



The Messenger

July 2023

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PASTOR:
REV. CARL THOMPSON
MINISTERS:
THE CONGREGATION

SESSION MEMBERS:
PAT REHM -
Clerk of Session
JEANETTE WEST -
Worship
DEBBY ALDRIDGE
Personnel/Finance
MIKE HART -
Education
SHAY VANWINKLE -
Fellowship
MIKE HART -
Benevolence/Outreach
RANDY KEMP
Building & Grounds

TREASURER:
PAT HART

ORGANIST:
JEANETTE WEST

CHOIR DIRECTOR:
SHAY VANWINKLE

**COMMUNICATIONS &
MESSENGER EDITOR**
#135 PETE STEBBINS

* 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

I am writing this letter to thank you all for the love and care that you gave Evelyn and me while we were with you, and the friends we've made. I just feel like crying, yet I thank God for the experience we have had together. I thank you for the love, kindness, and support shown to us these past years. I am grateful for the ministry we have shared together. I would never be able to write enough thank you notes to truly express how I feel about the time I spent here serving as your Pastor. What a privilege it has been to share the journey of faith with you.



Back in January, I told you I had decided to retire in July. That seemed a long time away, but here it is, in the blink of an eye. What a wonderful 19 years this has been. We share many memories: of joys, celebrations, losses, and challenges. We had the joy of welcoming new people into our midst, and we had the pain of losing people we deeply love - all these events made us into a strong family of God.



After sharing so much life and time together, it is difficult to say goodbye. Evelyn and I are so very thankful for each of you. To have known you and worked with you has enriched our lives beyond measure.

[Continued Page 2](#)

Calendar of Events

- Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.
- Communion on First Sunday each mo.
- 9:15 Sunday - Meet and Greet
- Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues. @ 8 am.
- Chair Yoga 1pm Tues and 10:30am Thurs
- July 2 - Carl & Evelyn's Retirement Social after Worship Service
- July 4th - Independence Day
- July 6 - Summer Bible Study "Sacred Encounters" Begins
- Sunday School begins after Labor Day

| July 2023 | | | | | | |
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| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

Carl Comments Continued

But now it truly is time for the next stage, both for us and for you. Rev. Mari Lyn Jones will bring new perspectives, new ideas, and new abilities to share with you as your new Pastor. I can enjoy my retirement knowing that you will be led by such a gifted and loving pastor. As I depart, our relationship will change. I will no longer be your pastor and will instead be a friend. Pastor Mari Lyn will be your Pastor, and I encourage you to fully embrace her as she arrives, just as you embraced me.



Evelyn and I will miss you, and we ask God's blessing upon you and Salado Presbyterian Church as you begin a new journey of faith with Pastor Mari Lyn Jones.

God bless you.
Carl and Evelyn



Common Lectionary Readings (Carl will change topics at times due to requests)

| | 5th Sunday after Pentecost - July 2 | 6th Sunday after Pentecost - July 9 | 7th Sunday after Pentecost - July 16 | 8th Sunday after Pentecost - July 23 | 9th Sunday after Pentecost - July 30 |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1st Reading | Genesis 22:1-14 | Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, and 58-67 | Genesis 25:19-34 | Genesis 28:10-19a | Genesis 29:15-28 |
| Psalm | Psalm 13 | Psalm 10:10-17 | Psalm 119:105-112 | Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 | Psalm 105:1-11, 45b |
| 2nd Reading | Romans 6:12-23 | Romans 7:15-26-5a | Romans 8:1-11 | Romans 8:12-25 | Romans 8:26-39 |
| Gospel | Matthew 10:40-42 | Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 | Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 | Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 | Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 |

July Birthdays

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



About Our Members (and Prayer Requests)

Rip VanWinkle has had a gallbladder illness/infection. The infection has improved but lack of mobility may have led to blood clots in both his lung and leg. He went back to Seton Hospital for a couple of days, and they put on blood thinners. He still needs to improve plus get off the blood thinners so he can undergo gallbladder surgery.

Shay has been worn out with all the care she has been providing (and loss of sleep).

Their son, Richard, continues to be in severe pain from a ruptured disk. He has gone to the VA Hospital in San Antonio, and Richard says, "he will stay there - until fixed." They have also found a non-critical aneurysm.

Pray for Rip, Shay, Richard, and Michelle (caregiving daughter).

