



# First Presbyterian Church EPISTLE

**Our Mission: Connecting with God and sharing the Good News  
of Jesus Christ with the community.**

*From your Session*

## Idols, anyone?

Recently Pastor Ginger preached a series of sermons in which we heard about the fate of the Jews when they were captured by the Babylonians. God was displeased with them and chose to allow them to be overrun by foreigners. It seems the foremost behavior that displeased God was that the Jews had turned away from God in their worship. This action was contrary to the commands God had given them (Exodus 20). They included man-made images (statues, etc.) in their objects of worship. These objects are *idols*.

A question slowly seeped into the back of my mind: what about today? Are there idols that turn my head from looking straight at Jesus as my object of worship? What might they be?

Timothy Keller in his book, *Every Good Endeavor*, points out that we make spiritual "images"—idols. We do this whenever we trust anything except God to meet our needs or to satisfy us (p. 128). With this in mind I realized I might find some idols in my life if I look for them. Some things I found:

There are some physical items: computer, car. Without thinking I turn to these things to meet certain needs. Depending on them becomes second-nature; are they idols? Yes, if I don't trust God to provide my needs *through* these things. In fact, the virus pandemic has brought these into focus, as we've made use of live-stream and Zoom, and have been driving less because of the restrictions. "Thank you, Lord, for sending us help through these things especially during this time."

Then there are situational things. I long for consistently good health, forgetting

that God is the Great Healer. Is good health an idol of mine? I like the comfort of a thriving economy. Does wanting that sneak up on me as an idol? Yes, if I don't turn to God, seeking His grace to deal with these wants. Again, the pandemic has raised my awareness. "Thank you, Lord, for bringing the good of renewed dependence on You out of the present pandemic disaster."

Finally, there's *me*. Yes, I find myself trying to deal with daily decisions and desires without depending on God's Spirit within me. But Jesus said, "apart from Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5, NLT). When I choose to work out a problem without realizing He wants to provide the solution, I'm choosing to make myself an idol.

"Lord, thank you for your love in all circumstances, including when I make myself an idol. Thank you for using the pandemic to turn me toward you."

*Paul*



### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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www.fpcd.org

### **CHURCH STAFF:**

**Rev. Dr. Ginger Hertenstein,**  
Pastor

**Jennifer Johnson**  
Administrative Asst

**Nyadia Thorpe,**  
Choir Director

**Dameron Growe**  
**Brittany Haywood**  
Accompanists

**Sean Russell,**  
Sound Room Technician

**Ana Ortiz**  
**Liliana Ortiz**  
Nursery

### *Inside . . .*

- 2 - Women's Bible Study
- 3 - Church Calendar
- 4 - Worship Volunteer  
Schedule
- 5 - June Birthdays,  
Finances

## Women's Bible Study

Ladies of the Sarah (evening group) or Agape (afternoon group) will resume their current study on the Ten Commandments in September, completing it in October. Either group would be glad to have any women who are interested in reading and discussing the Bible, joining in prayer and Christian fellowship participate with them. In November, both groups will begin a new study. If you would like to consider that as well, then here is a little something about next year's study.

### *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*

By P. Lynn Miller

**Welcome to the 2020–2021 Presbyterian Women/*Horizons* Bible study, *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*.** In this nine-lesson study, Lynn Miller revives lament as a proper theological response to the difficult situations of our world. One of the foundational points of the study is that, in scripture, lament usually leads to hope. After crying out to God, the one who laments remembers God. And while that doesn't fix things in the moment—the injustice, the loss still exists—the lamenter is strengthened to face the world and to hope. And for us as Christians, hope is not just an emotional response or an attitude of pie in the sky. Hope implies movement: both God's inherent movement toward justice and our movement toward God. Recovering lament may be one of the church's most timely gifts to the world.

If you have further questions, please contact Joan Brown about the evening group or Connie Steger about the afternoon group.



# FIRST Presbyterian Church

June 2020

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday    | Saturday  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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|  | <b>1</b><br>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal<br>ONLINE via Zoom   | <b>2</b><br>7:00 PM Virtual Financial Peace Class led by Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe  | <b>3</b><br>7:00 PM Conversations with God<br>ONLINE via Zoom  | <b>4</b><br><br>7:00 PM Worship Planning Meeting | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| <b>7</b><br>10:30 AM Worship Service In-Person & ONLINE  | <b>8</b><br>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal<br>ONLINE via Zoom   | <b>9</b><br>7:00 PM Virtual Financial Peace Class led by Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe  | <b>10</b><br>7:00 PM Conversations with God<br>ONLINE via Zoom   | <b>11</b>  | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| <b>14</b><br>10:30 AM Worship Service In-Person & ONLINE | <b>15</b><br>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal<br>ONLINE via Zoom<br><br>Newsletter Articles Due! | <b>16</b><br><br>7:00 PM Deacons Meeting<br>7:00 PM Virtual Financial Peace Class led by Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe | <b>17</b><br>10 AM Finance<br>7:00 PM Conversations with God<br>ONLINE via Zoom  | <b>18</b>  | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b> |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| <b>21</b><br>10:30 AM Worship Service In-Person & ONLINE | <b>22</b><br><div>The Sandwich Project</div> Bring your Sandwiches for the Homeless<br>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal<br>ONLINE via Zoom  | <b>23</b><br>7:00 PM Virtual Financial Peace Class led by Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe   | <b>24</b><br>7:00 PM Conversations with God<br>ONLINE via Zoom   | <b>25</b><br><br>7:00 PM Session Meeting       | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b> |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| <b>28</b><br>10:30 AM Worship Service In-Person & ONLINE | <b>29</b><br>7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal<br>ONLINE via Zoom  | <b>30</b><br>7:00 PM Virtual Financial Peace Class led by Jeff & Nyadia Thorpe   | <div>May 2020</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><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></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <div>Jul 2020</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><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></tr> </table> |  |           |           | 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 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 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 |
| 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   |  |  |  |  |           |           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 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        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |



**Worship Volunteer Schedule  
June 2020**

|         |         |                                 |
|---------|---------|---------------------------------|
| June 7  | Tellers | Brenda Everett & Linda Simons   |
| June 14 | Tellers | Jocelyn Bolles & Margaret Lewis |
| June 21 | Tellers | Joan Brown & Teresa Reed        |
| June 28 | Tellers | Lori Glover & Jaime Cordova     |

HE ALONE  
IS MY ROCK  
AND MY SALVATION,  
MY FORTRESS;  
I SHALL NOT BE

**SHAKEN.** ● PSALM 62:6, NRSV

**WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**  
**Impact Youth**  
**Fearless Youth Group**

— 5:30 p.m.  
— 6:30 p.m.

**Christian Education**  
**Worship Service**

— 9:15 a.m.  
— 10:30 a.m.

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**543 EAST FREEMAN STREET**  
**DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116**  
**(972) 298-3043 / (972) 298-5312**  
**info@fpcd.org**  
**www.fpcd.org**

## June Birthdays

If we've missed your birthday and you would like us to include it in this "birthday" section of the newsletter, please contact us at (972) 298-3043 or info@fpcd.org.

Thank you.

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vanessa Cordova, June 11  | Ross Shipman, June 16 |
| Kent Glover, June 11      | Nita Malone, June 21  |
| Katherine Liddle, June 11 | Devon Kezar, June 22  |
| Caius Thorpe, June 14     |                       |



### 2020 MINISTRY RECEIPTS UPDATE

|             | Receipts | Expenditures |
|-------------|----------|--------------|
| April       | \$20,047 | \$24,646     |
| Jan - April | \$89,512 | \$83,118     |