



# Burnet Presbyterian Church

## Newsletter for September, 2025

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### Fellowship of Church Women

The Fellowship of Church Women (and Men) met on Thursday, July 31 in the Norris Building to hear a presentation by Erland Schulze, Development Director for Hope House, a forever home for profoundly challenged children. Erland and his wife, Mary, presented a heartfelt program of the work, the pitfalls, and the extreme blessings that Hope House provides to everyone who encounters this organization. The stories that Erland told about God's providence through so many volunteers who are stepping up to provide manual labor, building materials, even whole buildings, were astonishing.

The meeting was attended by women and men from several churches including First Lutheran Church in Burnet. The Lutheran

ladies were planning a trip to visit Hope House on August 21 and invited us to tag along. Marilyn Petrick, Janie Howell, and Charlsie Bremer from St. John Lutheran Church in Castell were able to make the trip and see first-hand the incredible living opportunities that Hope House provides. We were also able to see some of the children in their activity room.

The next meeting of the Fellowship of Church Women will be Thursday, October 30. We hope to see you there!

*Submitted by Janie Howell*



The Fellowship of Church Women, pictured below, attended a presentation by Erland Schulze. Some of the ladies were able to make a visit to Hope House, pictured left, and see some of the opportunities for their residents.



Erland Schulze,  
Development Director  
for Hope House



## Men of Church Bible Study

Twenty-three surveys that were either delivered or mailed to male members and friends of the church; nine responses were received. The majority of the responders said that they preferred to meet **monthly, on Sunday mornings, to have a study from the Bible.**

Therefore, the first Men of Church Organizational Meeting will be the fourth Sunday of the month: September 28, 2025, beginning at 8 AM, in the church parlor. There will be coffee and pastries (of men quality). The men can determine exactly how they want to conduct their studies, select their study resources and officially establish their meeting time/place.

Thank you for taking your time to respond. We hope to see former MOC members and new potential MOC members at this first meeting and study. With God's will, it shall be done.

Christian Education Committee



**This cheerful group helped Cleo Dulls celebrate her 98th Birthday at Mama's on August 16.**

**Worship Committee Meeting  
September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30**

## Important Dates for September

Sept. 1	Labor Day
Sept. 2	Worship Comm. Mtg. 10:30
Sept. 7	13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost
Sept. 8	PW Bible Study & Meeting
Sept. 14	14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Country Oaks, 3:00 pm
Sept. 21	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Family Game Day & Lunch
Sept. 28	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Men of Church Meeting, 8am



## Presbyterian Women Represent the Church at the BCISD Welcome Back Breakfast on August 5, 2025

What a fun morning! Marilyn Petrick, Janie Howell, and Nancy Harlow set up a table to greet the teachers at the BCISD Welcome Back Breakfast. This year we had two donations for the drawing, a lovely floral arrangement and a basket filled with teacher supplies, a cookbook and cross. A big thank you goes to Linda Weaver for creating the floral arrangement and arranging the basket. We had giveaways of candy, pencils and church brochures.

We had a great time meeting and greeting teachers and staff in our school district, especially our own Cary West and Scott Nowack. It was also great connecting with members of other churches. One comment overheard was the fact that our bells are a favorite sound on

Sunday mornings. Our steeple, which we all love, is now visible and appreciated by our church friends and neighbors.

Through lots of observations and research, we discovered that most teachers prefer candy over pencils, EXCEPT for math teachers. We also discovered that SOME teachers are PERKY, but MANY aren't. Perhaps they should have stopped at Mojo's for an extra cup or two. We loved talking to the bus drivers who all had on new really, cool shirts. It was great to see the FFA handing out notes which included scriptures. We saw teachers almost "salivating" over our door prizes.

We are glad that PW supported this project and hope we continue to do this each year. It is another opportunity to take Burnet Presbyterian out into the community.

Submitted by Marilyn Petrick

### **Praying for Persecuted Christians**

Somayeh and her husband were devout Muslims, doing everything they were supposed to do as faithful followers of Allah, including challenging Christianity. Still, something was missing for Somayeh. When a Christian friend invited her to come to church, Somayeh decided to see what Christianity was all about.

