



Burnet Presbyterian Church

Newsletter for November, 2025

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God's Gifts Abound

Eda Siler was a member of Burnet Presbyterian Church; Eda established a trust for the purpose of supporting their son Hal and she named BPC as the beneficiary to her estate, upon the death of Hal. Hal passed away November 10, 2023. BPC has now received the remaining assets of Eda's estate, which is valued at \$1,310,965.

The Session opted to receive Eda's estate as a charitable trust rather than establish an endowment fund. Under charitable trust guidelines, the beneficiary receives the funds over a period of 20 years. An attorney was hired to petition the court to do this. The Judgment Granting Reformation of Trust was heard before Burnet County 424th Judicial District Court on July 22, 2025 with Attorney Troy Voelker who was representing BPC and Trustees Billy Don Weaver and Pat Collins in attendance. The petition was granted.

First Financial Trust in Abilene was chosen to be the trustee. On October 3, 2025, FFT confirmed that the trust was "fully funded", meaning it had transferred into BPC's account with an initial funding balance of \$1,310,965. On October 16, 2025, BPC received a wire transfer of the first of 20 annual payments in the amount of \$65,548.26, 5% of the value of the fund.

That is the money part of the story; and what a blessed and amazing story! But what about the story of the people involved; most of us never knew the Silers. The following is a combination of facts and lore: data taken from church registers and remembrances of members who knew Harry and Eda Siler.

Harry was born in 1902, and Eda was born in 1913. They joined Burnet Presbyterian on April 28, 1946, the year their son Hal was born. They lived somewhere on FM 3509 or Hoover's Valley Road. I am told that Hal was adopted; Eda worked at the Shepherd Hospital when Hal was born. Later she might have taught school. Not sure what Harry did for a living, whether he was a rancher or had a full-time job. Harry served as deacon in 1956 and 1968. In 1957, contributions totaled \$21,367.55. Thru August 2025, our contributions totaled \$121,983, just to give you a sense of the Siler's fiscal savvy.

Hal's nickname was "Poncho". He was growing up in Burnet at the same time as two other young male members of our congregation-- Lonnie Anglin and Hap Zimmerman. Hal suffered from polio at a young age and perhaps was not able to keep up with his peers. His mother, it seems, found private schools for Hal throughout his education years. The parents provided total financial support to Hal for his entire life, until his death at the age of 77, on November 10, 2023.

Harry and Eda divorced at some point and Eda moved to Austin. Harry passed away May 27, 1986; Eda passed on July 5, 1987, and Hal passed on November 10, 2023 at the age of 77. Burnet Presbyterian was notified by Eda's attorney in early 2024.

To think that two people born in the early 1900's, growing up amidst WWI, the Great Depression, and a severe drought, could accumulate this amount of wealth while providing 100% support for life to their son is an astonishing feat. This did not happen without God's help and direction. The fact that Eda chose Burnet Presbyterian to be the final

benefactor of her estate must have come from God.

That is the end of the Siler story but not the end of God's grace to Burnet Presbyterian. Proof, first of all, is that we are working towards the 152nd year of this church. Second, we continue to receive the gifts we need without knowing exactly how it happened—except for God's grace! We have Biblically knowledgeable and faithful members. One of our members has donated money for a kitchen renovation. Another member donated a significant sum to pay for necessary electrical work. Neither donation was solicited. Another member decorates our Fellowship Hall to the nines ALL THE TIME. Members take members to doctor appointments. The list goes on. Perhaps we are doing what God wants us to do; this is our great hope. Blessings and thanks to all.

Submitted by Pat Collins

PRAYING FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Sub-Saharan Africa includes all countries in the African continent that are south of the Sahara Desert, typically encompassing 48 countries. Notable examples include Angola, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the most violent place in the world for Christians. According to Open Doors' 2025 World Watch List research, 8 of the 10 deadliest places for Christians are in sub-Saharan Africa.

But the world is silent. Governments aren't speaking out. The media rarely addresses the deadly attacks. Even churches around the world seem to have forgotten their brothers and sisters in Africa.

