

First Presbyterian Church

Tidings

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
910 N WASHINGTON AVE
LIVINGSTON, TX 77351
MARCH 2021



A BREATH OF FRESH PRAYER

Norwegian theologian Ole Hallesby described prayer as simply letting God into our lives. God “knocks,” he said, “not only in the solemn hours of secret prayer” but “in the midst of your daily work, your daily struggles, your daily grind ... when you need him most.”

Prayer, added Hallesby, is as essential to life as air. “As impossible as it is for us to take a breath in the morning large enough to last us until noon, so

impossible is it to pray in the morning in such a way as to last us until noon,” he said. “Let your prayers ascend to [God] constantly, audibly or silently, as circumstances throughout the day permit.”



THAT'S THE POINT!

If prayer stands as the place where God and human beings meet, then I must learn about prayer. Most of my struggles in the Christian life circle around the same two themes: why God doesn't act the way we want God to, and why I don't act the way God wants me to. Prayer is the precise point where those themes converge.

-Philip Yancey

Special Dates

- Mar 4th - Administration Committee Meeting, 10 a.m., AB
- Mar 5th – World Day of Prayer
- Mar 7th – Communion Worship Service, 10 a.m.
- Mar 8th – Outreach Committee Meeting, 11 a.m.
- Mar 11th – Session Meeting, 5 p.m., FH
- Mar 14th - Daylight saving time begins
- Mar 19th - *Tidings* articles due
- Mar 20th - First day of Spring
- Mar 28th - Palm Sunday; Holy Week begins



Laud & honor on Palm Sunday

The Palm Sunday anthem “All Glory Laud and Honor” is one of Christendom’s oldest hymns. St. Theodulf of Orleans, who helped reform the church under Charlemagne, wrote the lyrics in the year 820 while imprisoned in France.

The lyrics recount Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event the medieval church reenacted every Palm Sun-

day. Clergy and townspeople processed from fields through the city gates, behind a Jesus figure riding a donkey. At the gates, children began singing the hymn in Latin — Gloria, laus et honor — and onlookers soon chimed in.

City gates may be a thing of the past, as the website Hymnary.org notes, yet we still praise our blessed Redeemer “because we know just

what kind of King he was and is — an everlasting King who reigns not just in Jerusalem but over the entire earth. What more could we do but praise him with glory, laud and honor.”

All glory, laud and honor to you, Redeemer, King,

To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the King of Israel and David’s royal Son,

Now in the Lord’s name coming, the King and Blessed One.

Christian Symbol

Cross of Triumph

Also known as the Cross of Victory, this cross



symbolizes

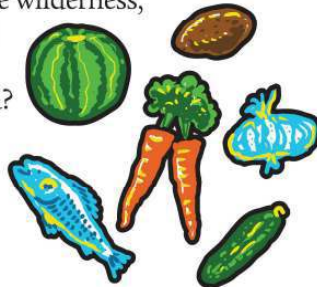
Christ’s final triumph and

his reign throughout the earth. The Cross of Triumph is often depicted atop Jesus’ scepter when he’s shown in his kingly office.

Bible Quiz

As the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, they longingly remembered some of the foods they’d had in Egypt. Which foods were not mentioned?

- A. carrots and potatoes
- B. onions and garlic
- C. fish and leeks
- D. melons and cucumbers



Answer: A (See Numbers 11:4-6.)

God in my hands

When I was ready to give up on the Church, it was the sacraments that pulled me back.

When my faith had become little more than an abstraction, a set of propositions to be affirmed or denied, the tangible, tactile nature of the sacraments invited me to touch, smell, taste, hear, and see God in the stuff of everyday life again. They got God out of my head and into my hands. They reminded me that Christianity isn’t meant to simply be believed; it’s meant to be lived, shared, eaten, spoken, and enacted in the presence of other people. They reminded me that, try as I may, I can’t be a Christian on my own.

