

2021

In Mark 12:30-31 Jesus teaches us to “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.” The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” It is important to love God and love our neighbors. But we must also learn to love ourselves.

Author and psychotherapist David Benner writes of the importance of embracing “wholeness” as a path to holiness, which recognizes and affirms the “oneness” of who we are, without needing to eliminate or perfect any part of ourselves. This generates the same goodwill towards others, leading to greater love.

“We live wholeness when we re-member our story and, through it, experience a deeper sense of being part of a greater whole. We live wholeness when we know we belong—to people, to a place, to a community and tribe, to earth, to God (however named), and to the cosmos ... We live wholeness when we know that what we already have is enough and that all we need is to be resourceful with it.”

What are those parts of ourselves that we find difficult to accept and love? As we approach God, let each one of us reflect our whole being and learn to love the creation that God has made.

Pastor Ray

THE HERITAGE CASE

Many of our members attended a Presbyterian Sunday School. For many years the curriculum was supplemented by books that were taken home by the students every quarter. This started when a child left the “Cradle Roll Department” and went to the Sunday School. The simplest books were for three year olds. Then there was the Primary Department and the Junior Department . One in the case is inscribed with “To Jakob from Tammy.....Sunday School ‘93” Stop by the case – you may see books you remember either from your childhood or from your children being in Sunday School.

- Nancy Gee



After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, “That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys!”



June 6
June 13
June 20
June 27

Who Will You Follow?
How Much Is Enough?
Facing Our Fears
Can We Outgive God?

Church Picnic...June 27th after worship.
Watch the bulletin and Wednesday emails for more information!



Kum Ba Yah aka Kum Ba Zoom

We meet every Wednesday on ZOOM for fellowship, study and prayer.
7:00 PM. The link to the Zoom Meeting is sent in the Wednesday eMail each week.

Kum Ba Yah topics:

June 2 NO Kum Ba Yah
June 9 "In, With, Against, and For"
June 16 The Fruit of Patience
June 23 The Fruit of Kindness
June 30 The Fruit of Goodness

Adult Sunday School **Sundays at 9:30am on Zoom!**

June 6 Gifts of the Redeemer Pt. 1
June 13 Gifts of the Redeemer Pt. 2
June 20 Gifts of the Spirit Pt. 1
June 27 Gifts of the Spirit Pt. 2



June 2021 Daily Lectionary

These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship.

Old Testament

Epistle

Gospel

[Year One]

06/01/2021	Deut. 12:1-12	2 Cor. 6:3-7:1	Luke 17:11-19
06/02/2021	Deut. 13:1-11	2 Cor. 7:2-16	Luke 17:20-37
06/03/2021	Deut. 16:18-20	2 Cor. 8:1-16	Luke 18:1-8
06/04/2021	Deut. 26:1-11	2 Cor. 8:16-24	Luke 18:9-14
06/05/2021	Deut. 29:2-15	2 Cor. 9:1-15	Luke 18:15-30
06/06/2021	Deut. 29:16-29	Rev. 12:1-12	Matt. 15:29-39
06/07/2021	Deut. 30:1-10	2 Cor. 10:1-18	Luke 18:31-43
06/08/2021	Deut. 30:11-20	2 Cor. 11:1-21a	Luke 19:1-10
06/09/2021	Deut. 31:30-32:14	2 Cor. 11:21b-33	Luke 19:11-27
06/10/2021	Song of Sol 1:1-16	2 Cor. 12:1-10	Luke 19:28-40
06/11/2021	Song of Sol 2:8-13	2 Cor. 12:11-21	Luke 19:41-48
06/12/2021	Song of Sol 5:10-16	2 Cor. 13:1-13	Luke 20:1-8
06/13/2021	Exod. 6:2-13; 7:1-6	Rev. 15:1-8	Matt. 18:1-14
06/14/2021	1 Sam. 1:1-20	Acts 1:1-14	Luke 20:9-19
06/15/2021	1 Sam. 1:21-2:11	Acts 1:15-26	Luke 20:19-26
06/16/2021	1 Sam. 2:12-26	Acts 2:1-21	Luke 20:27-40
06/17/2021	1 Sam. 2:27-36	Acts 2:22-36	Luke 20:41-21:4
06/18/2021	1 Sam. 3:1-21	Acts 2:37-47	Luke 21:5-19
06/19/2021	1 Sam. 4:1b-11	Acts 4:32-5:11	Luke 21:20-28
06/20/2021	1 Sam. 4:12-22	James 1:1-18	Matt. 19:23-30
06/21/2021	1 Sam. 5:1-12	Acts 5:12-26	Luke 21:29-36
06/22/2021	1 Sam. 6:1-16	Acts 5:27-42	Luke 21:37-22:13
06/23/2021	1 Sam. 7:2-17	Acts 6:1-15	Luke 22:14-23
06/24/2021	1 Sam. 8:1-22	Acts 6:15-7:16	Luke 22:24-30
06/25/2021	1 Sam. 9:1-14	Acts 7:17-29	Luke 22:31-38
06/26/2021	1 Sam. 9:15-10:1	Acts 7:30-43	Luke 22:39-51
06/27/2021	1 Sam. 10:1-16	Rom. 4:13-25	Matt. 21:23-32
06/28/2021	1 Sam. 10:17-27	Acts 7:44-8:1a	Luke 22:52-62
06/29/2021	1 Sam. 11:1-15	Acts 8:1b-13	Luke 22:63-71
06/30/2021	1 Sam. 12:1-25	Acts 8:14-25	Luke 23:1-12



