

CENTRAL CONNECTION

Upcoming Events

Monday, February 7

Pastor out of town
NO Book study

Tuesday, February 8

9:30-12 - Pastor in meetings

February 8-9

Ministers' Week at Brite
(Online)

Wednesday, February 9

Pastor out during morning

Sunday, February 13

11 am - Worship In person
and on Facebook

UPCOMING

February 16

Biblical Storytelling
Workshop at The Parish in
Jacksboro

**Don't forget to check out
our website or Facebook
page to find worship
services, newsletters and
more!**



40 used to be "over the hill." I'm SO glad 60 is the new 40! (And that 9pm is the new midnight!!) To be honest, I've never been bothered by saying how old I am. I figure it is what it is, no need to hide it.

And that got me thinking....how often do we hide who and what we really are for the sake of expectations or assumptions or fear of judgment by others? How often do we allow the preconceived notions of the world around us to dictate how we show up in the world?

Maybe we think we have to act tough or in control. Maybe we feel like we have to act like we have a certain social status. Maybe we feel like we have to hide our true emotions for the sake of "looking happy" all the time. Maybe we lie to ourselves hoping that everyone else will believe it, too.

When Jesus called the disciples, they came as they were. Sure, Jesus taught them and expected transformation, but he didn't encourage them to hide who they were. He didn't encourage them to act the part (which is where our word hypocrisy comes from in Greek - "to play a part/wear a mask").

What would happen if we gave up trying to fool ourselves and the world about who we are? What would happen if we agreed to be real, to be honest, to let go of all the societal frameworks we think we have to fit into? Would we be happier, more joyful, more peace filled? Would we find more abundant life and have more fun? I think we would and I think we would live more fully the life God intended for us to live. So, give it up this week. Don't hide behind fear of judgment or expectations. Live life fully and freely!

Pastor Lory

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Nation and World, Tammy Brockman, Nancy Atkison, Madison Wardell, Charlotte Reagan, Brylie, Cousin Pat, those battling Covid-19, Gayle Storey, Dean Prine, Bob Miller, CASA Kids, Adam Bagwell, Laura Hunt, Tony Barker, Joseph Adams, Rios Family, Vivian Contareas, Tommy Mitchell, Sally Shelton, Sharon Brown, Raymod Gelo, Joseph (Staley's nephew), Raenell Nunnley, Bruce Major, Angel Dyer, Cody Smith, Cameron Koch, Family of Peggy Benton, Miller Family, Family of Norma Jackson, Brothers Family



Worship This Week:

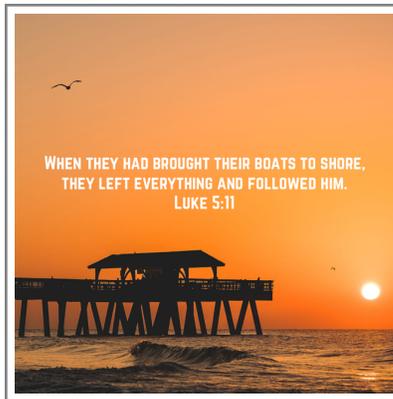
Elders: Lierly
Communion: Lierly
Text: Jeremiah 17:5-10,
Luke 6:17-26
Sermon: Blessings and Woes

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Community Ministries

We are in the process of brainstorming some ways we can offer ministry to our community in conjunction with others in town. Current ideas include: combined confirmation/pastor's class with FUMC, grief support groups, and an ecumenical (mainline) children/youth ministry. Keep watching for more details about these possibilities. And pray that God would open doors for what is most needed.

This is a neat, affordable opportunity for anyone interested in story telling as it relates to scripture. This workshop will be at The Parish in Jacksboro next week. See Pastor Lory for more details.



Jesus asks us:
will you come
and be healed,
will you come
and hear, will
you come and
follow, will you
come and share
me with the
world?