



The Messenger

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

(JUNE 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

It is June already; the sixth month of 2018, and I am still writing 2017 on my checks. Time goes by so very, very fast and life is so very fleeting. In the past two weeks we lost two people that meant so much to our congregation. Many of you did not get to know Carol Walls and Virginia McCracken since events in their lives caused Carol to move out of the area and Virginia to limit her attendance.



Carol and Virginia were actively involved in the ministry of this congregation, both served as Elders. Virginia and her husband Jim were founding members of this church. Both of these wonderful people were involved in so many community organizations that I cannot begin to list them all.

Life can be cruel. Carol was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and they needed to downsize, so they moved away to their lake house. Virginia had an Abdominal aneurysm and other problems that limited her ability to worship with us over the last couple of years. Both of these women faced their conditions with courage, and were great examples to me on how to face adversities in life, but life is frail and fleeting.

Why am I saying these things? We must live every day to the fullest because we don't know what life might throw at us tomorrow. We must live each day as if it were our last. Don't put off giving that hug or saying "I Love You" until tomorrow. Don't put off until tomorrow taking that trip, reading that book, visiting, or calling that friend or family member that you haven't talked to lately.

Continued page 2

Calendar of Events

Sunday Coffee and Cookies at 9:30 A.M.

Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 A.M.

Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues. 8 A.M.

Chair Yoga Tuesdays & Thursdays

- June 1 - McCracken Open House 4-7 pm (1710 Old Mill Road, #17, Salado)
- June 9 - Carol Walls Service 11:00 A.M.
- June 17 - Father's Day
- June 24 - Hot Dog Social

2018 JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Mem'l Day					McCrack-en Open House	
3	4	5 Yoga 1 PM	6	7 Yoga 10:30	8	9 Carol Walls
10	11	12 Yoga 1 PM	13	14 Yoga 10:30	15	16
17 Father's Day	18	19 Yoga 1 PM	20	21 Yoga 10:30	22	23
24 Hot Dog Social	25	26 Yoga 1 PM	27	28 Yoga 10:30	29	30

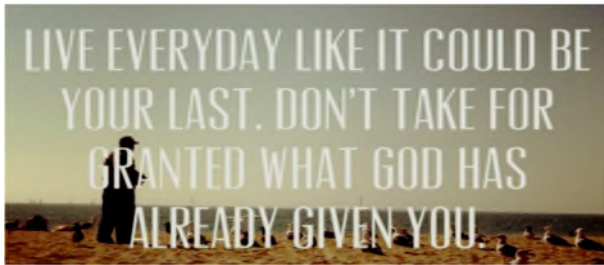
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Don't put off talking to God, reading the Bible, worshipping God, and serving God's people until tomorrow. Don't put off sharing God's good news with those you know, that need to hear that God loves them.

As we go into the summer season here at the church I pray that you will take the time to take care of yourselves, do those things that you wanted to do but couldn't find the time, relax and enjoy life.

Remember, tomorrow is not promised, we only have today.

May God Bless you. *Carl*



Bible Study / AM Social

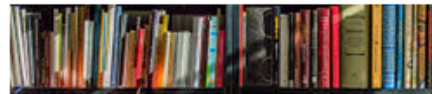
Our summer Bible Study recess has begun and will last until September, **however**, each Sunday before church we will have: **Coffee and cookies at 9:30!**



[If you would like to provide cookies, please sign up in the Narthex.](#)



Don't forget that both Men's Prayer Breakfast and Study continues each Tuesday and the Woman's *Horizons* study for Presbyterian Women will be meeting in July and August, starting on July 5th.



