



Presbyterian Women in Grace Presbytery

Innovator

Semiannual Issue, September 2024
Jill Bray, Editor
jnbray51@sbcglobal.net

2024 Fall Gathering

Saturday, October 19
9:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
12433 FM 1641
Forney, TX 75126



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9:30 a.m.	Registration
10:00 a.m.	Business Meeting
10:45 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m.	Keynote
11:45-12:50	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Communion Worship Service

Installation of Officers • Offering Collection • Mission Tables
(checks/cash accepted for mission table purchases)
Lunch cost, \$10.

See Registration Form on page 2.

Issue Two
September 2024

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Presbyterian Women, What We Do:

- + Nurture Faith
- + Support Mission
- + Work for Justice & Peace
- + Build Community
- + Develop Leaders



Fall Gathering Registration Form

Grace PW Fall Gathering Registration

Saturday, October 19, 2024 9:30 am-2:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church, 12433 FM 1641, Forney, TX 75126 (972) 564 - 3978

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Home Church Name and City: _____

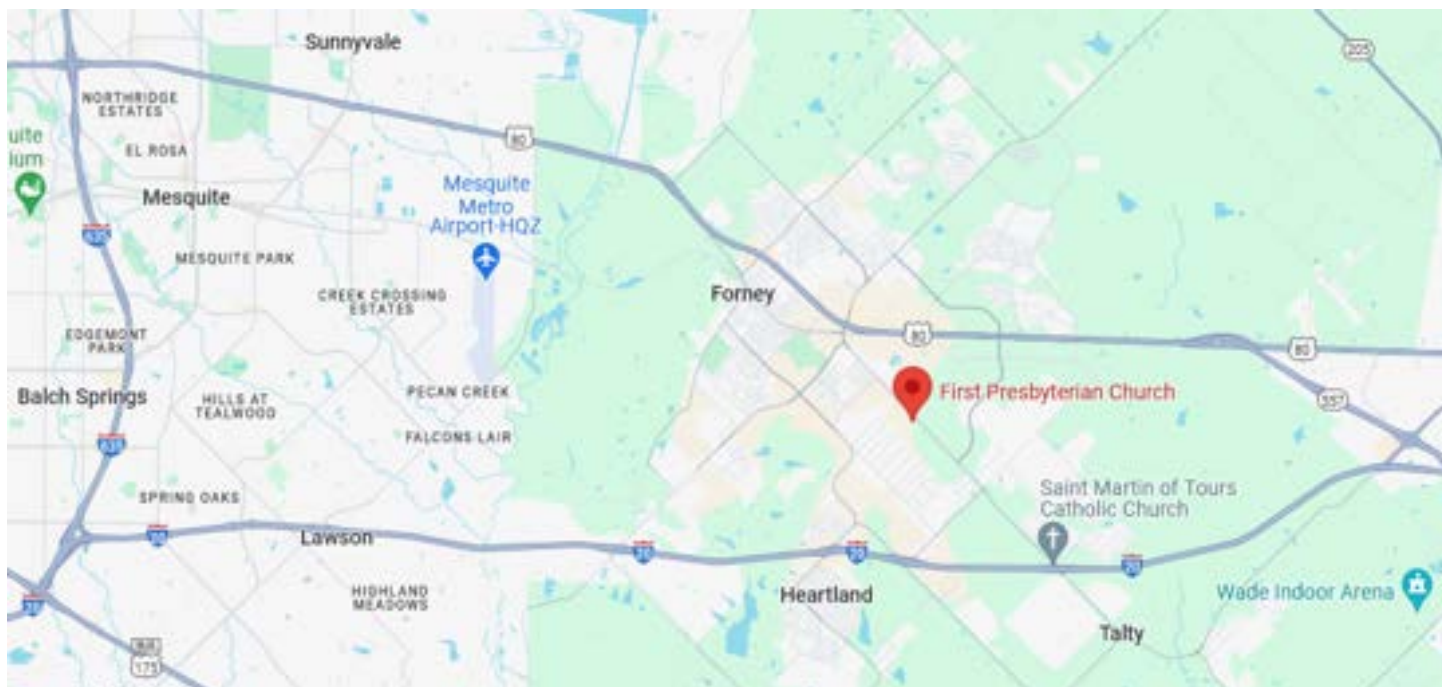
PW Office held: _____ Registrar: Liz LeGrande

Childcare is needed for _____
(number and age of children)

Please mail this form and a \$10.00 check for lunch made payable to:

First Presbyterian Church
12433 FM 1641, Forney, TX 75126, ATTN: Liz LeGrande

Registration Deadline—October 9, 2024



First Presbyterian Church—12433 FM 1641, Forney, TX 75126, (972) 564 - 3978

Meg's Meanderings



**Meg GarverHamilton, Moderator
of Grace Presbytery's PW.**

My Dear Sister in Christ,

I am typing this just after the 4th of July. It is a bit cooler than it has been and I am grateful. I pray you all are well and enjoying time with friends and families this summer. Some of us will be going to St. Louis for the Gathering of Presbyterian Women of the PC(USA) in August. Bettina Zvanut and I are the voting reps for Grace Presbytery, have our reading assignments, and are prayerfully discerning what is best for all. I do pray to see some of you there. If you haven't signed up for the Synod of the Sun Luncheon, I am sorry that you will not be joining us for the time of fellowship with the gals from the churches in our Synod. BUT, I am hoping that you will all join us in Forney at First Presbyterian Church for the Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Grace Presbytery.

