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*"Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences"*

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# THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HENDERSON, TEXAS

Volume 52

June 2020

Issue Six

## God is more than Words

God created us with five senses, and yet many times when we reach out to our Maker, we do so with words. We pray verbally. We ask God for help or support in times of need. We try to be thankful, expressing words of gratitude. Sometimes we ask for guidance or seek for God to show us the way. We also sing praises, laments, and thanksgiving. As expressive and moving as our hymns and songs might be, these are another form of *verbal* communion with God.

But we have *five* senses! Beyond the *words* we speak or long to hear, we also experience life through sensations of taste, touch and smell. God is more than we can describe with words. Wouldn't it make sense if God communicated through our other senses too?

Begin exploring your surroundings with your eyes. Sit quietly and comfortably; take a few deep cleansing breaths, and just look around. Just look. Try to escape your critical eye and just observe. Maybe you are inside. Instead of noticing the need to vacuum, allow yourself to see the floor as it is. If there is dust or dirt or pet hair, just observe. Notice the textures of the room. Just look at the way light falls on the objects around you. Are there antiques? Is there a favorite picture or chair? Reflect on how this collection of things have come together. Maybe you are outside. What colors do you see? Is there a breeze rustling the leaves? Is it bright and sunny or overcast? Consider how alive everything is. Trees, birds, insects, even the soil has character. Reconnect with your breath, and give thanks to God. All of these observations are yours alone. All of these gifts, all of the insights and connections you have made come from your spirit connecting with the Spirit of God in the world.

At another time, repeat the process with your senses of smell and sound. It may help to keep your eyes gently closed. You may notice the peat of old leaves, or the wet smell of dew on the grass. You may notice the hint of soap from washing your hands. You might hear cars driving by, the hum of the air conditioner, or gentle snoring from your pet.

All of these sensations remind us that we are part of a world that is more than we can see. Our world is an interconnected web of life, sustained by God. Spend some time noticing creation through your senses, and you may discover something new about our Maker.

~Rev Michele

# Worship

Worship of our Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit continues in this tenuous “in between” time. We are thankful for Rev. Michele, Joshua, our Communication Team, the ever-loving people of First Presbyterian Church, Henderson, and other ardent believers throughout the world. We know that God is with us wherever we are and whatever our circumstances -- and we are comforted. We still look forward to the time when we can gather in person in fellowship and service and praise. Some took part in the Zoom fellowship on Friday, May 22nd, and we anticipate with joy the chance to gather for the Peek-A-Boo in the parking lot, Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to our Fellowship Team for putting this together. Seeing each other’s faces encourages us immensely. We pray that each will stay well and safe. In the “mean” time (*meantime = the time before something happens or before a specified period ends*), please tune into our Facebook page. You will find this a welcoming and connecting respite in this time of isolation. Virtual communion will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, (*wear Red*) and June 7<sup>th</sup>!

The greater Presbyterian Church, Grace Presbytery, as well as leaders at FPC, Henderson, continue to evaluate the best ways to go forward. Nothing is written in stone as the situation changes all the time. The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PC(USA), called on all churches to refrain from holding worship services on site in an effort to contain the virus. “These are truly trying times in our world today, in ways we’ve never experienced before,” he said. “We desire to fellowship and worship the Lord our God together as the body of Christ, but we also recognize the risk that a physical gathering places on the health of all we hold dear. We are walking this unknown road together. Sometimes we stumble, but with God’s help, we will never fall.”

As we stay the course, let us never forget the love and steadfastness of our Lord and Savior, and share that love especially with those who are less fortunate than us. I thank God for all of you and feel enormously blessed to have you as church family and friends.



*Ashley,  
Congratulations  
on your  
Graduation!*



## ***Our Members Remain in our Care***

Hello, it's us with love and care.

Our **Member Care** group has been engaged – we’ve help deliver prescriptions to some, we’ve help assist in response to falls, we’ve helped with transportation and support for doctor and urgent care visits, we’ve prayed for those experiencing sickness, for those experiencing loss and we’ve prayed and celebrated with those experiencing celebrations. Lots and lots of praying going on. We along with many in our congregation are becoming passionate telephone operators. Using the soothing sound of voice to help connect with our members. Our inability to connect in person for service and fellowship has not prevented us from continuing to connect with each other. In fact, a silver lining to this in-person isolation may be that we all have increased our communication with each other. We are checking up on and being checked up on more today perhaps than before March 2020. So, if you are one being called on a regular basis to see how you’re doing, we encourage you to pick up that phone or write a note to someone else and check in on them. Paying it forward it a wonderful thing to get and a wonderful thing to give. Try it.



If you know someone or are someone that needs or wants a little more assistance or attention at this time, please feel free to call Rev. Michele, Lynn Tieken, Jan Mims or any member of the Member Care Team.

**Thanks be to God for all of you!!**



## Christian Education

During World War II, the US Navy adopted a bright orange color for their inflatable life jackets. A color assigned then and now to evoke an essence of safety. You only have to look around at everyday interactions associated with the bright color of orange: construction cones warn us to slow down for work ahead; hunters don this bright safety color to let others know of their presence when hunting; and, jail and prison inmates are historically clothed in bright orange jumpsuits to help caution or make members of the community aware of their presence.

So it is no wonder why the color of bright, bold and vibrant orange is the color of choice for the gun safety awareness campaign. The month of June is set aside as National Gun Violence/Safety Awareness month. We as productive and participating members of this community ask you to join us in marking this important awareness by intentionally wearing orange throughout the month of June. In addition, we ask that you specifically wear orange on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> to continue to raise awareness about gun safety in our community. We, like you, are part of this community that support and teach gun safety and gun awareness to the elders and the youth of this area.

