



from the...

# WEST REGION

of Grace Presbytery



**Grace  
Presbytery**

missional. relational.  
connectional.



Greetings! Happy New Year blessings to each of you!

I am so blessed and grateful to be serving as your West Region Ministry Associate and I look forward to all the things we can do together and the ways that I can support you in the coming year.

This month's update includes a list of things scheduled for our West Region churches through the end of the year. I know it helps me to get things on my calendar early in the year, so I pray it is helpful for you as well.

As we begin this new year together, I would like to share this prayer from Jill Duffield with you:

 **Looking Back, Stepping Forward** (Based on Jill Duffield's "Prayer for the New Year," *Presbyterian Outlook*)

God of our past, present and future, as the calendar turns, grant us confidence in Your unfailing care. We give thanks for the milestones and moments of Your presence. Looking forward, may hope rise for a kinder, more just, lavishly loving world. In gratitude for Your abundant grace, generous mercy, and unwavering compassion, we ask:

Aid us when we falter from Your calling. Comfort us in grief and loss. Admonish us when we neglect Christ's way. Guide us each day of this new year, until we see You face to face. Amen. [[pres-outlook.org](http://pres-outlook.org)]

## **Mark your calendars**

### **Pastor and Church Leader Lunches**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday –Ft. Worth, 12 PM

Jan 14 | Tommy's Hamburger Grill & Patio, 2455 Forest Park Blvd,  
Fort Worth

| Feb 11 | Apr 08 | May 13 | Aug 12 | Sep 09 | Nov 11

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – Mid Cities – 12 PM

Jan 20 | BJ's Restaurant, 925 NE Loop 820, Hurst

| Feb 17 | Apr 21 | May 26\* | Aug 18 | Sep 15 | Nov 17

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday – Arlington

Jan 21 | Cindy Sue's Café, 6204 S Cooper #112, Arlington

| Mar 18 | Apr 15 | May 20 | Aug 19 | 9/16 | 11/18

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – West

Jan 22 | Randy's, 1454 E Hwy 377, Granbury

| Feb 19 | Apr 23\* | May 21 | Aug 20 | Sep 17 | Nov 19

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Denton –

Jan 28 | LSA Burgers, 113 W Hickory St, Denton

| Feb 25 | Apr 22 | May 27 | Aug 26 | Sep 23 | Nov 25

\*Date changes due to scheduling conflict



## Presbytery Meetings

Thursday, February 26, 2026 - Trinity Presbyterian Church, Flower Mound

Saturday, June 6, 2026 - Central Presbyterian Church, Woodway

Thursday, October 8, 2026 - First Presbyterian Church, Granbury

Thursday, December 3, 2026 - Final 2025 Meeting via Zoom platform (G-3.0105)



## Small Church Zoom Gatherings are moving to the Third Monday at 7:00 PM!

### What Are Small Church Zoom Gatherings?

These gatherings are a welcoming space for small churches to come together, offering support, and praying with and for one another and our unique ministries. Each month, we explore a new topic with guest speakers who bring valuable insights and practical experience.

To better accommodate busy church schedules, we'll meet on the **third Monday of each month** in the coming year. **Everyone is invited—mark your calendars!**

2026 Dates: Jan 19 | Feb 16 | Mar 16 | Apr 20 | May 18 | Jun 15 | Jul 20 | Aug 17 | Sep 21 | Oct 19 | Nov 16 | Dec 21

Time: 7:00 PM (Central)

January Topic: *Elder and Deacon Training Resources*

Zoom links will be emailed the morning of each gathering. To receive your link, email [sharon@gracepresbytery.org](mailto:sharon@gracepresbytery.org).