Books referred to in May Adult Sunday School:

[Now and Then](#) by Frederick Buechner

[Bad Religion: How We Became a Nation of Heretics](#) by Ross Douthout

[The Divine Conspiracy](#) by Dallas Willard ***

*** *This is in the church library*

Compiled by Pat Hart

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

	Second Sunday after Pentecost - June 3	Third Sunday after Pentecost - June 10	Forth Sunday after Pentecost - June 17	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - June 24
1st Reading	1 Samuel 3:1-10	1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20	1 Samuel 15:34- 16:13	1 Samuel 17:32-49
Psalm	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	Psalm 138	Psalm 20	Psalm 9:9-20
2nd Reading	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	2 Corinthians 5:6-10,14-17	2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Gospel	Mark 2:23-3:6	Mark 3:20-35	Mark 4:26-34	Mark 4:35-41

June Birthdays

Letta	Meinen	2
Betty	Morgan	3
Sharon	Michael	9
Julie	Goggans	11
Bill	Pinkston	22
Ralph	Castor	23
Monte	Shuck	24
Amy	Carlson	25
Martha	Harper	27
Shirley	Pinkston	27

THE MESSENGER

About our Members

[Rev. Carl Thompson](#) had his surgery on 4/24 to repair his eustachian tube. He continues to have issues with his ears and hearing. Pray that these issues would resolve with no more surgery.

[Evelyn Thompson](#) leaves on Friday going to Bartlesville, OK. She will be working with her mom, Charlotte, getting ready for her move from OK to Copperas Cove, Texas. Evelyn will be gone for several weeks. Pray for safe travel, a strong back, lots of patience, and the making of many good memories.

[Jack Goggans](#) started out with a stroke then further testing indicated a need for heart bypass surgery. Five bypasses were performed on May 16th. He spent seven days in ICU and is now in a regular room. His health is improving but he still has cognitive issues at times. Please pray that

healing will be complete. Keep his wife Julie plus Joan and Chine Ray in your prayers.

[Rip VanWinkle](#) had a short black-out spell and fall while taking out the trash on Tuesday. He is hurting some, but will be OK. Please pray that he gets serious about doing research (like seeing a doctor) to find out the cause of these "spells," then fixing the problem.



Carol Walls

Feb. 28, 1941 - May 18, 2018



Carol Schoeneck Walls, 77, of Mabank, Texas, passed away peacefully in her home on May 18, 2018 after living triumphantly with Parkinson's disease for sixteen years. She was born in Shreveport, LA on February 28, 1941 to William and Dorothy Schoeneck.

Carol graduated as valedictorian from Hillcrest High School in 1958, received a bachelor's degree from Austin College in 1962, and a master's degree from Ball State University in 1982.

Carol was married to James W. Walls for 55 years, during which they lived in Louisiana, Texas, Michigan, Indiana and Oklahoma. She was a speech pathologist in both hospital and private settings. She enjoyed fishing, hunting, reading, bird watching, volunteering in church, community service travel, and life!

Carol is survived by her husband; her identical twin sister Anne Byrne of Georgetown, Texas; and her three children: David Walls of San Francisco, California; Scott Walls of Mabank, Texas; and Pam Williams of Tyler, Texas. She is also survived by five grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her older sister Sue Coates.

The memorial service will be held June 9, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at the Presbyterian Church of Salado, 105 Salado Plaza Drive, Salado, TX 76571. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Kindred Hospice Foundation, 836 Southpark Circle, Suite D, Athens, TX 75752.



Founding Members of Presbyterian Church of Salado, 1997.

Last three on right .. **Virginia and Jim McCracken** then Barclay McCort



Virginia McCracken

Sept. 22, 1931 - May 26, 2018



Virginia Lea McCracken (86) of Salado passed away on May 26, 2018. She was born September 22, 1931 to Virgil and Verna Pembleton in Graham County, Kansas. She graduated from Hill City High School in Hill City, KS before attending Kansas State College and Brown-Mackie School of Business in Salina, KS.

After completing business school, Virginia worked for General Motors Acceptance where she met and married Jim McCracken on August 29, 1952. They were husband and wife for 47 years. They reared one daughter and two sons who remember her as a loving, energetic mother who taught them to seek excellence and joy in all things.

Over the years, they lived in cities across the United States as Jim was frequently transferred in his employment with Motors Insurance Corp. At each new city, Virginia made new friends easily and found part-time work doing clerical jobs, was once a traffic court bailiff, and once worked as a real estate agent. She always had fun.

In 1989 Virginia and Jim retired to Salado, Texas. During this time, Virginia sang in the Salado Women's Choral, played bridge, volunteered at the library, and along with a small group of people she and Jim helped establish a new Presbyterian church in Salado. She later became an Elder in the Presbyterian Church and served on the board.

