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

# The Messenger

2014 THEME: "ARE YOU READY"  
(MAY 2014)

## Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson

This has been an exciting and wonderful week for the Thompson family. I would like to share with you several insights I learned this week. First, Evelyn and I had the privilege of accompanying our son Michael and his wife Kelly along with Kelly's two children to the Coryell County Courthouse. Michael was there to adopt these two wonderful children. Kelly trusted him enough to allow him to become their father. They also had their last name changed to Thompson. Michael has always treated the children as his own and we have always considered them our grandchildren but it was something different when the Judge said to the Children, "Michael is now your father and you are Thompsons". Through love and trust, a new legal relationship was established. By choice a father child relationship was established and with it all the rights and privileges of such a relationship.



**Adoption** Is the act of leaving one's natural family and entering into the privileges and responsibilities of another. In the Bible, adoption is one of several family-related terms used to describe the process of salvation and its subsequent benefits. God is a father who graciously adopts believers in Christ into his spiritual family and grants them all the privileges of heir ship. Salvation is much more than forgiveness of sins and deliverance from condemnation; it is also a position of great blessing. Believers are children of God. They take on a new name "Christians" with all the blessings and responsibilities that go with that relationship. God choose us to be His children because He loves us so very much. We have become heirs to his grace. All Christians have been adopted as children of God and freed from the law. How well are we living up to our new adopted name, "Christian"?

**Ephesians 1:3-6** <sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup> For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glory.

Secondly, I learned this week how much I dislike change. We had a wonderful golf outing this past Sunday. It is an event that I really look forward to every time we have them. This past Saturday I hurt my back but decided I was going to play golf anyway. By the second hole I knew that I should not be playing but I was just not willing to admit that I wasn't still *eighteen* and needed to quit. That would be admitting that I am not the same person I was before and I don't like change. So I kept trying to hit the ball. When I got home I soaked in hot water and

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## Calendar of Events

### Worship Services at 10:00 AM

#### And Adult Sunday School 9:00 A.M.

- **Tuesdays** - Men's Prayer Breakfast at 8 A.M.
- **Tuesdays** - Games/ Fellowship at 10 A.M.
- **May 4** - Communion Sunday
- **May 4** - Called Session after Worship
- **May 6** - Noon Luncheon after Game Day - "ya all come"



## Carl's Comments Continued....

went straight to bed, with my ego shattered, realizing that I was not any longer Superman.

Life brings changes and we can either accept them and move on or fight them and be frustrated. We need to learn to trust God in all new situations in our lives. Change can bring new insight, new opportunities, and new challenges if we allow them to happen and not fight them. God will use us in our time, place, and condition - whatever that may be.



We will be seeing some changes in our church as we lose three wonderful members of our church family: Bev Jones plus Bob and Adva Volle. I must say I have fear and tribulation in my heart as I think about them leaving, they have been great assets to our congregation. And



like I said, I have a hard time accepting change, but I know the moves are in the best interest of these families. Our loss will be another church's gain. I know there will be others in the congregation that will pick up the load. So I say a fond farewell to Bev, Bob, and Adva and wish them well.

God Bless you all, *Carl*

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

	Third Sunday of Easter - May 4	Fourth Sunday of Easter - May 11	Fifth Sunday of Easter - May 18	Sixth Sunday of Easter - May 25	Ascension of the Lord - May 29
<b>First Reading</b>	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Acts 2:42-47	Acts 7:55-60	Acts 17:22-31	Acts 1:1-11
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	Psalm 23	Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Psalm 66:8-20	Psalm 47 <i>or</i> Psalm 93
<b>Sec. Reading</b>	1 Peter 1:17-23	1 Peter 2:19-25	1 Peter 2:2-10	1 Peter 3:13-22	Ephesians 1:15-23
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 24:13-35	John 10:1-10	John 14:1-14	John 14:15-21	Luke 24:44-53

## May Birthdays

John	Michael	10
Teresa	Tolbert	14
Brady	Carlson	22
Lilree	Jackson	23
Andy	Duque	24
Liz	Duque	27
Linda	Latiolais	27

## About our Members and Friends

**Barbara Tindell** has had her third and last major plastic surgery on Monday (4/28). Pray that there are no complications and healing progresses rapidly.

**Ellen Staples and Anita Johnston** have made the long trip from Washington State to Salado. Anita's husband recently passed away and now she is relocating to Salado. Let her know how much we appreciate having her here among us.



**Greg Faber** will receive his B.S. degree from Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi on May 15. He begins a

fulltime position with Wilson Company on May 1, even before graduation. Congratulations, Greg!

**Bev and Spencer Jones plus Bob and Adva Volle** are moving to new Eastern US locations during May. Please pray that the peace of the Lord be with them and that they would be quickly assimilation into their new surroundings.

Please pray for the safety of our members and their families as this season of extensive summer travel is upon us.

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Keep in mind those that have lost loved ones recently. The grief process takes a long time. Let these folks know they are loved and continue prayers for them.



## Favorite Verses - Evelyn Thompson

Philippians 4:13 NIV  
*"I can do all things through him who gives me strength."*

Matthew 19:26 NIV  
*"Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible'."*



The Other ET

Isolated Bible verses are sometimes (often) taken out of scriptural context, but none the less carry significant meaning to a person based on events in that individual's life. These two verses have lifted, encouraged, and given me strength during unsure situations, challenging life events and during times when I was "called" to do something I felt inadequately prepared to do. Through these verses I am reminded I cannot accomplish anything alone, but with God in my heart and life; it is all possible, because He will give me the strength to see it through, to HIS GLORY.



