## **LEADERSHIP:**

### **Ministers:**

Kevin Kasparek
Pulpit
918-470-5873

Cooper Atkeson Family/Worship 417-461-4834

Raoul Ferris Outreach/Involvement 210-253-0901

**Secretary** 

Cheryl Brown 830-261-7667

## **Elders:**

Dale Alexander 361-537-3219 Gene Bosse 830-285-3241 Ray Faught 512-971-0637 David Moore 830-928-1869

#### **Deacons:**

Orlando Barraza
Doyle Brown
Cody Bush
Jerry Durbin
Darrell Fudge
Tom Lovelady
Chris Mulliniks
Gary Swanner

"Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows. It empties today of its strength. -Corrie ten Boom

"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God".-C.S. Lewis



What is the most important thing that a Christian should do? What immediately comes to mind? go to church? Evangelize? Raise your kids in the Lord? I am ashamed that the simplest and most correct answer doesn't first come to mind. Jesus would answer, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt 22:37-39 ESV), and Paul would say, "If I speak in tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing" (1 Cor. 13: 1-3). It is amazing that Paul says one could be directly empowered by the Spirit performing miracles by the Spirit - and could yet be worthless because of a lack of love. He also says you could sacrifice all you have in this world - your possessions and your life, becoming a martyr - and yet gain nothing for a lack of love. Love is the core of what we do. Our greatest efforts should be focused here. Love is not a command to which we simply give a nod and focus on other things. No, love deserves our best attention and energy, and it is the greatest endeavor of our heart. In fact, by focusing on love - both our love for God and our love for one another - everything else we do will be properly ordered, for Jesus said that on this command depends "all the Law and the Prophets" (MT 22:40).

The above article was written by Cooper Atkeson.

We have received (finally) a supply of individual-serving communion portions. If you would like to use some of these for communion service at home during our service suspension at the building, please let Cheryl know. They are available for pickup at the office Monday-Thursday, 9 am - 4 pm. If you are unable to make it during those times, Cheryl can set some outside on the bench with your name, as necessary.

"So Noah came out, together with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. All the animals and all the creatures that move along the ground and all the birds-everything that moves on the land-came out of the ark, one kind after another. Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: 'Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done. As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." Genesis 8:18-22

If there is a need for food, medications, etc., and a member is unable to get out, please contact either the staff, or one of the elders.

Let's remember all of the health care workers we have in our congregation, Jolene Fudge, Karen Wootton, Karla (Wootton) Carter, Rona Barrozo, and Kaysi Garrett. and those around the nation and world, who are on the front lines of the pandemic.

**Elizabeth Griffin** received notice that her MRI results were normal. Next is an EEG. Please continue to pray for Elizabeth.

**Lajean Hendrick** requests prayers of healing and restoring for her son **Curtis Oberstreet** as he recovers from a Triple Bypass and 7 stints

The following note was received from **John Tittle**: This note is to let our church family at Riverside know that **Carlla**'s oncologist, Dr. DeLeon @ Fbg. Texas Oncology, gave her a great report. She is now showing NO signs of cancer at this time. Treatments will continue for some time yet, but the cancer is nowhere to be found. Prayers have been answered. Thanks to all of you. Thanks be to God. ~ John

**Kyle Harbison,** a member of Don and Kareen Taylor's family, had knee surgery last Friday. Prayers would be appreciated.

**Debra Antley**, also a member of the Taylor family, is scheduled for knee surgery tomorrow. Prayers would be appreciated.

**Brooks Michels,** infant grandson to Bobby Melton, was hospitalized for breathing difficulties. Although he has improved, further prayers for healing are needed.

**Desire' Dunn,** daughter-in-law to Beverly Barke has been released from the hospital, but is still battling Stage 4 leukemia. Prayers would be appreciated.

Raoul Ferris sent the following: New sister in Christ Clarissa McGehee has been studying with me for 2 weeks. She lives in Thornton, but recently moved there from Ingram. I was able to arrange for her baptism into Christ for forgiveness of sins Tuesday night. At 11:29 she was added to the body of Christ. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Ward Church of Christ in Marlin, and to brother David Johnson for meeting her late at night. Let's celebrate church! See, the gates of Hell won't prevail against the church, and neither can COVID-19. This truly reminds me of Paul's writing to the church in Corinth: "I planted, Apollos watered but God gave the increase." Pray for David, the Marlin church, and me as we plan follow-up bible studies. Pray for Clarissa, and also pray that her boyfriend and her family follow her example. Please consider writing to Clarissa at 358 Lcr744, Thornton, TX 76687. Her email address is mcgeheeclarissa01@gmail.com

# **Health Updates:**

Please pray for **Garland McConal** as he recovers at home from surgery to repair a broken leg, **Don Taylor** and **Barbara Dodd** as they continue to recover from their knee replacements; **Tara Brubaker**, recovering from hip repair surgery; **Scott Stork** (son of Chuck and a missionary in China), who is having radiation treatments; **Teresa Owens**, (sister-in-law to our Jeanie Haby) and Teresa's parents **Billy and Sarah Lucas**, who have some serious health concerns **John Meadows**, as he recovers at home from several medical issues; **Dee House**, from Lac Cruces, NM, suffering from heart problems; **Sharon Lawson**, daughter to Gene & Kathy Vance, recovering from back surgery; **Bill Fitch and his wife Peggy**, son and daughter-in-law to Katie Fitch (Bill has a recurrence of cancer, and his wife has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer); **Larry Smith**, friend of the Lovelady family, suffering with colon cancer. **Vida Spangler**, recovering at home from a broken hip. **Dennis Lange's** daughter-in-law in Houston, recovering from a kidney infection, and his son and daughter-in-law in Albany, NY working on the front lines in the hospital, as well as **Chris Mulliniks'** sister Cindy, a nurse in Tennessee,

Please pray for Holly Macy, Jordan Barraza, Jim Mays, and LaJean Hendrick, as they continue their treatments.