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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH P. O. BOX 773 HENDERSON, TEXAS 75653-0773



# EARTH CIRE CONCREGATIONS

# THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HENDERSON, TEXAS

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Issue Eleven

Thanks

#### Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

The Heidelberg Catechism says that belief in the providence of God makes it possible for us to be "thankful when things go well" and "patient when things go against us." So sometimes we are thankful, and sometimes we are patient. Paul sums things up this way. He says it is God's will for us to be thankful "in all circumstances." Really? Well, it may help to note that Paul is not saying we should be thankful for all circumstances but in them. When things seem to go against us, I think God expects us to be grateful that his hand holds us and helps us to endure under the strain. That's a big challenge—to look for reasons to be thankful when the going is tough. Sometimes it can be equally difficult for us to be thankful when things are going well. We might not think it would be that way. After all, when things go well, we have so much to be grateful for. But the very nature of human beings, even if we are Christian, is to overlook the crowd of God's good gifts to us every day. Let me suggest that today you sit still where you are and exercise the gift of noticing. Notice what you see, what you have, and who is with you. Notice the color, beauty, and variety around you. Keep noticing and make a list of the gifts you notice. Then give thanks to God, the great giver!

## Prayer

O Great Creator and Giver of all gifts give us today the great gift of being able to notice all your gifts. Open our hearts to a spirit of thanksgiving, we pray. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Rev. Howard Vanderwell, Today, Daily Devotion, November 24, 2005

Due to the Hurricanes and severe weather all around and as we near the holiday season when the demand increases, we at FPC- Henderson encourage you to be a blood donor. Sign up to give today!





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

# Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:

<u>Members of the Congregation</u>: Carolyn Boren, Debbie Castro, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, 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)

All who need our prayers





# *"Great Relationships have two qualities to them:* 1<sup>st</sup> – the ability to appreciate the similarities; 2<sup>nd</sup> – the ability to respect the differences"

We are nearing the holiday season and have some fellowship events we'd like you to put on your calendars to "save the dates" in hopes that you'll be able to come and share time with us.

As in the recent past, the Fellowship Committee will be working hand-in-hand with the Finance Committee on the Annual Stewardship Luncheon that is scheduled for **Sunday, November 18**<sup>th</sup> following service. Tom Weaver and his Committee members have planned a wonderful catered meal for this event. For that added "home cooked" feel, the Fellowship Committee will be providing the ambiance and desserts. We will share a meal together and hear updates from the sitting Elders on accomplishments of the past year and goals for the coming year. A "state of the church" so to speak.

Please also mark **Sunday**, **December 9th**<sup>th</sup> for our **Annual Christmas Lunch**. This potluck tradition will begin after service. The Fellowship Committee will be providing the entrée/meat dish for this event and each of you will bring your favorite (or our favorite) potluck dish. We have so many good cooks in our congregation and circle of friends that it is always exciting to see and sample the dishes brought to share.

As always, remember that FELLOWSHIP MATTERS!

FPC Fellowship Team: Claudia Morgan-Gray, Mary Lowe, Jan Mims, Katie Hurst, Lavonne Schauwecker, Bob Schauwecker, Judy Andrasko, Cindy Ratliff, and Weldon Gray

# **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

A quorum of Kathy Porter, Claudia Morgan-Gray, and Bert Lowe of the Christian Education Committee met in the fellowship hall at 11:30am on Tuesday, October 9, 2018, to approve the 2019 CE budget. Jimmy Chapman approved the budget in absentia.

Jimmy has graciously agreed to lead an Advent class for the combined adult classes this year. He has asked the CE Committee to recommend Advent curricula for his review and consideration.

Jimmy reported that the Andrews Class has finished their study of five of the smaller books of the New Testament (John 1-3 and Timothy 1 and 2). The Seekers Class is studying Adam Hamilton's book, Unafraid, Living with Courage in Uncertain Times. It is an excellent, timely study.

Join either class on Sunday mornings at 9:45am for spiritual nourishment.

Bert, CE Chair

# **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

The Outreach committee met Tuesday, October 9, 2018, in the fellowship hall at 9:30am to make plans for our church's Fall Fest & Neighborhood Reception on Saturday, October 27, 2018, from 2:00 – 3:30pm. Claudia Morgan-Gray, Jan Mims, Kathy Porter, Jan Pennal, and Bert Lowe, chair, were present.

Assignments were made for refreshments, registration of guests, fall decorations, and goals for the reception to honor our neighbors and for us all to get to know each other better. Our major goal is to plant seeds of friendship-to become "One in the Spirit."

