



RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5000 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76116 ❖ (817) 732-3388

www.RIDGLEAPRES.org

February, 2023

Join Zoom Meeting (US and Canada)
Topic: Ridglea Worship for February 2023
Time: Feb 5, 2023 10:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Sun, until Feb 26, 2023,
4 occurrence(s)

Feb 5, 2023 10:30 AM

Feb 12, 2023 10:30 AM

Feb 19, 2023 10:30 AM

Feb 26, 2023 10:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89097726468?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89097726468?pwd=VW5xaGpxQ1pjVlViMmd6Q1BWNu91UT09)

[pwd=VW5xaGpxQ1pjVlViMmd6Q1BWNu91UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89097726468?pwd=VW5xaGpxQ1pjVlViMmd6Q1BWNu91UT09)

Meeting ID: 890 9772 6468

Passcode: 279111



**We will celebrate the
sacrament of Communion on
Sunday, February 5, 2023**



ECLECTIC CAFÉ SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Eclectic Café Sunday School

Zoom code is 661 636 9082.

No password required;

Attendees will be admitted from the waiting room.

Lesson: Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Mapping his biography to events in Germany during World Wars I and II, and discussion of the Barman Declaration, and sample his book "The Cost of Discipleship".



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

**You Shall Be Called
Repairers of the Breach**

— ISAIAH 58

February 22—April 9, 2023

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTERS
ARE AVAILABLE
IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

SESSION MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON
FEBRUARY 19, 2023 At 7:00 P.M.

1st Sunday in Lent—February 26, 2023





PASTOR'S NOTES

BREWING

There is a controversy brewing in the Presbyterian Church (USA) around – of all things – an ordination exam, specifically the passage used for Old Testament exegesis (the process of critical analysis). Exegesis is one of six ordination exams administered by the denomination, all of which need to be successfully passed prior to being ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament (also known as a Teaching Elder).

The particular passage for the Winter 2023 exam is not part of the 3-year lectionary cycle, and is not even a well-known “tough” passage like when Abraham tells his son Isaac that “the Lord will provide” or when David is leering over the roof-tops at the young Bathsheba, and consequently plots to have Bathsheba’s husband killed so that David can take her as a wife. There are a couple of similarities to this exam passage and the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah – but the exam passage is darker and more brutal, and the purpose of its violence seems merely to spark continued violence. In case you are wondering, that last sentence is a small example of the exegetical process.

The controversy that is brewing is less about the brutality itself, and more about whether or not the passage should be a required part of a mandatory process, and if the exam process needs to be reformed (the gatekeeper for opting out of this exam is the chair of the committee which creates and oversees the process). Some of the responses fall toward the idea that “ministry is filled with unexpected, difficult issues, so....” Yet other responses fall toward the idea that “survivors of violence ought not be forced to exegete a passage of violence, so...” When I began to read about this budding controversy (during the three-day ice storm) my initial inclination was toward the first category, thinking that this was a squabble created by people who want special consideration, people who are making mountains out of mole-hills, people who want a velvet-lined ministry; thinking to myself that I’ve been doing this for decades... that passage isn’t really that bad... when I took the exegesis exam...

A moment or two later, however, I realized the hubris and insensitivity of such a perspective, and realized that I favor the second type of response (“...ought not be forced to exegete a passage of violence”), which is why I haven’t cited the book or the chapter. Ministry is filled with unexpected and difficult issues, and one of the most important things that pastors can do is to be present, be merciful, be open and understanding in the midst or the memories of the trauma of others. Analysis and exposition of this passage, in my opinion, makes a mockery of any and all attempts toward mercy, justice, honor, or attention to “the least and the lost.” An ordination exam, and process, that focuses on misogyny versus hospitality, and torture versus compassion (more exegesis there) seems short-sighted and unsustainable.

It is highly possible that you are unaware of this brewing controversy, since it is mostly pastors talking about being pastors. But there are undoubtedly other topics about which strong opinions are brewing, aren’t there? We don’t always need to change our minds, but it is good to broaden our perspectives, and be aware that what others experience may be more important than we would imagine.

Peace,

2 

Making contact...

