



The Newsletter

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Kilgore, Texas

May 2022
Volume 39 No. 5

FROM THE PASTOR

“There will always be a reason to quit.” That line was shared by one of my colleagues in a PhD seminar at Baylor last semester. We were required to interview someone who had earned the PhD in our field, to ask them questions about their research, about their academic experience as a doctoral student, and practical question, such as how to persevere when times get tough. My colleague from New York interviewed a pastor-scholar who said that “there will always be a reason to quit but you have to keep moving forward.”

Some of us might change up the wording of the sentence: there will always be a reason to despair, or there will always be a reason to be in defeat. Have you ever met those people who, it seems, can only see what is wrong with the world or with their own lives? Those people where “can’t” and “won’t work” and “impossible” and words like “unlikely” are common in their vocabulary and speech? I’ve known people like that across the years; I think of them as the glass half-empty type of people.

I once heard a pastor talk about a gas station worker who was one of these people. Every time he would walk into the gas station and talk to the worker, the worker would have a long litany of what was not going right in his world. One day the pastor walked into the gas station and to the pastor’s great surprise he found the gas station worker cheerful and delightful. The pastor had never seen him like this before. So, the pastor asked the gas station worker what happened. Something good must have happened! The gas station worker said: “Nope, I have just lowered my expectations.”

I won’t deny it: in this life there will always be a reason to despair. Frankly, none of us reading this needs convincing of that fact. However, what we need to be convinced of is that ***there will always be a reason to have hope***. We are in the season of Eastertide, which is a time we remember and give thanks for Jesus’ resurrection. Jesus rose from the dead. Therefore, we can have hope that new life and new creation is in our future. Our destiny of blessing, glory, and redemption has been secured once and for all through Christ’s resurrection. If that is the case, then, there will come a day when we do not have any reason to despair or quit. Maybe that day is today. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,
Will



P W News



School will soon be out for the summer and vacations begin!

PWCT will have their last meeting of the current year Monday May 2 at 9:30 am in the Parlor. We will make plans for the summer months: 1) Willows birthday party in May; 2) TSF meals during June and July; and 3) Meals on Wheels during July.

We have had a busy successful year and look forward to beginning anew in the fall. Circles will have their end of year meetings with the noon circle meeting Tuesday May 10 at noon in Fellowship Hall and the night circle meeting Wednesday May 4 at 6:00 pm at the home of Jan Wylie.

Come visit either circle—we look forward to seeing new faces.

Have a wonderful Summer!!

Sarah Camp
Moderator



Saturday Bread Schedule:

- May 7 : Church of God in Christ
- May 14 : St. Paul's Episcopal
- May 21 : Jim Griffin
- May 28 : Forest Home Baptist



Tithes and Offerings for Month of March

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 31,226
Actual Monthly Tithes/Offerings	\$ 24,888
Actual Monthly Expense	\$ 36,188
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$ (11,300)

For the Year 2022

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 374,719
Actual YTD Tithes/Offerings	\$ 114,610
Actual YTD Expense	\$ 123,563
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$ (8,953)

Thank you for your tithes and offerings!



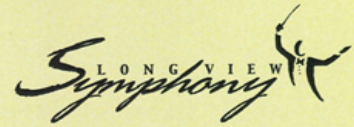
Thoughts and prayers

Family and friends of FPC

- * Raymond Bazinet
- * Patrick Braly
- * E J Chowdhury
- * Lynda Crittenden
- * Carly Faulkner
- * Ashley Haden
- * Zoe Kelt
- * Sherry Lockman
- * Donna Marshall
- * Rex McCubbin
- * Abbi Melton
- * Larry Perkins
- * Glenda Reid
- * Charlotte Sechrist
- * Butch Squier
- * Lisa Stewart
- * April Watson
- * Carolyn Woods
- * Chantal Braly
- * Joe Brown
- * Elizabeth Collins
- * Linda Curkan
- * John Fout
- * Kenzie Hyatt
- * Shirley G Latham
- * Dianne Lyle
- * Ward McCollum
- * David McElroy
- * Dayne Neal
- * Nancy Pybas
- * Jerry Richardson
- * Shari Solomon
- * John Squier
- * Kai Tucker
- * Larry & Linda Willis

In Service to our Country

- * Jacob Conner
- * Robert Gray
- * Brent Duvall
- * Gavin Jackson
- * Stone Smith



The Longview Symphony Presents

Bach's Lunch

FREE FRIDAY CONCERT SERIES

Featuring Gala Strunk, Organ and Preston Orr, Baritone



Friday, May 6, 2022

Concert begins at 12:15PM

Dining Area opens at 11:30 (bring your lunch)

First Presbyterian Church, Kilgore,

815 E. Main St., Kilgore

Featuring: Gala Strunk, Organ and Preston Orr, Baritone

for more information: LongviewSymphony.org

BACH'S LUNCH SPONSORS: Logan & Brigitte Damewood and Evans-Merrick Music Grants Fund at East Texas Communities Foundation



Session Highlights

The Session held its Regular Stated Meeting April 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The meeting began with a devotion and prayer.

