

First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater, Texas

November 2021

*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

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Pastor: Kathy Monroe 325-998-3353

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Clerk of Session: Gayle Biggerstaff

Elder of the Month: Gary Brown

As we enter into this month of November, I count my blessings.... they are too numerous to really count, though. I count all of you, every single one of you, as a great blessing in my life. God is so good!

We enter into this special holiday season with so many reminders of how good God has been in our lives. I hope I never lose track of that and I hope I always remember to give thanks.

Psalm 103:1-4

*Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being,
praise His holy name. Praise the LORD, my soul,
and forget not all His benefits — who forgives all
your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems
your life from the pit and crowns you with love
and compassion.*

I hope we can be thankful for all that we have been given, all of these things named, and so many more.

Thankful for all of you,
Kathy

~~~~~

*First Presbyterian Church,*

*Thank you for your generous donation to  
Nurture Nolan. The stuffed animals bring so  
much comfort to the children we serve and the  
diapers have already been distributed. We look  
forward to using the funds you donated to buy  
pillows and blankets for our bags.*

*Thank you again,  
Samantha Morrow*

## Dates to Remember

3 Presbyterian Women~ 5:00pm

7 *Daylight Saving Time Ends*

Sweetwater Women Prayer & Praise~ 8:00am

Hoyt Place Worship

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am Reverse Offering

Communion~ Class of 2023

Christmas Program Practice~ 5:30pm-6:30pm

14 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship ~ 10:45am

Christmas Program Practice~ 5:30pm-6:30pm

17 Session Meeting ~ 5:30pm

21 *Christ the King Sunday*

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am

Decorate Sanctuary after worship

Christmas Program Practice~ 5:30pm-6:30pm

25-26 Thanksgiving Holidays

28 *First Sunday of Advent*

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am

Noisy Offering

~~~~~  
We are so pleased to announce that on December 5th, Chase Crouch, son of Renee and Joseph Crouch, will be playing his cello in worship. He and his quartet will also be featured at the Sweetwater Municipal Auditorium on Saturday evening, December 4th. We hope everyone will join us for a wonderful time of music and worship on that second Sunday of Advent.



- 2 Mitch Moore
- 4 Allen King
- 5 Lou Ann Cumbie
- 6 Chelsey Maxwell
- 7 Pam Graff
- 10 Don Campbell
- 12 Brynlee Scott
- 14 Averi Moody
- 15 Treva LeBleu
Boo Nemir
- 16 Heather Gesin
- 17 Lea Cleveland
- 20 Richard Gesin
- 21 Patty Gesin
Ashton Richards Moody

New Ministry Outreach Opportunity

We are so excited to be embracing new technology, these days. With help from Mitch Moore, we are moving in the direction of videoing our services for online viewing. This will be beneficial to our shut-ins and those who might not be able to attend on a given Sunday.

We are looking for a few good people to help with doing the worship video on a rotating basis. It would include, setting up the equipment (tripod, iPad, etc.) turning it on and off and returning it to the office for upload. There would be a short training involved but it is very easy to learn. If I can, anyone can!

If you are interested in some IT work for the church (sounds good on a resume) 😊 please call the office to let us know and we will get you ready to help. This is an exciting time, as I am told, it is the way people shop for a new church home. We sure would like to draw some folks in for worship!

Please, help if you can. Blessings, Kathy



Presbyterian Women will meet Wednesday November 3 at 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall of the Church. We will have a Business meeting, Jason's Deli Dinner, then lessons 1 & 2 in our new Study Guide.

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.

We need each of you! We are out of sync for our meetings. However, Presbyterian Women is a vital part of our church lives.

We need to choose a new Treasurer, and Leader. This is with the understanding that we all will pitch in. New blood is essential to keep us active.

Prayers, Thanks and Praises,
Boo



The Presbyterian Women Brick project is an Ongoing fund-raising project, and we will continue to take orders.

You can remember a loved one or give one in honor of someone by purchasing an engraved memorial brick to be placed in the Memorial Garden.

Two Sizes of brick are available:

4"X 8"

with 3 lines available for engraving

\$55.00

8" X 8"

with 6 lines available for engraving

\$110.00

The order forms are in the church office. Call or come by for more information.

