



The Messenger

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

(MAY 2020)

CHURCH OFFICE:
105 SALADO PLAZA
DRIVE - P.O. BOX 865
NEW (254) 308-2023

PRESBSALADO
@GMAIL.COM

WEBSITE:
PRESBSALADO.ORG

PASTOR:
REV. CARL THOMPSON
CELL (254) 702-4119
CTHOMPS106@AOL.COM

MINISTERS:
THE CONGREGATION

SESSION MEMBERS:
PAT HART -
Clerk of Session
MONTE SHUCK -
Worship
DEBBY ALDRIDGE
Personnel/Finance
EVELYN THOMPSON -
Education
SHIRLEY LETT-
Fellowship
PAT REHM -
Benevolence/Outreach
RANDY KEMP &
JOHN BOOHER
Building & Grounds

TREASURER:
JOHN PETTIJOHN

ORGANIST:
JEANETTE WEST

CHOIR DIRECTOR:
MONTE SHUCK

**COMMUNICATIONS &
MESSENGER EDITOR:**
PETE STEBBINS
(254) 231-4883
PETE7744@ICLOUD.COM

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

Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson



April has been an interesting month for me, and I am sure it has been for you also. I have followed the stay-at-home order and social-distancing very well. I know that as an older congregation we must be very careful since most of us are in the vulnerable age for serious problems if we get the coronavirus.

Just a while ago (Monday, April 26), our governor announced that the stay at home order will expire this Friday. What does that mean for us as a church? Health officials say that we still need to practice social distancing and wear masks when we go out. The coronavirus is still a threat.



I plan on being in the office starting next Tuesday, May 5, and will maintain social distancing when I meet with people in the office. I will also determine how we can rearrange the sanctuary so that when we can begin worshipping together again we can maintain adequate distancing. Assuming we can figure out a way to do that, I would like to start services again in mid-May (possibly May 17). I know many of you want to start being together again, yet others are not ready. If we start again, I will continue to email out a worship service on Sunday after church, so folks can worship at home.

If you think you would come to worship in mid-May let me know, so I can see if we can keep family units at least ten feet from other families. If we need to, I will do two services on Sunday to limit the amount of people in the sanctuary. Please email me at cthoms106@aol.com or call me at 254-702-4119 and let me know if you would attend a mid-May service.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Calendar of Events

**This Schedule Depends on the Coronavirus.
(Currently all these activities are suspended)**

Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School at 9:00 am

Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues. 8 am

Choir Practice Wednesdays 5:30 pm

Chair Yoga Tuesdays and Thursdays

May 10 - Mother's Day

May 17 - Possible Church Start-up

MAY 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30	15	16
17	18	Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30	22	23
24	25	Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

Carl continued:

I know this has been hard on all of us not being able to talk to each other and see each other, but the health of each of you is my priority as decisions are being made on restarting our services. We will continue to social distance and wear masks if you have them during worship. We will have no fellowship events or adult Sunday School probably until the Fall season. I am working on a way that we can celebrate communion without handling or passing communion trays. We will also not pass offering trays, but have them available so offerings can be collected. God has given us intelligence and commonsense and we will use both as we decide these issues. We are not going to do things we know are dangerous - and ask God to protect us - "Thou shall not Tempt the Lord your God".

As you know Jean Teal, a founding member and our previous choir director died Saturday, April 25. She was a wonderful person. We will have a memorial service sometime in July for her. Cards can be sent to:

David and Annelle Teal

9108 Bontura Rd
Granbury TX 76049

Linda and Ernie Brown

147 Low Country Ln
The Woodlands TX
77380-3159

Amy Lacey

151 Elderberry Trl
Montgomery TX 77316



You have all been in my prayers, I miss you and ask God's protection over you. Be careful and know that things are very fluid and if health officials, not politicians say we should not be together yet in Worship Services we will not be. God Bless You. Better safe than sorry. *God Bless You. Carl*

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

	4th Sunday of Easter - May 3	5th Sunday of Easter - May 10	6th Sunday of Easter - May 17	Ascension of the Lord - May 24	7th Sunday of Easter - May 31
1st Reading	Acts 2:42-47	Acts 7:55-60	Acts 17:22-31	Acts 1:1-11	Acts 1:6-14
Psalm	Psalm 23	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Psalm 66:8-20	Psalm 47	Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
2nd Reading	1 Peter 2:19-25	1 Peter 2:2-10	1 Peter 3:13-22	Ephesians 1:15-23	1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
Gospel	John 10:1-10	John 14:1-14	John 14:15-21	Luke 24:44-53	John 17:1-11

May Birthdays

Teresa Tolbert 13
Brady Carlson 22
Lilree Jackson 23
Denice Kemp 28
Knox Tyson 30

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you his peace at all times and in every situation.

