



YOUR MONTHLY NEWS FROM
First Presbyterian Church
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September, 2020

THANK GOD FOR HIS LOVE AND PROMISES

“O Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands.” Daniel 9:4 (NLT)

There is nothing more important you can do during a crisis than pray. Daniel 9 gives us a great pattern for prayer as we walk through life's toughest times.

A RICK WARREN TEACHING...

...tells us to “let God speak to us before we speak to him; focus our attention on God and seek Him; express our desires with passion; and demonstrate our seriousness.”

As stated above, “we must also thank God for His love and promises.” This is described in the above-quoted scripture, Daniel 9:4.

“This may be the last thing you want to do during a crisis. You may be angry with God and frustrated with Him. But, that is why you need to do this. You need a change in your perspective.”

Later in Daniel 9:9 (NLT) we read this: “The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him.”

“We should be grateful that God is faithful even when we are not. God keeps His promises every time. And God will continue keeping them in your crisis. He won't abandon you. Show God you realize that. Let Him know that you trust Him. It is an important part of a prayer that God will always answer during a crisis.”

—Why is it hard to thank God during a crisis?

—How can gratitude change your perspective?

—What are some things you can be thankful for during a crisis?

Our country is in the middle of multiple crises, but God is right in the middle of this with us. Remember that as you choose faith over fear.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH

(This was taken from a one-minute devotional on the radio.)

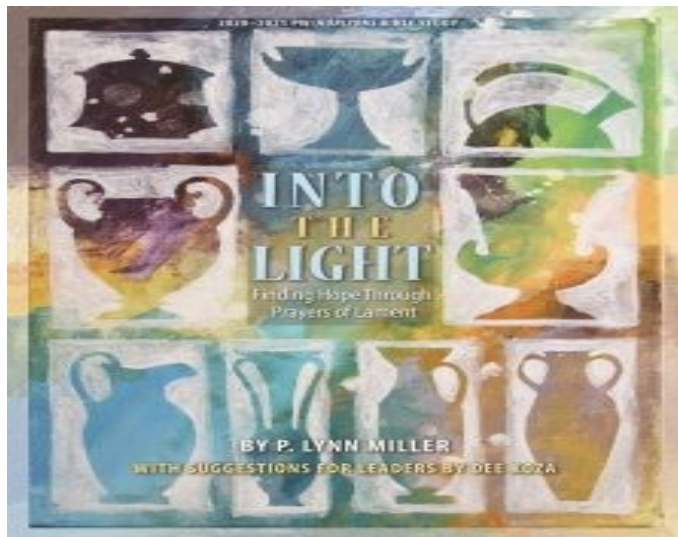
“Spiritual growth results from trusting Jesus Christ. The righteous man shall live by faith. (Galatians 3:11). A life of faith will enable you to trust God increasingly with every detail of your life, and to practice the following:

- G** Go to God in prayer daily. (John 15:7)
- R** Read God’s Word daily. (Acts 17:11) — begin with the Gospel of John
- O** Obey God moment by moment. (John 14:21)
- W** Witness for Christ by your life and words. (Matthew 4:19; John 15:8)
- T** Trust God for every detail of your life. (1 Peter 5:7)
- H** Holy Spirit — Allow Him to control and empower your daily life and witness.
(Galatians 5:16, 17; Acts 1:8)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23rd IN THE SANCTUARY WAS WONDERFUL

We had 50 people in the Sanctuary and this was due in part to the fine efforts of the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee. They had scheduled a meaningful time to honor our educators and bless our students during worship and by way of a drive-thru after. Below is a picture of the “goody” basket they made for each of the teachers. The teachers were very appreciative and all precautions were taken for safety in the mist of the COVID-19 pandemic.





CIRCLES
FOR THE LADIES
(September thru May)

Circle 1: Chair is Joy Hinton
Lesson Planner is Frankie Stewart
Meets 1st Monday at 10:30 a.m.
NO MEETING SEPT 2020

Circle 2: Chair is Dot Carpenter
Lesson Planner — Rotates
Meets 1st Monday at 4:00 p.m.
SEPT 2020 — 2ND MONDAY

Circle 3: The Lunch Bunch
Chair is Peggy Peacock
Lesson Planner — Rotates
3rd Monday at 11:30 a.m.
SEPT 2020 ??? Decision not Made as of Printing

Circle 4: Good News Women
Will be Joining Circle 2 for Bible Study
Will continue to gather together for
Fellowship (dates to be determined)

INTO THE LIGHT

(Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament)

Lesson One: The Heart of Lament

Main Idea: The perceived absence of God is at the heart of lament.

Scripture: Psalm 22:1-19; Matthew 27:45-56

“When we lament, we may feel as if there is a God-shaped hole in us, that we are alone in a hostile world. In times like these.....we are reminded that God has claimed us and is always with us.”