Open Doors has begun the Arise Africa campaign, a multi-year effort to ask the world to wake up and pay attention to shocking violence against Christians in sub-Saharan Africa. We need to break the silence and stop the violence.

Please visit ODUS.org/Hakuri to add your voice and speak out on behalf of your brothers and sisters. Together, we can make a huge difference and make the world pay attention.

Submitted by Janie Howell

REMODEL OF KITCHEN COMMITTEE

The Kitchen Committee (Pat Collins, Nancy Harlow, Linda Weaver, Kathy Frankum, Ron Petrick) has met twice and continues to plan for the upcoming renovation. Additional meetings are scheduled to finalize design and logistics. Below is an in-scale drawing of the proposed kitchen footprint, measuring approximately 14 feet by 29 feet.

- Island (Buffet) top to be 36" wide x 36" tall x 17' long, the island will be located beginning where the current bar begins. The south corner of the current wall will remain as support and the island will be constructed within the buffet and will supply the electricity to the island. Island to have 5 electrical outlets on its own circuit. There will be pullout drawers and cabinets on the east side only. On the east – north side of Island will house current microwave. Lights will be installed over the Island. All cabinet doors—both on the island and throughout the kitchen—will match in design.
- On the back (east) wall a built-in electric oven 29.75" wide up against the north wall to be installed using some of the current cabinet space. Current gas range will be removed and a new ice making refrigerator (35.71" wide, 27 cu.ft.) will be installed by removing the cabinet space near the AC unit.
- The sink will remain in the same location. A garbage disposal and overhead light to be installed with switches. A ceiling light to be installed behind the new buffet. AC unit to remain in the same location.
- The current wheeled movable cabinet and current coffee cabinet will be placed end-to-end on the south wall. This area to be used for dessert and coffee/drink service. An open shelf will be installed on the south wall above the dessert cabinet to store cups, etc.
- New Vinyl Flooring in the new kitchen area approximately 14 feet x 29 feet. Match the type and color that is currently there. Cabinet tops and island to use the same Formica and color that is currently in kitchen.
- A tentative schedule would be to begin demolition and construction after Christmas and New Years 2025 and complete before Easter 2026.

Burnet Presbyterian Women

October 13, 2025

Present: Cissy Butler, Danielle McDonald, Katie Do, Mary Richardson, Peggy Hammond, Becky Buttery, Charlsie Bremer, Cindy Sharpnack, Alice Anglin, Karen Brock, Fay Monast, Jane Zimmerman, Linda Weaver, Pat Collins, Armour Shin, Nancy Harlow, Marilyn Petrick, Jamie Horn, Cleo Dulls and Janie Howell.

Twenty women gathered in the Norris Building at 1 PM for decadent ice cream treats, cookies, and coffee provided by Pat. In addition to providing wonderful refreshments, Pat also gifted each lady with a bottle of honey. We are blessed!

At 1:30 Alice opened the meeting with prayer. Armour began our Proverbs study with a wonderful musical solo, Kisses Sweeter Than Wine. What a treat! Our Bible lesson included Proverbs, Chapters 5 through 7 plus Leviticus Chapter 18.

Alice opened the business meeting with jocularly. Cindy reported that our bank balance was \$2073.42. Correspondence included the 2025 Gratitude Report from Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services and an appeal for an additional contribution. The Report is on the hall table, and the appeal is on the PW Bulletin Board. Alice reported on the Mission Sewing Project submitted by Jane Zimmerman as follows:

September 22: 3 boxes mailed to Project Cure containing 72 hospital gowns. Postage: \$55.65.

September 30: 2 boxes mailed to Project Cure containing 32 hospital gowns, 98 baby shirts, 8 baby caps plus 1 book stamps to mail PW cards. Postage: \$50.90.

GRAND TOTALS FOR SEWING from October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025: 33 baby caps, 629 baby shirts, 412 hospital gowns, 15 flat sheets used for room dividers, 1 receiving blanket, 11 knitted bears. Many thanks to all those who participate in this project and especially to Jane Zimmerman who coordinates, mails, and keeps meticulous records!

