

# First Presbyterian Church Sweetwater, Texas

May 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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Clerk of Session: Gayle Biggerstaff

Elder of the Month: Jim Gesin

I cannot believe it is already May! As I grew up, May was one of my favorite months. The weather became more stable...hot and hotter. The days brought an end to school and freedom which was indescribably wonderful!

As I watched the kids at Youth Sunday night it brought about a deluge of memories from my childhood. Memories of my brothers and myself in a neighborhood filled with children. We had teams for football, baseball, and basketball. Everyone who wanted to be involved was involved, a place for everyone. I saw a kinder, gentler time, a time long gone by but not forgotten.

I complimented our children at Youth on their kindness toward each other and how they cared for each other. They made sure that everyone was included and involved. My memories growing up are of a world where we all showed our care for our neighbors, our friends. It is rare in the world we live in now but we can be the example. We can mimic our Savior and reach out to others with kindness and concern. It is our call. That behavior is what we were made to be....

Blessings,  
Kathy

## Dates to Remember

2 Sweetwater Women of Prayer~ 8:00am-8:30am

First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am Reverse Offering

Communion (Prepared wafers and grape juice containers will be in trays in the narthex to be picked up when you go into worship.)

5 Presbyterian Women~ 5:30pm

9 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship ~ 10:45am

14 Nolan County Renewal Project Fundraiser

Argos~ 6:00pm-8:30pm

16 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am

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

19 Session ~ 5:30pm

23 ***Day of Pentecost***

Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~10:45am~Senior Sunday~ Youth Service

*Presentation of Bibles to Graduating Seniors*

*Ethan Boswell, Aly Moore, Caleb Reed*

All are invited to a meal after worship which will be provided.

Children and Youth meet after the meal.

30 Adult Sunday School~ 9:45am

Worship~ 10:45am~ Noisy Offering

31 Memorial Day Holiday

Church Office Closed



- 3 Katie Reed
- 4 Elissa Stroman
- 5 Grant Howe
- 8 Kenny Maxwell
- 9 Chelsea Wilburn
- 11 Jean Herring
- 12 Linda Rasco
- 13 Dennis Cumbie  
Pat Foy
- 14 Stephanie Wiele  
Harper Gee
- 15 Caleb Reed
- 16 Irene Ludlum
- 17 Zach Wilcox
- 18 Alan Carmichael
- 22 Callie Boswell
- 23 Dana McElroy
- 24 Tanner Crain
- 28 Ruthann Campbell  
Rob Elliott
- 31 Owen Hammit

***Congratulations!***

*You are invited to bring cards of congratulations for our 3 High School Graduates on Senior Sunday May 23.*

*Ethan Boswell  
Aly Moore  
Caleb Reed*

## **The Nolan County Renewal Project Fundraiser**

The Nolan County Renewal Projects mission is twofold: to increase the presence of mental health resources in Nolan County and bring awareness of already existing mental health resources in Nolan County.

Spring is in the air and it is time to get together with everyone! May is World Mental Health Month and we want to talk about it!

**Please join us live music, food, and fun at Argo's on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm-8:30pm**

This will also be our spring fundraiser, so invite all who are interested in Mental Health Awareness!



Our children and youth activities will be:

May 16 from 4:30 - 6:30. The younger ones will meet 4:30 - 5:45 and the middle school and high school will meet from 5:30 - 6:30. Most are staying the 2 hours and that is great!

May 23: Senior Sunday! We will be honoring our seniors today. The children and youth will be helping with the service. We will be having our first fellowship meal since the pandemic started. As soon as the meal is over, we will have our children and youth groups. Exciting day today at FPC!

We will continue to have our Summer Fun activities again this summer. Plans are being made now!

## It's time to sign up for Summer Camp!



BUFFALO GAP PRESBYTERIAN ENCAMPMENT

[www.buffalogapcamp.org/](http://www.buffalogapcamp.org/)



<https://www.moranch.org/>

### Session Minutes

**Clerk Report:** The Clerk read a note received from Karen Sandlin, Church Secretary of FPC, Plainview. She referred to the Blessing Box article which appeared in The Presbyterian Outlook and expressed appreciation for the mission work being done by the church. The Clerk also read a letter from Rev. Scott Campbell, Executive Presbyterian, who sent a \$100.00 donation to the church in response to the Blessing Box article.

**Stewardship and Finance:** Financial Report was unanimously approved. The Treasurer noted that the plate offering amount is down substantially. Session members agreed to start passing the offering plate around during Worship Service beginning April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Building and Grounds:** Building and Grounds member Jim Gesin discussed moving benches from the garden and placing them outside the sanctuary entrance. Session members agreed to this plan. Jim also reported on estimated costs of constructing a pavilion in the garden area. He agreed to get more details on this project and present his findings at the next Session meeting.

**Christian Education:** Lou Ann Cumbie of the Christian Education Committee reported that the youth will take part in the Worship Service on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. This will be Senior Sunday and will honor high school seniors, Ethan Boswell, Aly Moore, Caleb Reed.

**Fellowship:** Session members discussed a possible cookout meal following Worship Services on Senior Sunday. Fellowship Chairman Hilary Brennan agreed to organize a hotdog cookout in the garden area.

**Mission and Outreach:** Paula Huckabee of Mission/Outreach reported that she made deliveries to the Food Pantry at the Courthouse.

**Worship Committee:** Jim Gesin of the Worship Committee will bring recommendations to the next Session meeting concerning possible ways of safely serving Communion during Worship Services

**Moderator's Report:** Session members agreed to the Moderator's request for vacation days of June 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:** Peggy Elliot reported to Session members that streaming services would cost \$210.00 a year and recommended not getting this service at this time. Session members agreed with her and noted that currently there are not enough members interested in this service.

### Stewardship

#### Qualities of a good steward:

Christian stewards are **faithful**. They recognize the brotherhood and sisterhood of all people and are **trustworthy, loyal, dependable** and **devoted**. Good stewards follow through on their commitments. Jesus was a steward of creation.

First Presbyterian Church			
2021 Financial Report			
2021 Budget \$144,494.42		Plate & Pledge Needed Monthly \$11,766.00	
Month	Plate & Pledge +	Dividends and Other Contributi ons +	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

2021 Noisy Offering	
Designated to the Ministerial Alliance	
Received Year to Date	\$1,555.29

2021 Food Pantry	
Designated to the Nolan County Food Pantry	
Received Year to Date	\$220.00



## Easter Sunday











## April Activities







The kids, Kathy, and I gathered all of the trash on the church grounds and streets around our church.



Bible study time.  
Brynlee Scott, Harper Gee,  
Peyton Gee, Mackenzie Lambert



Determined to get that piece of trash.

*Peyton Gee went to state in TMSA and placed 20th in Number Sense and 11th in math. Congratulations to her!!!*