



Support Us Through AmazonSmile



*“Serving God, Honoring Creation,  
Embracing Differences”*

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



# THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HENDERSON, TEXAS

Volume 51

November, 2019

Issue Eleven

## Thoughts on All Saints

On All Saints’ Day, we tend to reflect on those who have died who closely shaped our lives. Outside of my family, I can think of two men who contributed particular attributes to who I am today. I will always admire Richard Stathem, who was one of my first yoga instructors, and television’s Mister Rogers.

Mister Fred Rogers has been getting a good deal of media attention recently, due to the release of his bio-pic. From the singing of the opening song, “It’s a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,” he was positive, cheerful, and inviting. Of course I wanted to be his neighbor! The way he looked directly at the camera made it feel like he was talking directly to all the boys and girls in TV land. He spoke calmly and thoughtfully. It was okay to be frightened and sad or even excited. He made controversial loving choices without making them seem like they were challenging at all. Engaging curiosity was encouraged! He would go to observe someone playing the tuba, for example. Fred would ask questions, and then ask if he could try it himself! It was okay to experiment, no matter how the experiment turned out. Mister Rogers recognized that others have feelings, just like I do. He helped broaden my young world with gentleness and compassion. It was only later that I learned he was a Presbyterian minister.

Richard Stathem became a calming influence later in my life. Around the time I turned 30, my therapist suggested I try his drop-in class. Yogi Rik, as he liked to be called, wore a white, loose-fitting karate-style shirt and pants. He made the practice feel more like mindful discipline than exercise. It was held in an Episcopal sanctuary that the church had outgrown. It was emptied of pews, with stone walls and ornate stained-glass windows. Using candlelight, incense, and soft music to set the tone, Richard would lead through more than an hour of practice slowly and methodically. Sometimes the class would be full with forty or so people of all ages quietly breathing and moving on towels and mats. Other times there would only be a few dedicated souls, but Richard was always there. He would verbally guide our bodies to move and breathe. He would invite us to “Just notice, just this.” Without being critical of what our bodies could or couldn’t do, reaching towards the feet, not necessarily touching your feet, just notice. In the long days of summer the sun would set, changing the light through the icons in the glass, and I would just notice. In the winter it would be dark when class began, allowing the glow of the candles to take over the space, and I would just notice.

Learning from Yogi Rik and Mr. Rogers brought me gifts of peacefulness and encouragement. In a loud and chaotic world, they inhabited unique thoughtful places. My life is enriched for spending time with them.

I hope you can take some time to reflect on the great cloud of witnesses and loved ones who have encouraged you on your way.

Rev Michele



## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Please plan to join us for lunch on November 24th after worship. This will be our Thanksgiving/Stewardship/Congregational Meeting and lunch will be provided by your Stewardship Committee. We have so much to be thankful for and it is such a joy to celebrate God's love and blessings with you.

The Stewardship Committee will soon be mailing a letter to members concerning pledge requests for 2020. There will be a pledge card included with the letter and we ask that you prayerfully consider your commitment to FPC Henderson and its future. The Book of Order states, "Those who follow the discipline of Christian stewardship will find themselves called to lives of simplicity, generosity, honesty, hospitality, compassion, receptivity, and concern for the earth and God's creatures."

To God be the Glory,  
Your Finance/Stewardship Committee

### Council Actions October 17, 2019

- **Worshiped and prayed together**
- **Received committee budget requests for 2020**
- **Reviewed the pastor's evaluation for 2019**
- **Received a request for transfer of membership from Stanleys**
- **Received the Church Officer Nominating Committee report**
- **Made an amendment to Annual Financial Review section of Operations Manual**
- **Made an amendment to Personnel section of Operations Manual**



We have received memorials in October in memory of:

Jack Gray



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



Rev. Michele participated in worship at the Grace Presbytery Meeting at First Presbyterian Church in Tyler on September 28, 2019.



The six from FPC Henderson who traveled to McAllen last February were invited to the Wednesday Night Live at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Longview to tell of their experiences at the border.



Wonderful worship on this World Communion Sunday.

Great fellowship and memories at our "See You Later" luncheon for our beloved members who have moved.



## Philosophy of Christian Education

Informing \* Transforming \* Conforming

The Christian Education (CE) Team invites you to join us in a joint combined Advent Study class beginning December 1<sup>st</sup>. Initially, we will meet in the parlor at the traditional 9:45 am Sunday School time. The joint study will be following Mary Lou Reddings, "While We Wait." As described, the book shares ways for us to connect with our own faith questions and our thoughts and traditions of Christmas. We will also look at some biblical figures that we don't normally focus on during Advent including Tamar, Ruth, Mary, Zechariah, Elizabeth, and the Magi.

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Committee has changed its monthly meeting time to the first Wednesday of every month at 10:00 am in the parlor. If you are interested in participating with us, please feel free to attend.

The CE Team

## Thankful

Welcoming November with touches of brisk air and fireplace smells in the air. Thankful for this and much more.

