

# First Presbyterian Church

## Tidings



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2017

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## FOUR PERSPECTIVES

*Because different writers penned each Gospel, the four books offer unique angles and insights. Although the overall message is the same, the human authors' backgrounds and perspectives shine through every account.*

These verses by an unknown writer remind us of each Gospel's characteristics:

Matthew — Messiah, Israel's King, sets forth, by Israel slain; but God decreed that Israel's loss should be the Gentiles' gain.

Mark tells us how in patient love this earth has once been trod by One Who, in a Servant's form, was yet the Son of God.

Luke, the physician, writes of a more skilled Physician still Who gave himself, as Son of Man, to save us from all ill.

John, the beloved of Jesus, sees in him the Father's Son, the everlasting Word made flesh, yet with the Father One.

## WHAT'S YOUR CALLING?

When you have a sense of calling — whether it's to be a musician, soloist, artist, in one of the technical fields or a plumber — there is something deep and enriching when you realize it isn't just a casual choice; it's a divine calling. [That's] not limited to vocational Christian service, by any means.

—Charles R. Swindoll



## Church Events

- Sep. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Communion Service 10 a.m.
- Sep. 4<sup>th</sup> - Labor Day (Office closed)
- Sep. 6<sup>th</sup> – Worship Meeting 10 a.m.
- Sep. 10<sup>th</sup> – Fellowship Luncheon after the Service
- Sep. 11<sup>th</sup> - Mission Meeting 11 a.m.; Evangelism Card Workshop 1 p.m.
- Sep. 14<sup>th</sup> - Evangelism Meeting 3:30 p.m.; Session Meeting 5:30 p.m.
- Sep. 15<sup>th</sup> – Tidings Articles due 4 p.m.
- Sep. 17<sup>th</sup> – Deacons Meeting after the Service
- Sep. 24<sup>th</sup> – Evangelism Meeting after the Service
- Sep. 25<sup>th</sup> – Evangelism Card Workshop 1 p.m.
- Sep. 30<sup>th</sup> - Men's Breakfast 8:30 a.m.



# Property Committee

*The goal of praise is not an experience, it is a relationship. The best aids to worship are those that because of their simplicity or familiarity become clear as glass. We do not see them at all; we see through them to the Lord.*

–Tim Stafford

The new flooring has been put in the Sanctuary and is ready for the new pews.

We have sold one 14'6", three 8', and ten 6' pews. The remaining pews and parts will be taken by the Beckers for their Guatemala Mission work.

The new pews will arrive October 2nd, and will be installed in time for the October 8th service.

Beverly Davidson has received a notice that the flowers for the Activities Building and other parts of the property will arrive the

week of the 14th. We plan to plant them the week of the 22nd.

The 190 Property has been cut. We are working on getting the shrubs around the trees cut away.

The committee wants to thank everyone for their patience while the work in the Sanctuary is being done.

Glenn Drumm,  
Property Chair

*Do not forget that even as "to work is to worship" so to be cheery is to worship also, and to be happy is the first step to being pious (showing reverence for deity and devotion to divine worship).*

–Robert Louis Stevenson



As always, it is our great desire to have you join us in our rehearsals and the joy of the Lord that we have in our fellowship. Check out our mighty music schedule and see where you might be a part of our worship and praise team. Additionally, we need soloists and instrumentalists to enhance our choir and congregational responses.

In the meantime, save these dates:

