

Valentine's Day and the beginning of Lent are in the same month this year, in fact they are only four days apart. Both days recall religious origins; however, their modern practices are vastly different. Valentine's Day originated as a Christian feast day honoring a martyr named Valentine, who lived in the 3rd century and who was beaten with clubs and beheaded for evangelizing in Rome. He became a saint because of his holiness, and is recorded as restoring the sight of his jailer's daughter before his death. Later folk traditions in the 14th and 15th centuries associated the saint with romantic love, and in the 18th century the tradition grew into presenting flowers, candy, and hand-made cards. In the 19th century mass-produced cards were introduced, and the original intent of the Feast Day of St. Valentine was left in the dust.

Lent is observed as the 40 days of preparation before Easter, and is a period of prayer, fasting, and repentance. Self-reflection, simplicity, and sincerity are emphasized during the Lenten season. The pattern of fasting and

praying for 40 days reflects the 40 days that Moses went up the mountain before receiving the Ten Commandments, the 40 days that Elijah went into the mountains to fast and pray before he reached Horeb, and the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness to fast and pray before beginning his ministry.

Valentine's Day is fixed on the calendar as February 14 every year, but the beginning of Lent varies each year, according to what day Easter is celebrated. This year Lent begins on February 18. Many churches, including PDC, signal the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday, where we receive ashes on our foreheads to signify sorrow for our sins. The wearing of ashes has been a sign of repentance since biblical times. Each imposition of ashes is accompanied by the words: "Remember you are dust, and to dust you will return," as we are reminded of our mortality.

Two traditions, two different ways of marking the day. I pray that as we experience them, we remember the holy beginnings of both.

Pastor Kathy

WORSHIP with us

Feb 1

Scripture Luke 12-13-34
Sermon Not Our Own

Feb 8

Scripture. Matthew 5: 13-20
Sermon. Salt and Light

Feb 15

Scripture. Hebrews 12: 18-29
Sermon. Fire and Awe
Transfiguration Sunday

Feb 22

Scripture Jeremiah 1: 1-10
Sermon. Calling the Unqualified



**Cookie Crunch
Fellowship Time
February 15
following worship.**



Ash
WEDNESDAY

**Join in Worship
Wednesday, January 18
6:00 P.M.
PDC**



Class of 2028:
Leigh Carter, John Manning

Class of 2027
Brady Jones, Stuart Tolson

Class of 2026
James Allen, Missy Culver,
Lori Hamburger

Presbyterian Disciples Church
101 E. 12th St.
Pawhuska, OK 74056 | 918-287-4040
pdc pawhuska@gmail.com
<http://presbyteriandiscipleschurch.com>



02-02. Kaiden Hofer
02-05. Jack Drummond
02-08. Reece Williams
02-11. Hannah Allen
02-13. Ben Culver
02-15. Matthew Free
02-16. Shawn Helmer
02-16. Chase Lawrence
02-18. Emma Allen
02-18. Carolyn Helmer
02-20. Church Lawrence



Please keep Linda Priest in your prayers. As of this writing, Linda is still in our hospital in a swing bed. She is still awaiting a procedure that will help with pain and allow her therapy. She has been in the hospital since before Christmas as the result of a fall and damage to her vertebrae.

Card address: Pawhuska Hospital, 1101 E. 15th Street, Pawhuska, OK 74056



2-07-1976
Lindy & Clancy Hudson



Kathy Albarracin
160 E 57th Street
Tulsa, OK 74105

Text shared with permission of Kathy

Also, prayers for those who are seeking answers to health issues. For Randa Bloomfield who has yet to have answers to not feeling well. Prayers for insight of doctors to be able to direct her to better health.

For those on our prayer list in the bulletin, and all others known to you.



Good morning! I meant for 3 months to get this to you, I love the newsletters you put out! **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

My new address is 160 E 57th Street, Tulsa, Ok 74105,

I'm currently working as a Cross Guard at 56th & Peoria and as a personal care attendant. I have visited a church close by that is relatively new called Hope Fellowship. Dean Johnson is the pastor and come to find out he knows one of the Drummond

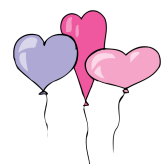
daughters as he used to be their soccer coach. Crazy small world.

I am volunteering for an organization Called Standing in the Gap as a mentor for a young woman. I partner with another couple in this.

Oh, and our church gathered with City Lights organization to feed the homeless,

under a bridge. City lights does this every Thursday.

This morning I was thinking how I still don't feel like Tulsa is my home yet. Lol! I sure do miss everyone's smiles and kindness! Being a Presbyterian Disciple prepared me for being able to give or do the volunteering! Praise God for this! (This is a really long text) I love all of you!