We will have food, fellowship and a business meeting. We will hear from Bettina about our finances, Sherri about nominations for our Coordinating Team, and Pepa Penangia about unity among the women of the PC(USA) and what we can do to encourage unity in everything we do. There will be a worship service during which we will partake in Holy Communion. Also don't forget the Mission displays and items for purchase from them. The gals from Forney are excited to host us in their great facility. Child-care will be provided for those who need it, but must be requested on the registration form for planning purposes. Registration is only ten dollars, which covers a great lunch. The Coordinating Team covers the cost of childcare. Please know you are prayed for each day and the Coordinating Team is always available to help you and your group with any problems you have.

This side of the daisies,
Meg



*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.*

Psalm 100:1-2

Grace Presbytery PWCT Officer Contact Info

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**The Coordinating Team
is here to serve you!**



Spreading God's Love in Denton!

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Denton, Texas, possesses a rich history of social outreach. One example is Amy, who is a 40-year-old living in a group home. She was born with spina bifida and is confined to a wheelchair with many other health needs. She was attending an Adult Daycare that could not provide for her various intellectual and creative experiences. Then she fortunately discovered Life Works Community.

Lifeworks is housed in the Fellowship Hall of St. Andrew. From 2000 until 2022, Our Daily Bread provided lunch daily for homeless and needy clients in the hall. When they required a larger facility, Life Works gratefully moved in with the approval and encouragement from The Reverend Drs. Richard Culp and Lisa Patterson.

Under the direction of Director WeBu Findley-Carroll, Life Works provides personal guidance to help clients achieve independence in daily living skills.

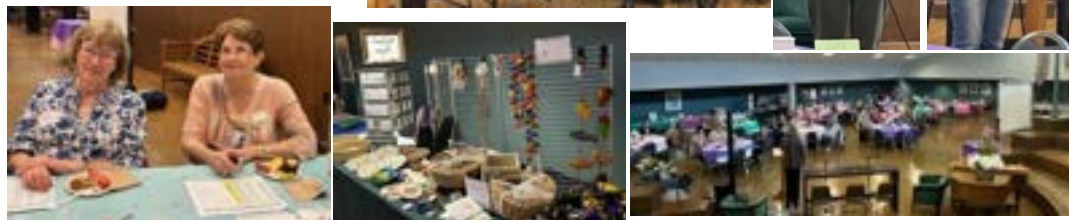
Amy enjoys creating artistic items that are sold and the proceeds are used to buy more raw materials for the clients. She also participates in volunteer and community activities. Her life has been enriched by the many opportunities that Life Works provides.

Social commitment was evident when many women of St. Andrew became involved in the organization of Denton Association of Christian Women (DACW) in the 1960's to improve race relations between and among Congregations. DACW is still very active today. Many other opportunities exist in the Denton-area spiritual community for spreading God's message of love and hope.

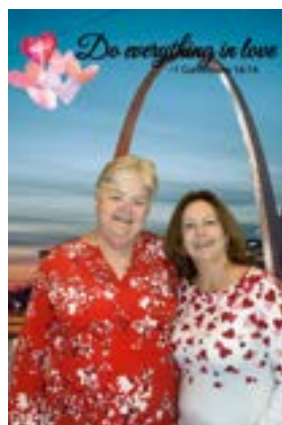
Suzanne Pettit
suzannepettit@yahoo.com
940-453-9744



Spring Gathering & Churchwide Gathering



Thank you to the PW of St. Philip, Hurst, for hosting our Spring Workshop!



Some of the women from Grace Presbytery who attended the PW Gathering last month in St. Louis: Meg GarverHamilton, Lucia Krenzar, Patty Heeter, Betina Zvanut, Carol Ferguson, and NancyLee Hadley.



Presbyterian Women Structure

CHURCHWIDE

- *Horizons Magazine* Issued Bimonthly
- *Horizons Bible Study* - Available in April each year.
- Thank Offering (originated in 1888) - 40% of the funds must be for health projects: hospitals, clinics, clean water
- Birthday Offering (originated in 1922) - Supports capital improvements such as buildings for child-care, schools, shelters for homelessness and abused women, camps for children with cancer, death in their family, or with developmental disabilities
- Churchwide Gathering every three years. This year it was in St. Louis, Missouri.

