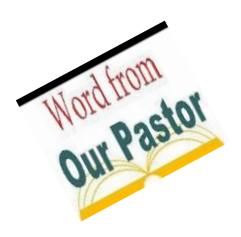
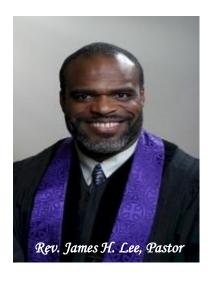


Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!





Dear NCFA Family and Friends:

This Sunday, we will celebrate the 4th Sunday in Lent. It is a great time for us to remember that it is by God's grace that we live, move and have our being. This reminder is great when we miss the mark and even better when we get prideful because of our "success." Amen!

On March 29th, we will celebrate Palm Sunday and of course four weeks from Sunday will be Resurrection Sunday or Easter. It is important that we remain focused throughout these next 30 days.

On Sunday, we will prayer walk through the community and also disperse door hangers outlining our activities for Holy Week. This is an opportunity for us not only to be aware of the community around our church, but is also an opportunity for us to fellowship together outside of the four walls. Please make every effort to participate with us.

I couldn't help but to share this picture of Precious. She was excited to be able to participate. She and Ms. Becca took on the neighborhood by storm.



When we were on Dessau Road, our middle school students would race each other to see who could disperse the door hangers quickest. Isn't funny how our focus determines how we approach things in our lives? They were so motivated to beat each other that they weren't worried about being rejected or not. When my son Aaron was asked what he was doing he said, "I am handing these out for my Dad and the church. It's an invitation to our church." He wasn't concerned about being rejected. He was racing his friends and inviting people to our church.

<u>2 Timothy 1: 7:</u> 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

As we walk through the neighborhood, we get ask God's blessings upon each home and the families within them. We don't have to know them or their circumstances. We are blessed to be blessings so we extend them on behalf of our Lord and God. Amen!

On March 29, we will have the joy of singing Hosanna with palm branches in our hands as we celebrate Palm Sunday, I personally invite you to join me as the NCFA family is invited to worship Pastor Rudy Mojica and the members from His Highest Praise. We have the privilege of commencing the series: "The Seven Cries from the Cross" or the "Last Seven Sayings of the Christ."" Worship begins at 6:00 pm..

Please join me in expressing our gratitude to Carol Saddington for serving as our musician for the NCFA chapel service on the Perry Estate. She will continue to serve at the Wilshire campus; however, March 22 will be her last Sunday at the chapel. Please help me to identify other musicians, guitarist or panelist who are called to the ministry at the chapel.

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday. I pray that you are experiencing the best that God has to offer. If you are not, I hope that you experience God's peace, presence and provisions.







WE INVITE YOUR FAMILY TO JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL PRAYER WALK WHILE WE PASS OUT DOOR HANGERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

MARCH 15, 2015
12:30 PM AFTER WORSHIP

We'll be prayer walking in the lovely neighborhood of our Church.

We'll meet and disperse flyers, equipped with a map and the Armor of God!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
MARY MOJICA @ 512-963-0915 OR
MARYJOMOJICA@YAHOO.COM



March 29, 2015 at 6 p.m.

NCFA is the Guest Church as we worship with
HIS HIGHEST PRAISE, Pastor Rudy Mojica, Sr.

Pastor Lee is the commencement preacher for the
"Seven Cries from the Cross" series for Holy Week

His Highest Praise 100 West Pflugerville Pkwy., Unit #107, Pflugerville



Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!

A Passover Seder Meal at NCF April 19, 2015 after worship



Q: What is a Seder?

A: A reflective and celebratory service and meal that was shared in antiquity by Jews (like Jesus and the disciples) at the Last Supper and continues today.

Q: How can I participate?

A: Come! Stay! There will be a meal to share.

Q: How can I help?

A: Contribute to the potluck! Check the list of needs on the back table.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL STUDY

Hosted by Genesis Presbyterian Church; NCF Folks Welcome!

Come, Now Is the Time to...
Join in the Last Few Classes

Led by: Seminarian Cliff Frederick

In the GPC Library, just down the sidewalk from the NCF office.

Remaining dates:

Mornings: Thursdays, 10:30—11:30 -- March 19, 26 Or Evenings: Tuesdays, 7:00-*;00 - - March 17, 24, 31

Please note: No child care or meals provided.



Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!