Leigh Carter

Birthday: Midnight July 4
Born Phoenix, Arizona

Occupation:
Licensed Realtor & Broker
(Retired, not completely)

Previous Co-owned ReMax
of South Tulsa

Previously worked with
McGraw for 14 years as
corporate relocation director

Practicing Realtor for 50
years. Still on the job doing
foreclosures with a bank in
Salt Lake City, UT

Volunteer Committments

Meals on Wheels

Tallgrass Prairie Docent

Ministrial Alliance
Benevolence, writing
checks.

Newly elected to serve on
Church Council.

Hobbies Current & Past

Geneology
Reading
Puzzles
Cooking
Baking
Stained Glass
Calligraphy

On an August Sunday morning in 2024, Leigh Carter came with a high school friend, Jenny Mae (Mashunkashey) Miller, to check out the Presyterian Disciples Church. Leigh had returned to Pawhuska in 2019, and now was visiting our PDC. Leigh said that she thought we were friendly, and when she settled into her seat and saw the beautiful window, she felt like she was home. Leigh had been baptized in 1967 in front of the beautiful window in First Christian Church. Leigh was a member of FCC, and automatically a member of Presbyterian Disciples Church. We are blessed that Leigh has chosen to be a part of our worshiping family.

Leigh's ties to FCC were strong as both paternal Carters and maternal Hacklemans were early members of the church, perhaps founding members. Her mother was Jo Hackleman and father Webb Carter.

Her grandfather was Wilder Stuart 'Nick' Carter. Rev. J. Vernon Wheeler was pastor of FCC when Nick died in 1953 in a hospital in Biloxi, MS, following a long illness. He had been living in Phoenix AZ. He was returned to Pawhuska for burial. A service was held at First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ

Nick came to Pawhuska in 1904 and resided here until 1940. In 1921 he married Myrtle Jelf in Pawhuska. He was a member of the First Christian Church, the Rollie McCartney Post No. 97 of the American Legion, and the Masonic Lodge.

While in Pawhuska, he was associated with several businesses. For a period of time, he was co-owner with C.R. Ritchie, and operated the Loab Smoke House, which contained a domino parlor, cold drink and sandwich stand, tabacco counter, and barber shop. He owned and operated the Carter Motor Company. Nick was also associated with the cafe business.

Due to his wife's health, he left Pawhuska for Phoenix. There he operated a cafe and tourist court. He did come back for a short time to manage the Manhattan Cafe for the H.H. Andersons while they were away on vacation. (Remember the Manhattan!)

According to Leigh, Nick served as acting mayor of Pawhuska and was the one in the picture driving Eleanor Roosevelt down Main Street. (Anyone remember that picture?)

There are stories of Nick's father, John, and wife Letha. Letha ended up owning a boarding house on South Osage Drive close to the swinging bridge.

I knew I was in organizational trouble when Leigh said she had lived in 39 houses and 11 cities!

Leigh remembers first starting school in Homer, Alaska before it was a state. Their house was a one room log cabin with a black wood stove and no bathroom. They slept in bunk beds their father made. The family didn't stay there long.

Leigh has tales of being little and living in the White Mountains of Arizona. The 'town' was named Show Low, named for a card game 'Show your low card' Main street named.. (wait for it.) Duce of Clubs! It's still there!

She has an older sister, Kathy, and a younger sister, Claire. All were born in Pheonix, Arizona.

There is no way to trace the doings of this busy family on one page. Leigh said the sisters tried to collaborate and make a timeline of where they had lived, and they gave up.

Leigh did attend Pawhuska schools in her Sophomore, Junior and Senior years and graduated with the class of 1970. She headed to Stillwater and received an Associates in Business degree.

Leigh is fun to be around with lots of interests and talaents. She is a woman of faith and has chosen to put her roots down with us. If you haven't gotten to know Leigh, I promise you are in for a treat. If you want to talk about some good old times in Pawhuska, there are stories to tell.



When Jesus was asked to identify the greatest commandment in Torah, He went right to the heart of what Torah is all about: Love.

To recognize God as the one true God and to love Him with everything you have in you, this is a command, not a suggestion. The end result is being able “to live so that you may enjoy long life and that it may go well with you in the land.”

Excuse me!! How can love be commanded? What does that mean?

The Hebrew word *ahavah* (a-hav-VAH) can help us see what the command to love God is all about. Besides the common understanding of feelings, *ahavah* goes beyond emotions. **It can mean to “act lovingly toward” or “be loyal to”.**

In Ancient times, when an enemy king would sign a covenant, he would pledge to ‘love’ the king with whom he was making peace. **This meant that the enemy king would act loyally**, not that he would have warm thoughts for the king and think he was a great guy.

Well, I’ve never heard this before!

Lois Tverburg in Chapter 3 of her book *Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus*, asks the reader to **imagine that you receive a fancy romantic card on Valentine’s Day that your beloved has written one line that says “I love you with all of my very.”**

What a strange thing to say. With all my very?

