



The Messenger

BE JOYFUL IN HOPE, PATIENT IN AFFLICTION,
FAITHFUL IN PRAYER. ROMANS 12:12

(FEBRUARY 2022)

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SHAY VANWINKLE -
Fellowship
MIKE HART -
Benevolence/Outreach
RANDY KEMP
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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

Just a short note today. As we move into the mid-term political season, I would like to share this with you again. I think it is very important reminder for Christians.

"When Jesus told his disciples they were the "light of the world," he meant they were to be reflectors of the light of God. God is the illuminating source. God provides the light that is reflected from us. And God needs us to be reflectors of God's light to a world of darkness. Jesus is urging us to turn on the lights. Each of us is supposed to shine for Christ's sake. Our light is not like that of the sun. Our light resembles that of the moon; it is a reflected light, from Christ's spirit who lives within us. We are supposed to shine that other people might see that light and give glory to God, not to us, but to the Lord who illuminates us."



I wonder how well are we reflecting God's light to the world around us? With the use of social media, more and more people get to see a true reflection of who we are by what we post. I have friends on both sides of the political spectrum who are Christians but post some things that aren't reflective of their Christian faith. Think before you post: is this true (Fact Check), is it necessary, is it reflective of my faith, before you press the send button. May we be a good reflection of Christ in all we do, say, and are, in all areas of our life this election year.



On March 2nd, we will be celebrating Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. We will celebrate with a noon service, plus a light lunch will be provided. Put this on your calendar.

God Bless, Carl

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
Feb. 13 - Session to Meet after Worship
Feb. 24 - Women's Devotional after Yoga
Mar. 2 - Ash Wednesday Service - Noon
(with a light lunch)

FEBRUARY 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	Yoga 1 1 PM	2	Yoga 3 10:30	4	5
6	7	Yoga 8 1 PM	9	Yoga 10 10:30	11	12
Session Meeting 13	14	Yoga 15 1 PM	16	Yoga 17 10:30	18	19
20	Pres. Day 21	Yoga 22 1 PM	23	Yoga 24 10:30	25	26
27	28	1	Ash Wed. 2	3	4	5

Seekers Bible Class by Shirley Pinkston

"I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."
 Psalm 119: 15-16

Have you considered the 10 Commandments to be just a set of rules for the Israelites to follow? Studying Adam Hamilton's Words of Life helps us to understand their significance to the Jewish people, both in ancient times and today, but it also draws our attention to their importance for us.

We are learning how Jesus wanted us to live out these commandments in ways that go beyond their original meanings.

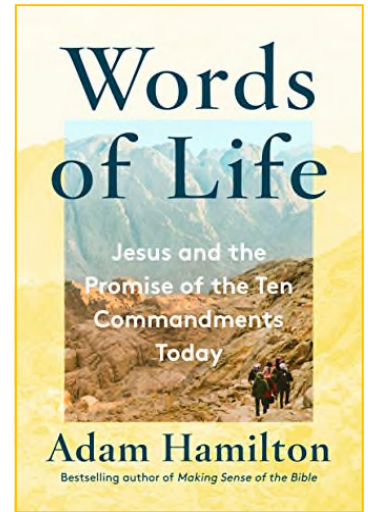
Our discussions on each topic lead to a better understanding of how these commandments enlarge, not limit, our lives. Fellowship with other believers is a good way to gain greater understanding of what the scriptures can

mean if lived the way God gave them and Jesus taught them.

We're having good attendance, but there is room for you. Please join us at 9:00 on Sunday mornings for study, fellowship, coffee, and cookies.

