



The Messenger

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

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

WEBSITE:
PRESBSALADO.ORG

PASTOR:
REV. CARL THOMPSON
CELL (254) 702-4119
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
PAT REHM -
Benevolence
RANDY KEMP -
Building & Grounds

TREASURER:
JOHN PETTIJOHN

ORGANIST:
JEANETTE WEST

CHOIR DIRECTORS:
MONTE & CAROL
SHUCK

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

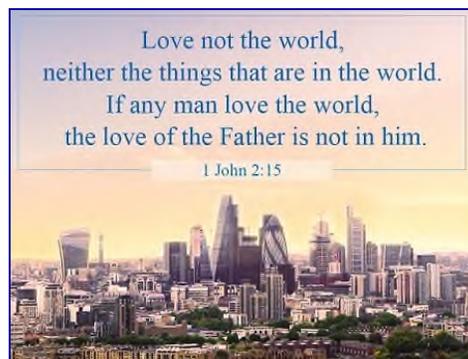
* ARTICLES NEED TO
BE SUBMITTED TO
PETE BY THE LAST
SUNDAY OF THE
MONTH - FOR NEXT
MONTH'S PUBLICA-
TION.

Carl's Comments - Reverend Carl Thompson

Some searches take people to unexpected places and give surprising results. For example, Columbus searched for a new route to Asia and found America instead. Louis Pasteur tried to find a way to keep wine from souring and came up with the pasteurization process instead. Alexander Graham Bell wanted to improve the telegraph but wound up with the telephone. Roentgen worked to find a better light for photography but invented the X-ray instead. Sometimes we do not find what we are searching for, but we find something even better.



Many people are looking for something that is missing in their lives. They think they know what they are looking for: wealth, power or prestige. They go out seeking these worldly things, thinking it will give them peace, hope and joy. But it seems the harder they chase after things of the world, the more frustrated they become.



This is where we can share our Christian Faith, by telling others what God has done for us. We need to help people find something even better than what they were looking for, *a God that Loves and Cares for them*. They can find this God through our love and the grace we show to them. Hopefully they can see a glimpse of God through our actions and love. I hope that each of us will look for ways to be ambassadors for Christ in a world that is seeking the wrong answers in all the wrong places. Remember that only Jesus is: *"The Way, The Truth and The Life,"* that brings true change into a person's life. So, let's try to bring; peace, love, and joy into the lives of everyone we meet.

Continued page 2

Calendar of Events

- Sunday Coffee and Cookies at 9:30 am
- Sunday Worship Services at 10:00 am
- Men's Prayer Breakfast Tues. 8 am
- Chair Yoga Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Women's Study Thursdays at Noon
- Choir Practice on Wed. at 5:30 (Start 8/22)
- Aug. 5 - Worship with Communion
- Aug. 26 - Breakfast Social (9:00 am)
- Aug. 30 - Back-to-School Dinner
(Adult Class invites all to a dinner 6:00 pm)

AUGUST 2018						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Yoga 10:30	3 Women's Study Noon	4
5	6	7 Yoga 1 PM	8	9 Yoga 10:30	10 On Thurs	11
12	13	14 Yoga 1 PM	15	16 Yoga 10:30	17	18
19	20	21 Yoga 1 PM	22 Choir 5:30	23 Yoga 10:30	24	25
26 Sunday B'fast	27	28 Yoga 1 PM	29 Choir 5:30	30 Yoga 10:30 Dinner	31	

Continued from page 1

I continue to need your help, when you hear that a member of the congregation has gone into the hospital please, let me know. I would rather hear it many times than not at all, don't assume someone else has told me. If you are going into the hospital, let me know. You can tell me if you want me to come visit or if you want others to know. I know some people just don't like to have visitors and I respect that decision.

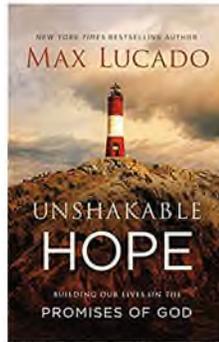


And, Sunday School starts again on September 2, I look forward to seeing you there.

May God Bless you. *Carl*

Adult Bible Study - Begins Sept. 2

Paul tells us in I Corinthians 13:13 the importance of "faith, hope, and love." Many of our lessons, readings, and sermons focus on faith and love, but we don't hear that much about "hope."



In today's world, we are starving for hope. There is despair, depression, anxiety, and instability all around us. People have opinions, thoughts, and hunches, but we need answers, definite answers: Something that can lift our weary hearts. Paul tells us what we need in Colossians 1:23:

"You must, of course, continue faithful on a firm and sure foundation, and must not allow yourselves to be shaken from the hope you gained when you heard the gospel."

Max Lucado has published his newest book: Unshakable Hope just in time for our fall Sunday School Class. This book offers encouraging and practical guidance for overcoming difficult circumstances, gaining inner peace and walking into a better future.