**October 1:** World Wide Communion Sunday

**October 8:** Return to the Sanctuary

**November 5:** All Saints Remembrance Sunday

Rejoice in the Lord always,

Karlene Barker,  
Music Program Director



## Music Schedule

**Jubilant Ringers:** Tuesdays 5:30pm

**Dulcimers:** Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.  
Beginners - 2 p.m.  
Intermediates - 3 p.m.

**Choir:** Wednesdays  
Fellowship - 5 p.m.  
Rehearsal - 5:30-7 p.m.

**Back Row Boys:** Thursdays 5 p.m.





# S.N.I.O.P.

*"Don't be misled, bad company corrupts good character" 1*

*Corinthians 15:33*



I am sure that none of us has escaped people who love to rain on our parades. These are negative, sarcastic individuals who can easily find the wrong in anything that might be good. We need to turn a deaf ear to people like that, or we will run the danger of being a S.N.I.O.P. The acronym stands for "Susceptible to the Negative Influence of Other People." There are always people that want to steal your dream by putting your ideas down or finding fault with anything you want to try or do. They have no capacity to encourage, but are masterful at discouragement. For example, just try something for fun. Walk into any social gathering and state with excitement, "I just bought a (Chevy, Ford or any other model car) and I got a great deal! I only paid \_\_\_ dollars for it." Watch what happens: someone in that crowd will not be able to resist the temptation to say, "Why would you want to buy a piece of junk like that?" (or words to that effect) and, "further more, you got robbed." They have to say things like that out of jealousy or a know-it-all spirit. They always feel they have a better idea or a better deal somehow. They are somewhat like crabs in a basket. Did you know that if you go out to a beach or a bog to catch crabs that as you catch them you can leave the top off the crab basket? If there is more than one crab and one tries to climb out of his prison (of status quo), the others will pull him back down into the basket.

A young boy from Kansas city loved to draw; he drew everything that caught his attention. One day an elderly gentleman asked him to draw a horse, which he did. The old man was so impressed that he encouraged him to go to work at the local newspaper and draw for their cartoon department. He worked doing this for a short time until the editor of the paper called him into his office and said "You have no talent for what you are doing son, why don't you go get a job where you can get some real success?" Fortunately, the boy did not allow himself to become a S.N.I.O.P. You know, we will never hear Jesus say, "You are useless and will never be anything in life." Jesus always affirms that He has a wonderful plan for our lives, and that He proved it by dying on a cross for us. He will always be your greatest cheerleader and, more, your complete resource as you go for your dream. You will always hear Him say, "Go for it, I've got your back." Oh, by the way, the name of that little boy was Walt Disney, but no one remembers the editor who told him he was a failure.

Blessings, Pastor Joe MacDonald

# SEW--

Now what is that work date??

Mark your calendar for Thursday, September 14th, from 9:30 to 1 p.m., and sign up so you will get lunch. We need a head count to order enough lunch boxes for that day, so please find the list in the Fellowship Hall and add your name. You don't need to sew to help that day. We will need some to help punch holes and put patterns together in folders, as well as help sorting out the sewing notions. So Please join us!

Continue to collect sewing supplies for Guatemala and bring to the Church by September 14th, and leave them in the hallway to the Fellowship Hall.

Keith and Maria Becker, whom we have helped in the past, have received five sewing machines already in Guatemala, and thanks to donations, there are now five more as of mid-August. Maria is going to set up a Sewing Center to teach women there to sew, and is asking for help in securing sewing supplies for these lessons. Items do not have to be new, so if you have extra pins, needles, buttons, etc., they can be added to the supplies going later this fall in a shipment to Guatemala. We are also sending along some easy patterns and ideas in booklets for Maria to use.

On September 14th, we will plan a sewing and packing day, along with lunch by the Women of the Church. We can also make some of the easy pattern ideas to send along as examples for her class. This day will not be limited to just sewers, as we will need to sort these supplies and get all the loose items packaged together for shipping to Guatemala.

List of Requests by Maria:

- Sewing Machine Needles (universal as we don't know machine brands)
- Spools of Thread
- Cutting scissors
- Straight pins and large safety pins
- Needles for hand sewing
- Tape measures, thimbles, yardsticks
- Ribbon, lace, buttons, and zippers
- Fabric (100% cotton holds up the best in washing)
- Cloth for Baby Diapers

Cash donations can be made to the Church to purchase some of the larger needs of irons, ironing boards, and possibly a cutting/work table. Just mark in your check memo that it's for "Sewing for the Beckers." Keep your eyes open at garage sales for any of the above items. Pam, Beverly, and Bonnie can answer any questions. 3



# Mission Update

Wow: your support of the KFCE luncheon and its mission was fantastic. When Althea Elliott left the church on August 13th, she took 93 pairs of shoes, 84 pairs of socks, 17 new underwear, and \$462. Due to donations from women of the church, another \$366 will be added to this amount: is this not outstanding? And what a great effort from Patty Harrell and those “behind the scenes”; this church does serve our Lord.