The Wildflowers

Lesson Planner — Rotates

Meets Year Round on the
1st Wednesday at 6:30 in homes.

This group of ladies will
choose their study materials
at their first meeting each Fall.

SEPT 2020 — Decision not made at Printing

*Each women's group has its own
flavor and mission.
Find the group that fits you.
It is never too late to join in.*

women
GROW 



We offer deep sympathy and prayers for the following:

1. Kip and Betty Blighton on the death of Kip's mother (Judy Harvey).
2. Many of you probably know of people who have been very ill with the virus that is at the forefront of our lives right now and some who have died from it. Please remember to pray for families who have lost loved ones and/or are suffering from this disease.
3. Please pray for families of those who have lost their lives due to the rampant violence in our nation. It seems to continue — hasn't gotten better yet.
4. At the writing of this Newsletter so far only one death because of Hurricane Laura — a 14 year-old girl. Prayers for her family.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

11:00 A.M.

Pastor John will guide you through communion on the Radio Broadcast at 11 am and on FB live, that is released at 8 am so you may watch it at whatever time you choose.

Please have your bread and fruit of the vine close by.



Alex and Joy Lewis

Kenneth Kelley

Lee Shook

Jane Powell

Ruth Hammett (Scott Yant's mother)

Debbie Johnson (Cindy Yant's Aunt)

Cindy Yant

Fran McNeill and Ernie McNeill

Lou Wilkinson

Barry Stafford

Christine Yoshikawa

Charlotte Hunter

Bud Wierman

Dr. Megan Johnson (Wamsley's Niece)

Charlton Keen Jr.

Doug Woolery (requested by Cindy Morgan)

Zooey Chancey (requested by Ginger Green)

Jeff Yon (requested by Scott Yant)

Wesley Wiggins (requested by Aggie Schack)

Billy Herrington (requested by Jared Roberts)

Joy Gilbert

Sumi Hanstine (requested by Ashley Rackley)

Melanie McCroan

Ronnie Heath (requested by Larry & Jackie Spivey)

Michael Schouest and Family ((requested by Kathy Roberts)

Dennis Maxson

Mary Bevis Schmidt (requested by Mel McLure Clark)

Howard Alig (Cindy Morgan's brother)

Steven Quigley

PRAY FOR OTHERS

HURRICANE LAURA

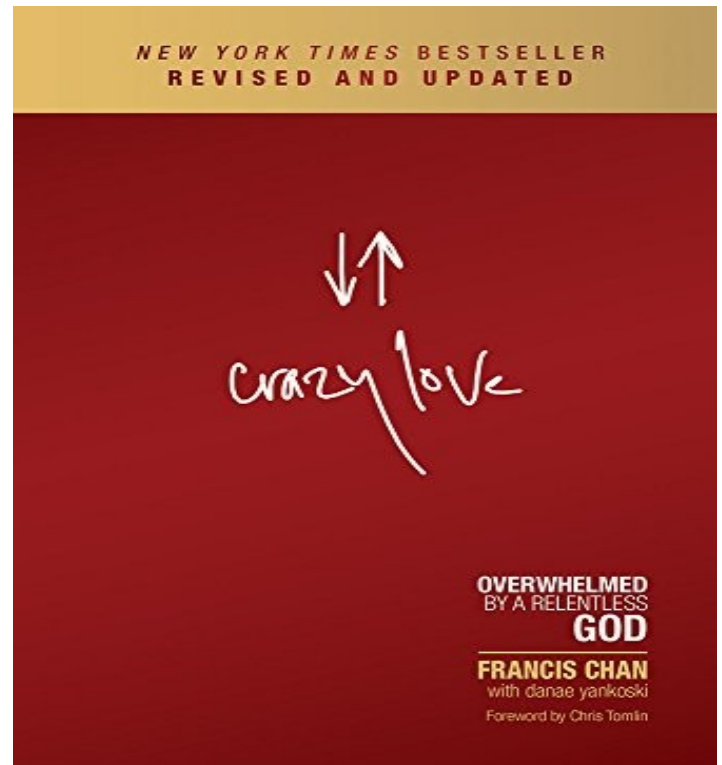
We certainly do know how the people who were hit by Laura are feeling right now. We went through this a couple of years ago. Please remember to hold those people in your prayers for a very long time because, as we know, it takes a very long time to get through the aftermath of a storm like that.

