



# The Messenger

THEME: "GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME"  
(SEPTEMBER 2017)

**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:**  
SARA PETTIJOHN -  
Clerk of Session  
NANCY NORRIS -  
Worship  
JOYCE GOZA  
Worship  
JOHN BOOHER -  
Education  
CARL MENYHERT -  
Personnel  
LAQUITA ARNER -  
Fellowship  
NANCY HEALEY -  
Benevolence  
CHINE RAY -  
Building & Grounds

**TREASURER:**  
MIKE MOORE

**ORGANIST:**  
JEANETTE WEST

**CHOIR DIRECTORS:**  
MONTE & CAROL  
SHUCK

**MESSANGER EDITOR:**  
PETE STEBBINS  
(254) 231-4883  
[PETE7744@ICLOUD.COM](mailto:PETE7744@ICLOUD.COM)

\* ARTICLES NEED TO  
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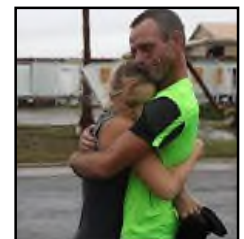
## Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson

Many of you have been asking, "How can we support the many flood victims throughout Texas and other states." The benevolence committee of our church will be looking at ways that we can provide financial support. We have found in the past that the immediate needs of the victims are handled well by many national organizations. This flood will cause long term needs for the people involved. We look to support organizations that will be there for the long haul. The committee and our denomination will inform us on the best way to help, and we will let you know how you can be a part of that assistance.



Over the last few weeks we have seen repeatedly in the newspaper, on television, and many other sources the dissensions, hatred, and divides we are facing as a nation. It can become very depressing, and make you believe that we are a greatly divided nation, if you believe all you read and hear.

It is in these disasters that the true goodness of the American people shines forth. We see members of one ethnic, social or economic background, carrying another person that needs assistance on their back, regardless of their race or social background. Churches are opening their doors to provide shelter for those evacuated from the area, regardless of religious beliefs. The entire nation has responded to the needs of their fellow citizens.



Continued on Page 2

## Calendar of Events

**Adult Sunday School at 9:00** (starts on 9/10)

**Sunday Worship Services at 10:00**

- **Tuesdays** - Men's Prayer Breakfast at 8 am
- **Sept. 3** - Communion Sunday
- **Sept. 6** - Weekly Choir Practice Begins
- **Sept. 7** - Back to "Sunday School" Dinner
- **Sept. 10** - Sunday School Begins (9 am)
- **Sept. 24** - Social - Men in Charge of Food
- **Choir Yoga** Continues on Tues 1-2 pm & Thurs. 10:30 - 11:30 am

## SEPTEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 2
	3	4	5 Yoga 1 PM	6 Choir 5:30	7 Yoga 5:30 SS Dinner	8 9
10	11	12 Yoga 1 PM	13 Choir 5:30	14 Yoga 10:30	15	16
17	18	19 Yoga 1 PM	20 Choir 5:30	21 Yoga 10:30	22	23
24 Social	25	26 Yoga 1 PM	27 Choir 5:30	28 Yoga 10:30	29	30

## Carl Continued..

This is truly an example of Jesus' teaching, to love our neighbors whoever they are, wherever they are, for the Glory of God. When you see or read about the evils, hatred, and bigotry of the

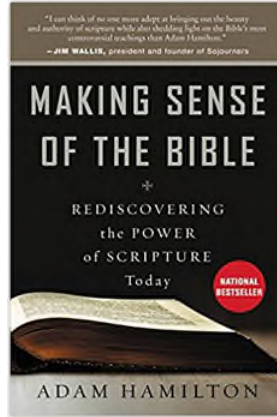


thousands; remember what you have seen the last couple of days, and what you will see in the days to come - the love and goodness of the millions. May God bless you and God bless America.  
*Carl*



## Adult Bible Study Classes Begin

On Sept. 10, we will begin our study one of Adam Hamilton's newest books, Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today.



The lessons begin with foundational questions such as:

- How and when was the Bible written?
- Who decided which books made it into the Scriptures and why?

Then, the topics shift to questions of interpreting the Bible such as:

- How literally should we read the Bible?
- Why is God so violent in the Old Testament?
- Is the Book of Revelations a guide to the end times?

Together we will study this book, watch the DVD lessons, and discuss the answers to these questions as well as many others relating to the Bible and its meaning.

I hope you will be present on Sunday mornings at 9:00 A.M., and add your thoughts and insights to our discussions.

Coffee will be served.