Please join us in wearing **ORANGE** for safety and awareness.

Christian Education team

## Music Notes

**Music**  
in the  
**Middle**

**Wednesdays @ 6PM**  
**Facebook Live**  
[facebook.com/PianoManJoshua](https://facebook.com/PianoManJoshua)

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Henderson, TX**  
Joshua Allen, Director of Music

## Our OUTREACH is still WITHIN reach

Our Outreach Committee met via Zoom on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and it was fun. While our way of conducting things is a bit different right now, we are still conducting things and this different isn't so bad! Try it, you may like it.

In a safe and social distancing kind of way, the Adopt A Block Team did do a neighborhood canvas on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We shared a door knock, a bar of soap and a note to let them know we continue to think and pray for our neighbors.



Thank you to all that contributed to our first Special Offering – One Great Hour of Sharing that we completed just after Easter. This year FPC Henderson will be contributing \$352.97 to this Special Offering. And, in a blink of an eye, we are now into our second Special Offering – Pentecost. While it is a bit more of a challenge, we have included in the email or snail mail versions of service information the bulletin inserts for this special offering. If you plan to participate in this offering, please send your contributions to our church so that we can send our offering to Pentecost together as a church. As you know, this special offering is directed toward helping children in need and young adults in their faith journeys. For this offering, FPC Henderson will get to keep 40% of our total offering to use in our own community for these needs.

Please also continue to help us support with our assistance the HIM ministry project. The need is great and our support is appreciated.

***Peace & Grace,***

***Claudia, Katie, Bert, Jan P., Jan M., Jimmy, John, Kathy, Lynn, Scott & Rev. Michele***



This is  
how our  
garden  
grows!



*Honorary gifts received in May were...*

*In Honor of*

◇ For Lynn T. on the Building and Grounds team  
from Geneva G.

*Please keep these dear ones in  
your prayers:*

*Prayer*   
Request

- ◇ For our home bound members:  
Sue, Debbie, Joyce, and Kay.
- ◇ For Judy, Bob & Cindy
- ◇ For those who are ill and at risk for the Flu and Coronavirus
- ◇ For healthcare and essential workers who are working during this pandemic

## DID YOU KNOW?



**"We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there "is" such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action."**

**- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

*Let us follow the words of Dr. King and allow the "fierce urgency of now" to focus in working towards environmental justice for all.*

**The CE Green Team**



**From the Fellowship Committee:**

The Fellowship Committee would like to thank everyone who joined us for our first ever Zoom Social! We so enjoyed seeing your faces again! To quote Briar Hurst: "I'm so sad it is over."

We look forward to future socials, both virtual and in person, as we move into the summer months. Thank you for helping us make this unique moment in our lives less lonely.

We especially appreciate those of you who tried Zoom for the first time during the social, and we hope you will use it often to safely fellowship with friends and family.

With hopes of seeing you again soon,

**The Fellowship Committee**



We are all  
in the same  
storm.



Love your  
neighbor  
as  
yourself

Wear a mask

**Council Actions** via Zoom—May 21, 2020

- Prayed together
- Received all reports by consent
- Discussed the church's finances during this time of pandemic
- Discussed Guidelines from Grace Presbytery and PC(USA) about reopening worship in the church
- Confirmed the Task Force's recommendation that we continue worship on Facebook live until July
- Discussed Zoom Fellowship Meeting and Peek a Boo in the parking lot and other ways to stay connected during this time of social distancing



Hello June - We've been waiting for you! June – the month summer officially begins and with that our expectation of warmer if not hellish heat. However, wouldn't it be "cool" (pun intended) if the heat actually is a super power against this corona virus? As we are still waiting for more scientific back-up to that claim, we're pretty sure Texas could be the test case for heat impacts.

On another update note – hard to believe that it has been a year since we had the roof replaced and we did the "Raising the Roof" capital campaign. What a wonderful reminder of what can be accomplished when people pull and work together. When everyone participates a little a lot can be done.

We do still miss your faces. We are proud of our congregation for making the best of a bad situation. Please hang in there and continue to support the church and each other.

**Through helping hands of your Building & Grounds Committee**  
**Claudia, Steve, John T, Michael, Scott, Kathy, Weldon and Rev. Michele.**



~ ~ ~ Reminder ~ ~ ~  
During quarantine, Bring H.I.M. donations  
the first MONDAY of every month.  
The office will be open 9 AM to 2 PM

# JUNE 2020

Save the Dates for  
General Assembly Online

## The 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

Because of the COVID-19  
pandemic, the 224th  
General Assembly (2020)  
of the Presbyterian  
Church (U.S.A.) will be  
held online June 19, 26  
and 27.



*Tim Wasson* 11  
*Cody Conway* 13  
*Jan Mims* 25  
*Mariella Pennaf* 30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Meals on Wheels	2	3 Music in the Middle	4	5 Meals on Wheels	6
7 Wear <b>Orange</b> for Gun Safety Facebook Virtual Service <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	8 Meals on Wheels	9	10 Music in the Middle	11	12 Meals on Wheels	13
14 Facebook Virtual Service	15 Meals on Wheels	16	17 Music in the Middle	18	19 Meals on Wheels Session 6 PM <i>Juneteenth</i>	20 SUMMER IS HERE
21 Facebook Virtual Service <i>Father's Day</i>	22 Meals on Wheels	23	24 Music in the Middle	25	26 Meals on Wheels	27
28 Facebook Virtual Service <i>PC(USA) World AIDS Sunday</i>	29 Meals on Wheels	30				