

# First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater, Texas

March 2020

*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

website: [www.fpcsweetwater.org](http://www.fpcsweetwater.org)

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

email: [fpcsweetwater@gmail.com](mailto:fpcsweetwater@gmail.com)

Pastor: Rev. Marie Mickey 979-574-6348

email: [mmickey290@gmail.com](mailto:mmickey290@gmail.com)

Clerk of Session: Gayle Biggerstaff

Elder of the Month: Keith Brock



*Lent is a time to take time to let the power  
of our faith story take hold of us,  
a time to let the events get up  
and walk around in us,  
a time to intensify our living unto Christ,  
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,  
a time to place our feet in the streets of  
Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and  
listen to his Word,  
a time to touch his robe  
and feel the healing surge through us,  
a time to ponder and a time to wonder....  
Lent is a time to allow  
a fresh new taste of God!  
Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think,  
for thoughts come unbidden.  
Perhaps we're afraid to face our future  
knowing our past.  
Give us courage, O God,  
to hear your Word  
and to read our living into it.  
Give us the trust to know we're forgiven  
and give us the faith  
to take up our lives and walk.*

Ann Weems

*Friends,*

*The season of Lent is upon us with a variety of opportunities to remember and practice once again who we are as the people of God and our history with God. It is a season to begin again, to renew ourselves as a family of God. This season of grace begins on Ash Wednesday. Each Sunday of Lent we will examine Jesus' final days in Jerusalem. The first Sunday in Lent will begin with his entry into Jerusalem, with the following Sundays reflecting on his ministry of each of the days of that last week culminating on Easter Sunday. Every Sunday as well as the special services offered during Lent are intended to be a part of the total preparation time of Lent. My hope is that you will take advantage of all the opportunities.*

*Additionally you may enrich your Lenten journey by setting aside a time for prayer. A devotional booklet as well as a prayer card are available here at the church. We will also have the prayer tree available in the sanctuary where we as a church family can offer our special prayer needs. In the words of Ann Weems, may your journey through Lent bring you "a fresh new taste of God".*

*Peace,*

*Pastor Marie*



*I appreciate all the caring and love from everyone.  
Your thoughts, prayers, cards and food made each  
day brighter.*

