



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



August 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:

August 7 - Jane Els, communion

August 14 - Jimmy Chapman

August 21 - Jane Els

August 28 - Lessons and Hymns

Session Highlights

As a reminder, Session minutes and financials are available for any member who wishes to review them. Just ask the Clerk (Tricia Clark) or Treasurer (Ronny Knight).

The following are highlights from the July 10 session meeting.

- Treasurer Ronny Knight shared the Audit report which was done in June. All was verified to be correct and authorized.
- Pledge reports will be sent out to pledgers via email rather than a printed, mailed report.
- Bldg/Grnds noted that they have cleaned the outside AC units.
- Inreach/outreach noted that we received new member Kathy Winn by reaffirmation of faith on June 12.
- Worship/Ed continues to provide for Sunday worship with pulpit supply and lessons and hymns. We are averaging around 13 in attendance.
- PNC reported that they are reading PIFs and making contact with some of the candidates.
- A Congregational meeting has been called for October 9 to elect a nominating committee for 2022/2023.
- The next stated session meeting is scheduled for October 9.

Pastoral Nominating Committee Report

The PNC has been reviewing Pastor Information Forms, contacted several candidates by email, and has even had the opportunity to talk to a couple of people. The committee is still in the early stages, though, of discerning a pastor who will be a good fit for our congregation and community. Please continue to pray for the committee and the pastor who God has chosen for us.

August 2022 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Sunday, August 7 (Proper 14)

Semicontinuous

Isaiah 1:1, 10–20

Psalms 50:1–8, 22–23

Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

Luke 12:32–40

Complementary

Genesis 15:1–6

Psalms 33:12–22

Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

Luke 12:32–40

Sunday, August 14 (Proper 15)

Semicontinuous

Isaiah 5:1–7

Psalms 80:1–2, 8–19

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Luke 12:49–56

Complementary

Jeremiah 23:23–29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Luke 12:49–56

Sunday, August 21 (Proper 16)

Semicontinuous

Jeremiah 1:4–10

Psalms 71:1–6

Hebrews 12:18–29

Luke 13:10–17

Complementary

Isaiah 58:9b–14

Psalms 103:1–8

Hebrews 12:18–29

Luke 13:10–17

Sunday, August 28 (Proper 17)

Semicontinuous

Jeremiah 2:4–13

Psalms 81:1, 10–16

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

Luke 14:1, 7–14

Complementary

Proverbs 25:6–7

Psalms 112

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

Luke 14:1, 7–14

August birthdays & anniversaries:

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

1 John Clark

3 H P Hosey

6 Rick Drennan

10 Peggy Rounseville

Attendance:

July 3—13

July 10—14

July 17—16

July 24—10



Jane's Journey

I have now seen our national church up close and personal and can report to you that I think we're in pretty good shape. In a nutshell, what I saw during my week attending the General Assembly of the PCUSA was a pretty united church who was supportive of youth and the future and very much in tune to what they perceived as Christ's ministry here on earth.

In spite of the mind-numbing situation of sitting for over eight hours a day watching three computer screens at a time (a large screen at the end of the room showing the moderators coordinating the voting from Louisville, Kentucky, my own laptop showing the same thing but interactively and then my iPad where I voted in a separate app) I found the overall exercise not only fascinating and invigorating but it reinforced my love for our church and reaffirmed that I am in the right place. I am more firmly than ever convinced that Christ is the head of this church and we are following His lead as best as we can.

With only about three exceptions the votes we took were close to unanimous. A lot of people have watched with interest our vote over divestment of the church's investments from the fossil fuel industry. I was on the committee that worked on this issue. We faced three possible actions: 1. Do nothing. 2. Divest completely by asking the **Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI)** group to sell all investments the church owns within their control that is related to fossil fuels or 3. Divest from the top five polluting companies who have repeatedly ignored the requests from PUSA to change their practices to clean up their act. We had held up hope that by maintaining "a seat at the table" we could somehow influence the companies to change their standards regarding pollution. This method did not work.

The committee recommended and the GA voted (by a small margin) to go with option 3, which we felt was a good compromise.

The end result will be, in fact, small. The MRTI portfolio is not everything the PCUSA holds in investments and the amount of the five companies even smaller; not enough to make much of a difference to the church financially. PCUSA still has about two other foundations with investments in the fossil fuel industry and nothing within their investment portfolio has changed. Our MRTI portfolio is small in comparison to others who hold investments in the fossil fuel industry. The end result to the five companies will be probably un-noticed. The move is purely symbolic.

With this vote, we are stating that God's creation is important. We are accepting the responsibility of stewardship for the planet. And, to the young people of our church, who took an impressive and admirably active role in this assembly, we are saying, "We heard you and your future is important to us."

Another interesting thing happened that had nothing to do with the General Assembly. All the commissioners from Grace Presbytery met at the Presbytery offices in Irving and we also hosted the commissioners from Mission Presbytery, which covers the Austin and San Antonio area. We "Zoomed" the General Assembly together in one big conference room and enjoyed each other's company. It helped break up the tedium and developed camaraderie. One day while I was in line for lunch I had a conversation with a guy who overheard me say I was from the Winnsboro church. His wife grew up here and was the daughter of Hoodrow Melton, whose hat hangs in our Narthex. I had a great conversation with him and I made sure to get his wife's contact information. He said she had more information about our church's history than he did.

Patience... I want it NOW

*Join us to explore the richness of patience
as a practice,
as a gift,
as a prayer*



Spiritual Practices Retreat
September 9-11, 2022



The calendar will not copy to the page. Look at Preaching schedule and Birthday/Anniversaries.

