



Words from Woodforest September 2019

Words from Cassandra:

Some people think that having faith or being a Christian means God is going to solve every problem in your life and nothing is ever going to go wrong. I have no idea why they think that. Nothing could be further from the truth.

You probably don't need me to tell you that some people in our church have a lot of problems. Things have gone terribly wrong. Prayers sometimes seem to go unanswered. Practically everyone in our church either has or is struggling with something. Life can be very hard – even for those who have faith.

So why do we keep coming to church? Why do we keep praying? Why do we believe God loves us when sometimes our faith journey seems to have us wandering through one wilderness after another?

I believe it is because in community we find the faith that we sometimes lack. In community we find the strength to do what we cannot do on our own. In community we are surrounded by people who pray when we are no longer able to find any words. In community there is love that reminds us we are indeed beloved children of a loving God who cares about us very much and whose promises are true.

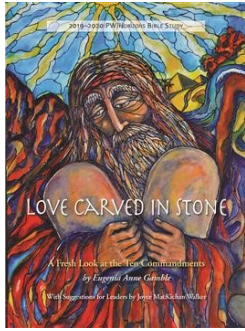
If you don't have faith that can be hard to understand. But if you have ever experienced any of these things, you know that faith is indeed "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1).

I just finished a Sunday of worship at First Presbyterian Church in Navasota when Tomás and I did a pulpit exchange. He said that several people there asked if I would be willing to come and be the pastor they are searching for to take Tomás' place. That is very flattering, but nothing could be further from the truth. It is such a privilege and joy to be in ministry here with you – to explore faith, to practice faith, to journey in faith together. I am right where I want to be at Woodforest. I am right where I am called to be. I just pray that will be true for more and more people in our community as time goes by.

There is so much about faith to discover, experience, and celebrate here. Be a witness to our faith and keep spreading the word! You never know who needs to hear an invitation and a word of grace.

Shalom,

Cassandra



Women's Circle
Wednesday, September 11th
10:30 am
New Horizon Study
"Love Carved in Stone"

What would it mean to consider the Ten Commandments not as a harsh list of what not to do but, instead, as a "love letter" from a loving God? A fresh embrace of the Ten Commandments (or Words), author Eugenia A. Gamble suggests, may ultimately contribute to the restoration of ourselves and our communities and the furthering of the gospel in the world. "Moral behavior matters, not simply because immoral actions can anger or disappoint God, but because principled behavior is how love becomes real, both toward God and in community." Love Carved in Stone is a Bible study that helps us reframe the way we look at and live in the world. **See Renee for your new book \$10.**

Property Committee

The kitchen has been updated (due to breakdowns) with a new dishwasher and a new refrigerator. The locks have been re-keyed so let Johnny know if you need a key to the church.

Church Garage Sale
Saturday, October 26th
We will spend the week before
pricing and sorting.
Come and join in the Fun!

Worship Committee

This is my first newsletter article in a while (Maybe ever? Who knows.), so we have a lot to cover. First, I'm always glad to hear feedback on your worship experience. As worship chair and choir director, I'm always trying new things and exploring different ideas to keep worship fresh. If there was something that particularly enhanced or detracted from your worship experience, I'd be glad to know.

Second, we have a few upcoming Sundays where Cassandra is gone, and though the sermons are covered, we are looking for someone to do the children's message. If you are Interested, come talk to me! They're a fun way to be involved with the church, and are a great way to expand your involvement, show your creativity, or just be a goofball with the kids.

Third, we are always looking for more worship assistants. If you have been attending for some time, you have the gist of what it entails. Though I am usually tied to the piano, I have on occasion served as worship assistant. Honestly, I wish I could do it more often. It's a wonderful act of service for the church, and fantastic way to experience worship through a different lens. If you have questions or are interested, please talk to me or any of the worship assistants you have seen. We'd be glad to share our experiences and more information with you.

Outreach:

Northshore Elementary School counselor Camella Garcia has expressed need for volunteers to assist teachers, staff, etc. Anyone interested in this worthwhile activity (even if it's only an hour a week), please contact Linda Norris and you can be put in touch with Ms. Garcia.

