

The Leaven

February 2020



SOULE SEARCHING

What a birthday! I don't know how I could have had a better day. It started with seven people coming to the New Members Class that began that morning. In worship all of us were invited to the Lord's Table to receive the sacrament of Communion and remember all that Christ does for us as his followers. The fellowship continued in the Living Room, where we went to feast on birthday cake and a Chief's cake. That afternoon at our house, Debbie prepared a wonderful birthday dinner that was topped off with my favorite Spice Cake and ice cream. That evening the Chiefs delivered a come behind Super Bowl Championship that most of us thought was never going to happen. 7/8th of the way through the game it looked sad. But those Chiefs played to the very end and won. That was a birthday nice surprise. I also received many thoughtful cards and gifts wishing me well in the year ahead. I received much more than I deserve. Thanks to all of you who were part of my birthday celebration.

One of the gifts I received this year was a red basket overflowing with fruit from Denny's Market. In it were apples, bananas, grapes, oranges, cuties, pears and cherries. It was almost too pretty to eat. Looking at it drew me to an image I had read about earlier in the week. Peter Marty was telling about a trip he made to the New England Holocaust Memorial in Boston where he read and copied a quote from one of the holocaust survivors that has been etched into the glass of a display. It is from Gerda Weissmen Klein:

"Ilse, a childhood friend of mine once found a raspberry in the camp and carried it in her pocket all day to present it that night to me on a leaf. Imagine a world in which your entire possession is one raspberry and you give it to your friend."

Imagining such a world is beyond me, because I cannot begin to fathom such poverty. There before me was an entire basket overflowing with fruit and berries.

I cannot imagine such generosity. Ilse had one raspberry and she gave it to a friend!

As I write this I am also checking in for my flight to Guatemala City, tomorrow. I will be there to share with and learn from our brothers and sisters in Christ in Maya Quiche' Presbytery. Please pray for me (and the entire delegation) that humility may enable me to listen and receive what it is that our family members in Maya Quiche' need me to know, understand and share. Pray also that my self-giving may flow from the wealth I have in knowing that Jesus Christ, the one who I have pledged to follow and serve, is the source of all truly sacrificial giving.

You will also be in my prayers. Remember along with Carolyn and me: wherever you go, God has a purpose in you being there. We will tell you all about it when we get home.

See you Sunday after next.

Blessing to each of you,

Tim

BLANKET THE WORLD WITH LOVE

In 1946, the aftermath of World War II, seventeen denominations came together to form an agency they named Church World Service, “to do in partnership that none of us could hope to do as well alone.” The mission: Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, comfort the aged, shelter the homeless. We can help in this mission on February 23rd by contributing to “Blanket Sunday.” In 2018 over 174,000 CWS blankets and kits were distributed throughout the world. Georgia, Haiti, Honduras, Serbia and Syria received over 45,500 blankets and kits and over 128,500 were distributed in Puerto Rico and the United States. Hurricanes, Wildfires, Tornados, and Floods hit us extremely hard in 2018. Let us continue to help in this worthwhile project and “Blanket the World with Love” this February 23rd. Be sure to put Blanket Sunday on your checks memo line or on the envelope with your donation.

Thank you,

Presbyterian Women, Sponsor

THANK YOU

Thank you! Thank you! For your generous donations of work related clothing. The Fortress of Faith Church are most grateful for our help.

Presbyterian Women

JANUARY CHILI COOK OFF

Chili Cook Off was held with the judges deciding on the Chili Chili Bang Bang as the winner which was provided by Pastor Tim,
#2-Senator Goldwater II-Jim Mathison
#3 Fire in the Hole Chili – Rick Nichols

PRAYER CONCERNS

Immediate: Jeannie (Barbara-Sue Rose), Marilyn Ferbert, Laura Chapa (Linda Barry), Adam Nelson, Dr. Ramzi Baker (Anne Davis), Al Pursell

Ongoing: Joe Hudson, Judy Jahn, Gladys Griffin (Maria Traynham), Barbara-Sue Rose, Maria Gordon (Carolyn Tillotson), Brianna Hoffman (Cindy Scircle), Twila Corley, Bill Taylor (Dru Cox), Jayce Ward (Cindy Scircle), Miledys Aràmboles (Miriam Bowman), Priscilla Conley (Sally Azbill), Rocky Flinn Lessman (Nichols Family), Ruie Gibson, Ron Bacquet (Cindy Scircle), Paul Wilde (Carolyn Anderson), Yoakam Family (Becky)

FEBRUARY FELLOWSHIP TREATS

The schedule for providing treats for February:

Feb 2-Choir and Bell Choir **Feb. 9** –Congregation A-M

Feb. 16 –Congregation N-Z **Feb. 23**-Circle 3

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

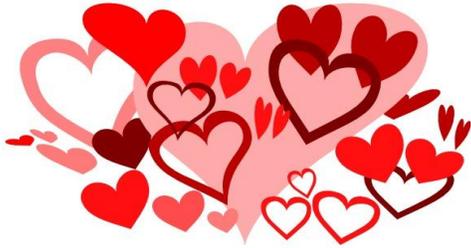
2-Pastor Tim 13-Linda Thompson 19-Paige Cox 26-Liz Williams 27-Joyce Kirk 29-Kelvin Brown

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY

21-David and Deborah Anderson

VALENTINE DINNER AND ACTIVITY

On Friday, February 14, 2020 from 5-8 pm the Deacons will be hosting a “Cajun Theme” dinner. Cost is \$10 per person and catering will be provided by Terry Booker. The dinner will include: blackened chicken, brisket, jambalaya, fried green tomatoes, salad, rolls, corn bread, and Louisiana bread pudding. We hope you will sign up (by Feb. 9) to attend this Mardi Gras event.



FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Annual Congregational Meeting Fellowship - Chili Cook Off Mission Committee Meeting Worship Committee Meeting 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	27 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Chorallers	28 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Community Meal	29 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	30	31 Church Office Closed	1
2 Fellowship Treats-Choir and Bell Choir Last day to sign up for child care for 14th dinner Souper Bowl 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:00 AM New Member Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	3 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Chorallers	4 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting	5 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	6	7 Church Office Closed	8
9 Fellowship Treats-Congregation A-M 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	10 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Chorallers	11 10:00 AM Circle 3 6:30 PM Circle 5	12 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	13	 Church Office Closed 5:00 PM Valentine's Dinner \$10 per person	15 10:00 AM League of Women Voters
16 Fellowship Treats-Congregation N-Z 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 9:00 AM New Member Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Christian Ed. Committee Meeting 2:30 PM Circle 2 PWC-Kathie's Home	 Church Office Closed	18 10:00 AM Circle 4	19 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	20 6:00 PM Session Meeting	21 Church Office Closed	22
23 Fellowship Treats-Circle 3 Mission Committee Meeting Worship Committee Meeting 9:00 AM Adult Education Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Worship	24 7:00 AM Men's Morning Discussion Group 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Cody Chorallers	25 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Community Meal	26 9:30 AM Crafts & Fellowship 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship	27	28 Church Office Closed 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Amateur Radio Testing	28