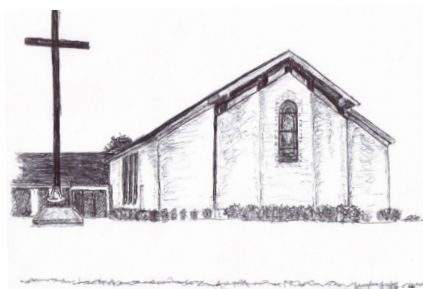


Presby News

JUNE 2019



FROM THE PASTOR . . .

Peter W. Marty, the publisher of the The Christian Century, wrote a stimulating editorial in the April 24, 2019 issue of the biweekly. He entitled it "From Tolerance to Love."

Marty maintains that while tolerance is necessary in our dealings with people who are different from us, as followers of Jesus we should move beyond tolerance to love.

This may be a difficult challenge. We may be prone to think that being tolerant in the sense of putting up with or enduring is the best we can do with certain individuals.

Love, on the other hand, compels us to work for the other person's best interests. It is wanting the best for another person even though we may not like the person and intensely disagree with him or her.

Jesus did not merely tolerate the notorious sinners of his day. Instead, he sat down and ate with them, befriended them, and reached out to them with compassion and radical acceptance.

Jesus did not like the lifestyle of Zacchaeus or the woman at the well. But if he had structured his relationship with them on the basis of mere tolerance, do you think they would have experienced His wonderful salvation? In spite of their sinfulness, He communicated to them not mere tolerance but selfless love!

We live in a country which is deeply divided, maybe more so than any time in our history other than the Civil War era. If our land is to be healed, it may take a lot more than mere tolerance toward those with whom we have major differences. It may take the same kind of love that Jesus practiced toward those who were so different from Him. And as the disciples of the Lord Jesus, we should lead the way!

How do we move from tolerance to love? How do we make the transition from enduring and putting up with to wanting the very best for and working for another's best interests? Maybe the place to begin is to recall that God loves us, He wants the very best for us, and He is always working for our best interests! This is true even though He sees our sins, defects, and imperfections. God does not simply tolerate us. He loves us and accepts us as we are. In a similar manner, we are to love and accept others regardless of how much we dislike them or disagree with them!

The Bible tells us that as followers of Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit living inside us to help us to live the Christlike life. The Holy Spirit enables us to love more like Jesus loves.

Marty concluded his editorial by saying:

"Tolerance may be a necessity in certain political or legal realms of our diverse world. But elevating such behavior to default status will never be good enough for Jesus, who said, 'Love your neighbor,' not 'Tolerate your neighbor.'"

May God give to all of us the grace and the help we need to love more like Jesus loves!

Let us be faithful in praying for one another as we seek to be the people that God wants us to be here at First Presbyterian Church!

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your pastor!

Jim

SPECIAL DATES

June 2	Seventh Sunday of Easter 9:00 am Brookdale Worship 11:00 am Communion Served
June 9	Day of Pentecost
June 16	Trinity Sunday/Father's Day
June 19	Juneteenth
June 20	World Refugee Day

Dr. Heath in office on Wednesdays 10 am to 2 pm

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

*A righteous man who walks
in his integrity - how blessed
are his sons after him.*

PROVERBS 20:7



INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BIBLICAL FATHERS



God wants men today to be godly fathers and teach their children about Him. We ought to rise to the challenge as many fathers in the Bible did to train our children in the knowledge of God. We are given great examples in the Bible of men who did just that. There are also many examples of bad fathers. We can learn from these men so that we can avoid making the mistakes they did.

Adam

Adam and Eve were the first man and woman in the Bible. Adam lived to be 930 years old. He had many children. Though [Adam and Eve](#) disobeyed God, they still had a great understanding of God's promise of a redeemer. Adam passed this knowledge on to his children. It is obvious in the story of Cain and Abel in Genesis chapter 4 that the boys knew enough about God's promise that Abel consciously chose to acknowledge God's plan while Cain rejected it. Adam diligently taught his children.

Noah

Noah was chosen by God to build the ark which would be used to save those who would trust Him. This also served as a picture of redemption which would come through Jesus Christ. Noah and his family were not like the rest of the world. They stood out to God. The building of the ark took many years, but his sons and daughters-in-law were right beside him. They could have chosen to walk away, but Noah, as a father, taught them about God and how to trust in Him. Though he did some horrible things later in his life, God used Noah to preserve life on the earth while teaching later generations about God. The main events of Noah's life are told in Genesis chapters 6 through 9.

Job

Job was a wealthy man who owned land, cattle and crops. Besides the great riches of Job, he had many children—seven sons and three daughters. As a father he grieved greatly when his children were killed in a storm. However, for his faithfulness to the Lord, God rewarded him with ten more children. In all, he had fourteen sons and six daughters. The book of Job tells of the events in Job's life.

Abraham

God had given His promise of a redeemer to Adam and Eve in Genesis chapter 3. Through the years that promise was refined more and more. Specifically, the Savior would come through the son of [Abraham](#) and Sarah. Abraham had another son with Sarah's maid. His name was Ishmael, but this was not the promised son from God. The son that Abraham and Sarah had in their old age was Isaac. Abraham was known as a man of faith. He showed this great faith to his children through teaching and by example. Read Genesis chapters 11 through 25 to learn more about Abraham.

Isaac

Isaac was the father of the twin boys named Esau and Jacob. Isaac learned much from his parents about trusting God and raising a family. Isaac's sons were very different from one another. One was a hunter and the other enjoyed being at home. Though Isaac was not a perfect father he instilled a knowledge of God and the promise of a Savior. Details of Isaac and his family are found in Genesis chapters 17 through 49.

