



# RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

[www.RIDGLEAPRES.org](http://www.RIDGLEAPRES.org)

FEBRUARY, 2026

**Due to technical difficulties,**  
we will no longer live stream  
our 10:30 a.m. Sunday services on the  
Zoom platform, **effective February 1, 2026.**  
These services will still be available through the  
Ridglea Presbyterian Church Facebook page,  
and will be archived there.

February 1, 2026	10:30 a.m. Communion
February 8, 2026	10:30 a.m.
February 15, 2026	10:30 a.m. Fellowship Luncheon
February 18, 2026	6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service Soup Dinner provided and celebration of the Sacrament of Communion
February 22, 2026	10:30 a.m. Prayer Bear Dedication



**We will celebrate the  
sacrament of Communion  
Sunday morning,  
February 1, 2026**



***Eclectic Café Zoom meeting ID:  
915 2396 5224***

***Password is Eclectic.***

February 1 - Marsha West began a study of the book:  
BEING PRESBYTERIAN IN A DYSVANGELICAL AMERICA,  
A Guide to Reclaiming the Good News of God's Grace written  
by Ted V. Foote, Jr. and Alex Thornburg. Come learn what the  
word "dysvangelical" means for those of us in the reformed  
tradition. This will be at least a ten-week study.

February 8 - we'll look at Chapter 2, The Bible is Authoritative,  
Not Literal.

February 15 & 22 - Chapter 2, Faith & Salvation Are Gifts, Not  
Transactions—Lynne

March 1 - Bible Study, Lenten Emphasis—Judy

Look forward to seeing everyone! All are welcome!

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTERS  
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

SESSION MEETING WILL BE HELD ON  
FEBRUARY 19, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.

## "THE GATHERING"

The Gathering, our  
multigenerational Sunday  
school class, led by Paul  
Duncan, will be an ongoing  
study of Psalms.

All are welcome to attend!

### Mission/Vision statement

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.



## Quadragesima

Are any of us ready for the season to Lent? This annual opportunity for reflection and renewal is approaching in the middle of the month, and continues through March – those forty days between Ash Wednesday and Easter, not including Sundays. Pretty much every time we talk about Lent, we add “not including Sundays.” Ever wonder about that?

Before any other Christian celebration – before Christmas, or Transfiguration, or All Saints, or Epiphany, or anything else that Christianity might recognize with a special occasion, there was Easter. Throughout the first century and more of the early Church, weekly Sabbath gatherings were focused on the significance of Easter, the assurance of resurrection. Over decades and across a diverse and diversifying ministry, what is now called Holy Week, then Epiphany, and Pentecost, and Christmas were recognized and celebrated (many of them “borrowed” from local customs then adapted and “churchified”). Eventually there came to be a multi-week emphasis on contrition and confession, although it was infrequently associated with Easter, until the fourth and fifth centuries. Originally called *Quadragesima* (Latin for “forty days”), as this multi-week period of reflection became more closely aligned as a pre-Easter fast, its association with springtime slowly prompted the switch to the Anglo-Saxon word for spring, *Lencten*. However, during those centuries of growth and adaptation, the Easter/resurrection/Sabbath connection continued its prominence, leading to our now-centuries-old recognition that the season of Lent begins forty days before Easter, not including Sundays, which is why Lent begins on a Wednesday.

As we have done for a number of years, we will begin the season of Lent with a Service of Worship, which will include a soup supper (provided by session members) and the celebration of the Sacrament of Communion. This Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6 p.m. on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

Also beginning on February 18<sup>th</sup> will be our Lenten Study Series, each Wednesday at noon. We will be using *Lent in Plain Sight* by Jill Duffield, a devotional which utilizes ten “everyday” objects, such as shoes, stones, and bread. More information about the book will be in the weekly e-news. And in case you didn’t know, we also host “chair yoga” on Wednesdays at 1 p.m., so folks can come at noon to stretch their faith, and then at 1, gently stretch their bodies!

Social shifts of the last couple of decades keep pushing toward division more than connection, and keep pushing toward taking more than receiving. Each year, each month, each week it seems as if these divisive tactics are becoming more and more frantic. These frantic tendencies put strains on long-standing traditions of honoring our differences and holding value in our diversity. In such times, the Church provides a place to hold and celebrate open and affirming traditions, and the season of Lent is one such time.