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

	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 3	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 10	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 17	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost — Sept. 24
<b>1st Reading</b>	Exodus 3:1-15	Exodus 12:1-14	Exodus 14:19-31	Exodus 16:2-15
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b	Psalm 149	Psalm 114	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 12:9-21	Romans 13:8-14	Romans 14:1-12	Philippians 1:21-30
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 16:21-28	Matthew 18:15-20	Matthew 18:21-35	Matthew 20:1-16

## September Birthdays

Greg	Faber	3
Haley	Duque	7
J.C.	Pennington	12
Jack	Googans	15
Ginny	McCracken	22
Shirley	Left	25
Donald	Engelke	26
Pete	Stebbins	26

## About our Members

**Houston and South Texas** Pray for many that have lost all their worldly possessions. Folks that just a few days ago were getting ready for a new school year, football season, cooler Fall weather, and neighborhood gatherings are now just glad to be out of the flood and in some sort of shelter.

It's not known how much time we have. *"We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work."* John 9:4 and *"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them."* Prov. 3:27

Pray for all those in South Texas and that God shows us our role in sharing His love and goodness.

Thanks from **Jim Ervi** - My wife passed away in March 2004. Afterword's, I went to Nicaragua on a church mission trip to help me to heal. Then in August 2004, I got Daisy. She had been in my life for 13 years. Her passing a couple of weeks ago has been tough. This church has helped me adjust. People walk in and out of your life, but friends leave foot prints in your heart. This church and congregation has done just that to me. I want to thank you for your support. God bless you all. -- Meet my new friend Whitney.



## New Members - Aug. 20, 2017

Five new members joined the church on 8/20/2017 by reaffirmation of faith. They were Don and Edrie Chiles, Mike and Pat Hart, and Linda Lloyd. Below (and next page) is a little information on each.



**Mike and Pat Hart** moved to Salado from the Kansas City area in April, after living there for 31 years. They wanted to be closer to their daughter and son-in-law, who live in Hidden Springs.

Mike is retired from the food ingredients industry after being in both sales and marketing. He is interested in history, sports, and music. He enjoys attending the men's prayer breakfast and hopes (with his guitar) to join the church choir.

Pat is retired from teaching math and science to home-bound students who were too ill to attend school. She loves reading, journaling, and volunteer work with the Chamber of Commerce Ladies' Auxiliary, the public library, and the GED (high school diploma equivalency) program at the community center. She also hopes to help catalog and organize the church library and is enjoying chair yoga at the church.

They hoped to find a loving church family when they moved here - which they found in the Presbyterian Church of Salado. They want to thank all who have been so friendly and welcoming.



**Don and Edrie Chiles** have been in Salado permanently since 2008.

Edrie was born in Paris, Texas but raised in Hugo, Oklahoma while Don was born in Lufkin and raised in Trinidad, Texas. They both attended North Texas State College (now Univ. of North Texas). Don's roommate introduced them in Hugo. They were married in Hugo, Oklahoma on April 1, 1961 (the 2nd was taken). They have been blessed with three daughters and one son (Donna, Tom, Amy, and LeighAnne); seven grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

Don got a DDS from Baylor Dallas then Oral Surgery training in Houston. They moved to Alaska in 1971, first with the Public Health Service then stayed in private practice. Don and Edrie spent a total of 19 years in Alaska before moving back to Texas. Don currently works at the V.A. Hospital in Temple in oral surgery.

Back in 1971 the Chiles started coming to the Stagecoach Inn for family vacations to have a change from Alaska and meet up with other family members.

## Veteran Stories

### **Reminder:**

Veteran stories of all Presbyterian Church of Salado members and families who wore the uniform are still being collected. Contact Renita Menyhart at 254-317-2961 for assistance or submit to SOUTH-ERNBABE22@aol.com. Pictures in uniform without stories are also welcome.

The deadline for all material is October 1.



## Sign-Up Sheets in Narthex

**SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF MEAL - Thursday Sept 7, 6:00 P.M.** Sign up to bring a dish and enjoy a great meal. We will celebrate our annual back-to-school dinner and enjoy grilled flank steak and enjoy Christian fellowship. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

### **LITURGISTS**

September - Chine Ray  
October - Jim Ervi  
November - Rip Van Winkle  
December - Evelyn Thompson

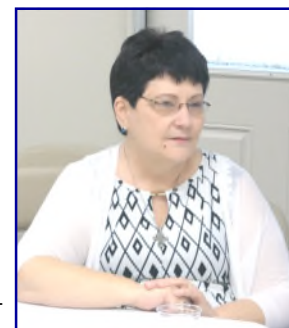
### **GREETERS**

September - The Pettijohns  
October - The VanWinkles  
November - Kempes  
Dec. - Nancy Norris & Joyce Goza

### **SECURITY MONITORS** (September)

9-10 & 17 Danney McCort  
9-24 & 10-1 John Booher

## WHY NOW? New Member - Linda Lloyd



I have been attending this church for approximately two years now, but it wasn't until this August 20th that I made it official and became a member. Today, I received an email suggesting that perhaps I would like to write something for the newsletter about my Presbyterian background and why I finally decided to join this church. Yes, it's been a long time coming, and I know that some of you did not really understand why I hadn't made a commitment. So, I will try to explain it the best that I can.