*Pray for the physical therapy to get my legs going  
again.*

*Love,  
Linda Rasco*

~~~~~  
*To: Presbyterian Members*

*Thank you so much for the very gracious  
"pounding" which was given to me this Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>.*

*My family and I were members here when the  
church was built; it is still my "home" to worship  
and again, many "thanks" and much love to all of  
you.*

*Always,  
Doris Nelms*



**"Shout Out" to Evalyn Bates,**  
Who tirelessly takes our plastic strips and balls  
them into "plarn"! She picks up our strips on  
Sunday and returns our Plarn balls the next  
Sunday!

Evalyn saves us this precious time so we can  
use it to crochet our mats for  
the homeless. She is #1 on our team!

Yes, we are still "plarning", come join us on  
Wednesday at 1:00P.M.

Donella  
Patty  
Ann  
Boo

There will be a called congregational meeting  
March 8 after worship service to consider  
approving the call of Kathy Monroe, CLP, for  
position of pastor at FPC Sweetwater.

### **Dates to Remember**

#### **1 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Hoyt Place Worship ~ 9:00am-9:30am

Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am Reverse Offering

Communion Class of 2022

Middle School & High School~ 5:30pm

#### **4 Plarning~ 1:00pm-3:00pm**

Presbyterian Women~ 5:15pm

#### **5 Over the Hill Bunch~11:30am~ Whataburger Choir Practice~ 5:30p**

#### **6-7 2020 Women's Retreat~ San Angelo**

#### **8 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Sunday School ~ 9:45am

Worship ~ 10:45am~ Congregational Meeting

Little Ones and IBKs~ 5:00pm

#### **11 Plarning~ 1:00pm-3:00pm**

#### **12 Over the Hill Bunch~11:30am~ Great Wall**

Choir Practice~ 5:30pm

#### **14 Presbytery Meeting~1:00pm~FPC Sweetwater**

#### **15 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am

#### **18 Plarning~ 1:00pm-3:00pm**

#### **19 Over the Hill Bunch~11:30am~ Schlotzsky's**

Choir Practice~ 5:30pm

#### **22 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Sunday School~9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am

Middle School & High School~ 5:00pm

#### **25 Plarning~ 1:00pm-3:00pm**

Session Meeting~ 5:30pm

Confirmation Class meets with Session

#### **26 Over the Hill Bunch~11:30am~Golden Chick**

Choir Practice~ 5:30pm

#### **29 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Sunday School~9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am~ Noisy Offering

Little Ones & IBKS~ 5:00pm



#### **1 Doug Richards**

#### **8 Keith Brock**

#### **15 Keith Brock**

#### **22 Ruthann Campbell**

#### **29 Patty Gesin and Richard Gesin**



- 1 Robert Hampton  
Chris Maxwell
- 2 Peyton Gee
- 3 Marina Wilcox
- 5 Leslie Bond
- 6 Ann Shirley
- 9 Kim Cason
- 10 Major Briggs
- 11 Tracey Smola  
Nancy Spillers
- 12 Jeannette Bryant
- 16 Jeff Stein
- 19 Dane Bennett
- 25 Amy Westacott
- 27 Beth Maxwell
- 30 Bill Brock  
Kallen Moody



Stephanie Wiele  
801 James Sweetwater

Lacey LeBleu  
119 Frederick Rd #2  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624



### Food Pantry Needs

The food pantry is in need of the following items:

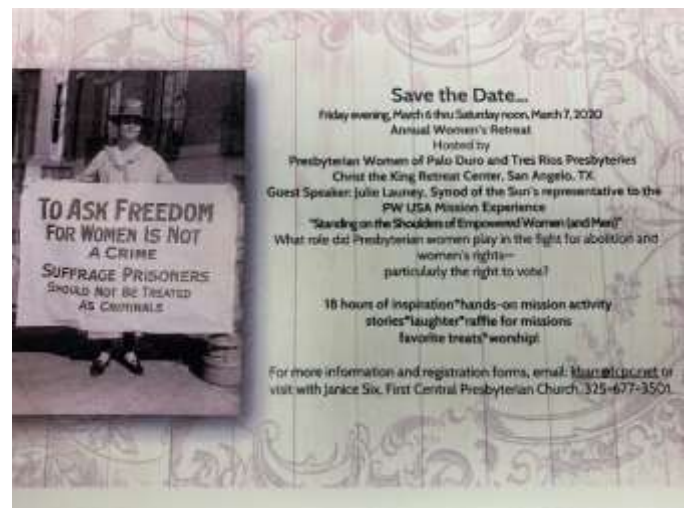
Canned Meats  
Crackers  
Peanut Butter  
Canned Fruit



**Presbyterian Women will meet Wednesday, March 4 at 5:15pm. We will continue our study, Chapter 6 of the Bible study, Love Carved in Stone~ A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments by Eugenia Anne Gamble.**

#### Hoyt Place

*We are excited to lead worship every first Sunday of the month at Hoyt Place, from 9:00-9:30 a.m. We will sing, and hear the Word of God and share communion.  
Come join us in this wonderful Ministry of fellowship.*



### **2020 Women's Retreat March 6-7, 2020**

We have received information about the annual Women's Retreat in San Angelo at the Christ the King Retreat Center. Flyers with the registration form are available on the table by the bulletin board.

They will take registrations up until the day of the retreat, but prefer if registrations are returned no later than February 28 so that we can make room assignments.



We are still taking orders for the Presbyterian Women Brick project. We are hoping to place an order by the end of the month. There are order forms available in the church office in the purple folder on the table under the mailboxes.

Presbyterian Women are raising funds for the upcoming 2020 year. This fund raising is actually two fold. It is a Fundraiser/Memorial project.

First, it enables Presbyterian Women to get involved in programs that "give back to the community" (scholarships, etc.).

