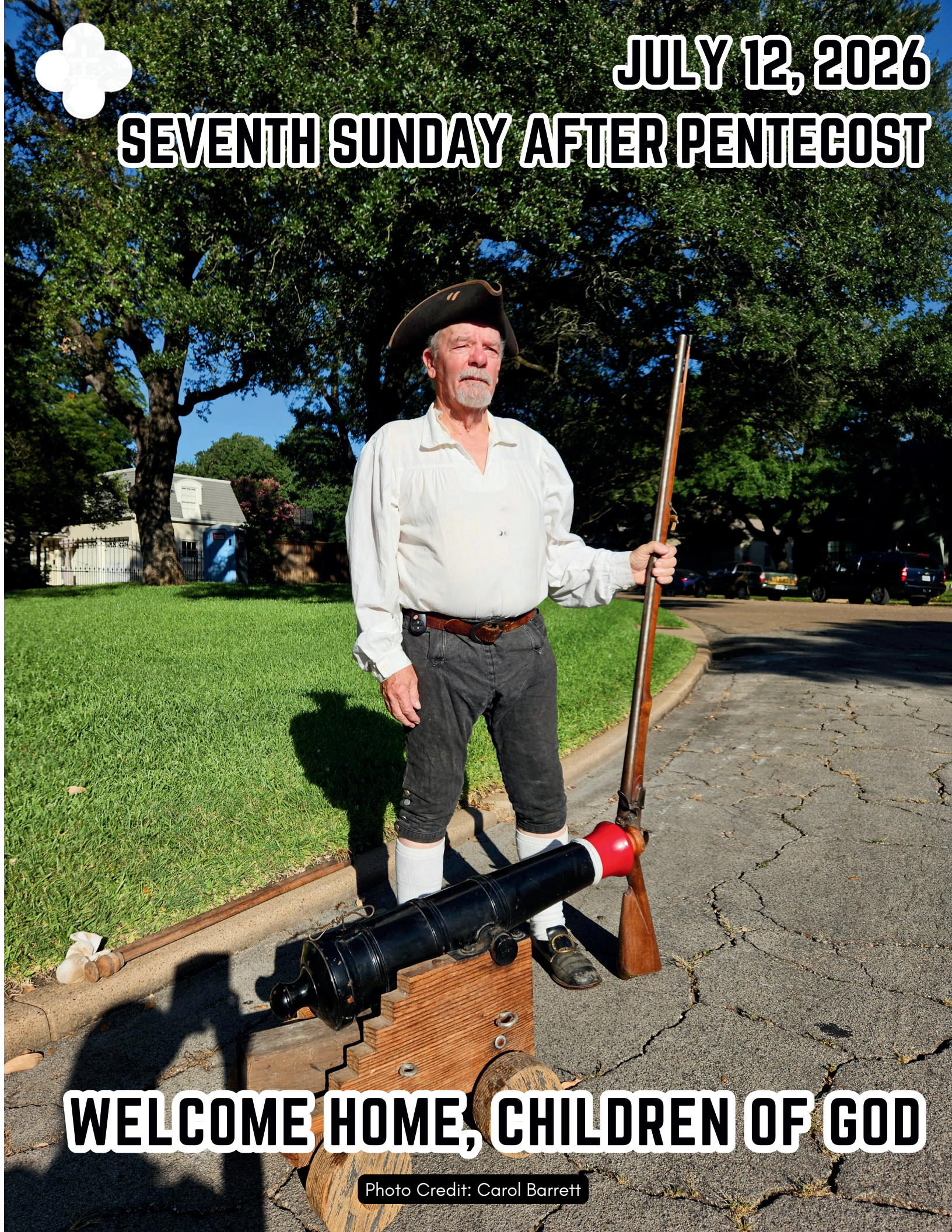




JULY 12, 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD

Photo Credit: Carol Barrett



Integrative Method of Worship

There are many styles of worship. At First Presbyterian, our worship style, generally, is a traditional reformed service with liturgy, confession and classic Christian hymnody. Even with our traditional emphasis, we believe that relevant worship in the 21st century provides space for congregants and visitors to do integrative spiritual work. By this, we mean that our daily experiences inform and affect our theology and vice versa. In worship at First Presbyterian, we are striving to integrate experience and theology so that we feel responsive and genuine in our faith as we live our daily lives. Worship planning is anchored and planned around the sermon or the sermon series. Series are planned to address any one of four areas: mission of the church, life of the church family, Biblical literacy and current relevant topics. We strive to be balanced and thoughtful in what is offered for your prayer and reflection. However, because integration and responsiveness are the goal, we will often address sensitive issues. Prayers and confessions are written by our pastor. Our children's Spirit Box time is the opportunity for children to have a choice and voice in worship. We welcome you, as you are, to each worship service at First Presbyterian. Integrative work is not easy. It is not always comfortable, but it is essential to a vital church. Please feel free to reach out to our pastor with your questions.

