



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



March 2025

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas

Session members:

Class of 2025:
Slade Weaver and Kathy Winn
Class of 2026
John Clark and Patricia Fields
Treasurer:
Ronny Knight
Clerk:
Sandy Corder

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Pulpit supply for March:

Mar. 2nd - Jane Els
Mar. 5th - Jane Els
Mar. 9th - lesson and hymns
Mar. 16th - Jane Els
Mar. 23rd - TBA
Mar. 30th - Crosby Fleming

On Sunday February 16, we enjoyed a soup luncheon and celebrated Tina's (our secretary) 20th year. Big thanks to all, from Tina.

Session Highlights (mostly the same as last month)

The Session met on January 26 for the quarterly stated meeting. The following are the highlights of that meeting. As always, complete minutes are available upon request made to Clerk Sandy Corder.

- Heard routine reports from committee members
- Inreach/outreach chair Kathy Winn also reported a plan to celebrate our church secretary Tina Hammer's 20 year anniversary with us at the family lunch on Feb. 16.
- Adopted the 2025 budget
- Approved the 2024 Church Statistics Report
- Elected Sandy Corder as Clerk of Session and Ronny Knight as Treasurer
- Approved communion dates for the year - first Sunday of the month and Maundy Thursday
- Approved special worship - Christmas Eve and Ash Wednesday. Maundy Thursday was also approved pending a later decision
- Approved yearly mission giving - Joy Gift, One Great Hour of Sharing, Shared Mission Commitment [formerly per capita]
- Elected Sandy Corder as commissioned elder to presbytery meetings. It was discussed that she is not always able to attend and that a substitute may be appointed as needed.
- The required Boundary Training was discussed. Jimmy suggested that all session members review the policies in our handbook before the next session meeting. Then address any questions or need for changes during that session meeting.

- The newly required antiracism policy was discussed and will be looked into further with guidance from Grace Presbytery
- Scheduled next Stated Session meeting for April 27.

**MARCH
BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARIES**

23 Jacob Wilson

ATTENDANCE:

February 2—18
February 9—14
February 16—18
February 23—10



Jane's Journey

Have you ever been face to face with a newborn baby and had the urge to ask them what God is like? They have just come from heaven and if they could only talk, you could ask them what God is like. I asked my granddaughter this once and was astonished to hear Sarah answer that she could remember being a baby and talking to God. God told her that she would be safe because God was right there with her.

The idea that we come from God and return to God is one of my favorite ideas. A seed is planted then fertilized by nutrients of past vegetation. The seed grows, blooms and blossoms into glorious flower then becomes fruit. We all eventually die and return our nutrients to the soil and the life cycle continues.

It's the things we do with our lives in between the beginning and the end that give it its meaning.

But our relationship with God is what actually tells us what to "do" with our lives and how that meaning matters.

The longer I live I am learning that people who live quiet lives can have great impact on others. I'm gaining a great appreciation for quiet people. While in the past it was a popular Lenten practice to "give up" something we are now encouraged to think about "taking on" a practice. And the practice doesn't have to be anything wild or energetic it can be a quiet and introspective like extra prayers, devotions or meditations. Simply setting aside extra time to listen for God to speak to you in a quiet place can be a very spiritual time. Most cell phones can set an alarm to remind you to pray whenever you ask it to. I suspect that God actually prefers these quiet moments to flashy ones.

Let us use the Lenten season to prepare ourselves to understand more fully our relationship with God and the love Christ has for humanity. A love so great that he was willing to give his life for us in the ultimate sacrifice for our sins. In my mind I always picture a great gap between our Creator and humanity with Christ reaching his arms out to fill that gap with one hand grasping God and one hand grasping onto human, Christ: fully human, fully God.

May you have a meaningful Lent this year.

March 2025 Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Sunday, March 2

Transfiguration of the Lord

Exodus 34:29–35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Luke 9:28–36 [37–43]

Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isaiah 58:1–12

Psalm 51:1–17

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Sunday, March 9

First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16

Romans 10:8b–13

Luke 4:1–13

Sunday, March 16

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Luke 13:31–35 or Luke 9:28–36

Sunday, March 23

Third Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1–9

Psalm 63:1–8

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

Luke 13:1–9

Sunday, March 30

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9–12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

March

First Presbyterian, Holidays in United States, Birthdays

Mar 2025 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
	Cross & Crown due 2pm - Bible Study		Bible study 9-11 AM			12pm - Al-Anon
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Communion	2pm - Bible Study		Ash Wednesday Bible study 9-11 AM		World day of Prayer	12pm - Al-Anon
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Daylight Saving Time	2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	St. Patrick's Day 2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Jacob Wilson	Cross & Crown due 2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	2pm - Bible Study					12pm - Al-Anon