

First Presbyterian Church *Tidings*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | 910 N WASHINGTON AVE
LIVINGSTON, TEXAS | AUGUST 2020

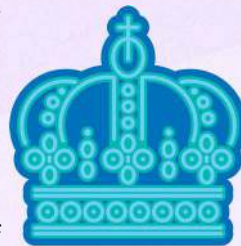
The victor's crown

In ancient Greece, a laurel wreath symbolized victory and honor. When Jesus was forced to wear a crown of thorns on Good Friday, the intent was mockery. Yet through his Easter victory, Jesus proves that he's not just a king but the King of kings. And by defeating death, he offers us "the crown of glory that will never fade away" (1 Peter 5:4, NIV).

As we await that heavenly prize, we can contemplate these words

from evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson:

"We are all making a crown for Jesus out of these daily lives of ours — either a crown of golden, divine love, studded with gems of sacrifice and adoration, or a thorny crown, filled with the cruel briars of unbelief, or selfishness and sin."



The rhythm of rest

Does God indeed need to rest? Of course not! But did God choose to rest? Yes. Why? Because God subjected creation to a rhythm of rest and work that he revealed by observing the rhythm himself, as a precedent for everyone else. In this way, he showed us a key to order in our private worlds.

—Gordon McDonald

Church Events

- Aug 2nd - Communion Worship Service, 10 a.m.
- Aug 3rd – Mission Meeting, 11 a.m., FH
- Aug 6th – Administration Committee Meeting, 2 p.m., AB
- Aug 9th - Task Force Meeting after the Worship Service, FH
- Aug 13th - Session Meeting, 5 p.m., FH
- Aug 21st - *Tidings* articles due





HOW DO WE EXHIBIT OUR TALENTS?

The Lord has called us to Worship Him with Trumpet Sound

Praise Him with Lute and Harp

Praise Him with Tambourine and Dance

Praise Him with Strings and Pipes

Praise Him with loud Clanging Cymbals

Psalms 150:3 – 5

REACH BACK INTO YOUR MEMORY AND THINK ABOUT YOUR TALENT.

Your talent may be playing an instrument. It may be to sing a solo, or sing with a group.

SIGN UP on our sign up sheet in the Narthex with your name and the date you would like to show your talent to our awesome congregation.

It is not hard, and we would love to have you display your talent. It will add so much to the service. The Word is always first and the music after that.

TO THE CHOIR:

I have really missed your being a part of the service and leading the congregation in worship. The time will not be too far ahead when you will take your place in front again. In the meantime, start warming up your voice and be ready to sing when the time comes.

Please call me on my cell phone (new number: 936-443-7866) if you have any questions. Leave a voice mail or text and I will return your call as soon as possible.

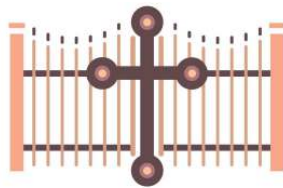
Jo Ann Hogg,
Music Director



?? Bible Quiz ? ?

In John of Patmos' vision, what is special about the 12 gates of the New Jerusalem?

- A. They are made of gold and always closed.
- B. They are made of amethyst and onyx.
- C. They are closed by day and open by night.
- D. They are made of pearl and never closed.



Answer: D (See Revelation 21:21, 25.)

Nominating Committee Request

We need two or three church members to volunteer to serve on this year's nominating committee. Later this year, we will need to decide on the church's leadership for next year and a small committee is needed to find those individuals willing to serve. Most of this work can be done via telephone or email so if willing, please let Ann Wilkins or Chuck Davidson know.

-Chuck Davidson

MISSIONS HEADLINES

At this time, your Mission Committee will meet Monday, August 3rd, at 11 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend with a mask per county/state guidelines.

Since we will not be having an August luncheon for KFCE, please be aware that we continue to collect new shoes, socks, and underwear for them, which can be placed in the container in the narthex. We will also accept checks written to the church with notation for "KFCE" in the memo line. Whenever the children do return to school, we do know they will need shoes, etc.

At this time we do plan on filling shoeboxes for seamen in November, thus items for them can also be donated. They need things that would fit into a shoebox, that a man might use on a ship.

Chuck Davidson, Mission Chair



Walk In Another Man's Shoes

"We do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses" -Hebrews 4:15

There was once a young boy who came from a family of means. He never missed a meal and had anything he wanted. He lacked for nothing, got everything he asked for, and lived a life of luxury. One day he came across a poor boy who had nothing, a boy whose family had to scrape by, and the boy often ate from garbage cans. The wealthy boy began to tease and call the poor boy names, and they got into a fight. The boy with wealth put the poor boy down, and when the fight was done, the poor boy said to the rich boy as he left, "If I had all that you have I would have been able to put you down." The rich boy just stood there, stunned. He never forgot those words as long as he lived.