The Lord be with you all.
2 Thessalonians 3:16

About our Members

Britt Healey is progressing well. He is now off his antibiotics and is continuing to regain his strength.

Chris Gengler's headaches, continue to decrease in frequency. Pray for improvement and continuing decrease in the frequency and severity of his headaches.

Julie Vesley's daughter, **Kirsten**, had extensive right knee meniscus repair surgery on Tuesday 4/28 at the Texas Orthopedic center in Austin. Pray for patience and healing.

Carol Booher was in the hospital for 10 days with heart disease and kidney failure. She is home now pray that Carol gains strength.

Trish Stebbins was in the hospital for 3 days with fractured pelvis and looseness in the cup portion of the artificial hip. She is home now on pain meds and a walker. Pray for healing of the fracture then a successful surgery to solidify the artificial hip.

Jim Arner is now in a long-term memory care facility in Georgetown.

"Once again, I want to thank our wonderful church family for all the prayers and concerns. Your cards are wonderful and very appreciated. Jim seems to be more settled now and he is thankful for the care he is getting. Please keep him in your prayers, and pray for all health caregivers." Thank you, Laquita.

Mildred Jean Parramore Teal, 85 years, died on April 24, in Granbury. Jean was born in Winters, Texas on March 31, 1935. Her marriage to Harold B. Teal lasted for 52 years until Harold's death in 2010. They raised three children, Amy, Linda, and David. Jean and Harold lived more than 20 years in Salado. During their time in Salado they helped establish the Salado Presbyterian Church where Jean served as choir director. A memorial service to celebrate Jean's life will be held at the Church at a later date.

Church Contributions By Mail by John Pettijohn, Church Treasurer

Thank you for those mailing their pledges and other contributions to the church. For your information, the church receives mail at the Salado Post Office in a PO Box. I check the box every day or two, then go to the church, pay bills, and prepare checks for deposit at our local bank.

Some of you might be delaying your pledges/contributions until physically sitting in the sanctuary again. Please don't. The church is continuing to pay

our pastor and other workers through this crisis and we need your offerings to continue operations.

Our mailing address is:
Presbyterian Church of Salado
PO Box 865
Salado, TX 76571



* The final **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering will be delayed until worship has resumed.

A Heavenly Mother's Day - Debby Aldridge

The quartet sang her favorite hymn It is Well With My Soul, my cousin read scripture, my sister gave a beautiful eulogy, we held my weak fathers' hands as we escorted him from the church, and then we buried my mother on a bitterly cold day this past January. In the four months since she died suddenly, unexpectedly, not a day has gone by that I haven't thought about her, wished for one more day with her, and walked the grief road that has me thinking about what she meant to me and how she influenced my life. Isn't that what Mother's Day is about after all? The pondering, thinking, and reflecting about mothers as we figure out ways to honor and show them respect and be good mothers ourselves?

My little mother, Ernestine Stowe was not a huggie, touchy-feely mother at all; it just wasn't her style. She was BUSY; she didn't have time for tenderness. So my own funeral eulogy for her wasn't one of sappy sentiments. Just the basics; telling everyone that I'd had a good, dutiful, 'get it done', hardworking mother. And that I respected that; that it had been good enough!

I suspect my mother wasn't much different from many of yours. They were products of their generation, women shaped by the Great Depression and World War II. With the men of that Greatest Generation, these women started families in postwar America and it wasn't always easy for them. Those young mothers of the 1950's, 1960's didn't have therapists or Life Coaches, or Google; but they had each other and their faith.

The words Family, Friends, Faith keep running through my brain forming a picture of my mother and what she passed on to me that is truly comforting. The first thing she taught me by example is that we care for family members when they need it. No questions asked. The list is long of the extended family members my mother became a primary care-giver for, because she had a true servant's heart. Her own young family, aging parents, and others she cared for all the while she held down a full-time job. But she got it done! There wasn't much time to take care of herself.