OLD BUSINESS: We will be serving lunch at the Christian Women's Job Corp on Wednesday, October 22. Volunteers include Alice, Nancy H., Jane Z., Peggy, and Janie H.

Cindy announced that we had met all our pledges for 2024-25 and we had \$1973.42 in spendable funds left. A discussion ensued as to how to spend this money. Karen Brock made a motion to give an undesignated gift of \$1000.00 to the BPC Kitchen Project. Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Armour suggested that we give \$1000.00 to BPC designated to replace the almost child-sized toilet in the Norris Building with an "adult acceptable" toilet. Mary Richardson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: The Session has asked the PW if they would object to having the large, rolling bulletin board moved out of the church. We believe it was here when the Norris Building served as the Burnet Public Library. Several members felt that it was a special antique. Nancy Harlow volunteered to call the library to see if they wanted it. After discussing the size and the need for the bulletin board to our church, Cindy Sharpnack motioned, and Nancy Harlow seconded that the PW would not object to the bulletin board being moved out of the church. Motion carried.

Alice reminded us that the Fellowship of Church Women will meet in the Norris Building on Thursday, October 30 at 2 PM. Our guest speaker will be Miss Angelyn from the Burnet Boys and Girls Club.

The 2025-26 PW Pledges were next on the agenda. We discussed our present giving and what we would like to add to the pledges for the coming year. Karen Brock motioned and Armour Shin seconded that we make the following pledges:

\$120.00 - PW of Mission Presbytery

\$360.00 - Hope House

\$120.00 - Meals on Wheels in Burnet

\$360.00 - Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services

\$100.00 - Gifts for PCHAS graduation seniors

\$300.00 - LA Care Food Pantry

\$600.00 - BCISD Grandparent Support Group
\$500.00 - Postage for Mission Sewing Project
Cure

Motion carried.

The PW Fall Gathering is Saturday, November 1 at 11:30 at First Presbyterian Church in Lampasas. It will consist of lunch and time for sharing and fellowship. Please let Alice know if you will be able to attend so that she can RSVP.

There being no further business, Alice closed the meeting with our friendship circle and prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Janie Howell, Secretary

NEWS FROM LA CARE FOOD PANTRY

Business is booming at LA Care Food Pantry. Nancy Harlow and I worked on Wednesday, October 22, and we did not sit down for two hours!

November Happenings: LA Care will provide whole chickens to each family for Thanksgiving.

The Church of Christ will host a free Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings and plenty of pumpkin pie on Thanksgiving Day. The community is invited to this wonderful time of Christian fellowship.

Many thanks to all of you who contribute to LA Care financially. If you can spare 2 hours a month to volunteer at the Pantry, please contact Lottie McCorkle at 512-756-4422. Thank you.

Submitted by Janie Howell

November 16th Thanksgiving Dinner and Donation

After worship service, stay for a Thanksgiving Feast of Plenty. Linda has prepared a sign-up sheet for food. Please let her know if you plan to bring guests so we can set up enough chairs. We will take up a Thanksgiving Offering for H.E.B. gift cards for the needy to use for food or gas. Out of God's provision for us, we help our community.

Thank you, John Roberts, Linda Weaver And Jamie Horn

Our congregation is so blessed by the generosity and talent of John and Linda. John's piano recital on Sunday, October 19, brought tears our eyes. God gives us talents to use for His Glory, and John's gift of music is a blessing to our congregation and community.

Linda never ceases to amaze us! From the beautifully decorated Sanctuary to the lovely tables in the Norris building, her artistic talent was on full display. Linda, Billie Don, and Jamie, thank you for the delicious food you prepared for us!



