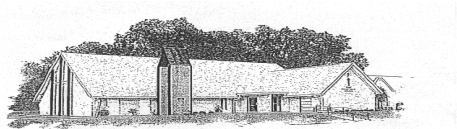




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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

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Issue Seven

The Beginning of Wisdom

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. God’s praise endures forever.” Psalm 111:10

A few years ago I began adding something new to my prayers every evening. Instead of asking for things to work out the way I wanted, or for nothing to go wrong, I began to pray instead for wisdom. That one small change to my prayer life has made a tremendous difference in my life.

Back then I had been reading the story of Solomon in Scripture, and I had been struck that when God asked Solomon what he wanted, he hadn’t asked for wealth, or power, or success. Instead, he just wanted wisdom. And, Scripture tells us, God was so impressed with Solomon’s request that God gave him all the things he hadn’t asked for as well.

In the Serenity Prayer we pray for the “serenity to accept the things we cannot change, courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference.” It’s that last line that’s the kicker. Knowing what we can change, and what we cannot, is crucial to our spiritual life. Wisdom helps us to decide between acceptance, and action. It either moves us to peace, or prods us to change the world.

The Psalm tells us that wisdom is rooted in the “fear of the Lord.” We’re not talking about the kind of fear here that makes us cower from God’s judgment. Instead, it’s a kind of awe that opens our soul up to something greater than we could ever imagine. When we turn to face God, and find ourselves unable to comprehend the magnitude of what we encounter, that’s when we realize that we could never ask for any gift as profound as wisdom.

I do not think that I am wise. Not yet, at least. But I do believe that my path has become clearer these past years. I know a little more about what I’m supposed to do in my day to day life. At the end of the day, that’s possibly the greatest gift that prayer has ever given to me.

Prayer: God, if I may only have one thing, then please grant me wisdom. Amen

Emily C. Heath, *Still Speaking* Daily Devotional, January 26, 2018

The Communications Team

Vacation Bible School

FPC is working with First Christian and St. Matthews Episcopal Churches again this year to provide Vacation Bible School for ages Pre-K through 5th grade. This fun-filled, Bible-based VBS program will be held at First Christian Church, which is located at 306 N. Main St., Sunday, July 15th through Wednesday, July 18th, 6:00-8:15p.m.

Anyone who would like to help or would like more information, please call Lacy Weaver, coordinator, at 903-646-2175. Thank you!

Bert Lowe, Chair
Christian Education

DUTY ELDER FOR THE MONTH OF JULY:
Bill Stanley

Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:

Members of the Congregation: Debbie Castro, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, Jan Mims, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, Bob Schauwecker, Patsy Snelgrove, Kay Warren, Sue Williams, Session, PNC, and Congregation of our church during this transition time

Connected Family: Billy Tapley (Bert's brother)

For all who need our prayers

Prayer Request



HELP US TO LET PEOPLE KNOW WE ARE HERE! LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HENDERSON, TX.



Did You Know?

Did you know that there are shocking facts about plastic? The June 2018 edition of *National Geographic* entitled "Planet or Plastic" describes a very shocking situation of plastic pollution in our world. Ten facts are listed below:

1. More than five trillion pieces of plastic are already floating in our oceans.
2. Worldwide, 73 percent of beach litter is plastic: filters from cigarette butts, bottles, bottle caps, food wrappers, grocery bags, and polystyrene containers.
3. World plastic production has increased exponentially from 2.3 million tons in 1950 to 162 million in 1993 to 448 million by 2015.
4. By 2050, virtually every seabird species on the planet will be eating plastic.
5. As of 2015, more than 6.9 billion tons of plastic waste had been generated. Around 9 percent of that was recycled, 12 percent was incinerated, and 79 percent accumulated in landfills or environment.
6. Around the world, nearly a million plastic beverage bottles are sold every minute.
7. Estimates for how long plastic endures range from 450 years to forever.
8. The largest market for plastics today is packaging materials. That trash now accounts for nearly half of all plastic waste generated globally—most of it never gets recycled or incinerated.
9. Some 700 species of marine animals have been reported so far to have eaten or become entangled in plastic.
10. More than 40 percent of plastic is used just once, then tossed.

We can all work together on this problem by recycling all our plastic and using a lot less.

The Christian Education Green Team



WORSHIP

Your Worship Team met on June 3, 2018 and finalized plans for a Hymn Sing on June 10, 2018 during our regular worship time. When the time came, everyone enjoyed a great time of singing: there were duets, solos, anthems, and a wonderful congregational singing with many favorite hymns highlighted, along with scripture readings and prayers. We thank everyone who added their voices filled with joy to the occasion and will seek to plan another service in the near future.

We are still addressing concerns with our microphones for worship. Some members are still unable to hear. We hope to be able to correct any problems soon.