JOINT ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT AND PICNIC

Sunday, April 5th

At 12:30

1507 Wilshire Blvd. 78722

New Covenant Fellowship Genesis Presbyterian Church Turning Point Fellowship

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs and your sack lunch along with your Easter basket for the hunt!

We need volunteers to bring stuffed Easter eggs by April 1st so we best plan for Resurrection Sunday and the Easter egg hunt. .
Please do not bring chocolate candies.
They cause a melted mess!

For more information, e-mail maryjomojica.com



ARE YOU A MUSICIAN??
A pianist? A guitarist? A soloist?

Our 8:15 am service at the NCFA Chapel on the Perry Estate at 4100 Red River will need a musician beginning March 29.

Our pianist, Carol Saddington, is taking a leave of absence, and her last Sunday accompanying our chapel worship is this Sunday, March 15.

If you can help, or know someone who might be able to, please contact Trish Holland, 512-461-6250 cell or 512-892-0680 home.

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Nancy Tallman 5th Matthew Aldas Kali Christman Rev. Lydia Hernandez 7th Kwasi Agbottah 9th **Christine Wagner** 11th Gianna Mojica 12th Nhyira Okyere Mireku 17th Jason Lee **Christopher Davis** 19th Hosea J. Lee 20th Sam Buford 22nd Crystal Unegbu

Jacob Pan Lew
23rd Nina Buford
29th John Harrison
Jessica Lee
Almari Alvarez
31st Jumarcus Daniels
Debbie Saddington

2/24 Mary and Randy Mojica



Session Members

'Rev. James Lee Pastor/Moderator *Elder Kathy Smith Clerk of Session *Rev. Bill Harris Administration & Personnel *Elder Tim Lenz **Buildings & Grounds** *Elder Mary Jo Mojica Congregational Life *Elder Randy Mojica Children and Youth *Elder Cathy Angell Discipleship & Women's Ministry *Elder Caly Fernandez Evangelism *Elder Tracey Lenz Finance & Stewardship *Elder Robert Booth Lay Ministry *Elder Benton Hooks

Deacons

Missions

Men's Ministry

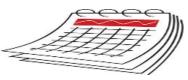
*Elder Vernon Bailey

*Elder Charles Robinson

Worship & Membership

Connie Jones, Chair Kathryn Aldas Ulysses Cox Naomi Jones Samuel Okyere Mireku Lucy Oglesby Ashley Phillips Carol Saddington Cathy Trifiro Roxann Vallejo

MADCU



March 15
4th Sunday in Lent
Door Hangers in the
community immediately
following worship

March 17 6:30 –9:00 pm Men's Ministry Dinner and Bible Study, in the NCFA Kitchen

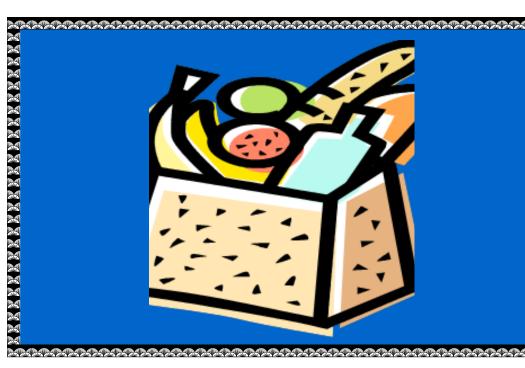
March 18 6:30pm Light Dinner, Prayer and Praise Service

Lenten Study Continues in Genesis Library-Come! Tuesday Mar. 17- 7-8pm or Thursday Mar. 19 - 10:30-11:30am

March 19 12noon Bible Study at Connie Jones's home



Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!



We Care Kits

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

1 Peter 3:15

We are currently accepting the following donations:

Food/Drink Items:

Granola Bars

Peanut Butter Crackers

Trail Mix

8-oz. Water Bottles

Hygiene/Personal Items:

Travel-Size Toothbrush

Travel-Size Toothpaste

Travel-Size Soap or Body Wash

Travel-Size Shampoo

Pocket-Size Kleenex

Pocket-Size Comb (no pointed handle)

Chap stick

Adult White Crew Socks – Size Large

All donated items should be placed in the donations box located in Classroom 7. If you have any questions, please email or call me:

calyflower2020@yahoo.com / (512) 228-4712

NCFA Evangelism Committee and the Children and Youth Committee will schedule a date in April to put the kits together.





