First Presbyterian Church

June 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 **Contact us:**

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Preaching Schedule:

June 5: Pentecost - 5-minute sermons by elders (still being planned)

June 12: Trinity Sunday - Jimmy Chapman; communion June 19: Lessons and Hymns

June 26: Kenny Rigoulot, director of Camp Gilmont

Session Highlights

Again the session had a quick meeting. Highlights are

• Treasurer, Ronny Knight, will get our yearly audit done.

• The building and grounds committee has been sprucing up the yard by trimming bushes by picking up branches and limbs. Church Mutual, our insurance provider, has sent new monitors for the buildings.

• The inreach/outreach committee was happy to report 2 new visitors.

• The worship committee continues to fill the pulpit. June will be more of a challenge because Jane will be unavailable, but plans are being made. (See preaching schedule)

• The Reid Committee reported that they have selected Gyselle Santoy to receive the 2022 Reid Scholarship.

• The next Stated meeting will be July 10.

Pastor Nominating Committee Report

The PNC is excited to report that we have finally received our first 10 PIFs. We are pouring over the information and will begin discussing the possible candidates. Keep in mind that we cannot discuss info from the Pastor Information Forms because they are confidential, but we will keep you informed as much as possible. Please keep the committee, the future pastor, and our search in your prayers! June 2022 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Day of Pentecost—June 5 Acts 2:1–21 or Genesis 11:1–9 Psalm 104:24–34, 35b Romans 8:14–17 or Acts 2:1–21 John 14:8–17 [25–27]

Trinity Sunday—June 12 Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31 Psalm 8 Romans 5:1–5 John 16:12–15

Sunday, June 19 (Proper 7) Semicontinuous 1 Kings 19:1–4 [5–7] 8–15a Psalm 42 and 43 Galatians 3:23–29 Luke 8:26–39

Sunday, June 26 (Proper 8) Semicontinuous 2 Kings 2:1–2, 6–14 1 Psalm 77:1–2, 11–20 Galatians 5:1, 13–25 Luke 9:51–62 Complementary Isaiah 65:1–9 Psalm 22:19–28 Galatians 3:23–29 Luke 8:26–39

Complementary Kings 19:15–16, 19–21 Psalm 16 Galatians 5:1, 13–25 Luke 9:51–62

June birthdays &

anniversaries:

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

6 Jack Baber

- **11 Sean Drennan**
- 20 Della White
- **26 Charlie England**
- **27 Holly Clark-Porter**

Attendance:

May 1—11 May 8—15

- May 15-11
- May 22-14



Jane's Journey

As I write this I'm packing for my trip to Scotland and preparing to listen to the Holy Spirit to speak to me in the winds blowing in from the north Atlantic. I hope for great wisdom from the Spirit because the week after I get home, I will almost immediately leave to attend the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

As excited as I am to attend this gathering, the excitement is somewhat muted by all the restrictions the COVID pandemic has created. Instead of gathering hundreds of folks from all over the country together, the prevailing wisdom has broken us into about four groups and staggered the assembly into smaller gatherings. I will fly to Louisville, Kentucky for part of the

assembly and also spend a week in Irving, Texas where commissioners from Grace and Mission Presbytery will gather as a sort of "satellite" group to participate electronically. While the logistics of all this is overwhelming, the work will be interesting.

There are about ten committees and I am on the Environmental Justice committee. We will consider actions our church can take to protect the planet our Creator has given over to humanity as stewards.

I expect this to come at a pivotal time in my faith journey since my time in Scotland will be spent contemplating God's creation and my relationship to it. I had a conversation recently with the Interim General Presbyter of Grace Presbytery, Steve Shive, who is leading our trip to Scotland. He recommended a book to me, *The Great Conversation; Nature and the Care of the Soul* by Belden C. Lane. It's not light reading, to say the least, and it actually does send the reader out to hug trees.

But it brought up things I had already thought of on my own years ago. The dirt created under our feet right here in Winnsboro was created at the same moment as the entire planet was created. Now, I don't know the exact moment that happened but I do know that our little spot of earth is not any newer or older than any other spot on the globe. The sky above our trees is the same sky as what is above every other city on earth. We share the sky with everyone on the planet, just like we share the oceans and the dirt.

Ever since the creation of the earth when God put humanity in the garden of Eden "to till it and keep it", as described in Genesis 2:15, our job has been to take care of our planet.

The indigenous people of this country had and continue to have much better concept of sharing than did the people who arrived here from Europe. To the native Americans, the earth was a gift from their Creator on loan to be respected and passed on to the next generation with care.

One of the most respected of today's faith leaders is also an environmentalist who is a Choctaw Episcopalian bishop named Steven Charleston. He's written several books and has a vibrant presence on Facebook and a website.

No hymn is more inspiring than the wind rustling leaves of the deep forest, no sanctuary more hallowed than the snow touched mountains, no prayer of praise more glorious than the sweep of birds before the morning sun. The Holy lives all around us. The sacred grows beneath our feet. To love the earth is to love the One who made it. Creation writes its own testimony of faith, presenting us each day with a reason to believe and a mission to fulfill. Here, on this brilliant blue planet, on this emerald ball, dancing before the stars, is our temple, our place of worship, our spiritual home and our once and future heaven.

---Steven Charleston

Elizabeth Drennan passed away Saturday 5/30/2022. The graveside was Thursday 5/05 at Laurel Land in Ft Worth. Her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren and a new great great grandchild and nephews were gathered in Ft Worth on Thursday 5/05 for a service officiated by her children, Susan Drennan, Ann Pelczar, and Rick Drennan.



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