



The Messenger

“Lord, as your blessings flow to me, may they continue to flow through me, for the good and encouragement of others.”

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MIKE HART -
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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



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 offices. We must carefully consider who we will vote for and then go out and vote. I know many of you have voted already, but if you haven't, remember that we cannot complain about our leaders, if we don't 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.



On six November, we will have a congregational meeting to elect our new elders, and the church budget will be presented to you for 2023. This is not a long meeting, so please stay to vote. The nominating committee nominated Debbie Aldridge to serve another term on the session to help in a smooth transition to a new pastor in July.

On 11 November we will celebrate Veterans Day when we honor all the men and women who served in the Armed Forces. We have many veterans in our church family, and I want to thank you all for your service. I also want to thank the spouses and children of our veterans for their sacrifices.



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

[Continued Page 2](#)

Calendar of Events

- Sunday Worship at 10:00 am.
- Communion on First Sunday each mo.
- Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues. @ 8 am.
- Chair Yoga 1pm Tues and 10:30am Thurs
- Nov. 6 - Congregational Meeting after Worship
- Nov. 6 - Daylight Savings (Fall Back)
- Nov. 11 - Veterans Day
- Nov. 17 - Women's Devotion - 3rd Thurs.
- Nov. 20 - Greening of the Church and Soup / Chili Social
- Dec. 11 - Session Meeting after Worship

| November 2022 | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 <small>Thanksgiving</small> | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 <small>Thanksgiving Obs</small> | 25 <small>Black Friday</small> | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

Carl's Comments Continued

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, give 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 to all of you for your support this past year.



You will be receiving your pledge cards very soon. If you come to services we will have your pledge cards 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 2023 budget.

Finally, on the twentieth of November we will decorate our Church for the Advent and Christmas season. We will do this right after church, and it won't take long if we all participate. Bring your favorite soup or chili, and enjoy the fellowship, as we prepare the church to celebrate the nativity of our Lord.

Happy Thanksgiving. *Carl and Evelyn*

Salado Benevolence

Salado Family Relief will conduct its Empty Bowl event on Sat. **Nov. 12** at the Salado Middle School Cafeteria from 11 am to 1:30 pm.

The Heart & Hand's Annual Community Thanksgiving Meal will be at Thomas Arnold School Cafeteria on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, **Nov. 19**. Volunteers will provide side dishes and desserts, as well as helping with distribution to drive-thru vehicles.

Also, Heart & Hand's volunteers will promote the sale of "Food for Family" \$10 brown bags at Brookshire Bros. on the day before the Meal, Friday, **Nov. 18**.

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

| | 22nd Sun. after Pentecost - Nov. 6 | 23rd Sun. after Pentecost - Nov. 13 | 24th Sun. after Pentecost - Nov. 20 | Thanksgiving Day - Nov. 24 | First Sunday of Advent - Nov. 27 |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1st Reading | Haggai 1:15b - 2:9 | Isaiah 65:17-25 | Jeremiah 23:1-6 | Deuteronomy 26:1-11 | Isaiah 2:1-5 |
| Psalm | Job 19:23-27a | Malachi 4:1-2a | Psalm 46 | Psalm 100 | Psalm 122 |
| 2nd Reading | 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17 | 2 Thess. 3:6-13 | Colossians 1:11-20 | Philippians 4:4-9 | Romans 13:11-14 |
| Gospel | Luke 20:27-38 | Luke 21:5-19 | Luke 23:33-43 | John 6:25-35 | Matthew 24:36-44 |

Nov. Birthdays



- Pat Hart 2
- Renita Menghert 4
- Pastor Thompson 14
- Rip Van Winkle 16
- Joe Carroll 20
- Mike Hart 28

About Our Members (and Prayer Requests)

Jack Goggans has been in the hospital for some time as tests to determine the cause of blood loss are conducted. It seems that there is also a severe infection that will require six weeks of IV antibiotics. Pray for answers, stabilization, healing, and peace.

Betsy Tyson is still recovering from her fall/ broken hip. Pray for continued healing.

Knox's sister-in-law, Cruza Maciel, recently passed away after a bout with cancer.

Joe and Susan Carroll both have COVID. They are doing OK and taking antiviral meds. Pray that they continue to improve.

Joan Ray has a brother, **Bob Utley**, 80, who lives in Huntsville, Alabama. His lung cancer has returned. The 1st surgery seems to have been successful, and he hopes to play golf soon. Pray that all goes well.

