

# First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater, Texas

February 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: Lou Ann Cumbie

In the Bible, the angels who intervened in the lives of humans were often strangers who appeared on the scene just once, gave assistance, and then disappeared as mysteriously as they arrived. From all the published firsthand accounts, the standard angelic operating procedure hasn't changed much in thousands of years.... until now.

After contracting covid19, shortly after Christmas, I was overwhelmed with a flood of angelic encounters! It started with a monetary Christmas gift that came with my check from the church. It was a Godsend. Thank you all so much for your kindness and generosity!

When we were quarantined, after I tested positive, I was so blessed by angels at First Presbyterian Church who called to check on me, texted their prayers and concerns, sent cards and well wishes, and even dropped off food at the door to nourish and sustain us. I do not even have words to express all the love and care that was poured out on us!

On Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Presbytery meeting by zoom, in which we will be asked to talk about a challenge or a blessing the pandemic has brought to our congregation. I will speak about the blessings.

You are truly "Saints" of the Lord and I pray our glorious God will pour you out a blessing you will not be able to contain as we move into 2021 and beyond.

May this year bring you God's richest blessings! Love to you all!

Kathy

## Dates to Remember

7 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am Youth Service

Reverse Offering ~ Communion

Children and Youth Fellowship & Pizza after worship until 1:30pm

14 *Transfiguration of the Lord*

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship ~ 10:45am

15 Holiday~ Church Office Closed

17 Ash Wednesday Service~5:30pm~ Chapel

21 *First Sunday in Lent*

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am

Children and Youth~ 4:30pm-6:30pm

24 Session ~ 5:30pm

28 *Second Sunday in Lent*

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am

Noisy Offering



- 1 Lily Catherine Smola
- 4 Tabby Baugh
- 5 Payton Moore Harris
- 7 Lacey LeBleu
- 8 Tres Campbell
- 12 Gayle Biggerstaff
- 14 Bette Byrd
- 15 Buddy Alldredge
- Leigha Armstrong
- 18 Gordon Nemir
- 19 Greg Wortham
- 20 David Bennett
- Tracy Wilburn
- Hannah Bennett
- 23 Evalyn Bates
- 27 Sherie Alldredge



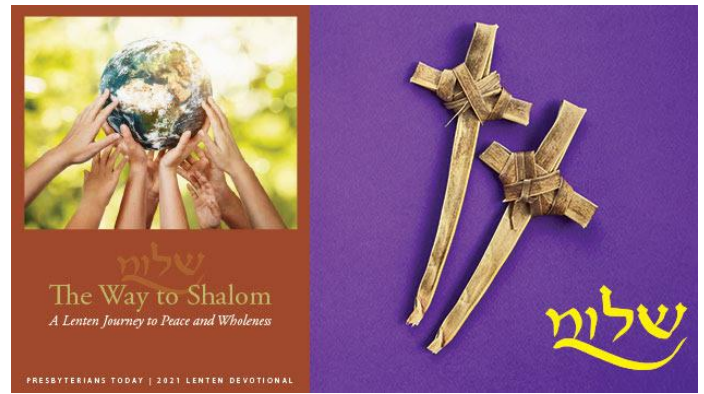
Dearest Church Members,

Thank you so much for your very generous donations to the Sweetwater-Nolan County Welfare Association throughout the year.

With the generous support of great people like you, we will be able to continue helping many individuals meet their essential needs.

Thank you again and  
May God Bless each of you,

Sheila Burnett  
Jimmie Bender



The new online and printable Lenten devotional for 2021 from *Presbyterians Today* is now available.

Click on this link  
[Lenten Devotional 2021](#) to download the devotional or read it online each week.

If you would like a printed copy, call the church office 235-5491 or email [fpcsweetwater@gmail.com](mailto:fpcsweetwater@gmail.com)



The Lifehouse needs volunteers to help with several of their programs. They need volunteers in the mornings helping people fill out forms and possibly cleaning room after someone has spent the night. They always need mentors for the evening classes for "Jobs For Life", "Faith and Finances" and "Nurturing Parent Parenting Programs".

If anyone is interested or for more information, please call (325) 933-4015



### February 7: Youth Sunday

Our children and youth will take part in the church service today. I hope you all will join us! Youth Fellowship and pizza for all of the kids after worship until 1:30.

**February 21:** Children and youth activities today  
 4:30 - 5:45 3 years through 4th grade, with common time in the middle  
 5:30 - 6:30 Middle School and High School

## rightnow MEDIA

Some new studies available from Right Now Media.



Remember you can still 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](http://www.fpcsweetwater.org)



The Presbyterian Women Brick project is an Ongoing fund-raising project, and we will continue to take orders. There are order forms available in the church office in the purple folder on the table under the mailboxes.

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 \$50.00  
 8" X 8" with 6 lines available for engraving \$100.00

Come by the church office for more information.

### Session Minutes

Members elected Peggy Elliott as Treasurer and Gayle Biggerstaff as Clerk for 2021. Session members approved the Annual Church Reports as prepared by the church Secretary, Treasurer and Pastor.

**Stewardship and Finance:** Financial Report was unanimously approved. The Clerk read a letter received from Rev. Scott Campbell, Executive



Presbyter of Palo Duro Presbytery. Rev. Campbell expressed gratitude for his opportunities to spend time with FPC. He presented the church with a check “to honor the work and ministry already underway at your church to honor Pastor Kathy Monroe’s ministry”.

### **Building and Grounds:**

Keith Brock of the Building/Ground committee reported that he is getting information on a company about possible inside disinfecting of the church. He will update Session members on his findings. Their committee will also be meeting to discuss possible uses for available funds in the Nunn Trust.

### **Christian Education:**

Lou Ann Cumbie of the Christian Education Committee reported that the next Youth Sunday is planned for February 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Worship Committee:** Session members approved Communion dates for 2021.

### **Moderator’s Report:**

The Moderator informed Session members of the 148<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of Palo Duro Presbytery which will be a Zoom Meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm-7:30pm.

The Moderator stated that Presbyterian Outlook Magazine is interested in publishing an article about the church’s Blessing Box and asked the church to send pictures and information about it. The Moderator also informed Session members that volunteers are needed to help Lifehouse Ministry in working with their clients.

The Elder Nominating Committee reported the following church members had agreed to serve in the Class of 2023: Sherie Alldredge, Jeannette Bryant, Peggy Elliott and Boo Nemir. A Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> following Worship Service to elect the Elder Class of 2023.

**New Business:** Lou Ann Cumbie volunteered to be the Elder of the Month for February and also agreed to provide the devotion for the February Session Meeting.

The February Session Meeting is scheduled for February 24<sup>th</sup>, and the March Session Meeting is scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **Stewardship - The Blessing of Giving**

### **Matthew 6:21**

**For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

Can’t find your heart? Look for the treasure.

If your heart is set on earthly things, there your treasure is also. It may seem obvious to us, yet the one thing Christ wants, we find extremely difficult to give. Christ knows what treasure we have – money, possessions, jobs, personal achievement. These are not bad in and of themselves, but our hearts do not belong there. In order to live God’s will each day, we must remember our treasure must be in heaven for our heart to belong to Christ.

(Financial Reports will be in next newsletter.)

## **January Activities**



Kathy Monroe, Lou Ann Cumbie, Owen Hammit, Averie Moody, Peyton Gee, Harper Gee, Emily Hammit, Kallen Moody



Harper Gee and Brynlee Scott



Kash Coe, Lou Ann Cumbie



Kaegan Forbes, Peyton Gee,  
Mackenzie Lambert