

Grace First Presbyterian Church

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

OCTOBER
2018

PASTOR EDIE'S PONDERINGS

October – the month of Halloween

IN THIS ISSUE:

Communion Schedule	1
Ponderings By Pastor Edie	1-2
Associate Pastor's Article	2
Marialice's Music Notes	3
Focus On Ministry	4
Session Highlights	5
Presbyterian Women	6
Ministries & Outreach	7
Acknowledgements & Congratulatory	8
October Events	9- 10
Prayer List	11

We will celebrate

**HOLY
COMMUNION**

Sunday, Oct. 7
Sunday, Nov. 4

Some of you may ask, "Has our pastor gone bonkers? Why is she celebrating Halloween?" No, I'm not bonkers. Halloween is a celebration that has Christian origins. Further, it leads us directly into All Saints, a notable celebration of the Christian church.

So why, do I enjoy Halloween?

-Not because it has become a commercial holiday. Did you know that 25% of candy sales in the US are Halloween related? I do think the celebration of Halloween by some families is a bit over the top as they cater to their kids' expectations. Growing up poor in the country, we made our own costumes and trick or treated at the 3-4 neighboring homes before it got dark. And all our neighbors knew who did what the night before (Mischief Night on October 30) toilet papering of the trees. Four homes with only three of them having kids is a giveaway situation. How gracious our neighbors were!

- Halloween is a great night to pretend – to try on another persona. Could I be the ghost, the princess, or the witch? Healthy persons ask themselves that question every once in a while. Who else could I be? Are we stuck with the definition of me, especially in the church setting, or can we allow each other to grow – maybe the preacher is funnier than credited by the dour expectations, or the person in the pew has a hidden talent? The church is a place where we are expected to grow spiritually, to grow mentally, to grow emotionally, and to grow in maturity. How can we honor that in each other? Can we 'let' someone try on a new committee or do we just assume they are Mr. or Ms. Usher because it's how we have known them for years?

-Hallowe'en (using the proper English spelling) is derived as a name from the celebration of All Hallows Evening. All Hallows Evening was when the church focused on summoning the presence of the spirits who had gone on to their heavenly reward. Indeed in olden days, the church members summoned the spirits of the gone-on ones to be with us for guidance. The olden days were in the Middle Ages; the phenomenon of memory and the ability of spirits to return was reflective of the age. Yet, even today we wisely say of the deceased that their spirit lives on – indeed it does, even or maybe especially in this congregation. Knowing the history of Fred Ryle, Kate Rieves, Dr. Merrick, Grace Cartwright,

Happy
Halloween

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

C O N T I N U E D . . .

and countless others in this congregation, I would echo the words at the end of *On Our Way Rejoicing*, one of the histories of this congregation, *That Grace First Presbyterian Church is not enslaved by the past is documented in the contemporary architecture of the present building... A people of the pilgrimage, we act for God in this time and in this place, mindful of what has gone before, preparing for what will come in His future...*

Please join in the celebration of Hallowe'en by LOGOS on October 31 and the worship during All Saints Day – November 4, 2018. If you have ideas for all Saints day worship, please let me know.

Happy Halloween,
Pastor Edie

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

I have shared with you in the past month's devotions from two books that I read daily, *My Utmost for His Highest* by Oswald Chambers and *Have you Considered* by Julie Von Vett. I would like to share a reading of the devotional out of the later for this month. It gave me something to think about.

Our teeth not only show amazing design but reveal God's signature at a microscopic level.

Enamel is the bright white crown part of the tooth. It is the hardest living tissue in the human body. This is why, long after even the bones of buried animals have disintegrated, the teeth often remain. This hard enamel shell protects the tooth's life support system – the blood vessels and nerves. It is the design of enamel that allows us to bite, tear and chew our food.

But, perhaps, the most stunning thing about our teeth is buried within the enamel. The enamel is designed using fish-shaped rods on a microscopic level. This shape interlocks the enamel crystals giving them incredible strength – like nuts threaded onto a bolt. It's very curious that the cross-sections of these structures are fish-shaped. From the earliest historical times, the symbol that Christians used to identify themselves with Jesus Christ was the symbol of the fish. **Jesus Christ called us to be "fishers of men" and our very teeth are made from "rods" that look like "fish!"** Coincidence, or was it God's design? You be the judge!

And he said unto them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 4:19

David



MARIALICE'S MUSIC NOTES

A SPECIAL GIFT TO THE MUSIC MINISTRY

The Music Ministry of Grace First Presbyterian Church has received a wonderful, and very special gift. The Sanctuary Choir and Sanctuary Handbells for many, many years have been wearing black cassocks, red cassocks and white cottas as their choir apparel.