Statement of Mission

First Presbyterian Church of Waco, Texas, welcomes all as children of God through our worship, outreach, Christian education and congregational life events. By the liberating and compelling grace of God, and in accord with our Reformed theological heritage, we follow Jesus Christ's example by reaching out to seekers and those in need, nurturing disciples, honoring diversity and seeking to reconcile the world to God through ministries of justice and mercy.

If You Are New Here

Stop by our Welcome Center in the Narthex for information. When you are seated, please fill out the Welcome Folder you will find in the pew. After all in the pew have signed, pass it to the center aisle or use the QR code to sign in online.

These May Help During the Service (ask an usher for assistance)

- Large-print hymnal
- Hearing enhancement device
- Magnifying sheets
- Worship bags & fidget toys for children in the Narthex "parental discretion with these items, please." Please return the bag after the service.

If You Are in Need of Prayer

You will find prayer cards in the back of the pew. You may place them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. Your prayers are confidential unless you request otherwise.

Childcare

Childcare is available from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in room S202.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude:(10:30) Pedal Variations on "*When the Roll is Called Up Yonder*" Joyce Jones

+ Call to Worship - For the Series (From John 18-23)

One: John the Baptist sent disciples to Jesus. They had a question.

Many: "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

One: Jesus replied something like this: "I've been working with many people.

They have been affected and strengthened."

Many: He released John's disciples, saying, "And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

One: Let us be the ones who have come to worship to strengthen the world around us in his name. Amen.

+ Hymn #35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty LOBE DEN HERREN

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

God of This or That, we confess that we do not always know what we want. We need to have an experience to know how we feel or what we really think about it. How we long to pause our assertions of judgment or want until we have had an experience to guide the way. We offer this prayer as we remember John the Baptist and Jesus: two different methods of one heart. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #341 (10:30)

O God, Show Mercy to Us

THAXTED

O God, show mercy to us, and bless us with your grace;
and cause to shine upon us the brightness of your face.

Declaration of Grace & Sharing of the Peace of Christ

+ Invitation to Our Children (10:30) "*Christ Before Me*" St. Patrick's Breastplate

Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ beside me, Christ within me,
Christ in the face of those who love me.

Spirit Box

God be in my head. God be in my heart. God be on my left. God be on my right.
God be beneath me. God be above me. God be in the faces of all who love me

The 10:30 prelude today (played entirely by the feet) was written in 1893 by a Sunday school teacher whose 14 year old student was absent. The lyrics reflect his desire that no one miss heaven's roll call!

+ Please rise in body or in spirit.

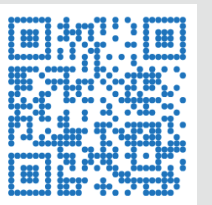
We are grateful for last week's giving of \$10,120.31.

Scan and register your attendance,



or please sign in on the pad located in the pew.

Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.



Prayer of Illumination

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:6-11 (pew Bible OT pg. 667)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Presbyterian Women's Ensemble *O Lord Most Holy* Franck, arr. Fettke
O Lord, most holy, O Lord, most worthy. Son of the Father, Lord, We lift our hearts to You. Help us to praise You, Love and adore You, Jesus, Jesus, Fountain of grace and truth; Jesus, Jesus, Fountain of grace and truth. Be now our Shepherd; Be now our Savior, Wonderful Counselor, Almighty Prince of Peace. Come now in righteousness; Come now in holiness. Save us, O Lamb of God. Heal us, Lord, heal us now So shall we praise You forevermore. O Lord, most holy, O Lord, most worthy, Son of the Father, Lord, we lift our hearts to You. Help us to praise You. Love and adore You, Glory of the Living God, Fountain of grace and truth. Jesus, our Savior, Lord, we will praise You forevermore. Amen

+ Gospel Scripture Reading: Matthew 11:11-19 (pew Bible NT pg. 11)

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord. | **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

+ Gloria Patri #581 (10:30) *Glory Be to the Father* Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Sermon- In-de-pend-ence & Rugged Love: A Matter of Interpretation Leslie King, D. Min.

