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

The Messenger

GAL 6:9
SO LET'S NOT GET TIRED OF DOING WHAT IS GOOD.
(AUGUST 2019)

Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson



As I was cleaning up my computer's hard drive, deleting old things I had written, I came across this article I wrote over 8 years ago. As I read it, I thought, "Things haven't changed. In fact, I think Christian education is even more important today." With all the events going on in our nation today, I think religious education, with an understanding of Christian ethics and morality, is even more important. Because of this I want Pete to use what I found as my comments in the newsletter this month. It begins below:

When faced with tragedy, fear, or a life changing event or decision, have you ever pondered the value of your religious upbringing? Has your relationship with God carried you through some anxious or even devastating moments in your life?

Americans claim to be a highly religious people with 92 percent of Americans professing belief in God (or a universal spirit). That belief does not seem to translate into knowledge of their own faith. A Pew Research Center poll reveals how little Americans know about religion.

This knowledge gap has real-world consequences, including a lack of the ability to evaluate religious claims from politicians or religious groups, a shallow view of world events, and a weakened capacity to critique the claims of those preaching religious intolerance and hate. Closing the religious knowledge gap is an important step in lessening these problems.



Consider these words by John Adams, our second president, who also served as chairman of the American Bible Society. In an address to military leaders he said, *'We have no government armed with the power capable of contending with human passions, unbridled by morality and true religion. Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.'*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Calendar of Events

Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 am

Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues. 8 am

Chair Yoga Tuesdays and Thursdays

• **Aug. 4 - Worship with Communion**

• **Aug. 11 - Social after Worship**

We will celebrate Bob Todd's 90th Birthday on August 11. This will take the place of our end-of-the month Social!

AUGUST 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				Yoga 10:30		
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	Yoga 1 PM	6	7	8	9
10	11	Yoga 1 PM	12	13	14	15
16	17	Yoga 1 PM	18	19	20	21
22	23	Yoga 1 PM	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

You are worth more than many sparrows.

Did you know that dolphins and whales sleep with one eye open? Why? To avoid being eaten by sharks. How? They can shut down half of their brain, close the corresponding eye to rest, and still be alert enough to fend off their enemies. The first time I read that statement, I thought, "Wow! What a super power to have! I wish I could do that."

After doing a little research, I found out that dolphins are not the only animals that have unusual resting patterns. I read that mallard ducks sleep in rows. The ducks in the middle take their rest, and the ones on either end keep an eye out for predators.

God has created a truly amazing world, and He cares for all his children, not just the human ones. The book of Matthew gives us some insight.



Matthew 10:29-31 says this: "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the

ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

Matthew 6:26: "Look at the birds of the air, they do not sow or reap, or store away in barns, and yet your Father feeds them. Are you not more valuable than they?" (NIV)

My friend Marge, who is 97, frequently tells me, "Honey, I don't know why I'm still here; but I know He cares for me."

His Eye is on the Sparrow

by C. Martin Hawn

Why should I feel discouraged?
Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely
and long for Heaven and home?
When Jesus is my portion?
My constant friend is He;
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.

So you see, my friends, we don't need any super powers. We can lie down and close both eyes in peaceful slumber, secure in the knowledge that our Lord does indeed care for us.

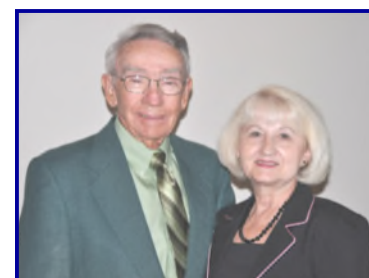
God's blessings on each one of you.

From a Merry Heart, *Linda Lloyd*

August Social



We will celebrate Bob Todd's 90th Birthday on August 11. This will take the place of our end-of-the month Social!



Bob and Gidget Todd will be hosting the party by supplying the decorations, entrees and desserts, which will include birthday cake and ice cream.

The church will provide side dishes that go with Bar-B-Q; there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Let's all help Bob celebrate his 90th!!!

REMEMBERING

Kirsten had ACL surgery this Spring and was finally released from clinic PT! Yea!

However she did enjoy interacting with her PT technicians, so, mixed emotions. She will continue home PT and only return to the clinic if needed. She's starting marching band practice - 5 hours per day. She will be fitted with a marching brace to keep the knee stable.



Summer Bible Study

"Love Carved in Stone," a study of the Ten Commandments, will meet on Thursdays at noon through August 29th. On August 1st, participants will discuss Lesson Four on "Honor the Life Givers." By presenting the Commandments with biblical information, Hebrew traditions, and the perspective of Reformation theology, the author offers many insights into how we, modern Disciples of Jesus, can practice these "Words of Love" in our world. *Leader - Pat Rehm*

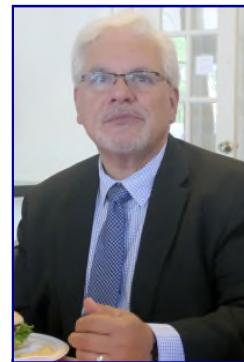


Visit From Grace Presbytery

The Rev. Craig Krueger, Director of Ministry Transitions - Grace Presbytery, visited the church on July 28. He participated in the service briefly and stayed for the Social. A number of church members had an opportunity to visit with Craig.



In January, Craig joined the Presbytery Staff as Director of Ministry Transitions and Small Church Specialist. His goal is to visit all 140 churches within the bounds of Grace Presbytery and to know every pastor by sight. He is concentrating on the southern part of the presbytery.



Craig is well suited to work with small and rural churches having spent 25 years in churches under 100 members. His goal is to help small churches develop a vision for ministry in their community, to tell their story and to share their vision within their community.

Benevolence Committee Report

This month the Salado Family Relief will repeat its **Project Backpack**, distributing over 150 packs filled with school supplies to children and teens in the SISD. The approximate cost per pack is \$55. In June our Benevolence Committee assigned \$2,000 to this annual ecumenical project in our community from the 2nd quarter's mission funds. Our church's activity room will serve as the distribution center, as it has in previous years, on August 13th & 15th. The array of so many colorful backpacks, is always an amazing sight!



Adult Study Resumes - 9/8

Sunday morning classes will resume on Sept. 8. We will begin an in-depth, 24-week study that will include scripture from both the Old and New Testaments.

The title of the study is Covenant, and both the readings and discussions will focus on how the Covenant relationship between God and His people is woven throughout the entire Bible.



Participant Guides will be available to class members. These guides are designed to help in analyzing the Bible readings and providing topics for discussion on Sunday mornings. There will also be DVD lessons.

[Class members may pick up their Participant Guides after church on September 1 in the adult classroom.](#)

Everyone is invited to join in this study as we seek to have a closer relationship with God and each other plus a deeper understanding of the Bible. Coffee and cookies will be available. Hope to see you there.

Shirley Pinkston

Our congregation continues to support the Heart & Hands Ministries, which has a pantry and clothing store at 213 Mill Creek Drive #135. H&H is open to clients in Salado and some surrounding communities on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month. Please consider placing occasional donations into the H&H basket in our narthex, such as cans of vegetables, meaty pastas, meats and tuna, soups, and tomato sauces, plus rice and dry pastas, juice boxes, evaporated or powdered milk, and health aids. Clothing donations are also appreciated and can be left in bags or boxes behind the basket. Thank you!

Chairperson - Pat Rehm

Monthly Social - July 28

We celebrated the 4th of July on July 28.

The ladies took a break and the men did the cooking. Scrumptious hamburgers and hotdogs on the grill with all the fixings, plus homemade ice-cream. !!



There were many other men involved which are not pictured.
Thank You!



Really great Burgers!