***“But this strange phrase is actually the last line of the commandment to love God. Love the Lord with all of your heart, and all of your soul, and all of your very.** Hebrew speakers find the phrase as strange as we do. You can almost hear the crowd of puzzled Israelites murmuring when they first heard Moses’ words: “With all my very? ... Very what?”

The word, *me’od* (meh-ODE), “very,” is a common adverb that is used the same way as we use “very,” to intensify adjectives. Outside of the Shema, it’s almost never used as a noun. You’ll likely find it on the first page of your handy Berlitz phrase book. A common first line (to a man) is “Mah shlomkha?” (“How are you?”), and the usual response is, “Tov me’od” (TOVE meh-ODE, “very well”).

Deuteronomy 6: 4-5

**4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.
5 Love the Lord your God with all you heart, and all your soul and with all your strength. NIV**

Also, love must include action, not just thoughts. We cannot fully love our neighbors by just thinking nice thoughts about them, we have to get busy and do something. We have to show God’s love by doing what we can for them.

When Jesus commanded that we love our enemies, (Matt; 5:44) he may have been thinking, not about how we feel, but how we act toward them. **Do we pray for them, treat them in a way that would show we are loyal to the ways of God?**



Although I would love to know how to read Hebrew and Greek, trust me when I say that isn’t going to happen. I had enough trouble with Spanish and Miss Hill.

I do have a great appreciation for it, and know I’m missing the deeper meaning when I read articles from those well versed in the languages. Sometimes we can catch glimpses of understanding of God that we miss otherwise. I hope you don’t mind my sharing. I think this is one that might make you smile.

And in Genesis 1:31, when God looks back on all his handiwork, he proclaims his creation not just tov, “good”—but tov me’od, “very good.”

Hebrew scholar Randall Buth reads the Shema’s phrase “with all of your very” as saying, “with all of your oomph!” The word itself pushes you to love God heartily, earnestly, zealously — or as we read it, with all of your might.

Once English speakers hear me’od defined as “strength” or “might,” we see the issue as solved and move right on. Zondervan, 2012), 51.

But remember that the wording, actually, is “all of your very.” **Every time Hebrew speakers uttered the strange phrase, it provoked them to meditate on what this odd construction was really saying.**

I’ve been borrowing again. This from the book I recommended last month!

Quotes Source:

*Lois Tverberg and Ray Vander Laan, *Walking in the Dust of Rabbi Jesus: How the Jewish Words of Jesus Can Change Your Life* (Grand Rapids, MI: Chapter 3: ‘Loving God With Everything You’ve Got’ pgs 42-46 &51-53

BIBLE READING PLAN: *From Death to Life*

During Lent, Christians observe 40 days of confession, prayer and renewal. Just as our Savior fasted and faced temptation in the desert for 40 days, we use this season to grow our faith and prepare to minister.

Use this Bible Reading Plan to follow Jesus to the cross and then rejoice at his empty tomb on Easter. Travel through Scripture to reflect on who Jesus is and what he lovingly endured to give us life.



The Dry Desert

- Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 [Ash Wednesday]
- Genesis 3
- Psalm 63:1-8
- Matthew 4:1-11
- Sunday: Hebrews 4:14-16



Hope on the Horizon

- Numbers 21:4-9
- 2 Samuel 7:1-16
- Job 19:23-27
- Isaiah 42:1-9
- Daniel 7:13-14
- Zechariah 9:9-17
- Sunday: Romans 8:22-30



Our Sacrificial Lamb

- Genesis 22:1-18
- Exodus 12:1-17
- Psalm 23
- John 1:1-34
- John 10:1-18
- 1 Peter 1:18-23
- Sunday: Revelation 5



Hatred & Persecution

- Psalm 22
- Jeremiah 20:7-13
- Matthew 24:1-31
- John 11:45-57
- John 15:18-25
- 2 Timothy 3:10-17
- Sunday: 2 Corinthians 4



Hosannas for a King

- Psalm 24:7-10
- Jeremiah 23:5-6
- Matthew 21:1-11
- John 18:33-40
- John 19:1-16
- Hebrews 1:1-12
- Sunday: Revelation 7:9-17



Journey to the Cross

- John 2:13-22
- Mark 14:1-11
- John 13:1-17
- Matthew 26:26-30
- Luke 22:39-46
- Mark 14:27-31, 66-72
- Palm Sunday: Ephesians 1:18-23



Victory Through Christ

- Isaiah 53
- Matthew 26:47-56
- Mark 15:16-20
- John 6:47-58 [Maundy Thursday]
- Matthew 27:32-54 [Good Friday]
- Psalm 16:5-11 [Holy Saturday]
- Easter Sunday: Luke 24:1-8;
- 1 Corinthians 15:47-57

Note: Sundays, known as "mini-Easters," are excluded from Lent's 40 days. But this reading plan includes verses for each day from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday.