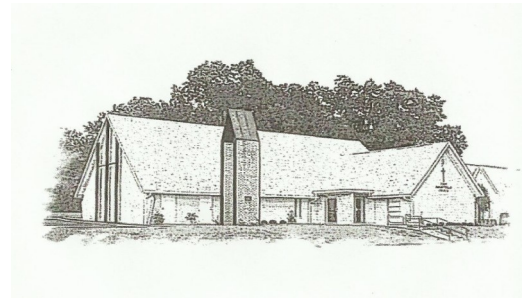




*"Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences"*

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

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Volume 54

July 2022

Issue Seven

The Dove after the Flood

Friends,

I am deeply troubled by the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. Debate around abortion has a long tradition of controversy in our country. The government should leave health care decisions to the private consultation of the patient and the doctor. Out of fear of persecution and punishment, many healthcare providers that specialize in women's care have already locked their doors leaving women with absolutely no healthcare of any kind.



As we watch several states move swiftly to apply rigid limitations and punitive laws to abortion seekers and providers, it becomes clear that this is not about the sovereignty of life.

As people of faith, we are called to support one another against systemic oppression. As is the pattern with most forms of oppression, this decision will **most severely** impact persons who are already marginalized by lower economic status and lack of social support.

We are called to act. Write the letters, call the officials, send the emails, and let the decision makers know how their constituents really feel.

In the meantime, we can cling to the promise that God is with us, moving the world ever closer to justice and peace. We may not yet see the rainbow, but we will see the dove and the return of dry land. Keep moving forward with love.

Rev Michele

A Litany for Peace

As we are together, praying for peace, let us be truly with each other.

Let us pay attention to our breathing.

Let us be relaxed in our bodies and our minds.

Let us return to ourselves and become wholly ourselves. Let us maintain a half-smile on our faces.

Let us be aware of the source of being common to us and to all living things.

Evoking the presence of the Great Compassion, let us fill our hearts with our own compassion—

towards ourselves and towards all living beings.

Silence.

Let us pray that all living beings realize that they are all brothers and sisters,
all nourished from the same source of life.

Let us pray that we ourselves cease to be the cause of suffering to each other.

Let us plead with ourselves to live in a way which will not

deprive other beings of air, water, food, shelter, or the chance to live.

With humility, with awareness of the existence of life, and of the sufferings that are

going on around us, let us pray for the establishment of peace in our hearts and
on earth. Amen

~~Thich Nhat Hanh

DID YOU KNOW?

Some brands use colours
to appear eco-friendly



 **DON'T FALL FOR GREENWASHING!**



Greenwashing is the practice of marketing a product or a brand as being greener or more environmentally friendly than they really are. They just change the color of the packaging, they advertise on green backgrounds, and use images that remind you of nature and trees.

As people are increasingly aware of their impact on the planet, many companies have seen this as a great business potential.

Unfortunately many of them just try to appear eco-friendly through their image and marketing rather than through real changes. So before you buy a product that is branded with colors, images and words that suggest it is sustainable, double check, and read information about the product.

C E Green Team

Deep Sea Adventure

Vacation Bible School

at
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
214 College Avenue
Henderson, Texas 75654
A joint effort with First Christian and
First Presbyterian Churches

Sunday, July 17th through
Wednesday, July 20th
6:00 pm to 8:10 pm
Late Registration: 5:30 to 6:00 pm

Children Ages 4 years through
completed 5th grade

Registration forms available at each of
the church offices.
For further information call 903-657-3154



H.I.M. has sent out a **special plea** for food.

They are experiencing nearly double their usual requests. All food item donations are appreciated.

Also, in this extreme heat, they are distributing box fans to help keep folks cool. Bring your items to the church and we will deliver them to HIM for your convenience.

Thank you for your continued generous support of this essential ministry.



Let us all remember that the **PCUSA General Assembly** is meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, June 18-July 9 in a hybrid venue, and let us pray:

Almighty God,

Be with the commissioners, staff, and assistants as they converse and deliberate together. Help them to welcome new things you are doing in the church. Grant them the vision and creativity that is needed to see where the church is moving in these times. In their deliberations, bring about what is best for us and for all people. As they meet, let your Holy Spirit guide so that the whole church may be joined in love and service to Jesus Christ, who, having gone before us, is coming to meet us in the promise of your kingdom.

Amen.



Bible Quiz

In Matthew's genealogy, which woman is *not* mentioned as Jesus' ancestor?

- A. Tamar
- B. Rahab
- C. Mary
- D. Ruth
- E. Sarah
- F. Bathsheba



Answer: B (See Matthew 1:1-17.)

