas. The school building housed 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms all under one roof. Being few in population taught us that everyone was needed. We learned to cooperate and take our share of the responsibility for class projects, athletics, and fundraising. I spent most of my teaching career at Slaton ISD where I served as library director, the high school librarian, and Junior English teacher.

In 2001 Charles and I married, and I moved to Granbury. Between us we have three children, five grandchildren, and great grands too.

I have always felt welcome in this congregation and have gained from Bible studies, Presbyterian Women activities and the faith and fellowship offered here. I am honored to serve as Membership Elder, and I look forward to working with our congregation.

## **Fellowship Elder - Beverly McKusick**



Whew, how do you do a short bio on 71 years? I grew up in Del City, Oklahoma. My parents were charter members of the First Southern Baptist Church. We were very active members of the church, and that is where I learned the importance of being involved in the activities of the church. I was a lucky one because I grew up in a loving family and wrapped in the arms of a loving church family.

I graduated from a nursing vocational school in 1971 and received my LPN license. I met my husband Wes while he was in the Air Force stationed at Tinker Air Force base in Oklahoma. We married in May of 1971. We started our family with the birth of our first daughter Jennifer followed by Elizabeth and Crystal. We lived in the San Diego area most of our adult lives with a few intermittent years in Oklahoma. In 2004, my mother was terminally ill, so we made the decision to move closer to her. The company I was working for had a position available in Austin, so we moved. Fast forward, we have added 3 grandsons, 2 granddaughters, and 1 great grandson to our family. I retired in 2012, and Wes and I moved to Granbury in 2018 to be near our daughter her family. Wes officially retired from insurance adjusting in 2011.

Wes and I immediately fell in love with Granbury, and we were very excited that Stephanie (Wes' sister) decided to move here too. Stephanie and I decided that one of our first priorities was to find a church. We visited a lot of churches in Granbury looking for a church that would fit both of our needs. We had friended Dana Sutton, and one day we were talking about what a hard time we were having finding a church. She told us about FPC and invited us to visit. The Presbyterian church had never entered our minds. Ok, what could it hurt? At the end of that first service, Stephanie and I looked at each other, and knew that we were home. I thank God every day for sending us to FPC.

I am deeply honored that you have entrusted me with the job of Fellowship Elder. It is not a position I will take lightly. I thank you for your support, encouragement, and prayers as I begin this new role.

## **Property Elder - Daren Hardin**

My wife is Lina Hardin and we have 2 daughters and 2 sons-in-law. Katie, her husband Jaye and our granddaughter Ava live in Cleburne, Texas. Kristina and her husband Conner live in Guthrie, Oklahoma. We moved to Granbury Christmas week of 2023 to be closer to family. We moved from Spring, Texas, outside of Houston. I have lived in Texas most of my life. I was born in Fontana, California—I was adopted by my parents, Howard and Johnnie Hardin. Dad was in the Air Force, and we lived all over the country. He retired out of Dyess AFB in 1975 and we moved to Houston.



I have 3 younger sisters, and they all live in the Houston area. Lina has one brother who also lives in the Houston area. All of our nieces and nephews and siblings live in Houston.

I have recently retired from Farmers Insurance. Lina retired from teaching in 2020. Lina grew up at First Presbyterian Church, Houston. We attended for awhile before attending John Wesley United Methodist church with her dad. When he passed away in October 2023, we moved to Granbury.

I am looking forward to serving as Property Elder.



# 2024 Who to Call at First Presbyterian Church

## Interim Pastor

**Rev. Sherrolyn Weed**

Office 817.573.2337

Cell 504.756.7004

Email [sherrolynweed@gmail.com](mailto:sherrolynweed@gmail.com)



## Volunteers & Staff



**Nancy Bennett**  
Treasurer  
817-573-1827



**Glenn Goforth**  
Custodian  
817-243-5485



**Priscilla Allen**  
Music Director



**Jane Seley**  
Interim Organist



**Gail Deckert**  
Admin Assistant  
817-573-2337



**Emily Graham**  
Bell Choir/IT  
817-578-5420



**Marijane Harvey**  
Lead Nursery  
Attendant



**Janet Everitt**  
Interim Pianist

## Elders



**Craig Lacy**  
Clerk of Session  
Class of 2024  
309-236-5572



**Darin Hardin**  
Property  
Class of 2026  
832-374-1308



**Sylvia Hickey**  
Christian Education  
Class of 2024  
817-894-9590



**Susan Younk Kidd**  
Congregational Care  
Class of 2026  
817-573-9153



**Bev McKusick**  
Fellowship  
Class of 2026  
512-538-5966



**Linda Somervill**  
New Membership  
Class of 2026  
817-966-5505



**Stephanie Mosley**  
Administration  
Class of 2025  
512-966-6741



**Connie Darne'**  
Outreach and Mission  
Class of 2025  
817-964-0445



**Darin Smith**  
Long-Range Planning  
Class of 2025  
903-539-0034



**Dan Crise**  
Stewardship  
Class of 2024  
817-559-5416



**Brad Bell**  
Ushering  
Class of 2024  
817-408-9382



**Pat Luley**  
Worship  
Class of 2025  
817-776-1481





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.

**February Calendar** - Please look at the back of your bulletin or go to <https://fpcgranbury.org/> and go to the calendar. You can also always call or email the church office for calendar information.

To:

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