



Burnet Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 126
Burnet, Texas 78611
Phone: 512-756-4366

Newsletter for October, 2021

E-mail: burnetpres@gmail.com

Website: www.bpcburnet.org

Report on the Triennial Visit from Presbytery

Making something like a pastoral call at our home, Presbytery has just visited our Session to see how we are faring. Specifically, the Commission members asked about our mission and ministry. What could we say about the life and spirit of our congregation? Do we have a mission statement? Are we mindful of it? What are we proud about and glad to celebrate? What are we concerned about and looking for counsel about how to proceed? Where do we think our church will be three years from now? What impression does a newcomer receive right now? Do we remember what we thought when we first came? Do we participate in Mission Presbytery by sending Ruling Elder Commissioners to regular meetings? Do we have a recent job description and evaluation of our pastor?

This Triennial visit occurred for Session last Tuesday, the 14th of September, when Rev. Regina Maas, H.R., from Brady Presbyterian, and Pastor Duane Manning of Pipe Creek Presbyterian met with the Pastor and Session of Burnet Presbyterian Church, as two members of the Presbytery Commission on Ministry. Our first hour was spent all together, followed by a time of session only with the commission and concluding with a period of commission, pastor, and session together for a summation.

Here are some of the topics we discussed together:

- The effects of Zoom on our worship and outreach, plus ways to better utilize its strengths and compensate for its

drawbacks. It's not going away even if the Covid plague eventually does.

- The possibility of having a category of Affiliate Membership for those who attend by Zoom while also wishing to maintain their full membership in a home church somewhere else. At present we have an Associate Membership available only for college students who live away from home.

- How to keep the attendance and giving records of Zoomers current and help the attending congregation stay abreast of their joys and sorrows.

- The value of an annual session retreat before each year's Installation of Officers for assigning committee responsibilities and building group spirit for the opportunities of the coming year.

- The role of the treasurer and how to read the monthly reports. Learning who prepares the budget and compiles the information for the annual review of the pastor's call.

- In the meeting without the pastor, the Commission reminded us that an evaluation of the pastor is required every year. Without an evaluation, our minutes would not be accepted by the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery. At some length, Rev. Maas affirmed to our session the positive benefits of doing an evaluation to note both strengths and areas of needing improvement. Our Session did conduct a pastoral evaluation last year and has now placed on the agenda for the regular meeting on October 19, a discussion of how we will conduct that evaluation this year.

We invite you as members of the congregation to speak with any of the Active Elders about items you would like to see addressed.

Sue M. Hosterman, PhD

**** Pastor's Report**

Miles Driven Last month - 240

Miles driven month to date – 10

YTD Miles driven to date for 2021 – 1225

Visits –13

Home/office – 4

Hospital Visits – 2

Nursing Home -

Phone Visits – 9

Vacation – September 27- October 3 – I will preach October 10

**** LACare Update**

During the month of August, LACare served 521 individuals and 175 families.

At this time, LACare is in need of canned meats and crackers.

Submitted by Hap Zimmerman

**** Financial Report**

The August Financial Report is attached at the back of the newsletter, along with the October Calendar, or if you are getting the newsletter via email, they are attached as additional documents.

Submitted by Pat Collins

**** MOC Minutes**

Five men met for the September 5, 2021, MOC meeting at Storm's (Jack Butler, Pastor Josyph, Dick Spinner, Bill Weaver and Robert Brewer (Jack's neighbor). Jack reported a balance of \$659.00 in the treasury. The devotional after breakfast was based on Matthew 5:16. "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven".

Because of our relationship with Christ, we get to be his representatives and glorify God through our interactions with students, co-workers, customers, restaurant servers, sales associates, and everyone else. Whatever we achieve in life, we were helped by the Lord Jesus and by many other people. The help we give to others helps them to have a more successful life. The men present gave examples of people who encouraged them: teachers, pastors, parents, etc. Dick Spinner shared an old saying: "If you see a turtle on top of a

fence post, you know he did not get there by himself."

