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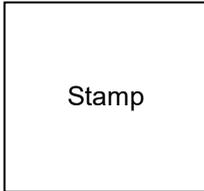
[www.fpchendersontx.org](http://www.fpchendersontx.org)



*"Serving God,  
Honoring Creation,  
Embracing Differences"*



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
P. O. BOX 773  
HENDERSON, TEXAS 75653-0773**



September 2022 Vol. 54:9

*Watching the Wrens*

One of the rituals of spending the night at Grandma Ruby's house when I was young was waking up early to sit on the porch and listen to the birds. The porch was fully screened and provided an unobstructed view of the large open back yard. A climbing rose bush made a bit of camouflage on the side and if I sat still, the birds would even alight on the trellis. Some of our birdwatching focused on the wren house that hung in the apple tree.

Each spring, my Papaw would bring the little white bird house out of the basement where it has been carefully stored for the winter. It would be hung in the same place and the wrens would come back every year. We would watch them busily build the nest. Over the summer, the hatchlings would grow and learn to fly. Then the little wren family would fly away for another season.

Papaw would take down the little house and look it over on his workshop table before storing it for the winter. Sometimes the paint was touched up or the shingle on the roof was replaced. Any remaining elements from the nest were removed and then it was put away until spring. One year, my Grandma had a scrap length of yarn that she thought would made a nice, soft addition to the nest. She placed it in the house before it was hung in the tree. And then she waited. That spring, when the wrens came back, they spent the better part of a morning working that length of yarn out of their house. With the unwanted yarn out of the way, the house was finally "move-in ready" and the tiny birds got busy bringing in the sticks and bits they wanted for their nest.

Those quiet porch mornings with Grandma and the birds were special. I thank God for those little rituals.

*Rev Michele*

# A PRAYER FOR OUR TEACHERS



DEAR GOD,  
THANK YOU FOR THE AMAZING TEACHERS  
WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES  
TO SERVE OUR CHILDREN.  
AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE NEW YEAR,  
FILL THEM WITH STRENGTH TO LEAD,  
GRACE TO GUIDE AND HOPE TO THRIVE  
IN THEIR CLASSROOM.  
BLESS THEM BEYOND MEASURE  
FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS  
TO POUR INTO THE NEXT  
GENERATION THROUGH EDUCATION. AMEN

[GRACEFORMOMS.COM](http://graceformoms.com)

## WE'RE COMING TO TOWN

Grace Presbytery Committee on  
Representation & Social Justice Task Force

**September 17, 2022, noon—3 pm**

First Presbyterian Church of Tyler

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Curious to know what COR & SJTF do?

Looking to connect with people from all around Grace Presbytery?

Come, lend your voice & energy to this work in the East Region.

All churches of Grace Presbytery, pastors, elders, and members are  
encouraged to attend.

Join us at First Presbyterian Church of Tyler, 230 W. Rusk Street, Tyler,  
to learn more, make connections, and have some fun!

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Lunch will be provided. Personal or Group registration is required to:

[tammy@gracepresbytery.org](mailto:tammy@gracepresbytery.org)

Questions:

Contact COR Moderator, Crysta Brantley [c-Brantley@ti.com](mailto:c-Brantley@ti.com)  
or Joanna Kim [Joanna@gracepresbytery.org](mailto:Joanna@gracepresbytery.org)