Ridglea Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is governed by the Session, an elected body composing of elders and pastors. Our committees, led by elders, oversee our ministries. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Email: Clerk@RidgleaPres.org. Our deacons oversee our ministries of care and compassion. Email: Deacons@RidgleaPres.org

RPC SESSION

Class of 2023

Miriam Gallagher
Gayle Johnson
Nancy Staples
Nick Thoni

Class of 2024

Susan Everts
Marji Raunikar
Dale Wagner

Class of 2025

Mick Stuart
John Little
Durinda Walker
Mary Fisher

Clerk of Session: Karen Landon

RPC TRUSTEES

Class of 2022

Chris Henderson

Class of 2023

Jim Godfrey

Class of 2024

Tom Sisolak

2022-2023 RPC DEACONS

Lynne Payne - Moderator
Kit Van Nostrand—Home Member Care Coordinator
Ruth Ann Rinewalt—Hospital Care Coordinator
Dean Phillips – Hospital Care Coordinator
Jean Godfrey – Funeral Reception Coordinator
Jo VanOosterhout
Glenna Cleworth

RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2023

Will Stallworth

Class of 2024

Steve Staples

Class of 2025

Ken Kibler

Designee

Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

Staff

Roger Harwerth, Pastor
Patricia Taber, Office Manager
John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries
Dale Bench, Organist

roger@ridgleapres.org
patricia@ridgleapres.org
john@ridgleapres.org
dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net

Church Office #817.732.3388



COME JOIN US!
March 4, 2023
Dinner With Friends
1st Saturday of the month

We have changed the name of "Dinner for Eight" to "Dinner With Friends". Once a month small groups of 5-8 (or more) will gather to enjoy a meal and fellowship at a local restaurant or the host's home. Our Dinner with Friends for February will be **Saturday, March 4th**.

You can **register on Realm** to attend or host a group for this event or see a member of the Fellowship Team on Sunday mornings in the Narthex to get registered.

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE PICTURES OF YOUR GROUPS FOR THE NEWSLETTER



ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS OF THE CHILI COOK OFF



*1ST PLACE - JARED WELCH
RUNNER UP - GLENNA CLEWORTH*

Many thanks to our judges- Rev. Roger Harwerth, Karen Landon & George Tischler. A special thank you to all the participants that brought their favorite homemade Chili. We had a total of 11 entries and they were all excellent! It was a full house with everyone making several trips to try to taste them all.



RPC Youth & Children's News.....



Senior High Youth Connection (SHYC) January 27-29 at Austin College



Judy Maas, Johnny Haenes,
Hayden Haenes, Zoe Martin,
Kevin Hand, Beth Duncan

**PLEASE JOIN US
PWR GENERAL MEETING
FEB 28TH, TUESDAY 10:30AM**

**PAINTED CHURCHES OF TEXAS
BY
POLLY HOOPER**

ALL ARE WELCOME, WOMEN AND MEN TO COME HEAR ABOUT THESE AMAZING CHURCHES IN TEXAS FROM THE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY. IT'S A BLEND OF ART AND HISTORY OF CREATED BY GERMANS AND CXECHS TO REMIND THEM OF THEIR HOMELAND. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.



DINNER WITH FRIENDS JANUARY 7, 2023



Gayle and Jane Johnson, Glen and
Durinda Walker, Nancy Marchant,
Dean Phillips, Gordon Marchant

NEXT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

FEB 19TH (AFTER CHURCH SERVICE)

*MEAL WILL BE PROVIDED
LASAGNA, SALAD, BREAD, DESSERT & DRINKS*

(PLEASE SIGN UP ON REALM OR AT CHURCH)

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

You Shall Be Called Repairers of the Breach

— ISAIAH 58

February 22—April 9, 2023

February 22–April 9, 2023

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

WAYS TO GIVE —

- ✦ Through your congregation
- ✦ Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- ✦ Text OGH5 to 91999 to give