Susan Carroll will begin chemotherapy and radiation soon. Although no visible signs of cancer were detected after surgery, her cancer is very aggressive and prone to metastasis. She chose to have chemotherapy and asks for prayers that she will be able to complete the 6 cycles every 3 weeks and be cured!

Missie Lanham is still at Rosie's 'Here to Home.' She will stay in Rosie's care from now on. Her spirit is upbeat. Her faith is absolute. She has been diagnosed with vascular dementia and it is progressing quickly. She is getting hospice services at Rosie's. Please continue to keep her in your prayers and know she greatly appreciates all your thoughts and sends her love to all of you. Send cards to her home.

Pulpit Supply for July

Pulpit supply for the Sundays in July before Pastor Mari Lyn Jones becomes pastor in August will consist a variety of Christians.

July 9 - Gary Mathews, Director of Alumni Relations, at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, will be returning to lead in worship as he had been with us a few years ago, pre-COVID. Since our church financially helps support this seminary, it will be good to hear an update on the ministry of the Seminary combined with his message from God's Word!

July 16 - An Old-Time Gospel Sing led by **Randy Clawson** from Main Street Baptist Church in Georgetown. He and his wife Linda shared in our Special 5th Sunday Worship on January 29, 2023. They had not even left that Sunday and congregation members were asking when he would be able to return! What a blessing to share in this Gospel music worship!

July 23 - Rev. Jesse Thornton, a Retired Presbyterian Minister, from Lampasas will be leading our worship. You probably remember his having served as a pulpit supply minister for our church in the past. It has been a joy to have him visiting and worshipping with our congregation on various Sundays as his schedule permits!

July 30 - Rev. Scott Goodfellow, a Methodist Minister, will be preaching this final Sunday in July. He is no stranger to our congregation as he is the son-in-law of Laquita and the late Jim Arner, being married to their daughter Christy. They currently are residing in Salado. What a blessing to have him leading us in worship!

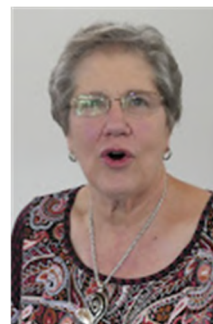
Jeanette West

Worship Committee Chairperson

Dear Friends

from Evelyn Thompson

I thank God daily that His providence led us to Salado Presbyterian Church. My Christian journey has been enriched by these years of fellowship with each of you. Through this journey I was challenged to step out of my comfort zone and be a liturgist, help teach adult classes when a need arose, and serve on session. I've been challenged to be more committed to prayer and devotional time. I've learned so much about myself and my faith from our time with this church family. Keep sharing your faith, as you journey forward.



Love, Evelyn.

♪♪ Musical Notes ♪♪

A huge thank you to the choir for extending their normal choir practice season into June this year. What a great year we have had with solos, duets, and/or choir specials each Sunday! The addition of our Choral Dismissal Hymn as been well received by our congregation as a conclusion to our worship service.

Now for a well deserved break! There will be no choir practice until the last Wednesday of August, the 30th! The choir will still be sitting in the choir loft to help in leading the hymns each Sunday. Anyone who would like to join the choir during July and August to see what a Sunday morning is like, please meet in the choir room about 9:40 a.m. We are always looking for people who love the Lord and can "Make a joyful noise" to Him as stated in Psalm 100:1!

Sharing in Christ's Service, *Jeanette West*

Meet & Greet Before Church

We will be having a Meet & Greet - Before Church Fellowship time for each of the last 4 Sundays in July, beginning at 9:15, in the Fellowship Hall.

Coffee and juice will be provided. Anyone wanting to help provide cookies (or whatever) for July 9, 16, 23, or 30, please contact Jeanette West via text or voicemail, 254-760-6563.