Wendy Goldsmith Coleman has most generously donated new black cassocks and aubergine cassocks to the Music Ministry in memory of her mother and father, Kerry and Dan E. Goldsmith, Jr. As many of you know, Dan was an ardent supporter of music in this church. He sang in the choir, and he and Kerry played handbells for many years. He also donated several octaves of hand chimes so that we could expand to notes we had not previously been able to play. Dan provided us with various pieces of equipment to make our work easier.

Dan and Kerry were responsible for commissioned music this church will enjoy for many years to come. They provided us with commissions for the 2014 anniversary of Grace First: a choral anthem, "Great Are You Lord", composed by Allen Pote, published by Hope Publishers; a handbell composition, "God of Amazing Grace", composed by Cathy Moglebust, published by Choristers Guild.

In 2016, two commissions were dedicated to the past, present and future members of the Sanctuary Choir and the Sanctuary Handbells, respectfully. These two commissions are "Christ the Cornerstone", composed by Anna Laura Page, published by MorningStar, and "Rise Up! Go Tell It", composed by Cathy Moglebust, published by Choristers Guild.

In 2017, the Sanctuary Handbells were privileged to premier "Steal Away, Swing Low", composed by Cathy Moglebust, published by Choristers Guild, in honor of the Rev. Dan E. Goldsmith, Sr. for serving the Presbyterian Church for over 70 years and in memory of Grace Goldsmith.

We are most grateful for this support of our musical offerings to Almighty God. With the publications of these works, many churches throughout the country will be able to enjoy them. The Sanctuary Choir will wear their new aubergine cassocks for the first time on World Wide Communion Sunday, October 7.

We sincerely thank Wendy for this loving gift which our choirs will enjoy for many years..



FOCUS ON MINISTRY

COMMUNICATIONS

The newly formed Communications Ministry is working to enhance communications among members and friends of Grace First, and also to increase awareness of our congregation's activities and mission in our community and world. We want to be sure that everyone knows how to access and participate in our communications:

1. We now have accounts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Please search Grace First Presbyterian Church to follow along! If you do not wish for your photo to be used on our social media accounts, please contact the church office to let us know. Parents of children and youth - David has a release form for you to sign that will give permission to post photos of minors on our accounts. If you have signed one during VBS or LOGOS you will not need to sign a new form, however, if you do not wish to have your child's photo on any of our social media accounts, please contact Lacey in the church office.
2. Information to post on social media or in **Church Matters** can be sent to the team at communications@gracefirstpc.org. Photos or information for social media can also be sent by text to Marti Rosché at 817-694-1861 or Jeff Kahlden at 254-592-1325. We also would love suggestions and ideas for ways to spread Grace First's news and mission.
3. We are beginning work to update the GFPC website. More will be done, but for now, a reminder that bulletins and sermons are posted by Friday with a link in Church Matters.
4. Please help keep the office informed when there is a sickness, someone is in the hospital, or a death in the family. 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. We would love to have more members of this ministry. Please let Janice Smith (817-269-4542) know if you would like to participate. The ministry currently meets on the 4th Tuesday at noon.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session Approved:

Alice L. Coody (aka Sue Coody) met with Session and was accepted as a member of Grace First Presbyterian Church by reaffirmation of faith.

The congregation welcomed Nancy Richards as a new member of GFPC following her baptism on Sunday, September 16.

Stephanie Eidson volunteered to serve the 2-year term as the Session member on the Scholarship Committee.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

We have been blessed with the following new member who recently joined our church. Please welcome her to our church family.



Sue Coody

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

Cell Phones For Soldiers is a national nonprofit dedicated to providing cost-free communication services to active-duty military members and veterans. Grace First supports this group by collecting any and all makes, models and conditions of cell phones and smartphones.

Newer, gently-used devices are preferred; however, broken and outdated mobile phones are also accepted. Chargers and accessories are welcome but not necessary. If you have a charger to donate, please keep the original phone and charger together. Instruction manuals are not necessary. Please remove your SIM card prior to donating your phone.