The next meeting will be on October 10th.

Submitted by Hap Zimmerman

**** Session Review**

The Burnet Presbyterian Church State Session Meeting took place on September 14, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the library. In attendance were Pat Collins, (Treasurer), Jamie Horn, Sue Hosterman, Fred Shin, Billy Don Weaver, Rev. Josyph Andrews, Moderator, and Marsha Spinner, Clerk. Also attending were members of the Committee on Ministry, Rev. Duane Manning from Pipe Creek Presbyterian Church, Regina Maas HR, for a Triennial Visit. A quorum was present.

Pastor Josyph opened the meeting with a prayer.

Rev. Duane Manning began the Triennial visit by introducing himself and Rev. Regina Maas and explaining the purpose of the visit. That was to discuss the congregation's mission and ministry. Also, to encourage the full participation of the Session and congregation in the life and work of presbytery and of the larger church. The visit was not an evaluation. It was to hear the story and witness of the congregation, to celebrate the life of the church and to be a resource to the Session.

Duane and Regina listened to Session members, gave advice, and made suggestions. Duane ended their visit with a prayer.

Then the Session remained to pass the following motion:

To approve the \$650 bid by Reagor Plumbing to run a line from the tankless hot water heater to the kitchen.

The meeting was duly adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19.

Josyph closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Marsha Spinner

**** Praying for Persecuted Christians**

China is #17 on the list of the worst countries to be a Christian, up from #23 last year. The intense pressure being placed on Christians by the government is reflected in the fact that in just three years, China has risen 26 places!

It is getting increasingly difficult to avoid having to fall in line with official ideology, even for state-affiliated churches. There has been an increase in raids and harassment on individual

Christians and their families. Thousands of churches have been damaged or destroyed, some confiscated, in a campaign that has spread to almost every region of the country.

Here are helpful prayer points suggested by Open Door.org:

Ask the Lord to give church leaders wisdom, discernment and guidance as they lead congregations in light of increased restrictions and surveillance. Lift up in prayer all who have left their former religion to follow Jesus. Pray that they will be protected from harm, strengthened in their faith and empowered in their witness. Ask the Lord to open the eyes of those in authority to the unequalled power and beauty of the Gospel.

Prayer is our greatest tool!

Submitted by Janie Howell

**** Burnet Presbyterian Women**

Present: Cindy Grant, Peggy Hammond, Cissy Butler, Hilda Smith, Mary Richmond, Alice Anglin, Marilyn Petrick, Jamie Horn, Sue Hosterman, Danielle McDonald, Laura Atkison, Pat Collins, JoAnn Holt, Armour Shin and Janie Howell.

Fifteen women met in the Norris Building for a time of coffee, goodies, and fellowship before the start of the official meeting at 1:30 PM. Alice opened the meeting with prayer requests and prayers. Armour led us in the Introduction and first Chapter of our new study, What My Grandmothers Taught Me by Meryrl Blair. If the first lesson is any indication, we are in for a wonderful year.

Alice opened the business portion of the meeting with jocularity. The treasurer's report revealed a balance of \$3,024.50. Correspondence was as follows and is posted on the PW Bulletin Board in the Norris Building:

A thank you letter from Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services for our \$360.00 donation.

Two thank you notes from PCHAS graduates for our cards and gift cards.

An email from Jane Zimmerman advising that she had mailed 3 boxes to Project Cure containing 5 flat sheets, and 36 hospital gowns.

A letter from Ginger Henderson, our new PW Hill Country Coordinator, introducing herself to us and requesting our 2020 yearly report on activities and giving. Janie and Mary compiled the information and submitted the report to her.

There was no old business.

New Business:

Pat reported that the cookbook sales have been brisk. The cost to the PW for each book was \$8.00, however, many have added a few more dollars as a donation to the PW. Pat is tracking this extra money and we will donate it to the BPC kitchen fund. We had a helpful discussion regarding the kitchen project and what the future kitchen might look like.

