



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



May 2022

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas

Session members:

Class of 2022:

Patricia Fields and Slade Weaver

Class of 2023:

Ronny Knight and Alice McGregor

Class of 2024:

Patricia Clark

Treasurer:

Ronny Knight

Clerk:

Patricia Clark

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Cross and Crown articles:

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Preaching Schedule:

May 1 - Jane Els, communion

May 8 - Jimmy Chapman

May 15 - Jane Els

May 22 - Tricia Clark

May 29 - Lessons and Hymns

Pastor Nominating Committee Report

The PNC completed the Ministry Information Form (MIF) and has submitted it to the Committee on Ministry (COM) of Grace Presbytery. When that form is read and approved by them, it will be submitted for matching to pastor candidates. Then, we

will start receiving Pastor Information Forms (PIFs) and begin looking for those candidates who might be a good match for our congregation. It's not a quick process! When we find someone we think is interesting, we will contact them. If they are interested in talking to us, we'll do a phone interview. If that goes well for both parties, we will bring them for an in-person interview and to preach in a "neutral" church. Meanwhile, pray for our church; pray that the person God has chosen for us will be ready and willing to hear and answer the call. And pray not only for the members of the PNC, but also for all the congregation that we may have patience to wait on the Lord's timing.

May 2022 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Third Sunday of Easter—May 1

Acts 9:1–6 [7–20]

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11–14

John 21:1–19

Fourth Sunday of Easter—May 8

Acts 9:36–43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9–17

John 10:22–30

Fifth Sunday of Easter—May 15

Acts 11:1–18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1–6

John 13:31–35

Sixth Sunday of Easter—May 22

Acts 16:9–15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John 14:23–29 or John 5:1–9

Seventh Sunday of Easter—May 29

Acts 16:16–34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21

John 17:20–26

May birthdays & anniversaries:

**(Please notify the office if I do not
have your birthday)**

17 Debra Gaines

Attendance:

April 3—10

April 10—12

April 14—7

April 17—16

April 24—10



Jane's Journey

I'm about to take the journey of a lifetime. And, assuming I can test negative for Covid and they let me on the plane, my dream is about to come true. I will leave May 20 for a couple of weeks in England and Scotland. I'll be going with a group from Grace Presbytery to study Celtic Spirituality.

For several years I have been wanting to visit the Island of Iona off the Northwestern coast of Scotland. I first heard of it when reading J. Philip Newell's book Listening for the Heartbeat of God. It tells the story of the Celts and the disciple John-- the disciple who supposedly was the one who reclined on the left side of Christ at the Last Supper and thus was within the sound of his beating heart. Newell tells how in 664 a convocation was held to decide the future of the church in England. One choice was to go the way of the nature loving Celts who favored the writings of John and upheld the equality of women among other qualities. The other choice would be to go with the church in Rome who held more political power and who favored the disciple Peter ("Upon this rock I will build my church.") The decision went in favor of the Roman church and the Celtic church went underground, popping up periodically, nowadays mostly at Renaissance festivals.

We will be staying next door to the Abbey founded by St Columba in the sixth century. One of the earliest and most influential abbeys, it was instrumental in bringing Christianity to England. The island is small enough that we will be able to hike the perimeter in one day's hike. I'm especially looking forward to being able to walk on the beach and look out at the North Atlantic Ocean. I understand it is a wild and windy place.

There is something about the wind that calls to my mind the Holy Spirit. Iona is known as a Thin Place. That means a place where "the veil between humanity and the spiritual realm is especially **thin**" a place where you can almost reach out and touch God. Folks I would like to do that. I would like to be able to touch God. I would like to feel God's touch on my face. I am going with an earnest desire to hear God speak to me.

I know I can do this here at home. There may not be as much wind in Winnsboro as on the coast of the northern Atlantic Ocean. But I can hear the wind through the pines rubbing countless pine needles against each other. Sometimes I stand in awe and realize that the sound two simple pine needles rubbing against each other would be imperceptible to my ears. So how many does it take to make the roar that I am hearing? Standing outside and thinking things like this brings me to a position of humility before God and I realize I don't go outside nearly enough. Everywhere we walk outside becomes a cathedral.

May 2022

First Presbyterian, Contacts, Holidays In United States

May 2022 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion First Day of Asian	2 2pm - Bible Study	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9 2pm - Bible Study	10	11 9am - Bible study	12	13	14
15	16 2pm - Bible Study	17 Debra Gaines	18 9am - Bible study	19	20 Armel Crocker	21
22	23 Cross & Crown 2pm - Bible Study	24	25 9am - Bible study	26 Ascension of the	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	31	1 First Day of LGBTQ+ 9am - Bible study	2	3	4