Join us as we begin the study on Sunday, September 2, at 9:00 a.m. in the adult classroom. Books will be available, along with coffee and a big welcome. Come and enjoy this time together as disciples of Jesus.

Shirley Pinkston

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

	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - Aug. 5	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost - Aug. 12	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Aug. 19	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Aug. 26
1st Reading	2 Samuel 11:26- 12:13a	2 Samuel 18:5-9,15,31-33	1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14	1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43
Psalm	Psalm 51:1-12	Psalm 130	Psalm 111	Psalm 84
2nd Reading	Ephesians 4:1-16	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	Ephesians 5:15-20	Ephesians 6:10-20
Gospel	John 6:24-35	John 6:35,41-51	John 6:51--58	John 6:56-69

August Birthdays

Julie Engelke	2
Nancy Norris	4
Don Chiles	4
John Booher	6
James R. Ervi, II	6
Bob Todd	9
Carl Menghert	11
Sara Pettijohn	12
Britt Healey	21
Jeanette West	31

About our Members

Doug Meinen had an intestinal surgery on July 19 in Houston. The stay in the hospital lasted five days. His mother, Letta, was with him through the 28th. He is doing well, but pray for no complications and rapid healing.

John Paul Michael was married to Catherine Reed on July 28th in our sanctuary. Pastor Carl Thompson officiated. They will live on Ft. Hood where he is a member of the Army. Sharon Michael, John's mother, is a member and does our Sunday morning bulletin each week. Pray for a long and loving marriage (see picture on page 3).

Denice Kemp's father, Lamar Drgac, is undergoing his second hospital stay this summer. He is having issues with his feeding tube. Please pray for Lamar but also his wife who is driving back and forth from Caldwell to Bryan to be with him.

Don and Edrie Chiles want to thank all who have been praying for their daughter, Leigh Anne. Her surgery was successful and she is on the way to recovery. Pray for her continued healing.

Martha Harper is under Hospice Care. She is comfortable at home with Robert and Barbara, her children. Some days are better than others. Please pray for her continued comfort, but also her children who are devoted to her 7x24 care.

Chris and Betty Gengler have several prayer requests. Betty's Aunt Ann Singleton of Jarrell, Tx. has stage 4 cancer. Chris' sister, Karen is on oxygen and can't breathe without it. She also has some renal failure. Chris' Uncle Gail has stage 4 cancer and may not make it to his 70th birthday. Please pray for peace, hope, and healing.

SESSION / NOTES- July 8

- ◆ The Treasurer reported donations for rocking the back wall are now \$10,000. Session approved engaging a contractor to rock the back wall. Randy Kemp will coordinate the process.
- ◆ Randy Kemp and the curtain committee are working on decisions for windows.
- ◆ The Benevolence Committee has disbursed \$7300 for the 2nd quarter. Donations are ongoing for the Food Pantry and the Summer Military Support Project.

The next Session meeting will be on October 14.
Sara Pettijohn, Clerk

- ◆ The nominating committee has recommended Shirley Lett, Patricia Hart and Donald Engelke for consideration by the congregation as elders.
- ◆ The annual review for Pastor Carl has been completed and submitted to the Presbytery. A review of the church finances is planned to occur in August or September.

Carl Menyhart, Personnel

Thank You



The members of our church are all special, caring and thoughtful. I would however, like to extend special praise and thanks to Laquita Arner, Evelyn Thompson, and Sara Pettijohn for the work in preparing, orchestrating, and the cleaning involved with the social events. There is a lot of work involved in accomplishing these outstanding activities, whether for the coffee on Sunday Mornings or the Sunday socials. Thanks to all who make the events successful!

May God Bless our church!

Respectfully, Joyce Goza

Back-to-School Dinner

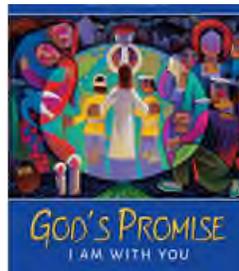
This annual dinner is sponsored by the Seekers Bible Class for everyone. It is a time of church fellowship at the end of summer in anticipation of resuming our regular schedule in the Fall. A sign-up sheet will be available each Sunday in August.

Mark this date on your calendar and join us for a time of fun, food and fellowship: **Thursday, August 30 - 6:00 p.m.**

Horizon Bible Study

The Horizon Bible Study, "God's Promise: I Am with You" continues on Thursdays through August. This women's group meets at the church at noon Thursdays for a light lunch and a discussion. Pat is coordinating and can be contacted at:

512-876-4211 or
pacrehm2017@gmail.com.



Mr. and Mrs. John Michael

**Married 7/28/18
At Presbyterian
Church of Salado**



**Pastor Carl Thompson receives a new member,
Charlotte Carl (Carl's Mother-in-law) 7/15/18**

All About Love



Linda, Ralph, & Lutie

I watched an interview recently about a man who says that he met God while he was in the operating room. The meeting changed his whole life. And he is quick to tell you that “the purpose (meaning) of life. “It’s all about love.”