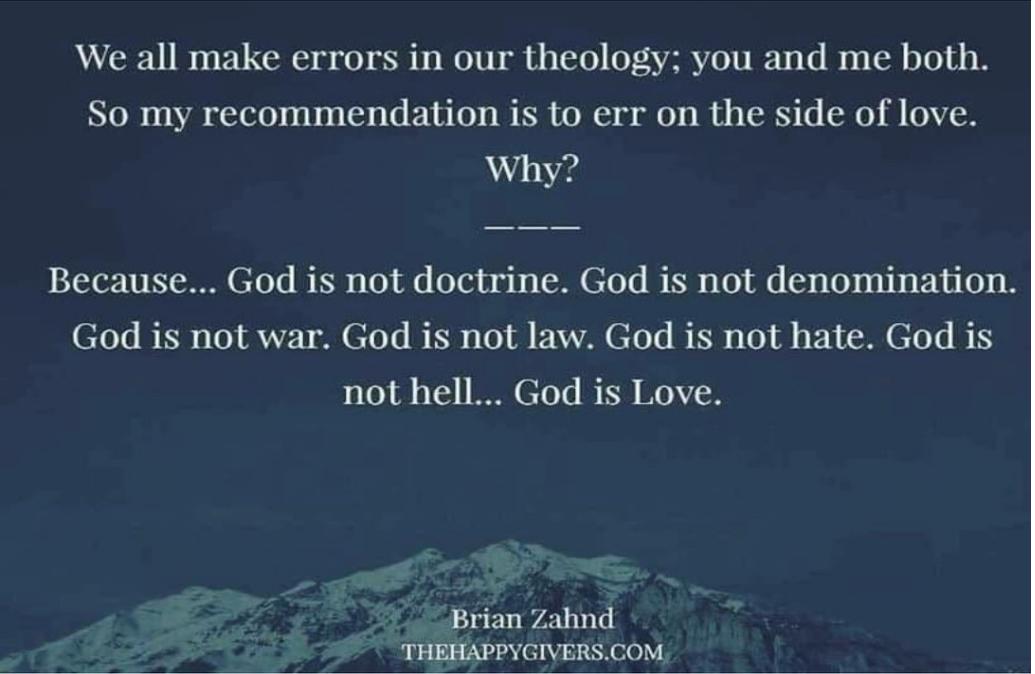
Loving God, our hearts our bursting with  
gratitude for all that You give.  
We are truly rich in You.  
You have lavished us with gifts of grace  
and forgiveness,  
friendship and comfort in grief,  
financial provision in times of need.

Church of Scotland

We all make errors in our theology; you and me both.  
So my recommendation is to err on the side of love.

Why?

Because... God is not doctrine. God is not denomination.  
God is not war. God is not law. God is not hate. God is  
not hell... God is Love.



Brian Zahnd  
THEHAPPYGIVERS.COM

## Council Actions

August 18, 2022

- Discussed pay for pulpit supply
- Discussed deadline for committee budgets
- Discussed stewardship season in October
- Elected commissioner for September Presbytery meeting

On behalf of the **Finance Committee**, thank you for all of you who keep your pledges current. Our budget is currently in fairly good shape except for the “estimated plate offering,” which is the amount of our budget that the Finance Committee predicts will be donated yearly during services in the sanctuary. Since the pandemic and the decrease in attendance, our plate offering is down.

A very wise friend of mine once told me that every time you go to a church service, you should put something in the plate. If possible, when you attend a service in person, could you put an extra dollar or two in the plate? A total of an extra twenty dollars in the plate each week would equal over a thousand dollars a year and would help us end up closer to our estimated plate offering.

Thank you for considering this request,

Carol

Finance Committee



### Watermelon Extravaganza

After distributing ice cold watermelon to our neighbors, the Outreach and Fellowship Committees enjoyed some fellowship and cool watermelon.

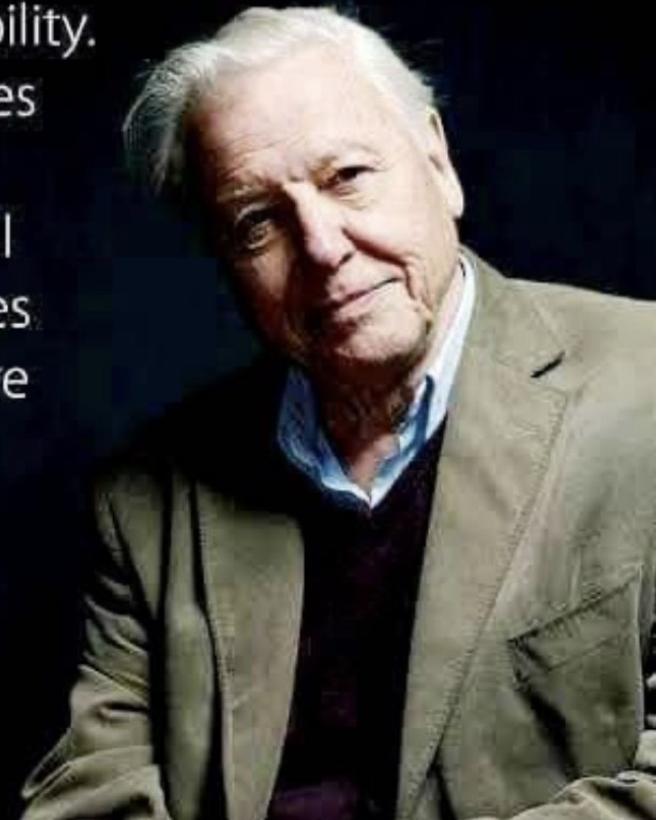


Did you know

~ that the future of the earth is in our hands right now? ~

"The fact is that no species has ever had such wholesale control over everything on earth, living or dead, as we now have. That lays upon us, whether we like it or not, an awesome responsibility. In our hands now lies not only our own future, but that of all other living creatures with whom we share the earth."

