



# The Messenger

2015 THEME: "REJOICE"  
(SEPTEMBER 2015)

**CHURCH OFFICE:**  
105 SALADO PLAZA  
DRIVE - P.O. BOX 865  
(254) 947-8106  
[PRESBY999@EMBARQMAIL.COM](mailto:PRESBY999@EMBARQMAIL.COM)

**WEBSITE:**  
[PRESBSALADO.ORG](http://PRESBSALADO.ORG)

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

**MINISTERS:**  
THE CONGREGATION

**SESSION MEMBERS:**  
BARCLAY MCCORT -  
Clerk of Session  
WALT TINDELL -  
Worship & Hospitality  
RIP VAN WINKLE  
Choir and Worship  
JOHN BOOHER -  
Education  
CINDY PENNINGTON -  
Personnel/ Finance  
NANCY HEALEY -  
Benevolence  
CHINE RAY -  
Building & Grounds  
PETE STEBBINS -  
Communications

**TREASURER:**  
MIKE MOORE

**ORGANIST:**  
JEANETTE WEST

**CHOIR DIRECTORS:**  
MONTE & CAROL  
SHUCK

**MESSANGER EDITOR:**  
PETE STEBBINS  
(254) 231-4883  
[PETE44@VVM.COM](mailto:PETE44@VVM.COM)

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

## Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson



"Time is filled with swift transition,  
Naught of earth unmoved can stand,  
Build your hopes on things eternal,  
Hold to God's unchanging hand."

Refrain:  
Hold to God's unchanging hand,  
Hold to God's unchanging hand;  
Build your hopes on things eternal,  
Hold to God's unchanging hand."

Bare with me today as I do some personal reflection. Last month I wrote to you about the importance of building our hope on things eternal and holding on to God's unchanging hand. I wrote this because of three tragedies that had recently struck the Salado community: a drowning, a fall, and a car accident that all lead to a death. I wrote this to remind us all that time is filled with swift transitions, tomorrow is not promised to us, so we need to hold tight to God's unchanging hand.

Who would have known that a few days after that writing my family would be going through transitions? My mother would be diagnosed while in the emergency room with having several strokes and be in the midst of having a heart attack. After eight days in the hospital she was released to a rehabilitation center where she would be learning to use her legs again and working on regaining memory and communication skills at the age of eighty-nine.

At the same time, school was about to start and our son Michael and his wife Kelly would both be working again. Evelyn and I took on the responsibility of watching our soon to be one year old granddaughter. We wanted to do that even though they could afford to send her to day-care. We want to be a part of her early formative years.

Recently, we were able to see Libby go from crawling, to taking little steps, to walking everywhere around the house. She is now trying to communicate by using those little one or two syllable words like dada or momma. Everything around her excites her as she points to it and makes funny little noises. I wonder what she is thinking and trying to say as a one year old.

An eighty-nine and a one year old, two extremes, two separated generations going through the same learning processes of life, learning to walk and communicate. Time is filled with swift transition -- how will we deal with it. I wonder who will be important in my granddaughter's life? Who will help her learn to build her hope on things eternal and hold on to God's unchanging hand?

What school teachers, Sunday school teachers, pastors, congregations, neighbors and friends will be a witness to God's love for her? She is like a blank canvas waiting to

Carl Continued

## Calendar of Events

### Worship Services at 10:00 AM

- **Adult Sunday School at 9:00 AM**
- **Tuesdays** - Men's Prayer Breakfast at 8 A.M.
- **Wednesdays** - Choir Practice at 5:30PM
- **Sept. 6** - Communion Sunday
- **Sept. 20** - Theological Education Sunday - Andrew Young from Austin Seminary will join us in worship
- **Sept. 20** - Stated Session Meeting after church
- **Sept. 27** - After Church Social



**Carl Continued..**

be painted on, how will that picture turn out? Each of us are artists in so many people's lives that we come into contact with. How are we painting the picture of God and His Love? Are we sending the message through our actions on the importance of knowing time is filled with swift transition, "Naught of earth unmoved can stand, Build your hopes on things eternal, Hold to God's unchanging hand."

I am thankful for Evelyn, my children, my parents, grandparents, other family, public school and Sunday school teachers, pastors, and congregations ...and especially you as you have helped me learn to trust God in all things. Thanks for your prayers, for your cards to mom and for being our friends.

