

First Presbyterian Church *Tidings*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2021
910 N WASHINGTON AVE | LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351

THAT YOU MAY LIVE

During the pandemic, I've worshiped online with several congregations. The web address for one ends ".net/live." As I navigate to this site, I tend to read the adjective form "live," as in "livestream." One Sunday, however, the verb form, as in "Worship and live," popped into my mind. I had almost slept in and skipped that morning's service. But as I worshiped with others, albeit remotely, my spirit indeed felt increasingly alive. That whole day I felt I was living more fully because I'd been inspired by God's Word in sermon and song and shared in praising God with others.

Worship reminds us there is something — Someone — greater than ourselves. Worship opens us to new ways of living.

Moses, after he had passed along God's gift of the Ten Commandments, including the rule to keep the Sabbath day holy through rest and worship, told the people, "Walk in obedience to all that the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live" (Deuteronomy 5:33, NIV).

We too worship God regularly — so that we may more fully live.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

SUPER HUMAN

Real strength is neither male nor female but is, quite simply, one of the finest characteristics that any human being can possess.

—Fred Rogers

Special Dates

- **June 3rd - Administration Meeting, 10 a.m., AB**
- **June 6th – Communion Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m.**
- **June 9th - Session Meeting, 4 p.m., FH**
- **June 18th - Tidings articles due**
- **June 20th - Father's Day; Fellowship Luncheon after the Service, FH**



Jesus is everything

Although growing up as a PK (pastor's kid) could be challenging, admits Ray Ortlund Jr., it also was "a sacred privilege given to me as a gift from God." Ortlund — now a pastor, father and grandfather himself — notes that any difficulties associated with the role were more than offset by his dad's love and admiration, as well as "the real Christianity I saw in him."

When Ray Sr. was on his deathbed in 2007, family members gathered in a California hospital to

read Scripture, sing hymns and receive a personalized blessing from the patriarch. Ray Jr. was ministering overseas and had to say his earthly goodbyes via the phone. "Later I asked my sister about Dad's message to me," Ortlund writes. "It was this: 'Tell Bud ministry isn't everything. Jesus is.' My dad's dying words summed up his parenting and his whole life."



Property Committee

In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. -Romans 12:5

Sometimes we think of "the Church" as someone else, but we are the Church. If we don't like what the Church is doing, we should go home and look in the mirror and have a stern talk with the Church. -Allen Jackson

1. The sprinkler system is back in service after the winter.
2. Covered hole on Activity Building where birds were getting into building and making a nest.
3. Replaced A/C outdoor unit for the Kitchen. (\$2,650)
4. All the buildings Have been exterminated.
5. Want to thank David Sessums and Mark Nye for their work in cleaning up the water in Sanctuary after rain April 23rd while I was out of town.

-Glenn Drumm, Property Chair

Bible Quiz

Complete this proverb: "Like snow in _____ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

- A. springtime
- B. summer
- C. seedtime
- D. autumn



Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV.)

Congregational Care Committee

Here is some good news! A fellowship luncheon, June 20th, will be prepared and served by the committee. Note the date: the 3rd Sunday, June 20th.

Our last fellowship meal was March 8th, 2020. Our church was closed until June 14, 2020. So we will be celebrating birthday, anniversaries during that time. This will be the first luncheon since March 8th. Come and enjoy!

Patty Harrell, Congregational Care Co-chair

No boundaries

Love is a commitment to seek the good and to work for the good and welfare of others. It doesn't stop at our front door or our neighborhood, our religion or race, or our state's or [our] country's border. This is one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth, as the hymn goes. It often calls us to step outside of what we thought our boundaries were, or what others expect of us. It calls for us to sacrifice, not because doing so feels good, but because it's the right thing to do.

—Bishop Michael Curry, *Love Is the Way*

Do I Care

By Tommy Fluker

When passing a beggar with vacant stare
Ask yourself, do I care

When pain is more than someone can bear
Ask yourself, do I care

When seeing beauty and something rare
Ask yourself, do I care

When courage is needed will you dare
Ask yourself, do I care

When someone curses and starts to swear
Ask yourself, do I care

When faced with lies and deeds unfair
Ask yourself, do I care

When Jesus calls will you declare
Ask yourself, do I care

If your answer is NO, whatever you do
Just remember - - - GOD heard it too



In memory of Audrey Ammons

For those of you who remember Ron and Audrey Ammons, Audrey passed away April 19, 2021. She was diagnosed with a neurological disorder. Her brain was donated to Hermann Memorial Neurological Research. Ron and Audrey were married for 64 years.

-Patty Harrell



From guilt to grace

For Jerry Schemmel, a 1989 plane crash that killed more than 100 people ended up shaping his life and faith. The sports broadcaster walked away from the tragedy with minimal physical injuries but was haunted by survivor's guilt and PTSD. "The big turning point for me came when I became a Christian," he says. "Things got much easier to deal with after that, I believe, because I had the best ally fighting the fight with me, Jesus Christ."

Schemmel, author of *Chosen to Live*, says he'd love to be able to "go back and rewrite the script" and change what happened that July day in Sioux City, Iowa. "But since I can't, I just have to keep on trusting God, trusting that he put me through this experience to serve him, to be the man he wants me to be and ultimately give him glory."

True, needful, kind

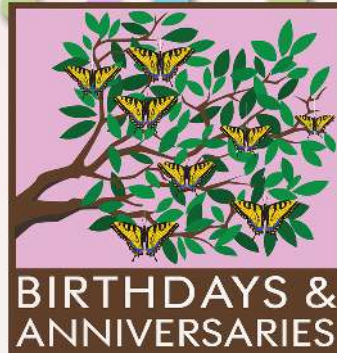
If you are tempted to reveal
a tale to you someone has told
about another, make it pass,
before you speak, three gates of gold;
these narrow gates.

First, "Is it true?"
Then, "Is it needful?" In your mind
give truthful answer. And the next
is last and narrowest, "Is it kind?"

And if to reach your lips at last
it passes through these gateways three,
then you may tell the tale, nor fear
what the result of speech may be.

—Beth Day, "The Three Gates" (1835)

JUNE



Celebrate!

- Jere & Sarah Hamilton, 06/08
- Ervin & Patricia Herrmann, 06/13
- Glenn & Georgina Drumm, 06/15
- David & Robin Sessums, 06/16
- Harry & Judy Bristol, 06/27
- Jamie Nixon, 06/01
- David Hancock, 06/03
- Jere Hamilton, 06/07
- Betty Baker, 06/09
- Sarah Hamilton, 06/13
- Shona Heredia, 06/22
- Jo Ann Hogg, 06/25
- Gene Jensen, 06/25
- June Moore, 06/27
- Jay Walrath, 06/27

Sound/Video

1. Thank you Mark Nye for adding music to the hymns on Sunday May 9th on our PowerPoint screen. P.S. Ginger was unable to play due to illness.
2. Still needing a few good people to assist in working the Sound Board on Sunday mornings.

Christians must avoid the temptation to be idle while they await the Lord's return. God has given believers gifts for ministering to others, and Christians must not withhold the use of their gifts for any reason. Manifold in the Greek means "variegated or many colored," like a rainbow. When many Christians exercise their gifts as one body, it is a beautiful thing. -1 Peter 4:10. KJBS

Glenn Drumm, Chairman



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Our Sunday Schedule

Adult Bible Study - 9 a.m.
Sundays - 10:00 a.m.
Adult Bible Study - 11 a.m.