The Mission Committee met on May 18, 2021.

The committee present discussed the backpack program balance and the end of the school year. They want to make a big push for funds for the backpack program we ended this year with a negative balance of 125.00.

The Mission committee decided to donate from their Local Mission Funds: \$300.00 to OC United Way & \$300.00 to the Local Salvation Army to help with local needs. They are going to investigate needs of the new facility that helps foster families and the literacy program at the library.

Thank you everyone for your continued support, we do great things here at First Presbyterian, Miami!



Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you very much for your generous donation of \$200 to be used for immediate needs. We wanted to share with you that these funds were used to serve our local homeless population. Your thoughtfulness and generosity have blessed those in need of shelter, food and medical attention that have been suffering for a variety of reasons. Thank you for thinking of others, and for entrusting us to make the best decisions possible with the knowledge of the needs of our local community members through our partnering agencies.

Sincerely, Gina Womack
Ottawa County United Way, Inc.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$300 to help us expand our adult day program for the men and women at Home of Hope. Your gift will be used to renovate and develop spaces for art, entertainment, life and social skills training, pre-vocational training, and physical health activities.

Thank you for making a difference in their lives.

With Sincere appreciation,
Ralph Richardson,
CEO Home of Hope

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10-12 Food Pantry	2 10-12 Food Pantry	3 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	4 10-12 Food Pantry	5
6 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	7 10-12 Food Pantry	8 10-12 Food Pantry	9 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	10 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	11 10-12 Food Pantry	12
13 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	14 10-12 Food Pantry	15 10-12 Food Pantry 11:00 am Mission Mtg. 7:00 pm Session Mtg.	16 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	17 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon.	18 10-12 Food Pantry	19 NEOK Pride Festival
20 Fathers Day 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	21 10-12 Food Pantry	22 10-12 Food Pantry	23 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom	24 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 Gamblers Anon. Newsletter Submissions Due	25 10-12 Food Pantry	26
27 9:15 am Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Church Picnic	28 10-12 Food Pantry	29 10-12 Food Pantry	30 10-12 Food Pantry 7:00 KumBaZoom			

Servers in the Lord's House

	Usher	Coffee Host
June 6	Open	Open
June 13	Open	Open
June 20	Open	Open
June 27	Open	Open

Please call the office or talk to Pastor Ray to sign up for the above servers slots!

CONGRATULATIONS TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

Charles Ridgeway, grandson of Melinda Thiesing, graduated from Norman (OK) High School, and Ethan Wonders, grandson of Susan Russell graduated from Miami (OK) High School.



May God's blessings continue to fill their lives with goodness!

Mary Kay McCoy ... 6/1

Jack Carden ... 6/20

Cathy Rabel ... 6/2

Johnie Wadleigh ... 6/20

Neeli Chitekwe ... 6/3

Sandy Ankenman ... 6/21

Lacey Ankenman ... 6/5

Grace Goodeagle ... 6/21

LaShell Thomas ... 6/8

Billy Thomas ... 6/22

Brenda Sommer ... 6/9

Betty Lou Ankenman . 6/26

David Hiebert ... 6/10

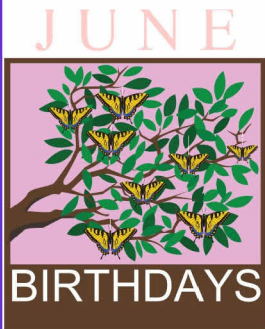
Ben Fullbright ... 6/28

Carmen Rabel ... 6/10

Matt Fullbright ... 6/28

Janie Clay ... 6/17

Corey Rabel ... 6/28



Should your name be here?

