



RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

www.RIDGLEAPRES.org

September, 2023



SCAN TO VIEW
WEBSITE

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH, IN
OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY**



**We will celebrate the
sacrament of Communion on
Sunday, September 3, 2023**

Join Zoom Meeting (US and Canada)

Topic: Ridglea Worship Service

Time: 10:30 AM Central Time

Every week on Sunday, until July 21, 2024
60 occurrence(s)

September 3 10:30 a.m.

September 10 10:30 a.m.

September 17 10:30 a.m.

September 24 10:30 a.m.

Join [Zoom](#) Meeting

Meeting ID: 875 7535 3065

Passcode: 818178

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.

SESSION MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 At 7:00 P.M.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTERS
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS



2023

**Mission/Vision Statement
adapted by the Session of
Ridglea Presbyterian Church
March, 2023**

Following our Savior's example,
Ridglea Presbyterian Church
strives to perform
acts of compassion
and inclusivity
in our daily lives
while seeking to grow
in spirit and hope.



PASTOR'S NOTES

We were invited to participate in the 150th Anniversary of the congregation we served from 1991 – 1994, but due to other commitments are not able to be there. I thought I would share an edited version of my letter to them, as a way of reminding all of us that our connections are, like grace, deep and wide and on-going. RAH

Dear friends at First Presbyterian Church of Hays, Kansas,

First, let me share my congratulations of this milestone of service and mission in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. May you continue to exude a “Pioneer Spirit” in that special part of God’s creation, and everywhere that God shepherds all of you.

A little bit of catching up with family information, if y’all don’t mind. *(this is edited here, for length)*

Our son Christopher and his wife, BreeAnne... Our daughter Amanda and her husband, Alex... Our youngest, Hannah and her husband, Ethan ... are expecting their first child... you may remember that Hannah was born in 1993 [and is] the first (and perhaps still the only?) child born to a pastor while serving First Presb., Hays. Oh, yes – Brenda and I celebrated our 43rd anniversary earlier this year!

When we departed from our service in Hays, we went to Borger, Texas — about an hour north of Amarillo — and were there for eleven years. We then accepted a call to Pendleton, Oregon, which is on the eastern, or “dry” side of the state, and we were there for another eleven years. The next call was to the Seattle, Washington area, from 2016 into 2019, before being called to Ridglea (pronounced “ridge - lee”) Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

There are many, many fond memories of our time in Hays, including:

living just a handful of houses away from Gale and Patsy Teller for six+ months; the wonderful choir, under the direction of Fritz Kramer (with assistance from Rager Moore), and the organ playing of Tom Meagher (his rendition of Widor’s “Finale from Symphony #5” is still a favorite); conversations with John Thorn about the art and architecture of the facility (and his charming mother, Margaret).

While serving in Hays I was helped in finding and refining the skills of moderating a session; studying, writing and preaching; working with community colleagues; encouraged to participate in presbytery and synod leadership; served as chaplain at the Episcopal/Presbyterian camp up the road in Phillipsburg, and so much more.

When we had been at Hays a little over a year, our seminary class had a five-year reunion (San Francisco Theological Seminary, class of ’87), and I told my classmates, “I cannot believe how fortunate we are to have been called to Hays, Kansas – it’s only been a year, but we might be in Hays another 25 years!” Alas, that was not meant to be, as I had neither the gifts nor the skills to mend the brokenness which befell the community, the congregation, and our staff on that horrible autumn day. This is neither the time nor place to recount that tragedy, but suffice to say that the dissolution of that pastoral call was a hope (from me and others) that grace-filled healing might take place with new pastoral leadership.

We were thrilled to have been invited to, and able to participate in the 125th Anniversary in 1998, though there were still some questions asked along the lines of “how come?” and “what happened?”

The last time through Hays was about ten years ago, helping Amanda move from Kennewick, Washington to Dallas, Texas (where her husband was beginning new employment); I drove their pick-up truck cross country. Hays had “jumped” the interstate! That was quite a surprise. I only had time to drive to 2900 Hall to see the building — still an awe-inspiring structure — before getting back on the road.

In addition to those already named, there are many, many others who regularly fall across my memories, including the Flehartys, the Odekirks, the Beaches, the Layendeckers, the Dycks, the Wards, the Hicks, the Pruitts, the Malmbergs, Mildred Briery, Edith Wilkins, and so many more — my apologies for naming only a handful.

And, if you are so blessed as to have my predecessor, Rev. Kent Hollingsworth, with you, please convey my warmest regards.

Friends, please know that I was blessed to be able to be in ministry with you, even briefly, and honored to be a small part of your celebration, even at a distance. Your witness to the body of Christ, as well as the horizons of ministry that are before you all, will be lifted during our Service of Worship on September 24th at Ridglea Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth, and as I am traveling to a separate engagement on that day.