FIRES IN CALIFORNIA

California seems to be on fire a good percent of the time — a very sad situation. Please remember the people who have to evacuate and some who lose their homes; and don't forget the firefighters. I, Connie, personally have a sister whose home was threatened in a small mountain town north of Reno a few weeks ago. We spent a few sleepless nights praying but by the Grace of God, that town came through unscathed. The firefighters stopped it in its tracks right at the very edge of the Town. Not everyone is that fortunate. I, Connie, also have two nephews who are firefighters and in the middle of those fires. They live in Nevada but are called to California on a regular basis. They both say this is "God's calling" on their lives and they take protecting people and property very seriously. I tell you these personal things only so you know that what I tell you comes from the "front line". The people and firefighters need our prayers.

**In times like these we draw close
to God
on behalf of His people.**

ADULT BIBLE STUDY



EVERY WEDNESDAY

6:30 p.m.

We have been very successful doing our Bible Study on Zoom and will continue to do so in the coming weeks.

We will continue our study one chapter at a time using the book, "Crazy Love" by Francis Chan.

This book was written to encourage you to not just believe in God but to truly love him "with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

**IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN IN
ON OUR BIBLE STUDY.**

COME JOIN US!



September 1st

Joy Lewis

Mary Ann Hutton

September 2nd

John Ross Green

Xylpha Schwehm

September 12th

Scott Yant

September 13th

Leslie Kelley

September 20th

Marley Green

September 24th

Peggy Peacock

September 26th

Bill Boyenton

Matt Fuqua

September 30th

Ethel Pelt

This is a list of the birthdays we are currently aware of.

If your September birthday is not listed, please contact the Church Office so we can update our list.

We do think birthdays are special.



WE THANK THE

ELDERS OF OUR CHURCH

They have done a wonderful job of keeping in touch with each other and working hard to keep the church in compliance with the COVID-19 rules and regulations, concerns, etc.

They met on Tuesday, August 18th and confirmed their previous decision to offer worship in the Sanctuary beginning August 23rd. This decision included all the prior precautions — masks, temperatures taken, hand sanitizer and social distancing.

We will continue to offer FB live on Sundays and are always on the radio at 11 a.m. (100.9 WJAQ).

Pastor John will also continue his Sunrise Service between 6:30 and 7:00 a.m. He does this on FB Live and goes from place to place within our area. Please let him know if you have ideas for future locations for his broadcast.

In this frustrating time, remember that the Church is not the building.....it is you, the people. So wherever you are.....

WORSHIP

FOOD PANTRY

Melissa, along with her son, Zachary Taylor, and Joe Busby, Jeff and Amy Norville, Chloe Temples, Donna Moore, Chance Harris, Muriel Turner and Linda Wamsley have been keeping our Food Pantry going during the COVID-19 “shutdown” with a drive by system so that people would feel “safe” to come and pick up the food they so desperately need. What a great way to continue ministering to the needs of others. WE ALSO THANK THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTING WITH UNLOADING THE TRUCK FROM SECOND HARVEST.



“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink....”

Matthew 25:35



YOUR ELDERS

Class of 2020

Beth Westmoreland
Leslie Kelley
John W. Milton
Scott Yant

Class of 2021

Janet Howell
Travis Lawson
Larry Spivey
Barry Stafford

Class of 2022

Amanda Hinson
LuAnne Law
Bryan Milton
Matt Milton

YOUR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Administration — 3rd Thursday at 5:30 pm

Christian Education — 3rd Sunday at 9 am

Congregational Care — 4th Wednesday at
Noon

Evangelism & Fellowship — 3rd Tuesday at
6 pm

Property & Operations — as needed

Worship & Music — 4th Sunday at 12:15

Mission & Service — 2nd Sunday at 8:45 am

YOUR COMMITTEES

Administration

Chair: John W. Milton
Members: Chuck Morgan, Beth Westmoreland,
Larry Spivey

Christian Education

Chair: LuAnne Law
Members: Jim Gibbs, Mary Ann Gibbs, Ashley
Rackley

Congregational Care

Chair: Jan Howell
Members: Alma Milton, Andrew Tinsley, Gina
Tinsley, Muriel Turner

Evangelism and Fellowship

Chair: Amanda Hinson
Members: Lauren Lyons, Geriann Milton,
Peggy Peacock, Jennifer Stafford

Property and Operations

Chair: Scott Yant
Members: Mary Lu Andreu, Mel McClure Clark,
John W. Milton, Matt Milton, Chuck
Morgan, Xylpha Schwehm, Barry
Stafford

Worship and Music

Chair: Bryan Milton
Members: Macky Gortemoller, Joy Hinton,
Kenneth Kelley, Anna Beth Milton,
Tom Stadskev, Linda Wamsley,
Beth Westmoreland

Mission and Service

Chair: Kathy Milton
Members: Sharon Bannerman, Tina Bigale,
Mary Ann Gibbs, Marsha Rodgers
Litteral, Marianne Lonsinger, Travis
Lawson