Bert Lowe, Outreach Chair



CHRIST

# **Council Actions**

#### October 18, 2018

- Prayed and worshiped together
- Called Congregational Meeting for November 18 to elect elders and hold the Annual Congregational meeting
- Heard the financial status of the church
- Reviewed serving home communion
- Heard report from commissioner to Grace Presbytery meeting
- Heard report of monies spent at the Humanitarian Respite Center, McAllen
- Voted to invite police to discuss church security after worship on November 11
- Discussed security alarm for narthex
- Voted to display Last Supper picture on the wall in the Fellowship Hall



As we have shared with the congregation, the Session has been looking into and making small but significant changes to help with and address some safety issues for our church and congregation. Several Elders have attended active shooter trainings and we have implemented a few changes including use of the front door only for entrance into the church on Sundays.

We have now made arrangements to have the Deputy Chief of Police Kenny Byrd of the Henderson Police Department come and make a safety presentation to our entire congregation and other friends of FPC. This important presentation is scheduled for after church service on <u>Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup></u> immediately following church service. We will be providing lunch too.

A good portion of the presentation is geared and some material specific to an active shooter incident. The material that will be included is a presentation is called "CRASE" – which stands for <u>Civilian Response Active Shooter Event</u>. However, Deputy Chief Byrd will also cover information to help all of us be more aware and more accustomed to being aware of our surroundings no matter where we are.

We will begin the presentation in the Fellowship Hall and then move to the sanctuary for a more specific "what to do" action plan. Typically, the presentation is a little over an hour and then Q&A time. Deputy Chief Byrd indicated they have done this type of presentation for many of the churches in Henderson. This will be important and well spent time. We do hope you will all plan to attend. As we are providing food for this event, we need an accurate headcount for planning purposes. Please let Claudia Morgan-Gray know if you will be attending. Her number is 903-646-0506 or you can email <u>claudiam@tstci.org</u>.

## **Did You Know?**

Did you know that we are in the midst of global climate change? You ask "How do we know?" The earth's climate has changed throughout history and most of these climate changes are attributed to very small variations in earth's orbit that change the amount of solar energy our planet receives.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change states that scientific evidence for warming of the climate system is unequivocal. Ninety-seven percent of climate scientists agree that climate-warming trends over the past century are very likely due to human activities. The current warming trend is proceeding at a rate that is unprecedented over decades to millennia. Earth-orbiting satellites and other technological advances have enabled scientists to see the big picture, collecting many different types of information about our planet and its climate on a global scale. This body of data, collected over many years, reveal the signals of a changing climate. The heat-trapping nature of carbon dioxide and other gases was demonstrated in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Their ability to affect the transfer of infrared energy through the atmosphere is the scientific basis of many instruments flown buy NASA. There is no question that increased levels of greenhouse gases must cause the earth to warm in response. Ice cores drawn from Greenland, Antarctica, and tropical mountain glaciers show that the earth's climate responds to changes in greenhouse gas levels. Ancient evidence can also be found in tree rings, ocean sediments, coral reefs, and layers of sedimentary rocks. This ancient evidence reveals that current warming is occurring roughly ten times faster than the average rate of ice-age recovery warming.

The evidence for rapid climate change is compelling:

- Rising global temperature
- Warming oceans
- Shrinking ice sheets
- Retreating glaciers
- Decreasing spring snow cover and earlier melting snows
- Rising sea levels
- Declining Artic sea ice
- Increasing ocean acidification of 30 per cent since the beginning of Industrial Revolution
- Recurring extreme events—number of recorded high temperatures increasing and number of record low temperatures have been decreasing

To read more about Global Climate Change from NASA please go to <u>https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence</u>.

You can do something by simply recycling!

The C E Green Team



# **STEWARDSHIP FINANCE**

Our team members consist of Bill Stanley (Co-Chair), Carol Scoggins, Steve Lowe and Tom Weaver (Chair). The committee met on September 12, 2018 with all members present except Steve Lowe. After reviewing our church's finances through the first eight months of 2018, I am happy to report that things continue to look good. We are ahead for our budgeted income and below budget for our expenses. It was noted that our working budget does not include compensation for a Pastor.

The committee reviewed the church's property and liability insurance coverage for the period September 19, 2018 to September 19, 2019. It was noted that our property insurance went up \$474 due to property insurance rates going up 15% in Texas. The committee also approved our team's 2019 goals.

