



# The Newsletter

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Kilgore, Texas

September 2021  
Volume 38 No. 9

## FROM THE PASTOR

Hello Church Family,

A couple of months ago Gala and I audited a course at Brite Divinity School entitled “Congregational Song.” Essentially, we traced the history of congregational singing from Old Testament times to the present day. I enjoyed learning about the variety of music making the church has engaged in across the millennia, and how such music has always played an indispensable role in the worship of the people of God. In my opinion, a service without music is no service of worship at all.

This course was also informative regarding hymnody in the church, and how the hymnal has evolved across the centuries. We studied earlier hymns, such as “Of The Father’s Love Begotten,” written in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. We surveyed great hymn writers such as Martin Luther, the Wesley brothers, and Isaac Watts. Honestly, Watts was my favorite hymn writer of them all. Isaac Watts (1674-1748) was a minister, theologian, and even a professor of logic. Yet, he is remembered in history for his hymns. Of the 750 he wrote, many of them are familiar to us: Joy to the World, I sing the mighty power of God, Jesus Shall Reign, I’ll Praise My Maker While I’ve Breath.

Just recently a dear friend gifted me the hymnal from the Church of Scotland, and as I flipped through it, I came upon a hymn by Watts that I had not seen before. It’s called "Join All the Glorious Names," and one of the stanzas of the hymn reads like this:

"Now let my soul arise,  
and tread the tempter down:  
my Captain leads me forth  
to conquest and a crown:  
a feeble saint shall win the day,  
though death and hell obstruct the way."

I believe this text gives a beautiful poetic expression to God's overwhelming grace and strength for hard times. “A *feeble* saint shall win the day, though death and hell obstruct the way.” Sometimes, the best sermons are sung. There are, and there will be, hard moments, feeble moments, weak moments in which we wonder if we are going to make it. But thanks be to God, in Jesus Christ we have a Captain in whom and through whom we will win! Be encouraged.

Will



## P W News

Time to start a new year!  
Circles will begin in September.  
The morning circle will meet  
Monday September 13 at  
10:00 am; noon circle will meet  
September 14 at noon; night  
circle will meet September 8 at 6:00 pm. All  
circles will meet in Fellowship Hall. **Pick a  
time that suits you and plan to join a group  
of Presbyterian women to study, worship,  
and fellowship.**



PWCT met on August 2 to plan our Fall Gathering to be held on Sunday August 8 after morning worship. At the Gathering in Fellowship Hall, we enjoyed a box lunch from Jason's Deli, new officers were installed, a life membership was presented to Sarah Garasic honoring her many years of dedication to our church, and an overview of our upcoming Bible study was given. We are excited about this new year.

This year's PW officers are:

Moderator—Sarah Camp  
Vice Moderator—Elaine Hall  
Secretary—Jo Little  
Treasurer—Jackie Fout  
Historian—Lsha Stanley  
Personal Faith and Family—Janie Dickerson  
Ecumenical Missions & Relations—Jan Wylie  
Christian Community Action—Ruth Anne Camp  
Leadership and Resources—Nancy Smith  
Special Flowers—Pat Watson  
Morning circle moderator—Phyllis Jewell  
Noon circle moderator—Libby Laird  
Night circle moderators—Janie Terrell and  
Coleen Clower





## ***Tithes and Offerings for Month of July***

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 28,669
Actual Monthly Tithes/Offerings	\$ 22,405
Actual Monthly Expense	\$ 52,509
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$ (30,104)

### **For the Year 2021**

Anticipated Tithes/Offerings	\$ 343,669
Actual YTD Tithes/Offerings	\$ 190,619
Actual YTD Expense	\$ 294,051
Overage/ (Deficit)	\$(103,432)

Thank you for your tithes and offerings!  
Without your faithful giving, ministry and missions would not be possible.



## ***Thoughts and prayers***

### ***For our Members***

- \* Margaret Brown
- \* Thomas Hattaway
- \* Bobby Phillip Mitchell
- \* Burke Green
- \* Kenny Kirkpatrick

### ***Family and friends of FPC***

- \* Raymond Bazinet
- \* Sylvia Bolding
- \* Patrick Braly
- \* Van Craddock
- \* Lynda Crittenden
- \* Ashley Haden
- \* Kenzie Hyatt
- \* Tillman Latham
- \* Rex McCubbin
- \* Dayne Neal
- \* Bill Pybas
- \* Glenda Reid
- \* Butch Squier
- \* Betty Thrower
- \* Carley Wimberley
- \* Bradley Bengtson
- \* Chantal Braly
- \* Joe Brown
- \* Elizabeth Collins
- \* Linda Curkan
- \* Jason Honzell
- \* Shirley G Latham
- \* Donna Marshall
- \* David McElroy
- \* Larry Perkins
- \* Charlotte Reed
- \* Denise Reinert
- \* John Squier
- \* Larry & Linda Willis

### ***In Service to our Country***

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



## ***Communion Sunday September 5***

### **Saturday Bread Schedule:**

- September 4: John & Debby Leppert
- September 11: Maryanne Harris
- September 18: St. Paul's Episcopal
- September 25: Jim Griffin

