

Grace First Presbyterian Church

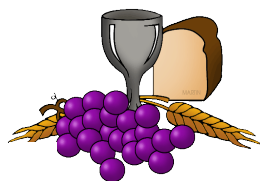
*Grace First Presbyterian together ... worshipping God,
witnessing for Jesus, and working to meet human needs.*

SEPTEMBER
2019

PASTOR ASHLEY'S PEACE

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We will celebrate
HOLY COMMUNION
Sunday, Sept. 1

Happy September, Everyone! I am so excited to enter the fall with you all. Fall is always full of so much excitement as we get back into the routine of the school year and programming at church, and in some ways, slow down a bit to get back to our community. Many of you have been enjoying summer away from Weatherford and you have been missed. We look forward to welcoming you home and back into the fold. The great thing about the church community is we always have space for people. So, no matter the reason you've been away this summer, there is always room for you to jump back in with life at Grace First. We'll never fill YOUR spot with someone else! The church really is the model of the body of Christ. We know, and trust, that God never leaves us, even when we feel like we've fallen away from God. The church is the embodiment of that relationship. We will always be here for you. I hope this fall you'll find a way to plug into life at Grace First: to reconnect with God, to reconnect with community, and to reconnect with yourself. We love seeing you walk through the doors!

As you will see throughout the newsletter we have a lot coming up in the weeks ahead. I hope to see you all at the church for Sunday School (9:15) and worship (10:40) on Sunday mornings. Then on Wednesday nights make sure to be at church for adult and children education opportunities. Not to mention, a great dinner on Wednesday night prepared by our LOGOS kitchen crew. Plan to join me on Wednesdays at 5:00pm in the Parlor for a study of the book of Matthew this fall. We'll begin the study on September 4. Wednesdays are a great night to invite friends who don't have a church home. There's something for all ages.

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

GFPC family, I want to say thank you to all of you who sent cards, prayers, and wishes for peace and comfort at the loss of my mother. As you know, I started my week of vacation visiting my baby granddaughter and what a joy that was spending time with her. And though it was sad, it was good spending time with my family and celebrating the life of my mom to end out the week. It was truly a circle of life week for me.

For those of you who did a memorial contribution to the youth on behalf of my mom, thank you. I shared with my dad and sister about the fund and the purpose of the fund and asked them if that was something they liked, and they said they couldn't think of a better memorial. As we all know, time is a precious commodity, and may we always be aware of that. May we live each day sharing the love of Christ and may we live each day with our loved ones full of grace and love.

This GFPC family is awesome and my dad and sister wanted me to share with you their thanks for the prayers and support during this time.



Pastor David (Pops) is so very proud to announce the birth of

EVERLEIGH GRACE SLYTER

Born August 9, 2019
7 lbs. and 7oz and 21 inches of joy!

Proud parents are
Chase & Emily Slyter



YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

September 1—No Youth

September 8—3 P.M. Dinner For Fire station 4

September 15—Game Night

September 22—Movie Night

September 29—Main Event

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.



MARIALICE'S MUSIC NOTES

I wish to thank all those who came upstairs to learn more about Grace First's lovely pipe organ. I think most were surprised to learn of the complexities of the instrument. Pipe organs have a long and colorful history. In modern times, churches are continuing to build instruments of all sizes to enhance worship. I am always available to demonstrate the organ to those who may be interested.

As we begin a new season, we can look forward to many special services and events. Music plays a vital part of these occasions, and I invite singers to join our group. Sanctuary Choir rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. It is a blessing and great privilege to sing to the glory of God.

Sanctuary Handbells will begin their rehearsal on Tuesday, September 3, at 5:00.

Cherub and Carol Choirs will begin rehearsal on Wednesday, September 4. Their snacks will be available at 3:30. It won't be long until we are working on the Christmas musical. Please encourage your child to participate in this important ministry.

Sing! Sing! Sing!

Ring! Ring! Ring!



