



First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

**Our Mission: Connecting with God and sharing the Good News
of Jesus Christ with the community.**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Church Staff:

Dr. Ginger Hertenstein Conley
Pastor

Jennifer McWilliams
Administrative Asst

Nyadia Thorpe
Choir Director

Dameron Growe
Brittany Haywood
Susan Walters
Accompanists

Sean Russell
Sound Room Technician

Ana Ortiz
Liliana Ortiz
Nursery

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From our Session

Constant Change

It may seem a bit awkward to place these two contrasting words together. Each word is the exact opposite of the other. I want to share what both of these words have meant to me over the last few years.

Life Changes

For me, I would say that big life changes began happening at the start of college. I was excited to live away from home. I had no idea that I would be dealing with health challenges the following year. As I tried balance staying on top of classes, taking my medication, playing and directing at church, and preparing for my senior recital, I was drowning in a sea of changes.

How many of us feel from day to day that we have too many irons in the fire? Before we can even get settled and feel completion in one area.... something changes. It can be very uncomfortable trying to manage changes, especially when the future that follows is simply unknown. The most difficult changes often catch us by complete surprise. The loss of a loved one, losing a job, losing financial security, losing your health: these losses can really cause our hope and faith to dwindle. In dealing with these losses, I have learned to be grateful for the positive constants in my life.

Life Constants

I immediately began to think of the positive intangible constants like love, support, and friendship. I know that I would not have survived the last decade without the help and major support I have received from my husband, parents, friends, family, and church family. They all have unselfishly showered me with love, prayer, sacrifice, and support. All of the check-in calls, texts, hugs, and emails

over the years are uncountable. Above all, I believe that prayer (mine and others) has been vital to me processing and working through my personal life changes. I have heard many say that prayer changes things! I can testify to this: God will change the situation or your mindset and outlook about the situation.

Change, as unpredictable as it may be, will always remain constant. Life and its quirks are guaranteed to shift as the days and weeks turn into years. But there is another constant that gives me hope: our Heavenly Father. In the midst of all changes, He is ever-present and remains all-powerful. He sees and knows all and will never allow any change to transpire that we cannot bear. Even in the midst of the chaos and the moments that seem unbearable, God knows, cares, and will carry us through.



Brittany



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<div> <div> Aug 2022 <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div> Oct 2022 <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						1  6:30 PM Worship Planning Meeting	2	3
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4 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service	5 (Office Closed for Labor Day)	6	7 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10																																																																																											
11 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service	12  7:00 PM Member Care Meeting	13  7 PM Sarah Circle	14 <i>Pastor Ginger's Birthday!</i> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	15 Newsletter Articles Due!	16	17																																																																																											
18 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service 3rd Sunday Potluck	19	20	21 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	22 4:00 PM Parking Lot Ministry  7:00 PM Session Meeting	23	24																																																																																											
25 9:15 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Worship Service	26 <div> The Sandwich Project <hr/> Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless </div>	27	28 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	29	30																																																																																												

2022 Choir Retreat

On Saturday, August 27 the Choir gathered at the Nazareth Retreat Center located on a hillside in Grand Prairie. Nyadia greeted all of the participants at 9:00 a.m. with her beautiful smile and inspiring energy.

The retreat activities shuffled between singing, playing games, eating, fellowship and entertainment by two banjo players and a familiar bass player who led the choir in singing:

(To the tune of "Dueling Banjos")

Welcome to the choir retreat, It's a lot of fun for us to meet!

Here's Nyadia and Dameron! Here's Brittany; Staff members three!

We're here to learn some brand new songs,

And to get some friends to sing along.

So find sopranos, altos too; Plus tenors, basses just a few!



After a delicious lunch catered by Jason's Deli, the choir finished the retreat by working on music to be presented for the December Christmas Program.

PARKING LOT MINISTRY (PLM)

FPCD has had a community focus for many years. As we observed how parents use our church parking lot during the school year to pick up their children from Reed Middle School, we saw we had not only an opportunity – but a call from God – to reach out to them with love and encouragement. Thus, the Deacons (now Member Care Team) began the Parking Lot Ministry in February 2019. The goal – that in the handing out of a little gift, being willing to interact as appropriate, offering a smile, word of encouragement, listening ear, and giving them a chance to submit prayer requests – we might put some hope and joy in their day. We want them to know that GOD is LOVE and that HE CARES about them, their families and the multitude of challenges and distresses in their lives.

Each month we prepare 40 small gifts, usually with a Scripture coordinating with the gift, and a treat/snack for each vehicle as well as a prayer request form – about 32 in English and 8 in Spanish. We point out that prayer requests can be submitted at any time and can be put in the PRAYER MAILBOX on the post near the playground equipment. Jennifer McWilliams painted the PRAYER MAIL and SUPPLIES boxes and Dub Guthrie put them up. Vanessa Cordova, Leo Skinner and Paul Griffith have helped with Spanish translations.

So once a month, we are looking for 3-4 volunteers to help with this outreach from 4:00 – 4:45pm on a Thursday afternoon (occasionally a Tuesday or Wednesday when weather is an issue). There is a signup sheet in the narthex. Please consider helping with this effort. It doesn't take much time - 45 minutes once a month! God blesses far more than He asks!

Below are photos of some of the gifts we have given.

Nancy Bergman



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your support, prayers, cards, kind words of encouragement and the many meals you provided. Our family enjoyed all of the special dishes.

Also, thank you to those of you who were able to attend the Celebration of Life service for Roy.

We really appreciate all of the support from our 1st Presbyterian Duncanville church family. Thanks again for everything.

Sincerely,
The Bayless Family



**But you, O Lord,
are a God merciful and
gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in
steadfast love and
faithfulness.**

Psalms 86:15

**Worship Volunteer Schedule
September 2022**

September 4	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant COMMUNION Servers	Connie Steger Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis Sean Russell & Brenda Everett Jimmy Cordova Roy Watson & Brittany Haywood
September 11	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant	Sharon Ingram Teresa Reed & <i>TBD</i> Brittany Haywood & Dub Guthrie Jennifer McWilliams
September 18	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant	Dudley Austin Lori Glover & Jaime Cordova Roy Watson & Joan Brown Allen Conley
September 25	Greeters Tellers End of Service Ministry Sound Room Assistant	Jocelyn Bolles Brenda Everett & Linda Simons Jimmy Cordova & Diane Pegues Jimmy Cordova

*May mercy, peace, and love be
multiplied to you.*

Jude 1:2 ESV

September Birthdays

If we've missed your birthday and you would like us to include it in this "birthday" section of the newsletter, please contact us at (972) 298-3043 or info@fpcd.org.

Thank you.

KaCharlotte Fithian, Sept 1
Manny McLeggan, Sept 5
Ana Ortiz, Sept 11
Ginger Hertenstein, Sept 14
Jack Pegues, Sept 14
Tori Favors, Sept 20

Caden Thorpe, Sept 21
Sharon Ingram, Sept 22
Aiden Gaskins, Sept 26
Beau Gaskins, Sept 26
Marlene Skinner, Sept 26
Margaret Lewis, Sept 28



2022 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

	Receipts	Expenditures
July	\$14,499	\$18,359
Jan - July	\$145,072	\$165,254

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Christian Education
Worship Service

— 9:15 a.m.
— 10:30 a.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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