Holy Communion will be served twice in July, as we will have Rev. Julie Riley from Irving, Texas, on July 1st, and Rev. Lynette Solomon from Athens, Texas, on July 29th. Therefore, there will not be a communion service in August. But, we will have a special treat on August 12th as a former member, Rev. Shelley Wiley will serve us and bring God's message to us. Shelley was ordained in First Presbyterian Church, Henderson. Jonathan Murray will join with us on September 2, 2018, and we hope to celebrate both these services with a congregational meal, so we can visit longer. Keep these items in mind as we plan for the next few months at FPC, Henderson. We are a blessed congregation!



Worship Committee



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Members of the adult Andrews Bible class, led by Jimmy Chapman, expect to complete their study of 2 and 3 John and Jude by the end of summer.

The Seekers class are nearing the end of their study of *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton, founding pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City. The Seekers have found this book to be clear, straightforward, and very helpful. We are reminded that the Bible is the world's bestselling, most-read and most-loved book—and also one of the most confusing.

The Christian Education (CE) Ministry Team is making plans for a New Members Class, which will be open to all who would like to learn more about what it means to be a Presbyterian—and a member of First Presbyterian Church-Henderson in particular.

Please contact any of our CE Team members with questions you might have about your personal Christian educational needs. May we learn and grow together toward the goal of being true disciples of Christ.

THANK YOU!

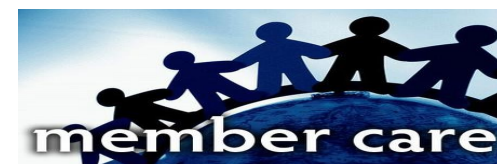
CE Team Members:

Jimmy Chapman,
Rev. Tolbert Dill, Kathy Porter,
Claudia Morgan-Gray,
and Bert Lowe, Chair



As we remember and celebrate Independence Day, let us also remember our church members and neighbors that have lost some of their independence because of physical challenges. It is hard to become dependent on someone else, even for the smallest challenges. Please try to take a little time pray for, and reach out to offer some assistance and companionship.

Have a blessed July!



OUTREACH

We reach out with open hearts and open arms to all!

Our Outreach programs primarily include:

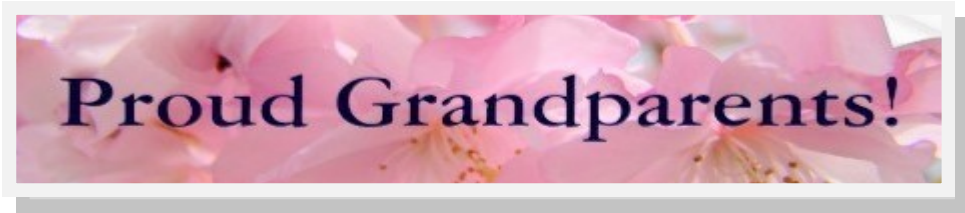
Church neighborhood activities, such as Adopt-A-Block, Improve-A-Block, and our Annual Neighborhood Party in the fall.

Meals on Wheels: On Fridays, six to eight volunteers from our church and a dear friend from a neighboring church go 2 by 2 to deliver meals on wheels to shut-ins.

The FPC Outreach Team—Jan Mims, Claudia Morgan-Gray, Mariella Pennal, Jan Pennal, Kathy Porter and Bert Lowe, Chair—would be delighted to have you join us as we seek to reach out in many areas of service inside and outside our church doors.

Thank you!

Your Outreach Committee



Pat and Tom Laney traveled to the graduations of three grandsons in May. The first was Benjamin (Ben) Thomas Laney from Texas A&M. He will begin Texas Tech Law School this fall. William (Will) Harry Rever graduated from Texas Tech the next weekend and is beginning his business career in Dallas. On the third weekend, Samuel (Sam) Park Laney graduated from Amarillo High School as Salutatorian. He has accepted an appointment to the Naval Academy and leaves this week for Annapolis, MD, to begin training.

We give thanks for God's grace and guidance for them through these formative years.

Pat & Tom

July

2018

****Note: Church Office Closed July 4th**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>Communion</i> <i>Bring H.I.M. Donations</i>	2	3 <i>Choir Practice 6:00pm</i> Chase Davis	4 	5	6 <i>Meals On Wheels</i>	7
8	9 Jon Nicholson	10 <i>Choir Practice 6:00pm</i>	11 <i>PNC Meeting 5:30pm</i>	12	13 <i>Meals On Wheels</i>	14
15	16	17 <i>Choir Practice 6:00pm</i>	18 <i>PNC Meeting 5:30pm</i> John Tieken	19 <i>Session Meeting 6:30pm</i> Steve Lowe	20 <i>Meals On Wheels</i> Carolyn Boren	21 Gabby Miller
22	23 <i>Pipeline Deadline</i> Jan Pennal Bob Schauwecker	24 <i>Choir Practice 6:00pm</i>	25 <i>PNC Meeting 5:30pm</i> Linda Davis	26 <i>L.E.A.N. Meeting 2:00pm</i>	27 <i>Meals On Wheels</i> Jimmy Chapman	28
29 <i>Communion</i>	30	31 <i>Choir Practice 6:00pm</i>				
<p>***Reminder*** <i>Bring H.I.M. donations the First Sunday of every month</i></p>						