Whether or not your schedule permits being with us for our weekly study series, we hope you find opportunities to reflect, connect, and renew during this Lenten season, as we strive to model our discipleship in an often-contentious world.

Peace,

# 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](mailto:Clerk@RidgleaPres.org). Our deacons oversee our ministries of care and compassion. Email: [Deacons@RidgleaPres.org](mailto:Deacons@RidgleaPres.org)

## RPC SESSION

### Class of 2026

Beth Duncan  
Shiryl Gillaspie  
George Tischler  
Reeve Van Nostrand

### Class of 2027

Paul Morrison  
Marji Raunikar  
Mary Beth Sisolak-Wagner  
Becky Williamson

### Class of 2028

Mark Gottschalk  
Ryan Keating  
Jody Maas  
Marsha West

*Clerk of Session: Karen Landon*

## RPC TRUSTEES

### Class of 2026

Reeve Van Nostrand

### Class of 2027

Paul Morrison

### Class of 2028

Jim Godfrey

## 2025-2026 RPC DEACONS

Lynne Payne - Moderator  
Kit Van Nostrand—Home Member Care Coordinator  
Jean Godfrey – Funeral Reception Coordinator  
Glenna Cleworth  
Jane Johnson  
Diane Keller  
Jo VanOosterhout

## RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Class of 2025

Ken Kibler

### Class of 2026

Gordon Ramsey

### Class of 2027

Nancy Staples

### Class of 2028

Walter Dueease

### Designee

Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie



L-R Pastor Roger Harwerth, Becky Williamson, Ryan Keating, Marsha West, Marji Raunikar, Clerk of Session Karen Landon, Shiryl Gillaspie, Paul Morrison, Mary Beth Wagner, Beth Duncan, George Tischler, Reeve Van Nostrand, Jody Maas, Mark Gottschalk.

February 18, 2026



**Please join us for our Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00 p.m. on February 18, 2026.**

**Session will provide a soup dinner, together with rolls, crackers, cookies and drinks. We will also be celebrating the Sacrament of Communion.**

**Hope you will join us!!**

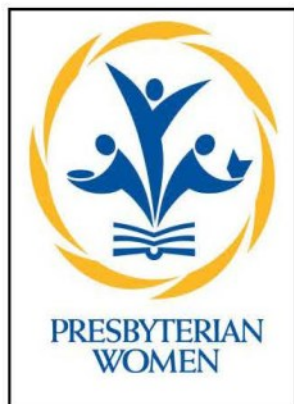


**The Men of the Church will be meeting for dinner at RPC on March 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on Realm or see one of the helpers in the Narthex (with computers) after worship.**



# HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

<b>Reeve Van Nostrand</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Dale Wagner</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Michaela Register</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Megan Register</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Linda Launder</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Kelly Register</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Morgan Register</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Kaki Rottler</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Robyn Reid</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Allan Howeth</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Colton Morrison</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Kathy Severson</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Jo VanOosterhout</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Diane Keller</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Preston Lee</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Durinda Walker</b>	<b>28</b>



### **Circle Meeting Times:**

Circle 1: February 10<sup>th</sup> at Church (Fish Classroom) 10:30 a.m.

Circle 2: February 10<sup>th</sup> at Church (Eclectic Classroom) 10:30 a.m.

Circle 3: February 3<sup>rd</sup> at Church (Eclectic Classroom) 6:30 p.m.

**Just Bring It –February 2026:** We are collecting PrayerBears for Cook Children's Hospital. The PrayerBear Program aims to give the gift of a soft, huggable PrayerBear to every child spending the night in the hospital. The PrayerBear Program began in 1997 as a way for local faith communities and organizations to support Cook

Children's patients and families through prayer. On average, over 300 bears are delivered to patients each week. (Please see guidelines for PrayerBears listed separately in the newsletter and weekly email.) PWR is collecting items for WestAid and the Presbyterian Night Shelter Quail Trail Apartments on an ongoing basis: toiletry items (shampoo, soap, deodorant, wet wipes, toothbrushes, etc.), sanitary products, & pet food. Please place items in the labeled box located near the office.

### **Looking Ahead:**

**February 24<sup>th</sup>: General Meeting** – 10:30 a.m. Program: Keep Fort Worth Beautiful by City of Fort Worth Environmental Services. Refreshments will be provided by Circle 3.