The moment she set foot into the church, Somayeh's heart was transformed by the overwhelming presence of God. That very day she gave her heart to Jesus, but that decision came with a cost that Somayeh could never have guessed.

Her husband became furious and abusive. Eventually the Iranian government called to let her know that they were aware of her participation in an underground church. Somayeh made the decision to flee Iran with her daughter, but even leaving everything behind, Somayeh's faith was strong.

She currently continues to serve Christians in Iran through an online ministry, sharing the gospel and supporting those living in secrecy under constant threats.

Open Doors.org continues to support those who are spreading the word about Jesus. Please pray for all these brave Christians.

## **BPC STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES JULY 22, 2025**

ELDERS: Class of 2025 Fred Shin; Class of 2026 Debbie Weems (via Zoom for first hour of session); Class of 2025, Jamie Horn; Class of 2027 Barry Dawson absent; Treasurer, Class of 2027 Pat Collins; Moderator, Rev. John Brantley; and Linda Weaver, Clerk of Session was absent. A quorum was present. The meeting began at 5:00 pm.

**OPENING PRAYER** – Rev. John Brantley

**AGENDA:** Reviewed and duly approved by Session.

**INTRODUCTION:** None

### **SHARING OF CONCERNS OF CONGREGATION AND**

**DEVOTIONAL:** Barry Dawson will give the next devotional on August 19, 2025.

**CLERKS REPORT:** The Session minutes for June 17, 2025 were not approved pending return of Clerk. One correction noted the meeting was held on July 22, 2025 instead of July 26, 2025 as Rev Brantley returned earlier from vacation due to county floods. Clerk was not notified of this change. Approval of Minutes for June 17 and July 22, 2025.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Pat Collins presented the Report. Stewardship Committee recommended increasing Designated Reserve to \$50,000. **A motion to increase Designated Reserve to \$50,000 passed in favor. In the July Finance Report \$10,813 will be transferred from Unrestricted to Designated Reserve.** Session agreed to account for the \$27 Market Value change in New Covenant in the December Finance Report. The Special Donation of \$25,000 was designated by the donor to be used exclusively towards the Fellowship Hall kitchen improvement. **Barry Dawson was appointed to assemble a committee responsible for putting together a plan and getting quotes for work that can be completed within budget.** A check is forthcoming but will not be deposited until Session has more information on how this project will be handled. A report from the committee will be given to Session in August. Session approved creation of a new line item in Total Funds which will be named Special Projects Fund. The purpose of the line item is to account for donations for a variety of special building projects which may arise. Another donor wants to contribute towards electric improvement; that contribution will be accounted for in the Special Projects Fund. Session duly approved Treasurer's report subject to year end audit.

**MISSIONS:** Jamie Horn announced Back to School



Luncheon and Undie Sunday scheduled for August 24. The whole months of August and September are designated months for a fund drive to collect undies for BCISD elementary school students. Jamie submitted a proposal to use Local Funds to help Burnet Flood victims. Motion 1 was to contribute \$2000 to the ARK of Highland Lakes. Session duly approved. Jamie also submitted a proposal to contribute \$1000 to Dottie Bye, a friend of the church, who lost her home, car, and business in the flood. Session duly approved. The Treasurer reported that \$500 will be received to use at Session Discretion for local flood victims. Session voted to send \$500 to the Ark of Highland Lakes when that check is received and deposited.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS** – Barry Dawson was not present to give a report so Session agreed that the Building Committee would review the electrical bids submitted from 3 contractors and make their recommendations at the August Session Meeting.

