PIPE CREEK PIPELINE

News, notes, and updates about our church family at Pipe Creek Presbyterian Church

From the Pastor's Pen

May is the "month of Love"!

Each Sunday gives us an understanding of how much God loves us! We see how much Jesus loved His Father. On May 9, we also celebrate our love for the special women God chose to be our Mom!

Thursday, May 13 is the Day of Ascension, the day that Jesus ascends to Heaven to be seated with His Father.

Sunday, May 23 is Pentecost Sunday, commonly known as the Birthday of the Church. This is the day that Jesus tells us that although he is no longer personally with us, He will send the Advocate (Holy Spirit) to be with us each day of our earthly lives.

May 30th is Trinity Sunday when we are reminded that we are loved as God's children in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Trinity Sunday is also the day before Memorial Day in our great nation when we remember those brave men and women who given their lives in defense of our nation that we can live as "free people" as people of God.

Let us worship and love God this month! Peace & Blessings. Duane Manning

Check out these precious volunteers who signed up to prepare and serve one of our last Little Rock Cafe dinners of the season. Both groups gave with their whole hearts and were much appreciated by everyone present! Kudos also to Tahmar and Dori who managed to duck out of the range of our photographer.

May Scripture Passages

May 2 Psalm 22: 25 - 31;
1 John 4: 7 - 21

May 9 Psalm 98;
John 15: 9 - 17

May 16 Psalm 1;
John 17: 6 - 19

May 23 Acts 2: 1 - 21;
John 15: 26 – 27,
John16: 4b – 15

May 30 Isaiah 6: 1 – 8,
John 3: 1 - 17

Theme for the Month: God is with us and Loves us!

You are invited to Tuesday morning Bible Study when on the Tuesday prior to sermon Sunday we get together to discuss the scripture readings on which the sermon is based. Join us at 11 a,m, and bring a lunch for fellowship afterwards.

The Mission of Pipe Creek Presbyterian Church is to share the joy and the comfort of God's love and His message of reconciliation through Jesus Christ.

May Birthday Celebrations

5/1 Esther Benedict

5/4 Diana Schuetze

5/5 Gerhard Retief

Deklan Cheshier

5/6 Fred Buckingham

Nancy Westley

5/13 Philip Archilla

5/17 Sharon Gilmore

5/26 Lyndsay Blair

Mike Smith

5/27 Brenda Archilla

5/31 Margo Begy

May Events

Sun. May 2	Celebration Sunday
Mon. May 3	Quilting Ministry
Tues. May 4	11 a.m. Bible Study
Thur. May 6	National Day of Prayer & Nancy Westley's 97th Birthday
Sun. May 9	Taco Sunday
Mon. May 10	Quilting Ministry
Tues. May 11	11 a.m. Bible Study
Thur May 13	Ascension of the Lord
Sun. May 16	Soup Sunday Session Meeting
Mon. May 17	Quilting Ministry
Tues. May 18	11 a.m. Bible Study
Sun. May 23	Pot Luck Sunday
Mon. May 24	Quilting Ministry
Tues. May 25	11 a.m. Bible Study
Sun. May 30	Trinity Sunday Men's Breakfast

May Wedding Anniversaries

5/13 Sibby & Rick Melton

5/17 Donna & Wayne Hannah

5/20 Esther Benedict & Norma Anderson

5/30 Rhonda & Mike Smith

God in the Notes

Written by Esther Benedict

How Great Thou Art

A few Sundays ago, we sat in the back of the sanctuary at Pipe Creek Presbyterian Church and this song was the closing hymn of the service. It felt so good to sing it! With the best voice I could muster, along with Norma singing harmony, we burst into this song with full emotion.

Then came the last verse and our voices were diminished in the greatness of the words. Tears welled up in our eyes as we pondered the truth:

> When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
> And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
> Then I shall bow, in humble adoration.

WOW! Those words say so much! With shout of acclamation! Amen! Doesn't that make you just want to sink to your knees and thank God for all His blessings in this world? Oh, what joy shall fill my heart!

I love the current music on K-Love. It is beautiful music that touches many people's lives, especially those that may turn on their radio and hear this type of music for the first time. There is a place for all Christian music. Yet, those of us raised in the church with old favorite hymns can feel the depth and the soulful connection to those familiar songs. How they grace our memories of days gone by; how those old hymns inspire us to offer whole-hearted praise to God in the present!

