

Grace First Presbyterian Church

*Grace First Presbyterian together ... worshipping God,
witnessing for Jesus, and working to meet human needs.*

**JUNE
2018**

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We will celebrate

**HOLY
COMMUNION**

Sunday, June 3



PASTOR EDIE'S PONDERINGS

Summertime and the living is easy – at least that's what they tell me! Lots has happened at GFPC – for the good future of the congregation. We've elected the Pastor Nominating Committee and they are hard at work.

Reports of the PNC are each communion Sunday and each Session meeting. We've elected new officers and reduced the number of persons on each Board (Session & Diaconate) to nine (9). Please watch for and respond with your involvement in at least one of the activities of the congregation.

The Session is now responsible for Administrative, Educational, and Mission activities of the Congregation.

The Diaconate is now responsible for womb – to – tomb personal ministry, including attracting potential members, getting folk to join – welcoming Sunshine and Virginia this year so far, sustaining current members in Shepherd Groups and with fellowship activities, and helping with worship services by opening up and assisting with funerals. Third Sunday lunch and other congregational care activities have moved to the Deacons.

Lacey VanPay has accepted the position of office coordinator with changed hours at the request of many. The office is now open for business Monday thru Thursday 9-2 and Fridays 9-12. The Session voted to have just one office position. *Welcome, Lacey! Also, David retains Friday as day off; Edie has moved her day off to Monday.* You will always be able to contact a pastor should a need arise.

Space usage has been reorganized and remodeling is started. The former pastor's office is now the committee resource room and Deacons preparation for worship space. The space for the office coordinator is now the entry office and workroom. That space flows to the former pastor's office which is now being remodeled to return to its original function. The financial office remains in its space next to the library. (Temporarily the interim pastor is in a corner of the library and the parlor is being used for large meetings.) The interim will move into the pastor's office when it is completed and has promised to 'live lightly' there until the congregation votes on a new head of staff pastor. The associate pastor, music department, and children's nursery all remain in their home spaces. Session accepted a large gift for the remodeling of the former pastor's office back into the pastor's office.

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Session welcomes other gifts for the remodeling of space (the staff is excited about getting fresh paint on their walls) – just mark your extra gift for ‘office remodeling’.

One other small, but significant, item is the resumption of staff meetings for communication coordination. There will be one in mid-July, and then monthly meetings will resume in September.

As my stole proclaims God’s speech in Isaiah, “See I’m doing a new thing; don’t you perceive it?” Look not at the specifics of how work is accomplished, but do look at the large picture.

God is still calling all of us and each of us to ministry. How are you answering?



MARIALICE’S MUSIC NOTES

Sunday, June 3, the Sanctuary Handbells will participate in worship before taking their break for the summer. They will present two pieces for the Opening Voluntary: “Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise” and “God of Amazing Grace”.

The first piece is an arrangement of the Welsh folk tune, *St. Denio*. “God of Amazing Grace” was commissioned in 2014 for the 140th anniversary of Grace First. It uses two beloved hymns: “God of Grace and God of Glory” and “Amazing Grace”. It was published by Choristers Guild and was one of their top sellers when it was published. The handbells will play again at the Offertory “Somebody’s Knocking at Your Door”, an arrangement of a traditional Spiritual.

We are deeply appreciative of the dedication of all of the ringers: Susie Bossert, Linda Crownover, Nancy Deison, John Fields, Leslie Goeldner, Wendy Ingram, Sue Jones, Debbie Kaiser, Dave Kaiser, Suzanne Rothrock, Kay Sheffield, Janice Smith, Linda Young, Cathy Zellers, and two dedicated substitutes, Bettie Riall and Rebecca Williams. Thank You!

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

My daily devotional reading has once again provided a word for me when it is time to write an article for the newsletter. May we all be as close to Christ as He was with God.

Now This Explains It

“That they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” John 17:21 (NRSV)

If you are going through a solitary way, read John 17, it will explain exactly why you are where you are – Jesus prayed that you may be one with the Father as He is. Are you helping God to answer that prayer, or have you some other end for your life? Since you became a disciple you cannot be as independent as you used to be.

The purpose of God is not to answer our prayers, but by our prayers we come to discern the mind of God, and this is revealed in John 17. There is one prayer God must answer, and that is the prayer of Jesus – “that they may be one, even as We are One.” Are we as close to Jesus Christ as that?