N

SUNDAY MORNINGS NCFA Sunday Schedule

G

8:15am - Worship Service Waller Creek Chapel

41st St. and Red River

A

10:15am - Worship Service 1507 Wilshire Blvd. 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Fellowship 10:45am - Children's Church

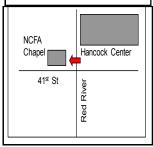
NCFA SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 8:15am --Waller Chapel

Come rise and shine with us at our 8:15am chapel service where we glorify God through the Word, Prayer, Hymns, and Communion.

41st and Red River, entrance gate on 41st.

In the words of Phillips, Craig & Dean, "Come, just as you are, to worship."
All are welcome to this traditional, intimate style of worshiping our Lord.





NCFA Waller Creek Chapel — Upcoming Preachers

March 22 – Deacon Sam Okyere Mireku

March 29 – Pastor James Lee

April 5 – Pastor James Lee

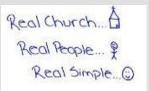
Prayerfully seeking a musician called to join this worship service.

NCFA SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:15am

We would love to have you and your family come share in the CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS!

We are worshiping in the Fellowship Hall of Genesis Presbyterian Church on the Wilshire Campus starting at10:15 a.m.





New Covenant Fellowship of Austin PC(U.S.A.) is a racially diverse community informed by the Bible, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and motivated to share God's love with all. In response to God's love, we are called to equip disciples to faithfully serve, to encourage seekers to joyfully commit, and to implore all to worship our Lord, as we love our neighbors, grow in grace, and live by faith.

JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS







On January 15, 2015, the African American Presidents and Deans in Theological Education issued a call through an open letter to leaders and citizens of our country and to those who serve theological and divinity schools. The letter seeks a response to the current and persistent forces in our country that result in the violence against and devaluing of the lives of African American men and women. Indeed, the call emerges from a concern for the preservation of human dignity everywhere. In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

At the annual meeting of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) presidents and board chairs, Dr. Brian Blount, President of Union Presbyterian Seminary, and one of the signers of the open letter, read the letter as part of our opening prayer. We were all deeply moved.

Therefore, we the seminary presidents of the PC(USA) affirm our solidarity with you, our colleagues in theological and religious education, as we all work toward a more just world, shaped in the image of Jesus' vision of Jubilee in which God announces good news to the poor, proclaims freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, and sets the oppressed free (Luke 4:18–19, Isaiah 61:1–2).

We commit to creating and sustaining conversations, programs, and/or actions, consistent with the missions of our schools that respond to our country's current situation so that we might embrace anew a vision of "the beloved community." Finally, we are grateful to you our colleagues, who have committed yourselves to the equipping and training of future leaders in our churches and in society. Your prophetic witness inspires us. Our own various complicities within oppressive structures humble us. May the Spirit of God, which dwells in each of us, transform our world so that we might more fully embrace a Christian witness that seeks to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).

The peace and grace of Jesus Christ be with all of you, The Seminary Presidents of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

- -The Rev. Dr. M. Craig Barnes, President, Princeton Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Blount, President, Union Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey F. Bullock, President, the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. William J. Carl, III, President, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. Katharine Rhodes Henderson, President, Auburn Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. Michael Jinkins, President, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. James McDonald, President, San Francisco Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. Paul T. Roberts, Sr., President, Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary
- -William E. Scheu, Interim President, Columbia Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. Theodore J. Wardlaw, President, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- -The Rev. Dr. Frank M. Yamada, President, McCormick Theological Seminary

Faithfully yours,



Theodore J. Wardlaw President Friends All:

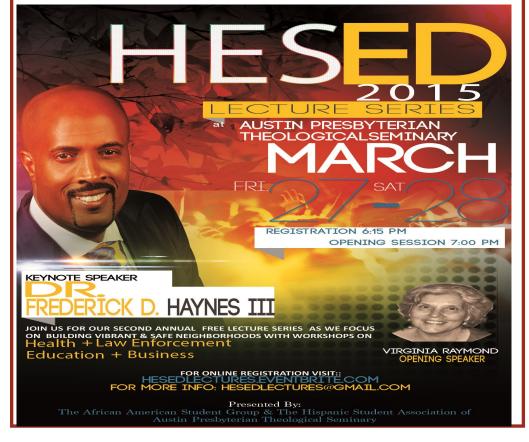




2015 Hesed Lecture Series at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Order tickets via Eventbrite: http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2015-hese...

