



# The Messenger

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH AND  
LET IT BEGIN WITH ME.  
( FEBRUARY 2018 )

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

## Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson



As I sit here in front of my computer writing this note for the newsletter, so many things are going through my mind. We just received word that Evelyn's father has died. Her dad was more than a father-in-law to me, he was a great friend and mentor. We did so many things together over the 45 years I've known him. We enjoyed working on many different types of projects around our homes. I will truly miss him.

William Carl served as an active pastor up to the age of ninety, preaching every Sunday. Because of waning health, he had to stop preaching four years ago. He was a great preacher and teacher. He was a World War II veteran and was at the Battle of the Bulge. I ask you to keep our family in your prayers over the next few weeks as we honor Will's memory.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of February, we will be celebrating Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. We will celebrate with a noon service and a light lunch. Ash Wednesday reminds us of our mortality, "From Ashes you have come and to ashes you shall return." Death comes to all of us, we are all mortal beings, some will live a long life like Will, others will be called home too soon.

The Good News of the Gospel is that for Christians, death is not an end, but a new beginning. We have the assurance that we will be reunited with our loved ones in the presence of the Lord in Heaven. It is that promise that allows us even as we grieve to celebrate the death of a Saint. We know the rest of God's story: "an empty grave to prove that Jesus' lives, and because He lives, we too have eternal life."

Evelyn and I thank you for your prayers. God Bless you. *Carl*

## Calendar of Events

**Adult Sunday School at 9:00 A.M.**  
**Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 A.M.**  
**Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues. 8 A.M.**  
**Choir Practice Weds. at 5:30 P.M.**  
**Chair Yoga Tuesdays & Thursdays**

- Feb. 4 - Communion Sunday
- Feb. 14 - Ash Wednesday Service at Noon with a Light Lunch
- Feb. 25 - Social After Worship / Italian Surprise

February 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
		Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Yoga 1 PM	Ash Wed Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30	Yoga 10:30		
25	26	27	28			
Social		Yoga 1 PM	Choir 5:30			

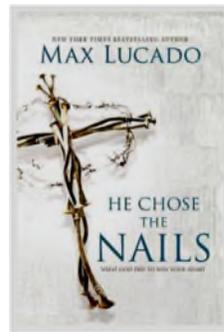
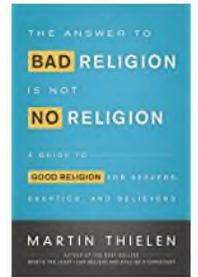


On Sunday, January 14, three new Session members were installed. This included the ordination of Randy Kemp, and installation of Pat Rehm and re-installation of John Booher. Going off the Session were Nancy Healey and Chine Ray.

John will continue as chair of the Education Committee, while Pat will take on Benevolence and Randy will take on Buildings and Grounds.

## Adult Bible Study Classes

The class is currently studying The Answer to Bad Religion Is Not No Religion by Martin Thielen. This study looks at what makes a religion "bad" as well as the elements of "good" religion. We invite you to join us at any time to enjoy both the discussion and fellowship.



The first Sunday of Lent is February 18. For our Lenten study, we will read Max Lucado's new book, He Chose the Nails. This is a 5-week study with an introduction on DVD for each lesson, featuring Max Lucado. We hope you will join us for this study as we contemplate God's gifts to us from the cross. This is a

great way to build a sense of community in our church. Books are provided plus coffee and cookies are available.

Shirley Pinkston



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

	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany — Feb 4	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany — Feb 11	Ash Wednesday — Feb 14	First Sunday in Lent — Feb 18	Second Sunday in Lent — Feb 25
<b>1st Reading</b>	Isaiah 40:21-31	2 Kings 2:1-12	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12	Genesis 9:8-17	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c	Psalm 50:1-6	Psalm 51: 1-17	Psalm 25:1-10	Psalm 22:23-31
<b>2nd Reading</b>	1 Cor.9:16-23	2 Cor 4:3-6	2 Cor 5:20b-6:10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Romans 4:13-25
<b>Gospel</b>	Mark 1:29-39	Mark 9:2-9	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	Mark 1:9-15	Mark 8:31-38 or 9:2-9

## February Birthdays

Robert Harper	1
Barclay McCort	4
Ellen Staples	5
Cindy Pennington	8
Pat Rehm	9
Randy Kemp	9
Chris Gengler	12
Betsy Tyson	13
Laquita Arner	19
Jim Ervi, Sr.	19
Claire Hartman	26

## About our Members

**Carl Thompson** has had eustachian tube issues and has had one surgery so far. Pray that this surgery is successful and that another more extensive surgery is not required in thirty days.