P.S. If or when we depart from the Fort Worth area, we will try to keep First Pres., Hays apprised of our location so that, hopefully, we will be able to celebrate with y’all at your 175th anniversary — by then I’ll probably be retired and have a more open calendar!

Grace and Peace, Rev. Roger A. Harwerth (aka “Pastor Roger”)

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		
<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Susan Everts	Mary Fisher	Beth Duncan
Jean Hadley	John Little	Shiryl Gillaspie
Marji Raunikar	Mick Stuart	George Tischler
Mary Beth Wagner	Durinda Walker	Reeve Van Nostrand
<i>Clerk of Session: Karen Landon</i>		

RPC TRUSTEES		
<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Jim Godfrey	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				
<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Designee</u>
Will Stallworth	Steve Staples	Ken Kibler	Gordon Ramsey	Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

Staff	
Roger Harwerth, Pastor	roger@ridgleapres.org
Patricia Taber, Office Manager	patricia@ridgleapres.org
John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries	john@ridgleapres.org
Dale Bench, Organist	dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net
Church Office #817.732.3388	



HOSTED BY JOHN
AND KATRINA LITTLE



L-R Carl Hayes, John Little, Mila, Lauren, Ryan and Mindy Keating, Sarah and Mary Beth Wagner, Martin, Aspen and Allison Cleworth, Mary Hanson, Jennifer and Marcus Hayes.

DINNER WITH FRIENDS AUGUST 5, 2023

HOSTED BY MARSHA AND BOB WEST



L-R Chris Shahan, Marsha and Bob West, Zim and Mac Zimmerman, Brenda and Roger Harwerth, Linda Hart

HOSTED BY THYLIS CHAMBLESS



L-R Linda Launder, Renee Stuart, Ron Launder, Kathy Broadway, Thylis Chambless, Mick Stuart



Z

Thank you so much for the scholarship.
The money is going to be used towards my fall
registration. Assistance like this means more than
you know.

Thanks again!
Noah Zimmerman

Dear Roger, Lynne, Jo and Patricia,



School is starting, and you have helped so many children get started on the right foot! Thank you so much for all of your support for our Back to School Drive to provide new backpacks filled with supplies for all the school-age children served by Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services!

This year we provided Back to School backpacks to over 100 children served by **PCHAS** in the Fort Worth and north Texas area. The backpacks from Ridglea Presbyterian Church went to children served by our Child and Family Program in Keller. Parents expressed their deep thanks for your generosity! Lynne, I want to express my deep thanks for all your work on organizing the backpacks, and helping me to load them.

Thank you so much for making this possible! I hope that you will share our deep gratitude with the Session, the Mission Committee and the congregation! Our ministry is possible only because of congregations like yours. Thank you!!!

Grace and Peace,

Maria



COME JOIN US!
September 9, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
Dinner With Friends (previously Dinner for 8)
(1st Saturday of the month)

Gather in groups of 6 to 8 or more to enjoy a meal and fellowship at the host's home or a local restaurant. The Fellowship Committee will coordinate registration and organizing the Friends Groups. Groups will differ from month to month.

We coordinate groups that meet for lunch as well as dinner. You may now indicate if you would like to participate in a lunchtime option.

Please consider being a host:

If you agree to host in your home, you decide what entree you would like to serve and ask the assigned members of your Friends Group to bring side dishes to complement the meal.

If you agree to host in a restaurant, simply make a reservation at the restaurant of your choice. Then notify the members of your assigned Friends Group of the restaurant and reservation time. Dinner in a restaurant will be dutch treat.

Please remember, if you attended or hosted, send pictures to the church office for the Newsletter.



See details and register on Realm for these upcoming events:

Event:	Date:	Register By:	Info:
September Dinner with Friends	Saturday, Sept 9th	Sunday, Sept 3rd	NOTE: Dinner with Friends has moved to the second Saturday in Sept due to the first Saturday falling in a holiday weekend. Dinner or Lunch groups are available.
September Fellowship Lunch	Sunday, Sept 17th	Wednesday, Sept 13th	September 17th is Gifts of Women Sunday. PWR and the Fellowship Committee will co-host the Lunch. All are welcome.

Mark your calendars for events coming soon:

(We'll let you know when registration opens on Realm)

Event:	Date:
October Dinner with Friends	Saturday, October 7th

RPC Fellowship Luncheon—August 20, 2023



On the first and second 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.

RPC CIRCLE 1 GATHERED DURING THE SUMMER BREAK FOR A FUN LUNCHEON



Quarters for Westaid



The Ridglea Presbyterian Women will be collecting quarters on the second Sunday of each month in order to assist Westaid in providing funds for laundry services and supplies to those in need.