This year's Hesed Lecture Series will focus on building safe neighborhoods by looking at the areas of Commerce, Law enforcement/Legal services, Health, and Education through workshops led by guest lecturers. There will also be two keynote addresses; Virginia Raymond will open up as the Friday evening speaker and Dr. Frederick Douglass Haynes III will end this year's lecture series as the luncheon keynote speaker.





We're in the business of changing Lives!

LifeChangers job readiness program for students ages 14-18 who attend school in Travis county is accepting applications.

The training is 15 hours over a 2-day period on 3/20, 6:30pm-8:30pm and 3/21, 8am-4pm with lunch included.

Students need to bring a copy of their signed social security card (as proof of citizenship) and a copy of their school ID (as proof that they attend school).

If you have any questions, please contact Carl Harvey at 512.791.9052.



Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!



Rev. Jeff Saddington will offer a 6-class series on the Gospel of Mark starting April 9th.

He will facilitate the class using the book Mark's Gospel from Scratch, by Griggs and Myers.

The study will take place on Thursday evenings April 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th, May 7th and 14th.

Please note, this event will not have child care or meals provided. Please plan accordingly.

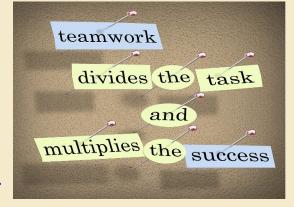
"You can do
what I cannot
do. I can do
what you
cannot do.
Together we can
do great
things."

- Mother Teresa

Four areas of focus for 2015

- 1. Retain and minister to visitors and members through personal contacts, strengthening families, ministry-driven events, and identifying and utilizing the numerous gifts of our members.
- 2. Better utilize social media and other modes of communication to celebrate our ministry, share resources, and organize ourselves.
- 3. Enhance our Children and Youth ministries through mentoring, attending their extracurricular activities, utilizing their gifts in worship, and assisting in the Nursery and Church School.
- 4. Continue emphasizing Marketplace Ministry and celebrating the various ministries within our Church and community.

Continue to reach out into the community like the Community Garden and our







PRAYER AND PRAISE

FAITH and PRAYER both are invisible, but they make impossible things possible.!!!

GALATIANS 6: 9-10: 9 LET US NOT BECOME WEARY IN DOING GOOD, FOR AT THE PROPER TIME WE WILL REAP A HARVEST IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP. 10 THEREFORE, AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY, LET US DO GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO BELONG TO THE FAMILY OF BELIEVERS.

- PRAYERS FOR LYDIA AS SHE RECOVERS FROM STREP THROAT. PRAISE GOD FOR HER LIFE AND MINISTRY AS SHE CELEBRATED 75 YEARS OF LIFE!!!
- LIFT UP DOTTIE, WHO PRAYS THAT HER ADDICTED HUSBAND IS ABLE TO BEGIN A NEW AND CLEAN LIFE. PRAYERS FOR ALL PEOPLE WHO SUFFER FROM ADDICTIONS OF ALL KINDS.
- LIFT UP A FRIEND OF OUR CHURCH FOR HEALING OF HIS MENTAL ILLNESS. PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF THE WIDESPREAD INCIDENCE OF MENTAL ILLNESS IN OUR COUNTRY.
- PRAYERS FOR ALL WHO ARE ON DEATH ROW.
- THANKSGIVING FOR OUR PRAYERS LIFTING UP JERRY AND HIS EXTENDED FAMILY AS THEY GRIEVE MOTHER MARYANN'S DEATH; THANKSGIVING FOR THE HEALING RECONCILIATION AMONG THEM. PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND COMFORT, AND FOR TRAVELING MERCIES WHEN HE RETURNS TO AUSTIN.
- PRAYERS FOR JOHN'S GRANDFATHER RECUPERATING IN THE HOSPITAL AND BATTLING EMPHYSEMA, AND ALSO HIS AUNT AMY, A WONDERFUL SAINT AS SHE FAITHFULLY SERVES AS HIS CAREGIVER.
- THANKSGIVING FOR THE JOY CAROL FOUND IN NEARLY THREE YEARS OF PLAYING THE PIANO FOR OUR CHAPEL SERVICES AND ASSISTING OUR PASTORS WITH THIS SUNRISE MINISTRY. PRAYERS THAT HER DECISION TO STOP WILL RESTORE SOME BALANCE TO HER LIFE AND OPEN THE DOOR FOR OTHERS TO PROVIDE MUSIC LEADERSHIP TO ACCOMPANY THE EARLY WORSHIP SERVICE. AS PSALM 95 PROCLAIMS,

"O COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD; LET US MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE ROCK OF OUR SALVATION! LET US COME INTO HIS PRESENCE WITH THANKSGIVING; LET US MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO HIM WITH SONGS OF PRAISE!"