"Some read the Bible to learn, and some read the Bible to hear from heaven." Andrew Murray

Shirley Pinkston



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

	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany - Feb. 6	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany - Feb. 13	Seventh Sunday after Epiphany - Feb 20	Transfiguration / (Last Sunday before Lent) - Feb. 27
1st Reading	Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm	Psalm 138	Psalm 1	Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40	Psalm 99
2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Gospel	Luke 5:1-11	Luke 6:17-26	Luke 6:27-38	Luke 6:9:28-36, (37-43a)

Feb. Birthdays



- Robert Harper 1
- Barclay McCort 4
- Cindy Pennington 8
- Pat Rehm 9
- Randy Kemp 9
- Chris Gengler 12
- Betsy Tyson 13
- Laquita Arner 19
- Jim Ervi, Sr. 19
- Claire Hartman 26

About our Members (and Prayer Requests)

Julie Goggans received some poor news. Her pancreatic tumor has not shrunk, and the cancer markers have increased. Her reaction to the new chemo therapy has been much more difficult. She was in such bad shape on Saturday, she went to the hospital for several days of help. Pray that the therapy is effective again and that Julie can have less adverse reaction to the chemo. Pray for Jack Goggans, Joan and Chine Ray, plus the rest of the family to have peace during this trial.

June Lubowinski's surgery to check on a troublesome spot came back with good news. It was just scar tissue from a prior surgery/radiation. Your continuing prayers and care are greatly appreciated.

Jim Arner's rehab facility has put in place new COVID guidelines plus Laquita

is concerned about spreading the virus either in or out of the facility. It is a challenge with all the issues. Pray for them.

Joe Carroll is stronger and walking around (mostly with a walker) plus now going to physical therapy where they will focus more on walking with a cane. Sleeping has improved, which helps many other aspects of his life. The cognitive skills are coming back. Susan and Joe are very grateful for our prayers!

Bob Todd is continuing a three-week immunotherapy injection program which is controlling his cancer. From a dermatology standpoint he has completed his surgeries and they went well. He will have more scans to determine if there is anything else that needs attention. Please pray for good health.

The 2022 Church Directory

The 2022 Presbyterian Church Directory is out!

The latest collection of names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mails, and pictures of the congregation (and friends) has been published. They were being distributed on Sunday, 1/30. Stop by and see Pete Stebbins in the next couple of weeks to get yours. If, in person, distribution is not possible contact Pete (pete7744@icloud.com) to request other arrangements.

This directory is intended to help the congregation stay connected by allowing quick and easy access to contact information. The directory is especially helpful for new members as they try to put names and faces together (or for some members who might forget names and faces).



Friendship by Linda Lloyd

I love this verse from Proverbs. “A sweet friendship refreshes the soul,” Proverbs 27:9.

This verse has special meaning for me because I know that one of the greatest blessings, I ever received from God is the gift of friendship. And I have found that verse from Proverbs to ring so true.

My boss used to call me his “social butterfly” because people frequently came by my office to invite me to lunch or to go shopping, to a movie, or some other fun thing. Sometimes my coworkers would stop by with their children so that I could see how much they had grown.

I had a coworker in that same office. We had worked together in another office previously. And never once in all the 13 years that we worked together, did anyone ever stop by to invite her to go out, the exception being her husband if he happened to be in town. We were allowed to visit on our breaks or if we had some down time and she often spoke about her children and grandchildren. But I never ever heard her say anything about having a friend or doing anything with a friend. I thought that was so sad. I can’t even imagine having lived a life without friends.

I have known most of my friends for a very long time. My oldest friends are Kate and John Tilton. We went to grade school and high school together. And I was the matron of honor in their wedding. Unfortunately, John passed away last year.