**General Meeting
September 26, 2023**

Outreach to Luella Merrett Elementary School



The Outreach Committee provided a welcome-back Teacher's breakfast on Monday, August 7. The teachers and staff enjoyed breakfast tacos, fruit, orange juice, and coffee as they gathered for their first day back at work to prepare for the new school year.

The uniforms donated by the congregation in July were delivered to the school. The total number of clothing items was a total of 48 pants, shorts, jumpers, 2 sweaters, 80 shirts, 1 package of boxers, and 244 pairs of socks. We are continuing to collect uniforms through the month of August:

Socks: All size Youth S to L

Pants: All sizes, 6 to 16

Shirts: All sizes, S to XXL

Color pants: Navy Blue, Khaki

Color shirts: White, Navy Blue, Red



Principal Ms. Aura Angel said that they are extremely excited to have our congregation as a partner once again in support of the Luella Merrett children, teachers, and staff.

RALLY DAY & BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS—AUGUST 13, 2023

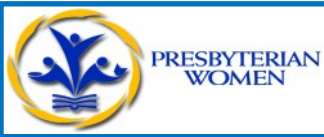


THE 2024 FLOWER CALENDAR IS POSTED IN THE NARTHEX FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES IN RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL DATES, OCCASIONS OR LOVED ONES YOU WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE IN THE UPCOMING YEAR.



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.



September, 2023

Even in the midst of a hot summer, thoughts and plans turn to fall. Over a dozen women of Ridglea attended the bible study workshop at First Presbyterian on August 22. It's always a thrill to meet the author. Dr. Olive Mahabir has served the Presbyterian church as pastor, member of the presbytery committees and Faith and Order commission of National Council of Churches. She has a particular interest in women's rights and concern for the poor. She gave encouragement and helpful advice as we launch this year's study, Sacred Encounters.

At Gifts of Women Sunday, we will install our 2023-2024 slate of officers. Three new women join the team: Gleda Griffin will be our Treasurer, Sue Guthrie and Karen Landon will share Secretary duties. Welcome ladies! New P.W. directories will be available at the luncheon that follows.

Other opportunities:

September 1: Women United at Morningside United Methodist will celebrate Human Rights Day at 10:00 a.m.

September 19: Ridglea PW and St. Stephen PW will join Westminster PW at Westminster at 10:00 a.m. to hear a speaker from "The Net". This is an organization that visits jails to help rehabilitate women back in to society.

Painted Churches of Texas—If you are interested in taking a tour, please call 979-743-4514 for more information. Interested in a group from the church touring together—contact Katrina Little for more information.

Circles meet in September

- One September 12 At church (Fish Classroom) 10:30 a.m.
- Two September 12 At church (Eclectic Café Classroom) 10:30 a.m.
- Three September 5 At church (Eclectic Café Classroom) (Bring a bag supper; dessert is provided) 6:15 p.m.

Just Bring It: September, 2023. Bug spray for DRC to distribute to residents of homeless camps and shelters in Fort Worth.

All Women, Always Welcomed
BIBLE STUDY - MISSION - FELLOWSHIP



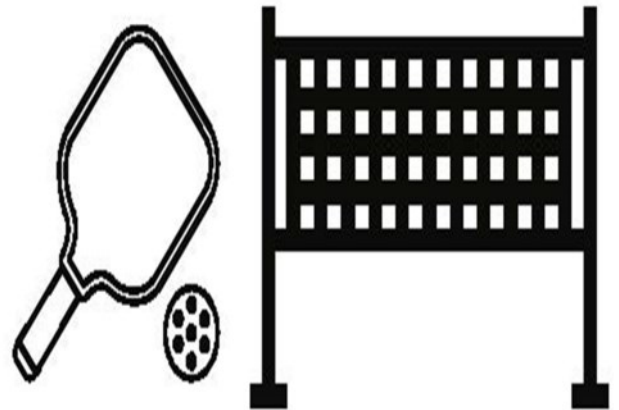
INDOOR Pickleball Fun

**When: 7:00--9:00 p.m. on Thursday
September 28, 2023.**

Where: Game On Fort Worth (251 Settlement Plaza Dr.)

Who: Pickleball Playing or Pickleball Curious Adults

Cost: \$15/person for the evening of play



Bring your own water bottle.

Wear athletic shoes with non-marking soles.

Wear comfortable clothes so you can be active.

Bring your own paddle or note when registering in Realm that you would like to borrow one.

Payment will be due to Katrina Little on the day of the event.

**Please reserve a spot in Realm by Monday,
10:00 a.m. Sept. 25, 2023.**

The main goal is fun, fun, fun!

For questions, touch base with Katrina Little (817-253-7973) or Melissa Burkhead (817-565-0776).



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.