**Eluterio (Lutie) Castor**, Ralph Castor's father, is currently in the Rosewood Nursing Facility. He is facing some serious health challenges at this time. Please remember him and all of Ralph's family in your prayers

**Barbara Tindell** has had a tough week. First she aggravated an existing small tear in her right rotator cuff. Then she learned she has a basal cell cancer in her nose with surgery likely in the near future. Pray for Barbara and her doctors as they work through each of these two issues.

**Jean Teal** has not been doing as well lately. Pray

for strength and improvement of her health.

**Bobbie Dickerson** has been struggling with balance and numbness issues. She is doing some neurological testing. Pray for conclusive test results and then appropriate treatment.

**Jerry Schleicher** has been dealing with heart-health-blood issues for almost a year. This has required multiple tests and doctors including three rounds of heart monitors, one cardiac ablation, and several hospital stays. The good news is that the doctors have finally diagnosed the problem. Two procedures (one being the installation of heart monitor) have now been scheduled back-to-back on February 8th with one general anesthetic and hospital stay. Pray that the surgery is a success in solving Jerry's issues, that there are no complications, and recovery is rapid.

## New Members Knox and Betsy Tyson



*On January 21st, Knox and Betsy joined our church via reaffirmation of faith. Both have been active in Worship and Sunday School, plus Betsy has joined the choir and participates in yoga.*

### MEET THE TYSONS

Betsy and Knox Tyson married in Dallas, Texas April 10, 1993. Knox was a Houston boy that had his career in Dallas. Betsy was a Dallas girl.

Betsy was a Real Estate agent in Dallas specializing in the sales and leasing of homes in the Park Cities area and in the leasing and management of commercial properties throughout the metropolitan Dallas area.

Knox was an attorney in Dallas specializing in Corporate law, Real Estate, Insurance defense and personal injury law. They were both longtime survivors of divorce. Betsy had been single for 14 years and Knox was in the singles world for 13 years before their paths crossed and lightning struck.

Both wanted to get out of Dallas and into a better lifestyle. Many small towns in Texas were visited and checked out on weekends. In 1997, they started a small business together in Temple. The small business would be the means of escape from Dallas. This was a check cashing business for unbanked people. They also sold very low-cost money orders and paid

utility bills for customers. The first store was in Temple and was doing great after 30 days. A second store was opened in Waco. Then in 1999 they purchased two stores in Killen and opened another in Copperas Cove.

They gratefully moved to Salado in August of 2000 on the day that the temperature hit 115°F. A sixth store was added in 2003. Living in Salado allowed them to properly manage their stores and 25 employees.

In 2005 Knox received an unsolicited offer to sell all 6 stores for cash. They accepted the offer and retired in March 2005. In 2006, Betsy's oldest daughter Tracey, her husband John and daughter May moved to Salado to manage the bakery, Roy T's, the last small business started by Betsy and Knox. The bakery closed in 2012 due to the freeway construction and the loss of traffic into Salado. However, Tracey earned a certificate in Yoga and she teaches classes in the Salado area including some held in the Salado Presbyterian Church activity room.

Life in Salado - the trees, fresh air, friendly people, no traffic, plenty of room, a beautiful creek -taken altogether - has made life good for these two. The local Police Report seems to be highlighted by problems filled with barking dogs and deer. They consider themselves fortunate.

Knox and Betsy thank all of you for welcoming them into the congregation! They will provide the worship center flowers each Sunday in February in honor of God's Love.



<http://www.presbsalado.org>



## The Library is Open for Business

The Presbyterian Church of Salado Library celebrated its open house at the social on January 28th. People seemed to be pleased and excited about the arrangement and the collection itself.

The library is for everyone to use, whether you just want to browse or have a specific topic to research in mind. Some 755 titles are now cataloged.

Pat Hart and June Lubowinski are available to answer questions or to give you assistance any Sunday after services. They are also available before and after chair yoga classes. (Yoga is on Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00; Thursday's, 10:30-11:30) Please come and see what a treasure we have in our church library!

The "Church Library Catalog" has been added to our web-site ([www.presbsalado.org](http://www.presbsalado.org)). It is in EXCEL, or PDF files by Author or Title sequence.

## Sunday School Books

Here are the books from our recent Bible Studies.

The Answer to Bad Religion is Not No Religion by Martin Thielen

What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian? by Martin Thielen

Bad Religion: How We Became a Nation of Heretics by Ross Douthat

American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us by Robert D. Putnam

The Mind of God: Neuroscience, Faith, and a Search for the Soul by Jay Lombard

The Scandalous Gospel of Jesus by Peter Gomes

## “Queen Esther’s Circle”

I’m writing this on Sunday, January 28, 2018, in memory of my Grandma, Valdie Johnston, who, with the help of her husband Swart, raised me till I turned eighteen years old. She would have been 117 years old today. “Happy Birthday Grandma.”