- PRAYERS OF CELEBRATION FOR THE ANTICIPATED RETURN OF CAROL AND JEFF'S SON JOHN AND HIS FAMILY TO THE AUSTIN AREA THIS SUMMER.
- PRAYERS FOR VERNON, HIS FAMILY, HIS CLIENTS WITH HEAVY BURDENS, AND ESPECIALLY HIS SISTER EUNICE IN HER DISCOMFORT. LIFT UP GRANDDAUGHTER T'AHNA IN CELEBRATION OF HER ACADEMIC 4.0 ACHIEVEMENT!
- LIFT UP OUR NATION AS WE CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARCH FROM SELMA. PRAY FOR CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONSHIPS AMONG DIVERSE GROUPS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, CITIES, STATES, AND COUNTRY.





PRAYER AND PRAISE



- LIFT UP OUR NATION AS WE CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARCH FROM SELMA. PRAY FOR CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONSHIPS AMONG DIVERSE GROUPS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, CITIES, STATES, AND COUNTRY.
- THANK YOU TO THE WOMEN WHO PARTICIPATED IN PRESENTING TODAY'S CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S GIFTS: ESTELA, ESPERANZA, NOHEMI, STACY, TIFFANY, KATHRYN, CALY, ELIZABETH, PATRICIA, CAROL, CATHY A., CATHY T., AND GRACE. A SPECIAL "THANK YOU" TO JANE FOR ORGANIZING THE OCCASION.
- THANKSGIVING FOR THE SKILLS AND DEDICATION OF OUR AV TEAM.
- THANK YOU TO ESTELA FOR SHARING BOTH THE BIBLICAL AND HER PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF WOMEN WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE IN HER LIFE.
- PRAISE FOR THE CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS. IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY ARE HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME IN THE CLASSROOM
- LIFT UP THE KLEIN FAMILY WHILE UNCLE ROY IS UNDER HOSPICE CARE. LIFT UP FAMILY MEMBERS WHO ARE SAYING THEIR GOODBYES: ROY'S SON IN ENGLAND, STEPHANIE, ISABELLA, AND RYAN. PRAY FOR GOD'S COMFORT AND PEACE.
- LIFT UP ELIZABETH AND HER BROTHER WHOSE COUSIN DIED SUDDENLY LAST WEEK. LIFT UP TRAVELING MERCIES FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AS THEY GATHER TO CELEBRATE HIS LIFE.
- LIFT UP A FRIEND WHO WILL HAVE OPEN HEART SURGERY THIS WEEK IN AUSTIN. LIFT UP A FRIEND IN DALLAS WHO IS GOING THROUGH TREATMENT FOR BREAST CANCER.
- PRAISE FOR THE LOVING AND CARING AUSTIN COMMUNITY THAT HELPED AMPLIFY AUSTIN RAISE OVER \$7,000,000 TO HELP PEOPLE IN NEED. PRAISE FOR A \$200,000 GRANT AWARDED TO MOBIL LOAVES & FISHES' COMMUNITY FIRST HOUSING PROJECT FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE.
- LIFT UP A COLLEAGUE AND MENTOR WHOSE 13-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER DIED IN HER SLEEP LAST THURSDAY. LIFT UP GOD'S COMFORT AND PEACE FOR THE PARENTS, SISTER, EXTENDED FAMILY, AND FRIENDS.