Opportunities to Give



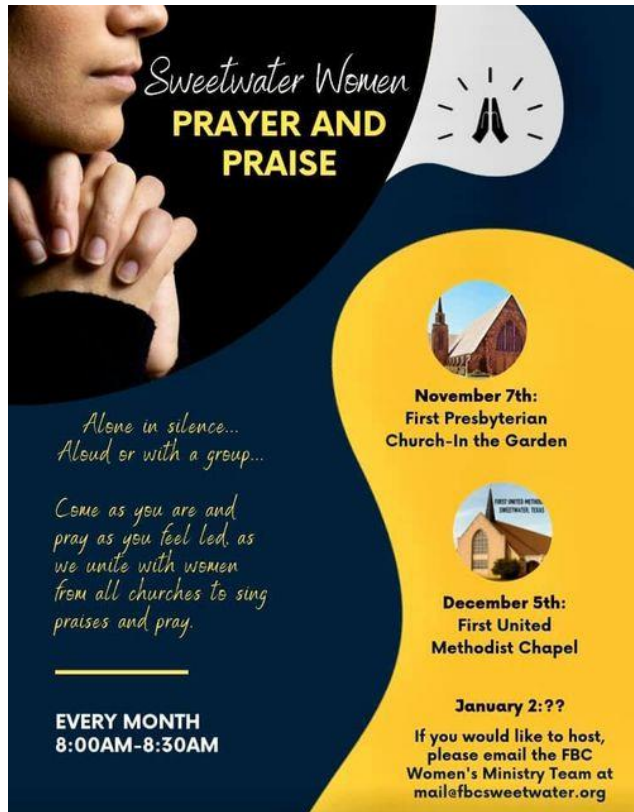
Reverse Offering

Collections for the Nolan County Food Pantry are collected through Reverse Offering. Items are provided from the collection plate on the first Sunday of each month.



"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

Matthew 25:35

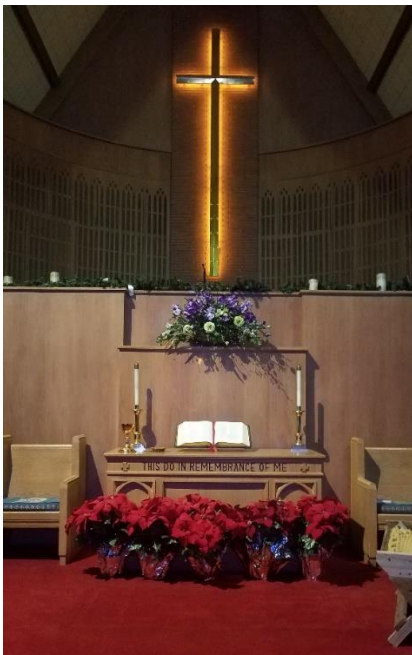


Sweetwater Women Prayer and Praise

8:00am- 8:30am Sunday November 7th

In FPC Garden

Join Women from all churches as we come together to sing praises and pray. Come as you are and pray as you feel led silently, singly, aloud, in a group.



All are invited to stay after worship on Sunday November 21st to help decorate the church for the Advent Season



Noisy Offering is collected the last Sunday of the month separate from the regular offering. Currently the Noisy Offering money is helping support the Nolan County Ministerial Alliance.

Nurture Nolan



Our Mission Committee is requesting diapers, baby wipes, stuffed animals, and gently used or new coats for donation to Nurture Nolan.

Nurture Nolan is in immediate need of diapers and baby wipes. Additionally, they are requesting gently used or new coats and stuffed animals. You may leave donated items in boxes located in the Narthex or Becky's Office.

rightnow MEDIA

Right Now Media is launching a new updated version in November, Right Now Media 3.0; however, it will not change your use of the program.

Below is some information I received from the team at RNM of how this will affect users.

The users won't need to do anything to switch their accounts over. The email and password they use now to log in to their account will stay the same. After they are switched over, they will need to update their app (if they're using an iPhone, Android, or iPad, for example) and if they have any bookmarks on their browser saved, they'll need to re-save that bookmark.