*Check the calendar on our website:*

**Firstpreskilgore.org**



The Chancel Choir has resumed rehearsals after summer break with some great anthems in store! Do you like to sing? Whether or not you have ever sung in a choir, we need you! Whatever part you sing, we would love to have you join us Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. We invite all those interested to join us! You might be surprised to see the fun we have as we learn music to praise God! Questions? Email Gala at [galas@me.com](mailto:galas@me.com)



## Session Highlights

At the call of the Session, a Congregational meeting of First Presbyterian Church, Kilgore, Texas, was held on August 8, 2021 following morning worship

The purpose of the meeting was to hear and act upon a report from the Officer Nominating Committee. The new officers for the Class of 2024 were elected: Carl Clower, Debby Leppert, Terry Thrower, and Jan Wylie.

The Session held it's August Stated Meeting during the Session Retreat at The Cherokee Club on August 28.

A thank you note was received from Helping Hands, as well as sympathy notes from 1st Baptist, 1st Christian, Rahab's Retreat, and 1st Pres. Tyler.

It was approved for Will to use Tuesdays as a study day for his doctorate.

Mid week manna was discussed and will begin on September 22–November 3 with Communion each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel, followed by a meal in Fellowship Hall.

Discussion was held concerning the vacant DCE position. The Administration committee will develop an assessment of our needs and hopes regarding this position for the future.

## CE-Missions Committee

Jo Little will serve as the Interim Director of Children's Ministry.

Grace Notes Choir will begin Wednesday, September 8. Please contact Jo or the church office if you need a packet for your child to sign up.

## Worship Committee

New Usher Captains are Amy Bates, Leah Gorman, & Cheyenne Kirkpatrick.

## Property Committee

The walls in the two chambers above Gala's office have been repaired and painted. Emery Brothers has begun replacing pipes in the chamber behind the chapel. They will possibly be able to replace pipes above Gala's office late September.

The A/C in the sanctuary has been repaired.

A new A/C unit was installed for the kitchen by Fellowship Hall.

A new garbage disposal was installed by Kirby.

The parlor walls have been repaired and painted. The new floor should be installed August 30.

Jim Griffin  
propertyfirstpreskilgore@gmail.com

Thanks to Bill & Roberta Ingersoll for filling in for Pastor Will during his vacation.  
It was a fun visit at the Clower barn!



# Monthly Missions

This month we will be supporting  
**Saturday Bread.**

Please consider a financial donation to this wonderful Ministry.

Saturday Bread provides a free lunch every Saturday of the year to shut-ins, lower income wage earners, seniors and anyone who may be in need.

Each week, a Ministry Team prepares food at the church, and delivers meals to 140 –150 people in our community.

Your donation will help the continued stocking of the pantry with can goods and supplies.

If you would like to get involved helping prepare food or delivering meals, please contact the church office, [firstpreskilgore@gmail.com](mailto:firstpreskilgore@gmail.com).



**We will not be having “Rally Day” this year. Most Sunday School classes will remain the same. Below is the list of classes available for the coming year and their location, beginning at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.**

## Adults

- \* Men’s Discussion Class led by Jerry Camp - Church Library
- \* Adult Class (Parlor Class) led by Maryanne Harris - Temporarily in Fellowship Hall
- \* “It Is What It Is” Class (Parents with kids in school) - Upstairs Kitchen

## Youth

- \* Youth 6th - 12th grade - Will meet each Sunday Evening beginning at 5:00 p.m.

## Children

- \* “Travel Through the Bible” for K - 5th grade led by Laure Clark and Sarah Garasic - Room 206

**The Church Office  
will be closed September 6.**



# YOUTH MINISTRY

## Schedule of Events

September 5: Progressive Dinner

September 12: First Responder Service Project

September 19: Bible Study/Game Night

September 26: Prayer Beads

October 3: Danville Picnic

## Looking ahead!

Tie Dye Shirts – October 10

Six Flags - October 17

## Pool Party with Longview Youth (August 29)



Thank you to FPC Longview for inviting us to join them for an evening of fun and fellowship.



all things  
•WORK•  
TOGETHER  
FOR GOOD  
TO THOSE WHO  
love God  
•ROMANS•  
8:28

## Call for Helpers!

Co-Sponsor / Dinner Sept 12

Co-Sponsor / Dinner Sept 19

Co-Sponsor / Dinner Sept 26

Co-Sponsor / Dinner Oct 10

If you are willing to help with youth activities,  
contact Cheyenne Kirkpatrick.  
903-399-5810

[ckirkpatrick@kisd.org](mailto:ckirkpatrick@kisd.org)

or sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/FPCkildgoreYouthHelp>





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September



## September

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 Lily McBryde                                       | 12 Patrick McBryde             |
| 2 Kellen Murphy                                      | 17 Cameron Jackson             |
| 7 Betty Jo Mobley                                    | 22 Bob Florence                |
| 8 Terry Thrower                                      | 24 Colin Covnet                |
| 9 Jack Florence<br>Laura McKethan<br>Bobby Sheffield | 25 Brennen Soria               |
| 10 Bill Smylie                                       | 29 Mary Aikman<br>Rob Schleier |