



The Messenger

BE JOYFUL IN HOPE, PATIENT IN AFFLICTION,
FAITHFUL IN PRAYER. ROMANS 12:12
(APRIL 2022)

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* ARTICLES NEED TO
BE SUBMITTED TO
PETE BY THE LAST
SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
- FOR THE NEXT
MONTH'S
PUBLICATION.

Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson

**"Jesus said ... 'I am the resurrection and the life.
Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and
everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die'"**



This last Sunday as I drove home from Salado after worship, I saw all the sights that spring, the season of new life, was on its way. The bluebonnets were blooming along the highway. The grass was turning green again. New life was beginning all over again.

Many Christians use the weeks leading up to Easter Sunday to focus their thoughts on Jesus - through prayer, Bible reading, repentance, and acts of service. I believe that there is no greater joy than being a Christian. Henry Ward Beecher once said, "The strength and the happiness of a person consists in finding out the way in which God is going and going in that way too."



We are all on a journey, an exciting journey, a journey to find our way of walking closer with God. Why? Why do we have this inward desire to be closer to God? We are on this spiritual journey because we realize that in the turmoil of life, we need the assurance that God really cares for us. We need to hear the words of those old and new hymns once again. "When peace like a river attendeth my way. When sorrows like sea billows roll. Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

"God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus; He came to love, heal, and forgive; He lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives! Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone; Because I know He holds the future; And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!" This is what Easter is all about. This is why we believe. This is why we celebrate Easter.

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Calendar of Events

Unvaccinated are asked to wear masks & stay a safe distance from others.

- Sunday Adult Education at 9:00 AM
- Sunday Worship and Communion at 10:00
- Communion is on the First Sunday/month
- Men's Prayer Breakfast Tuesdays @ 8 am
- Chair Yoga Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Wednesday Choir Practice at 4:00 PM
- Mar. 31 - Women's Devotional @ 11:30
- Apr. 10 - Palm Sunday
- Apr. 14 - Maundy Thursday Service with Communion meal at 6:00 pm
- Apr. 17 - Easter Sunday Service

APRIL 2022

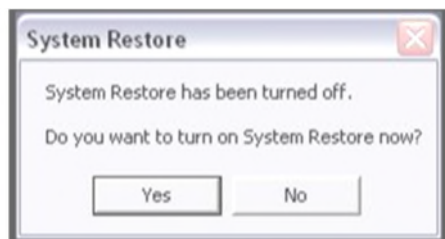
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				Women's Devotional 1	2	
3	4	5 Yoga 1 PM	6	7 Yoga 10:30	8	9
10 Palm Sunday	11	12 Yoga 1 PM	13	14 Yoga 10:30	15 Maundy Thurs.	16
17 Easter Sunday	18	19 Yoga 1 PM	20	21 Yoga 10:30	22	23
24	25	26 Yoga 1 PM	27	28 Yoga 10:30	29	30

Carl's Comments Continued

Microsoft's Windows operating system for PCs has a wonderful feature called "system restore." How does it work? Suppose you suffer a system crash on your computer this week. You're not a computer expert, and you don't know how to recover the information you entered into your computer. Now, it is gone and you're in a state of complete panic.

What are you going to do? All you must do is select "system restore" and specify the date to which you want your machine reset. Voila! Problem solved. All the things you somehow messed up are put back in their configuration as of that earlier date.

God gave us that feature for our human lives! It's called Easter. Maybe you can remember the day when



things crashed for you, and you'd give anything you own to restore things to the way they were. God won't erase all the consequences of our actions, but He promises things far better; God promises to forgive us. What Windows calls "system restore", we call Easter - God's redemption. Isn't that a good reason to rejoice? Through Easter God restored us to a right relationship with Him. That is the best news that we will ever hear.

I hope as we move into Holy week you will join us for our Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Services. It is a time to celebrate our restoration through Jesus Christ.

God Bless You,

Happy Easter from, *Carl and Evelyn Thompson*

Common Lectionary Readings (Carl will change topics at times due to requests - especially in the Summer)

	Fifth Sunday in Lent - April 3	Sixth Sunday in Lent / Palm Sunday - Apr.10	Maundy Thursday - April 14	Resurrection of the Lord / Easter - Apr 17	Second Sunday of Easter - April 24
1st Reading	Isaiah 43:16-21	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14	Acts 10:34-43	Acts 5:27-32
Psalm	Psalm 126	Psalm 31:9-16	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Psalm 150
2nd Reading	Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 2:5-11	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Revelation 1:4-8
Gospel	John 12:1-8	Luke 22:14-23:56	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	John 20:1-18	John 20:19-31

Apr. Birthdays



Chelsea Ervi 6
Bobbie Dickerson 9
J.R. Lett 13

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.
1 Peter 5:6-7

About our Members (and Prayer Requests)

Julie Goggans has been battling stage 4 pancreatic cancer and has now entered a Hospice program. She has had some family visits while having some good as well as bad days. Pray that Julie would have peace, and relief from anxiety. Also pray for comfort, strength and wisdom as **Jack Goggans, Joan** and **Chine** care for Julie.