November is the month for the annual Stewardship Luncheon – so mark your calendar to attend this wonderful (meal-provided) event. In addition to hearing all that the church, session and committees have done over the last year, we will also get insight into the coming year's activities and opportunities. Please plan to attend.

Another opportunity to fellowship with some of us is the monthly Theology on Tap in Longview. It is held on the first Tuesday of each month. Hope you will consider joining us for November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Oil Horse Brewing Company. If you would like to go with someone or follow someone, please let Kathy, Claudia or Rev. Michele know.

We hope that the season of Thanksgiving will be with you during this month and always. Wishing you and yours a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.

And remember, if you can't find kindness in this world, then make and give some kindness of your own!

Your Fellowship Committee

All Saint's Day is November 1<sup>st</sup>, and will be observed at FPC, Henderson on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will acknowledge and celebrate the lives of loved ones who have died in the faith this past year, and include members of the neighborhood around the church. We will meet at the bell tower before our service and call out the names, ringing the bell after each name is called. If you are unable to attend, please make known to Pastor Michele your preferences to be acknowledged.

To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time.

We give glory to God for the ordinary, holy lives of the believers in this and every age. We also pray that we may be counted among the company of the faithful in God's eternal realm.

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, we will again honor our military veterans by displaying photos of church/family members who have served or are serving our country, in the Narthex, as Veterans Day is November 11<sup>th</sup>, which marks the 101<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the end of the fighting in World War I. Though so thankful to God for all who have served in the armed forces, and for the freedom that their sacrifice and their family's sacrifice has earned, we pray for the day when no one needs to serve in the military. Help us to live now in anticipation of that day, as people who long for peace, who pray for peace, and who seek to be peacemakers in this world.

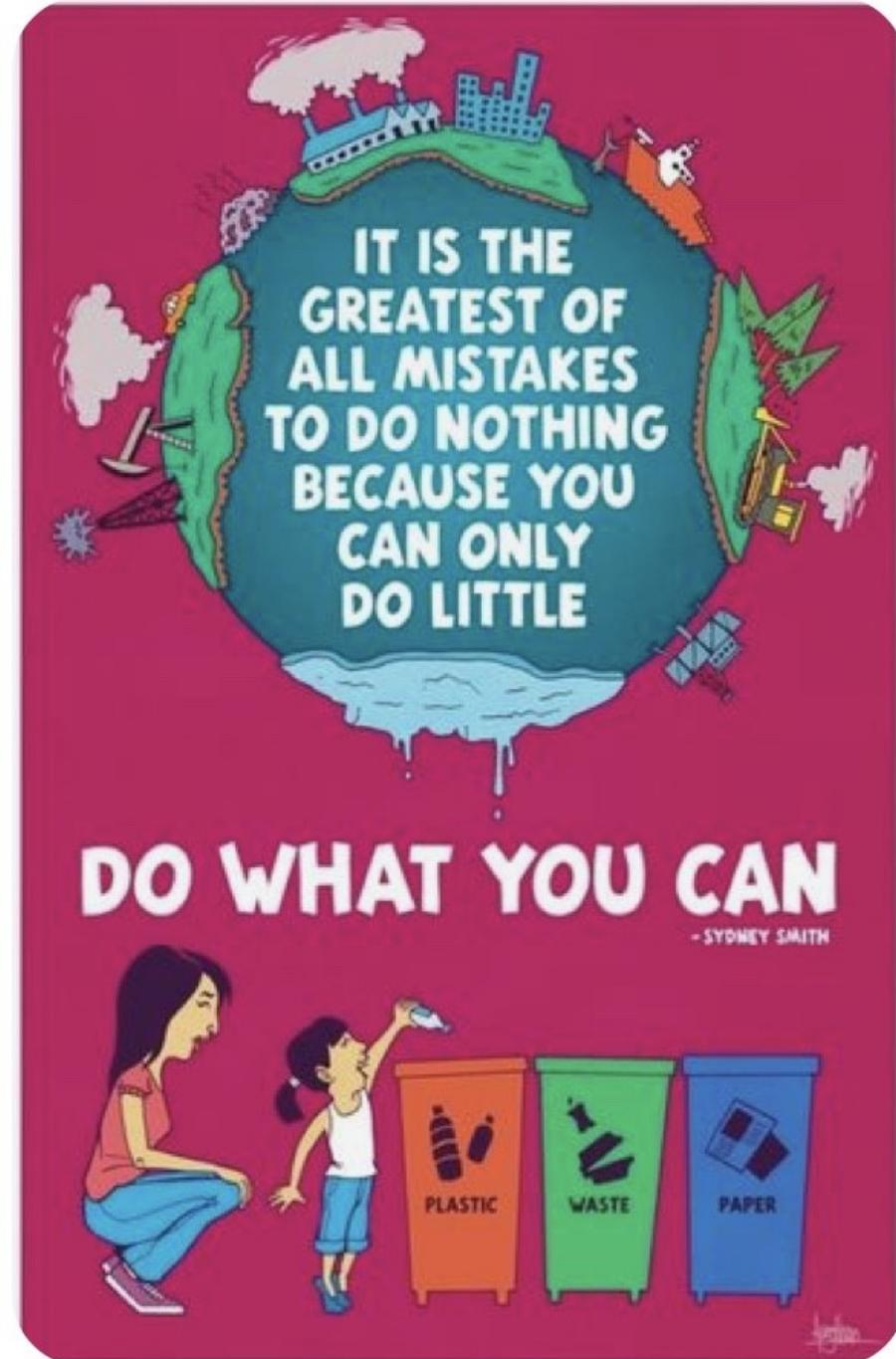
As we plan for Advent and Christmas, Joshua is planning a Christmas program/concert to be held on Sunday evening, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. More about this in the next newsletter.

