



The Messenger

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

(NOVEMBER 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



It is November already, where does the time go? November is a busy time in the life of our nation and in the liturgical life of our church. It is important in our nation that we all participate in the democratic process. It is this process that makes our nation great, the ability to freely elect our representatives to local, state and national office. I know many of you have



voted already but if you haven't, remember, we cannot complain about our leaders if we don't exercise our right to vote. After the election, we need to put aside the political rhetoric and work together as a nation to solve the many problems facing us in our future.

Later in the month we will gather as a nation to celebrate Thanksgiving. I know as a nation and as individuals we have faced many hard issues so far this year. It is easy to get discouraged, but we must remember in all things to thank God for the many blessings we have as a nation and as a people. Thanksgiving



day should not just be a one-day event for a Christian, we should be thanking God every day for our blessings. The blessing of living in a free nation, the blessings of: health, home and family. You know what blessings God has given you - say thanks every day.

It is also important that as a nation we pause to recognize from where our blessings come. This Thanksgiving, I wish that God showers you and your loved ones with peace, love, warmth, health, and joy. In this time of Thanksgiving, I want to express my appreciation for all of you. Worshipping with you during this pandemic has been a challenge for all of us.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Calendar of Events

We restarted Yoga on Oct. 27 and will re-start the Men's Prayer Breakfast on Nov. 3rd both with masks and social distancing.

Nov. 1 - Daylight Savings Ends
(Fall Back 1 Hr.)



Nov. 1 - Communion Service

Nov. 3 - Election Day

Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving with Families

NOVEMBER 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Yoga 1 PM	4	5 Yoga 10:30	6	7
8	9	10 Yoga 1 PM	11	12 Yoga 10:30	13	14
15	16	17 Yoga 1 PM	18	19 Yoga 10:30	20	21
22	23	24 Yoga 1 PM	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					

Carl continued:

I appreciate your understanding and support for the decisions our Session has made concerning in person worship and all other church activities.

Finally, you will be receiving your pledge cards very soon. If you come to services John will have

them for you, if not they will be mailed to you. We would like to have them back by the end of November so we can finalize our 2021 budget.

Thank you and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Carl

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

	22nd Sunday after Pentecost - Nov. 1	23rd Sunday after Pentecost - Nov. 8	24th Sunday after Pentecost - Nov. 15	25th Sunday after Pentecost - Nov. 22	1st Sunday of Advent - Nov. 29
1st Reading	Joshua 3:7-17	Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25	Judges 4:1-7	Ezek. 34:11-16,20-24	Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm	Psalm 107:1-7,33-37	Psalm 78:1-7	Psalm 123	Psalm 100	Psalm 80:1-7,17-19
2nd Reading	1 Thes. 2:9-13	1 Thes. 4:13-18	1 Thes. 5:1-11	Eph. 1:15-23	1 Cor. 1:3-9
Gospel	Matthew 23:1-12	Matthew 25:1-13	Matthew 25:14-30	Matthew 25:31-46	Mark 13:24-37

About our Members (and Prayer Requests)

Ellen Staples has had some back issues and surgery last week. Severe pain has put her back into S&W for tests. In addition, her children are helping her pack as she prepares to downsize to a home in Belton. Pray for pain control, healing, and that the relocation process goes smoothly.

Julie Goggans will have yet another shoulder surgery. This one is scheduled in November. It will finally repair some issues that have plagued Julie for many months. Pray for good results and a speedy recovery.

Sam Lanham has been entered into a "Last Stage of Life" hospice program. Sam's dementia is progressing naturally. They appreciate the Visiting Angels. Pray for quality of life. Missie and Sam have appreciated and enjoyed reading the cards over and over again.

Bob Todd has visited with several cancer specialists and found that he doesn't need extensive surgery but instead immunotherapy. This requires injections once every three weeks. Please keep Bob and Gidget in your prayers.

Carol Booher is feeling stronger, has balanced blood work, and even has an appetite. John and Carol are still concerned for son-in-law, **Bill Prather**, who is going through his last round of chemo for lung cancer next week. They will know more then. Keep Bill and wife Amy in your prayers.

Jim Arner is getting stronger and feels better. **Laquita** did visit with him recently but there was glass between them. They are still not allowing visitors to enter the building.

