



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



November 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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Sunday and Preaching Schedule

November 6 - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS! Set clocks BACK one hour.

November 6 - Jane Els, Communion

November 13 - Lessons and Hymns

November 20 - Jane Els, "Monks' Meal" (Soup and Bread) and Decorate for Advent

**November 27 - Jimmy Chapman, 1st Sunday in Advent
Congregational Meeting to elect officers for class of 2025,
Session Meeting**

Notice of Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting on November 27 immediately following worship for the purpose of #1 - hearing the recommendations from the nominating committee for church officers and #2 - electing officers for the class of 2025. After hearing the nominations from the nominating committee, nominations from the floor will also be heard. If you plan to make a nomination, please make sure in advance of the meeting that the person is willing to serve and understands the duties he/she will be accepting. Just FYI - Current officers are Session members: **[Patricia Fields and Slade Weaver (2022) rolling off]** ; Ronny Knight and Alice McGregor (2023); Tricia Clark (2024). Trustees: **[Chris Holloman (2022) rolling off]**, Beaven Els (2023), John Clark (2024)

Session Highlights

The following are highlights of the October Stated Session meeting. As always, complete minutes and financials are available upon request.

- ❖ Treasurer Ronny Knight will begin budget planning for 2023. Session committees will give input.
- ❖ Admin/Finance/Treasurer will send out pledge letters in the coming weeks.
- ❖ Family Lunch is back in swing with a lunch on October 16 to say farewell to Bill Sunnucks and to say thanks to Jane Els in recognition of pastor appreciation month.
- ❖ Since Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year, the session discussed having both a Christmas Eve service then worship service the next morning. It was decided to hold only a Christmas Eve service and cancel the Sunday service. The Christmas Eve service will be Lessons and Carols, with no sermon nor communion.
- ❖ A congregational meeting has been called for Nov. 27 to elect officers. (See separate announcement.)
- ❖ Church policies will be reviewed in November.

Church Meal Fellowship / Decorating for Advent

Advent begins the last Sunday of November. The worship committee is inviting all who are able to stay after church on the 3rd Sunday, November 20 to help decorate the sanctuary for Advent. A "Monks' Meal" of soup and bread will be provided. (You don't need to bring anything.) The meal is designed to be a quick lunch since decorating is the priority. The decorations will already be set out and ready to put up after we have eaten. Last year we managed in record time thanks to all the help. This will be a great opportunity for fellowship with our church family, so please make plans to stay if you are able.

November 2022 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Sunday, November 6 (Proper 27)

Semicontinuous

Haggai 1:15b—2:9

Psalms 145:1–5, 17–21 or Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 2:1–5, 13–17

Luke 20:27–38

Complementary

Job 19:23–27a

Psalms 17:1–9

2 Thessalonians 2:1–5, 13–17

Luke 20:27–38

Sunday, November 13 (Proper 28)

Semicontinuous

Isaiah 65:17–25

Isaiah 12

2 Thessalonians 3:6–13

Luke 21:5–19

Complementary

Malachi 4:1–2a

Psalms 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6–13

Luke 21:5–19

Reign of Christ / Christ the King—November 20

Semicontinuous

Jeremiah 23:1–6

Luke 1:68–79

Colossians 1:11–20

Luke 23:33–43

Complementary

Jeremiah 23:1–6

Psalms 46

Colossians 1:11–20

Luke 23:33–43

Begin Year A

First Sunday of Advent—November 27

Isaiah 2:1–5

Psalms 122

Romans 13:11–14

Matthew 24:36–44

November birthdays & anniversaries:

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

2 Patricia Fields

6 Dan Wilson

22 Nyla Kettleison

26 Jane Els

Attendance:

September 25—12

October 2—15

October 9—16

October 16—10

October 23—9



Jane's Journey

One of the churches I serve is small enough that if enough people miss church they are in danger of going empty. Last week we had a couple of people in the hospital and a whole family knew they were going to miss church for a special project so the clerk of the session called me to update me and see if we needed to cancel worship.

Every year the Deport Ministerial Alliance buys clothes and toys for the needy of their town for Christmas and a couple from our church head up the group who goes to buy these gifts. They always take their grown daughter and college-aged daughter. Together this family comprise about half of the church attendance. But buying the Christmas gifts is a whole family project for them. And the best day to shop is Sunday. I'm not sure but the store may either close or let them in early. So it was with some apology that Laura called to explain why they would miss church Sunday.

I told her no apology was necessary and, in fact, the more I thought about it, the more convinced I was that this was a perfect example of our sermon that Sunday.

Luke 18:9-14 is the Parable of the Tax Collector humbling himself and the Pharisee exalting himself with Jesus saying that all who exalt themselves will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

It reminded me of the people who go to places like hurricane disaster zones and help with the recovery. People like Chef Jose Andres who made 200,000 meals in the first week after Ian. Or our own Presbyterian Disaster Assistance who stayed for seven years after Katrina to help New Orleans.

Sometimes the congregation of a church leaves the building and preaches the sermon instead of the preacher. And that's what Deport did on October 23. No, they didn't beat their chests and exclaim, "Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner!" but they did live out their day in a spirit of humility. They recognized that there are people out there who need their love and it doesn't matter whether they know these people or if the people are "worthy" or not. God is the judge of these things. God is the only one who can exalt us. All we can do is recognize the Grace God offers us and then live life a life of gratitude in response.

Living in gratitude and humility is not a meek or a weak life. It's actually a courageous one. Going to buying Christmas gifts for the kids of the town instead of going to church might look like skipping church to some. I call it BEING church.

Plus, without all those grownups, the only family left was the one with five small children. We met anyway-- and sat around the piano while their mother played the piano, eating popcorn and singing songs. I call it win-win.

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	Halloween 2pm - Bible Study	First Day of American	Patricia Fields 9am - Bible Study			12pm - Al-Anon
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Communion Daniel Wilson Daylight Saving Time	2pm - Bible Study	Election Day	9am - Bible Study		Veterans Day	12pm - Al-Anon
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	2pm - Bible Study		9am - Bible Study-last			12pm - Al-Anon
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Cross & Crown articles 2pm - Bible Study	Nyla Kattleson		Thanksgiving Day office closed	Native American Heritage	Jane Els 12pm - Al-Anon
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Congregation meeting Session	2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon