

First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater, Texas

January 2022

*The mission of our church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ
Our vision is to be an oasis of God's love.*

1311 McCaulley Office hours: M ~ F, 9:00 am ~12:00pm

P. O. Box 956, Sweetwater, Texas 79556 325-235-5491

Pastor: Kathy Monroe 325-998-3353

Clerk of Session: Gayle Biggerstaff

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Elder of the Month: Peggy Elliott

I have so many things on my heart this morning but I will try to make something out of the chaos that is inside.

We are a called people. We are a people set apart. To be set apart means God chose us specifically for His Glory. The church has been set apart to be holy as God is holy and to tell the world that God through Jesus Christ called them out of darkness into His marvelous light.

As, I am writing I am reminded of E.E. Cummings line from his poem, "I thank you God," that goes like this: (now the ears of my ears awake; now the eyes of my eyes are opened).

I hope that as our new year begins, we can look and listen with our eyes and ears opened and awake. Maybe, we can find a new reality of God just as we have 365 new days, bringing 365 opportunities to serve Him.

I pray that our senses are sharpened to see and hear God in new and powerful ways. And I pray that our church will be blessed through our ministries to others in Christ's name.

Happy New Year,
Kathy



Bulletin Board by Jessica Cockrill

Dates to Remember

- 2 Hoyt Place Worship 9:00am
Worship~ 10:45am~Reverse Offering
Communion~ Class of 2022
Decorations will be taken down after worship.
- 3 Church Office Closed~ New Year's
- 5 Presbyterian Women~ 5:00pm
- 9 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am
Worship ~ 10:45am
Children and Youth Meet~ 5:00pm-7:00pm
- 16 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am
Worship~ 10:45am
- 19 Session Meeting~ 5:30pm
- 23 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am
Worship~ 10:45am
- 30 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am
Worship~ 10:45am~Youth Service
Noisy Offering
Children and Youth will meet after worship for youth and pizza.

Birthdays of the Month

- 2 Emerson Jane Gesin
- 6 Rick LeBleu
- 7 Karen Brown
- 10 Laverne Foy
- 12 Betty Richards
- 16 Brandon Bennett
- 17 Seth Maitland
Mason Maxwell
- 18 Bryson Maitland
- 20 Willadean Brock
Michelle Maitland
- 21 Mike Briggs
- 23 Alex Wiele
- 26 Aly Moore
- 31 James Staton



*Thank you to all who gave
to the Angel Tree Mission!*



Palo Duro Presbytery and the Common Life Ministry strive each year to disburse Ministry Grants to our area churches. This year, we are happy to announce these churches which received these grants across the Presbytery. "Thank you, God, for these humble sums to lift up Christ's church."

Area 1

St. Luke \$4,000 for their project Laundry Love
1st Pres in Clarendon \$5,500 for Pastoral support

Area 2

Covenant \$1,000 for Video ministry support
1st Pres in Plainview \$500 for nonperishable foods for the Crisis Center

Area 3

Trinity in Wichita Falls...\$1500 for support of two ministries

Area 4

First Central 5,000 for support Food Pantry

First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater
\$2500 for support of the Blessing Box

Thank You

Hello,

*We want to just say Thank you for bringing the
Sunday Devotional at Hoyt Place.*

Thanks,

Harriet Hill

Hoyt Place Life Enrichment Coordinator



Presbyterian Women will meet Wednesday, January 5th at 5:00pm in the fellowship hall.

We will study Chapter 3 of our study, What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus.

You are asked to bring women's magazines for part of the discussion.

The Study Books are in Becky's Office if you want to pick one up. The books are \$10.00.

PW will pay \$5.00 on each, so you only need to pay \$5.00.



Everyone sure was proud of those in the Christmas program and the handbell group; there were so many in attendance that day! Macy singing at the Christmas Eve service was an extra special treat too. Thank you to everyone. What a merry Christmas we had at First Presbyterian Church! Happy New Year to all! We are back to our regular Sunday youth groups. This month here is what is planned.

January 9: 5:00 - 7:00 3 years - 5th grade (first hour) middle school and high school (last hour); everyone has enjoyed staying for both hours and that is great! They can enjoy the teen room and play room when I am working with the other group!

January 30: Our kids will participate in the service today. We will have pizza/youth group for all after our service today.

Friends are always welcome!

Session Minutes

Clerk's Report: The Clerk read correspondence from Palo Duro Presbytery. The Common Life Ministry Team sent a missional grant check for \$2,500 to the church for use in the Blessing Box ministry. The Ministry Team stated that "together we are grateful for your church's mission to lift high the cross of Jesus." The grant application was prepared by Hilary Brennan.