Another opportunity for small church connections:

*Community Circles: Small Church Leaders Connection*

For small church (less than 100) educators, volunteers, pastors, commissioned pastors (CRE, CLP), and mid-council leaders that support faith formation leaders in small churches. Register once for all sessions. [Community Circle: Small Church - Office of Christian Formation - Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\)](#)

02/03, 2 PM, 04/16, 12 PM, 05/19, 12 PM, 08/05, 12PM, 10/06, 10 AM, 11/05 2 PM

## Training Opportunities

### ALICE Training - Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate

is presented to give attendees the tools they need to be more successful in handling critical events that they encounter. The classroom presentation is approximately 4 hours. A section of tabletop exercises and practical exercises adds about 2 more hours. This course is sponsored by Grace Presbytery to our churches. The churches are only responsible for providing the meeting space and necessary refreshments/lunches.

### CPR/AED/First Aid Training

New to our trainings, we will instruct in the up-to-date practices of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and First Aid. This course is sponsored by Grace Presbytery to our churches. The churches are only responsible for providing the meeting space and necessary refreshments/lunches.

Please contact John Kusewitt, the Grace Disaster Response Team's Training Coordinator for more information and scheduling. [johnkusewitt@aol.com](mailto:johnkusewitt@aol.com) or (214) 384-2013

## Advocacy Updates

The Social Justice and Public Witness Committee (SJPWC) is providing a NEW resource so you can stay informed of upcoming justice and public witness activities. *Advocacy Updates* will include events, mission opportunities, and emerging and urgent needs in North Texas. We will send a message with a brief description and registration links that you can share with your congregations and community. We promise to send emails as needed and no more than two a month.

The SJPWC is excited to stay connected to Grace Presbytery's mission and ministry in this new way. Let's join together in this important work! [Opt in to Advocacy Updates here](#)

## Resources

### Lent

Resource	Description	Link
2026 Daily Lectionary	Two-year daily Bible readings for personal or group use	<a href="#">PDF Download [pcusa.org]</a> , <a href="#">[pcusa.org]</a>
2026 Lent Guide	Study materials, sermon help, walking prompts, and video links	<a href="#">Guide PDF [pcusastore.com]</a>
Worship Resources	Liturgies, art, music, interactive worship ideas	<a href="#">Online Tools [centernet.pcusa.org]</a>
Printable Lectionaries	Daily and Sunday/Special Day lectionary lists	<a href="#">Lectionary Lists [pcusa.org]</a> , <a href="#">[centernet.pcusa.org]</a>

### Elder and Deacon Training

[Quicksheet-elder-Deacon-Training.pdf](#) Overview of why train, duties, ordination questions to ask. A list of all the resources can be found at this link.

[Quicksheet-elder-Deacon-Training.pdf](#)

*Theocademy* is a treasure trove of excellent educational materials created by the Synod of Middle America. Videos and detailed session guides are found under Elders and Deacons which can be accessed at no charge. [Theocademy](#)

### Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network

*Care Partner Tool Kit* is filled with helpful information, ideas, and resource links that will assist individuals in the role of care partner and help faith communities in supporting them. <https://poamn.org/care-partner-tool-kit/>

### Mental Health and Wellbeing

BOP EAP – personal and professional coaching.

<https://www.pensions.org/what-we-offer/benefits-guidance/medical-benefits/Employee-Assistance-Program> - free coaching is on BOP.

<https://wakelet.com/wake/bM2PLwHiq-CSVLGHY25F7>

## *Discovering Hope in Congregations and Communities*

Discerning the next, most hopeful, step in a changing world

<https://ourhousesofhope.org/>

## *Faith Practices: Skills for Forming Faith Practices Video Series*

with topics like Becoming a Trauma Informed Faith Community, enlivening our Children and youth to Hope, Story a sense of Hope in Children, or Story a sense of Hope in Youth, Raising up Faith Filled Citizens. 20 min presentations with study sheet – for leaders, parents, and groups.

[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLszLW76D0qYc5fxCthC\\_4CrDCsmoRa8v5&si=5TUoOcbRgSkKA5F7](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLszLW76D0qYc5fxCthC_4CrDCsmoRa8v5&si=5TUoOcbRgSkKA5F7)



[Grace Resource](#)

[Disaster Preparedness](#)

[For Congregations](#)

[Denominational](#)



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