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 15, 2019

- Approved the LOGOS staff and Sunday School Teachers.
- Approved 40% of the Pentecost offering received will go to the Backpack program.
- Approved the following communion dates for 2019/2020:

Holy Communion: Sunday, September 1; Sunday, October 6 (World Communion); Sunday, November 3 (All Saints); Sunday, December 1 (1st Sunday of Advent); Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve, Intinction); Sunday, January 5; Sunday, February 2; Sunday, March 1 (1st Sunday in Lent); Sunday, April 5; Thursday, April 9 (Maundy Thursday, Intinction); Sunday, May 3; Sunday, June 7; Sunday, July 5; Sunday, August 2.

- Elected commissioner Leslie Goeldner to attend the Stated Grace Presbytery Meeting on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at First Presbyterian Church in Tyler, Texas.

LOGOS

LOGOS is our Mid-week afterschool program for children ages 4 to Senior High. The activities includes snack, choir, recreation, Bible study, and a family style meal.

The fall term begins Wednesday, September 4 and runs through Wednesday, November 20.

The congregation is invited to join us for dinner each Wednesday.

The cost of meals for adults is \$4.00.

Watch the bulletins for the weekly menu.

LOGOS dinner is free to all kids who participate in the program and table parents.

Parent handbooks and registration forms are located
on the table in the coffee area.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Our Mission is to provide fellowship opportunities to our congregation and friends.

We invite you to serve on our ministry! New ideas are encouraged and welcomed.

We meet the second Thursday of the month at 6:15. Please join us!

Upcoming activities:

- Third Sunday Lunches
- Game Nights
- Shepherds Breakfast
- Cottage Ministries
- Advent Decorating



Sign up for Cottage Ministries!

Small groups will meet from October – May to enjoy fellowship and fun together. Each group will decide how often and where to meet. This is a wonderful way to better know our church family by sharing a meal, game night, or whatever each group decides! Please sign up on the Weekly Stewardship Covenant in the Sunday bulletin or contact Lacey. If you participated last year, please sign up also to be included. Names will be reshuffled and new groups formed the middle of September. A coordinator is needed in each group to contact and initiate planning for the group.

Hope you will join us!



GFPC Will Host A BLOOD DRIVE

SEPTEMBER 18, FROM 4 – 8 P.M.

PLEASE SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TIME ON THE
SCHEDULE LOCATED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
IN THE COFFEE AREA.

Did you know??

- Blood is needed every two seconds.
- About one in seven people entering a hospital needs blood.
- Blood is always needed for treatment of accident victims, cancer patients, hemophiliacs and surgery patients.
- Blood cannot be manufactured.
- Only 37 percent of our country's population is eligible to give blood, and less than 10 percent of those who can donate actually do donate annually.



FALL HABITAT BUILD

Volunteers are needed to help with the upcoming Habitat Fall Build for
Tina Green and her daughter, Allison.

BUILD DATES: Nov 1—2, Nov 6, Nov 8—9, Nov 13, Nov 15—16, Nov 22—23.

If you would like to help with the build or provide lunch, please contact the church office
or sign up on the Stewardship Covenant insert on Sundays.

MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

MINISTRY MEETINGS

Session

Thurs., Sept. 19, 6:15 p.m.

Christian Education

Sun., Sept. 8, 12:00 p.m.

Mission & Outreach

Thurs., Sept. 5, 6:00 p.m.

Personnel

Tues., Sept. 3, 6:15 p.m.

Property

Sat., Sept. 7, 9:00 a.m.

Trustees

Wed., Sept. 4, 1:00 p.m.

Worship & Music

Mon., Sept. 9, 5:00 p.m.

Deacons

Sun., Sept. 8, 12:00 p.m.

Congregational Life

Thurs., Sept. 12, 6:15 p.m.

In Touch

Thur., Sept. 19, 5:30 p.m.



PW Coordinating Team, Thursday, Sept. 5 at 9 a.m.