—Rachel Held Evans

Our Church in Snow



Susie Nobles captured this amazing photo of our church on Feb. 15th, during the winter storm.

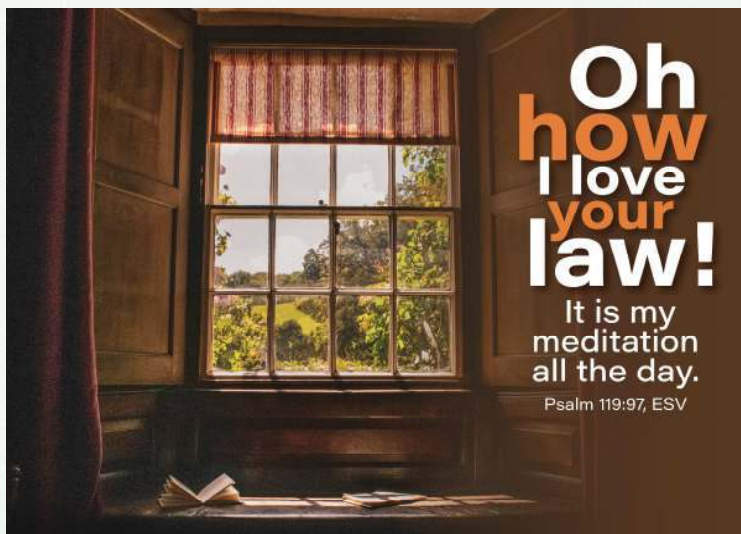
Administration Committee

The Administration Committee met on February 2, 2021, in the Activity Building at 10:00 a.m. Opening prayer was followed by discussion for our 2021 projects. We have now added stewardship and finance to our duties. Our mission purpose is to provide support to the pastor and staff with realistic goals and responsibilities for church personnel. We are adding the needs of finance and stewardship to our goals and researching those new projects as needed.

Our ongoing projects are updating the history of FPC Livingston and documentation in gaps and updating current years. We are also updating the church roster to reflect both members and non-members and updating the visitor packets. We are adding projects as the needs arise. We closed with a prayer.

Our next meeting will be on March 4, 2021 in the Activity Building.

Karen Palmer , Co-Chairman for Administration



When My Life is Over

By Tommy Fluker

When my life is over and I am laid to rest
How will the ledger read
Shall it say I've done my best
Cared for others and done for those in need

When words were needed to sooth
What did I have to say
Did I stand in the way or did I move
Did I give help or look the other way

Did I stay away too long from my Lord
Or did I come back in time
Did I quit when times were hard
Was my love active or was it benign

Did I see the world's beauty
And stop to smell the flowers
Did I step up to do my duty
And witness all God's powers

Did I wipe away my children's tears
And hold them close to me
Give them all my love to still their fears
Light the dark that they may see

Did I hurt others or wish them ill
Keep up with friends and wish them well
Cajole my family against their will
Hold steady when through life's journey sail

Did I honor my parents before they were gone
Go see them as oft I could
Keep in touch on the telephone
Remember all the sacrifices for my good

When the last page is turned and the ledger closed
What will the verdict be
I pray to God that I've been chose
And His love ever shines on me

Celebrate!

MARCH



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- Fred & Jo Durham, 03/02
- Rick & Kathy Nobles, 03/07
- Tom Wilkins, 03/01
- Patty Harrell, 03/07
- Jana Wilkins, 03/09
- Robin Sessums, 03/13
- Phenone Neal, 03/24
- Lee Waybright, 03/31

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee will be having a meeting on Monday, March 8th, at 11 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend. I would also like to remind everyone that the One Great Hour of Sharing is on April 4th this year, be on the lookout in the Narthex as I will be putting some materials out for everyone to look over if they like.

Susie Nobles, Co-Chair for Outreach



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Our Sunday Schedule

Adult Bible Study - 9 a.m.
Sundays - 10:00 a.m.

