First Presbyterian Church

July 2024

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas

Session members: Class of 2024: Patricia Clark Class of 2025: Slade Weaver and Kathy Winn Class of 2026 John Clark and Patricia Fields Treasurer: Ronny Knight Clerk: Patricia Clark

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> FPC Website: www.easttexasgrace.org

Cross and Crown articles: firstpres@peoplescom.net

Pulpit for July:

July 7th - Jane Els, communion July 14th - Jimmy Chapman, session meeting July 21st - Jane Els July 28th - John Coleman

Session news

The Session has called a congregational (corporation) meeting for July 14, 2024, immediately after worship in order to vote on selling the property at 301 S. Walnut, currently known as the office building, as well as the lot to the south of the office when an acceptable agreement has been made with Grace Presbytery and to authorize the trustees (John Clark, Sandra Corder, Ronny Knight) to proceed with the sale. You may contact John Clark for any questions concerning this proposal.

July BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARIES

12 LilyMae Holloman 23 Annv. Clark 24 Bob Simmons

10

ATTENDANCE:

May 26—12 June 2—9 June 9—11 June 16—9 June 23—9

July 2024 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Sunday, July 7 (Proper 9) Semicontinuous 2 Samuel 5:1–5, 9–10 Psalm 48 2 Corinthians 12:2–10 Mark 6:1–13

Sunday, July 14 (Proper 10) Semicontinuous 2 Samuel 6:1–5, 12b–19 Psalm 24 Ephesians 1:3–14 Mark 6:14–29

Sunday, July 21 (Proper 11) Semicontinuous 2 Samuel 7:1–14a Psalm 89:20–37 Ephesians 2:11–22 Mark 6:30–34, 53–56

Sunday, July 28 (Proper 12) Semicontinuous 2 Samuel 11:1–15 Psalm 14 Ephesians 3:14–21 John 6:1–21 Complementary Ezekiel 2:1–5 Psalm 123 2 Corinthians 12:2–10 Mark 6:1–13

Complementary Amos 7:7–15 Psalm 85:8–13 Ephesians 1:3–14 Mark 6:14–29

Complementary Jeremiah 23:1–6 Psalm 23 Ephesians 2:11–22 Mark 6:30–34, 53–56

Complementary 2 Kings 4:42–44 Psalm 145:10–18 Ephesians 3:14–21 John 6:1–21



Jane's Journey

First, I would like to thank everyone for all their prayers for Beaven's heart procedure. He came through with flying colors. The doctor didn't want him to drive for a while and that's why he wasn't in church. But he feels great.

I had a really busy day the other day with my various flocks. When I called for intercessory prayer during worship, the list just seemed really busy at both Paris and Deport. One of the Deport folks was in a motorcycle accident in Arkansas and is having to stay there for a while. Then, when I got home I got word that my cousin was in the hospital in Dallas.

It's just hard to minister to people when you are in one place and they are in another city. One church veteran reminded me that I can reach out to the Arkansas presbytery to find pastoral support for the couple in the hospital there. Right now they are so exhausted (and new to the ways of the church) that this would feel uncomfortable to them so they took a rain check on that option for the time being.

I found myself wondering how on earth can I minister to people "by remote control"?

Prayer.

It's such an obvious and simple answer that it seems almost too easy. Almost like it's not doing "enough." Yet, sometimes it's our only option. When the need is too overwhelming or too complicated, too messy, too personal, too everything. When we need to talk to the Creator of us all, who is the only one who could possibly understand the situation—prayer is the best option. When we need the One who can move mountains and do miracles—prayer is the only option. When humans can't solve a problem—prayer is the only option.

And most times prayer is the best option. Because God will always know the best solution to any situation. God really is better at this than we are.

Prayer should be our first, second and all in between options.

July