Carl Thompson is still seeking an accurate diagnosis of medical issues that cause extreme fatigue and weakness. Please pray for doctors' wisdom and that the tests reveal a course of action for healing.

Mike Hart suffered a stroke that only affected an eye. He lost sight in his right eye but the doctors are hopeful that his vision will return. Please pray for this healing.

Our prayers of sympathy for **Donald and Julie Engleke** for the passing of Donald's sweet mother who was a blessing to her family for over 90 years.

Pat Rehm continues to gain strength and mobility and is looking forward to returning to church very soon. Praises for her good recovery!

Trish Stebbins is recovering after having surgery to fuse 5 vertebrae in her neck. Pray for healing, no complications, and continued pain control.

Betsy Tyson will have a medical procedure this week to remove a growth on her kidney that is thought to be non-cancerous. Prayers for the medical team and Betsy and Knox as they go through this procedure and additional prayers for healing of Betsy's back fracture that occurred a few weeks ago.

Evelyn Thompson: pray for healing of fractures that require limited activity. Evelyn is working hard at 'following doctor's orders, so pray for patience, as she works at decreasing her normal speed of "Go."

Treasurer's Memo to Session, 1st Qtr.

Regular offerings are about \$3000 ahead of budget, keeping in mind that the budget reflects higher numbers for January due to some of our members who pay their entire year's pledge in January. We had a \$5000 donation in February but are not counting that as usable income since it was deposited directly into our long-term investment account.

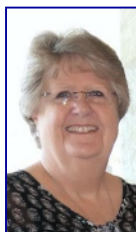
Our energy costs are running about \$1000 over budget at this point, nearly double what we spent last year for the first quarter. Our previous provider, Ambit Energy, was purchased by TXU, and their costs have been quite a bit higher than last year. The Presbytery negotiates the energy contract and will be choosing a new company in May. Also consider that the building was largely closed during this period in 2021.

A new reconditioned laptop for Jeanette's use (and the library's) has been purchased at a cost of \$372.

Our printing costs are over budget since we printed a new directory (\$337) and have needed to purchase printer cartridges for both the front and back-office printers at a cost of \$376. However, those should not have to be replaced again this year.

The benevolence committee has paid out the following for first quarter:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| • Bread for Hearts and Hands | \$300 |
| • Chair yoga instructor | \$600 |
| • Presbyterian Disaster Assistance | \$1000 |
| • Presbyterian Children's Home | \$1000 |
| • Samaritan's Purse (Ukraine) | \$1000 |
| • Doctors Without Borders (Ukraine) | \$1000 |



From Pat Hart - Treasurer

Women's Devotional - 3/31

The Women's Monthly Brown Bag Lunch Devotional will be held the last Thursday of each month. This week, March 31, the session will be led by Debby Aldridge.

It's an informal, casual time of devotional Bible study and lively discussion. If you want to bring a lunch, we share a meal together from 11:30 and at noon start the study. We meet in the Sunday school room.



Have You Seen Him? by Linda Lloyd

Good Friday- The crucifixion was over. Christ's lifeless body was removed from the cross. The grief stricken women, Mary Magdalene among others, had followed HIM faithfully, and would follow the burial procession to see where his body was laid.

They could do little else. Their Sabbath would start at 6 p.m. and continue through Saturday night. The ritual anointing of the body with fragrant oils and spices would have to wait. On Sunday, they would return to their precious "Master" to perform what they thought would be the last service they would ever render to him, and the last time they would see his precious face, so dear.

Daybreak Sunday- With heavy hearts, the women approached the tomb. But what was this?

The stone had been rolled away! The tomb was empty! All that remained was the burial cloth that had enveloped his body.



The women stood, dazed and confused. What had happened?

Who had rolled the stone away? Where was his body? Much to their amazement, an Angel appeared before them. The astonished women could only ask **"Have you seen him"?**

You know how the encounter ended. Matthew 28 reveals the rest of their conversation and the events that followed. We are told that Jesus later appeared to Mary Magdalene in the garden. He appeared to Peter, to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, and to all of the disciples with the exception of Thomas.

Jesus was alive! He had triumphed over death!