PRAYER AND PRAISE



- PRAISE FOR THE BROWN FAMILY BEING IN WORSHIP WITH JOHN TODAY. PRAISE FOR THE HESED LECTURES COMING UP AT THE END OF MARCH. JOHN HAS BEEN ASKED TO ASSIST THE SEMINARY'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND HISPANIC STUDENT ALLIANCES IN COORDINATING TALKS ABOUT SETTING UP SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE DIVERSE GROUPS CAN LIVE PEACEABLY TOGETHER.
- PRAISE FOR THE GRADUATION OF A WOMAN FROM THE WORKERS2WORK PROGRAM. SHE HAS BEEN ABLE TO HOLD DOWN A JOB AND GET HER OWN CAR! LIFT UP GUIDANCE FOR THE LEADERS AS THEY DECIDE WHO GETS THE OLD CAR NEXT. WORKERS2WORK IS A MISSION OUTREACH FROM ROOOR (RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION OUTSIDE ORGANIZED RELIGION).
- LIFT UP RACHEL FOR GUIDANCE AS HER UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IS RUNNING OUT. SHE NEEDED THE BREAK BUT IS READY TO START ANEW.
- LIFT UP TRAVELING MERCIES AND BABY SKILLS FOR MATT AS HE COMES TO AUSTIN TO CARE FOR BABY LEE AS MAMA NIKKI AND DADDY DYLAN RETURN TO WORK.
- CONTINUE TO LIFT UP CHANTEL WHO HAS UNDERGONE THREE ROUNDS OF CHEMO FOR BREAST CANCER AND HAS TWO MORE TO GO. LIFT UP HEALTH TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THE TREATMENTS.
- LIFT UP A YOUNG KENYAN MISSIONARY COUPLE HOME IN DALLAS FOR A COUPLE MONTHS. THEIR INFANT DAUGHTER WAS JUST RELEASED FROM A WEEK IN ICU. LIFT UP GOD'S PROVISION FOR FINANCIAL NEEDS AND GUIDANCE FOR THEIR MISSIONARY WORK.
- LIFT UP HEALTH FOR MATTHEW AS HE WRESTLES WITH THE CHALLENGES OF DIABETES AND A NEW SEMESTER IN SEMINARY. LIFT UP THEIR YOUNGEST DAUGHTER WHO IS HAVING SLEEP ISSUES WHICH AFFECT THE WHOLE FAMILY.
- PRAISE FOR THE FOOD FOR PEOPLE PROGRAM IN WACO THAT BEGAN WHEN A CHURCH MEMBER FOUND THAT DAY-OLD BREAD WAS BEING SOLD TO PIG FARMERS FOR 9 CENTS A LOAF. SHE BOUGHT ALL THE DAY-OLD BREAD AND DIVERTED IT TO HUNGRY PEOPLE.





PRAYER AND PRAISE

GALATIANS 6: 9-10: 9 LET US NOT BECOME WEARY IN DOING GOOD, FOR AT THE PROPER TIME WE WILL REAP A HARVEST IF WE DO NOT GIVE UP. 10 THEREFORE, AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY, LET US DO GOOD TO ALL PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO BELONG TO THE FAMILY OF BELIEVERS.

- •WE CELEBRATE PASTOR THEODORA MOTEN-BRADFORD, WHO HOSTED A WONDERFUL GALA FOR "THE NEXT GENERATION OF GOD'S LEADING LADIES AT UT AUSTIN." PASTOR LEE WAS THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER, WHERE THE PARTICIPANTS WERE PROVIDED ENCOURAGEMENT, NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES, AND SPIRITUAL NURTURING AS THEY CONTINUE THEIR STUDIES, GRADUATE, AND CONTEMPLATE ENTERING THE FIELDS OF BUSINESS OR MARKETPLACE MINISTRIES.
- •LIFT UP DOTTIE, WHO PRAYS THAT HER ADDICTED HUSBAND IS ABLE TO BEGIN A NEW AND CLEAN LIFE. PRAYERS FOR ALL PEOPLE WHO SUFFER FROM ADDICTIONS OF ALL KINDS.
- •LIFT UP A FRIEND OF OUR CHURCH FOR HEALING OF HIS MENTAL ILLNESS. PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF THE WIDESPREAD INCIDENCE OF MENTAL ILLNESS IN OUR COUNTRY.
- •Prayers for all who are on Death Row.

FAITH and PRAYER both are invisible, but they make impossible things possible.!!!



Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

lelping Other

IN THEIR
REAT TIME
PNEED



Friends, we need your help. We are our best when we serve together. Please consider ways you can help our ministry leaders and ministries.

- Buildings & Grounds is in need of persons to help one or more days a month with light cleaning and set up for Sunday worship. This would typically be done on a Friday or Saturday and require between one and two hours of your time. For details see Tim Lenz, Chairperson Buildings & Grounds
- Congregational Life is in need of folks with the gift of hospitality and/or planning events. Contact Mary Mojica at maryjomojica@yahoo.com

After worship: Enjoy fellowship. Put away the Bibles and Hymnals. Collect the brown baskets and attendance sheets. Throw away our trash. Empty waste baskets in the classrooms, restroom, and kitchen.

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

Henry Ford





Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!