Happy Thanksgiving!!



Worship Committee

## DID YOU KNOW?



**God's Grace is within our Outreach**

As we continue our path as God's grace sharers, we will once again participate in the Henderson Interchurch Ministries (HIM) annual Thanksgiving Food Box drive. We collect food for HIM on a regular basis with our set collection time being the first Sunday of every month. This month, however, we ask that you select items that would help the families that are HIM recipients celebrate and enjoy some element of feast of Thanksgiving. The items they are requesting you consider for your participation in the Thanksgiving Food Box drive are:

- |  |                        |                  |
|--|------------------------|------------------|
| Chicken Broth                                | Green Beans            | Canned Yams      |
| Stuffing Mix                                 | Corn Bread Mix         | Instant Potatoes |
| Canned Milk (Evaporated/Sweetened Condensed) | Cranberry Sauce        |                  |
| Poultry Gravy Mix                            | Cream of Mushroom Soup |                  |



\*\*\*\*\*

In addition and to assist all of us in planning for some level of participation in the upcoming holiday projects that we assist with, please also consider the two upcoming Christmas projects:

**HIM Christmas Food Baskets** – we will have sign-up sheets in the narthex beginning early November so that you can purchase a food basket for \$7.00 per basket. HIM makes it easy for us to participate in this wonderful project as they do the purchasing and they put the boxes together for the deserving families. You can designate your purchase of a basket(s) in Honor Of or In Memory Of someone special. If you want to go ahead and sign-up for this project now, we will take your participation as early as the first Sunday in November. Make your check payable to FPC Henderson and in the memo line please add HIM Christmas Basket.

**The Rusk State Hospital Angel Adoption** – We will continue our tradition of adopting angels from the Rusk State Hospital. In early November, we will have the prepared list of requested and acceptable items for our gifts. This year, we are asking that you just purchase the items and bring them to the church, the Outreach Committee will put the bags together and get them delivered to the facility. To help us get a head start on this project and in an effort to spread out the “asks” for the season, please feel free to go ahead and make your purchases for this project as early as you'd like. We will keep the items until we put the gift bags together.

**DUTY ELDER FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:  
Claudia Morgan-Gray**

*Liturgists for November:*

- 11/03 Jimmy Chapman**
- 11/10 Steve Lowe**
- 11/17 Katie Hurst**
- 11/24 John Hillin**

*Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:*

**Members of the Congregation:** Judy Andrasko, Debbie Castro, Syble DeLoach, Joyce Huggins, Sue Williams, Lynn's sister Cathy, and John's brother Kenneth.

*All who need our prayers,* including: those impacted by the California wildfires, the tornadoes in North Texas, and Trawick Presbyterian Church in Nacogdoches County.



2019

# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>****Reminder****</b>  <b>Bring H.I.M. donations the First Sunday of every month</b></p>					1	2
<p>- Communion 3                      - Bring H.I.M. Donations                      - Daylight Savings Ends</p>	<p>4                      Home Communion Visits                      Suzanne Cross</p>	<p>Choir Practice 5                      6:00pm                      Theology on Tap in Longview 6:00pm</p>	<p>6                      10:00 am CE Mtg</p>	7	<p>8                      Meals On Wheels</p>	9
<p>10                      Worship Team Mtg.</p>	11	<p>12                      Choir Practice 6:00pm</p>	13	14	<p>15                      Meals On Wheels</p>	16
<p>17                      Member Care Mtg.</p>	<p>18                      MaryAnn Chapman</p>	<p>19                      Choir Practice 6:00pm                      Debbie Wasson</p>	20	<p>21                      L.E.A.N. Meeting 2:00pm                      Session Meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>22                      Meals On Wheels</p>	<p>23                      Patricia Price</p>
<p>24                      Stewardship Luncheon &amp; Congregational Mtg.</p>	<p>25                      Pipeline Deadline                      Bob Ratliff</p>	<p>26                      Choir Practice 6:00pm</p>	27	<p>28                      THANKSGIVING                      Church Offices Closed</p>	<p>29                      Church Offices Closed                      Delbert Gray</p>	30