She is predeceased by her husband Jim, her parents, and her grand-daughter Caitlyn. She is survived by her daughter Mary Henry and her husband Charles, and her two sons; Patrick and his wife Marjri, and Matthew and his wife Katie. She is also survived by 9 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, and a great-great-grandson.



“Where’s the Choir?”

The choir is taking a much-deserved rest for the first part of the summer. Much-deserved, you ask? What's the big deal? They practice for a bit on Wednesday night and sing a couple of songs on Sunday morning. Oh yeah, they did do that Spring - God The Creator program. And didn't they do the Veteran's Day program awhile back too? And Christmas Eve, there was something special then, as well. Bet that took a little extra preparation (12 special practices).

Did you know: this season, your choir has learned:

- * 5 new processional
- * 24 new choral calls to worship
- * 33 new choir anthems
- * 10 new recessional
- * 28 new pieces of special music
- * for a total of 100 new songs!



Along the way, they have featured 11 solo efforts; 4 quartets, trios or duets; and 21 readings. They have been accompanied by guitar(s) 12 times, bells 8 times, keyboard twice and a banjo once. Maybe the choir deserves a little time off after all.

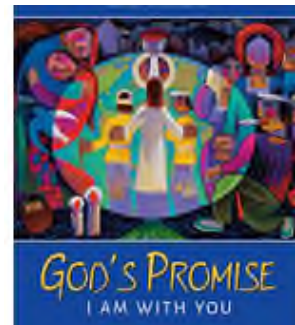
Seriously, all of us in the choir know how much you appreciate us. You show your love with so many supportive comments and smiles when we sing on Sunday morning and at special events. Don't worry - we'll be back, rested and ready on July 8th!

Thanks, *Monte Shuck*

Bible Study for Women

Starting July 5

I would like to invite the women of this church to join with me in a nine week Bible Study, starting on July fifth. It is called “God's Promise: I Am with You,” which has been published by the Presbyterian Church USA.



So far eight have signed up. All others are still invited to join us. There will be a total of nine Thursdays that we meet at noon in the Sunday School classroom for a light lunch and discussion.

Please notify Pat Rehm at 512-876-4211 or pacrehm2017@gmail.com if you can participate.

Sincerely, Pat Rehm

Community - Deployed Soldier - Military Support Project

Members of this congregation have been invited to participate in the community-wide Military Support project for newly deployed soldiers from Fort Hood. Led by the Salado Area Republican Women this summer, the project will provide monthly care packages for the troops. Barclay McCort, one of the project coordinators, has received permission to place a box for [donations in our church's narthex.](#)

Requested food items include Gatorade Power Packets, protein powder (Casin or Whey protein), mustard, hot sauce, spices for cooking chicken or steak, peanut butter, cup o' noodles, beef jerky, pepperoni sticks, and microwave popcorn.

Personal care items include wash cloths, face wash, body wash, baby wipes, Q-tips, gel shaving cream (non-aerosol), and razors (4 or 3 blade).

Female troopers would also appreciate hair conditioner, hair brushes, *Always* panty liners, and variety pack tampons.

Additional items that would be helpful are resistance bands for the gym – all strengths, fly strips, mouse traps, *Clorox* disinfectant wipes, plus even twin sheet sets and blankets.

There is also a box at the Salado Public Library until September 1st.



GOD MEETS YOU AT YOUR POINT OF NEED

Dorothy and I have been friends for almost 50 years. She was out in her yard one day when I was walking by, and we started talking. We found that had a lot in common. We were both from Pennsylvania, living in Texas, far away from family, both had three children, both loved “Dunkin Donuts,” black coffee, and greasy burgers. It was the start of a beautiful friendship.

My son Matt was eighteen months old. He loved Dorothy; and she loved him back. A couple of weeks after we met, Matt needed to have major surgery. Dorothy volunteered to watch my girls. Every day for two weeks she took the girls home to play with her three; so that I could spend time at the hospital with Matt. What a blessing!