Please let the office know your birth date so we can include you!

The British Flyers in Miami

Recently a man from Great Britain contacted the church via our website, it seems he was going through some of his fathers things and ran across the letter you see on the next page.

His father had been sent to Miami for flight training. Many of you know about the "Spartan School of Aeronautics" that was in operation in the 40's here in town, but some may not. I lived here so much of my life and actually had no idea, until recent years, that during WW2 many British pilots came to my little hometown to train. In fact there 13 men, who lost their life in training, buried in our GAR Cemetery. It is my understanding that the ground they are buried in was, at some point, consecrated as British. This way the pilots would be buried in British Soil! John Lomax told me that until recently NEO used to have reunions for the men who once trained here. It is really neat that our church was so welcoming to these young men that this letter was saved for so many years!

Popular Idioms and their supposed origins:

Butter him up

Definition: To flatter someone.

Origin: In ancient India, a customary religious act involved devotees throwing balls of butter at the statues of their gods. This was meant to ask for the gods' forgiveness and favor.

Cat got your tongue?

Definition: A question thrown to a person when he doesn't seem to know what to say.

Origin: One of the possible sources for this phrase is the cat-o'-nine-tails, a whip used for flogging in the English Navy.

Being whipped caused severe pain that the victim would stay mute for an extended time. A second possible origin is ancient Egypt: people would cut out blasphemers' and liars' tongues and feed them to the cats!

Caught red-handed

Definition: To catch someone in the act of doing something wrong.

Origin: An old English law stipulated that anyone who butchered another person's animal would be punished.

The condition was that he would be found guilty if the accusers caught him while he still had the blood of the slain animal on his hands.

E. F. LOHMANN
CLERK OF SESSION
GEORGE J. STEIN
PRES. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

M. A. CONNELL, M. D.
SUPERINTENDENT SUNDAY SCHOOL
ROLAND H. SPRINGER
CHURCH TREASURER

The First Presbyterian Church

HARRY W. CURTIS, PASTOR

Miami, Oklahoma

April 2, 1943.

L.A.C. James Thomson,
The Spartan School,
City.

Dear Mr. Thomson:

The Miami Presbyterian Church wishes you to know that your coming to our community is a thing of interest to us; and we hasten to extend to you all cordial greetings. We are glad that you are here, and we hope that we may have soon the pleasure of your attendance in our worship services. We want to make your acquaintance soon. All our programs are open to you and to your friends.

During the past Church year we have had a fine attendance of Spartan cadets. Our record for the year shows that 591 of the cadets from courses 8 to 14 have worshipped with us. We have had a happy fellowship with these men, and we hope that you, too, may feel free to share our services. Come and bring your buddies with you.

Our morning worship is at 11 o'clock. At the evening hour, usually 8:30 P.M., we hold a youth assembly program which has attracted every Sunday a goodly number of Spartan folk. This program combines food, fellowship, lesson discussion, and recreation.

We are pleased to announce that on the coming Sunday, at 4 P.M., our young people will assemble at the Church for a trip to Timber Hill, the country place of one of the friends of our youth, where the youth assembly will be held this week. Transportation will be provided at the Church; and food, fellowship, lesson, and recreation will be provided at Timber Hill. Please come to join us on this trip. The invitation includes any of your friends that you may wish to bring.

With all good wishes for your splendid success in your course of training at Spartan, and trusting that we may have soon the pleasure of meeting you, I am

Sincerely yours,

Harry W. Curtis
Pastor.

Pentecost Sunday 2021



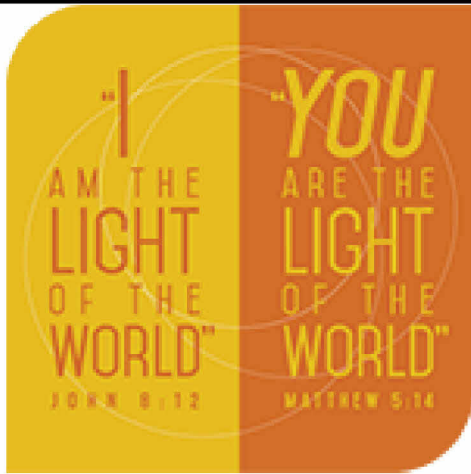
Plants for Pentecost!