God is not concerned about our plans, He does not say – Do you want to go through this situation; this upset? He allows these things for His own purpose. The things we are going through are either making us sweeter, better, nobler men and women; or they are making us more captious and fault-finding, more insistent upon our own way. The things that happen either make us fiends, or they make us saints; it depends entirely upon the relationship we are in to God. If we say – “Thy will be done,” we get the consolation of John 17, the consolation of knowing that our Father is working according to His own wisdom. When we understand what God is after we will not get mean and cynical. Jesus prayed nothing less for us than absolute oneness with Himself as He was one with the Father. Some of us are far off it, and yet God will not leave us alone until we are one with Him, because Jesus prayed that we may be.

My Utmost for His Highest
Oswald Chambers

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

Sunday, June 3—No Youth

Sunday, June 10—Game Night

Sunday, June 17—Leave For Mission Trip

Sunday, June 24—No Youth

Youth Group is open to youth in grades 6th—12th. If your child is interested in participating in Youth Group activities, please contact David Slyter.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS MAY 2018

Transition Issues:

Ordination/Installation Service – After the Council examined the new officers' intent, there was a motion and second to ordain and/or installed them on Sunday, May 20. *The motion passed.* It was noted that Greg Rosché and Jerre Dale will be ordained as Deacons and Deb Kaiser will be ordained as an Elder.

Terminology Change – There was a motion and second to go back to referring to the church's governing board as the “Session” instead of the “Council”. *The motion passed.*

Pastor Nominating Committee – Edie reported that the PNC has begun meeting and that they elected Linda Crownover and Randy Riall as Co-Chairs, Dawn Kahlden as Secretary, and Claire Varnon as their Internet/Media person.

Interim Pastor – Edie's written report was received. In addition, Edie handed out a list of new assignments – David Rothrock moderator of Trustees, Deb Kaiser moderator of Worship & Music, Ed Moss Clerk of Session and Trustee, Ed Zellers moderator of Stewardship, Janice Smith moderator of Communications, Jeff Kahlden moderator of Christian Education, Karen Lail moderator of Property, Linda Crownover moderator of Personnel and Trustee, and Stephanie Eidson moderator of Mission & Outreach. *A motion to accept the assignments was made and seconded. The motion passed.*

Virginia Welsh requested to meet with the Council in order to join the church. *There was a motion to accept Virginia into membership, seconded, and passed.*

NEW CHURCH OFFICERS

Many thanks go to this year's Church Officer Nominating Committee for their work in securing the new officers. The Committee met faithfully to present their recommendation to the congregation.

The following persons have graciously agreed to serve and were elected during a Called Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 24, and Ordained/Installed on May 20.

Elders, Class of 2021 – Stephanie Eidson, Deb Kaiser and Ed Moss

Deacons, Class of 2021 – Kelly Baggett, Jerre Dale and Greg Rosché

MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Session

Thurs., June 21, 6:00 p.m.

Our Ministry groups are re-forming. You will be contacted individually about group meetings.



The *Feasting on the Word* adult Sunday School class meets in Room 14 each week at 9:15 a.m. You are invited to join us as we discuss and share ideas on the following topics:

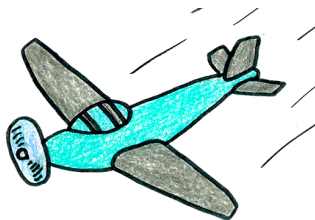
June 3—Doing Sabbath	Mark 2:23-3:6
June 10—Confronting Satan	Mark 3:20-35
June 17—The Parables of Growing Seeds	Mark 4:26-34
June 24—Jesus Calms the Storm	Mark 4:35-41

GIFTS OF HOPE 2018 ~ FATHER' DAY CARDS

Father's Day, June 17, 2018

Father's Day cards will be available to purchase May 27—June 10 in the Narthex on Sundays, or in the church office Monday—Friday.

This year we are supporting the following charitable organizations:



The **Anti-Bullying Response** project,
Farming Tools project of the
Presbyterian Giving Catalog and
The **GFPC Compassion Fund**.

Super
Dad!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS



Grace First welcomed the following
guests during the month of

May

Warren, Cailin, and Kylie McCraw
Tryniti Lewis
Tome and Eleanor Geiger
Sid & Carla Johnson
Ben, Sara & Tate Dale
Rachel Callahan
Gordon & Happy Carver
Chris Coney
Sue Coody
Greg Jolly
Amy Kramer
Ben & Sharon McPherson
Melissa Rawlins
Nancy Richards
Chris Welsh



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To the following GFPC members:



JUNE

Lynelle Bundy	2	Mark Arnold	13
James Robinson	4	Dennis Hooks	14
Dot Park	5	Melissa O'Hern	16
Logan Thiem	5	Cada Davis	17
Chris Curtin	7	Alexa Huerta	17
Brittany Dixon	7	Dannie Woodard	19
Deb Kaiser	8	David Rothrock	25
Roberta Furman	9	Payton Coleman	29
Eva Rusk	11		

Catherine Jane
Roschè was born on
May 18, 2018.
She will be baptized
on July 1.