That was just the beginning. Over the years we shared each other’s joys and sorrows, a lot of sorrows for my sweet friend. We cried and prayed together when she lost her baby boy before he was born, when her husband got run over on the side of the highway, became an invalid, and died a couple of years later, and yet again when one of her precious daughters died suddenly after a minor surgery.

Dorothy and I have not lived close to each other for at least forty years. But it didn’t matter. We called each other often. It was always like we had just spoken the day before. We visited each other as often as possible. When I was diagnosed with cancer and had my kidney removed, she flew to Killeen and stayed with me for a week while I was recuperating. What can you say about a friend like that?

For a couple of years now, I have known that Dorothy was in the early stages of dementia. When I’d call her, she would ask me questions that she should have known the answers to, and repeat the same news that she had shared in our previous conversation. If I called two days in a row, she would say, “Linda, I haven’t talked to you in such a long time! What’s going on?”

Ralph and I went to Oklahoma to visit her as often as we could. We were there in November last year. I talked to her a couple of weeks ago. Other than the usual confusion, she sounded fine. But she’s not. We just returned from Oklahoma. I’m not sure that I will ever see Dorothy again on this side of Heaven.

She is skin and bones. Her health has deteriorated so much in the last couple of weeks that she requires twenty four hour care. Most of the time she lives in her own mind, seeing and hearing people from her childhood.

For two days I held her hand, talked about old friends and old times, and tried my best to make her smile. I sang hymns and prayed the prayers of the Bible, the Lord’s Prayer, and the 23rd Psalm, and recited the Apostles Creed. I know those things are important to her.

But most of the time she didn’t know who I was. She asked why I had come to Enid. “I came to see you, I said. I’m Linda. We’ve been best friends for a long time.” She asked me how I met Linda. With tears in my eyes, I said a silent prayer asking God’s blessing on her, and strength for myself.

But every once in a while, I would catch a glimpse of my old friend. She would call me by name and share her thoughts and fears. “Linda, I’m so glad you’re here. If you could just stay

with me every night, I could go to sleep and not worry.” I told her that I would if I could. I said that I loved her. In my heart, I was really saying goodbye.

We left Wednesday afternoon. Dorothy was hospitalized later that day. She’d had a stroke and was in renal failure. But I guess God isn’t ready for her yet. Thanks to some IV fluids, she is doing much better today. The doctors recommended placing her in a geriatric facility for people with dementia. Her children know she doesn’t want that. They are facing a tough decision.

I don’t know what the future holds for my friend. But I do know that It rests in God’s hands. And before I left, I made sure to tell her that God loves her so very much and is always with her.

On the way home, we stopped at McDonald’s. Surprisingly, there were no customers except for us and another couple. The woman started talking to us. She asked me if I was enjoying my time in Oklahoma. I started crying. I said that we weren’t there for pleasure, that I had come to say goodbye to an old friend who was very ill. She asked if she could pray for my friend, then asked if she could pray for me. I said yes, of course. We joined hands, standing right there in the middle of McDonald’s. She started praying for me and I heard her ask God to “Meet Linda in the middle of the garden”. And that’s when I knew that God sent her there to ease my pain. As a child I always requested page 21 in the Methodist hymnal, “In The Garden”.

We stood there for about 20 minutes, holding hands and sharing our hearts like old friends. She told me about her love for God, her husband’s death, her new love (who was talking to Ralph), and her anxieties about the relationship. I knew exactly how she was feeling and told her about my own experience. Her eyes widened, and that’s when she realized that God sent me there with a message for her. His blessing was for both of us. We hugged and thanked each other for the precious moments we had shared.

They say that “God meets you at your point of need.” I know that is true. I don’t know if my new friend was an angel in disguise. But I do know that repeated attempts to contact her at the email address on the card she gave to me, have gone unanswered thus far. And I am positive that God sent her; she will always be an angel in my mind.

Update May 30 - I just received a text from Dorothy’s daughter. She is regressing quickly since they took out the IV. In all likelihood, the end is near. Please keep her and the Trybus family in your prayers.



Hebrews 13:2 *“Forget not to show love unto strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares”.*

From a Merry Heart,
Linda Lloyd

May 27 Potluck Social

This was a Potluck lunch with the N-Z families doing an excellent job with the food.