Bible Quiz

After Sarah died, Abraham remarried. What was his second wife's name?

- A. Miriam
- B. Keturah
- C. Bathsheba
- D. Tamar



Answer: B (See Genesis 25:1.)

Pride Sunday ~ June 26



Longview Pride Day ~ June 11



Building and Grounds



All right!

With these 100+ degree days we've been experiencing it doesn't take long to burn things up.

Combine this with limited to sparse rainfall adds up to some dangerous conditions for you and your surroundings.

We've talked about the importance of watering and to monitor automatic sprinkler systems if you have them.

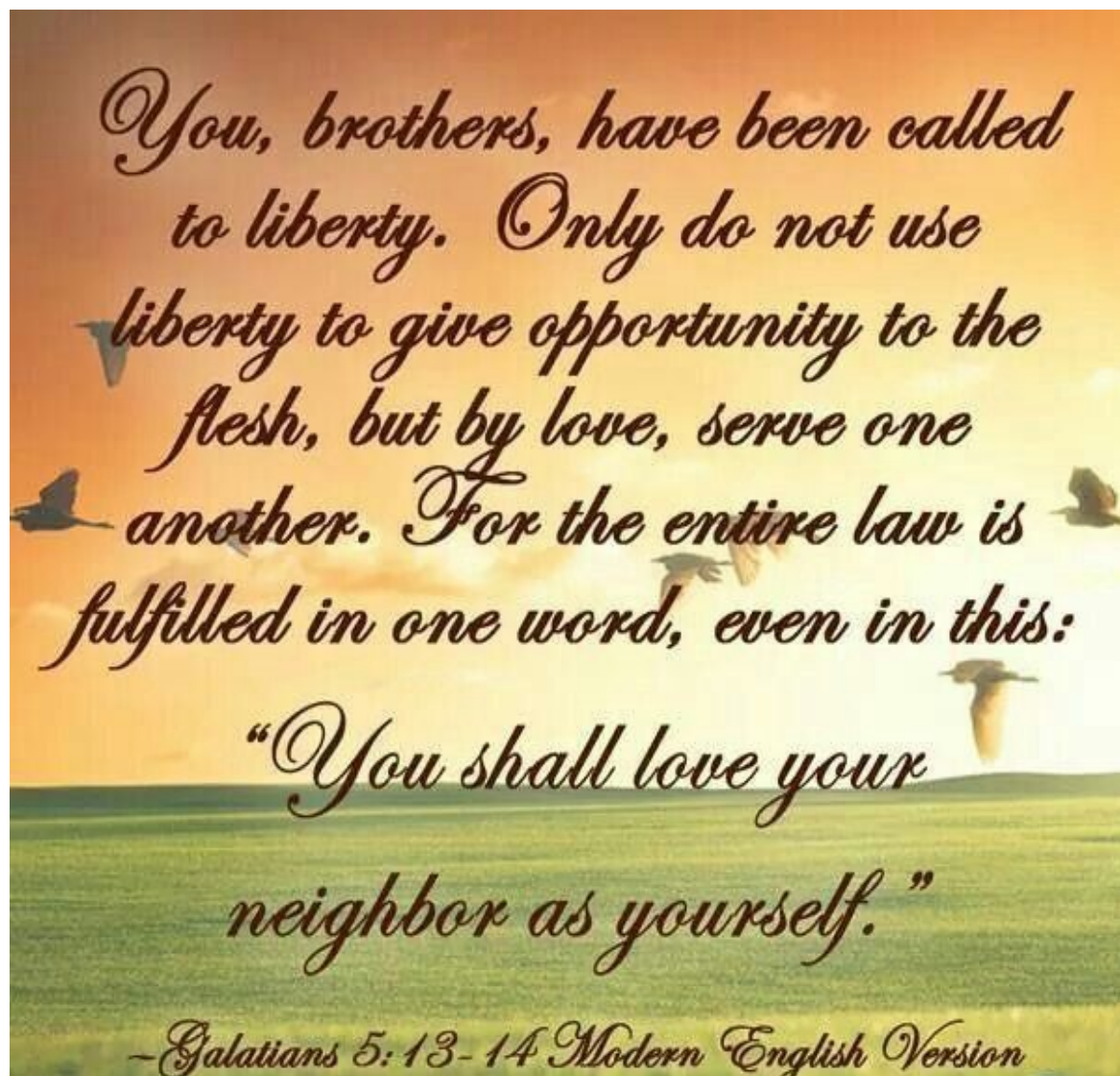
The building and grounds committee would like to remind you that you can use mulch around plants and shrubs to aid in making the most of your watering. It's also better to water early in the morning for best results.

