



First Presbyterian Church

The Cross and Crown



September 2025

Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas

Session members:

Class of 2025:

Slade Weaver and Alice McGregor

Class of 2026

John Clark and Patricia Fields

Treasurer:

Ronny Knight

Clerk:

Sandy Corder

Contact us:

Tina Hammer, Secretary

PO Box 493

302 S. Chestnut

Winnsboro, TX 75494

Office: 903-342-3011

Fax: 903-342-3011

Email: firstpres@peoplescom.net

Office hours: M-Th, 9-noon

FPC Website:

www.easttexasgrace.org

Cross and Crown articles:

firstpres@peoplescom.net

Pulpit supply for September:

7th - Jane Els preaching, communion

14th - John Coleman

21st - Jane Els

28th - John Coleman

**September
BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARIES**

There are no birthdays for September

ATTENDANCE:

July 27—16

August 3—7

August 10—14

August 17—13

August 24—16

Gilmont's Fourth Annual Battle of the Bags Cornhole Tournament, in concert with the camp's 85th Birthday Celebration, will be held Saturday, October 11, 2025. This day of fun is an important opportunity to support Gilmont's general fund! Get your tickets (players and spectators are welcome) and register for the online Silent Auction at www.gilmont.org! In addition to the tournament, participants will enjoy Ken Knotts' delicious BBQ, fantastic live music, camp tours, big screen college football, and some bingo too! Hope to see you soon!

August Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays

Sunday, September 7 (Proper 18)

Semicontinuous

Jeremiah 18:1–11

Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18

Philemon 1–21

Luke 14:25–33

Complementary

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

Psalm 1

Philemon 1–21

Luke 14:25–33

Sunday, September 14 (Proper 19)

Semicontinuous

Jeremiah 4:11–12, 22–28

Psalm 14

1 Timothy 1:12–17

Luke 15:1–10

Complementary

Exodus 32:7–14

Psalm 51:1–10

1 Timothy 1:12–17

Luke 15:1–10

Sunday, September 21 (Proper 20)

Semicontinuous

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1

Psalm 79:1–9

1 Timothy 2:1–7 1 Timothy 2:1–7

Luke 16:1–13

Complementary

Amos 8:4–7

Psalm 113

Luke 16:1–13

Sunday, September 28 (Proper 21)

Semicontinuous

Jeremiah 32:1–3a, 6–15

Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16

1 Timothy 6:6–19

Luke 16:19–31

Complementary

Amos 6:1a, 4–7

Psalm 146

1 Timothy 6:6–19

Luke 16:19–31



Jane's Journey

About a month ago the presbytery sent me to a conference at the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Arkansas called simply "Rural Ideas." It wasn't hard to talk me into going since Emily had gone to college there and I was curious to see the campus again. I was joined by several colleagues from Grace Presbytery

I already knew and while we were there, we were surrounded by a few hundred other Presbyterians as well as Methodists and a few Baptists. But the greatest bonus was getting to spend a lot of mealtimes just talking with fellow clergy. Back home the presbytery asked me to report on the top ten things I learned. Here they are:

The Top Ten Things I Learned at the Rural Ideas Conference

1. You don't have to be surrounded by cows and chickens to be a rural church. Any small town can be rural.
2. The average congregation size in the US is 50 members, sometimes 30.
3. Most big cities have an anchor institution which provides the "hub" of activity, usually a university or a corporation, while in a rural area this is usually a church.
4. Assuming bigger is better is wrong. Jesus said that whenever two or more gather in his name he would be with us. All we need is two.
5. Don't wait for the cavalry. The calvary is not coming. We are the calvary.
6. Older churches are usually tucked into a neighborhood and can perform the function of being a "neighbor": helping kids with homework, loaning books, visiting the elderly singles, etc.
7. People don't know what is inside your building unless you tell them. "All Are Welcome" signs are a big help.
8. Paved parking lots are an empty canvas waiting for the community to use it. Basketball hoops are great for drawing in young people.
9. Listen to your community. It's the church or nobody.
10. Take a risk. Be people of Hope

September

First Presbyterian, Holidays in United States							Sep 2025 (Central Time - Chicago)	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
31	1 Labor Day Office Closed	2	3	4	5	6 12pm - Al-Anon		
7 Communion	8 2pm - Bible Study	9	10	11	12	13 12pm - Al-Anon		
14	15 2pm - Bible Study	16	17	18	19	20 12pm - Al-Anon		
21	22 Cross & Crown due 2pm - Bible Study	23	24	25	26	27 12pm - Al-Anon		
28	29 2pm - Bible Study	30	1 Olivia Holloman	2	3	4 12pm - Al-Anon		