Are you aware that the Beckers have been given six sewing machines and several boxes of

material and sewing items to be taken to Guatamala? Through their *Hechos Dos* ministry, the Beckers have also taken some pump action flashlights (hope you read the great newspaper articles by Ron Tolls), and soon some of our old pews. They will be taking more sewing items later this fall, thanks to the efforts of some women in our church. Please continue to collect and donate sewing supplies for this great project.

It’s also time to begin saving and donating small items for children,

to be placed in the Samaritan’s Purse shoeboxes, such as: small dolls and stuffed animals, hygiene items, school supplies, small toys for children of various ages, small books & puzzles, etc. No food, war figures, toothpaste, or used items please. A new container will be placed in the FH. Not to be confusing, we will also be packing some shoeboxes for seamen at the Port of Houston: the items for their boxes can include: small books and games, clothing, toothpaste and other personal hygiene items, Texas trivia, etc. (mostly items for males.) We will decorate these boxes at our November packing event after the luncheon that month. See posted lists for more details about shoebox items.

Non-perishable food items are still needed for use at the Center of Hope: items such as corn and beans are not needed, but any other food/cooking shelf items are, as are volunteers. We continue to collect craft items for the Head Start program at the Indian reservation, as well as eyeglasses for Lions International.

Our next Special Offering is Oct. 1st: this is the annual Peace and Global Witness offering, which supports both local and international efforts to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our world.

Your Mission team will meet on Sept. 11th at 11am; all are welcome as we make plans for our fall activities and begin our work on next year’s budget.

Chuck Davidson, Chair



## God’s Left Hand

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. “Look at the gorgeous leaves!” Grandma exclaimed. “Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!”

“Yep,” said her grandson, “and he did it left-handed.”

Perplexed, Grandma asked, “Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?”

“Because,” said the boy matter-of-factly, “we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God’s right one.”

## Bible Quiz

In memorable language in Revelation, God tells the church in Laodicea, “I am about to spit you out of my mouth,” because it is metaphorically \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank).

- A. too hot
- B. too cold
- C. tasteless
- D. lukewarm





# Worship Committee

Your Worship Committee met on August 2, 2017, with six of its eight members in attendance.

Items discussed included: (1) how best to serve communion to Ann Wilkins and the piano/organ player, and whether or not to serve communion to Liz Shields and her student class; (2) possibly moving announcements from the beginning of the worship service to more towards the middle, say, before or after taking up the offering; (3) as long as we are in the Fellowship Hall, gave Robin, at her sole discretion, the option to prepare the order of service in normal bulletin form or in screen form (operated from her computer, like we enjoyed about a month ago); and (4) began early planning for Advent Sundays (December 3, 10, 17 and 24), wherein the readings and candle lightings will be handled by the children of our church.

The Worship Committee next meets on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, at 10 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is invited to attend.

Jay Walrath, Worship Chair



## There Once Was a Man

*by Tommy Fluker*

There once was a man, paused at death's door  
Who said, get me through this Lord, and I'll come back  
once more

Everything's gone great for me, that is, up until now  
I'll be back in your house Lord, and that's my vow