Founded in 2004 by Robbie and Brittany Bergquist, then 12 and 13 years old, Cell Phones For Soldiers has provided more than 300 million "Minutes That Matter" to deployed troops. A new program begun in 2012 "Helping Heroes Home" has provided emergency funds for more than 400 returning veterans to alleviate communication challenges as well as physical, emotional and assimilation hardships. For more information, visit

www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com



**Grace Presbytery's
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FALL
GATHERING/RETREAT**

Friday & Saturday, October 19-20, 2018

Gilmont Camp and Conference Center

Theme: Called to Be One Body in Christ

Keynote Speaker: Joanna Kim, Director of
Ministry Services with Grace Presbytery

Schedule:

Friday, 4 p.m. - Choice of fun activities, including book review of *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving

6 p.m. - Dinner followed by more activities

Saturday, 9 a.m. - Registration/Breakfast

Following breakfast - Business Meeting, Keynote Speaker, Lunch, Browse Mission Tables, Communion/Worship

2 p.m. - Dismissal

Cost: \$78 for Friday & Saturday (includes room and meals)
\$8 Saturday only (includes breakfast and lunch)

Registration: Register at www.gilmont.org/pw_gathering

Deadline, October 5

Please sign up on the Stewardship Covenant insert, or contact Jill Bray at 817-946-4810

Carpooling will be arranged.

MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

MINISTRY
MEETINGS**Session**

Thurs. Oct. 18, 6:15 p.m.

Personnel

Tues. Oct. 2, 6:15 p.m.

Worship & Music

Thurs. Oct. 4, 5:00 p.m.

Mission & Outreach

Thurs. Oct. 4, 6:00 p.m.

Property

Sat. Oct. 6, 9:00 a.m.

Trustees

Wed. Oct. 10, 9:30 a.m.

Christian Education

Sun. Oct. 14, 12:00 p.m.

Communications

Tues. Oct. 25, 12:00 p.m.

Board of Deacons

Sun. Oct. 14, 12:00 p.m.

In-Touch

Thurs. Oct. 11, 5:30 p.m.

Congregational Life

Thurs. Oct. 11, 6:30 p.m.

PW Coordinating Team—Thursday, October 4, 9:00 am

Circle 2—Tuesday, October 9, 2:00 pm

Evening Circle—Monday, October 15, 6:00 pm

Chair Yoga meets at 2 p.m. in the Great Hall every Tuesday. Members are encouraged to attend.

Members of Grace First provides a short worship/singing service for the residents of Keeneland Nursing Home on the Fourth Sunday of the month.

Daylight Saving Time ends on November 4

Don't forget to
turn your
clocks back
one hour.



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

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

Please put your donations in the
grocery cart in the Narthex
each Sunday or bring by the church
office during the week.

Thank You!

Congregational Life thanks all the wonderful volunteers who have brought snacks each Sunday for Coffee Fellowship. Everyone thanks you! This faithful group is getting a well-deserved rest. Coffee Fellowship continues with a big thank you to Mac and Janice Smith who generously bring goodies each Sunday. Anyone is always welcome to add to the snacks. Join us for Coffee Fellowship!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CONGRATULATIONS



Welcome Guests

Grace First welcomed the following

GUESTS during the month of

S E P T E M B E R

Patti Allen

Benjamin and Maverick Baggett

Andrew, Laura and Hadley Brice

Ginger Goeldner

Diane Grant

Greg Jolly

Al and Judy Kitchen

Amy Kramer

Cherry and Abrianna Watson

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

To the following GFPC members:

O C T O B E R

Dave Douglass	1	Jean Bell	16
Will Coleman	3	Leslie Goeldner	17
Dale Fleeger	3	Erin Thiem	18
Suzanne Rothrock	6	Janice Smith	19
Susan Showman	7	Kellyn Overturff	20
Melanie Curtin	8	Tommy Thomason	20
Ayla Siebuhr	8	Quinn Kahlden	22
Lily Siebuhr	8	Aila LaBrake	22
Rusty Crownover	9	Peggy Boardman	23
Susan Henry	9	Joe Barnhart	26
Peggy Burgess	10	Dave Deison	26
Fred Williams	10	Maggi Seidler	26
Ben McPherson	13	Tim Gilbert	26
Evelyn Talley	13	Kay Sheffield	26
Janelle Currin	14	Scarlett Roberts	27
Benny Evans	14	Jerre Dale	30



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

October 7, Do The Right Thing	Mark 10:2-16
October 14, Wealth As A Stumbling Block	Mark 10:17-31
October 21, Restraining Our Zebedee DNA	Mark 10:35-45
October 28, Noisy Beggars	Mark 10:46-52

OCTOBER EVENTS

7

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 7. World Communion Sunday is celebrated on the first Sunday of October each year to celebrate our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world.

21

THIRD SUNDAY LUNCH

Sunday, October 21, after worship. Bring a potluck dish to share and stay for good food and great fellowship. Visitor's are encouraged to attend.

21

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

Join us on Sunday, Oct 21, as we participate in a national observance of Children's Sabbath during which the Worship Service will be led by the children. We join thousands of churches, synagogues, mosques, temples and other faith communities across the country in this celebration.