**CONGREGATION CARE** – Linda Weaver was absent to give her report. Upcoming Luncheon after church is August 24 announced by Jamie Horn.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE** – Fred Shin reported that the replacement for the existing offering counters is progressing. Eight people have agreed to be counters. The first training session took place July 20. Several have already signed the calendar for counting Sundays. Four people have completed the bank paperwork. Training will continue until all counters are comfortably trained. The bank documentation from other 4 counters will also be completed.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** - Ron Petrick has joined the CE Committee and has created a survey which will be distributed to men members of the church and men friends of the church. Distribution of the survey will begin July 27. Surveys not distributed that Sunday will be passed out the following Sunday or mailed with a cover letter. Responses are requested within 2-3 weeks. A complete report of the responses will be presented to Session.

**MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE** – Debbie Weems reported Rev. Scott Nowack will present a sermon series on Faith. The month of August. Rev. Ken Peters and Dr. Bill Poe, along with Carl DeLine are scheduled for Sunday services throughout September.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**: an initial committee meeting will be scheduled for August.

**OLD BUSINESS**: SILER TRUST – **Court approved**

**forming a Charitable Trust**

**for managing the Siler Estate. First Financial Trust will be the Trustee.** FFT has signed the

court document. Attorney Troy Voelker notified Rockafellow Attorneys of the court decision and to prepare to move the Siler funds to FF. It will be on the August agenda to discuss how the Siler funds will be received by BPC. It was discussed that the funds would be accounted for within Operating Funds. Once all is complete Session will give a formal presentation to the congregation.

**NEW BUSINESS**: Session will interview their only applicant for part time pastor August 30, 10AM. Session members should have their interview questions ready to discuss at the August 19 meeting. There are questions about how to handle FICA or SECA and housing allowance.

The meeting adjourned and Rev. Brantley closed the meeting with a prayer.

Next meeting is August 19, 2025 at 5PM. A schedule Interview is scheduled for August 19, 2025, at 10AM.

## **SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

### **JUNE 17, 2025**

ELDERS: Class of 2025 Fred Shin; Class of 2026 Debbie Weems; Class of 2025, Jamie Horn; Class of 2027 Barry Dawson; Treasurer, Class of 2027 Pat Collins; Moderator, Rev. John Brantley; and Linda Weaver, Clerk of Session. A quorum was present. The meeting began at 5:09 pm.

**OPENING PRAYER** – Rev. John Brantley

**AGENDA**: Reviewed and duly approved by Session.

**INTRODUCTION**: None

**SHARING OF CONCERNS OF CONGREGATION AND**

**DEVOTIONAL**: Prayers for Bill and Linda Weaver, Armour Shin, Becky, daughter of Ron and Marilyn Petrick, and Danny Harlow. Rev. John Brantley gave the devotional. Barry Dawson will give the next devotional on July 26, 2025.

**CLERKS REPORT**: The Session minutes for May 20, 2025, were approved by Session on a motion from Fred Shin, seconded by Debbie Weems.

Clerk received Transfer of Membership letter for Cleo Dulles. A concerned note from a friend of the church was read offering her church support in our time of need. Postcard from Gideons of Burnet Camp and Invitation to Luminosity Conference, Presbyterian Foundation was read.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Pat Collins presented the report. A new account has been established with

Edward Jones and funds from First State Bank in the amount of \$134,500 was electronically transferred. She stated she closed out New Covenant account (Coosa King) and deposited a check for \$4,111.81 in First State Bank. When the Presbyterian Account with New Covenant is closed, the funds will be deposited in First State Bank, then both monies will be EFT to the new account with Edward Jones. Congregation donations totaling \$8000 was moved from Operating Funds to offset the **expense of painting the exterior of the church. HEB invoice for Easter Lillies totaled \$262.46 has been paid. The excess revenue will be transferred into Contributions in order to close out fund for 2025. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion from Debbie Weems, seconded by Jamie Horn, subject to year end audit.**

**MISSIONS:** Jamie Horn presented the Missions and Charities for 2025 to be: PCUSA Special Offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing OGHS and Christmas Joy Offering. Undie Sundie is set for August-September. Presbyterian Women have May 25 PW Birthday Offering, Project Cure Sewing Projects are on going, Christian Women's Job Corp-2 lunches per year and LaCare ongoing donations, Carl Spinner High School Graduate Scholarship Program and on going Backpack Buddies.