So nice to meet you

Shirley Pinkston Retires after 22 Years of Teaching

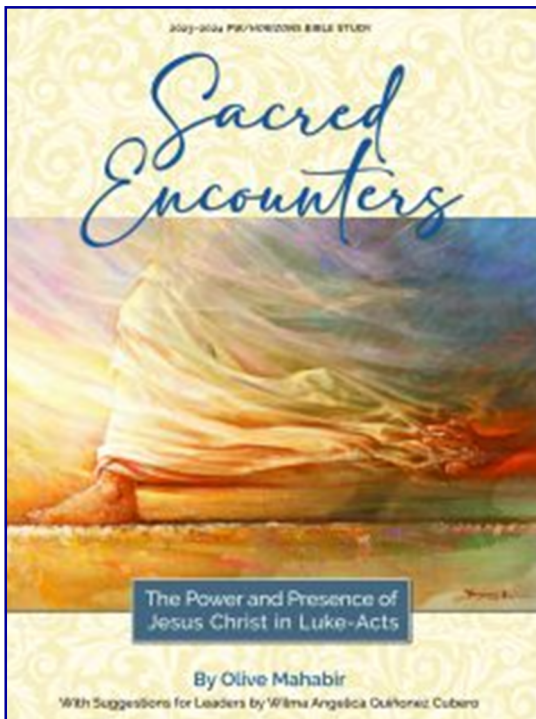
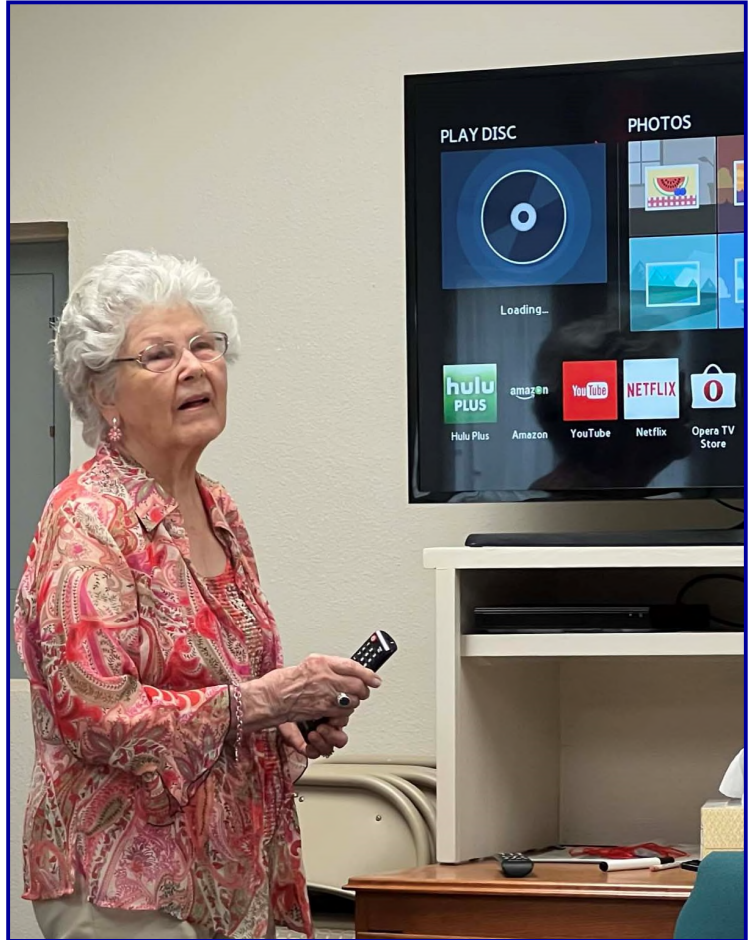
One of the joys of my Sundays has been attending the Adult Sunday School class led by Shirley Pinkston. After dedicating 22 years in teaching the class, Shirley decided to retire this spring.

Not only did Shirley make the lessons interesting, she provided a lot of background information to enhance the learning. It was obvious she devoted a lot of time to preparation. We have had many humorous moments during the class - most recently as Shirley had her ongoing battle with the audiovisual equipment, and continued to reference the author of our study book as being Tom Sellick! (His real name was Tom Berlin.)

I, for one, have learned much from Shirley, and wish her the best in her retirement from teaching. I know we will continue to see her in the choir and elsewhere within the church.

God Bless You, Shirley

by Barclay McCort



Summer Bible Study to begin July 6

The books have arrived for "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts." It is not too late to get a book. If you would like to have one, please notify Pat Rehm at rooster.rock11@gmail.com or 512-876-4211.

Participants may read the nine lessons on their own or they may meet with the class, when they can, on Thursday afternoons in July and August.

This study presents Jesus as "the Good Shepherd," highlighting his "sacred encounters" with everyday people. As Jesus interacted with individuals, he showed his disciples how to spread the message of God's everlasting and redeeming love.

The study group, which is open to the congregation, will begin on July 6th. We will gather in the classroom after Chair Yoga at 11:30 for a social/lunchtime and then begin the lesson at Noon. Even if you can't attend every time, you can still read the lesson and talk afterward with others who could attend.

Best, Pat Rehm