**March 6-7, 2026: RPC PWR Annual Women's Retreat – Registration is open!** Join us for fun, fellowship, learning, and worship at Moss Lake, near Gainesville.

**June 5-7, 2026: Mo Ranch Women's Conference** – Mark your calendar! Email Karen Landon at karenlandon2010@gmail.com if you are interested in attending.

**Looking WAY Ahead: Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering:** Held once every three years, Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering is an opportunity for Presbyterian women from across the country (and around the world!) to gather for worship, education, community-building, fun and renewal. Participants will enjoy workshops, forums, plenary sessions with inspiring speakers and worship. PW's triennial Business Meeting—where budget, leadership and programmatic emphases will be decided—takes place in conjunction with the Gathering.

**When is the next Gathering?** Presbyterian Women's next Churchwide Gathering will take place August 5–8, 2027 in Louisville, Kentucky.

**What happens at the Gathering?** Lots! Join in worship—enjoying uplifting music and gifted preachers—with sisters in faith from around the country and the world. Find inspiration in the plenary (large group) sessions, which highlight everything from Bible study to mission projects. Learn about your areas of passion and key issues in the world today through educational opportunities (forums and workshops) led by inspiring speakers. Witness the installation of the newly elected leaders. Visit the many exhibits. Shop in the marketplace and bookstore. Take in some of the interesting and fun sites of the city. PWR has women interested in attending. Please consider joining us next year! Email Karen Landon at karenlandon2010@gmail.com for more information.



# RPC Women's Retreat March 6-7, 2026

## Retreat Registration Sunday, February 8th Following Worship

Registration forms are  
available in the narthex.  
Payment by cash or check only.

**Registration Deadline:**  
**February 21st**

**Cost:**  
**(Includes supplies, meals, crafts)**  
**\$50 Saturday Only**  
**\$70 Friday & Saturday**  
**(Overnight accommodations available)**

Just Bring It for February, 2026,  
we are collecting  
Prayer Bears for Cook Children's  
Hospital

Please see guidelines below:



We will have the blessing of  
the Prayer Bears on Sunday,  
February 22, 2026.

Bears must be brand-new with tags still attached as we have patients with suppressed immune systems

- "Gently used" bears cannot be distributed to our patients
- Avoid bears with wording, dates, logos, or brands
- Avoid bears with religious themes as we are an interfaith program
- Bears must not require batteries and must not move, speak, or sing
- Bears must be free of scents or fragrances (i.e. chocolate-scented Valentine's Day bears; candy-scented holiday bears)
- Please avoid microwavable and freezable bears (i.e. brands such as Warmies; Warm Pals; Thermal-aid)
- Please avoid weighted bears
- Please avoid bears with sewn-in magnets
- Please do not donate collectible bears, antique bears, or bears with resale value (this includes Boyd's Bears brand)
- The ideal PrayerBear size is 6" – 18"
- Please choose bears rather than puppies, kittens, unicorns, sloths, etc. – remember, it is the PrayerBEAR Program!
- As a general rule, the best type of PrayerBear is one that is soft and huggable!



**See details and register on Realm  
for these upcoming events:**

Event:	Date:	Register By:	Information:
<b>Dinner/Lunch With Friends</b>	<b>February 7, 2026</b>	<b>Sunday, February 1, 2026</b>	
<b>Fellowship Luncheon Theme: Valentine's Day</b>	<b>February 15, 2026</b>	<b>Wednesday, February 11, 2026</b>	



**Mark your calendars for events coming soon:**  
(We'll let you know when registration opens on Realm)



Event:	Date:
<b>Fellowship Luncheon</b>	<b>March 15, 2026</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 5, 2026</b>
<b>Light breakfast before worship</b>	
<b>Fellowship Luncheon</b>	<b>April 19, 2026</b>
<b>Church Picnic</b>	



**COME JOIN US!**  
Dinner or Lunch With Friends

The Fellowship Committee is bringing some changes to Dinner (or Lunch) with Friends. For 2026, we will coordinate Dinner (or Lunch) with Friends once per quarter, on the following dates:

- Saturday, February 7, 2026
- Saturday, May 2, 2026
- Saturday, August 1, 2026
- Saturday, November 7, 2026

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

**This QR code (for phone apps) will direct people to our Realm portal for online giving; a Realm account will need to be created, though it is very simple to do.**



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](mailto:r.rinewalt@att.net).