David Attenborough,  
Life on Earth



CE Green Team

Please join us for worship, Sundays at 11:00 in person or live stream on Facebook. With Michele Goff as our Pastor and Joshua Allen as our music director, you're sure to feel the Holy Spirit, and share some great fellowship.

Communion will be September 4th and Home Communion on Tuesday, September 6th.

Peace be with you all,

**The Worship Committee**

*Serve the Lord  
with gladness*  
come before his presence with singing.



While I know myself as a creation of God, I am also obligated to realize and remember that everyone else and everything else are also God's creation.

Maya Angelou

The **Building and Grounds Committee** is hard at work trying to keep the church cool during these hot trying summer days. With 100 degree days coming one after another everyone is looking forward to the days of fall that are just around the corner.

We recently changed the filters in all the air conditioning units in the church. This insures that the units draw in clean unobstructed air to cool more efficiently and saves money. That's something we all enjoy doing as well as enjoying cool air.

Make sure you check the filters in your house regularly as well.

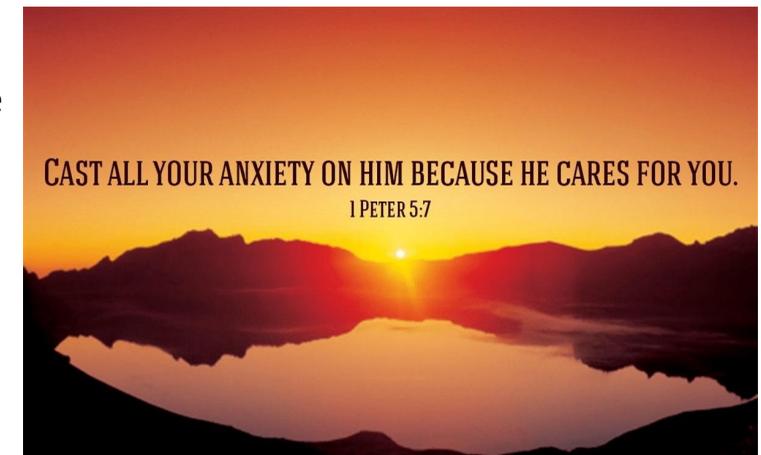
The Building and Grounds Committee



We are fortunate to have a church family that truly cares for all of our members. Home Communion will be administered on Tuesday, September 6th. Member Care will contact those who cannot attend worship in person to arrange for home communion.

We hope you have had a good summer and pray you will have a good September.

The Member Care Committee



# September 2022



| Sun  | Mon   | Tue  | Wed  | Thu   | Fri                          | Sat  |
|--|---|--|--|---|------------------------------|--|
|   |   |  |  | 1   | 2                            | 3  |
| <b>4</b> 9:45 Sunday School<br>11:00 Worship in Sanctuary<br>an FB Live/Communion<br><b>HIM Donation Day</b><br>Peace & Global Witness<br>Special Offering | <b>5 OFFICE CLOSED</b><br> | <b>6</b><br>Home Communion<br>6:00 Theology on Tap | <b>7</b>   | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b><br>Meals on Wheels  | <b>10</b>  |
| <b>11</b> 9:45 Sunday School<br>11:00 Worship in Sanctuary<br>an FB Live<br>"We Will Never Forget"   | <b>12</b>   | <b>13</b>  | <b>14</b>  | <b>15</b><br>6:00 Session Meeting                         | <b>16</b><br>Meals on Wheels | <b>17</b><br>12-3 East Region<br>Connection, Tyler |
| <b>18</b><br>9:45 Sunday School<br>11:00 Worship in Sanctuary<br>an FB Live  | <b>19</b>   | <b>20</b>  | <b>21 FALL BEGINS</b><br> | <b>22</b><br>9:30 Grace Presbytery<br>Meeting, Richardson | <b>23</b><br>Meals on Wheels | <b>24</b>  |
| <b>25</b><br>9:45 Sunday School<br>11:00 Worship in Sanctuary<br>an FB Live  | <b>26</b><br>Newsletter Deadline  | <b>27</b>  | <b>28</b>  | <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b><br>Meals on Wheels |  |

Duty Elder for September:

Tom

Liturgists for September:

9/4 Claudia

9/11 Carol

9/18 Jan

9/25 Jimmy



September Birthdays:

9/1 Cindy

9/15 Stefen

9/17 Claudia

9/24 Lynn