Rip VanWinkle is making good progress at Cornerstone Rehab Center and will be released on Halloween - for Trick or Treating?

Letta Meinen - The year 2020 has not been good to Letta health wise - from cataract surgeries to hip and knee pains that went on all summer. An MRI determined that she needed a hip replacement - it was set for July 30. She started surgical preparations while handling the insurance for a new roof due to hail damage then a car backed into her at Brookshires. In the middle of July the air conditioning died and she had enough - so she cancelled the surgery! After all of this, her family decided she should live closer to one of them. So, she will be moving to Fort Worth sometime later this year. "As life happens, we must adjust to changes." Letta has many good memories from her time in Salado and the Presbyterian church.

Linda Lloyd and Ralph have been in an extended stay hotel since August 16th - 3 months now. They had an undetected water leak under their house which ruined all of their floors and subfloors. Pray that they will be back in their home soon. Plus, Linda is getting shots in her left eye, trying to improve the vision and hopefully avoiding retina surgery. Please pray for the success of this eye treatment.

Cindy Pennington thanks everyone for their thoughts and prayers, cards and encouragement as she made the unexpected journey through cancer treatment this past year, but has finally reached the point where her doctors have said all looks good! What a blessing!

November Birthdays



Pat	Hart	2
Renita	Menghert	4
Carl	Thompson	14
Rip	VanWinkle	16
Annie	Pekin	20
Mike	Hart	28

Bob Volle is really not well (mostly sleeping) and may go on in this state for weeks or months. He is not suffering or any pain issues, so it's mostly just waiting. Adva wants to thank everyone for their prayers and wishes God's blessings on all at the Salado Presbyterian Church.

October 11 Session & 25th 2020 Congregational Notes

The Session of the Presbyterian Church of Salado held a stated session meeting on October 11, 2020. The 2020 Congregational Meeting will be held October 25, 2020. The 2021 Congregational Meeting will be held on January 31, 2021. Stated Session meetings in 2021 will be held on January 10, March 14, June 13, and October 10.

John Pettijohn, Treasurer, reported income was down but we are still able to maintain our 25% level of benevolence.

Committee reports included possible books for adult education in the future; Evelyn Thompson will serve as liturgist until we can resume normal worship; interior and exterior doors will be numbered to aid the authorities in case of emergency; benevolence and outreach continues; chair yoga will resume October 27 with masks and distancing requirements; Pat Rehm and Randy Kemp have agreed to remain on the Session, vote to be held at the October 25 Congregational Meeting. We are still looking for a new treasurer.

Snacks for Salado ISD teachers and students were collected at today's worship service.

The Pastor's contract has been renewed at the same level as the last three years. Jeanette West has been cleaning and disinfecting the church, for which she will now be paid, since we no longer employ a cleaning service.

Rev. Thompson's authority to determine safe practices for worship was affirmed.

A Congregational meeting was held on October 25, 2020, for the purposes of naming new session members and a new nominating committee. The congregation voted to retain Pat Rehm and Randy Kemp on the Session and retain Sharon Van Winkle and Bob Todd on the nominating committee. A preliminary budget was presented and a request was made for pledges for 2021. Rev. Thompson reiterated that masks and distancing will continue to be required for all groups that use the church building.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Hart, Clerk of Session

Benevolence Committee

On the evening of November 19th, the Heart & Hands Ministries' Pantry will distribute Thanksgiving boxes and will need donations of dessert items, such as pie fillings, pie crusts, cake mixes, icing, pumpkin pie mix, brownie mixes, etc. If you can help between now and then, please leave your donations into the H&H basket and a special box in the church's lobby. Donations will be taken to the pantry each week.

Also, Heart & Hands Ministries would also like to provide a drive-thru Thanksgiving Community Meal on Saturday, November 21st at the Salado Intermediate School. The time will be announced soon. Church families will be contacted in early November about providing the usual prepared side dishes and about volunteering to prepare the take-out orders at the school.

Thank you for considering these requests from the Benevolence Committee.

Pat Rehm - Chair



Financial Report - John Pettijon

The congregational meeting that was held following church on 10/25 included a projection of full year 2020 financial results compared to budget and a tentative 2021 budget.

A pledge request for 2021 was also distributed. All potential pledging units that were not in attendance will receive this information by mail soon.