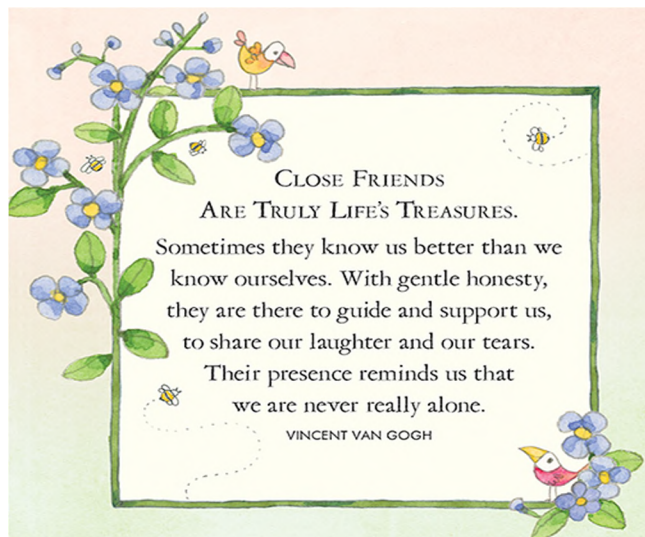
Most of the friends that I see now on a regular basis are former coworkers or people that I knew from my old church here in Killeen before it closed. A lot of them, I have known for more than 30 years.

I was blessed to meet with a group of friends this past week. We are a small group now. One of the ladies died a couple of years ago. Our friend Nicole opens her home

to us whenever someone has a birthday. She always cooks a wonderful meal, sets a lovely table with all her mother’s beautiful china and linens, plus fresh flowers. The rest of us bring the sides and dessert, including a birthday cake. She is such a blessing to all of us.

Since we only meet about five times a year, we always have a lot to talk about. We met for lunch at 12:30 and didn’t leave Nicole’s house until 4 p.m. We only left then because someone happened to notice what time it was. One of the ladies suggested that we all take a nap and then have Nicole cook dinner for us. For some reason Nicole wasn’t too keen on that idea. But we all had a good laugh.

We have shared many joyous occasions and a whole lot of laughter over all these years. But there have been many other times when we cried, held each other, and mourned together. Just talking and sharing those heart-breaks and tears together was such a blessing. And we are ever mindful and so grateful to the God Almighty.



May God richly bless your life with friends.
From a Merry Heart, *Linda Lloyd*

♪ Musical Notes ♪

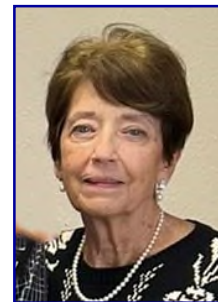
Jehovah Jireh, one of God's many names, means "God will provide", and that He does. Now, His way of providing is not always super-fast, nor instantly immediate, though it can be, if that is in His plan. Sometimes, it seems He prefers to take the slower, more scenic route to extend the journey. He gives my "trust muscles" the chance to realize how much I totally and completely need to rely on Him. Case in point, adding choir director to my serving opportunities.

Looking back, God wanted to test my willingness to step out of my comfort zone from hiding in plain sight behind the organ. He was in the process of literally orchestrating His plan for our choir.

Because of her musical background, Sharon, or Shay, VanWinkle has been one of my "go to people" when I needed to know if music was too loud,

too soft, or just needed more prayer! Having played clarinet in orchestras, she knows the technical side of rhythm, beat, reading music, and the importance of practicing.

What a wonderful combining of Shay's musical knowledge and expertise with her love for our Lord Jesus Christ along with her willingness to use her talents in service to Him! What a blessing she is to our church as she steps up to direct the Adult Choir of the Presbyterian Church of Salado. We praise and thank you Jehovah Jireh! God has provided indeed!



Sharing in Christ's Service,
Jeanette West

Session Meeting Notes - 1/09/2022 from Pat Rehm

Clerk of the Session

- ◆ Grace Presbytery has just confirmed receipt of its copy of the 2020 Session Report and has sent a confirming sticker for our copy.

Treasurer's Report

- ◆ The congregation came through for us, as the December 31, 2021 report shows a higher amount of annual income than the church received last year. The new budget will be distributed at the congregational meeting on January 30, 2022.

All Committees presented reports both orally and in writing. (These were distributed on 1/30/2022.)

