

"Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences"



THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HENDERSON, TEXAS

Volume 52

September 2020

Issue Nine

Fruits from the Pandemic

We are enduring weeks of change and disruption from the pandemic. It can be hard to find anything positive it has brought into our lives. And yet, it takes a major disruption like this one to shake us out of our habits and usual patterns. Perhaps you have found yourself using your time differently? Are you appreciating your loved ones more? Are you exploring a hobby or testing your skills in ways you haven't before?

We can see some new fruitful activity just among our fellow Presbyterians.

Music has found an important place in our coronavirus routines. In the denomination, there is even a hymn by hymn sing along for the entire Glory to God hymnal. For some, this down time has afforded the chance to dust off instruments and spend time refining skills. Singers are finding ways to make harmony with others who aren't in the same room. Even though our choir has not been able to meet for practice, Joshua keeps our music program tuned up with weekly sing-a-longs. He has put our choir members together on video, displaying his talent for technology and music.

In the recent edition of Presbyterians Today, a young pastor recognized her need to create. Selecting words from the ordination vows, she designed a t-shirt with the words: Energy, Intelligence, Imagination, Love. Then, she sold them as a fundraiser. (Maybe you have seen me wearing it!)

As we worship using our computers and phones as the medium that connect us, we have had to reconsider the Lord's Supper. We have highlighted the theology of gathering with God's people who come before us and after us in time. We also recognize that God is not confined to the church building. In an effort to maintain a safer environment for worship, we will continue to celebrate the Eucharist using the internet as our primary means of communication.

Perhaps you, your family and friends have formed new habits in the shadow of the pandemic. Are you talking or using video-calls more often? Has your weekly family call taken on more importance? Have you connected with anyone that you lost touch with? Larry and I have formed a weekly gathering with friends we know from seminary. Recently, I caught up with my Company of New Pastor's cohort using a Round-Robin style email. Maybe you could initiate one of these among your siblings?

Whatever you find yourself doing these days, be it quiet or artistic, electronically or semi-social, musical or intellectual, be gentle with yourself. These days are strange and new for all of us.

"Thus you will know them by their fruits." Matthew 7:20

Rev Michele

Worship

What a joy to be back in the Sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church, Henderson! To see familiar faces, though masked, has been uplifting for all of us. Thanks to thoughtful planners, those who are still at home may continue with live streaming. The live streaming portion of the service will only include scripture, sermon, prayer and a song.



Joshua's gift of music and song fills us with joy as we miss being able to hug and embrace each other. As usual, Rev. Michele's words give us hope for a better tomorrow. We are blessed to be able to worship our Lord and Savior and strengthened to go forward without fear, knowing that God knows us every one, and is always there for us. Glory be to the Lord!!

A Prayer for Educators & School Staff

God of brilliance and constant creativity, we lift up our teachers, our school administrators, and our school support staff to you today. They are in unchartered waters - doing a whole new thing out of the necessity of our current circumstances but more so out of the goodness of their hearts and the sincerity of their call and their genuine love for their students. Thank you for their courage to tackle this unexpected challenge head-on. Thank you for their steadfast dedication and all of the incredible work they've put in over the past few weeks work that's so far above and beyond their "normal." Fortify their spirits. Bolster their confidence in the technology, but more importantly in their capabilities. Give them energy and patience to conquer whatever roadblocks crop up. Give them encouragement. Give them hope. Give them rest. Give them peace. Amen. ~ Rev. Lisa J. Johnson





Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:

- For our home bound members: Sue, Debbie, and Kay.
- ♦ For Bob & Cindy
- ♦ For Judy A.
- ♦ For Jan M. and her family
- ♦ For the family & loved ones of Joyce H.
- ♦ For those who are ill and at risk for the Flu and Coronavirus
- For healthcare and essential workers who are working during this pandemic
- ♦ For those who have been impacted by Hurricane Laura





The central vision of world history in the Bible is that all of creation is one, every creature in community with every other, living in harmony and security and joy toward the joy and well-being of every other creature....

Did You

Know?



Shalom is the substance of the biblical vision of one community embracing all creation.

- Dr. Walter Brueggemann

Eco-Justice Ministries * www.eco-justice.org

The Christian Education Green Team Duty Elder for the month of September: Kathy P.

A memorial was received during the month of August,



Dr. James Mann





September 6 - October 4, 2020 Peace & Global Witness

The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God's mission to those around the corner and around the world.





Music in the Middle

has a new landing page:

https://facebook.com/JoshuaThePianoMan

Come share in God's love through the musical talents of Joshua.

Streaming live on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM





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