

The Bridge

First Presbyterian Church of Granbury

December, 2018

His story is our story

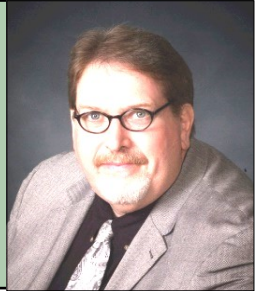
Thanksgiving is behind us once more. I trust that you had a good holiday, enjoyed a bit of a break from routine, spent some time with family and friends, ate too much and maybe enjoyed a little football. In the midst of all the events of the week, I hope that you also had a few silent moments to consider the things in your life that make you grateful. I think, in many ways, that gratitude is the beginning of faith. To know we are loved into being by God and called to be followers of the Christ is indeed something for which we should be grateful. It is where faith begins – in the recognition that God's love beckons us.

We have just put away the Thanksgiving decorations and gotten the dishes clean and already we are preparing for another celebration. Advent is here and we prepare for the coming of the Christ child. Surely that is the gift that should create in us the greatest sense of gratitude. We know the story of the babe lying in the manger. We know the story of Jesus' life of compassion and healing and calling others to justice and mercy. We know the violence that greets him and the crucifixion that will take his life. We also know the resurrection that displays the power of God to grant new beginnings to scenes that we thought were final. We know the story from start to finish.

Too often we think of this story as "Jesus' story," as though it includes us only on the periphery. But surely this story of the Savior is our story, too. It's about Jesus but it's about us also – about how loved and graced we are by the one we call Prince of Peace. Were it not for that love

From the pastor

Rev. Drew Travis
revdgtravis@gmail.com



and grace the story would be different. Were it not for our need for that love and grace the story would be different. "Jesus is the reason for the season." That's what the ad slogan likes to remind us. It's not my favorite Christmas tagline but it is catchy and folks like to repeat it. It looks good on the side of our shopping bags. (The irony of such placement on our shopping paraphernalia is kind of hard to miss.) Jesus may be the reason for the season but let us not forget that we are the reason for Jesus. "For God so loved the world . . ."

That's THE something to be grateful for. In this Advent Season as we make our way to Christmas, I encourage you to spend time in thought and prayer and study to contemplate the meaning of what God has given us in Jesus Christ. Spend some time rethinking the story and considering what the story means for us. Let us find ourselves in the story. That's where we will find gratitude. That's where we will find faith. May this coming Christmas be our most faithful yet.

See you Sunday as we begin the Advent journey together,

Drew



Congregational Care

Annelle Teal, elder
806-736-0158
tealad@sbcglobal.net



Care Facilities

Courtyards at Lake Granbury
Mary Skinner

Waterview at Lake Granbury
Kathleen Moore
Pat White

The Cove at Lake Granbury
Jim Bandy
Eloise Pauli
Maddie Reed
Jean Teal

Quail Park
Ruth Garrett
Pete & Nancy Pauley



At home and/or receiving treatment

Mary Skinner	Howard & Martha Ferrill
Ed Hughes	Ed Smith
Catherine Lehmann	Ray Llewellyn
Jimmy Callahan	CH Tubbs
Harley Murray	Stan Bowlin
Shirley McDonald	Carolyn Llewellyn
Shirley Shaffer	Ray Kelly
Wayne Delyea	Bob Gadbois
David Hinterleiter	Ruth Gump

Our Church Family

Judy Siros fell and broke her hip. She had it surgically repaired and is at home.

Shanna Adkins' father-in-law passed away. Please keep her and Aaron in your thoughts and prayers.

Ray Llewellyn underwent surgery on November 13.

Shirley Shaffer had a bad infection in the knee that was recently replaced. She had to have it removed, cleaned, and put back. Pray for her comfort and healing.

Marilou Schairbaum was hospitalized with heart problems. She feels and sounds very good.

Howard Ferrill had a nasty case of bronchitis and is doing better.

Winette Lovelady also had knee surgery after a previous replacement had failed.

Our Extended Family

Hayward Moore's father, "Woodie" Moore died on November 18th. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on November 28th at 2:00. Please pray for the family.

