



# The Messenger

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

(JULY 2021)

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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

Can you believe 2021 is now half over already? This past month we began the process of starting up our worship services following all the changes that had to be made due to the pandemic.

Change can be very hard to go through, and the problem is that change never stops. We as a congregation have more changes ahead of us. We will be looking for a new choir director to guide our choir when it starts up again in the Fall. Monte will be moving back to Michigan to be near his children and grandchildren. It is important to be near family, and we wish Monte the absolute best in life. Carol and Monte gave so much to our choir, and he will be hard to replace. Pray that we will find a new choir director that will build on Monte and Carol's program. Who knows what other changes will be coming? Whatever they are, I know this congregation is strong and will follow God's lead.



The first Sunday of the month is the Fourth of July when we celebrate the birth of our nation. I am thankful to be a citizen of these great United States. But as a citizen we have responsibilities as we enjoy those liberties. I ask this question, "Is the world a better place because we are a citizen of this country?" "Is our community a better place because we are a part of it?" "Is our church a better church because we are a member of it?" Or are we like many, enjoying the fruits, but not tending the tree of liberty?

Peter Marshall, while before the U.S. Senate, said it ever so well in a prayer many years ago. *"Lord Jesus, thou who art the way, the truth, and the life; hear us as we pray for the truth that shall make all free. Teach us that liberty is not only to be loved but also to be lived. Liberty is too precious a thing to be buried in books. It costs too much to be hoarded. Help us see that our liberty is not the right to do as we please, but the opportunity to do what is right."*

When our forefathers came to this country and founded our system of government,

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## Calendar of Events

**In-Person Worship, Yoga, and Men's Prayer Breakfasts are back to normal. Unvaccinated are asked to wear masks & stay a safe distance from others.**

**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**  
**July 4th - Independence Day Celebration**  
**July 11th - All American Pet Photo Day**

### 2021 July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1 Yoga 10:30	2	3
4 4th of July	5	6 Yoga 1 PM	7	8 Yoga 10:30	9	10
11 Pet Photo Day	12	13 Yoga 1 PM	14	15 Yoga 10:30	16	17
18	19	20 Yoga 1 PM	21	22 Yoga 10:30	23	24
25	26	27 Yoga 1 PM	28	29 Yoga 10:30	30	31

Carl continued:

they were convinced that there was a higher power who was involved in the destinies of men and nations. They believed that all were endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights and that among these were life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This was evident in the way they wrote, the way they lived, and the way our nation developed. There was a moral fiber, a moral strength (moral compass) in our nation.

This country was founded upon Biblical principles that honor God. The phrase on our coinage is indicative of our religious beginnings, "In God We Trust." No matter how prosperous we may become, we must never forget that God is the giver and sustainer of life and blessings. We must trust in and acknowledge God as the author of our liberty.



Our founders came from a culture that was deeply influenced by Christianity, but they were not all Christians. Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin were Deists. Still, Christianity played a major role in shaping our national character and values. Much of the discussion that led up to independence centered around, not just religious freedom, but freedom in general as a gift from God. That would later be called "inalienable rights" given by the Creator?

As we celebrate the Fourth of July let us remember our religious heritage and ask God's continued blessings on us and our nation. God Bless you. *Carl*



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

	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - July 4	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - July 11	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost - July 18	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost - July 25
1st Reading	2 Sam 5:1-5, 9-10	2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19	2 Sam 7:1-14a	2 Sam 11:1-15
Psalm	Psalm 48	Psalm 24	Psalm 89:20-37	Psalm 14
2nd Reading	2 Cor 12:2-12	Ephesians 1:3-14	Ephesians 2:11-22	Ephesians 3:14-21
Gospel	Mark 6:1-13	Mark 6:14-29	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	John 6:1-21

## July Birthdays



- Charlotte Carl 4
- Evelyn Thompson 7
- Danney McCort 15
- Nancy Healey 27

## About our Members (and Prayer Requests)

**Julie Goggans** needs our prayers. She continues chemo at BS&W but will be going to MD Anderson for a second opinion on July 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Please keep Julie, Jack, Joan, and Chine in your prayers. Chine has a foot issue and is pending an MRI and possible foot surgery.

**The VanWinkle's** daughter, Michelle, is home and back to work. They drained her knees and now she is doing okay. Shay says that she and Rip are doing OK.

**June Lubowinski** has not gotten an update concerning her the brain tumor status. They only do MRI's for pacemaker people on Thursdays and are booked solid through August. She does have other appointments and an ultrasound plus continues with Keytruda every 21 days. She thanks all for the prayers.

**Gini Norris-Lane** (Nancy Norris's daughter) had her gallbladder surgery this Monday AM and all went well. Her husband, Wes, reported that she had just a half day in the hospital. Pray for recovery and no complications.

**Carol Booher** has had quite an ordeal with a trip to the ER, ICU, S&W Hospital and now Cornerstone Rehabilitation. It seems that some medicines were out of balance. She will be working on improving her strength while in Rehab for 20 days. Pray for strength and husband, John, during this recovery.

**Joe Carroll** is improving. He can sit in a chair for 30 minutes to an hour. He is still somewhat con-

fused as to where he is but recognizes his friends and family. Susan is hopeful that he will be able to return home after a couple of weeks at CCH. Joe is still recovering from pneumonia. Susan thanks all for your prayers.

