#### Commitments Must Be Made

You're about to set a goal. That's called commitment!

Possibilities have been weighed

Priorities have been swayed

Plans have been layed... and now

Commitments must be made.

It's your turn to step into the exciting circle where the seeds of success germinate and sprout. Commitment! This is where your positive possibility leaves the womb, where your dream takes on a life of its own.

A commitment has three necessary components: vision, value, and voice.

- \* Vision. You have it. A dream has taken form and shape, moving out of your fantasy into reality.
- \* Value. Your vision has profound value in your head and heart. You're willing to die for it.
- \* *Voice*. The newborn life utters its first cry. You make your commitment; you express your hopes. "Ask and you shall receive!" It's time to communicate your commitment to creative power-persons.

~ from If It's Going To Be It's Up To Me

Please continue in <u>daily prayers for our church,</u> and the **Preacher Search Committee** Spencer, Brian, Terri, Karen, LaVerne, Steven, Chuck, Betty S., Bobby, & Dale,—- and the **right candidate and family** to find us

What possibilities and priorities do you see for our church? To what Vision & Value will you commit?

This quote was from one of the beautiful new books of inspiration and motivation in our church lending library.

~Donated by the Snells

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

WelcomeBrian FrenchSing TogetherBrian French

**Prayer** Steven Pitts

Sing Together

Hebrews 5:5-9 Justin Fruge

**Communion and Offering** 

\* Kenneth Horn Spencer Bates Joel BiJeaux John Hodges Sid Temple

Sing Together

Children's Lesson, Song & Prayer, then Children's Church (Ages 3-10, and Age 2 welcome with a parent – Please follow Ms. Kathryn to the Youth Room)

**Sermon** Jerry Fenter

Sing Together

Closing Prayer Jeff Ross

Everybody Welcome: Lunch Bunch—

May 21, Dine together at Schlotsky's

For the benefit of all worshippers, please silence all electronic devices during worship.



A place where God is praised, lives are changed, needs are met, and friends are made!

**Meeting Times** 

**Sunday:** 

Bible Class Worship 9:00 AM 10:00 AM

Everyone Welcome at building, with Caregroup #1 6:00 PM Other groups meet in the area. See the LeBlanc or French families for information. Everyone Welcome!

Wednesday:

**Women's Bible Class** 

10:00 AM

Devo, then Coffee & Conversation 7:00 PM

& <u>GriefShare</u> 7:00 PM & <u>DivorceRecovery</u> 7:00 PM 3901 Jimmy Johnson Blvd. Port Arthur, Texas 77642 Building 409-727-6255 Fax 409-727-0640

www.parkcentralchurchofchrist.org

SERMON NOTES	~JERRY FENTER

# "Take away the stone," he said. *~John 11:39*"TAKE AWAY THE STONE"

JESUS SAYS, "TAKE AWAY THE STONE." Lazarus has been dead and buried for four days. Jesus says, "Take away the stone." Martha argues with him that after this length of time the body of her brother will have a bad odor. JESUS TELLS MARTHA THAT IF YOU BELIEVE YOU WILL SEE THE GLORY OF GOD. JESUS USES THIS MOMENT IN TIME TO TEACH OF HOW POWERFUL IS OUR GOD! THERE IS NOT ONE THING, EVEN DEATH, THAT CAN LIMIT THE POWER OF GOD! Martha and Mary are distraught that Jesus has not come earlier to save their brother Lazarus. They even scold him for not coming sooner. They have faith that Jesus can heal the living, but they have no idea of the power that Jesus has....even power over death. When Jesus hears of Lazarus' death, Jesus weeps for his friend, but he is using the circumstance to teach and to show the power of the almighty God. THE STONE IS REMOVED AND LAZARUS COMES FORTH FROM THE GRAVE WRAPPED IN LINEN STRIPS. JESUS TELLS THEM TO REMOVE THE GRAVE WRAPPINGS SO THAT HIS FRIEND CAN WALK. WHAT A MIRACLE TO BEHOLD!.... AND I WON-DER. . . . AND I PONDER THE SCRIPTURE "IF YOU BELIEVE **YOU WILL SEE THE GLORY OF GOD!"** I suppose we each have our arguments with Jesus on removing the stones in our lives. WE THINK THAT WE KNOW BETTER AND THAT THE BAD ODOR WILL PREVAIL. WE KEEP THE GLORY OF GOD FROM SHINING IN OUR LIVES BY REFUSING TO HAVE FAITH AND BY NOT FOLLOWING THE WORDS OF JESUS. . . . BUT THEN WHEN WE FOLLOW THE WORDS OF JESUS, THE GLORY OF GOD FILLS OUR LIVES. THE LIGHT OF JESUS SHINES UPON US LIGHTING OUR WAY. WHEN THE STONES ARE ROLLED AWAY IN OUR LIVES AND THE STONES ARE REMOVED FROM OUR HEARTS, WE EMERGE AS DID LAZARUS, TO A NEW LIFE TO AN EVERLASTING LIFE. THE GLORY OF GOD FILLS OUR HEARTS AND I ASK YOU. "JUST HOW WONDERFUL IS THAT!" Thank you, Jesus, for loving me. Thank you, God, for loving me. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for loving me and for rolling the stone from my path. Amen. ~Jean Gunn