RPC 2024 NOMINATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS



The Nominations Committee asks the congregation to please submit ideas of who you would like to see in leadership positions for the upcoming terms. If you have suggestions, please fill out the form located in the Sunday bulletins, and drop in the offering plate. Deadline is October 29, 2023.

Just Bring It—September



The DRC Outreach Team is handing out insect repellent (like Off or Cutter) to our unsheltered neighbors who are in desperate need of relief. We will be collecting insect repellent spray of any brand now through September.

Another option is to ship insect repellent directly to DRC and send an email notification to Ms. Liesl Gray Manone, Chief Development Officer at DRC لمانone@drc-solutions.org so that they will know to expect the shipment.

Nubia Munoz
DRC Solutions
1100 E Lancaster Ave
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Welcome New Member Ryan Keating



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>



The Jam Sessions will be on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month 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!



Matthew 25 Action Team

We've been busy. We're so thankful for each of you who have taken part in one or another of our various activities: Quail Trail (the community for the recently homeless) for the Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB) distribution, Quail Trail Birthday Celebrations, Breakfast for Luella Merrett Staff, collection of uniforms for the Luella Merrett Students. And all the other many ways this congregation helps serve those less fortunate.

Saturday morning August 26, five of us (Marji Raunika, Lynne Payne, Marsha West, Katrina Little, and John Little) attended COPE (Cost of Poverty Experience) where we role played what it was like to live in poverty, using real people's experiences. We felt stressed, upset, frustrated, angry, and hopeless as it appeared the system was truly set up against us. We'd take one step forward and then two steps back. During the feedback after the experience, many of the participants expressed how this experience changed the way we will feel about the people we help at various agencies and how we will treat them. It really is a situation of, "There but for the Grace of God, go I.") The event took place at Community Crossroads Outreach Center sponsored by First Presbyterian and was attended by approximately fifty people who are involved in various agencies helping those in need. We will make sure to share info about the next COPE event. It was an invaluable experience and despite the negative emotions it arose within each of us, it also increased our sense of purpose.

The **Matthew 25 Book Club** continues this fall and spring. Here are dates to put on your calendar:

Tuesday, September 19, 6 pm M-25 Book Club. Marsha West's home 8848 Heron Drive 76108. Bring your sack supper, and we'll watch THE 1649 PROJECT together. Please RSVP mwest7012@sbcglobal.net so I can make sure to have enough places for everyone to sit. Iced Tea will be provided. If you want something else to drink, please bring it.

Wednesday, September 27, 1:30 Eclectic Class Matthew 25 Action Team meeting All are welcome.

Tuesday, October 17, 6 pm Book Club **NECESSARY TROUBLE** by Drew Gilpin Faust (Harvard's first woman president about growing up in the segregated south.)

November -No meeting

December 19 TBA

Basically, Book Club meets on the 3rd Tuesday and our committee meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month with variations due to holidays—like skipping November because it is the week of Thanksgiving. More information in the coming monthly and weekly newsletters.

**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!**

2nd Sunday of the Month
September 10, 2023 11:45 a.m.
Board of Deacons: Focus on Members
Lynne Payne, Moderator

2nd Tuesday of the Month
September 12, 2023 6:15 p.m.
Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing
Susan Everts, Chair

1st Tuesday of the Month
September 5, 2023 7:00 p.m. & Zoom
Fellowship Team: Focus on Social Gatherings
Beth Duncan, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
September 13, 2023 5:30 p.m.
Commitment Team: Focus on Guests
Mary Fisher, Chair

1st Wednesday of the Month
September 6, 2023 5:30 p.m.
Worship Team:
Focus on Sunday & Special Services
Durinda Walker, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
September 13, 2023 6:30 p.m.
Building & Equipment :
Focus on Physical Structures
George Tischler, Chair

1st Thursday of the Month
September 7, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Personnel: Focus on Staff Support
George Tischler, 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
September 12, 2023 6:00 p.m.
Outreach Team: Focus on Mission
Marji Raunikar, Chair

3rd Thursday of the Month
September 21, 2023
7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom
Session Meeting
Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator

Nominations Committee:
John Little, Chair
Beth Duncan, Vice Chair

Clerk of Session
Karen Landon



September, 2023 Birthdays

Rebecca (Becky) Williamson	9	1
Laura Saxton	9	5
Cort Rea	9	5
Jean Godfrey	9	5
Warner Bailey	9	7
Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie	9	12
Steven Staples	9	12
Steve Cowden	9	12
Michelle Birdwell	9	14
Linda Wilson	9	16
Kevin Hand	9	19
Butch Saxton	9	19
Jeremy Martin	9	20
Melinda Keating	9	21
Autumn Thoni	9	25
Julie Ritz	9	26
Blythe Lee	9	28
Zim Zimmerman	9	29

The next
newsletter
deadline
will be
September 21,
2023
at noon.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGELEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116