Don't forget to get leaky faucets fixed both in the house and outside to conserve our natural resource and to reduce your water bill.

The first official day of summer occurred last Tuesday. Hang in there...the days will eventually become noticeably shorter with fall peeking around the corner!



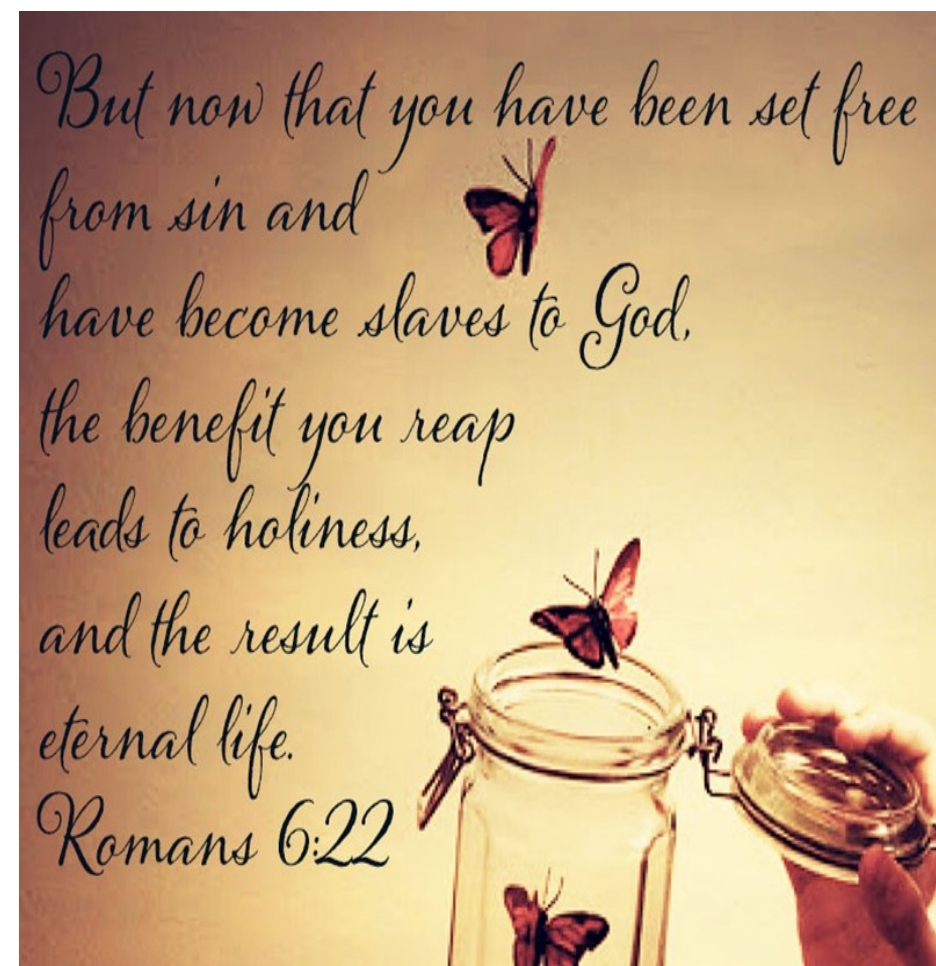
Just a thought for Independence Day



The Member Care Committee: Mary, John T., Lynn, Kathy, Claudia and Chris.

Worship Committee


As we celebrate Independence Day, let us remember why we are truly free:



The Worship Committee : Rev. Michele, Mary, Tom, Joshua, Kathy, Jimmy and Lynn.

July 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Meals on Wheels	2
3 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live/ Communion HIM Donation Day	4 Independence Day Office Closed 	5 Home Communion 6:00 Theology on Tap	6	7	8 Meals on Wheels	9
10 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live	11	12	13	14	15 Meals on Wheels	16
17 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live 6-8:10 VBS St. Matthews	18 6-8:10 VBS St. Matthews	19 6-8:10 VBS St. Matthews	20 6-8:10 VBS St. Matthews	21 6:00 Session Meeting	22 Meals on Wheels	23
24 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live	25 Newsletter Deadline	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live						

Duty Elder for July:

John T.

Liturgists for July:

7/3 Steve

7/10 Carol

7/17 River

7/24 Jimmy

7/31 Kathy

July Birthdays:

7/9 Jon N.

7/18 John T.

7/19 Steve

7/20 Carolyn

7/23 Jan

7/27 Jimmy