Carl and Evelyn

**Favorite Verse by Bev Jones**

Dear Salado church family,

I just love to stay in touch with all of you, and thanks to Pete's *Messengers*, I get to see your pictures, keep up with Carl's comments, and learn about your church's activities. Be assured, the Presbyterian Church of Salado is a great blessing in Texas, but also to those of us scattered around this country (Duques, Ethel, Simons, Volles, and me).

As I think about how people constantly move and recreate their lives in new places, I am reminded of something that my mother pasted inside the cover of an RSV Bible that she gave me in the 60's. I do not know the source of her quote:

"To My Children: I leave this old book (the Bible) as the best heritage I can give. Study it carefully and you will find the way to peace, righteousness and true happiness as I have done. If there is ever anything wrong with your lives come back to this book as if it were a looking-glass and it will clearly show you 'what is the matter'. And, when you are lost in the world, it will guide you back home."

One of my favorite "guides" is God's message in Numbers 6:22-27: The Lord said to Moses, "Say to Aaron and his sons, thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

*"The Lord bless you and keep you;*

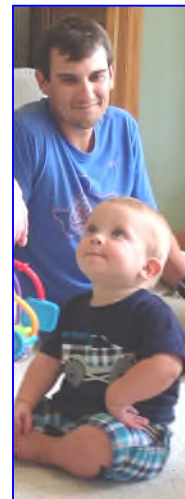
*The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you;*

*The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

*So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel (& Salado), and I will bless them."*


I pray for God to bless you all in Salado,

Bev Koops Jones  
(affiliate member of the PCS)



**ABOVE**  
Grandson Jack is missing, but grandson Colt is fast taking center stage. Ash is busy with the two young boys.

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

	Sept. 6, 2015 15th Sunday after Pentecost	Sept. 13, 2015 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Sept. 20, 2015 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Sept. 27, 2015 18th Sunday after Pentecost
<b>First Reading</b>	Proverbs 22:1-2	Proverbs 1: 20-33	Proverbs 31:10-31	Ester 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 125 or 146	Psalm 19 or 116:1-9	Psalm 1 or 54	Psalm 124
<b>Sec. Reading</b>	James 2:1-10 & 14-17	James 3: 1-12	James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	James 5:13-20
<b>Gospel</b>	Mark 7:24-37	Mark 8:27-38	Mark 9:30-37	Mark 9: 38-50

**September Birthdays**

Macy	Simon	1
Greg	Faber	3
J.C.	Pennington	12
Ginny	McCracken	22
Shirley	Left	25
Darlene	Robison	25
Donald	Engelke	26
Pete	Stebbins	26

**About our Members and Friends**

**Stan Staples** is a Hospice Care patient, bedridden and has to be spoon feed. Pray for Stan and Ellen as they endure this ordeal.

**Louise Thompson** has had some issues and is being cared for at Rosewood Center in Killeen.

**Pete Stebbins** had his second hip replacement and fourth surgery on 6/3. Since then he has had a staph re-infection. He is on antibiotics and will have a surgery on 9/23 to remove this good hip and put in a concrete spacer for six months then another surgery to put in a new hip.

Barclay McCort's sister, **Barbara Allison**, of Bedford, TX has been diagnosed with leukemia. Please keep this family in your prayers.

**Walt Tindell** is doing fine for now. He will

be getting more tests in Oct.

**Walt's** family is going to have a 75th birthday party for him and is inviting all the church to attend. It will be in the afternoon on Oct. 10th at his apartment complex in Temple. Put the date on your calendar - more details will follow.

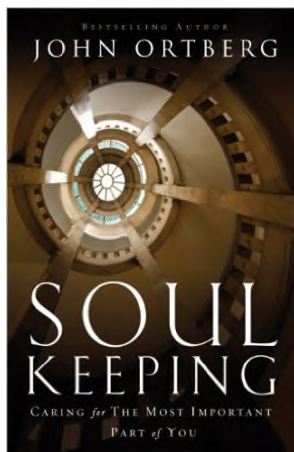
**Bev Jones** is healthy, however, she misses her golf partners and instead battles yellow jackets. Ash is still having some pretty painful attacks of bile duct inflammation, but they hope the drug is protecting his liver. Spencer did not have shoulder surgery, but the doctor injected the shoulder and that has relieved much of the pain and given him better strength and motion.