**We need ushers, communion servers, and liturgists for Sundays during the 2026 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 Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie at 817-266-4171 in order to fill those positions.**

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

**Remember Our Home Members**



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

**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.



Wednesday mornings  
8:30 a.m.  
Central Market– Upstairs

The men's prayer breakfast has been a vital part of Ridglea's mission and ministry for decades. We enjoy a hearty breakfast and pray for people and events around the world.



**The Jam Sessions are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday 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!**



**The 2026 Flower Calendar is posted in the Narthex if you wish to celebrate, honor or remember a special person, date or occasion, Please sign up as the spaces fill up pretty quickly.**



**PARKING** - We are using the grass field behind the basketball goal for overflow parking when our main lot fills to capacity. Feel free to park there, but if you see the front row becoming near full, please leave the end spots open so others may pull in and start a second row in the grass. Thanks!

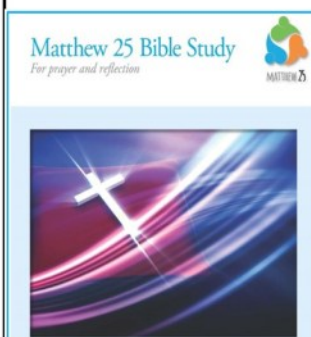
## Staff

Roger Harwerth, Pastor  
 Patricia Taber, Office Manager  
 John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries  
 Dr. Maritza Caceres, Organist  
 Caroline Maas, Pianist  
 Emily Everts, Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator

roger@ridgleapres.org  
 patricia@ridgleapres.org  
 john@ridgleapres.org  
 mcacereshb@gmail.com  
 carolineamaas@gmail.com  
 emily@ridgleapres.org

**Church Office #817.732.3388**

## Mathew 25 Action Team



**Room In The Inn** On Friday, February 6, a group of us will go to Ridglea Christian Church. We'll be providing food and conversation with the guests who are without homes. Arrive about 5:30 and we leave around 7 after cleaning up the dishes. If you would like to join us, check with Marji Raunika.

**Quail Trail** We will help with the Tarrant Area Food Bank Distribution on Friday, February 20 at 9:15. If you'd like to help, contact Lynne Payne.

### Matthew 25 Book Club

**February 24 Thylis** *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler Fiction 2023 \$11.99 *Fifteen-year-old Lauren Olamina lives inside a gated community with her preacher father, family, and neighbors, sheltered from the surrounding social chaos and anarchy caused by climate change and economic crisis.* We will have our sack supper at 6 pm and the discussion will begin at 6:30. Please come whether you've read the book or not.

All are welcome to take part in any of these activities.

"When you do it unto the least of these my brothers, you do it unto me." Matthew 25:40.

Marsha West

**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**  
**February 8, 2026 11:45 a.m.**  
**Board of Deacons: Focus on Members**  
**Lynne Payne, Moderator**

**2nd Tuesday of the Month**  
**February 10, 2026 6:15 p.m.**  
**Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing**  
**Mary Beth Wagner, Chair**

**1st Tuesday of the Month**  
**February 3, 2026 7:00 p.m. & Zoom**  
**Fellowship Team:**  
**Focus on Social Gatherings**  
**Beth Duncan, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**  
**February 11, 2026 6:30 p.m.**  
**Building and Equipment**  
**Focus on Physical Structures**  
**George Tischler, Chair**

**1st Wednesday of the Month**  
**February 4, 2026 5:30 p.m.**  
**Worship Team:**  
**Focus on Sunday & Special Services**  
**Shiryl Gillaspie Thompson, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**  
**February 11, 2026 5:30 p.m.**  
**Commitment Team: Focus on Guests**  
**Marsha West, Chair**

**1st Thursday of the Month**  
**February 5, 2026 6:00 p.m.**  
**Personnel: Focus on Staff Support**  
**Paul Morrison, 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 10, 2026 6:00 p.m.**  
**Outreach Team: Focus on Mission**  
**Marji Raunikar, Chair**

**3rd Thursday of the Month**  
**February 19, 2026**  
**7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom**  
**Session Meeting**  
**Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator**  
  
**Clerk of Session**  
**Karen Landon**

**AV Team**  
**Contact: Nancy Staples**

**Nominations Committee**  
**Contact: Mary Beth Wagner**



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

RIDGELEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116

The next  
newsletter  
deadline  
will be  
February 19, 2026  
at noon.