



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



August 2023

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas

Session members:

Class of 2023:
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Class of 2024:
Patricia Clark
Class of 2025:
Slade Weaver and Kathy Winn
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Ronny Knight
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Preaching Schedule

August 6 - Jane Els, Communion
August 13 - Rev. Sam Steele, guest minister
August 20 - Jane Els
August 27 - Rev. Sam Steele, guest minister

Attendance:

July 2—13
July 9—6
July 16—13
July 23—12

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

August 2023 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Sunday, August 6 (Proper 13)

Semicontinuous
Genesis 32:22–31
Psalm 17:1–7, 15
Romans 9:1–5
Matthew 14:13–21

Complementary
Isaiah 55:1–5
Psalm 145:8–9, 14–21
Romans 9:1–5
Matthew 14:13–21

Sunday, August 13 (Proper 14)

Semicontinuous
Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28
Psalm 105:1–6, 16–22, 45b
Romans 10:5–15
Matthew 14:22–33

Complementary
1 Kings 19:9–18
Psalm 85:8–13
Romans 10:5–15
Matthew 14:22–33

Sunday, August 20 (Proper 15)

Semicontinuous
Genesis 45:1–15
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32
Matthew 15:[10–20] 21–28

Complementary
Isaiah 56:1, 6–8
Psalm 67
Romans 11:1–2a, 29–32
Matthew 15:[10–20] 21–28

Sunday, August 27 (Proper 16)

Semicontinuous
Exodus 1:8—2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1–8
Matthew 16:13–20

Complementary
Isaiah 51:1–6
Psalm 138
Romans 12:1–8
Matthew 16:13–20



Jane's Journey

The first house Beaven and I bought had been vacant for two years. And the front yard was covered with weeds. Beaven sprayed it with the strongest weed killer he could buy and ended up killing everything in the yard. All that was left was dirt. Our front yard stuck out like a sore thumb. Brown dirt in a row of beautiful green yards. That was the day I learned that it was better to have green weeds than brown dirt. You can let them grow together and mow them and they still looked like grass.

It was also a lesson I used for parenting.

I resolved that year to nurture anything that came to my house no matter what it was: grass, flowers, trees, neighbors, friends or strangers. Anything that came to my house was going to get my love and nourishment. I used this philosophy as a parent whenever my daughters brought home strange friends. We've all been there: when our kids bring home friends that we're not sure about. And we're just happy that they are bringing them home instead of going out somewhere, places we can't see what's going on.

But these two examples always remind me of Matthew 13:24-30 the parable of Wheat and Weeds.

When I preached on this parable at Deport last Sunday one of the congregation told me the current term for tares is "foxtail." I see a lot of it by the side of my road where I live. Jesus warned the disciples that it can grow side by side with wheat and become entangled with the roots of the wheat. The catch is that if the farmer tries to pull it up before the harvest it will destroy the good wheat at the same time. Better to leave the weeds until the harvest. At the harvest the reaper can then separate the two and burn the bad and save the good.

The lesson to be learned is the same one I learned back with my first house: leave the judgement of what is good and bad to our Creator. That's not our job.

Our job is to nurture everything that comes to our house. Or our church. Nurture everything. And leave judgement up to God.

August

August 2023							Month
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
30 Congregation meeting	31 Nathan Clark ● 2pm Bible Study	Aug 1 John Clark	2 ● 9am Bible Study	3 H. P. Hosey	4	5 ● 12pm Al-Anon	
6 Communion Rick Drennan	7 ● 2pm Bible Study	8	9 ● 9am Bible Study	10 Peggy Rounseville	11	12 ● 12pm Al-Anon	
13	14 ● 2pm Bible Study	15	16 ● 9am Bible Study	17	18	19 ● 12pm Al-Anon	
20	21 Cross & Crown due ● 2pm Bible Study	22	23	24	25	26 ● 12pm Al-Anon	
27	28 ● 2pm Bible Study	29	30	31	Sep 1	2 ● 12pm Al-Anon	