The Consent Agenda Committee report included the following:

C.E.-Missions reported:

- * Easter Egg Hunt on April 16 was a success with approximately 15 children.
- * Plans for Sr. Night are underway.
- * The Grace Notes End of Year program will be Wednesday, May 18.
- * The Monthly Missions for April is PCHAS, and for May will be Camp Gilmont.

New Business

- * An infant baptism was approved for May 22, 2022.
- * A quote for painting the sanctuary inside walls, doors outside Fellowship Hall, and repairs outside of Parlor doors was approved for \$6,550.00.

The Associate Pastor Search Committee has received some MIFs from candidates and will begin interviewing soon.

The Consent Agenda was approved, which also consisted of the previous minutes, and the financial report for March.

Session members shared joys and concerns, and prayed together for those on the prayer list, and members of our congregation.

Sarah Camp

Clerk of Session



Grace Notes End of Year Program Wednesday, May 18 6:00 p.m.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall for the program, and afterwards on the playground for hotdogs!



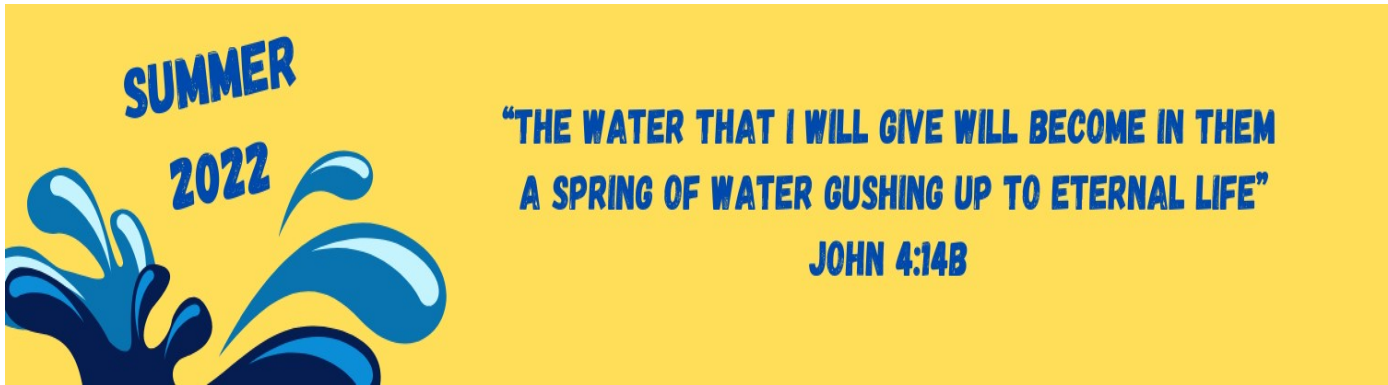
Senior Night May 11, 2022



**Please join us for dinner
at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
as we honor our
KHS graduating seniors:**



**Canon Gorman
Abby Hattaway
Thomas Hattaway
Katherine Shupe**



SAVE THE DATE!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 25 - 29

First Presbyterian Church

K - 5th grade

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon



**Hosted by our friends from
Camp Gilmont.
Registration forms will
be available soon.**





YOUTH MINISTRY

Schedule of Events

May 1: Picture Scavenger Hunt

May 8: Happy Mother's Day! No Youth

May 11: Senior Night Dinner

May 15: Senior Parade Downtown 2:00

May 22: Activity TBD

May 29: Activity TBD

**Mark your calendar!
Excited to celebrate
our seniors!**



Senior Night May 11

Tenebrae 2022



“Let God grant what
is in your heart and
fulfill all your plans.”

PSALM 20:4



Call for Helpers!

Dinner– May 1

Dinner– May 22

Dinner– May 29

If you are willing to help with youth activities, contact Cheyenne Kirkpatrick.

903-399-5810

ckirkpatrick@kisd.org



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Web page: firstpreskilgore.org

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May



MAY Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Donna Shupe | 14 Sydney Bates |
| 2 Richard Leppert
Phillip Mitchell | 18 Jim Griffin |
| 4 Holly Sartor Long | 19 Will Terrell |
| 6 Caden Covnet
J Mitchell | 21 Ross Field |
| 8 Jeran Griffin | 22 Francye Phillips |
| 9 Shea Morton | 23 Hunter Dickerson |
| 11 Sarah Morton | 26 Jenae Baggett
Taylor Schleier
Robert Shupe |
| 12 David Stanley | 29 Jeff Thrower |
| 13 Camelia Griffin
Jeana Walters | 30 Shawn Waldo |