Missions:

All school supplies collected by WFPC and the Boy Scouts have been delivered. This year was a tremendous collections (six containers full) and Northshore Elementary were overwhelmed with gratitude. There are so many needy families in this area and these donated supplies were a blessing.

Hunger Bag supplies have been replenished and there are plenty of bags in the tub so take and help the homeless.

Free Food Fair has been scheduled for Saturday, October 12.

Hey All!!

Reminder that our **60th Church Anniversary** is coming this **November 24th, 2019**. I wanted to ask everyone to contribute to a slide presentation we are putting together, so get out the old photos, search your SD cards of any past church events, celebrations or memories that you have had over the years. Also we will be putting together a Timeline for everyone to place a photo of themselves where you began your faith journey with the church and we invite any photos of friends, family or other church members who may not be present, please bring and place those as well.

Don't forget **Congregational Meeting Sunday September 8, 2019**.

To our church family,

All are welcome to come to a celebration of **Bob and Krista Bartel's 25th anniversary** here at Woodforest Presbyterian Church on **Sunday, October 6th at 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.** We will supply the main dish, (probably brisket) and ask those who wish to come celebrate with us to bring a side dish if they wish to. No other gifts please. The party will probably include some dancing with my folk dance friends—give it a try! A signup sheet will be on the bulletin board at the back of the church that will help us plan how much food to prepare. Thanks, we look forward to celebrating with you!

Congregational Life

**Dine out Dinner
September 4th at 6 pm
Spaghetti Dinner
\$5 Kids eat free**

**Dutch Treat Lunch on Sunday September 7th
Breakfast in the afternoon.**

This month we will go to Denny's on I 10.

Sign up Sheets

These are located on the back bulletin board. It lets those who are in charge of an event be able to plan accordingly. If you are not sure you can attend just sign your name and add a question mark.

There is also a list to bring in flowers for Sunday Worship . These then find their way to brighten the day of a person who was unable to attend worship.



Sunday Schedule

9:00 am— Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am—Worship

11:00 am—Coffee and Fellowship

11:15 am—Sunday School

Communion is celebrated the 1st Sunday of each month.

September 2019

Week 1

SUN. Sept. 1

10 am

Worship , Communion
Hymn Sing

WED. Sept 4

6 pm
7 pm

Dine out Dinner
Conversation with Presbytery
Moderator

Week 2

SUN. Sept. 8

10 am

Worship,
Dutch Treat Lunch at Denny's
Session Meeting

WED. Sept. 11

**10:30 am
12 Noon**

Women's Circle
Lunch Bunch

Week 3

SUN. Sept. 15

10 am

Worship

Week 4

SUN. Sept. 22

10 am

Worship

Week 5

SUN. Sept. 29

10 am

Worship
Potluck Fellowship Dinner



Keep in prayer:

For people and places in conflict.....

For the homeless, the hungry, the oppressed.....

For Billie Vickery in her continued recovery after surgery.

For those in chronic pain, including Krista Bartel, Sandra Horton and Ruth Flick.

For students and teachers as they begin a new school year.

For Timothy Black in his ongoing battle with cancer.

For those in the path of Hurricane Dorian.

For those seeking employment.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers.....

Join us for Sunday morning worship “youthstyle” followed by lunch, games, and a hands-on mission project. This event is an opportunity for youth groups of our presbytery to come together to worship, fellowship and make a difference through mission. Middle and High School youth and their adult sponsors are invited **Sunday, November 10, 2019, from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., at Northwoods Presbyterian Church, 3320 Cypress Creek Pkwy., Houston.** Free event!



Conclaves 2020

Fun, faith-filled retreat weekends for middle and high school youth are led by our Presbytery’s Youth Connection Council (PYCC).

The dates

February 28 - March 1, and March 6 - 8, 2020 at Cho-Yeh Camp and Conference Center, Livingston, TX. Registration materials coming soon

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| October 26 | Garage Sale |
| November 24 | Church Celebration |
| December 14 | Live Nativity |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Service |
| December 25 | Christmas Worship and Brunch |

A last word...

As God’s own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you, and crown all these things with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.