Anyone can sign up and you are welcome to share this with family members and friends. The sign-up link is on the website
www.fpcsweetwater.org



From LouAnn

Christmas program practice is here!!! It's an exciting time at First Presbyterian Church! Mark your calendars for December 12 when the program will be presented during worship. Joseph and Mary will be Candice and Justin Wilburn. Carla, Scott, and Mackenzie Lambert will be the inn keeper, his wife, and daughter. All of our children have parts as well. You won't want to miss it!

There are only 4 practices and they will all be 5:30- 6:30. Adults will probably only come the last 30 mins on the first 2 practices, but we will let you know as the program progresses. Practices are: November 7, 14, 21 (may have to add the 28 if needed), and December 5.



We are also going to have a handbell choir to offer special music on December 12th, in addition to our Christmas program. This is provided YOU are willing to volunteer to help out. There is no special musical skill involved. Anyone can learn. Sherie Alldredge has kindly offered to lead in this endeavor. She will teach you everything you need to know. Just contact her by text or call 325-721-3339. She will get back to you.

Let's make Christmas 2021 a year to remember!

Session Minutes

Stewardship and Finance: Financial Report was unanimously approved.

Building and Grounds: The motion was approved for Antonio Padilla Landscaping to provide annual maintenance for the grounds. There was discussion a need for a ramp into the garden and the committee will get a bid for the cost.

Christian Education: Lou Ann Cumbie of the Christian Education Committee reported that the Youth Christmas Program will be presented Sunday, December 12th. Practices will begin in November and adults are welcome to participate

Fellowship: Hilary Brennan of the Fellowship Committee reported that a luncheon was served in the Fellowship Hall on September 14, 2021, to members of the Jo Thompson family.

Mission and Outreach: Paula Huckabee of the Mission/Outreach Committee asked for the Session's permission to allow Samantha Morrow and the Women's Prayer and Praise Group to hold a prayer service in the church garden on November 7th from 8:00am until 8:30am. The Session approved the request.

Worship Committee: Session Members discussed how Communion is being served and possible changes that might be considered. This will be an ongoing project.

Moderator's Report: The Moderator stated that several church members had expressed an interest in viewing online worship services from our church. She will visit with Rev. Kristen Bridwell in Abilene to learn more about online worship and discuss this at the next Session meeting.

The Sanctuary will be decorated for Advent following Worship Services on November 21st.

Session members agreed to calling a Congregational Meeting following Worship Services on October 31st for the purpose of electing an Elder Nominating Committee. Session members Sherie Alldredge and Lou Ann Cumbie were selected to serve on the committee.

Stewardship Leviticus 27:30

A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.

| First Presbyterian Church | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------|
| 2021 Financial Report | | | |
| 2021 Budget \$144,494.42 | | Plate & Pledge Needed Monthly \$11,766.00 | |
| Month | Plate & Pledge + | Dividends and Other Contributions + | Expenses - |
| January | \$11,270.00 | \$4,239.66 | \$12,774.42 |
| February | \$6,883.00 | \$136.35 | \$11,048.92 |
| March | \$5,698.00 | \$1,333.57 | \$12,223.45 |
| April | \$8,093.00 | \$4,060.96 | \$11,143.30 |
| May | \$13,935.00 | \$1,221.00 | \$10,042.64 |
| June | \$8,178.50 | \$274.01 | \$17,353.07 |
| July | \$10,746.00 | \$2,212.92 | \$10,762.42 |
| August | \$8,742.00 | \$585.16 | \$12,120.19 |
| September | \$7,471.00 | \$3,148.74 | \$11,042.00 |

| 2021 Noisy Offering | |
|--|------------|
| Designated to the Ministerial Alliance | |
| Received Year to Date | \$2,016.61 |

| 2021 Food Pantry | |
|--|------------|
| Designated to the Nolan County Food Pantry | |
| Received Year to Date | \$1,755.00 |

Youth Service



Lou Ann Cumbie, Emily Hammit, Kallen Moody, Peyton Gee, Brynlee Scott, Harper Gee, Owen Hammit, Averi Moody