Jacob

Jacob was one of the two sons of Isaac and Rebekah. He was married to two sisters, Leah and Rachel. Jacob had twelve boys and a girl. These twelve boys became the twelve tribes of Israel. Though Abraham is considered the father of the nation, Jacob was the father of the twelve men for whom the tribes are named. Jacob and his family's account is shared in Genesis chapters 25 through 50 and even goes on into Exodus.

Solomon

Though the wisest man in history, Solomon was not always the best father. His sons turned away from him and God because of Solomon's horrible example as a father. Despite all this, Solomon used his great wisdom and the lessons he learned from God to pen the book of Proverbs. This is the greatest piece of literature for parents and children to read and learn about wisdom. You can read about Solomon in many of the Old Testament books including, 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings and 1 & 2 Chronicles.

Zacharias

In Luke chapter 1 we are told about the announcement of the birth of John the Baptist. John was an important person in God's plan to introduce the Savior to the world. An angel appeared to John's father Zacharias to announce the birth of John. Zacharias was made mute, and possibly deaf, after the announcement until John was born. As a priest, Zacharias undoubtedly taught his son much about the coming Messiah. John was well prepared to be the forerunner for [Jesus Christ](#).

Fathers Today

Take the challenge presented in the book of Proverbs to train your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Teach them about God while they are young. Help them learn godly wisdom while they are at home. Then when they are old they will look to God's Word as a guiding light in their life. If your children are already grown and out of the house you can still be a good grandfather or mentor to young people around you.

June Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
June 2	Robert Kennedy	Jim Hockensmith	Elder Liturgist: Jim Hockensmith Communion Team: Bill Higgins, Vacancy
June 9	Annelize & Dirk Benade	Dirk Benade	
June 16	Robert Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Jim Smolenski	
June 23	Jim Hockensmith Robert Kennedy	Bill Higgins	
June 30	Robert Kennedy	Jim Hockensmith	

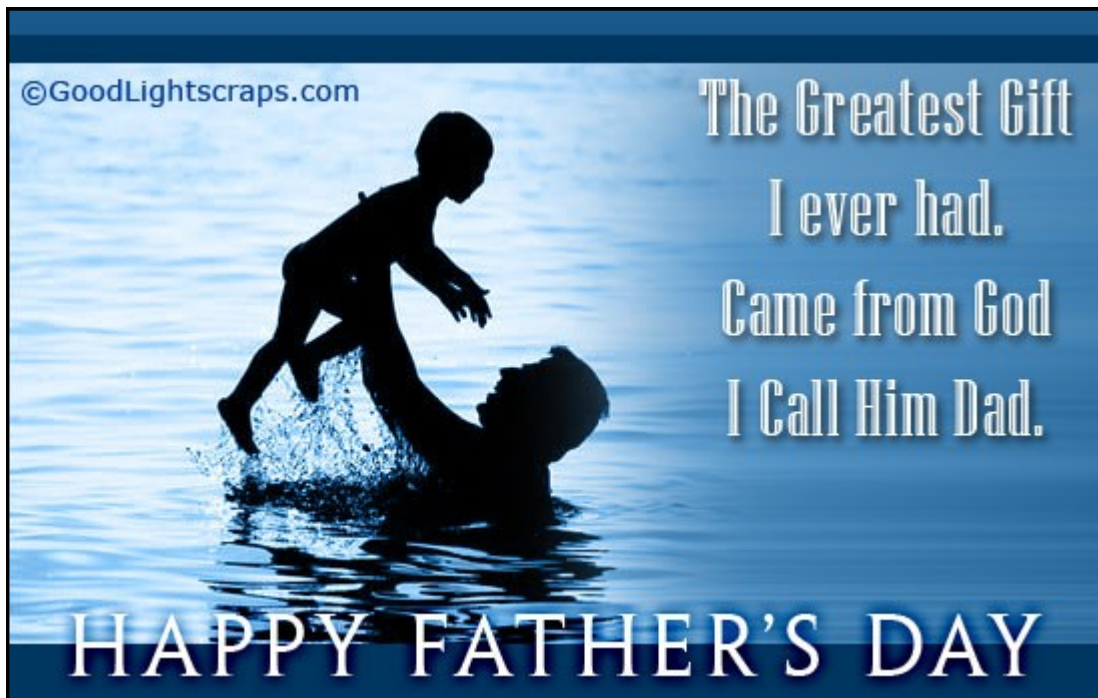


6/20

Dee Sutro

6/26

Aaron Rogers



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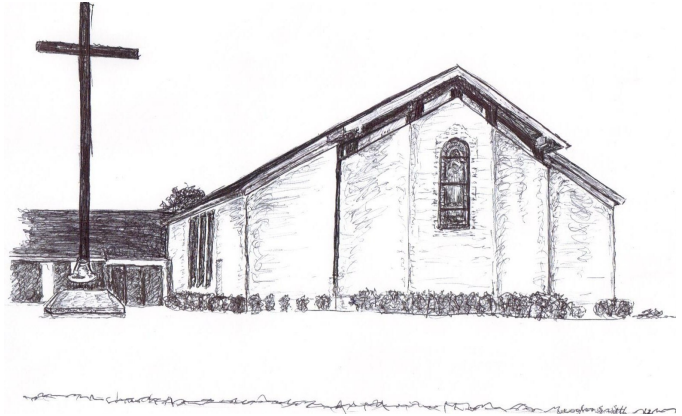
Jim Heath, *Stated Supply Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Choir Director*

Robyn Tan, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Secretary*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

3:00 pm Prayer Service

First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

Come experience God's love at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday School—9:45 a.m., Worship—11:00 a.m.