We make hasty judgments about people because we have them in a stereotypical box. We have no idea what they are going through because we have not "walked in their shoes." We think we know because our judgment is always based on preconceived notions. I had a friend that I worked with who learned the lesson of prejudging the hard way. He said he was a salesman in a car dealership in the northwest. He said a man who was dressed in ragged clothes and was unshaven was walking around the parking lot looking at new cars. My friend, who was concerned that the man may be casing the dealership with the idea of coming back later to steal a car, went to him and asked what he wanted. My friend said that the man asked to test drive one of the most beautiful and expensive of sports cars, a Dodge Viper. My friend made every excuse in the book to not allow this to happen, based solely on the man's appearance. Finally, the man left the dealership and my friend said that his sales manager immediately gave him a pink slip and told him he was fired. When asked why he was fired, the manager told him that he was never ever to pre-qualify a potential customer simply on their appearance. The manager then told him that this man could have purchased every Viper they had. His name: Bill Gates of Microsoft.

Jesus, who had every right to judge every person He met, loved, healed and transformed them instead. He understood and had sympathy for everyone because He experienced every weakness. Before we criticize the place others are in, maybe we should try to put ourselves in their places first. There is a saying I remember: "I complained because I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet." By the way, the rich boy who had bullied and put down the poor boy was so impacted by what that poor boy said that he gave his entire life to helping the poor. His name: Albert Schweitzer.

Blessings, Pastor Joe MacDonald

Property Update

And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15

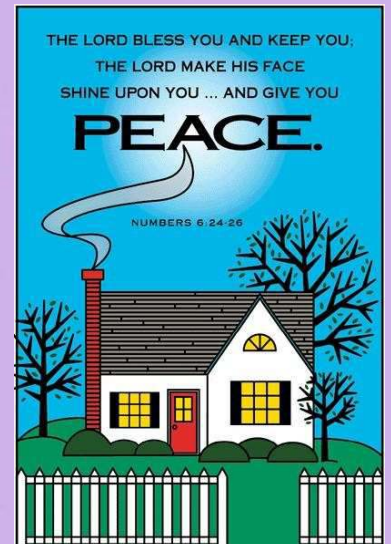
With this COVID-19 virus, we have to cover our mouths with a mask. There also is discussion (I have been told it is already being done in some areas), about the silencing of singing and worship in the Church and the closing of churches. Satan is doing all he can to stop corporate worship through this virus. Is the Church going to use this time to be silent, to not to sing, worship or give praise to our Lord and Savior? Even from behind the mask we must still give God the Glory, if not corporately, individually. The Church must not become silent to the world. When we became saved, we became witnesses and servants of Jesus Christ, not just to singing, worshipping and praising God, but to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost and dying world through words and actions, even if we have to do it from behind a mask.

Besides regular maintenance:

1. Cleaned mold off of the roofing on the F.H. north entrance covering.
2. Cleaned tile at entrance and restrooms of F.H. with floor scrubber.

We want to say THANK YOU to those who volunteered to be a part of the Screen Presentation Team in the services. But we still need a few volunteers for the Sound Presentation of the Service. Contact Glenn Drumm if you would be willing to help in this area.

Glenn Drumm,
Property Chair



Celebrate!

AUGUST Anniversaries

- Phenone & Barbara Neal, 08/01
- Ronald & Marjorie Tolls, 08/06
- Dan & Sharon Reid, 8/13
- Jim & Pam Stoops, 08/18
- Doug & Karen Palmer, 08/21
- Paul & Patricia Heldenbrand, 08/23

AUGUST Birthdays

- Pam MacDonald, 08/02
- Tom Dominy, 08/06
- Katie Longoria, 08/08
- Gina Jensen, 08/09
- Chris Longoria, 08/13
- Susie Nobles, 08/17
- Patte Jones, 08/19
- Mark Nye, 08/19
- Doug Palmer, 08/21
- Vi Huneycutt, 08/23
- Janet Linn, 08/23
- Paul Heldenbrand, 08/25
- Ronald Tolls, 08/25

Leadership Task Force Update

The members of this task force will meet at 11:15 a.m. (after the Service) on Sunday, August 9th, to continue a review of our current committee structure and begin to look at our Elder/Deacon leadership positions. We have not met for several months due to the COVID-19 crisis, so hopefully this meeting can be held in the Fellowship Hall. If you have some thoughts on this, please contact Chuck Davidson, Paul Laverty, Janet Linn, or Patty Harrell.

-Chuck Davidson



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Our Worship Schedule

Sundays - 10:00 a.m.