Circle 2, Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 12 p.m.

Evening Circle, Monday, Sept. 16 at 6 p.m.



Manna Storehouse
"Serving those in Need"

E M P H A S I S F O R S E P T E M B E R

Any canned fruits, vegetables, and soups,
1lb bags of rice and pinto beans,
1 lb boxes of spaghetti



**MEETING OF
GRACE
PRESBYTERY**
Saturday, Sept. 28
First Presbyterian
Church, Tyler, TX

Vacation Schedule

Pastor Ashley will
be on vacation
September 6—8

The Mission & Outreach Ministry
is collecting the following items
to fill backpacks
(individual packets only):



Applesauce, Beans & Franks, Beef & Cheese Sticks,
Beef Stew, Cereal Bars, Crackers, Fruit Cups,
Graham Crackers, Granola Bars, Cereal Boxes,
and Snack Items. Fruit Juice, Mac-n-Cheese, Oatmeal,
Canned Vegetables, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Pudding
Cups, Raisins, Trail Mix,

SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS

2

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

The Church Office will be closed Monday, September 2, in observance of the Labor Day Holiday.

4

LOGOS IS BACK!

All ages are invited for our mid-week programs followed up by LOGOS dinner. Cost is \$4.00, free for participants.

15

THIRD SUNDAY LUNCH IS BACK!

Sunday, September 15, after worship in the Great Hall. Bring a potluck dish to share and stay for good food and good fellowship. *PLEASE REMEMBER TO MARK YOUR DISH WITH YOUR NAME.*

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CARTER BLOOD DRIVE

At Grace First from 4–8 P.M. See *page 6 for more info.*

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PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT SHELTER

Meet at the church at 3 to carpool. If you would like to sign-up please indicate so on the weekly Stewardship Covenant form in the Sunday bulletin.

CHAIR YOGA 2019 FALL SCHEDULE

TUESDAYS AT 2 P.M., GREAT HALL

Chair Yoga—Have you tried yoga and given up because you couldn't get down to the floor and back up? Have you had knee or hip replacement and find yoga painful or uncomfortable? Have you suffered recent illness which has left your stamina at a low point? If any of these apply, come and try chair yoga. Starting **Tuesday, September 3**, and every Tuesday from then on, Chair Yoga will be offered at 2 p.m. in the Great Hall. Please bring a yoga mat to keep the chair from slipping. Contact Suzanne Rothrock at s_rothrock@sbcglobal.net or Linda Crownover at [email ln-crown@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ln-crown@sbcglobal.net) for further questions or concerns.

Chair Yoga is available for GFPC members only.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS

WELCOME
Enter as a Guest • Leave as Friends



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
To the following GFPC members:



SEPTEMBER

Grace First welcomed the following guests
during the month of
AUGUST

Lynn & Kay Wilson
Jeff & Sueda Luttrell
Brylee Hensley

As a reminder,
children's Worship is provided for
ages four through those entering
the Fifth grade. Children in Sixth
grade and up will remain in the
sanctuary for the worship
experience with their families.
Nursery is available for infants
through three year olds.

Debbie Hopkins	1	Erika Trevino	12
Virginia Welsh	3	Jim Coleman	16
Margaret Martin	4	Dorothy Doss	19
Gene Dawson	6	Jordan Thiem	19
Bill Grissom	5	Bonnie Evans	22
Pastor Ashley	6	Romeo Escobedo	23
Abigail Furst	6	Tom Martin	25
Charlotte Furst	6	Dianna Dixon	26
Everly Gonzales	6	Randy Riall	28
Kennedy Gerber	7	Robyn Coffey	29
Terry Nelson	10	John Moulder	29
Paul Martino	12		



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:

Sept. 1 - We will be concluding our Unraveled Discussion in the Great Hall.

Sept. 8—The Cost of Discipleship Luke 14:25-33

Sept. 15— Rejoice with Me Luke 15:1-10

Sept. 22—Praying for All 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Sept. 29—Living Eternally Now 1 Timothy 6:6-19



Let's Celebrate!!
Sunday, September 8!