The committee discussed this year's stewardship campaign including a timetable of events. After much discussion, it was determined to continue a transitional campaign theme since we are still without a Pastor and we continue to bridge the gap until we have one. We set a tentative date of November 18<sup>th</sup> for our stewardship lunch. At the lunch, we will hand out the 2019 pledge cards and will request the cards be turned in by December 7th. Also, each committee chair will be expected to discuss their committees 2018 activities along with what they expect for 2019.

Peace and thankfulness, Tom Weaver, Chair



Please join	ase join us in welcoming to our pulpit for the month of November:					
Nov. 4th Preaching:	Rev. Charlie Hornes`					
Nov. 11th Preaching:	Rev. Dr. Jimmie Reese					
Nov. 18th Preaching:	Rev. Charlie Hornes`					
Nov. 25th Preaching:	Rev. David Reeder					

## WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Team is busy as usual preparing for the New Church Year and upcoming celebrations in the life of Christ's church.

Reformation Sunday is October 28<sup>th</sup>. Reformers John Calvin and John Knox met in Geneva, Switzerland in the mid-sixteenth century with other reformers. Calvin's emphasis on placing full trust in God, as opposed to any earthly ruler, aimed to infuse Genevan life with gratitude and faith. For both Knox and Calvin, growing in trust of God and love for God enlarged a community's ability to respond to God's call to love and service. Both these men helped in the formation of the Presbyterian denomination at the time of the Protestant Reformation. We celebrate the Protestant Reformation on the last Sunday in October in connection with Martin Luther's nailing of his "95 Theses" (disputes on indulgencies of the church) on the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517.

All Saints' Day is November 1<sup>st</sup> and will be celebrated on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. We invite the congregation to remember and recognize loved ones that we have lost this past year. During our service on the 4<sup>th</sup>, we will acknowledge them. If you have questions, please call Lynn at (903) 836-2418. Communion will also be served on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Please prepare your hearts and minds for this service, and remember our commitment of food items for Henderson Interchurch Ministry. We will recognize Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, with pictures of those we know who have served or are serving in the military.

The Worship Team is considering changes to our bulletin in upcoming months, hoping to make it more user friendly and informative.

The first Sunday of Advent, which is the beginning of a new Church (Ecclesiastical) Year is December 2, 2018. During this season we ready ourselves for the birth of Jesus Christ, and (2) prepare for his coming again in glory to judge "both the quick and the dead". The paraments will change from green to blue, and the Advent Candle Wreath will be present. Lessons and Carols service will be Dec. 23, 2018.

Your Worship Team consists of Jimmy Chapman, Kathy Porter, Kelly Weaver, Cindy Ratliff, Margaret Hillin, Jan Mims, and Lynn Tieken, Chair, with special input from Joshua Allen, organist and choir director. We are proud to serve you!



World Communion Sunday





Bert Lowe sang "His eyes Are On the Sparrow" at the Hymn Sing at FPC Longview on Sept. 30!

# Travis & Briar ringing the bell!



\*\*\*\***Reminder**\*\*\*\* Bring H.I.M. donations the First Sunday of every month

# NOVEMBER 2018

			A CARLEN SA AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2 Meals On Wheels	3
				Mitch Hillin		Lsha Stanley
4 Communion	5	6	7	8	9	10
Welcome to our pulpit Rev. Charlie Hornes` Safety Presentation @ Noon	Deadline for HIM Thanksgiving Drive	Choir Practice 6:00pm	PNC Meeting 5:30pm		Meals On Wheels	Syrup Festival
Daylight Savings End Suzanne Cross		Election Day				
11 Welcome to our pulpit Rev. Dr. Jimmie Reese Worship Team Meeting following service Veteran's Day	12	13 Choir Practice 6:00pm	14 PNC Meeting 5:30pm Kelly Weaver	15 L.E.A.N. Meeting 2:00pm Session Meeting 6:30pm	16 Meals On Wheels	17
18 Welcome to our pulpit Rev. Charlie Hornes` Angel Tree Drive Begins HIM Gift Basket Drive Begins Stewardship Luncheon Mary Ann Chapman	19 Debbie Wasson	20 Choir Practice 6:00pm	21 PNC Meeting 5:30pm	22 THANKSGIVING Church O	23 <i>Meals On Wheels</i> Patricia Price <i>ffice Closed</i>	24
25 Welcome to our pulpit Rev. David Reeder Joy Gift Offering Begins Christ the King Sunday Bob Ratliff	26 Pipeline Deadline	27 Choir Practice 6:00pm	28 PNC Meeting 5:30pm	29 Henderson Christmas Parade 6:30pm Christmas Tree Lighting 6:00pm Delbert Gray	30 Meals On Wheels	