Laquita Arner had a one-day knee replacement surgery on 10/28. Pray for effective pain control, no complications, increasing flexibility, and rapid healing.

Bob Todd's brother, Cecil, had a serious heart attack. He is out of ICU after 3 days. Pray for little damage and rapid healing.

Rip VanWinkle fell and may have injured his kidney. Pray that this is not serious and he feels better soon.

Chris Gengler's brother **Steve** had one hip replaced last week and will do the other this month. Childhood polio has contributed to his issues. Pray that all goes well.

Nancy Norris's granddaughter is having a difficult pregnancy. Pray for Leah Brewton and her baby. She has been in hospital for a week and likely needs to be there 2 more.

Adult Bible Study - Shirley Pinkston

On October 23, we began a series of lessons entitled Courage: Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith by Tom Berlin. We will continue this series through November and then we will start an advent series in December.

In commenting on this study, Adam Hamilton said something I heartily agree with, "We need courage now more than ever." I look forward to looking at the ways Jesus exemplified courage in different places and with all sorts of people. Also, we will talk about what courage looks like in the Christian life today as we seek to follow Jesus in everything we do.

I hope you will join us for this study, even if you're never come before. We meet Sunday morning at 9 AM and enjoy the fellowship with coffee and cookies.

Shirley Pinkston



Guest Speaker - Oct. 30

Madison Randeniya is the Development Officer for our Presbyterian Children's Home and Services. She spoke to the church about the services it provides in supporting children.



Madison is a graduate of Texas A&M and majored in electrical engineering. It was a true calling for her to join the Presbyterian Children's Home and Services organization as her desire to do good for others.



Presbyterian Children's
Homes and ServicesSM

Session Meeting Minutes from October 9 - Pat Rehm

Presbyterian Church of Salado Stated Session Meeting Minutes - 11:00 am to 12:23 pm.

Present: Rev. Carl Thompson; Treasurer Pat Hart; Clerk Pat Rehm; Elders: Randy Kemp, Debbie Aldridge, Mike Hart, Sharon VanWinkle, and Jeanette West.

Minutes of Aug. 14 meeting approved.

Treasurer's Report - Pat Hart

Pat Hart said that our congregational offerings remain ahead of the current budget through September.

Worship - Jeanette West

Jeanette West reported a good response to Bonnie Estes' visit in September. The church's music license requires reports when used, and Jeanette keeps track of that.

Education - Mike Hart

Mike Hart said that new Sunday School books will be distributed next week. Pat Hart was thanked for leading the class for three Sundays while Shirley Pinkston was recovering from COVID-19. In the future, it is hoped that more members will be willing to teach.

Building and Grounds - Randy Kemp

Randy Kemp was thanked for fixing the overhead lights in the classroom and kitchen. He will change the necessary filters soon, and roof leaks have been repaired. Thanks also go to Pastor Carl and John Pettijohn for fixing ceiling tiles where needed. The new cleaning team is doing well.

Fellowship - Shay VanWinkle

Shay VanWinkle has placed a sign-up list in the narthex for the Fifth Sunday Social on October 30.

Benevolence - Mike Hart

Mike Hart reported that our total benevolent giving this year has been \$17,269 through September 30. Preparations have been arranged for the "Fifth Sunday" presentation on October 30.

Personnel/Finance - Debby Aldridge

Debby Aldridge was officially nominated to remain on the Session. She is continuing to work with Cindy Pennington to help with substitute offering counters.

Old Business -

A group will be formed to consider changes to the public address system in the church.

New Business -

Pat Hart passed out a tentative budget to be presented to the congregation on November 6, but said that minor adjustments must be made in December.

Pastor's Report - Rev. Carl Thompson

Rev. Carl Thompson continues to be at the office every other week, as arranged with his vacation time, but he can still be contacted when needed.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Rehm, Clerk of the Session and condensed by Pete Stebbins

Give Thanks - Linda Lloyd

Fall is on its way out and Thanksgiving is peeking around the corner. The first signs of Christmas seem to be everywhere, and the turkeys are quickly disappearing from the stores. The newscasters are saying that if we want one for our holiday table, we'd better get it now.

