



First Presbyterian Church **FIRST NEWS**

August 2019

A Publication of FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
211 S. Avenue G – Clifton, Texas 76634 – phone (254) 675-8105
Church Office Hours: Monday thru Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Rev. Clint Schofield, Pastor
Brenda Robinson, Church Secretary

Pastor Notes

August 2019

Confession

Bad breath hinders close relationships. Odor-producing bacteria can grow in the mouth causing halitosis. Bacteria may accumulate on bits of food left between teeth or in the back of the mouth, so sulfur compounds are released and enter the breath. Bad-smelling residue can enter the lungs and we exhale it. For our breath to smell good, our mouth and lungs need to be cleansed of all foul-smelling substances.

In similar fashion, to build good relationships, we need to get rid of harmful attitudes and actions. Just as a good antibiotic frees the lungs of bacteria, so the Holy Spirit clears away obstacles blocking our trust in God and one another.

We take the first step to rid ourselves of sinful offenses when we make sincere confession. In confession of sin we acknowledge the wrongs we have done, the harmful thoughts that have crossed our minds, the evil desire that lurks within us. In making confession, we admit these to ourselves, to God, and to others. We clear the way for reconciliation when we specifically identify the wrongs we have done and ask for forgiveness.

Through the ages the church has helped us define the attitudes that prove most destructive to our relationship with God and Neighbor. They have been called the seven deadly sins: lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy and pride. The list provides a mirror before which we examine ourselves and identify what we need to confess. Recognize any old antagonists?

After the prophet Nathan confronts David with his sins against Bathsheba and her husband, David asks for mercy. Psalm 51:1-2, David prays, "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin."

Another psalm assures us of forgiveness: "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us" (Ps. 103:8, 10-12).

God's plan for us is that we live as a forgiven people free from the bindings of guilt, shame and self deprivation. You called out ones, know that you are a loved children of God, then share that love with others. You are forgiven, so now be one who forgives. May God continue to bless each of you.

See You In Church!
Clint

AUGUST MEETINGS

05	Congregational Care	12:30 pm
06	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
07	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
10	Church Yard Sale	7:00 am-3:00 pm
11	Food Bank Collection	
13	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
14	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
15	Food Bank Work Day	9:00-12:00 pm
20	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
21	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
25	Goodall Witcher Worship	1:30 pm
27	Weekly Prayer Group	1:00 pm
27	Session Meeting	5:30 pm
28	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm

LEADING WORSHIP IN AUGUST

AUGUST GREETERS

04	George & Jenny Walker
11	Mary Bergman & Lois Krause
18	Carol Forson & Ann Wiland
25	Sherrod & Sue Fielden

AUGUST LITURGIST

04	Steve Robertson
11	Jenny Walker
18	Carla Sigler
25	Bryan Davis

AUGUST ELDER OF THE DAY

04	Elane Valero
11	Debbie Bergman
18	Mike Conner
25	George Larson

**THE FOOD DRIVE BOX
WILL BE IN THE NARTHEX
Sunday, August 11th
Our work day is the 15th**



**Food
Bank**

Year to Date Financials

<u>thru June</u>	
Offerings received in June	\$12,354
Offerings received thru June	\$84,450
Expenses thru June	\$80,875
Budgeted exp. thru June	\$106,335

BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday morning Bible Study will start meeting again on Wednesday September 4th at 10:00am. We will be studying of the book "The Divine Conspiracy-Rediscovering our hidden life in God." All are welcome and we look forward to much sharing and vigorous discussion. The Author, Dallas Willard, was a professor of theology and philosophy at Fuller Seminary in Pasadena California. Dr. Willard has authored several books.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL 2019

Our Victorian grandmothers practiced Christmas in July when they started needlework projects to use as Christmas gifts. We no longer follow this tradition, but surely you have a memory to share. The lonely, empty basket is waiting in the Fellowship Hall for you contribution. It will bless your brothers & sisters in Christ!

Save the Date! August 10, 2019 is First Presbyterian Church's Yard Sale from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The proceeds will benefit the FPC Choir for the trip to perform at Carnegie Hall in February 2020.

To succeed, we need your help with donations of time and goods. Sign up sheets will be available on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

Donation of Time: We will need assistance pricing, setting up, monitoring sales, and cleaning up.

Donation of Goods: (Any donation is greatly appreciated, but PLEASE make sure it is clean - no dust or cob webs. It would also be very helpful if the items were pre-priced upon receipt.)

We would like to have some baked goods to sell.

We would like to have some canned goods to sell. I have cleaned 1/2 pint and 1 pint jars that belonged to Frances Seljos. There are no lids. The jars will be in a box in the church library.

We would like to have "gift baskets" to sell. There are multiple baskets in the church library and a list of creative ideas.

Of course, we need Yard Sale items. Clean out your closets, drawers, cabinets, storage rooms, garages, etc.

Call or text Elane Valero at **254-253-1231** or email Elane at skrapsenal@gmail.com if you need your items picked up. If you are able to deliver your items, call, text or email Elane to set up a time to meet so the items can be stored in Presbyterian Place until the sale. If anyone has canopies and/or umbrellas we could borrow to get us through the August heat and out of the blistering sun, that would be greatly appreciated.

This sale certainly will benefit the Choir but will also be a time of fellowship and laughter. In addition, our homes will be decluttered for the Fall. As part of our church family, please join in on the efforts as we prepare for the sale and enjoy the fellowship of August 10.

Thank you in advance from your Carnegie Trip Planning Team,
Donna Jarman, Karen Thomasy, Chanda Robertson, Judy Blue, Don Jones, Julie Jones, Beth Hatcher

FYI:

If there are items that do not sell on 8/10/19 (other than baked goods/perishables), we would like to keep them so we can have another yard sale in the Fall. The items will be stored in Presbyterian Place.