28

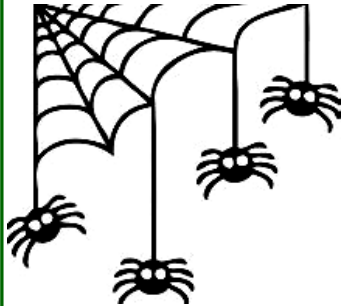
REFORMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 28. We will celebrate the Anniversary of our heritage and history, affirm our central theological convictions, and consider God's ongoing reformation of the church.

(Don't Forget To Wear Your Kilts)

"God doesn't love us because of our worth, we are of worth because God loves us."

-Martin Luther



TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 31, 2018

On October 31 during our LOGOS program, we will be having our annual Trunk or Treat for the kids. If you would like to decorate the trunk of your vehicle for this event please let David know. If you would like to help out with candy, donations are accepted as always. Come join us for a great time with a bunch of kids!

TRUNK or TREAT

YOUTH SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Wednesday, Oct. 3 – LOGOS

Sunday, Oct. 7 – 12:30 p.m. Kids against Hunger, First Pres., Ft. Worth

Wednesday, Oct. 10 – LOGOS

Friday - Sunday, Oct. 12–14 - Youthfest West

Sunday, Oct. 14 – No Youth

Wednesday, Oct. 17 – LOGOS

Sunday, Oct. 21 – Children's Sabbath, Youth Group @ 5

Wednesday, Oct. 24 - LOGOS

Sunday, Oct. 28—Youth Group @ 5

Wednesday, Oct. 31 – LOGOS - Trunk Or Treat

INNER LIGHT

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. – 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 NIV

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Members and Their Families

Gary Sheffield
Irma Tevino, aunt of Edna Escobedo

Friends

Jo Ann Fowler, friend of Myrlan Coleman
Kati Hamilton, daughter of Linda Tingle
Autumn Reed, friend of Deb Kaiser

Continuing Concerns

Grainger Weston, father of Sarah Eidson
Nona, mother of Deb Kaiser
Lauren Barnhart Reed
Greg, father of Shanteé Siebuhr
Don Jones, cousin of Roberta Furman
Mildred Beard
David Wenzel, son-in-law of Peggy Boardman

Chloe-Marion Parry, Mother of Marion Harris

Homebound and Nursing Home Members

Frank & Arda Morgan	Peggy Boardman
Paul and Kaye Martino	Christene Donnell
Dannie Woodard	Pat & Bel Wise

*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

OCTOBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Deacon Assignments:

Janet Duncan & Myrna Fields

Nursery Help:

Oct. 21—Mandy Overturff

Greeters:

Oct. 7—Wendy Bates & Janelle Currin
Oct. 14—Dave & Janet Douglass
Oct. 21—Bonnie Evans & Karen Lail
Oct. 28—Kevin & Leslie Goeldner

Guest Station:

Oct. 7—Leslie Goeldner
Oct. 14—Sue Jones
Oct. 21—Melissa O'Hern
Oct. 28—Judy Rawlins



No act of kindness,
no matter how small,
is ever wasted.
— Aesop

BACKPACK PROJECT

The Mission & Outreach Ministry is collecting the following items to fill backpacks for school children whose families may not have food for the weekends (*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

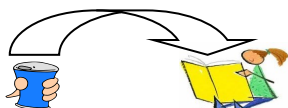
Fruit Juice, Mac-n-Cheese, Oatmeal, Canned Vegetables, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Pudding Cups, Raisins, Trail Mix, Vienna Sausage, Cocoa Mix, Popcorn



food4kids

REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE

KANS FOR KIDS



Thanks to all of you who so faithfully bring your aluminum drink cans for recycling. This year we have provided \$167 to the kindergarten teachers in four Weatherford elementary schools so these little

ones can order books. This means that children who cannot otherwise afford them now have books of their own. The teachers have told me how delighted and proud the children are of their books. Let's keep up the good work on this most worthwhile project! If you cannot bring them to the church, I can pick up your cans.

Linda Young (817-991-2550)



RECYCLE INKJET CARTRIDGES

All proceeds for this program go to Trinity Habitat for Humanity.



CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

The old cell phones that you donate will be recycled and sold for minutes for our soldiers to call home.

Collection boxes for donated cell phones and inkjet cartridges are in the coffee area.

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

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.*

Office Coordinator, *Lacey VanPay*

Financial Administrator, *Alycia Nelson*

PHONE NUMBERS

817-594-2744 Office

817-304-9015 Pastor Cell

WEBSITE

WWW.GRACEFIRSTPC.ORG

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Alycia—anelson@gracefirstpc.org

Lacey—lvnpay@gracefirstpc.org