+ Hymn #354 (10:30) V.3 *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* BATTLE HYMN

+ Affirmation of Faith - page 35 of Hymnal Apostles' Creed
This creed, spoken together, allows us to feel, summarily, the major movement of the gospel. Speaking it allows us to be cradled in the elements of the gospel that give us the most comfort. Equally, it allows us to ponder and wonder about elements that are more challenging to understand. Our recitation of it is not a call to uniformity and conformity. Rather, it is a call to continue to explore our mysterious gospel for the ministry and mission of First Presbyterian Church.

Offering (10:30) *Gimme That Old Time Religion* Burton

+ Doxology #606 (10:30)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

+ Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30)

Leader: The Lord be with you. | **People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts. | **People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ Prayers of The People

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

+ Hymn #315

In the Midst of New Dimensions

NEW DIMENSIONS

+ Charge & Benediction

Postlude: (10:30)

Praise Him, Praise Him

Fanny Crosby

Sanctuary Flowers

In memory of our parents: Bill and Chris Wilson,
and Ed and Ruby Harris.

Given by: Helen & Don Harris



Parlor Plants

Donated Anonymously.

During 10:30 worship services in July the prelude and offertory on the organ will feature late 19th century "gospel hymn" arrangements. These historic tunes feature catchy melodies, upbeat rhythms, and quick tempos. They express joy and exuberance! Featured on July 12, will be a pedal solo on, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder." On July 19, friends of the organ will add their instruments to, "The Church in the Wildwood." Feel free to hum along!



**Sign up to
attend or
volunteer!**

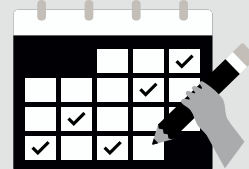


Character Camp is our church's summer camp for kids, now with a brand-new theme!

Join us July 20-24 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for a fun and meaningful week filled with faith-based activities, character-building lessons, and opportunities to grow in friendship and community.

**Thank you to
Marilyn &
Mark Harren
for hosting
Coffee
Fellowship!**

UPCOMING THIS WEEK



SUN

12

8:30 a.m.
9:15 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

Worship Service - Hybrid
Summer Christian Formation
Worship Service - Hybrid
Coffee Fellowship
Our Hybrid House

TUE

14

8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

Meals on Wheels - For more information
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305
Taco's With Taylor - Sagrado's
215 S University Parks Dr Suite 107, Waco, TX 76701
Faith on Tap - Slowrise Woodway

WED

15

12:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m.

Forman Fund Committee Meeting - Zoom
Chancel Choir Practice

THU

16

12:00 p.m.
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Finance Committee Meeting - Zoom
Meals on Wheels - For more information
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305

FRI

17

7:30 a.m.

Men's Breakfast

SUN

19

8:30 a.m.
9:15 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
11:30 a.m.

Worship Service - Hybrid
Summer Christian Formation
Worship Service - Hybrid
Coffee Fellowship

FIRST PRES NEWS



Our Hybrid House is the newest committee of the Diaconate, focused on enriching our environment for hybrid worship and Zoom meetings. We are particularly interested in your opinions and experiences if you are a non-local participant of First Presbyterian. Look for our Hybrid House this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. This month's focus is a Realm and Zoom tutorial. Look for the link on Realm, or scan the QR code.



BLOOD DRIVE

We will host our next blood drive with Carter BloodCare on Saturday, July 25, from 9a.m.-1p.m. The BloodCare Bus will be in the Franklin Parking lot to receive donations. Use the QR code to reserve your spot! Help us reach our goal of 15 pints.



Sign up today!

CHURCH RETREAT

Church Retreat sign-ups are live! We hope you can join us at Mo-Ranch, November 6-8. We are excited to have Austin Dickson join us as our guest speaker. Austin is the CEO of the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country, the organization that has led the Rebuild Kerr efforts following last year's devastating floods. We'll look forward to time together in the Hill Country this November.



Sign-ups close August 6, 2026.

SUMMER CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adults - "Finding Our Place"

Please join us at 9:15 A.M. as we continue our journey on Finding Our Place. We will meet in the Session Room (C-201).

