



# The Messenger

( JANUARY 2016 )

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Choir and Worship  
JOHN BOOHER -  
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\* 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

As Christians it is a goal to "become more like Christ" both as a church and as individuals. Here are some tools to help us set our goals to "Become more like Christ":

- Time with God - We are encouraged to spend time each day with God in personal Worship, Prayer, Bible Study, Solitude, and Generosity. How are you doing with these?
- Time in Community - To grow spiritually, the people of God must participate as leaders and teachers in the Christian community. Examples include corporate worship, Bible study classes, devotional groups, mentoring, and spiritual friendships are all examples. How are you growing the community?



- Time for the World - God tells us to take time for the Work of Christ in the World. When we spend time loving and serving others outside of our local community with our time, talents and resources, God transforms us into the people we were created to be. What do you love to do and how is God using that in the world?

Pete Stebbins has just completed a "Study of the Bible in one year" by YouVersion. So what's next? YouVersion has hundreds of Bible Plans. Pete will continue his reading habit by Browsing Plans on his mobile device or visiting [www.bible.com/reading-plans](http://www.bible.com/reading-plans) to make a next pick.

I encourage everyone to prayerfully consider making a Spiritual Growth Plan for 2016 and let us together make this a year of Spiritual Growth.

Happy New Year to each of you --  
from both of us. *Carl and Evelyn*



### New Year's Wish – from Walt Tindell

- ◆ New Year is the time to bid farewell to the old Year and welcome the coming year.
- ◆ It is the time to forget and get past memories that are no longer useful or worth pondering upon.
  - ◆ Let us - Forget and Forgive

## 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.
- **Wednesdays** - Choir Practice at 5:30
- **Jan. 3** - Communion Sunday and Session Meeting
- **Jan. 3** - Ordination and Installation of Elders
- **Jan. 10** - **After the Service - Taking Down of the Greens**
- **Jan. 17** - On January 17<sup>th</sup> the church will accept new members (see page 3).
- **Jan. 24** - Annual Congregation/Corporation Meeting
- **Jan. 31** - Fifth Sunday Celebration



## New Year's Prayer - Rev. Nichols

This special prayer is for each of you as we enter the New Year: May the living Christ go with you. May he go above you to watch over you, beside you to befriend you, behind you to en-courage you, beneath you to up-hold you, within you to give you peace, and may he ever go before you to show you the way.

Amen.

The Rev. Nichols is pastor emeritus of First Christian Church in Temple.



## A Big Thank You!

To My Church Family!

*Thank you so very much for the wonderful boots, bandanas & hats.....all the prayers, and so many thoughtful and delicious things you did to honor and celebrate Stan's life.*

*I know he enjoyed looking on.... And, to me, it made his leaving a body of pain become a celebration of his life on earth and the new life he has entered.*

*Each of you, with your kindnesses, gift of time, all the delicious food, beautiful flowers and thoughtful prayers of support are a very special gift to me. Stan was so well honored for who he was. I will always hold these memories in my heart of hearts.*

Ellen Staples

If it weren't for the Editor being in the hospital and rehab this would have been published in Oct.

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

	Second Sunday after Christmas Day — Jan. 3	Baptism of the Lord — Jan. 10	Second Sunday after the Epiphany — Jan.17	Third Sunday after the Epiphany — Jan. 24	Third Sunday after the Epiphany — Jan. 31
<b>First Reading</b>	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Isaiah 43:1-7	Isaiah 62:1-5	Nehem. 8:1-3,5,6,8-10	Jeremiah 1:4-10
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 147:12-20	Psalm 29	Psalm 36:5-10	Psalm 19	Psalm 71:1-6
<b>Sec. Reading</b>	Ephesians 1:3-14	Acts 8:14-17	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	1 Cor. 12:12-31	1 Corinthians 13:1-13
<b>Gospel</b>	John 1:[1-9] 10-18	Luke 3:15-17, 21,22	John 2:1-11	John 4:14-21	Luke 4:21-30

## January Birthdays

Jackie Payne 4  
 Anita Johnson 5  
 Chine Ray 8  
 Missie Lanham 12  
 John Pettijohn 18  
 Jim Arner 23  
 Sharon Van Winkle 29



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## About our Members and Friends

**Michael Kelsey** has moved his pancreatic cancer treatment from S&W to MD Anderson. MDA found that it was a stage 3 vs. 4 cancer and had NOT metastasized. He is doing a Chemo-therapy treatment every two weeks and at the end of 4 weeks he will have a scan. If the scan shows significant reduction in the tumor then surgery may be the final step. Please keep praying for both Mike and Nancy.

**Louise Thompson** was able to attend the candle light service. Her other son, Don, was visiting from California and attended to watch brother Carl deliver a beautiful Christmas Eve Service.

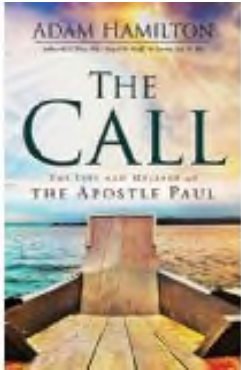
**Pete Stebbins** has been home from the hospital and rehabilitation center since Dec. 4th. He is feeling well except for the

pain associated with the hip when walking. He still has a "spacer" and not a real hip. The surgery to replace the spacer still is coming up this Spring.

**Yae Y. Menyhert** We would like to welcome Yae to our church family. Yae is has moved to Salado/Belton area from Queens, New York where she was married to Louis J. Menyhert. They were married for almost 50 years before her husband passed away in 2000. Yae originates from Japan and has family who still live there and communicate with her. Yae will reside with her son Carl and daughter-in-law Renita in Belton. Yae has battled cancer and now likes reading (especially about investments), card games, painting and making crafts.

## Adult Education - Shirley Pinkston

The New Year begins with a study of Adam Hamilton's new book on the life of Paul, The Call. Hamilton interweaves personal testimony and ministry insights to provide important lessons for Christians today in this 6-week study.



Paul was second only to Jesus himself in his impact and influence on the Christian faith. His witness helped to define what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. We have a new state-of-the-art television to view the DVD portion of each lesson, we always have coffee, and we need you.

Hope to see you there!

## Church Business - Barclay McCort

- ◆ On Jan. 3rd we will have the ordination and installation of new Session Members: Carl Menyherth, Sara Pettijohn and Laquita Arner.
- ◆ Rotating off the Session: Barclay McCort, Pete Stebbins and Cindy Pennington.
- ◆ On January 17<sup>th</sup>, the church will accept new members. If you might be interested in becoming a member of the Presbyterian Church of Salado please call Pastor Carl Thompson prior to the 17<sup>th</sup> and let him know of your interest.
- ◆ On Jan. 24th we will hold the Annual Congregational Meeting at the end of the service. It will include the Annual Reports from committee chairpersons and the presentation of 2016 Budget.



The **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** was held at **6:00 PM on the 24<sup>th</sup>**. This is always such a special service with the singing of our favorite Christmas Carols plus the turning down of the lights and lighting of our individual candles. Take God's light into the world!



Merry Christmas