Thank you from yours truly, Elane Valero, yard sale coordinator.

DEACON'S CORNER

Cheer Squad: Thank you to all our participants in the Cheer Squad. Residents of Goodall-Witcher, Clifton Care, and Lutheran Sunset were overjoyed to receive your notes of care and encouragement. We will do another round of cards in September or October. Watch the Sunday Bulletin for details and please let us know if you would like to join this wonderful project! Cards are supplied and you complete them at your own pace in the comfort of your home.

School Supplies: Every year children in our area go to school without a backpack or basic school supplies. For the second year, we are creating backpacks filled with school supplies to deliver to the elementary schools in Clifton, Cranfills Gap, and Valley Mills. Please consider a monetary donation for this effort by noting "school supplies" on your check or offering envelope. Thank you!

As always, please let us know if you have a need or a question. We will see you in church! Punky, Jenny, Lorana, Grant, and Dana.

BOOK REVIEW

"Redeemed: Devotions for the Longing Soul" by Will Graham

Written by the grandson of Billy Graham, this devotional is full of inspiring stories, but also insight into the life and humanity of Billy and Ruth Graham. To Will, they were just his grandparents and he lovingly shares the real ways they lived out their faith and complete trust in God under the watchful eyes of the world.

If you grew up watching Billy Graham on television like I did, you will find this book interesting, uplifting, and motivating. Chapter 41 is one of my favorites and ends with the prayer, "Dear God, help me to know my role in the body of Christ. Show me how to use the gifts and abilities You've given me for Your Glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dana Ferguson

MISSION & OUTREACH

•Food Bank: Thursday, August 15, 9:15-12:00. Help needed. Please call or text Elane Valero @ 254-253-1231.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MEETING

Will meet on Monday, August 5, 12:30 PM, at the church.

“Love Carved In Stone”
A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments

The 2019–2020 Presbyterian Women’s Bible Study

One way to consider the Ten Words (Commandments) is as a love letter from God to that community stuck out in the wilderness. These words are both addressed to the community and, in new ways, create that community. That was true in the wilderness and it is true for us now. God both addresses us personally in these Words and creates with them a new community of us. The Ten Words are an invitation into a passionate life with God and with each other that is fundamentally different from the lives we have lived heretofore. Each of the Ten Words (Commandments) offers a salve, a healing balm, for a core wound in the human experience. They provide boundaries within which we can live in freedom and peace.

The Ten Words (Commandments), and the interpretive laws, gave a sense of identity to the Hebrew people as well as the security of knowing what God expected. While Christians do not look to the Law as a way to gain right standing with God, we do recognize that the heart of God’s moral will is articulated in the Law. John Calvin, in the *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, a foundational document for Presbyterian and Reformed theology from the Reformation period, teaches that moral law serves as a mirror in which we can see where we need to change. It is in that reflection that we also disabuse ourselves of the notion of our own virtue.

A careful study of the Law not only helps us know how to please God but also gives guidance for establishing habits that allow for our continued transformation more and more into the likeness of Christ (Sanctification). Studying the Ten Commandments is not intended to produce excessive guilt! As you move through the study you may find yourself feeling helpless to address the implications of these Words in their broadest sense. You are invited to simply engage the Words. Let God use them to transform you. Once that transformation begins, the next steps will become clear. So please join in and take part of this year’s Presbyterian Woman’s Study. The Study begins Monday September 9th at High Noon in the Church Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!

August 2019

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																			
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August 2019

Birthdays Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 * Jordan Buchalski Judy Blue	5	6 Sherrie Mangum	7 Bill Ferguson R.O. & Pat Bass	8 Bill Ferguson R.O. & Pat Bass	9 Sherrid Fielden	10 Lois Krause
11	12	13 Pat Bass	14	15	16 Beth Hatcher Bryan Davis	17
18	19 Carl Grelle Cassie Mullens	20	21 Buck Thomason	22	23	24 Vern Sigler
25 Jan Schofield Kerady McArthur	26	27 Mark Rush	28	29 George Larson	30 Dana Ferguson	31

September 2019

Birthdays Anniversaries

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8	9	10	11 Ramona & Adam Sowder	12 Don Forson Joyce & Roland Jones Steve Harr	13 Ollie & Robert Evinger	14 Wally Peckert																																																																																
15	16	17 Abby Robertson Martin Grelle	18	19 Eileen Day	20 Joe & Janice Borden	21																																																																																
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29 * Ashlee Symank * Jared Wallace	30	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Aug 2019</th> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Oct 2019</th> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>					Aug 2019	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		Oct 2019	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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SESSION MEMBERS

CLASS of 2019
Laura Baughman
Brian Haenisch
Elisabeth Montgomery

CLASS of 2020
Debbie Bergman
Lois Krause
George Larson

CLASS of 2021
Elane Valero
Mike Conner
Don Forson

TREASURER
Jean Lewis

DEACONS
Punky Penberthy
Jenny Walker
Grant & Dana Ferguson
Lorana Rush

TRUSTEES
Brian Gillaspie
Chris Bergman
Joe Borden

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
Lois Krause, Moderator
G-Ann Jones, Vice-Moderator
Elane Valero, Secretary-Treasurer
Kay Gebhardt, Historian
Ann Wiland, Least Coin
Laura Jenkins & Joy Williamson, Coordinators for NH parties



Sunday School – Bible Study – All Ages – 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship 10:30 – 10:50 a.m.
Worship – 11:00 a.m. Sunday (Communion on 1st Sunday of month)
Presbyterian Women – 2nd Monday of month 12:00 p.m., (Sept.-May)
Session Meets – 4th Tuesday of month, 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Adult Choir Practice – Wednesday evenings – 7:00 p.m.



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