Greater Hope Center

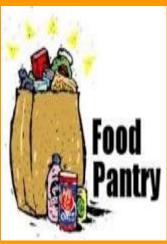
Clothing donations can be delivered to our boutique located at 4136 E. 12th, Austin, Texas 78723.

We accept all clothing donations during the hours we are open: Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

We will also make special arrangements for donations at other hours.

Free clothing for those who need it.

FOOD PANTRY AVAILABLE TO ALL



The New Covenant Fellowship Deacons are now providing a free to all food pantry each Sunday. This is to help anyone who needs a little help in the obtaining of groceries. The table at the back of the church will have canned goods and other non-perishable food each Sunday. If you or anyone you know needs some help with groceries, please feel free to partake of the items available.

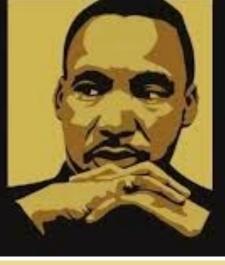
If you are able to donate food items to this table, please feel free to do so and bless you for your contribution. Paper bags with handles are also needed and if you have extra ones of these, please put them on this new food table.







Rarely do we find men who willingly engage in hard, solid thinking. There is an almost universal quest for easy answers and halfbaked solutions. Nothing pains some people more than having to think.



Martin Luther King, Jr.

Did you know the most effective Christian education takes place in homes where the adults are growing in their faith?

Check out one of these opportunities for growing in 2015:

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study - 6:30pm - Kitchen Men are finishing up a study on the book of Judges by Tim Keller. The next topic will be selected by the Men's Ministry.

Thursday Noon Bible Study, 12 noon –1 pm at the home of Connie Jones – 5107 Edenbourgh Ln.

(north of 290 East, just past Springdale) A study of the writings of the Apostle Paul.

All welcome, bring a bag lunch as desired.

4th Saturday Adult Bible Study, 8:30 am

Chapter 3 of "Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians" by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty

Sunday Morning Adult Sunday School - 9:15am - Rm. 7

This class is studying a book by Bill Hybels and John Ortberg on the Sermon on the Mount, the Passion story, "The Lord's Prayer," and several parables. The scripture is read together and then questions in the guide are discussed, making it real to current life.

Dates for Presbyterian Women

March 20-22 PW Spring Gathering, Covenant PC Girls Getaway Weekend, Hunt, TX, with NCF PW ladies invited to attend. Sponsored by Mission Presbytery with First Presbyterian Church PW of Seguin as hosts... Keynote Speaker will be Rev. Kathy Anderson, Director of John Knox Ranch. The theme will be "Peace Within the Storm."

April 3, Friday Church Women United will meet at 9:30 AM at Austin Mennonite Church, 5801 Westminster Dr. Ecumenical Development Forum: "Economic Justice" will be the program.





February 22, 2015—First Sunday in Lent
"Christ Dur Example"

Mark 1:9-15

Deacon Sam Dhyere Mirehu
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Mark 1:9-15: (The Baptism of Jesus) 9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." (The Temptation of Jesus) 12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. (The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry) 14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

People of God, in the culture in which I grew up and perhaps in many other cultures of the world, proverbs have a significant place in speech and communication. As a matter of fact, they add flavor to our speech. They also enhance brevity, clarity, and above all, effective understanding. I remember one of the proverbs I used to hear a lot, whenever the elderly were giving pieces of advice about character and life in general:

"Dee odi akyire sua dee odi kan nantee"

This is in the Akan language, and it can be translated in the best possible way in the English language as:

"Those who follow the leader walk in his or her footsteps."

When leaders or people whom others look up to for direction, inspiration, or formation are being admonished, they are always told to provide good examples for the younger ones or those who look up to them to emulate.

Again, examples are very important in the transfer or acquisition of knowledge and skills. In academia, professors as well as authors of books use examples to help them explain new concepts or ideas. Some of these examples help learners so much to gain in-depth understanding of the new concepts, and then they can replicate what they have learned.

I remember during my first summer holidays when I was a teacher trainee at a Presbyterian teacher training college in Ghana, I was assigned to a junior high school in my community to use part of my holidays to do observation at the school. What happened was that the principal of the school selected a teacher on the staff who she trusted could work diligently with me to observe and learn from. The idea was for the teacher to offer me a very good example to help prepare me to become a good schoolteacher in the near future.