- Worship Report - Evelyn Thompson
- Education Report - Evelyn Thompson
- Building and Grounds Report - Randy Kemp
- Fellowship Report - Shirley Lett
- Communications Report - Pete Stebbins
- Benevolence Report - Pat Rehm
- Personnel/Finance - Debby Aldridge

Old Business

- ◆ Update official church rolls - Pastor Carl shared a list of changes to be made for 2021. Members who have not attended for two years, including those who have moved away, will be dropped from the church rolls.

- ◆ New church directory - Pete Stebbins and Pastor Carl will update the church directory and produce it for 2022. We do not have to report to Presbytery those members who have moved away, and some may want to continue to be included in the church directory as "friends."

- ◆ Changing combination locks on church doors - Pastor Carl reported that this task has been done, and only selected persons will receive the new code. They cannot share it with anyone else, in order to keep track of those using the facility.

New Business

- ◆ Permission to remove John Pettijohn (at his request) from access to the church's safety deposit box and give that authorization to Debby Aldridge. Motion: Mike Hart so moved and Shay VanWinkle seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Pastor's Report - Rev. Carl Thompson

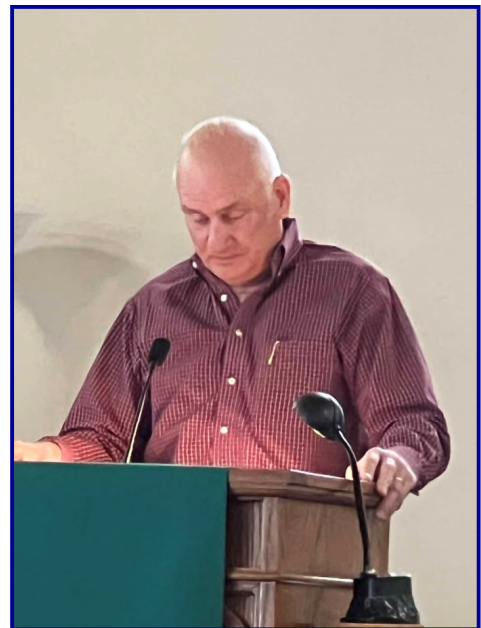
- ◆ He will have eye surgery on February 15 and March 1. Since both are Tuesdays, he will choose other days before or after the procedures to come to the office.
- ◆ He also announced that the Memorial Fund has reached \$9,000. He asked the Session to consider meaningful ways to use part of those funds for a congregational project.

2021 Giving at 22%

Presbyterian Church of Salado 2021 Benevolence Giving

Presbyterian Children’s Home and Services	\$ 4000
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	\$ 4000
Grace Presbytery	\$ 3000
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 2495
Community Chair Yoga	\$ 2025
Salado Family Relief/Project Backpack	\$ 2000
Holland Community Food Pantry	\$ 1000
Hearts and Hands Bread Donation	\$ 760
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary	\$ 600
AWARE Central Texas	\$ 600
Families in Crisis	\$ 600
Fisher House Foundation	\$ 600
Helping Hands – Belton	\$ 600
Body of Christ Community Clinic	\$ 555
Doctors Without Borders	\$ 500
Salvation Army – Temple	\$ 500
Samaritan’s Purse/Franklin Graham Ministry	\$ 500
Solar Under the Sun/ PCUSA Synod of the Sun	\$ 500
Salado Volunteer Fire Department	\$ 400
Salado Masons Flag Program	\$ 36
Total 2021 Benevolence	\$ 25,271

This represents 22% of our total offerings for 2021.



Randy Kemp was the “stand-in” on January 16 as Carl could not be with us. Randy took Carl’s prepared sermon and presented it quite effectively.

Thanks, Randy!

“Woman’s” Devotional

The next monthly Devotional group will be meeting on Thursday, February 24th. Debby Aldridge will be leading the devotional. We meet in the Adult Sunday School room at 11:30, immediately following Yoga on the last Thursday of the month.

If you want, feel free to bring a sack lunch. Come and enjoy the Christian fellowship.



New Session Members
Jeanette West, Mike Hart, and Shay VanWinkle