Our Military Support

We want to extend our love and support to any loved one serving in our military. Please email or text their name to me, so that we can honor them and bless them in our newsletter. If you know of someone who will be serving overseas this Christmas, please provide their name and overseas address so that we can send them Christmas cheer!

December birthdays



1
Susan Harding

2
David Johnson
Ed Hughes

3
Brad Bell
Linda Preston

4
David Hinterleiter

6
Jan Massengale

7
Marcia Walker

8
Ann Mitchell
El.oise Pauli

10
Renee Metcalf

11
C.H. Tubbs
Carolyn Rudsenske
Gary Towers

12
Howard Ferrill

13
Deece Robertson
Greg Schneider
Peggy Loshier

16
Debbie Armstrong

18
Junie Herron
Shelia Wood

19
Saunya Bishop

23
Rita Hart

26
Carl Dinkel
Keith Nolan

31
Dick Kliemann
Warren Rutz

Prayer of the Month

Marcia Sigrist

Prayer chain coordinator



Marcia is our prayer chain coordinator. Please contact her at msigrist824@gmail.com or call 817-279-1130 when in need of prayers. She writes beautiful, meaningful prayers to give the members of the prayer chain things to think about as they pray for specific things for our friends.

Especially for our new members, know that we have this group of prayer warriors, among a variety of other things we do for our congregation. If in need or are in doubt about what we do, just call us!

Here is Marcia Sigrist's prayer of the month.

Father God,

This very day, just like yesterday and tomorrow, will be someone's best and someone else's worst day. We never know what is right around the corner from us, but you do.

May we truly see and recognize the blessings scattered through our daily lives, and give you the glory and gladness. And may we be aware of your very presence with us when we are the most vulnerable.

Father, we ask for rest, healing, and relief from pain for those suffering. May all their caregivers be gentle and knowledgeable in all their treatments. Wrap them in your grace and grant them serenity in the knowledge of your closeness, and may your peace surround them all.

We ask that you help us through whatever comes today. Thank you for this beautiful life and all that is in it!

We ask these things in Jesus' name... Amen

December Anniversaries

1
Ben & Anne Mays

5
David & Julia Hinterleiter

10
Joe & Felicia Peters
Stephen & Dana Renke

12
Joe & Lillian Ethridge

20
Robert & Carol Gadbois

22
Jim & Theda Deaver

28
Kelton & Virginia Conner
Tim & Susan Kidd

29
Ron & Bernice Deeds
Stan & Renee Metcalf



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Library

Sheila Higgins
smhig35@gmail.com

Administration

Roy Shoeneman, elder
wrschoeneman@charter.net



I KNOW WHO I AM

I am God's child (John 1:12)
I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)
I am united with the Lord (1 Cor. 6:17)
I am a saint (set apart for God) (Eph. 1:1)
I am bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:19 – 20)
I am a personal witness of Christ (Acts 1:8)
I am the salt & light of the earth (Matt. 5:13 – 14)
I am free forever from condemnation (Rom. 8:17)
I am a member of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27)
I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant. (Phil. 3:20)
I am free from any charge against me (Rom. 8:31 – 34)
I have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:18)
I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Eph. 2:6)
I am a minister of reconciliation for God (2 Cor. 5:17 – 21)
I am assured all things work together for good (Rom. 8:28)
I cannot be separated from the love of God (Rom. 8:35 – 39)
I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit (John 15:16)
I am established, anointed, & sealed by God (2 Cor. 1:21 – 22)
I may approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph. 3:12)
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13)
I am a branch of the True Vine, a channel of His life (John 15:1 – 5)
I am God's temple. (1 Cor. 3:16). I am complete in Christ (Col. 2:10)
I am hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3). I have been justified (Rom. 5:1)
I am God's co-worker (1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6:1). I am God's workmanship (Eph. 2:10)
I am confident that the good works God has begun in me will be perfected (Phil. 1:5)
I have been redeemed and forgiven (Col. 1:14). I have been adopted as God's child (Eph. 1:5)
I BELONG TO GOD.
Do you know who
you are?