~or~
You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

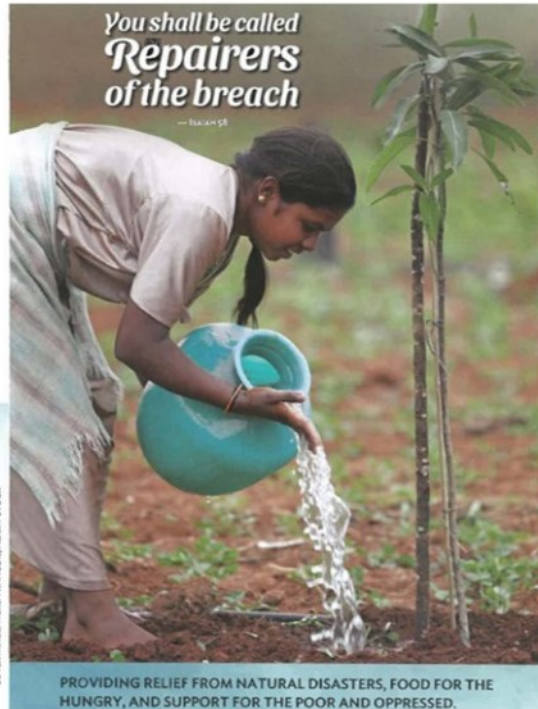
Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in over 100 countries.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference, visit pcusa.org/oghs



One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four annual special offerings. The four churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.



COVER IMAGE: WELI FRANCOIS/ALAMY STOCK

PROVIDING RELIEF FROM NATURAL DISASTERS, FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY, AND SUPPORT FOR THE POOR AND OPPRESSED.



ALLIANCE FOR FAIR FOOD

During Lent, we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus' resurrection, and connects us with "those who have least." One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience, and sustainability.

I WAS HUNGRY
AND YOU GAVE ME FOOD.
I WAS THIRSTY
AND YOU GAVE ME
SOMETHING TO DRINK.
I WAS A STRANGER
AND YOU WELCOMED ME.
I WAS NAKED AND
YOU GAVE ME CLOTHING.
I WAS SICK AND
YOU TOOK CARE OF ME.
I WAS IN PRISON
AND YOU VISITED ME.

— MATTHEW 25:31–46



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

We Are There

In this Season of Lent, we follow Jesus' example; walking alongside the most vulnerable to partner in repairing harms inflicted upon them. We are the Church, Together; and we are there with those who need us.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through three life-saving programs —



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Restore Streets
to Live In



PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

Share Bread with
the Hungry



SELF- DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE

Loose the Bonds
of Injustice

Please give generously.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(Front row)

**Linda Launder
Melissa Burkhead
Gleda Griffin**

(Back row)

**Ron Launder
Pastor Roger
Maria Shupe**

Sue Guthrie (not shown)



Session Meeting Notes for January 19, 2023

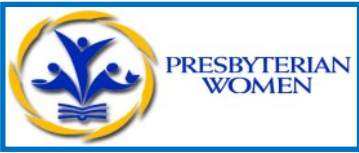
The Ridglea Presbyterian Church regular stated session meeting took place on Thursday, January 19, 2023, in the RPC Sanctuary and via Zoom. The Reverend Roger Harwerth moderated the meeting. RPC Clerk Karen Landon took the minutes of the meeting. Lynne Payne, Moderator of the Deacons, was also in attendance.

- The minutes of the December 15, 2022, stated session meeting and the December 2022 budgeted financial statement were approved.
- The 2022 Annual Statistical Report, which was submitted by the Clerk to the Office of General Assembly on January 18, 2023, was approved.
- The 2022 End-of-Year Reports from committees and congregational groups were received by the Session.
- Elder commissioners were elected to attend the Grace Presbytery Called Meeting on January 21, 2023.
- The Session is taking part in mission and vision statement discussions. The process of creating mission and vision statements for RPC began in December 2022 and will continue for the next few months.
- The 2023 list of RPC Sunday School teachers and leaders was approved.
- The next RPC stated session meeting will be Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

The next stated meeting of Grace Presbytery will take place Saturday, March 4, 2023, at Trinity Presbyterian Church in McKinney. This meeting will be offered in a hybrid format with members attending in-person or virtually.



Harriett Willis with Day Resource Center sent a very big thank you to RPC for the warm clothing donated by the congregation. They were able to distribute to many of the unhoused people during the extreme cold spell that arrived before the Christmas holiday.



February, 2023

Of all the special offerings of P.W.U.S.A., The Fellowship of the Least Coin is the most unique.

By request, we reprint this article first published in January, 1974 by P.W. of Woodbridge, New Jersey.