## FAMILY NEWS, NOTES & PRAYER REQUESTS

Glenn Smith—back home after hospitalization for pneumonia; more tests & labs.

Isaiah, Norman and Betty Shannon's grandson—praying current meds work, and awaiting the test on Sept. 5 to determine further treatments are required.

Everett Sanderson—is released from hospital after a set back. Needs our prayers.

Kent Hebert—recovering from hip surgery at home. Working on Rehab.

Sonny Gunn— MRI results will require knee surgery—schedule to be determined.

Sheila Yancey—Is doing better in baby steps after her shoulder surgery. Painful.

Brittany Fruge's MRI completed; to determine cause of headache. Pray.

Judy Moore—is healing, though remains in pain.

Nelda Cooper's daughter Cathy Cooper is healing before another surgery. Pray.

Ron Beavers— Is in Mid-Jeff Long Term Hospital. Pray for his health & well—being.

Teresa Philips called with prayer request for Ina Sue Arnould, diagnosis cancer.

Please continue to hold in your prayers: Gene Badgett, Beavers Family, Ronnie Beavers, Joann Bloodworth, Van Campbell, Van Cox, Harold & Martha Ann Dixon, Glenda Donnell, Shirley Duhon, Elaine Guy's nephew Troy Bertrand, Fruge Family, Alexis Green, Elaine Guy, James Handley, Jan & Carl Hunt's friend, Nan Gregg, Betty Keith, Alan King, Jack Hyde & Pam Kingston, Kim Knighton, Heather Knighton's co-worker, Lori Neumann, Diana Landry, Susan Lee's family, Paula & Noble Leggett's Granddaughter, Carly, David Lindsey, Allen Melton, Frances Messina, Judy Moore, Baby Tressie (Kaylani), Nichols Family, Pricilla Bertolio, Eretta Pettit, Debbi, Ray & Derek Petree, Margaret Pool, Leslie Reed's mother, Judy Brushaber, Needa Reed, Dortha Rife's baby sister, Charlsie Kirk, Pam Romero, Isaiah Shannon, Frances Shoemaker, Carol & Glenn Smith and Carol's mom. Smiths' friend Melissa Carolle, Melody Temple, Norma Trahan.

Our sympathy and prayers for the family and friends of

## Albert S. Pugh, IV

October 7, 1951—May 16, 2017 His services were Friday in Orange, Texas

## **ATTENDANCE Sunday** 5/14/17 **AM 100,PM 09 Wed** 5/17/17 22

## **CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MINISTRIES & OPERATIONS BUDGET**

	1	<u>Weekly</u>	May <u>I</u>	MONTHLY to date	<u>Y</u> (	ear to Date	<u>% -age</u>	
Actual Regular+ online reg	\$	4,107.08	\$	7,749.08	\$	61,350.50	83.48	%
2017 BUDGET	\$	3,674.42	\$	15,922.50	\$	73,488.40	100.00	<u>%</u>
Over / -Under	+\$	432.66	_	\$ 8,173.42	-\$	12,137.90	- 16.52	%

## Rejoicing in Newness of Life

Last Sunday, May 14, 2017, was a wonderful day

to rejoice and celebrate with

**Rebecca Guy**, as she chose to become a sister in Christ. Her father, **Greg Guy**, baptized her.



We were therefore buried with him through **baptism** into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Women's BIBLE CLASS- an in-depth study of books of the Bible, currently, Song of Songs.

Jean Gunn teaches and everyone encouraged to participate if they wish, including the reading of scripture. All women welcome! Wednesdays—coffee, often a delicious snack, visit & study 10 AM