Church Attendance Report

21 Oct.: 134
28 Oct.: 133
4 Nov: 162
11 Nov: 104
18 Nov: 118

Giving and budget need

Year-to-date (1 Jan – 20 Nov)
Giving: \$369,830.00

Year-to-date (1 Jan – 20 Nov)
Budget Need: \$421,266.00



Please remember to look for the
BOOK CART in Fellowship Hall.
Selections rotate periodically.

For Christmas Sunday



The Worship Committee invites you to place a live poinsettia in our Sanctuary in memory or in honor of someone.

Please fill out the form below and include \$10 for each plant.

All orders must be into the church office by December 11th.

Donors may pick up their poinsettias after the December 24th service.

Poinsettia order

Name of honored or remembered:

Donated by: _____

\$10. per plant: _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Deadline for order: December 11, 2018

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

The Fellowship Committee is planning two events before Christmas.

We will be serving **hot chocolate** in front of the Administration Building during the Christmas Parade. This will start at 6:00 PM. The **parade** starts at 6:30.

Next, there will be a **Christmas Luncheon** following the Choir Cantata on December 16th. The Fellowship Committee will be serving homemade chili with all the fixings. The congregation is asked to bring cookies / desserts. There will be a bulletin insert the Sunday before the luncheon as a reminder.

We have a lot going on in December!

We have a lot going on in December at First Presbyterian! December 2nd is the first Sunday of Advent. The sanctuary will be beautifully decorated that Sunday. Information on purchasing a white or red poinsettia to honor or remember a friend or loved one has been in the bulletin. There will be forty available and can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

The Granbury Candlelight Tour will be the weekend of December 7-9. There are many events scheduled in our sanctuary and fellowship hall and many of those events involve our members. First Presbyterian Bell Choir will also play at both services on December 9th, the second Sunday of Advent.

There will be one service on December 16th, the third Sunday of Advent, at 10:00 and our choir will be performing the Cantata that they have worked very hard on. There will be a lunch served in the Fellowship Hall following the Cantata.

The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected on December 23rd, the fourth Sunday of Advent. There will also be a Sacrament of Baptism during the second service on this Sunday!

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be at 7:00 PM.

As you can see, December is going to be busy at First Presbyterian Church!

See you soon!

Kathy
Worship Elder



Worship

Kathy Long, elder
Kathy_long@charter.net



F.U.N. Circle

Peggy Losher, F.U.N.
Circle coordinator
peggyhulo@yahoo.com



ALL CHURCH MEMBERS ARE INVITED

(Men and Women)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2018

CHRISTMAS MUSIC PROGRAM AND LUNCHEON

Given by Presbyterian Women and the Fun Circle

10:00 am Coffee and Meeting in Fellowship Hall

11:00 Melody Belles in Sanctuary

Luncheon in Fellowship Hall



Advent Readers/Candle Lighters

December 2nd:

1st service: Kelton and Virginia Conner

2nd: Dutch and Brenda Wilkinson

December 9th:

1st service: Tim and Susan Kidd

2nd service: Paul and Emily Holmes

December 16th: Derek and Vanessa Faulkner

December 23rd:

1st: Jerry Althouse and Carol Boyd

2nd: Drew and Rhonda Travis and Family

December 24th:

Mark and Lori Collinsworth and Family

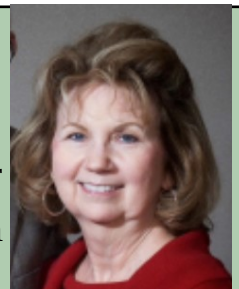
DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	26 8:30 AM Deck the Halls 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM APNC Meeting 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	27 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Disciples II Bible Study	28 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 4:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice	29 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Officer Training	30 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Raye Klemann	1
2 Advent 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	3 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 10:00 AM Co-ed Bridge 12:00 PM APNC Meeting 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	4 10:00 AM Jeanell Morris Bible Study Circle 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM Trinity Mission Birthday Party	5 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 4:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice	6 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00)	7 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Bernice Deeds	8
9 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	10 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Lamda Pi Women Educators 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	11 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Granbury Knitters 12:00 PM APNC Meeting	12 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 4:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice	13 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PW/F.U.N Circle Christmas Luncheon 5:30 PM Session	14 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Wanda Lowe	15 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
16 9:00 AM Cantata Warm Up 10:00 AM Christmas Cantata-One Service	17 Bridge Articles Due 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM DAR 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	18	19 10:00 AM Book Circle 11:00 AM Habitat Lunch 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice	20 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM Oddfellows Lodge #237	21 First Day of Winter Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Rita Hart	22
23 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	24 Office Closed for Christmas 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon 7:00 PM Candlelight Communion	25 Christmas Day Office Closed for Christmas	26 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice	27 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00)	28 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Sally Attebury Shanna's 2 Year Work Anniversary!	29
30 8:45 AM First Service 10:00 AM Church School 11:00 AM Second Service	31 9:00 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Strings Practice 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM AI-Anon	1 Office Closed for Holiday	2 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Men's Study 5:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Bell Choir Practice	3 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Yoga Class (\$7.00) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Melody Belles	4 Fold Bulletins & Prep Church Ruth Gump	5