Stewardship and Finance: Financial Report was unanimously approved. Session members approve changing the Proposed 2022 Budget to include a 5% cost of living adjustment for all staff members.

Building and Grounds: The Building and Ground Committee reported that no bids had been received for proposed work in the garden area.

Mission and Outreach: Paula Huckabee of the Mission/Outreach Committee will present a "Minute for Mission" on the Christmas Joy Offering at the Worship Service on December 19th. Session members discussed purchasing a sign to promote the Candlelight Communion Service on December 24th. Jeannette Bryant will work on this project.

Personnel: Session approved the 2022 Holiday Schedule.

Worship Committee: Jim Gesin of the Worship Committee reported all classes of elders will coordinate to serve Communion at the Dec. 24th service. He also reported that his committee was working on having a hand chime choir on a regular basis. He will order music books for their use.

Moderator's Report: The Moderator reported that Beau Stearns had donated a tripod to be used in videoing Worship Services. The Moderator also reported that several people had expressed an interest in joining the church. She will continue discussions with them.

New Business: Session members voted to hold a Congregational Meeting following Worship Services on Dec. 26th. Purpose of the meeting will be to elect the Elder Class of 2024.

3rd Sunday of Advent~ Joy

First Presbyterian Church 2022 Budget	
Income	Budget
Texas Presbyterian Foundation	3,000.00
Plate Income	3,000.00
Pledge Income	137,553.05
Total Income Needed	\$ 143,553.05
Expenses	Budget
Benevolence/Mission	
Buffalo Gap Camp	1,200.00
Celebration Scholarship	400.00
Palo Duro Presbytery	
Per Capita \$	1,602.05
Pledge \$	2,000.00
Presbyterian Childrens Home	1,200.00
Presbyterian Women	1,500.00
Total Benevolence/Mission	\$ 7,902.05
Church Programs	
Advertising	350.00
Choir Music	250.00
Christian Ed	1,200.00
Fellowship	750.00
Mission & Outreach	600.00
Scholarships (Camp & Conference)	0.00
Session Expense	50.00
Session Presbytery Expense	200.00
Worship	500.00
Youth	200.00
Youth Camp Sponsors	0.00
Total Church Program	\$ 4,100.00
Church Property	
Building Maintenance	2,000.00
Capital Improvement	0.00
Church Insurance	6,500.00
Worker's Compensation Insurance	500.00
Dues/Subscriptions	50.00
Janitorial Supplies	250.00
Janitorial Service	6,500.00
Office Equipment	0.00
Office Supplies	400.00
Copier Lease & Maintenance	2,100.00
Postage	550.00
Church Management Program	600.00
Utilities - Gas & Electric	10,000.00
Utilities - Telephone/Internet	2,000.00
Utilities - Water (City of Swater)	1,500.00
Utilities - Garbage (Republic Serv)	600.00
Total Church Property	\$ 33,550.00
Personnel	
Youth Director	4,725.00
Choir Director	0.00
Nursery Attendant	0.00
Organist Salary	4,725.00
Pastor Salary	38,492.00
Pastor Housing Allowance	15,397.00
Pastor Allowances	300.00
Pastor Car Allowance	5,800.00
Pastor Continuing Education	1,000.00
Pastor Medicare Supplement, Dental/VI	4,000.00
Pulpit Supply	600.00
Secretary Salary	11,340.00
Medicare 1.45%	928.00
Social Security 6.2%	3,969.00
Substitute Employee	2,000.00
Treasurer	4,725.00
Total Personnel	\$ 98,001.00
Total Expenses	\$ 143,553.05



Mitch, Ryan and Aly Moore

2021 Christmas Program

Lou Ann Cumbie, Pastor Kathy Monroe, Emily Hammit, Owen Hammit, Brynlee Scott, Caden Wilburn, Averi Moody, Callen Moody, Peyton Gee, Katie Reed, Makenzie Lambert, Kyler Toland, Averi Gee, Candice Wilburn, Macy Newberry, Justin Wilburn, Kash Coe, Carla Lambert, Scott Lambert



Kirk Stroman~ Pianist

Pictures are available on website:

www.fpcsweetwater.org

Christmas Program 2021



Bell Choir~ Christmas 2021



Front Row: Jim Gesin, Donella Parker, Tracy Wilburn, Jayde Alldredge, Sherie Alldredge, Ryan Moore, Aly Moore
Back Row: Kathy Smartt, Robert Whitteker, Stacy Whitteker Fritz, Mitch Moore, Scarlett Whitteker