Secondly, it gives the donor an opportunity to remember a loved one by purchasing an engraved memorial brick to be placed in the Memorial Garden. Bricks can be given in honor of someone.

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 and see a sample.

## BUFFALO GAP PRESBYTERIAN CAMP

"Under the Oaks at the Gap"

2020 Summer Camp Schedule

**High School Retreat May 31-June 5**  
(completed grades 9-12) \$275

**Mini Camp): June 9-12**  
(completed grades 1-3) \$165

**Elementary Camp June 14-19**  
(completed grades 3-5) \$275

**Middle School Camp June 21-26**  
(completed grades 6-8) \$275



Join us on **March 21** for an insider's look into **Mo-Ranch Summer Camp!**

From noon to 5 p.m., you and your family will be able to **meet** our summer camp team, **tour** our facilities and **participate** in quintessential Mo-Ranch Summer Camp activities.



[Play Mo gaga, shoot a bow and arrow at the archery course, canoe down the Guadalupe River, meet new friends during critter classes and take on challenges like the Big Gulp and zip line on the ropes course.](#)

There will also be **prizes**, **snacks** and much, much more.

Camp tours begin at 2 and 4 p.m. and will start from the **Mabee Lobby**. Reservations are not required.

For more info, call 1.800.460.4401 ext. 234



## Stewardship - The Manner of Giving

**Luke 10:34-35**

**He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the Innkeeper; 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for an extra expense you may have.'**

An "expert" in Jewish law came to Jesus and questioned Him about what he should do to inherit eternal life. When Jesus told him to love God above all and his neighbor as himself, the "expert" challenged Jesus on who his neighbor was. He hoped to be given a list of people he had to treat right, but Jesus doesn't let him off so easily.

In response, Jesus relates to him the story of a Samaritan who not only stops to care for the injured man, but also pays his expenses. Jesus is telling the "expert" of the law that our neighbors are everyone around us since Jews would never have considered the Samaritans their neighbors and vice versa. The Samaritan's response shows us that Jesus calls us to give ourselves away to other people. That is what it means to be a neighbor. We put other's needs ahead of our own. (Philippians 2:1-4). Jesus shows two ways to help others. First, the Samaritan gave his time to help the injured man. Secondly, he used his personal finances to help this stranger. Generosity is not easy; there is a personal cost in giving of ourselves.

How about you? Are you ready to meet the challenges that Jesus gave the expert in the law? Are you ready to be the kind of neighbor who gives of him/herself in both your time and finances?

### **2020 Noisy Offering**

#### **Designated toward the Ministerial Alliance**

Received Year to Date                \$209.65

### **2020 Food Pantry**

Designated to Nolan County Food Pantry

Received Year to Date                \$60.00

### **First Presbyterian Church** **2020 Financial Report**

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>2020 Budget</b>    | <b>\$150,492.05</b> |
| <b>Needed Monthly</b> | <b>\$ 12,250.00</b> |

| <b>Month</b>          | <b>Plate &amp; Pledge</b> | <b>Expenses</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| January               | \$13,058.00               | \$12,346.79     |
| Received Year to Date | \$13,058.00               |                 |
| Over ( <b>Under</b> ) | \$808.00                  |                 |



**Transfiguration of the Lord**



March 1: 5:30pm - 6:30pm Middle School and High School (Confirmation Class continues)

March 8: 5:00pm - 6:00pm Little Ones and IBKs

March 22: 5:00pm - 6:00pm Middle School and High School

March 25 (Wednesday): 5:30pm Confirmation Class meets with session

March 29: 5:00-6:00pm Little Ones and IBKs



*Bulletin board by Jessica Bond and Barbara Bond*

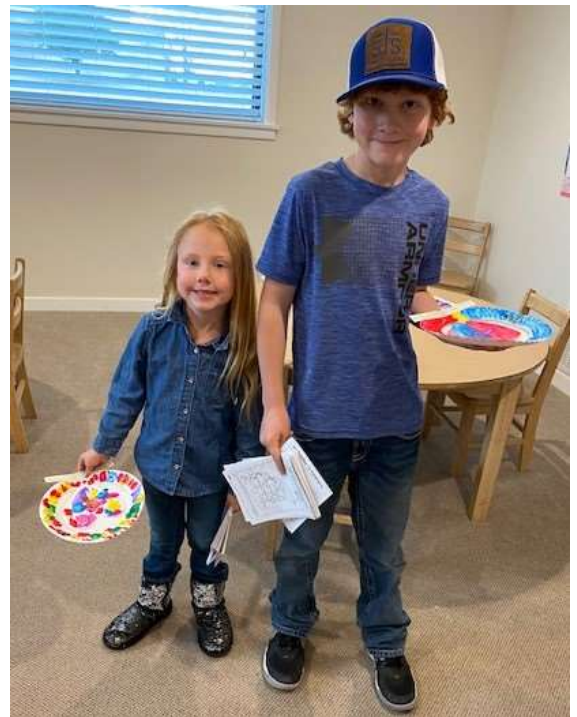
## February Activities



**Emily Hammit, Kallen Moody, Averi Moody, Peyton Gee, Harper Gee, Brynlee Scott**



There are more pictures on the bulletin board  
and the photo page of the website  
[fpcsweetwater.org](http://fpcsweetwater.org)



## Shrove Tuesday~ Pancake Supper



**Hilary Brennan, Gayle Biggerstaff, Karen Brown**





**Alan Carmichael, LaVynda Montgomery,  
Paula Carmichael**



**Richard Gesin, Jim Gesin**



**Cathy Reed, Katie Reed, Donella Parker,  
Karen Brown, Rev. Marie Mickey,  
Ann Shirley**



**Peggy Elliott, Ruthann Campbell,  
Lou Ann Cumbie**



**Rob Elliott, Patty Gesin, DeeAnne McFarland**



**Allen and Kathy King**