Membership

Brenda Staples, elder

Brenda@flytx1.com



Welcome new members!



New member Mary Kathryn Hogue was born in Pearsall, TX. She recently celebrated her 90th birthday in October of this year. She was raised in San Angelo, TX where she joined the Presbyterian church when she was sixteen and later taught school there. She married husband Harvey H. Hogue in 1953. His U.S. Airforce career took them many places. She lived in Charleston, SC, Fort Leavenworth, KS, Bedford, MA, Colorado Springs, CO, Hawaii, San Antonio, TX (twice), and the last 24 years in Fredericksburg, TX before moving to The Orchards, just across the road from her daughter near Cleburne. After getting her Master's Degree in Library Science at Our Lady of the Lake College in San Antonio, Mary Kathryn was a librarian at MacArthur H.S. in San Antonio for seven years.

Mary Katherine's husband passed away in August 2016. She has two married daughters: Carolyn Stegall (who often accompanies her to church) and Dr. Harriet Stevenson, a physician. She has three granddaughters and three grandsons, as well as two great grandchildren and a third on the way.

Her hobbies include music, travel, reading and genealogy. She enjoyed volunteering her musical talents playing piano for singalongs at a nursing home. Her travels have included all seven continents and all fifty states. She especially is looking forward to a river cruise which will include Berlin, Germany, where she will visit a statue of the Keith Clan, a family from which she is descended. Her interest in genealogy has also led her to be a member of the D.A.R, the D.R.T., and the Huguenot Society. She likes to read fiction and nonfiction, and she is currently rereading Lone Star.

We welcome Mary Kathryn to our membership!



New member Brad Bell was born and raised in western Pennsylvania just north of Pittsburgh and grew up in the Presbyterian Church. He has two grown children, Taylor, age 26, and Collin, age 24.

His career in the energy business has taken him to Ohio and Houston, TX, where he worked for Houston Lighting and Power. Now he is living in our area and working for a contractor who offers services to Luminant.

Brad's hobbies include hunting deer and waterfowl. He also likes any kind of fishing from offshore and bay fishing to fresh water fishing. He also calls himself a "dabbler" in woodworking. He has made some cabinets and an entertainment center, as well as tried his hand at making bowls on his wood lathe. He also is interested in photography and stained glass making, but he has not had too much time for those as yet.

He also enjoys dogs, but not having one of his own, he enjoys occasionally babysitting one of the "grand dogs", Zeus and Cassanova.

We are delighted to welcome Brad to our membership!

Presbyterian Women

Julia Hinterleiter
juliahin@att.net



This year's Presbyterian Women's Retreat, held at Glen Rose Retreat Center, was very well attended. Thirty women gathered for the event. Sharon Curry was our leader: Women of Royalty, Daughters of the King. She provided the group with interesting and varied ways to convey the message. Drew joined us for lunch, provided us with music, and a sing-a-long.