I could tell you so many stories about my Grandma. But I’m thinking of one in particular today. She and my Grandad grew up on farms out in the country. They raised four children, two boys and two girls, during “The Great Depression.” When work became scarce, and money even scarcer, they were forced to move “into town,” where my Grandad went to work in a factory.

But they never forgot their roots. Every possible weekend, we went to the “home place,” to the house that my Grandma grew up in, and where her brother Alva, still lived and was raising his own family. Then we’d mosey on down the road to visit her other brother, Arteamus, and his wife. Later on, we would stop by to see my Grandad’s brothers, Jack and Jimmie, who lived nearby.

We would pass through all the little country towns with what I thought were strange sounding names, like Sycamore, Nineveh, Claysville, and Beulah, where we would attend Grandma’s “home church,” if some special occasion presented itself.

The church at Beulah had a ladies group, which met once a month, to eat a little, study a little, pray a little, and, in my child’s mind, to gossip a lot. (As I got a little older, I realized that what I thought was gossip, was simply the ladies sharing their burdens with each other). Each lady took a turn hosting the group, and providing refreshments. Even after my Grandma moved to town, and found a new church, she remained a member of that group. They called themselves the “Queen Esther’s Circle.”

I am now, and have for about the last five years, been teaching a ladies’ Bible study. Originally, we met at the Presbyterian Church in Killeen, but now we meet in my home once a month. It’s a small group, only six ladies in total. At the moment, we are studying about “Queen Esther,” which is what prompted me to write this.



You are probably all familiar with Esther’s story. If you’ve forgotten it, I hope you will refresh your memory. The whole book will probably only take you ten minutes to read. It can, of course, be found in the Old Testament, right after Nehemiah, and just before Job.

The surprising thing about this book, to me, is the fact that it is only ten pages long, and has only six chapters, but it has such a powerful message. You can learn so much about faithfulness, yours and God’s, trust, and doing the right thing, no matter what. And it has everything you could ask for in a good book. There is intrigue, danger, treachery, betrayal, an evil minion, royalty, a good guy, and a heroine. What more could you want?

And I love this book, because even though God is barely mentioned, you can see His handiwork running through its entirety, and know without a doubt that it was His providence, and “the hand of the Potter,” that made it all turn out just the way it was supposed to. The Jews were saved from certain death, and the good guys won. That’s my kind of story.

I teach a Bible study once a month. We eat a little, study a little, pray a little, and probably, gossip a lot. (We call it sharing.”) I think I will call it the “Queen Esther’s Circle.”

“Love you  
Grandma”

From a Merry Heart,  
*Linda Lloyd*

AND WHO KNOWS  
BUT THAT YOU  
HAVE COME TO YOUR  
*Royal Position*  
FOR SUCH A TIME  
AS THIS?

ESTHER 4:14

# Church Business

## Session Notes:

The Session adopted the Pastor's theme for the year Peace and Reconciliation:

**LET THERE BE PEACE ON  
EARTH AND  
LET IT BEGIN WITH ME.**

Benevolence giving for 2017 was **26.2%** of income!

John Pettijohn will now assume duties of Treasurer.

Session approved allowing Building Fund monies to be used for rocking the south wall of the building. Current bid for the project is \$11,600. The other three walls have been rocked over the years. Members can donate specifically to the project (above their pledge) if they desire.

All the new windows has been installed (last installed on 1/30/18). These windows are double pane, argon insulated, tempered, and tinted. They are securely sealed in the opening. A great improvement!



June

Pat

The library has been transformed. 755 books are now catalogued and information uploaded to our web-site, thanks to June Lubowinski and Pat Hart.

## Fellowship Schedule 2018 – Laquita Arner

- Schedule of events through July:
- January 28 – Taco Salad Bar
- February 14 – Ash Wednesday – Light lunch
- February 25 – Italian Surprise
- March 25 – Baked Potato Day
- March 29 – Maundy Thursday
- April 29 – Potluck A – M
- May 27 – Potluck N-Z
- June / July / Aug. – Coffee and snacks before church
- June 24 – Hot Dog Month
- July 29 – Men's Month



**New Session Members for 2018:  
Randy Kemp, Pat Rehm; John Booher**



**New Windows**  
double pane, argon insulated,  
tempered, secure, and tinted.



**Chine Ray  
worked  
many  
hours to  
make these  
happen..**

**Thanks  
Chine**



**The Old  
Antique  
Windows**

# January 28 Social - Taco Salad Bar



The Church thanks Monte and Carol Shuck (co-choir directors) for their efforts with the choir.



Offering a Warm Welcome!



The Church thanks Mike Moore for the extensive time spent as Treasurer.

Seems that there were many definitions of a Taco Salad!



I wonder, "Is Carl offering suggestions to Bill Pinkston on eating lighter?"