Alice reminded us that there will be a Fellowship of Church Women lunch outing on Thursday, September 30 at Café 2300 (2300 W Hwy 29) beginning at 11:30. This will be a time to visit with ladies from other churches and renew friendships that have been on hold for 18 months!

There being no further business, Alice closed the meeting with our Friendship Circle and prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Janie Howell, Secretary

October 3 "Cookbook Cook-off"

By the time we have our next potluck meal, you will have bought the newest and greatest church cookbook. How about making a dish from a recipe you submitted? After worship service, you'll get to taste these scrumptious recipes, and (drum roll) vote for your favorite dish. This is all in fun, folks, no pressure, just good cookin'! Which cookbook recipe will win the Blue Ribbon? (If you didn't submit a recipe, just bring any dish you enjoy.)

*Submitted by Jamie Horn &
Congregational Care Committee*

Memorial Service for Carl Spinner

Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 2:00 pm

At John Knox Ranch

1661 John Knox Ranch Rd, Fischer, TX

In the Dining Hall. Reception with finger foods immediately following.

Wear jeans if possible.

Masks are required at JKR

Carl will also be remembered during morning worship on October 17 since many members are unable to travel to John Knox Ranch. Thanks, Marsha



Goody Bags

**Wednesday,
October 13,
9:30AM**

The Evangelism Committee will bag and deliver to Meals on Wheels the final Meals on Wheels Goody Bags of 2021. Committee members are Pat Collins, Jean Andrews, Alice Anglin, Cissy Butler, Peggy Hammond, Janie Howell and Mary Richmond.

Bags will be packed in our Dining Room; it should take about two hours to do this packing because it will include more items. If you would like to help pack and/or join the Evangelism Committee you will be welcomed.

The 2020 Thanksgiving Offering collected at the annual BPC Thanksgiving Dinner totaled \$1,010. Five HEB gift cards in the amount of \$30 were given from the congregation, taking \$150 of the offering. The remaining balance of \$860 was distributed in three Meals on Wheels Goody Bags deliveries:

March 10 \$203.50

July 14 \$192.17

October 13 \$464.33

This October delivery will be the most bountiful of all! We will be able to include a personal item or two, along with special food items. Following past deliveries, the church has received letters of thanks for these bags, but mostly thanks that this congregation thinks of them.

November 17, 2021 beginning at 5:30 is the next BPC Thanksgiving Dinner. We will take up an offering and start all over again in 2022. God willing.

Submitted by Pat Collins

Memorial Service for Marjory Brown Saturday, October 30

**At 10:30 at
Burnet Presbyterian Church**

Giving away two new printer ink cartridges (model #TN450) that fit some of the older Brother models. Contact Fred Shin for them.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for all of your love and support over this difficult time of loss for our family. There are no words to fully express our gratitude for the heartfelt sympathies, considerations, and services you have extended to our family during this period of loss and deep sadness.

On behalf of our family, we would like to thank all those who contributed. Your servant's heart is a true gift from God. Everyone's hard work, dedication, compassion, and care will never be forgotten. Our hearts are full of thanks and unending appreciation for your congregation and the acts of service you honored our family, our friends, and our loved ones with.

Richard's memorial will always be most precious in our hearts.

With love and appreciation,
The Family of Richard Samford

The BB's Read Again

**Thursday, October 28
9:30 in the Fellowship Hall**

Our final book of 2021, the BB's will review *Devoted*, by Dean Koontz. *Devoted* seemed like a good idea last October, from early reports, we may need A LOT of coffee. We will just remember the good books we have read this year.

The group will also choose books for 2022 reading so, if you would like to join the BB's, this would be an excellent timer.

Coffee and something breakfast-y will be served.
Submitted by Pat Collins

October Birthdays

11 – Lonnie Anglin

11 – Armour Shin

23 – Delaney Dawson

29 – John Brown