After World War II, a group of women representing the Presbyterian World Council was asked to form the International Fellowship Team of Reconciliation. This team was to go to Alaska, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, and the Philippines to heal the rift caused by war. One of these women was Shanti Solomon of India. When the Reconciliation Team attempted to enter Korea, Mrs. Solomon and the representative from Japan were refused admittance and so returned to Manila to await the others. Shanti was bewildered. She could understand why Japan was refused—that country precipitated the war—but her country was neutral. After some consideration, she decided it must be her country's neutrality that was the cause.

During a Bible Study with other women in Manila the story of The Widow's Mite was read.

"That's it!", she cried.

When the babble of startled voices quieted, she explained her idea. Like the widow who gave her two small, almost valueless coins, all the women of the world could give the least coin of their country. The coin itself would not be the main objective but along with the coins would go each woman's prayer for the other women of the world. The coin would serve as a token of concern and commitment. When the rest of the team returned, Shanty explained to them her idea. The American representative said she didn't think women of her country would be interested in putting one penny a month in a collection each month of the year.

"But that's the whole point! There are so many women who want to feel they are helping but don't have a lot of money. By giving the smallest coin of her country each woman will be able to participate equally. The women of the four countries could hold up their heads content that they too were contributing to the betterment of the world!"

Her idea was adopted in The Fellowship of the Least Coin was born. At the end of the first year \$11,000.00 had been given. In two years \$20,000 and after 10 years, one half million dollars, despite the fact that most of these least coins are worth less than 1/8 the value of an American one cent piece.

The grants for 2022 will be used around the world to:

- empower single mothers
- offer job training and education
- help migrant workers with shelter and food
- hold mental health seminars
- provide trauma healing

All to improve the position of women in society. Look what a penny can do!

Circles meet in February

One	February 14	At church (Fish Classroom)	10:30 a.m.
Two	February 14	At church (Eclectic Café Classroom)	10:30 a.m.
Three	February 7	At church (Eclectic Café Classroom)	6:15 p.m.

Just Bring It: February, 2023. Prayer Bears. The Cook Children's Hospital Chaplains hand out Prayer Bears and Books to provide spiritual support to the children and their families. Remember these bears are for sick children, so they should be of sufficient quality to be safe for an extended hospital stay, and be 8-20 inches with the tags attached.



All Women, Always Welcomed
BIBLE STUDY - MISSION - FELLOWSHIP



Wednesday mornings

8:00 a.m.

Sanctuary

The men's prayer breakfast has been a vital part of Ridglea's mission and ministry for decades. We enjoy a home-cooked breakfast (just \$4.00) and pray for people and events throughout the world.



Many of us know the blessings of having fellow church members pray for us and others. Prayer Request items are distributed to a list maintained by PWR. Anyone who would like to be added to this distribution list should call the Church office. Anyone who has a prayer request can send the information to Ruth Ann Rinewalt at r.rinewalt@att.net.

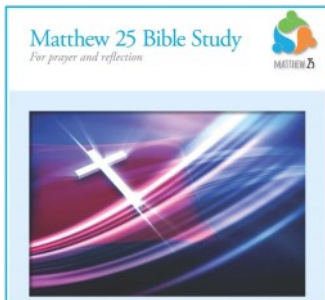


We need ushers, communion servers, and liturgists for Sundays during the 2023 year of worship. Please volunteer to help with the Sunday morning worship service. Also, if you signed up for a particular Sunday and something comes up, please contact Durinda Walker at 817-229-9880 in order to fill those positions.

Sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d49a4ae2ea3f85-ushers1>

Matthew 25 Book Club

Spring 2023



Our book club is open to all. We ask you to join as we read and study books that may push us out of our comfort zone. Join us on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6 pm with your own sack supper. The study will begin at 6:30 and go to about 8 pm.

Below is the list of the upcoming date, books, and leaders. You don't have to have read the book to attend.

February 28 WAKING UP WHITE by Debbie Irving. Leader Thylis Chambless

March 28 Because of the Women's Retreat we will skip this date.

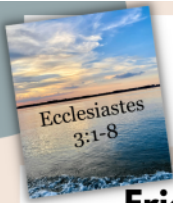
April 25 WE ARE NOT LIKE THEM by Christine Pride & Jo Piazz.

Becky Williamson is the Leader.

May 28 THE OTHER WES MOORE by Wes Moore. Leader Chris Shahan.

We hope you will be able to join us.

The Matthew 25 Study Group



RPC WOMEN'S RETREAT

March 24-25, 2023

Friday

Shopping - 3:00-5:30
Whoever wants to join!