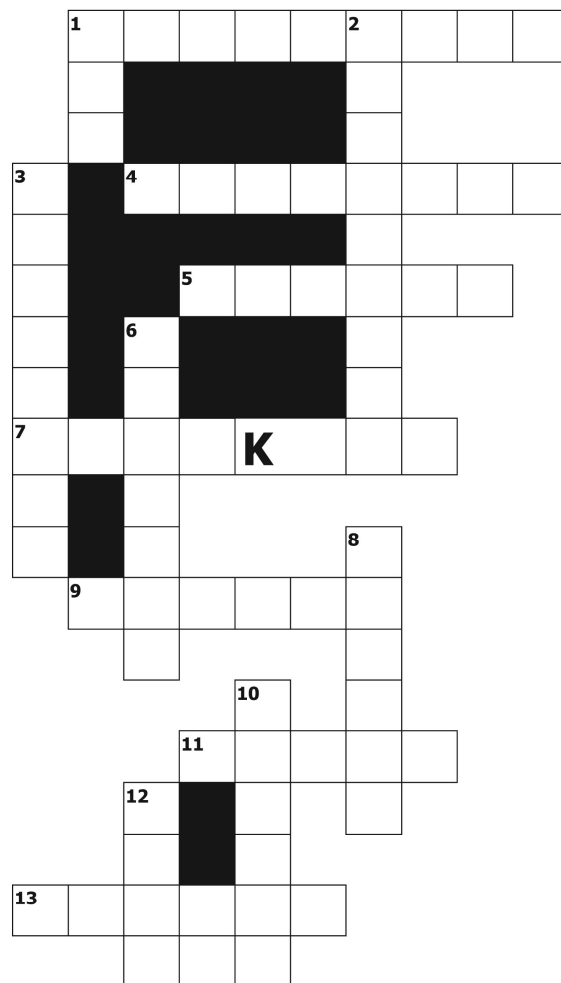
There once was a man, who meant what he said  
You've answered my prayers, or I'd surely be dead  
I'll be back in your house Lord, just you wait and see  
It's so good to know Lord, you're always there for me

There once was a man, though given back his life  
Lived just as he had before and blamed it all on strife  
I'll be back in your house Lord, don't give up on me  
Though I can't say for sure, just when that will be

There once was a man, who watched the years roll by  
Who finally kept his vow, Lord, and that man was I

# Puzzle!

Use the clues to complete this crossword about women in the Bible.



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. (across) Cousin of Mary (Luke 1:36)                                  | 7. Mother of Esau (Genesis 25:21, 25)               |
| 1. (down) Mother of Abel (Genesis 4:1-2)                                | 8. The wife Jacob loved (Genesis 29:20)             |
| 2. Mother of Solomon (2 Samuel 12:24)                                   | 9. Sister of Mary (John 11:1)                       |
| 3. Moses' wife (Exodus 2:21)  | 10. Sewed clothes (Acts 9:39)                       |
| 4. Lied about her giving to the church (Acts 5:1)                       | 11. Hosea's wife (Hosea 1:3)                        |
| 5. Saved her people from destruction in Persia (also a Bible book name) | 12. Sat at Jesus' feet in conversation (Luke 10:39) |
| 6. A judge in Israel (Judges 4)   | 13. Sister of Moses and Aaron (Exodus 15:20)        |

Answers: 1. (across) Elizabeth, 1. (down) Eve, 2. Bathsheba, 3. Zipporah, 4. Sapphira, 5. Esther, 6. Deborah, 7. Rebekah, 8. Rachel, 9. Martha, 10. Dorcas, 11. Gomer, 12. Mary, 13. Miriam

When God is about to do something great, he starts with a difficulty.

When he is about to do something truly magnificent, he starts with an impossibility.

—Armin Gesswein



# Celebrate!



Robert and Marilyn Green, 9/15



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Glenn Drumm, 9/1
- Dave Harrell, 9/5
- Cullen Preston, 9/6
- Robert Green, 9/7
- Mary Lou Anderson, 9/9
- Bruce Houck, 9/10
- Max Smith, 9/15
- Jim Stoops, 9/15
- Steve Davis, 9/19
- Kash Cooper, 9/21
- Burrell Rowe, 9/22
- Judy Bristol, 9/24
- Sheri Grounds, 9/24
- Sue Hyde, 9/28
- Jane Nye, 9/28
- Madden Heredia, 9/29

## Fellowship Committee

Jo Pavey will be our hostess for September's potluck luncheon on September 10th, after the worship service. Please bring your wonderful covered dish and dessert items. Any questions may be directed to Jo Pavey. We hope to see you there!

Fellowship always needs help on our team. If you are interested in joining a fun group, watch the calendar and come to our meetings.

Karen Palmer,  
Fellowship Chair



### Our Sunday Services

Adult Bible Study – 9:00 a.m.  
Worship -10:00 a.m.  
Children's Celebration  
(for kids ages 5 & older) 10:00 a.m.  
Nursery available for children  
ages infant to 4