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*



See light, be light

In January 2021, National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman presented her poem “The Hill We Climb” at the presidential inauguration. The final lines read: “For there is always light, / if only we’re brave enough to see it. / If only we’re brave enough to be it.”

How often we long for light! In recent years we’ve agonized amid pandemic, angry politics and new awareness of racism. Some have suffered deep sorrow. But Jesus says, “I am the light of the world” (John 8:12) and invites us to turn to him. God is always bringing light into darkness, through helpers, healers, peacemakers, friends. Sometimes bravery is required to turn

our focus from the negative to the positive — to see the light of God.

Jesus also says, “*You* are the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14, emphasis added) and calls us to brighten the gloom. That requires bravery, as Gorman notes, but as Christians we’re urged to look for light not just to make our own lives better but to shine into others’ lives too. The Holy Spirit gives us the needed courage — to both *see* and *be* light.

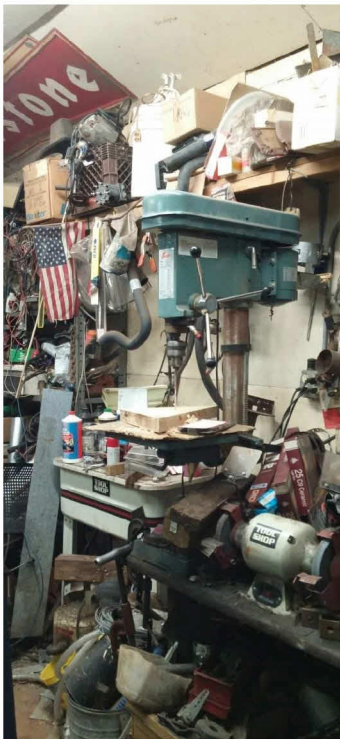
Hanging out with Dad

I’ve always been a “daddy’s girl.” Growing up, I usually spent Saturdays in the garage with my dad. We’d build something, fix a car part or get into some trouble together.

Though Joseph wasn’t Jesus’ biological father, he certainly served as a father figure for God’s Son. Jesus followed in Joseph’s footsteps as a carpenter, but we’re told little about his childhood. When Joseph advised Jesus to “measure twice and cut once,” did Jesus mention he’d get it right on the first measure? How many craftsman tips did Jesus learn from Joseph? And did Joseph learn a few from Jesus? Surely young Jesus looked up to Joseph. What did wonder look like in the eyes of the One who invented wonder?

How am I hanging out with God on a regular basis? Am I continuing to learn his “trade”? Do I intentionally mimic his words, his kindness, his ways of loving others well? Take a minute to ponder that. Imagine yourself out in the garage with God (or in the kitchen with God, or at the computer with God). What task do you imagine doing together? What does God say to you as you look into his eyes?

—Janna Firestone



In Honor of Fathers Day we bring you these "Dad Jokes"!

- The LEGO shop reopens tomorrow, but I recommend avoiding it for the time being. *People will be lined up for blocks.*
- I'm reading a horror book in Braille. Something bad is going to happen. *I can feel it.*
- I ordered a chicken and an egg online. *I'll let you know.*
- The best way to communicate with a fish is to *drop them a line.*
- I'll call you later. Don't call me later, *call me Dad!*
- What time did the man go to the dentist? *Tooth hurt-y.*
- What did one ocean say to the other ocean? *Nothing, they just waved.*
- How many tickles does it take to make an octopus laugh? *Ten tickles.*
- What do you call a fake noodle? *An impasta.*
- How does Darth Vader like his toast? *On the dark side.*
- What do you call a sad fish? *A frownder.*
- My neighbors listen to really good music... *whether they like it or not.*
- I just found out that "Aaaargh" is not a real word. *I can't express how angry I am.*
- What did 50Cent do when he got hungry? *58.*
- I have a pen that can write underwater. *It can write other words, too.*
- What do snails become when they die? *Escarghosts.*
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. *It's impossible to put down!*
- My daughter yelled, "Daaaaad, you haven't listened to a word I've said!" *What a strange way to start a conversation with me.*