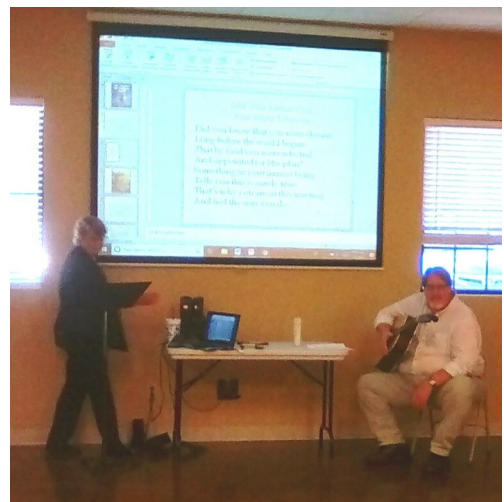
We were even blessed with a beautiful, warm day.
Who could ask for anything more?

On November 26, members of our congregation decorated the sanctuary for Advent. It is so lovely, and we proudly share it with friends and visitors. As in previous years, FPC is included in the Candlelight Tour. Our hosts will provide interesting and historical information to those who visit.

Our Music Directors and Organist, Marty Gump, Emily Graham and Jane Seley, have been busy preparing the choirs for the Season. The Cantata will be on December 16th, 10:00, one service.

Wishing all a Christmas filled with peace and joy.

Julia



Wayne Delyea does it again!

Wayne won 2 awards at the Texas Furniture Makers Show in Kerville on Saturday November 10th. First a blue ribbon for a Judges Special Award and a few minutes later another blue ribbon for the People's Choice Award. This is Wayne's second year in a row winning the People's Choice Award.

Wayne said, "I call this piece "The Creation" because of the arms marquetry image on top of the desk based on Michelangelo's fresco "God's Creation of Adam" painted on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in 1508.

The entire desk is all real natural wood, hand cut to create the image. The show ran through the end of November.



Outreach and Mission

Bianca Brownfield, elder
biancabrownfield@gmail.com



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ONLINE LINK

<http://pda.pcusa.org/page/give/>



The flame shall not consume you

*When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you. (Isaiah 43:2)*

Your hearts, like ours, have been broken as the devastation wrought by wildfires in California continues to increase in severity. The cost to lives and community has been unprecedented, in addition to the destruction of land. The town of Paradise has been leveled; at this writing, more than 80 people have been confirmed dead and thousands more are unaccounted for. Unhealthy air quality and risk of mudslides are both widespread concerns.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has been working closely with leadership in the affected presbyteries, which have released emergency grants to meet the urgent needs of their neighbors. PDA has deployed national response teams to American Red Cross shelters to provide disaster spiritual care and to support the presbyteries in their assessment and response as they help their neighbors begin their lengthy recovery.

The needs for the response will be great. God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP"—Give. Act. Pray.

Yes, I want to help!

WF18-BI

Disaster Relief — DR000165	\$
Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Email Address:	

Please detach the reply form and return with your gift to your church, or mail with your check to
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

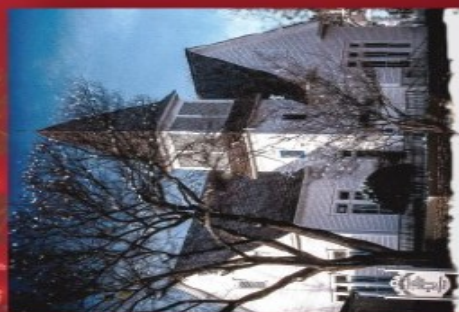


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRANBURY

We invite you to visit our beautiful, historic
sanctuary and enjoy our holiday events.

Friday, Dec. 7th 6:00pm Melody Belles
Saturday, Dec. 8th 4:00pm Granbury Civic Chorus
5:00pm Madrigal Singers
6:00pm FPC Handbell Choir
7:00pm Granbury Saxophone Quartet
Sunday, Dec. 16th 10:00pm Cantata (One Service) am not pm
Christmas Eve 7:00pm Candlelight Communion

Located at:
303 W. Bridge St.
Granbury, TX 76048
www.fpcgranbury.org



2018 First Presbyterian, Granbury Elders

Administration, Roy Schoeneman
Christian Education, Nancy Worcester
Clerk of Session, Mike Gulinson
Congregational Care, Annelle Teal
Property, Lloyd Sigrist
Fellowship, Linda Allen
Long-Range Planning, Jerry Althouse
Membership, Brenda Staples
Outreach & Mission, Bianca Brownfield
Stewardship, Jack Gilmore
Ushering, Ann Mitchell
Worship, Kathy Long



To:

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