**EVANGELISM:** Jamie Horn passed out a calendar for 2025-2026 to include the following: Replenish local food bank Jan 4-8. Nursing Home Valentines Day Visit and began Lenten Study, the Chosen, Feb thru March. June 2026, a music Concert with \$5 snacks for students at home for summer. August clothes drive for small children in school. September, game day, Bingo, and Pizza. Fall study The Chosen. November Music concert open to public \$5 in canned goods = 1 ticket. December, 2025 and 2026 treats to be provided to Country Oaks Residents

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS** – Barry Dawson presented 2 bids for emergency electrical repair to sanctuary that needs to be done. First Bid is from Common Ground \$12,872.51 and the second is SCM Electric for \$19,333.75. **After discussion, session tabled the bids asking for more detail information on materials needed and more detail on bids as one quoted a pole and one did not.** Barry also stated Fire Inspection went well. He also stated that Ron Petrick was monitoring Sprinkler System so it runs 7PM – 9PM on Mondays. **CONGREGATION CARE** – Linda Weaver announced

the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration of hot dogs will be held on July 13, 2025 following church services. **Session duly approved.**

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE** – Fred Shin stated that his committee is training Tracy Weems and Ron Petrick to be “money counters” on Sunday morning as Dick Spinner and Janie Howell would like to retire. Pat stated there is a donor who would like to give \$25,000 for special projects. **On a motion from Debbie Weems, seconded by Fred Shin, a New Line Item would be created for “Special Projects” in the Church Budget. Also a friend of the church would like to donate a 4 drawer file cabinet to the church for Treasurer's use. Session duly approved.**

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** - Pat Collins stated that PW was studying Proverbs.

**MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE** – Debbie Weems emailed the current pulpit supply list for July to be:

July 6 Dr. Ken Peters	Robert Centeno
July 13 Dr. Bill Poe	Recorded hymns
July 20 Rev. Scott Nowack	John Roberts
July 27 Dr. Ken Peters	John Roberts

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** No report

**OLD BUSINESS:** (1)SILER TRUST UPDATE – court date is set for July 10, 2025.

(2) Waiting on revised policies and procedures from St. Andrews Church for a guideline.

3) **Job Description for a Part time Minister as duly approved by Session.**

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

The meeting adjourned at 6:47PM. Rev. Brantley closed the meeting with a prayer.

Next meeting is July 22, 2025 and Part time minister interviews set for August 30, 2025, at 10 a.m. with PIF's by Barry Dawson before July 26, 2025.

## SAVE THE DATE

Invite your family and friends to these events:

Sunday, September 21-Pizzas and Games  
Sunday, October 5-World Communion Sunday  
Sunday, October 19-Lunch and John Roberts Concert, “Pictures at an Exhibition”  
Sunday, November 16-Thanksgiving Luncheon and Offering



Ron Petrick was really enjoying the fried chicken at the Back-to-School Luncheon on August 24, while Danny Harlow and Marilyn Petrick pretend not to notice.

**Below, Cleo Dulls shows off her Birthday hat while celebrating her 99<sup>th</sup>**

## Church and YouTube Attendance August 2025

Date	Attendance	YouTube	Total
Aug. 3	38	3	41
Aug. 10	34	6	40
Aug. 17	36	5	41
Aug. 24	50	5	55
Aug. 31			



Nancy Harlow, left, got up before dawn on her birthday to help represent BPC at the BCISD Breakfast on August 5. The best bus driver, Cary West, center, stopped by our table to visit! Many thanks to Linda Weaver who donated the beautiful flower arrangement and Marilyn Petrick, right, who supplied the contents of the Gift Basket. Photo by Janie Howell, who helped with everything.

## September Birthdays

4 – Debbie Weems  
7 – Tracy Weems  
13 – Josie Dawson  
14 – J.C. Smith  
18 – Alice Anglin  
23 – Helen Tanner  
23 – Carolee Frampton  
30 – Kay Lambert