**Bob Todd** is continuing a three-week immunotherapy injection program and doing well. He also completed cataract surgery on both eyes in June and is enjoying improved eyesight.

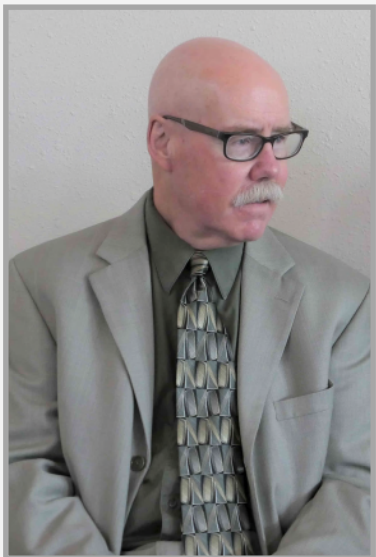
**Jeanette West's** cataracts were completely removed from each eye! They removed her "eye lens-from-birth" and replaced them with a lens which restored distant, close, and organ playing vision. As far as her right-hand surgery, it will be determined in a few weeks.

**Sharon Michael's** father, **Jim Michael**, of Salado, suffered a heart attack on June 5. He was released from rehab on June 18 into hospice care. However, his condition is deteriorating. He is sleep deprived, agitated, and confused. Please pray that he will be able to sleep peacefully and regain his strength. Please pray for Jim, Sharon and all the family during this difficult time.

**Kathy Duke's** family recently has gone through a loss of an unborn infant. Pray for this special family during this time of sadness.

The **Harpers** held a Celebration of Life service on June 27<sup>th</sup> for their mother, Martha. Keep Bob and Barbara in your prayers.

## Monte's Move Back Home to Central Michigan



Monte Shuck - June 27, 2021

Carol and Monte's plan, hatched sometime back when we started to think about such things, was, when retirement time came, to move out of Michigan and never see snow again. We did not know exactly where we wanted to end up (somewhere south of the Mason/Dixon line was the general idea). That plan started to crystallize in 2005, when we found and purchased a beautiful piece of property in Jarrell, Texas. For the next eight years, we visited our lot once or twice a year (our son lived in Round Rock at the time), clearing cedar and cactus and plotting where Carol's dream house would be placed. In 2013, Carol retired, and we packed up and moved to Texas, rented an apartment and started building. Almost a year later, the house was complete. We happily moved in and I retired shortly thereafter. Meanwhile, we had found our way to the Presbyterian Church of Salado and started making wonderful

friends. Our plans were complete. But as we all know, life is what happens when you are planning something else.

Carol and I were able to enjoy more than five years in her dream house before the Lord needed her with Him, and for that I will be eternally grateful. I feel so fortunate that we were able to have been involved in the church and have known all of you. But now, two years later, I feel it is time for another plan. All my family is now back in Michigan, and I believe the right place for me is there. I have put my home on the market and will be relocating back to central Michigan once it is sold. I will miss many things about Texas: my church, the choir, our friends, the weather (we really did not want ever see snow again), the home that Carol and I made here. Thanks for being a cherished part of both our lives.

Monte

## Seventeen Members to Study Summer Bible Lessons

Starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>, seventeen church members will participate in a Bible study. Those who come to the Sunday School room at our church on Thursdays at noon for nine weeks will discuss lessons about special "grandmothers" of Jesus. Others will study the book at home. Some of the Old Testament women included in the study may be unfamiliar, but all of them are listed in the more recent versions of Matthew's genealogy of Jesus in the New Testament.

These "grandmothers" include **Tamar** (*wife* of Jacob's son Judah, *mother* of Booz, and *grandmother* of Ruth's husband Obed), as well as **Rahab**, **Ruth**, and **Bathsheba** (only mentioned as the *wife* of Uriah). Their Old Testament stories will lead us to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and how those ancestral women played a role in her commitment to Jesus.

Pat Rehm



# Celebration of Life - Martha Harper on June 27, 2021



**Barbara and Bob Harper give tribute to Martha**

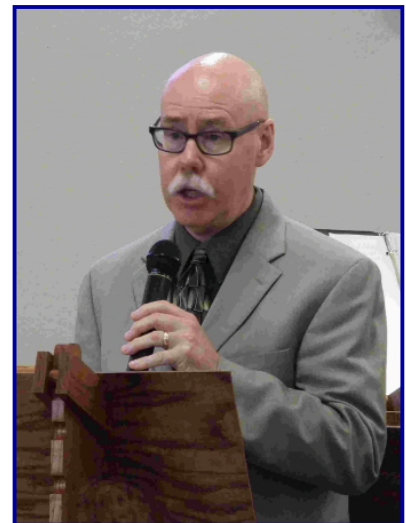


**Pastor Carl Thompson officiates the service**



**Some wonderful ladies of the Church provide lunch:**

- Sara Pettijohn,
- Nancy Healey,
- Evelyn Thompson,
- &
- Debbie Aldridge



**Monte a pays musical tribute**

# Church Door Maps

The door numbers were suggested by our security analysts when they reviewed our security and safety audit earlier this year. It was recommended that we have all exterior and interior doors numbered and registered with the police department. Then in case of an emergency, help can be clearly directed to specific locations as needed.

Randy Kemp will have these numbers posted up at each door during July.