Children & Youth - "Character in Characters"

Children and Youth are exploring "Character in Characters" this summer, discovering character traits through Bible stories each week. Classes begin at 9:15 a.m. on the 3rd floor of the Franklin Wing. Pre-K-3rd grade meets in C306, and Pre-Teen-Youth meets in C304.

4TH ANNUAL LIVER & ONIONS EXTRAVAGANZA!



D.J. King is hosting the 4th annual Liver & Onions extravaganza on July 23, 6p.m., at George's in Hewitt. Whether you hope to enjoy Liver & Onions or just want to come for another dish and community, we hope to see you there! Please register so we can let them know how many people will be in attendance, and how many plates of Liver & Onions to be prepared to serve up!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG
OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @FIRSTPRESWACO



Staff

Pastor	Leslie King, D. Min. (lking@firstpreswaco.org)
Director of Congregational Life	Taylor Holleyman, Ph.D (tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org)
Operations Manager	Shane Montoya, MBA (office@firstpreswaco.org)
Director of Christian Formation	Malorie Montoya (dcf@firstpreswaco.org)
Chancel Choir Director	Austin Ingalls (chancelchoir@firstpreswaco.org)
Handbell Director	Amy Goodman, Ph. D (amy_goodman@baylor.edu)
Organist	Becky Ward, M.M. (vward@hot.rr.com)
Pianist (8:30 a.m. service)	Trisha Anderson (trishaanderson0926@gmail.com)
Nursery Coordinator	Chelley Breemes (bigcatz2000@yahoo.com)
Parish Associate for Theology & Ethics	Dr. Neil Messer (Neil_Messer@baylor.edu)
Church Historian	Katelyn Jaynes, Ph. D (kljaynes204@gmail.com)
Parish Associate for Gerontology	Jim Ellor, D. Min. Ph. D, H.R. (james_ellor@baylor.edu)
Streaming Team	Ben Bruton, James Karney, Amanda Lassetter, Thomas Munn, Adam Redmer
Custodian	Adriana Goytortu

Organizational Officers

Clerk of Session	Ken Kuhns
Church Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer	Mark Harren, Donna Black
First Presbyterian Church Foundation	President - Chuck Weaver, Carr DuPuy, Carol Miller, Malorie Montoya, Charles Stern
Forman Fund	David Smith, Phil Hering, Cathy McPhee, Patsy Norman, Bob Grayson
Presbyterian Women	Susan Somerville, Sherry Cragen, Mary Lynn Klingman and Sue Young
Sanctuary Guild	Sharon Stern, Michael Muehlenbein
Sanctuary Flowers	Brenda Stephens, Susan Somerville, Kathy Jones
Celebration Way	Cary DuPuy

Session Committee Members

Administration Committee	Lyndon Olson, Roane Lacy, Mike Morrison
Christian Formation Committee	Shannon Field, Anita Karney
Congregational Life Committee	Ryan Joyner, Marsha Alvarado, Kathryn Delk
Facilities Committee	Hunter Harren, Mark Anderson, Christine Miller, James Hill, Bob Cragen
Finance Committee	Donna Black, Phil Hering, Chip Somerville
Outreach Committee	Lenore Wright, Sam Parler, Brenda Stephens
Personnel Committee	Chuck Weaver, Todd Ehlers
Worship Committee	Esther Lee, Meredith Palm

Diaconate Committee Members

Diaconate Moderator	Bricker Bruner
Diaconate Secretary	Christine Huston
Agape Committee	All Deacons
Our Hybrid House	Jeremy Mercer, Dave Reagan, Jen Ferretter, Avery Kerley, Cynthia Perry, Marilyn Harren, Zdzislaw Wieckowski
Power of the Pen	Katie Valenzuela, Scott Wagner, Melanie Cook, Helen Harris, Peggy Graham
Prayer Committee	Drew Risinger, Toni Percivill, John Jovicich, Kathy Jones
Stork Committee	Mike McPhee, Jerry Barrett, Kevin Bartley
Ushering Coordinator	Wes Field



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WACO, TEXAS

1100 Austin Ave. - Waco, TX 76701 - 254.752.1665 - www.firstpreswaco.org

Church Office Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Sunday Services 8:30 A.M. (Weekly Communion) and 10:30 A.M. (Morning Worship)

Pastor - Leslie King