**Congratulations to Destiny Spence, who was the
recipient of the Caroline Dickerson Scholarship!
Also to Addie Pederson, Brandon Watson,
Ethan Williams, and Johnathon Siebuhr
who were awarded the Kate Rieves Scholarship.**



**WELCOME NEW
MEMBER**

We have been blessed with the
following new member who Recently joined our
church. Please Welcome
Virginia Welsh
to our church family.



Presbyterian Women Summer Treat

Presbyterian Women is sponsoring a “Summer Treat” for all the ladies of Grace First. Fun and fellowship are the only items on the agenda. Childcare will be provided for those who have little ones at home. Treat yourself, come sit by the pool or put your toes in to cool off from the heat! The *Treat* will be **Monday, June 18, from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.** at Linda Snow's house (110 Oriole St., Weatherford, TX). Please bring a snack type food to share with the group. If you are interested in attending and/or will need childcare, indicate so on the Stewardship Covenant insert or contact the church office.

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ANNUAL BIRTHDAY OFFERING SALAD SUPPER



Presbyterian Women presented an
Honorary Life Membership
to Leslie Goeldner.

JUNE EVENTS

3**HOLY COMMUNION**

Handbells Last Performance Before Summer Break.

17**FATHER'S DAY**

Don't forget to honor your father on *Sunday, June 17.*

**17****YOUTH MISSION TRIP**

Our youth are leaving for their Mission Trip to Magnolia on June 17 and will return on Saturday, June 23.

25**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

The fun kicks off on Monday June 25 from 9-noon through Thursday. On Friday plan to stay and play outside until 1pm. Bring your Sunscreen, Swim Suits and Towels!!



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Members and Their Families

Carla Trevino
 Erik Skov
 Edna Escobedo
 Joyce Coney
 Andrew Short
 Chloe-Marion Parry, Mother of Marion Harris

Friends

Carol Allen, friend of Nancy Richards
 Russell Mason, friend of Jerre Dale
 Jessica Stephens, co-worker of Stephanie Eidson
 Jo Ann Fowler, friend of Myrlan Coleman
 Kati Hamilton, daughter of Linda Tingle (Habitat for Humanity)
 Autumn Reed, friend of Deb Kaiser
 Donny, friend of Patti Allen

Continuing Concerns

Grainger Weston, father of Sarah Eidson
 Nona, mother of Deb Kaiser
 Lauren Barnhart Reed
 Greg, father of Shanteé Siebuhr
 Judy Guyll, cousin of Roberta Furman
 Mildred Beard
 Paula Bowen, grandmother of Hilary Davis
 David Wenzel, son-in-law of Peggy Boardman
 Ben and Sharon McPherson
 Paul and Kaye Martino
 Frank & Arda Morgan
 Hazel Woodrum, mother of Sharon McPherson

Our homebound and nursing home members,
 and all those serving in the military and their families.

Lay Leaders:

June 3—Communion
 June 10—Rebecca Williams
 June 17—Stephanie Eidson
 June 24—Janelle Currin

Nursery Help:

Kelly Baggett

Greeters:

June 3—Karen Lail & V.A. Littleton
 June 10—Sue Masterson & Linda Snow
 June 17—Wendy Bates & Janelle Currin
 June 24—Dave & Janet Douglass

Guest Station:

June 3—Myrna Fields
 June 10—Roberta Furman
 June 17—Leslie Goeldner
 June 24—Sue Jones

Communion Set-up and

Clean-up :

Leslie Goeldner, Sally Arnold,
 Jill Bray and Cathy Zellers

- ◆ Fellowship Snack Schedule is located in the kitchen on the board next to the microwave.

GRACE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
606 MOCKINGBIRD LANE, WEATHERFORD, TEXAS 76086

**SUNDAY
MORNING
SCHEDULE**

Sunday School Classes –9:15 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship –10:25 a.m.
Morning Worship – 10:40 a.m.



PHONE NUMBERS

817-594-2744, 817-341-2258 (metro)
Office Hours: M-Th, 9:00 am–2:00 pm

WEBSITE
WWW.GRACEFIRSTPC.ORG

STAFF

Interim Pastor, *The Rev. Edith A. Gause*
Associate Pastor, *The Rev. David A. Slyter*
Ministers, *The Congregation*
Dir. of Music & Organist, *Marialice Parish, M. M.*
Financial Administrator, *Alycia Nelson*
Office Coordinator, *Lacey VanPay*

**EMAIL
ADDRESSES**

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