I'm so very grateful she showed me the secret power about girlfriends- the tribe of women, the ones you live life with, who share your joys and sorrows, who are always

there for you with a pot roast or soup, a pat on the back, a word of wisdom, and who'll cry with you when you lose your mother. Friends who, when they say, 'I know how it feels' mean it. I've always believed God puts just the right girlfriends in your life.



Debby Aldridge and mother Ernestine Stowe

I am so very, deeply grateful that she made me go. Because a life without that faith would be so empty and meaningless. I would not have survived my recent losses without God's presence in my life. So when we stood to sing Amazing Grace as the pallbearers carried her casket from that lovely old church, I could wipe away tears and smile knowing she'd gone gently to Heaven and is there waiting for me to join her someday.

There's a story I love that Maria Shriver tells about going through her mother's things, many years after her death, and out of a book a tiny little piece of paper fell out. On it, is a note her mother, Eunice Kennedy Shriver had written, 'Maria, only in heaven will I love you more'. Maria felt such great comfort in reading that.

This mother's day, I will light a memory candle, speak my mother's name out loud, thank God for her, remember the last mother's day I spent with her two years ago, and know that she is loving me more in heaven than ever on earth.

Proverbs 31:31 "Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate"

This is a note I received from Presbytery Tuesday night and Governor Abbott's guidance to Churches. You can read it all by opening the link to the Executive Order in the Presbytery letter below. I copied part of it and it is what we should do to start worshiping again Carl

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Many of you are contacting Grace Presbytery seeking guidance on when it will be possible, and under what conditions, churches can safely resume worship and other ministries in person.

The Committee on Ministry has formed a task force to carefully examine the Texas Governor's most recent Executive Order and provide guidelines and resources to assist you as you consider how best to proceed with your congregation.

The task force will make recommendations to Presbytery Council on Wednesday, May 6, for its consideration and approval. These recommendations will be made available as quickly as possible. In the meantime, we would like to share with you some observations and suggestions:

1. The Governor's Executive Order still **STRONGLY ENCOURAGES** worship to occur remotely – especially for the at-risk population.
2. Sessions and church staff should read the Minimum Health Standard Protocols required in Governor Abbott's [Executive Order](#) (pages 39-41) and begin discerning how to best prepare and implement these protocols should a Session decide to hold public worship or gatherings.
3. Sessions should consult their liability insurance providers for any guidance that may be helpful as they make decisions about church opening and resumption of worship and other ministry activities.
4. We must carefully and prayerfully weigh our impulse to “get back to worship as quickly as possible” within the larger context of how we best show love, compassion, and care for those most vulnerable in our congregations and communities.

The Committee on Ministry continues to stay in contact with our churches and pastoral leaders by phone as much as possible.

It is amazing how many of our churches are not only coping with financial issues and providing electronic experiences and communication, but so many are also finding creative and powerful ways to reach out to their communities and minister to those in need. It is the amazing grace of God.

Peace and Grace,

Michael Waschevski
Moderator, Committee on Ministry

Michael Thompson
Interim General Presbyter



TEXAS MINIMUM STANDARD HEALTH PROTOCOLS

1. CHURCHES/PLACES OF WORSHIP

Two individuals who are not members of the same household but who are attending together can sit adjacent to one another, with two seats (or six feet separation) empty on either side. Alternate rows between attendees (every other row left empty).

Have employees or volunteers attendees maintain at least 6 feet separation from other individuals. If such distancing is not feasible, then other measures including face covering, hand hygiene, cough etiquette, cleanliness, and sanitation should be rigorously practiced.

Consistent with the actions taken by many churches, congregations, and places of worship across the state, consider having employees, volunteers, and attendees wear cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). If available, they should consider wearing non-medical grade face masks.

Health protocols for your facilities:

- Regularly and frequently clean and disinfect any regularly touched surfaces, such as door-knobs, tables, chairs, and restrooms.
- Disinfect seats between services.
- Disinfect any items that come into contact with attendees.
- Make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available.
- Place readily visible signage to remind everyone of best hygiene practices.
- If a church or place of worship provides meals for employees, volunteers, or attendees, they are recommended to have the meals individually packed for each employee, volunteer, or attendee.
- Maintain rigorous sanitation practices like disinfection, handwashing, and cleanliness when preparing or serving anything edible.