SYNOD

- The Synod of the Sun is made up of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana
- The PW Synod Gathering is off by one year from the Churchwide Gathering. Next year it will be in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The last two gatherings were in New Orleans and Tulsa.
- Mo Ranch - Receives offerings from Synod
- Collects histories from all historians in the Presbytery to send to Columbia Theological Seminary
- At Synod, you will see women from the Alabama Coushatta Tribe in New Covenant Presbytery by Livingston Texas. You will see women attend from Oklahoma that are Choctaw, Osage, Cherokee, and Chickasaw. Filipino women from a church in Houston attended the Synod Gathering in Fort Worth.

PRESBYTERY

- The Grace Presbytery PW has a Fall Gathering every year. It has been in Waxahachie and Weatherford. This year it will be in Forney.
- The Spring Workshop is held every year. Last year it was in Carrollton. This year it was in Hurst at St. Philip Presbyterian Church. Half of the offering goes to a church mission that the hosting Presbyterian Women choose. The other half goes to a mission that the Coordinating Team chooses. This year the Coordinating Team chose to give their offering to SHE. This stands for Struggle, Hope, Empowerment. The offering money is used to buy sewing machines and teach Pakistani Women who have been on the street how to support themselves. A representative was present to sell some of their items to the attendees.

By Bettina Zvanut, Presbyterian Women of Grace Presbytery Treasurer

Presbyterian Women Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace, and
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

The Legacy of Presbyterian Women

With Great Gratitude

My two sisters and I have joked that we were Women of the Church long before we were anything else! Our mother, Lucia Douglas McKee Premo, was active, as was her mother and mother-in-law. Mama attended The Churchwide Gathering at Purdue University and at Ames, Iowa. Shortly before her death in 2000, she was awarded the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership at First Presbyterian Church of Shreveport, LA. When I later visited the church, a large photo album greeted me at the door. It held all of the photos of people who had received this honor. I turned it and left it on Mama's page. It felt right.

Presbyterian Women, Inc. is in our blood. It runs deeply and widely. Our family was so proud of our sister Mary when she directed the 2018 PW Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, KY. Her husband, sisters, daughter, and grandson gathered to cheer her on. Three of us are Presbyterian ministers. We are blessed to have been rooted and grounded in the faith. If there is even a small way we can pay this gift forward, we will.

The following Scripture inspires me to listen for God's voice:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5-6

I call this my "retirement verse." I have learned to let God lead in this season.

And, lo and behold, I now have it on a bracelet I chose at the 2024 PW Churchwide Gathering in St. Louis. I am grateful.

As I remember the many mothers who have set the legacy in place, I thank God and sing:

"Great is Thy Faithfulness O God, Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not; thou compassions they fail not.
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside."

Glory to God Hymnal #39, Westminster John Knox, 2013.



Lucia and her sister Mary.

The legacy of PW continues. It may take on new shape, but it remains.
Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God!

Rev. Dr. Lucia Kremzar, a grateful Presbyterian Woman,
Grapevine, Texas



Presbyterian Women of Grace Presbytery
c/o Jill Bray, *Innovator* Editor

Grace First Presbyterian Church
606 Mockingbird Lane
Weatherford, TX 76086

Address correction requested

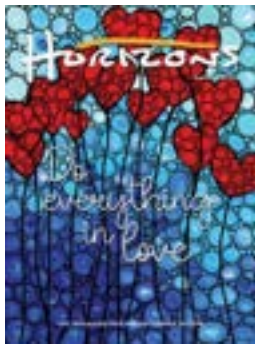
Find us on Facebook:

[Presbyterian Women of
Grace Presbytery](#)

Online newsletter: <http://www.gracepresbytery.org/ministries/presbyterian-women/>



Horizons Magazine



Horizons is the magazine (and Bible study) by and for Presbyterian Women. It's the resource for helping you explore where faith and life connect. Focusing on issues of faith—from the interplay between literature and theology to violence against women—*Horizons* gives you insights from women around the world and inspiration to live boldly. Within the pages of *Horizons*, you will find a wealth of information you need to live in faith as a Presbyterian Woman. Inside you will find mission stories, ideas for justice and peace work, information about Presbyterian Women and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), devotions, Bible study resources (to support the annual PW/*Horizons* Bible study) and a short Bible study on the issue's theme! *Horizons* is just for you because *Horizons* is about you and your sisters in faith, amazing Presbyterian Women!

A print subscription to *Horizons* includes five issues of the award-winning magazine and the annual Bible study. Your subscription also comes with free digital access to the magazine.

To subscribe to *Horizons*, go to <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/subscribe/>.

Information taken from <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons-magazine/>

