



# First Presbyterian Church

## The Cross and Crown



August 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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Cross and Crown articles:

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**Pulpit for August**

**4th - Jane Els and communion**

**11th - John Coleman**

**18th - Jane Els**

**25th - John Coleman**

**The following are highlights from the July 14 Stated Session meeting:**

- **Treasurer's Report - Financial report for the Presbyterian Church ending June 30, 2024.**

**We ended the second quarter with a bank balance of \$33,130.29, Congregation income for that period was \$17,618.10. Glad to report that this was within a few dollars of what was budgeted.**

**No outstanding checks were reported.**

**Session members continue to stay within budget with no unusual expense.**

**Expenses for that period was \$31,033.08. This amounts to \$2,595.00 over budget due to the early posting of an insurance payment which will offset during the next period.**

**I would like approval to transfer \$20,000 of budgeted income from the Texas Presbyterian Foundation Fund later in the year, only if needed. I have never had to do this but our carry over balance continues to be lower at the first of the new year. I will report the transfer to you if it becomes necessary. [This request was approved by the Session.]**

**Patricia [Clark] has reviewed our audit for the prior year and has that information to report to Session.**

**Ronny Knight, Church Treasurer.**

- **Building and Grounds - John Clark noted that we have been given a riding lawnmower. We have decided to take care of mowing ourselves with occasional hiring someone to trim bushes and weed eat. This should save around \$3000 a year. He also thanked Ronny Knight for his help in taking care of the yard. John will also proceed with working on the sale of the property that houses our office as well as moving everything back to the main building.**

- **Worship - Patricia Fields reported that the Worship in Song service lead by Lynn Adler and Lindy Hearn was well-received and even attracted visitors. She also noted that Slade Weaver and Sandy Corder, as well as Olivia Holloman have been instrumental in helping with music for services.**
- **Inreach/Outreach - Kathy Winn noted that family lunches have been fun and that she is currently planning the next lunch.**
- **Clerk - Tricia Clark reported that acting on the session's approval, she has sent two of our historical minutes books (1906-1970) to the Presbyterian Historical Society for safe keeping. These books were falling apart and will be preserved in the correct environment there. She also noted that she will be resigning as Clerk of Session in January of 2025 and asked that we be on the lookout for someone to take on that role.**
- **A Congregational Meeting has been called for October 27 to vote on bypassing the election of a nomination committee and proceed directly to electing officers for the class of 2027 which will be 0-3 session members and 1 trustee. (See separate notice in newsletter)**
- **Scheduled the next Stated Session Meeting for October 27.**

#### **July 14 Congregational Meeting:**

**A congregational meeting was held on July 14 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.**

**John Clark explained the reason for selling (cost of insurance, utilities, mowing, need for repair) and noted that he and Presbytery have been in discussion and that it looks like everything is good to go on Presbytery's end.**

**The congregation voted unanimously in favor of making the sale. John will proceed with making the sale, and he and the other trustees (Sandy Corder and Ronny Knight) will sign paperwork when needed.**

## Notice of Called Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting has been called for October 27 immediately following worship to vote on 1) bypassing the election of a nomination committee and 2) proceed directly to electing officers for the class of 2027 (0-3 session members and 1 trustee.)

Our by-laws require a nomination committee to be elected to select a slate of officer candidates for session and trustees. Since our congregation has become so small, this extra step has proven to be superfluous. For at least the last three years, the committee that was elected to serve as a nomination committee ended up being the nominated slate of officer candidates because of their willingness to serve. If the congregation agrees that there is no need to elect a nomination committee, we will need to vote to bypass that step and proceed straight to electing officers. With that in mind, the Session members encourage the members of the congregation to be ready to nominate from the floor up to 3 folks to the office of session ruling elders and one trustee for the class of 2027. (John Clark will roll off as trustee, and Sandy Corder and Ronny Knight will continue to serve in that capacity. Trustees may be reelected; they may also serve as current session members.)

It should be noted that we have amended our by-laws to allow that the session may include from 4 to 6 members depending on the size of the congregation and people's willingness to serve. We currently have 5 members. Tricia Clark is rolling off and Slade Weaver, Kathy Winn, Patricia Fields, and John Clark will continue to serve. Also, the Session will be seeking someone to fill the role of Clerk of Session in 2025. That person must be a ruling elder although they do not have to be currently serving on Session.

When making a nomination, be sure you have spoken with the person you are nominating to see if they are willing to take on the role.

Please be in prayer as to whether God might be calling you to serve as a trustee, session member, and/or Clerk.

### **August BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARIES**

**1 John Clark  
6 Rick Drennan**

### **ATTENDANCE:**

**June 30—17  
July 7—16  
July 14—13  
July 21--15**

## August 2024 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

### Sunday, August 4 (Proper 13)

Semicontinuous

2 Samuel 11:26–12:13a

Psalms 51:1–12

Ephesians 4:1–16

John 6:24–35

Complementary

Exodus 16:2–4, 9–15

Psalms 78:23–29

Ephesians 4:1–16

John 6:24–35

### Sunday, August 11 (Proper 14)

Semicontinuous

2 Samuel 18:5–9, 15, 31–33

Psalms 130

Ephesians 4:25–5:2

John 6:35, 41–51

Complementary

1 Kings 19:4–8

Psalms 34:1–8

Ephesians 4:25–5:2

John 6:35, 41–51

### Sunday, August 18 (Proper 15)

Semicontinuous

1 Kings 2:10–12; 3:3–14

Psalms 111

Ephesians 5:15–20

John 6:51–58

Complementary

Proverbs 9:1–6

Psalms 34:9–14

Ephesians 5:15–20

John 6:51–58

### Sunday, August 25 (Proper 16)

Semicontinuous

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10–11) 22–30, 41–43

Psalms 84

Ephesians 6:10–20

Complementary

Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18

Psalms 34:15–22

Ephesians 6:10–20



# Jane's Journey

**I have always loved summer camp and by the time this summer is over I will have been to three different camps at Gilmont. It's an interesting perspective to spend so much time around kids when you are over 70 years old. There's a point around puberty when they start thinking they "aren't enough." And I want to reach out to each one of them and just hug them and say, "Hang in there, honey, it's a marathon, not a sprint." I can't recall when it happened but I now know that I am enough and it's all going to be OK. What a glorious feeling it is.**

**Guarantees take on a whole new meaning. When you are over 75 and the can of house paint advertises a 20-year warranty you realize it's the last time you'll have to paint your house.**

**But the best part is when the message finally sinks in that, for all your bulges, lumps and imperfections, you are Enough. The Abundance of our Creator settles on your brain and you realize that God gave you certain talents and they are starting to make sense. The talent to accept yourself for who God created you to be is a talent. The talent to understand that you are Enough is a gift greater than gold. That was the whole point of the movie Barbie. They sold a bazillion T-shirts with "Kenough" on them. Ken understood at the end of the movie. I hope you will, too.**

*June 30 was a "Worship in Song" Sunday. This was a special service where we were blessed with original songs and music by Lynn Adler and Lindy Hearne*





# August

Aug 2024 (Central Time - Chicago)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
	2pm - Bible Study		9am - Bible study	John Clark		12pm - Al-Anon
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Communion	2pm - Bible Study	Rick Drennan				Peggy Rounseville 12pm - Al-Anon
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Cross & Crown due 2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon