



RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

www.RIDGLEAPRES.org

December, 2024

The church office will be closed December 23rd thru January 1st for the Christmas and New Year Holidays. Please contact the office prior to that time if you are in need of assistance.

(US and Canada)

Topic: Ridglea Worship Service

Time: 10:30 AM Central Time

December	1, 2024	10:30 a.m.
December	8, 2024	10:30 a.m.
December	15, 2024	10:30 a.m.
December	22, 2024	10:30 a.m.
December	24, 2024	Christmas Eve 5:30 p.m.
December	29, 2024	10:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94412640306?pwd=OAMaaNCwbNJAbLaNN0CKrv7C89WxKx.1>

Meeting ID: 944 1264 0306

Passcode: 380490



Tuesday, December 24th at 5:30 p.m.

Welcome to our
Christmas Eve
Service

ECLECTIC CAFE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Eclectic Café Sunday Class will be studying the Beatitudes. All are welcome to attend!

Eclectic Café Zoom meeting ID:
915 2396 5224

Password is Eclectic.

"THE GATHERING"

The Gathering, our multigenerational Sunday school class led by Paul Duncan, is conducting a DVD lesson series on the Book of Proverbs. The DVD lessons are short to allow plenty of time for discussion. All are welcome to attend!

SESSION MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON
DECEMBER 19, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.



**We will celebrate the
sacrament of Communion
Sunday morning,
December 1, 2024**

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.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTERS
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

Unfettered



Christ the King Sunday, also known as the Reign of Christ, is the last festival day of the church's liturgical year, putting a bow on the thirty-plus weeks of Ordinary Time that began back in May. Which means that the season of Advent, the season of preparation and anticipation, is upon us, as the church's liturgical year begins anew on Sunday, December 1st (*note: almost always the Sunday after Thanksgiving*). However, the month of November seemed to kick-start a different mindset of preparation and anticipation in the aftermath of the presidential election.

Prior to the election, a colleague wrote a reminder that following Christ can and will put us at odds with much that the world cherishes, and that whoever is elected, Christians continue to be responsible to follow the way of our Lord, which is marked by humility, forgiveness, integrity, and self-giving love. One of the most helpful sentences my colleague shared was that whoever leads this country is not as important as who leads our souls. (*many thanks to the Rev. Christine Wagner at First Presbyterian of Hays, Kansas*)

The election is over, and a new administration is on the horizon, and we need to continue to be prayerful in our discernment, in our civic participation, in our discipleship.

Every so often the "shuffle" feature on my playlists will bring up a song from one of the handful of discs of Latin Jazz, or Celtic Folk, or Italian Romance, or French Opera that I have in my music library, and such was the case when sitting down to try to pull my thoughts together for this short article. Listening to Spanish lyrics, an Italian aria, or a Gaelic lullaby is a reminder that we live in a very big world, and there is a lot that is beyond our understanding. Even without knowing the lyrics, the musicians, with their harmonies and melodies, carry messages of joy, sorrow, romance, hope, unfettered by translation. Just as joy, or sorrow, or longing can be sung in a dozen languages, so can the commitments to justice, mercy, and lovingkindness be shared through a dozen different administrations.

The season of Advent points toward the return of Christ and our preparedness for such a time. Even as all around us the joyful birth of the babe is anticipated, we are also bold enough to look beyond the stable, beyond the cross, beyond the tomb; to look beyond what we think we understand. Administrations, and even nations come and go, but we are called to a higher covenant, a deeper commitment, loving the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and strength and mind, and loving our neighbor as ourself.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "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

Class of 2025

Mary Fisher
John Little
Mick Stuart
Durinda Walker

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

Clerk of Session: Karen Landon

RPC TRUSTEES

Class of 2025

Tom Sisolak

Class of 2026

Reeve Van Nostrand

Class of 2027

Paul Morrison

2024-2025 RPC DEACONS

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

RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2024

Steve Staples

Class of 2025

Ken Kibler

Class of 2026

Gordon Ramsey

Class of 2027

Nancy Staples

Designee

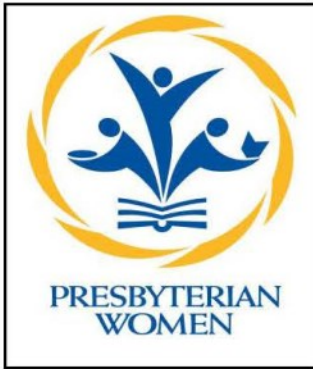
Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

Staff

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

roger@ridgleapres.org
patricia@ridgleapres.org
john@ridgleapres.org
dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net
emily@ridgleapres.org

Church Office #817.732.3388



Circle Meeting Times:

Circle 1: No December Circle Meeting; Next meeting is January 14, 2025.
Circle 2: No December Circle Meeting; Next meeting is January 14, 2025.
Circle 3: No December Circle Meeting; Next meeting is January 7, 2025.

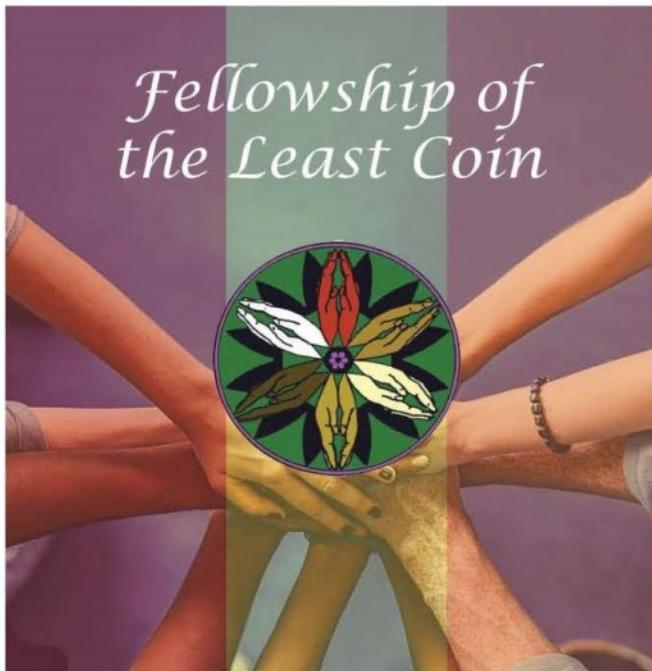
Just Bring It –December 2024: We are collecting un-wrapped travel-size toiletry items for the Presbyterian Night Shelter: toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, soap, and handwipes.

Looking Ahead:

December 10th: PWR General Meeting – Join us at 10:30 a.m. for a dramatic reading of “The Christmas Truce of 1914: The day the guns fell silent” and a Christmas story from Linda Wilson. Please bring a potluck item to share.

January 28th: PWR General Meeting – Informational presentation on the history, the present, and the future of Mo-Ranch from Tim Huchton, President/CEO, Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly.

Remember to bring your Least Coin (pennies) to your Circle Meetings!



Thank you to all who helped with donations of pillows and electric toothbrushes for the children living in the Presbyterian Children’s Homes & Services foster care village in Itasca. In November, we donated 40 electric toothbrushes and 30 pillows.

The Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) is a global ecumenical prayer movement for justice, peace, and reconciliation led by Christian women for women and girls all over the world. Women of all ethnicities, nationalities, ages, educational backgrounds, and socioeconomic statuses are invited to participate in this global movement by praying for justice, peace, and reconciliation in their own lives whenever they experience personal conflicts and challenges. As well, they are invited to pray for justice, peace, and reconciliation for women and girls all over the world who face injustice, violence, and poverty every day.

It includes “least” coins... As tokens of these prayers, women are encouraged to set aside the least coin in their country’s currency (ex. penny, sentimo, paisa, etc.). Only the least coin is offered so that women of all backgrounds and means can be equal partners in justice- and peace-making. These least coins are then collected by Christian women’s groups and ecumenical women’s organizations in countries and regions all over the world. They are then forwarded to the Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) Fund, which is faithfully stewarded by the International Committee for the Fellowship of the Least Coin (ICFLC).

It leads to *real* justice, peace, and reconciliation... Every year, the FLC Fund is disbursed as grants for post-secondary education and training for women; grassroots projects that empower women and girls, advocates for their rights, and work to end gender-based violence and poverty; and provide relief in times of natural and human-made disasters. In this way, all of our least coins can contribute to *real* justice, peace, and reconciliation in the lives of women and girls all over the world!

YOUTH...RPC
Sunday School
9:15 a.m.—10:15 a.m.



PARENTS DAY OUT
 11/23/24



SHYC 2025
Senior High Youth Connection
January 24 - 26, 2025

Theme - What's Your Story?

9th - 12th Graders are invited to attend a fun-filled weekend church camp.

It will be held at Austin College in Sherman, Tx

Registration Deadline is January 5th

For more information and interest in attending please reach out to Emily Everts @ emily@ridgleapres.org



The Children, Youth and Families are Invited to

Progressive
 DINNER
 SUNDAY
 Dec | 21 | 2024

At 5:00 pm, meet at the Church

Bing a white Elephant Gift max \$10. We will have a children's white elephant and then a middle and high school white elephant



See details and register on Realm for these upcoming events:

Event:	Date:	Register By:	Information:
December Dinner With Friends	No Dinner this month		due to Christmas activities.
December Fellowship Luncheon	There is no luncheon during the month of December		due to Christmas activities.
Fellowship Committee is organizing outings to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden's Lightscape! again this year. Participants will meet at the church at 6:30pm and board the church bus, which will deliver you to the entrance of the Botanic Garden for the 3rd.	Thursday, December 5th 6:30 p.m.		Millions of twinkling lights will transform the garden into a winter wonderland. You can buy tickets on Realm for either Thursday, December 5th or Saturday, January 4th. If you have questions please ask Tammy Hardin or Beth Duncan.
Fellowship Activity: "Christmas Truce"	December 8th 3:00 p.m.	Sunday December 1st	Dramatic Presentation and Cookie Exchange
Christmas Eve Pageant	December 24th 5:30 p.m.		
Outings to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden's Lightscape!	Saturday January 4th		See above on December 5th for more information
January Dinner with Friends	January 4th	Wednesday January 4th	Dinner or Lunch groups are available
January Fellowship Luncheon	January 15th	Sunday January 8th	TBD

Mark your calendars for events coming soon:

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

Event:	Date:
February Dinner With Friends	February 1
February Fellowship Luncheon	February 16

PWR FALL PROGRAM - CHAIR YOGA

Ginger Humber that teaches Yoga at the church on Monday nights (1st and 3rd Monday) at 6:00 p.m. has opened another Yoga class called "Chair Yoga". Chair Yoga is a gentle modified form of Yoga that uses a chair for all movement. The class meets every Wednesday at RPC from 1:30—2:15 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 per class. Please come join us! Wear loose fitting clothes.



 We need ushers, communion servers, and liturgists for Sundays during the 2024 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>

Are you interested in membership at
Ridglea Presbyterian Church?
Contact Pastor Roger for all the deets and FAQ's.



a new
church
for you
to call
home

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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.



CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
LEADERSHIP, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

DECEMBER 1—DECEMBER 22, 2024

Prepare the Way


ISAIAH 40

We will be receiving the Christmas Joy Special Offering beginning December 1 through December 22, 2024.

THE PERFECT GIFT



The 2025 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.



WARMthe HOUSE
Warmed Spaces. Happy Places. Hopeful Faces.

Presbyterian Women

Just Bring It December 2024

We are collecting un-wrapped travel-size toiletry items for the **Presbyterian Night Shelter:** toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, soap, and handwipes.

From The Finance and Budget Committee

Thank you all for your pledged and other contributions so far this year.

Budgeted Contributions for the Year	\$ 409,000
Received Through Ten Months	\$ 332,575
Budgeted Expenses for the Year	\$ 457,039
Expensed Through Ten Months	\$ 403,938

Your past support of this church has been noteworthy and continuing stewardship no less so. We remind all that 2025 pledges are still being accepted and receipt of such information is of great assistance in our planning for the future.



Fellowship Committee is organizing outings to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden's Lightscape! again this year.


Participants will meet at the church at 6:30pm and board the church bus, which will deliver you to the entrance of the Botanic Garden for the 3rd Annual Lightscape event. Ticketholders will walk a 1.2 mile-long outdoor path featuring custom light installations set against the serene backdrop of nature. Millions of twinkling lights will transform the garden into a winter wonderland. After your Lightscape experience, board the bus for the return ride to the church — we should be back at 9:00pm.

You can buy tickets on Realm for either Thursday, December 5th or Saturday, January 4th. If you have questions please ask Tammy Hardin or Beth Duncan.

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.