People of God, the Scripture I read tells us clearly that we have no other person apart from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God, as our example in our calling into Christian faith and God's kingdom. Living a Christ-centered life is about seeing Christ as our Perfect Example in life.

There is no question about the unique ways by which Jesus teaches that make him a great teacher by all standards. And as a good teacher, not only does Jesus teach his disciples the lessons they need for life and ministry; he also demonstrates to them how they can live out what he teaches.





February 22, 2015—First Sunday in Lent
"Christ Dur Example"
Wark 1:9-15
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In John 13 Jesus demonstrated the humble life by washing the feet of his disciples. Again, his sacrificial death on the cross is a testimony to us about what love should mean to us. Jesus indeed left us all the examples we need to follow in our daily lives as Christians. Even if I am given the whole day to enumerate the various ways in which Christ serves as our example, there is no way I can do it exhaustively.

My brothers and sisters, Christ as our example is manifested in so many ways. What we need to do to show our gratitude to God and His Son Jesus Christ for the examples he offers us is to emulate those examples for our good and for the glory of God.

Sometimes the love for the pleasures of this world and our tendency to compromise our faith in the face of difficulties prevent us from making any serious effort to follow what Christ teaches and demonstrates in his role as our example. Yes, we are flesh and blood; but when we pray and tap into the strength of God and rely on the power of the Holy Spirit, we can live our lives seeing Christ as our perfect and ultimate example without difficulties.

People of God, I want us to look at three ways in which Christ, the begotten Son of God, is indeed our example:

Christ is our example in our baptism, Christ is our example in our temptations, and Christ is our example in the proclamation of the Word. (Hallelujah!)

Our Lord and Master Jesus was humble enough to submit himself for John to baptize him. This is a very unique moment when the presence of God the Father is manifested in His loud voice, declaring very audibly the sonship of Jesus to him. Again the heavens open, and the Holy Spirit descends upon the Son like a dove. We are told in Acts 2:38 that we receive the Holy Spirit when we are baptized. The significance of baptism to us believers is underscored here.

Like Jesus, we are consecrated through baptism for God's own use. In our baptism, we die with Christ and resurrect with him to a brand-new life. So we can identify ourselves with the Great Apostle Paul to say that: It's no longer I that live but Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:19-20)

Dearly beloved, Christ is our example not only in our baptism; he is also our example in our temptations. No matter how careful we are, no matter how hard we try, and no matter how well we strive in our Christian race, there are times that we are tempted or will be tempted. Even Christ, our example, was tempted; so there are times that we are also going to be tempted. But what we must remember and try to emulate is that, though he was tempted, he never gave in to temptation. He used the Scripture to defend himself whenever temptation came his way. In Matthew 4: 3-11 when he was tempted in different ways by the devil, he overcame the temptation successfully with the Word of God.





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Temptation is not so new to Jesus. He has been tempted before. He understands what it looks like for a person to go through temptation, and this makes it so easy for him to be able to sympathize with us any time that we are tempted. Hebrew 4:15 says:

"For we do not have a high Priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet he did not sin."

One of our duties as people called into the fellowship of Christ Jesus is to proclaim the Word of God so that those who live near and far but have not yet heard the voice of the Savior would come into His saving grace. And in doing this, Christ is telling us this morning that he is our example in the proclamation of the Word.

In his earthly ministry Christ proclaimed the kingdom of God and its righteousness.

The admonishing to us today is for us to do likewise. Nothing is capable of bringing salvation to humanity except the Good News of Christ. The Good News is about the death and resurrection of Jesus. And there can be no salvation without true repentance and faith.

Precious one, the Good News makes a demand on us; and it is a demand for us to embrace it without doubt, a demand that calls us to repentance, and a demand that expects us to believe in Jesus Christ. Before Jesus Christ our Perfect Example ascended into Heaven, he gave us a charge: It is a charge to the Christian Church and every Christian to take the Good News to lands and people unreached. The question is: Are we seriously engaged in this proclamation business? If we need help in this area, we have no other person to look up to than Christ, who is our example, for strength and inspiration.

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord, the message to us this first Sunday in the Season of Lent is to acknowledge Christ as our Example in life. Anytime you remember your baptism, anytime you witness baptisms in the church, remember you died and are resurrected with Christ. Anytime that you are tempted, remember that Christ has been tempted just as you are, so he is able to save you from temptation. And remember, you have been charged to declare the Excellences of Him who called you out of darkness to His marvelous light.

To the one and only God be praise and honor now and always. Amen.









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