I was reminded of him when I sat down to write this note of thanks to all of you, our church family, for your prayers and the love you have shown to Ralph and me since his father’s passing.

Some came to the visitation, some brought food, some called, some sent beautiful cards with messages of love and condolence, including a wonderful card containing a beautiful handmade cross.

We cannot begin to tell you how much we appreciate each one of you for everything you have done, but most of all for your constant prayers and support during this time of grief and loss.

May God richly bless you.

Isaiah 26:19) *“But those who die in the Lord will live; their bodies will rise again. Those who sleep in the earth will rise again and they will sing for joy.”*

This is the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to the Lord God Almighty.

From Ralph, Linda, and the Pastor Family

Fifth Sunday Celebration - July 29, 2018

To celebrate July having a “Fifth” Sunday, Aline Wilson and Dow Ferguson presented a musical program. Aline plays solo hand bells and Dow accompanies with his guitar. It’s very pretty and amazing how she can play the bells by memory. What a special service!



My Favorite Three Bible Verses (and why) -Pete Stebbins



First-

Many years ago, when I was but eight years old, a rather significant event took place in my life. Five, 8 to 12 year old boys were playing in the woods behind our home in the early summer. I was eight and not the leader, and more of a by-stander. The older boys decided to burn some of the poison ivy – with gasoline. The process was to pour some out in a line on the ground then light one end. It was so thrilling to see it flare from one end to the other.

The “significant” part of the event occurred when the small container (orange juice concentrate can) of gas was left at the end of the pour line. As the gas was lit again the gas flared from one end to the other and started burning off the top of the can. Still no problem – until in the excitement, one of the kids kicked the burning can -- on me!

This “event” caused some 65% third degree burns, 7 grafting operations, 3 months in a burn unit, and four months of continued slow recovery. (The prognosis to live started out at only 50/50.)

My mother (a committed Christian) spent much time with me during the long hospital stay. She frequently recited the verse: **Rom 8:28 “And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”** I admit that I was not really sure how my situation was ever going to turn out “good.”

It took time, but as I healed and started a swimming rehabilitation program, my life began to return to normal.



A couple of years later my parents pushed me into trying competitive swimming. I was good, worked my way through the Kansas City age group competition, and finally ended up with a scholarship to the University of Kansas and co-captain of the swimming team.

The burns, then rehab, then competitive swimming had led me to two college degrees. As I look back, I see how God had a plan that would develop me into a different kind of person with determination, compassion and an innate understanding of His love. Other events in my life have continued to reinforce the fact that God loves me and at time provides “trials”. These have always caused me to grow in my faith and “**caused everything to work together for the good...**”

Second-

Later in life, as I approached my mid-fifties, another significant event occurred in my life. Unexpectedly, my urologist discovered that I had a pituitary tumor that was affecting all hormone functions and peripheral vision. I was referred to a neurosurgeon and within weeks had a brain surgery that removed the tumor. The bad news was that nine months later, in what I supposed would be a routine check-up, the tumor had regrown. I was in a quandary

as to the significance of this discovery and what to do next. My calculations as to the predicted growth of this tumor during the six month wait for the next check-up --suggested that the tumor would be 50% larger than initially.

At the time, I recalled a Bible verse in **Luke 11:9-11 “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”**

I proactively started asking lots of questions, looked in lots of places, and physically visited other doctors to determine medical direction. As I cross-referenced lists of pituitary guru’s, I found a Dr. Edward Laws at the University of Virginia Medical School. He successfully performed the second surgery using the latest techniques. I have now been tumor free (but also pituitary free and have lost function of five hormones) for eighteen years. This verse in Luke told me to be persistent and that an answer would be provided to me!

Third-

The final event and verse came about just three years ago. I was having my “other” hip replaced. The first seven days after surgery were normal with me walking around and starting to get back into my normal routine, **BUT THEN...** I had an infection... 17 days in the hospital for two additional hip replacements... a blood clot.... six weeks on antibiotics... another hip replacement.... another infection... more antibiotics... another hip replacement... another infection.... another hip replacement... more antibiotics including IV antibiotics and a six week stay in a rehab “prison.”



I felt poorly, couldn’t walk, was alone, depressed, away from friends, away from my home, developed an opioid addiction, and had little confidence in my surgeon. I was however, dedicated to a “read the Bible in a year” program. I came across this verse in **Isaiah 41:10 “Don’t be afraid, for I am with you. Don’t be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”** This meant a great deal to me during those long sleepless nights.



What lays ahead for me? Who knows? However, I am assured that God and His Word will be with me.

July 29 - "Men's" Social

The men of the church hosted this Social.
Below are a few of the "Hosts".



Again, the Men
Provided an abundance of food.



Edrie
& Don
Chiles



June & Steve
Lubowinski