But frankly, I'm not so worried about the turkey. Don't get me wrong. I do love a good turkey. But what bothers me most is the fact that people seem to have forgotten what "Thanksgiving" is really all about. It shouldn't be that hard to remember. The word itself says it all. **THANKS GIVING.**

When my grandchildren were little, on Thanksgiving Day, while the women were preparing the meal, each person was given a card with a picture of a turkey on it, and a name written at the top. They were asked to write down what they were grateful for about that person. (The young children needed some help from the grownups of course). But it kept them occupied and out from underfoot in the kitchen.



When they were finished, the cards were placed on the dining room table. After the family was seated, each person in turn, read aloud what was on his or her card. Some of the things that had been written caused a little chuckle, (my dog) some brought a tear, (the best Grand-

ma ever) and many times the adults were touched by what the children were grateful for. (Jesus).

I know it gave the children a deeper understanding of what we were really celebrating, and why thanking God for his blessings was especially important on that day. I kept some of those cards, and it still brings a tear to my eye each time that I rediscover them. It was just a wonderful family tradition.

The books of the Bible have a lot to say about giving thanks and praise. I am especially fond of Psalm number 145, a Psalm of Praise, of David, which says in part:

"I will extol you, oh my God and King, and I will bless your name forever and ever.

Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever.

Let all your works give you thanks, Lord, and let your faithful ones bless you."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 are special verses for me:

"Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

I know that I am wonderfully blessed and am so grateful. And each one of you, my church family, is a big part of that blessing. As the old song says, "Thank you Lord for your blessings on me." Happy Thanksgiving.

From a Merry Heart - **Linda Lloyd**

♪ Musical Notes ♪

The choir continues to faithfully practice on Wednesday afternoons from 4-5 p.m. under Shay VanWinkle's directing. Time has been used very well at the practices, several times they have even concluded under an hour!

What a joy to be singing familiar hymns and sacred songs as well as learning new ones along the way. It is amazing how many of the words and concepts of our hymns are scripturally based. With the singing of hymns, we can say as in Psalm 119:11 NIV, *"I have hidden Your word in my heart that I might not sin against You."* In addition, as in Psalm 92:1-2 NIV, we can say, *"It is good to praise the Lord and make music to Your name, O Most High, proclaiming Your love in the morning and Your faithfulness at night."*

November is one of the 12 perfect months to reflect on our thankfulness for God's many blessings. Thanksgiving is the time to remember the many reasons we can be thankful for everything we are and everything we have, knowing that list is endless!

Let's be thankful for the hymns we have the freedom to sing. Psalm 100:1-2 NRSV states, *"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into His presence with singing."*

Come prepared to worship each Sunday and to sing praises to our King of Kings and Lord of Lords! *"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name."* Psalm 100:4 NRSV. Remember, *"But Thou art holy, O Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel (His people)."* Psalm 22:3 KJV.



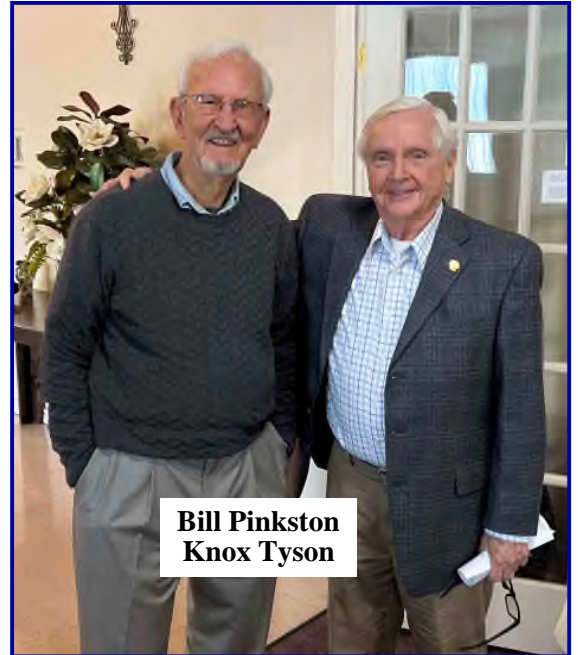
Sharing in Christ's Service,

Jeanette West

October 30 - "Fifth Sunday" Social



Shirley Lett / Mike Hart / Trish Stebbins / Ralph Castor / Jerry Schleicher / John Booher / Randy Kemp



Bill Pinkston
Knox Tyson



Jerry's 88th
Birthday



Shirley Pinkston / Ann Faber / Sara Pettijohn



Trish Stebbins
Chris Gengler