> When through the woods and forest glades I wander
> And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
> When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
> And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

Can't you just feel, see, hear, and be touched by these incredible words? It seems to me that the author was in the Spirit when writing this. That place where you FEEL the Holy Spirit and you are almost transported to a spiritual place that is other worldly.

The writer continues:

> And when I think that God His Son not sparing
> Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in.
> That on that cross MY burden gladly bearing
> He bled and died to take away my sin.

And then!

> When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation. (Praise, assent, overwhelming affirmative cheers and shouts!)
> And take me HOME, WHAT JOY SHALL FILL MY HEART!
> Then I shall bow in humble adoration
> And THERE PROCLAIM, MY GOD HOW GREAT THOU ART!

The chorus is always an expression of deep gratitude.

Then sings my soul my savior God to thee
How great thou art, How great thou art!
Then sings my soul my savior God to thee
How great thou art
HOW GREAT THOU ART!

Please read through these lyrics. Read aloud if possible and really hear what this hymn is saying. Be careful though; it might bring you to tears.
If it does, it's okay! it means you ARE feeling the Spirit!

Oh Lord my God
When I, in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burdens gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

(Editor's Note: I sat next to Esther and Norma that Sunday and can tell you for certain that listening to them sing those words absolutely brought me to tears! It was one of the most moving experiences of my life. B. Westley)

Session Briefs

Serving Communion: Session approved not asking the congregation to come forward to receive communion, rather having it served in the pews with the cups in the trays and pre-cut bread on the plates.

Bill Schultz, Elder for Outreach, outlined a request from Ambleside, Boerne's private Christian school. PCPC was approached to support Ambleside's Art Spring event on April 24, 2021. This is a fine community outreach opportunity, and Session was pleased to vote to send a $300 check toward this year's fund raising event.

Thank you, PCPC congregation! Rick Melton briefed Session that $345 had been donated toward the One Great Hour of sharing for 2021! "We certainly have a caring congregation that steps up to support our four special offerings each year." If you haven't contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing yet and want to, write your check and note "One Great Hour of Sharing" in the memo line, and put it in the offering plate. Or use one of the pew envelopes and note "One Great Hour of Sharing" on it so it'll be included in this year's giving.

At the March meeting, Mission Presbytery's Child and Youth Protection Policy was passed out to the elders. They reviewed the policy and brought their suggestions to the April meeting. After discussion, Session accepted this policy to reflect applicability to PCPC with edits to be made to reflect it's a PCPC policy. Once those edits are completed, final copy of the policy will be available at the May meeting.

This is a vibrant, alive church, welcoming its congregation and visitors alike to worship and fellowship together. Thanks be to God!

Session Ministry Assignments:

Chris Kelley	Worship
Barbara Boalo	Nurture
Darlene Hildebrand	Property
Kirk Price	Christian Education
Rick Melton	Stewardship
Bill Schultz	Evangelism/ Outreach

Need a Notary?

Notary service is available from Barbara Maxwell (732-600-2221) or Jackie Manning (830-456-7086). We're glad to assist, just give us a phone call!

SUPER SOUP SUNDAY!

On Sunday, April 18, PCPC's congregation enjoyed a delicious choice of soups that highlighted this month's Soup Sunday. We had our choice of chicken tortellini, broccoli cheese, lentil potato, beans and ham, and corn chowder – one of the things we enjoy about Soup Sunday is that we can have a taste of one soup or a taste of every soup! Here's what a few folks said about their experience:

Tesher said, "I liked the tortellini and broccoli cheese soups best. It's my favorite Sunday. I would give it a 5-star rating!"

Norma agreed, "It's satisfying; not heavy."

Esther added, "I like the variety and tasting different recipes."

From Brenda, "I loved it, I want more and I liked the variety."

And from Chris, "Great!"

So when you see "Soup Sunday" on the PCPC calendar (usually the third Sunday of each month), make plans to join us in Fellowship Hall following worship. Have a favorite soup you want to share? Contact Valerie Hannah or Jackie Manning to join the fun.

We're considering trading soups for salads in June, July and August. What do you think? Let Valerie and Jackie know.

Got Prayers?

The PCPC Quilt Ministry has cut, stitched, and labeled more than two hundred Pocket Prayer Quilts to give to people who come to our church to attend a church service and other special occasions. The idea is to have these little squares in your pocket to prompt prayers during a moment of quiet calm or remembrance.

Some of our church members have asked if they could have a few to mail to friends or family members.

While we aren't creating them by the gross, if you would like a few to send someone special see one of the members of the quilt group and we'll be happy to get some for you.