John Noel Roberts

Important Dates for November

Nov. 2	21st Sunday after Pentecost Congregational Meeting
Nov. 7	Kitchen Committee Mtg, 10 am
Nov. 9	22nd Sunday after Pentecost Country Oaks, 3:00
Nov. 10	PW Meeting, 1:30
Nov. 11	Veterans Day
Nov. 16	23rd Sunday after Pentecost Thanksgiving Lunch
Nov. 18	Session Meeting, 5:00
Nov. 23	Men of Church Meeting, 8 am Community Thanksgiving Service, 5 pm
Nov. 30	1 st Sunday of Advent

Newsletter for Presbyterian Men

Four Presbyterian men attended the first Men's Bible Study on September 28, enjoying breakfast thoughtfully prepared by Pat Collins, and discussing a YouTube presentation on Hebrews. The group will meet every fourth Sunday at 8:00 AM, with the next session on November 23, featuring a light breakfast and an agenda to be shared a week prior. Meetings will include a YouTube study of a book of the Bible and may involve a service project. We look forward to gathering, growing in faith, and serving God and the church together.

Hebrews 11:6: And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

BPC STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 15, 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 5:10 pm.

OPENING PRAYER – Rev. John Brantley

AGENDA: Reviewed and duly approved by Session.

INTRODUCTION: None

SHARING OF CONCERNS OF CONGREGATION AND DEVOTIONAL:

Cleo Dulls, Alice Anglin, Lonnie Anglin, Tom Collins (No Devotional assigned)

CLERKS REPORT: The Session Minutes for August 19 and August 30, 2025 were duly approved by Session.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Pat Collins presented the report. The New Covenant Account was deducted \$26.53 for Accounting purposes in order to close out account. Adjusted the decrease in Net Change Market Investments. The New Covenant Funds were deposited to Edward Jones Account. LaCare received \$105 in congregation contributions.. The Joy/Flood Account received \$50 which was forwarded to PCUSA Disaster Relief, Tx Hill Country Flooding and \$500 was sent from the Flood Account to the ARK of Highland Lakes. Interest earned is \$38.16 from Presbyterian Foundation, \$10.15 Bank, and \$475.71 from Edward Jones. The Building

Account had pest control, AC drain clear, repaired another sprinkler head damaged by church painters. Stewardship Committee recommended removing Presbyterian Foundation \$4,745 from Total Assets effective December 2025 on a vote by Jamie Horn, seconded by Barry Dawson. Session duly approved. The reason for removing this line item is that the funds in Presbyterian Foundation are endowment funds owned by PF. BPC only receives quarterly dividends therefore the \$4,745 shown in this fund will never be accessible in Unrestricted Funds in Total Funds section of the report. Quarterly dividends will continue to be included in the Operating Funds section, Interest Income. On a motion from Fred Shin, seconded by Barry Dawson, the Treasurer Report was approved. Session duly approved Treasurer's report subject to year end audit.

MISSIONS: Jamie Horn - Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected on World Communion Sunday, October 5. 25% of offering will be retained in "local needs". Presbyterian Children's Home & Luncheon, is October 10 in Austin,. Six from our church are attending.

EVANGELISM: Jamie Horn – John Robert's Piano Recital is Sunday, October 19 at 2PM, following a church wide Fancy feast luncheon.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS – Barry Dawson said Ron Petrick had recommended SMC to do electrical repairs. He also stated there is a promise of \$20,000 from a member to go towards the electrical repairs. A reminder. There will be no electricity in Sanctuary area beginning Oct 20 – 24, 2025.

CONGREGATION CARE – Linda Weaver – Upcoming Thanksgiving luncheon is scheduled for Nov. 16, 2025 and will be organized by Nancy Harlow.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – Fred Shin- Time and Talent to be distributed October, 2025.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Men's Bible Study is planned for September 28 at 8AM in Parlor to determine Study Plan, meeting times, frequency, location, and time of meeting. Breakfast to be served at first meeting. A complete report of the responses will be presented to Session. Marilyn Petrick has organized the Children s Classroom with teaching materials found in Carl's old classroom. Linda Weaver made the Maverick Classroom cozy and donated, chairs, lamps, and décor.

MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE – Debbie Weems stated Ken Peters would accept a contract for \$15,000 a year salary, preaching 2 Sundays a

month, Pastoral Care, and Moderating Session. He would also be responsible for organizing Pulpit Supply. A complete Contract and Job Description will be presented at the October meeting. Dr. Peters contract to start November 1, 2025. Scott Nowack will continue to be part of Pulpit Supply at an increase of \$300 per Sunday. Session duly approved.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Pat Collins stated Karen Brock is nominated to complete the 3rd year for Mary Richmond which expires 2026. Jamie Horn, who replaced Mary Richmond 2nd term will end 2025. Ron Petric is nominated for a 3 year term on Session, beginning 2026 replacing Fred Shin. Cary West will remain on the Nominating Committee for the 2nd year of her 3 yr term.. Jane Zimmerman has accepted the nomination to serve a 3 year term beginning Jan 2026. Session will elect Nominating Chairman on October 28, 2025. A congregation meeting is scheduled for Nov 2, 2025 to elect Elders and Nominating Committee. Session duly approved.

OLD BUSINESS: SILER TRUST – Waiting on funds to be transferred.

NEW BUSINESS: Session voted unanimously to elect Dr. Ken Peters as the Lead Pastor for the year 25-26. Contract beginning November 2025-26. The terms to be finalized at the October Session Meeting. Pastor Ken Peters has graciously accepted. A salary increase for Rev. Scott Nowack increased to \$300 per Sunday to fill in as Pulpit Supply.

The meeting adjourned and Rev. Brantley closed the meeting with a prayer. Next meeting is October 28, 2025 at 5PM.



I invited my BFF to attend our church service, luncheon, and Piano recital by John Roberts.

Connie Neimeyer said our church was the friendliest, fun, beautiful luncheon, and awesome piano recital!!

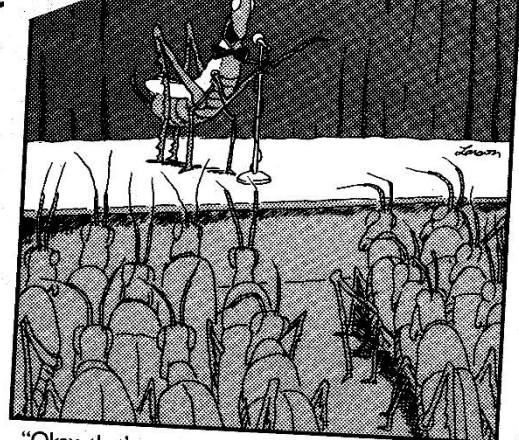
Said she would like to come again!
Mission accomplished!

CHRISTMAS IDEA

A great Christmas gift for a newlywed in your family or a new friend is a copy of our Presbyterian Women's Cookbook, Feeding the Flock, a bargain at only \$10.00 per copy!

The books are on the table in the old kitchen. There is an envelope to leave your payment. This is stress-free shopping at its best! Merry Christmas!

The Far Side



"Okay, that's pretty good! ... Now! I want everyone on this side of the aisle to come in rubbing their legs together when I signal! ... And let's show the other side how it's done!"



These fun-loving Presbyterians enjoyed the great food and even better company when they all went to the Sausage Fest at First Lutheran Church on October 13, 2025. Pictured above, Marilyn Petrick, Nancy Harlow, Lonnie Anglin, and Richard Spinner. Below: Cindy Sharpnack, Janie Howell, and Alice Anglin.

Had a lovely luncheon provided by Bill and Linda Weaver and George and Jamie Horn. Then attended the outstanding piano recital performed by John Roberts."



Night Prayer
Lord, it is night.
The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in God's presence.
It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done.
What has not been done has not been done.
Let it be.
New Zealand Prayer Book



Marilyn Petrick, Janie Howell, Nancy Harlow, Jamie Horn, and Alice Anglin (along with Carolee Frampton, not pictured) enjoyed a wonderful PCHAS Luncheon with several inspirational speakers at the Hotel Viata in Austin on October 10.