My family does have some Presbyterian background. Two of my great uncles, as well as two of my great aunts, were Presbyterian Ministers. But my grandparents, who raised me, were Methodist. I was baptized in the Jefferson Avenue United Methodist Church in Washington, Pennsylvania. I was on the cradle roll there, and sang in the Junior Choir. I gave my heart to Jesus in that church when I was 11 years old. I attended that church until I left home at the age of 18. (My Aunt Louanna is still a member there, and I accompany her to our home church on occasion when I'm there.)

I was "between churches" when I met Billy and Ruthie McPhail. We became friends, and they invited me to visit their church, the First Presbyterian Church in Killeen. Shortly after that, I joined the church and the choir. Sometime later, I became an Elder.

I served in that church for over thirty years, including two three-year terms on the Session. I chaired both the Christian Nurture and Worship Committees and oversaw various other activities at different times, including Bible School, garage sales, Hanging of the Greens, chili suppers, etc. I sang in the choir, taught Children's Sunday School for many years, attended a Bible Study taught by our pastor, attended Sunday School at one point, and taught a Ladies Bible Study. (I still teach that study once a month in my home). I also wrote 95% of what went into the church newsletter. One year, I wrote and put on a children's Christmas pageant, complete with costumes.

Ralph and I together, along with a handful of other couples, helped keep that church alive for the last several years, with our time, our money and our hard work, both inside and outside the church. But we were having problems-deaths, military families leaving the area, money, trying to keep a minister, to name just a few. We asked Presbytery for help. Of course, they sent a committee, and a decision was made to close the church. That was a hard pill for all of us to swallow.

The First Presbyterian Church of Killeen held its final service, one of dissolution, on April 5, 2015, Easter Sunday morning. It was a death of sorts. But we were at least encouraged, when we were told by representatives of the Presbytery that they would reopen the church in two years.

I am sad to say that did not happen. The church and manse were sold. The organ went to the Presbyterian church in Copperas Cove; the choir music to the Belton church for cataloging and storage until we would reopen. The members dispersed. A lot of the members, especially the older ones, no longer attend church.

Shortly after that, we received a letter from Presbytery stating that we had one year to transfer our membership to another church. It also stated that if we didn't, our names would be dropped from the Presbytery rolls. That was the absolute last straw for me. I was angry and I was hurt. Was I still an Elder? I didn't know. To me, that letter negated everything that I had done for all those years.

During this same time, Ralph and I had our own struggles. We lost his mother, two of his uncles and two of my uncles. His Dad had an amputation. His brother was diagnosed with brain cancer. He had surgery, and just this past year, had a stem cell transplant. My oldest brother was fighting and eventually succumbed to cancer. So many deaths. And then, one of my beloved grandchildren was diagnosed with a mental illness.

I love God, and I think I have a large portion of faith, but all of this was just too much for me. I knew in my heart that I still needed to worship in a church. Ralph and I had known Carl and Evelyn for a long time. We had heard him preach several times, and thought that he was an outstanding minister. So, we decided to come to Salado.

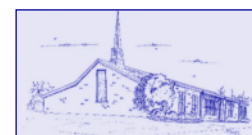
When I came to this church, I was a broken woman. I could hardly get through a service without crying. I didn't want to get close to anybody. I guess I had hardened my heart, and didn't even really want to learn your names. I was grieving for so many things.

And yes, folks, I know and believe that the Killeen church would not have closed unless God permitted it. And yes, I know there was a reason, even if I don't know what it was. But knowing all that did not help me in my struggle. I guess that's why I resisted so hard. I didn't want to be a member of a church. I just wanted to worship my God and hoped to heal my broken heart. Carl understood. He didn't push me. I have thanked him more than once for allowing me to just "be" and not have to do anything I wasn't able to.

So that's where I've been for the last couple of years. With you, and yet, not with you. I didn't realize until just recently, how I had hardened my heart to all of you. But a few weeks ago, when Carl announced that you would be accepting new members, God whispered in my ear and said, "Child, there's a place for you here; it's time". And since that Sunday, I have felt a lightness and a joy in my soul that I haven't known for a very long time.

So here I am. I have at last come to you with my "whole heart." I don't promise perfection. I don't promise to be willing or able to do everything that you may ask of me. But I do promise to be the best that I possibly can be. And I just thank you all so very, very much for all of your kindness and for accepting me just as I am.

From a Merry Heart,  
*Linda Lloyd*



# August 27, 2017 Salad/Cobbler Social



Picking salads is serious business



Apple (non-cherry) Cobbler

Cherry Cobbler

Cherry Cobbler

Cherry Cobbler

Cherry Cobbler



Rip is reunited with Haley Kemp (daughter of Randy Kemp) who assisted Rip after he fell out of his truck.



Carol Booher is back from knee surgery!



THE LONELY SOLOIST