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Members and Their Families

Patti Allen
 Sunny Coffey
 The Slyter Family
 The Kahlden Family
 Jerry Mullins, friend of Melvin & Jerre Dale
 Donna Allen
 Janet Douglass
 Sunshine Billings
 Jill Bray
 Sue Masterson
 Melvin Dale
 Gene Dawson

Friends

Mike and Barbara Pask, In-Laws of Glenn & Jean Bell
 Taylor Pegram, Daughter of Kevin Goeldner's Co-worker
 Diana Britt, Friend of the Furst Family
 Sara Casey, Sister of Gary Sheffield
 Bill & Joann Stolfutz, Friends of Gene & Martha Dawson
 Aubry Wesnitzer, Friend of Brittany Dixon
 Ann Burdett, Co-worker of Roberta Furman
 Jack Nixon, Friend of the Moss's
 Frankie Werner, Friend of Sue Jones
 Kati Hamilton, Daughter of Linda Tingle
 Autumn Reed, Friend of Deb Kaiser

Continuing Concerns

Kathy Coats, Sister of Dawn Kahlden
 Carol Gomez, Sister of Dawn Kahlden
 Grainger Weston, Father of Sarah Eidson
 Nona, Mother of Deb Kaiser
 Greg, Father of Shanteé Siebuhr
 Don Jones, Cousin of Roberta Furman
 David Wenzel
 Chloe-Marion Perry, Mother of Marion Harris
 Gerald Perry, Father of Marion Harris

Homebound and Nursing Home Members

Christene Donnell, College Park
 Ginger Goeldner Clear Fork Assisted Living
 Frank & Arda Morgan, Elmcroft of Graham
 Paul Martino, Martin Crest
 Kakie Williams, Martin Crest
 Bel Wise, Home
 Dannie Woodard, Home

*Continue to include in your prayers
 all of our homebound and nursing home
 members, and all those serving in the
 military and their families.*



*Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for you are my praise.
 Jeremiah 17:14*

Please help keep the office informed when there is a sickness; a death in the church family, or someone is in the hospital. The office will then let the rest of the church family know to lift up in prayer those in need. Also, let us know when it is okay to remove a name from our concerns list. Joys, accomplishments and achievements are important to us too and can be shared through Church Matters. Call us or email us. Thanks, your office staff

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Lay Leader:

September 1—Seth Goeldner
September 8—Ron Hansen
September 15—Jane Moss
September 22—Joe Barnhart
September 29—Leslie Goeldner

Deacon Assignments:

Sue Jones & Jerre Dale

Nursery Help:

September 15—Deb Kaiser

Greeters:

September 1—Wendy Bates
September 8—Jim & Janet Duncan
September 15—Seth & Leslie Goeldner
September 22—Wendy Bates & Susie Bossert
September 29—Janelle Currin & Karen Lail

Guest Station:

September 1—Leslie Goeldner
September 8—Melissa O'Hern
September 15—Margaret Martin
September 22—Melissa O'Hern
September 29—Wendy Bates

Communion Set and Clean Up:

Set-up & Clean-up:

Sally Arnold, Jill Bray, Melanie Curtin
and Janet Duncan

Communion Elders:

Fact: On September 13, 1541, Reformation leader John Calvin returned to Geneva, after being recalled by the local officials. He would stay there the rest of his life. He brought back with him a revised Order of Worship and the Strasbourg Psalm book.



Grace First Presbyterian Church
606 Mockingbird Lane
Weatherford, TX 76086

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.
Sunday Morning Worship—10:40 a.m.

STAFF

Pastor, Ashley Drake Mertz
Associate Pastor, David A. Slyter
Ministers, The Congregation
Dir. of Music & Organist, Marialice Parish, M. M.
Office Coordinator, Lacey VanPay
Financial Administrator, Alycia Nelson



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