## Adult Education News - Shirley Pinkston

Adult Education begins September 6 with John Ortberg's latest book, Soul Keeping. How often do you think about the state of your soul? It's not just a matter of saved or unsaved, but the difference between satisfied spirituality and a restless faith. Your soul is your most important connection to God.

Join us as we learn how to find our way out of the shallows to true spiritual depth.

Books and coffee will be provided. We just need you. September 6, 9:00 a.m. Please come.



## Answering a Need - Nancy Healy

Last week a local agency contacted our church in need of financial help. Chaplain Carl turned to your Benevolence Committee who in turn agreed immediately to provide a much-needed contribution of \$1500.

Our church has a commitment to return greater than 25% percent of God's blessings it receives by giving to those in need.

This past Sunday, representatives from Families-In-Crisis and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program visited our church and explained how each agency works and described the needs of their clients.

We will have a basket in the narthex to collect items that Families-In-Crisis need. This includes items such as toothpaste and brushes, diapers, shampoo, gently used small kitchen appliances, dishes, glassware and all basics for a home. Once a month we will take these items to Families-In-Crisis.

Plus we must not forget our Salado Food Pantry basket, which is always in need of canned and boxed food items, as well as paper products.

Our next Benevolence committee meeting will be Sept. 13th after church.

Philippians 2:4 *"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others"*

In His Service with Gratitude,  
Nancy Healey

THE MESSENGER

## New Members

On August 30th two new members were accepted into our church. They are Denise Pittman and Randy Kemp. They will be getting married in our church on Sept. 12th. Congratulations!

*Pictures to be included as available.*

## Great Seats Available! - Monte Shuck

- Reserve your place now in the Presbyterian Church of Salado Choir Loft! (with new railings)
- No experience necessary!
- Bring your voice Wednesday, September 2nd (or any Wednesday) at 5:30 p.m. to choir practice.
- The choir needs **YOU!**

## Thoughts on Wisdom - Linda Lloyd

Socrates, noted Greek philosopher, said that "Wisdom begins in wonder". He also said that "The only true wisdom is in knowing that you know nothing". The first statement is easy to understand; the second one requires a little more thought.

"Wonder" is an easy concept for me to grasp. I have seen many wondrous things in my travels. The most wondrous, to me, is Niagara Falls. I have been there several times, and have viewed "The Falls" from both the Canadian and the American sides. I never cease to be amazed and in awe of their grandeur. I have often thought that if an atheist were to see them, he could not help but acknowledge the power and might of the Deity.

One of my goals for this year was to read one chapter a day in both the "Old and New Testaments", in a desire to gain a better understanding of God's word. But the more that I read and study, the more questions I seem to have. However, I am beginning to have a better understanding of what Socrates was trying to say. And I am encouraged by two verses in the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs 9:10 tells us that, *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight"*; and Proverbs 2:6 says, *"For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding"*.

So I will continue to read, to study, and to seek the knowledge that only God can impart; and I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide me in the paths I need to follow.

Proverbs 8:1 *"Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice?"*

"From a Merry Heart" -- Linda Lloyd

## Men's Prayer Breakfast

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

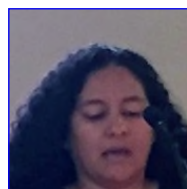
We have room and would like to expand the size of the group. Please come check us out if you are not yet a regular.



Kathy Lee - PDA



Lucy Swindoll - FIC



Nina Shipman - FIC



**Shirley Pinkston  
#1 Sunday School  
Teacher**



## Sunday School Kickoff Dinner

8-20-15



Please remember:  
"All that have par-  
taken of this SS  
Food are commit-  
ted to attend Sun-  
day School start-  
ing 9/6/15"!

Pictured to the left  
are some new  
friends, Brad and  
Pat Rehm



# August - Social 8-30-15

Old-fashioned Southern Style Dinner



Nancy, just how many servings of blackberry cobbler is that?



Friends:  
Michael  
and Nancy  
Kelsey  
Enjoying  
Dinner