## Benevolence Committee - Nancy Healey

Spring Greetings and Blessings to You All - your Benevolence committee met April 6th to review the second quarter's benevolence disbursements. The first quarter recipients were: Body of Christ Community Medical Clinic, Children's Special Needs Network, Salvation Army, Fisher House at Ft. Hood, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel.

Your faithful giving also enables us to continue twice a month bread deliveries to the Salado Food Pantry. Supporting our local charities first is a primary concern for the prudent sharing of our return of God's grace and blessings in our lives.

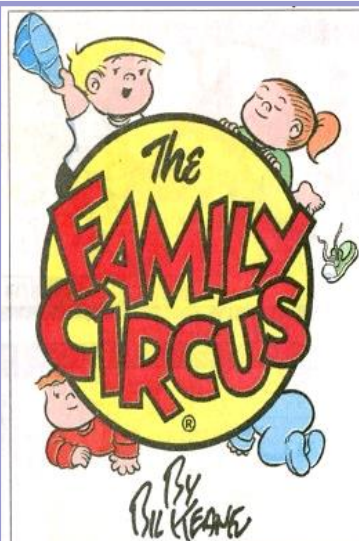
To reach out to others in need, we agreed upon the following charities for the second quarter of this year: Presbyterian Children's Homes, Salado Family Relief, Families In Crisis, Helping Hands, AWARE, with continued support of the Body of Christ Community Medical Clinic, Fisher House at Ft. Hood, and the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel.

Another outreach is the annual One Great Hour of Sharing and once again you all gave generously on Easter Sunday, returning and sharing God's blessings, for those in poverty or deeply affected by disasters which enables the Presbyterian Disaster Relief program to reach devastated areas around the world.



There are moments and events in each of our lives that seem too difficult to deal with, or worries from within our families, but when we look at the trials others face around the world-religious persecution, starvation, filthy water and sanitation, natural disasters that destroy the only comfort or security afforded, and closer to home, the loss of jobs, and families struggling to stay together, it is important to stop and give thanks for the abundant blessings we have received. We are free to come together and worship our Creator from whom all blessings flow - a freedom to cherish and exercise faithfully.

In His Service with Gratitude, *Nancy Healey*



4-13

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## May Session Meeting Highlights

Carl reported that Dr. Liz Duque completed her study at the Commanding General Staff College in Leavenworth, KS. She is now assigned to head the Family Practice at Ft. Bliss and William Beaumont Hospital in El Paso. Andy and Liz will keep their home in Nolanville, TX and their church membership with us, still hoping to return in the future.

Molly Hatchell was introduced as our seminary intern for the "Practice in Ministry Program". She is a student at Austin Theological Seminary. She will be working with the church from June 5 to August 14.

At their request, the memberships of Bob and Barbara Eshelbrenner were transferred to the First Presbyterian Church of Derby, Kansas. Their new address is 205 N. Westview, Derby, KS, 67037.

Bill Pinkston is continuing his quest to get our new church sign installed in front of the church. Sign laws and contractor issues continue. Hope to have the new sign up soon.

For members who do not have internet, Joan Ray will develop a telephone prayer chain.

Bobbie Dickerson is to be our church "Birthday Card Lady".

Pete Stebbins and John Booher attended a Grace Presbytery "New Beginnings" introductory session in Dallas on 4/26. They have brought back an understanding of the PCUSA program. The next step will be to determine if our church is ready to begin a process to make decisions about our future. These would likely mean challenging all of us to build a new Vision of our Mission and new relationships with the greater Salado community.

## Maundy Thursday Service



Some 38 members and guests attended the Maundy Thursday celebration of the Lord's Supper and partook of the Communion Service. Additional pictures are on our <http://www.presbsalado.org/> website.



## Men's Prayer Breakfast

The Men's Prayer Breakfast is held each Tuesday. The breakfast part starts at about 7:45 AM with the prayers starting at 8:00. We conclude before 9:00. All men of the church (and other churches) are invited to attend.

The goal of the breakfast is to grow our faith and help develop a stronger relationship with God.



The Men's Prayer Breakfast is averaging 11 men per week for the first 3 months. We start with a breakfast, take prayer requests, pray, and conduct a brief study.

**Let us know of your requests so we can bring them to God.**

## Adult Bible Class

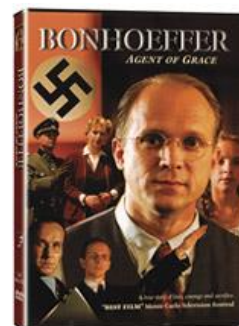
All four Sundays in May, the class will be studying The Life and Writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. This will be a DVD-based series of lessons, filmed on location in Germany and based on the book by Eric Metaxas. The author pulls themes from all of Bonhoeffer's major books and organizes them into these topics:

1. What is the church?
2. Living in Christian Community
3. Religionless Christianity
4. Come and Die

Metaxas helps us understand why these spiritual truths meant so much to Bonhoeffer and how they can be an inspiration and a challenge to our faith.

Join us at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings to learn more about this great Christian who lived a life of ethical consistency and sacrificed that life because of his convictions. Coffee is served and everyone is welcome.

*Shirley Pinkston*





# The Presbyterian Church of Salado ~ April ~ Social and Golf



**Hostesses:**  
-Dawn Thompson  
-Evelyn Thompson  
(NOT Sisters)



Dawn Thompson



A Joy to have Ethel Jones back for a visit.



Milton Kattner Spring Golf Scramble



A Young 92 - Milton Kattner



We Made one!



Post Golf Party at Staples (See Website for more pictures)