"Have you seen him"?

Do you know the living Christ?

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

"Happy Easter" from a Merry Heart, Linda Lloyd



Musical Notes

January, February, March, APRIL? Already? It seems like just yesterday we were celebrating Jesus' birth and the Joy of Christmas! Now we are reflecting on the meaning of why Jesus came as we examine our lives, and especially our inner selves, in light of His crucifixion and death on the cross.

The Amplified Version (AMP) of the Bible states John 3:16 as follows:

"For God so [greatly] loved *and* dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] [a] only begotten Son, so that whoever believes *and* trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish, but have eternal life." The footnote with this passage in the AMP provides the following description/explanation:

"[a] Jesus, God's only Son, The One who is truly unique, the only one of His kind."

Many times John 3:16 has been referenced as the "Gospel in a nutshell." It is in this one verse we can celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas, as well as reflect on the events in Christ's life during Holy Week and especially from Good Friday. The BEST is YET to COME! Christ's resurrection celebrated on Easter Sunday is the affirmation of God's covenant promise to us, our current assurance of salvation, and our future hope of Eternal Life into eternity.

Let us lift our hearts and voices in the hymns of Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter with a new renewed awareness of our life in Christ. May John 3:16, provide us the reality that everyday is both Christmas and Easter as we anticipate Christ's coming again!

Sharing in Christ's Service and Ministry,

Jeanette West

The Seekers Bible Class

The class is at the midpoint of our Lenten study, Max Lucado's Jesus: the God Who Knows Your Name, and will finish on Easter Sunday, April 17. These are the remaining topics:

April 3 - "Great Teacher"-Jesus came offering us a relationship, not a list of rules to follow.

April 10 - "Miracle Worker"-Worry doesn't have to take over your lives. With faith, we can trust Jesus with our problems.

April 17 - "Victorious Sacrifice"-The resurrection reminds us that Jesus is the conquering King and the Good Shepherd.

"...weeping may last through the night but joy comes with the morning." Psalm 30: 9.

Our last study before the summer break will be another Max Lucado book: You are Never Alone. These will be distributed on April 17 with the first lesson on the 24th.

Please join us for study, discussion, and fellowship, with cookies and coffee at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Shirley Pinkston

March Benevolence Report . "One Great Hour of Sharing"

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

The three programs your donations serve include; 1) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after devastation from natural or human-caused disasters and provides support for refugees. It granted \$6.5 million in support in 2020.

2) The Presbyterian Hunger Program strives to alleviate hunger by not only providing food but searching out and solving the systemic causes of poverty. They provide herd animals, stock grain banks, and create community gardens and greenhouses in the US and abroad.

Finally, 3) Self-Development of People works

on projects in economically poor communities around the globe by helping people develop solutions to their own challenges and educating us all on issues of oppression, poverty, and justice.



This is the only time of the year that we ask for a special collection in our church. We would appreciate your donation any Sunday between now and Easter Sunday. There are special envelopes on the table in the narthex or you may drop a check in the mail or the regular collection. Please make your checks out to the Presbyterian Church of Salado with "OGHS" on the memo line.

Thank you for your support of this worthy cause.

Mike Hart, Benevolence Chair

Presbyterian Church of Salado Choir



*Due to some recent health issues, there are currently some openings available in the choir!

Contact Shay VanWinkle
254-421-3520

or
Jeanette West
254-760-6563

Sing praises to God, **sing praises: sing praises** unto our King, **sing praises.**
Ps 47:6

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to **sing praises** unto thy name, O most High:
Ps 92:1

Let them praise his name in the dance: let them **sing praises** unto him with the timbrel and harp.
Ps 149:3

The Choir has Hymns that can relate to many different folks!

- Dentist's Hymn..... Crown Kin with Many Crowns
- Weatherman's Hymn..... There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
- Contractor's Hymn The Church's One Foundation
- The Takes Hymn..... Holy, Holy, Holy
- The Golfer's Hymn..... There's a Green Hit Far Away
- 'The Politician's Hymn..... Standing on the Promises
- Optometrists Hymn..... Open My Eyes That I Met See
- The IRS Agent's Hymn..... I Surrender All
- The Gossip's Flynn..... Pass It On
- The Electrician's Hymn..... Send the Light
- The Shopper's Hymn..... Sweet Bye and Bye
- The Realtor's Hymn..... I've got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop
- Massage Therapist Hymn... He Touched Me
- The Doctor's Hymn..... The Great Physician

As he rode along, the crowds spread out their garments on the road ahead of him. When they reached the place where the road started down

the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout and **sing** as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.

Luke 19:36-37