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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

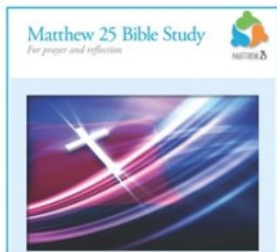


The RPC Women are collecting quarters in the Narthex after service every second Sunday of the month to assist Westaid.



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 (un-amplified) Instruments. Musicians of all skills are encouraged!

Matthew 25 Action Team



Members of the Matthew 25 Action Team (Nancy & Gordan Marchant, Thylis Chambless, & Marsha West) attended the Justice Network of Tarrant County. This is an interfaith group working for justice in the areas of: reducing gun violence, the criminal justice system, public education, promoting religious freedom, and equitable opportunities for all to name a few. They partner with other organizations such as Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty, Raise Your Hand Texas, and Defense of Democracy. They have meetings each month on the first Wednesday of every month from 5-6 pm on Zoom. If you are interested in learning more about this group here's their website: www.jntc.org where you can sign up for their newsletter.

The next Movies That Matter will be on December 5 and will be *The Wisdom of Tyranny* at 7 pm at The Modern. Thylis Chambless & Sue Guthrie will be attending. They won't meet for supper beforehand. Check with them if you want to meet them there. You can get FREE tickets at [The Wisdom of Trauma – Welcome to the City of Fort Worth](#). Others of us are going to Lightscape at the Botanic Gardens.

The excellent discussion of *THE EMPIRE OF THE SUMMER MOON* led by Sue Guthrie has led us to read *CUSTER'S FALL: THE NATIVE AMERICAN SIDE OF THE STORY* by David Miller. Linda Laudner will lead our discussion on January 28, 2025.

We are hoping to make a trip this spring to Oklahoma City to attend the First Americans Museum.

We also are looking at adding some socials into our monthly gatherings, alternating them with the book study. If you have ideas for books we should look at, please let Marsha West know.

We are exploring an opportunity to work with First Christian Church with their Room in the Inn. We will share more info about this. We are excited about opportunities to work with this church doing good for God's people.

We continue our work with QUAIL TRAIL with helping with the Tarrant Area Food Distribution once a month and celebrating birthdays monthly. We will provide rabies and parvo vaccines to the dogs at QT. Dr. Choufou and his assistant Kate from VCA Mercedes in Benbrook are donating their time to make this happen. We appreciate them so much. If you'd like to help. Meet at QT on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 9:30. The address is 4444 Quail Trail in River Oaks. Thanks for joining us on this journey.

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
December 8, 2024 11:45 a.m.
Board of Deacons: Focus on Members
Lynne Payne, Moderator

2nd Tuesday of the Month
December 10, 2024 6:15 p.m.
Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing
Susan Everts, Chair

1st Tuesday of the Month
December 3, 2024 7:00 p.m. & Zoom
Fellowship Team: Focus on Social Gatherings
Beth Duncan, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
December 11, 2024 6:30 p.m.
Building & Equipment :
Focus on Physical Structures
George Tischler, Chair

1st Wednesday of the Month
December 4, 2024 5:30 p.m.
Worship Team:
Focus on Sunday & Special Services
Durinda Walker, Chair

2nd Wednesday of the Month
December 11, 2024 5:30 p.m.
Commitment Team: Focus on Guests
John Little, Chair

1st Thursday of the Month
December 5, 2024 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
December 10, 2024 6:00 p.m.
Outreach Team: Focus on Mission
Marji Raunika, Chair

3rd Thursday of the Month
December 19, 2024
7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom
Session Meeting
Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator

Clerk of Session
Karen Landon



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116

Nereyda Sabido	12	1
Gleda Griffin	12	1
Wanda Delulio	12	4
Kathy Doty	12	6
Bailey Martin	12	6
Jeff Sills	12	7
Ivey Ramsey	12	9
Mary Fisher	12	10
Myra Marrow	12	10
Paul Morrison	12	13
Marsha Dueease	12	14
Robin Roberts	12	17
Barbara Dorman	12	18
Maria Shupe	12	19
Jeanne Owens	12	21
Billie Kane	12	23
Miriam Gallagher	12	24
Beth Duncan	12	25
George Sloan	12	26
Johanna Jones	12	26
Paul Duncan	12	27
Aubrey Henderson	12	27
Micky Severson	12	29
Jim Aycock	12	29
Glen Walker	12	30
John Bacon	12	31

The next
newsletter
deadline
will be
December 19, 2024
at noon.