In summary, pledges and regular offerings for 2020 are falling short of budget significantly, about \$24,000. On the other hand, returns on the church's investments have exceeded budget about \$11,000.

2020 expense reductions due to reduced physical church services and reduced benevolences because of reduced regular offering (still giving 26%) total about \$20,000.

Bottom line, 2020 Net Income is about \$9,000 favorable to budget.

The tentative 2021 budget for income assumes the same level of regular offerings as we are currently experiencing. It also assumes no unrealized gains on our investments. Expenses assume the church will be open for services as it is now with masks and social distancing. Net income is a negative \$16,243.

Presbyterian Church of Salado
Pledge for 2021

As a part of my/our commitment to the Presbyterian Church of Salado and my/our belief that "the great end of the church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the kingdom of heaven to the world."

I/we pledge to:

_____ pray regularly

_____ attend worship regularly

_____ work in and through my/our church

_____ give \$ _____ weekly, monthly, annually for operational expenses.

Name (s): _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please return to: Presbyterian Church of Salado
P.O. Box 885
Salado, TX 76871

Or, place in the offering plate at the church. The session would appreciate receiving your pledge by November 30 so that the budgeting process can be completed in a timely manner.

HOPE

November will be here in just a few more days. As the old adage goes, the clocks will be “falling back” this coming weekend. It’s getting dark a little sooner, the weather is a little cooler, and Thanksgiving is just around the corner.



The year 2020 has been a challenging one for all of us. And I will not be sorry to see it end. As I’m writing this, I can hear my Grandma whispering in my ear, “Girl, don’t wish your life away”.

I don’t think that’s what I’m doing. It’s just that I have high hopes for this next year.

I’m hoping that there will be fewer deaths from the COVID-19 virus. I’m hoping that the life we used to know will be restored to us. I’m hoping to throw away every mask that I own. I’m hoping to be able to hug my friends and family and to be able to see them smile at me. I’m hoping to be able to lift my voice in church in praise of my God.

As Christians, we are so blessed. One of the most precious gifts we have received from our Lord is hope. As long as we have hope, nothing, including this pandemic, can ever defeat us.

What are you hoping for in 2021? I’m hoping that you will email or text me with your answer. I’d love to be able to include them in a future newsletter. (My information is in the directory).

- ◆ Proverbs 23:18 “For surely, there is a hereafter, and your hope will not be cut off”.
- ◆ Romans 12:12 “Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer”.
- ◆ Romans 15:13 “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”.

From a Merry Heart, *Linda Lloyd*

*Do not be **anxious** about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6*

A 17TH CENTURY PRAYER

Lord, Thou knows better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody’s affairs.

Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all. But Thou knows Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details. Give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing-and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the time goes by.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other’s pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint-some of them are so hard to live with. But a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

- Daily Guideposts devotional Oct. 18, 1992

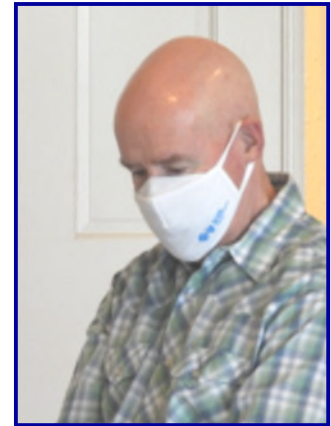
- Paraphrased from an anonymous prayer written by a nun in the 17th century.

- Contributed by Debby Aldridge

Our Worship Team on October 25th



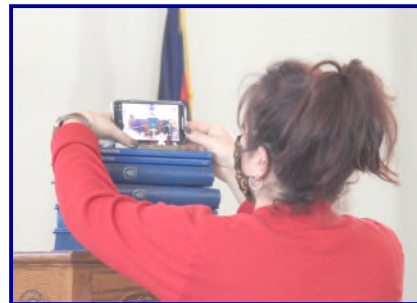
Pastor Carl and Liturgist Evelyn Thompson - front and center.



Monte Shuck as the "back seat" Choir Director



Jeanette West playing Organ



Amy Carlson as the "camera-man" for those getting the delayed video of the service.

Pastor Carl uses the "space ship" type mask while Evelyn goes with the standard "bank robber" style.



*Do not be **anxious** about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6*