Dinner

The Fillin Station
100 N. Crockett St Granbury, TX 76048
(separate checks)

Entertainment

Hello Dolly
Granbury Opera House
133 E. Pearl St
Granbury, TX 76048
Cost: \$30

Reservations must be made no later than
February 26th

Where

Neely House on Lake
Granbury
304 E. Rucker St.
Granbury, TX 76048

Saturday

Retreat - 9:00am-5:00pm

Guest Speaker: Rev. Jennifer Hayes
Includes Snacks, Lunch and Drinks
Cost: \$35



Registration

Scan the QR code above or use
this link to register and pay
online through Realm.

tinyurl.com/2023RPCWomen

Accommodations

Comfort Inn

903 Harbor Lakes Dr
Granbury, TX 76048
Friday Night Only

Cost: \$75 per person based
on 2 people per room

You may also register or ask questions before and after each church
service in the Narthex.



THE 2023 FLOWER CALENDAR IS POSTED IN THE
NARTHEX FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WOULD LIKE
TO PROVIDE FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
IN RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL DATES,
OCCASIONS OR LOVED ONES YOU WOULD LIKE TO
CELEBRATE IN THE
UPCOMING YEAR.

FEBRUARY "JUST BRING IT" PRAYER BEARS



February — Prayer Bears. The Cook Children's Hospital Chaplains hand out Prayer Bears and Books to provide spiritual support to the children and their families. Remember these bears are for sick children, so they should be of sufficient quality to be safe for an extended hospital stay, and should be 8-20 inches and still have tags attached.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH



The RPC Women are collecting quarters in the Narthex after service every second Sunday of the month to assist Westaid in providing laundry services and supplies to those in need.



Remember Our
Home Members



On the third Sunday of each month, beautiful note cards will be available for RPC members to send to our "at home members." Following worship service, these cards will be in white baskets in the Narthex on a first come basis.



The Jam Sessions for February will be on Monday, the 13th and 27th in the Sanctuary from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Lots of bluegrass, folk, Americana and country music is shared with acoustic (unamplified) instruments. Musicians of all skills are encouraged!

**YOUR SESSION INVITES YOU TO
FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:**

- 1. FIND YOUR PASSION**
- 2. FIND YOUR TEAM/COMMITTEE**
- 3. IDENTIFY YOUR MEETING NIGHT**
- 4. GET INVOLVED!**

1st Tuesday of the Month
February 7, 2023 10:00 a.m.
Board of Deacons: Focus on Members
Kit Van Nostrand, Moderator

2nd Tuesday of the Month
February 14, 2023 6:15 p.m.
Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing
Susan Everts, Chair

1st Tuesday of the Month
February 7, 2023 7:00 p.m. & Zoom
Fellowship Team: Focus on Social Gatherings
Gayle Johnson, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
February 8, 2023 5:00 p.m.
Commitment Team: Focus on Guests
Mary Fisher, Chair

1st Wednesday of the Month
February 1, 2023 5:30 p.m.
Worship Team:
Focus on Sunday & Special Services
Durinda Walker, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
February 8, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Building & Equipment :
Focus on Physical Structures
Dale Wagner, Chair

1st Thursday of the Month
February 2, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Personnel: Focus on Staff Support
Nick Thoni, Chair

2nd Thursday
(week prior to Session Meeting)
6:00 p.m. - Zoom
Finance & Budget: Focus on Stewardship
Reeve Van Nostrand, Chair

2nd Tuesday of the Month
February 14, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Outreach Team: Focus on Mission
Marji Raunika, Chair

3rd Thursday of the Month
February 16, 2023
7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom
Session Meeting
Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator

Clerk of Session
Karen Landon

February, 2023 Birthdays



Frank Turrella	2	4
Reeve Van Nostrand	2	6
Barbara Eubanks	2	6
Dale Wagner	2	8
Michaela Register	2	9
Megan Register	2	9
Kelly Register	2	10
Morgan Register	2	15
Kaki Rottler	2	15
Robyn Reid	2	16
Allan Howeth	2	19
Colton Morrison	2	19
Kathy Severson	2	22
Kay Davis	2	25
Preston Lee	2	27
Durinda Walker	2	28
Shonda Kaempf	2	28

The next
newsletter dead-
line
will be
February 16, 2023
at noon.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116