



TENNISON TOWER

September 2019

Tennison Memorial United Methodist Church
313 N Church Street, Mount Pleasant TX 75455
903.572.5341 ~ www.tennisonumc.org



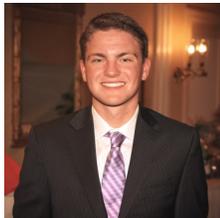
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Pastor Mike Cline

I found this story recently and it seemed timely to share. One morning, a young boy named Raymond Mohler, Jr. woke up with pain in both of his hips. The pain was severe enough that he was taken to the hospital.

He said, "I was there for eight hours and scared. And when I got to go home, I couldn't wrap my mind around the fact that there were kids who were going to have to stay there." This young boy's birthday just happens to be on Christmas Eve. And that Christmas, thinking of all the children who were left behind at the hospital, he decided he would donate half of all his birthday and Christmas presents to them.

Soon, with the help of his family, six-year-old Raymond founded an organization he called Nick Founda- to make hospi- friendly for the 13 years, more bags, toys, electronics have children in hospitals across the country. He also inspired other kids to take action as well.



Raymond Mohler, Jr.

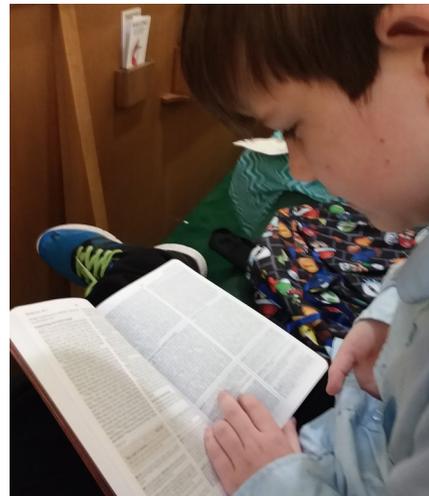
founded an organ- the Little Saint tion. Its mission is tals more kid- young patients. In than 500,000 gift movies and elec- been donated to

Thirteen-year-old Agha Haider was home with a broken leg "binge watching" TV and saw a show on Nickelodeon featuring Mohler and the Little Saint Nick Foundation. Haider was captivated seeing how one kid had made a difference for so many. He emailed the foundation to see how he could get involved.

(cont'd. on pg. 3)

CALENDAR

- Sept. 2 Labor Day—office closed
- Sept. 3, 6pm Trustees
- Sept. 6-12 Pastor on vacation
- Sept. 11, 4pm Sewing class begins
- Sept. 11, 4pm Arts of Kindness begins
- Sept. 11, 5pm Kids Supper begins
- Sept. 11, 6pm Just for Kids Bible Study
- Sept. 18, 3pm Master's Chefs
- Sept. 24, 6pm Martha Ministries



Daniel Mills studies his new bible on Promotion Sunday. Nine kids entering third grade were given bibles. See story on pg. 3.

WORSHIP SERVICES

- 8:45 a.m. The Gathering**
Comfortable and casual
Kid friendly
Sing with the Praise Band
Meets in the Gathering Hall
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School**
Classes for all ages
Meet in Education Building
- 10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship**
Service with Chancel Choir
Meets in the Sanctuary

www.facebook.com/tennisonumc

SERVING OTHERS

Master's Chefs Deliver Love

I love the Master's Chefs program. It is my favorite because it is filled with hard work, blessings, helping hands and cooking for others. There is a reward for each of us in seeing something we have accomplished and how grateful people are to receive it.

Linda Langford brought this idea to the women of the church who agreed it would be a wonderful project for Tennison UMC. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month from September through May to cook in the TMAC kitchen. We prepare nutritious meals for church members who are ill or unable to come to church.

The cooking team works well together. Each person has a job to do. We also have a lot of "tasters" because we want the food to be perfect. As we cook, we talk. We learn about each other and all our family members. We also talk about the needs of our church.

After the food is prepared, we have an assembly line filling to-go boxes. Then, each cook takes a few boxes to deliver.

My favorite part of the project is ringing a doorbell and saying,

"People are hungry for more than food."

"I have some goodies for you!" After they open the box and express gratitude for the food the one thing that is always requested is "Please sit down and stay a few minutes." They love to hear all the news from church and news about everyone they know.

I always stay for a bit, but then I tell them I have more food to deliver. When I say goodbye, I get a lot of hugs and kisses and thank yous. As I leave each home, I can't express my feelings. My eyes are always filled with tears and my heart is working overtime.

These people are so sweet and appreciative. I smile through my tears and look up to the sky and say, "Thank you, God, for letting me be able to help somebody today."

Master's Chefs prepares meals the third Wednesday each month, Sept.-May, beginning Sept. 18 at 3 p.m. in the TMAC kitchen. Call Gloria Holt at 903-563-4547 or Jane Scharlach at 903-466-3221 to help.

Written by Gloria Holt



Volunteers prepare meals for delivery to shut-ins.

PRAYERS NEEDED

Judy Barry

Rosemary Davis

Bob Dunegan

Randy Dungan

Nancy Hairston

Pete Hairston

Randy Hodge

Kathy Huffman

Menhennett Family

Galand Nuchols

Kay Petty

Socorro Sausedo

Chris Shelton

Melba Spann

Confined at home:

Lucretia Alexander

Patsy Morrison

Bob Nuchols

Faynelle Taylor

Military:

Jeff Cody

Nicklaus Kirkham

Christopher Manchigiah

Lt. Charles Moler

From the Pastor's desk (cont'd.)

Haider and Mohler eventually started corresponding. Just a short while later at a St. Louis hospital the results of their joint efforts paid off. More than one hundred volunteers helped to pack 300 gift bags, filled with gifts like stuffed animals and coloring books, that were later distributed at two local children's hospitals.

As I read this story, I was reminded of how the gifts of some can be so far reaching for others. Over the last few years we have brought our debt down to \$80,000. We have paid more than \$680,000 over that time.

And at the same time, we built over 70 wheelchair ramps to help handicapped people to be able to get around, held numerous health fairs bringing medical care to thousands who may not have ever had it, fed literally thousands of hungry families, taught children to read, passed around hundreds of little acts of kindness, showed God's love to our entire community AND demonstrated the example of how things should be for those who serve Christ! Do you see how spectacular that is?!?

And we did these things in a shrinking economy with fewer people than ever!!! How can we not see the abundance of God???

And now we are one small step away from our church hiring a youth leader, investing in our children, and increasing our ability to show even more people in our community the amazing wonder of God's grace! Those children will grow in Christ and change the world for tens of thousands of others!! How cool is that!!!

Are there a few of us who can step up and make these things a reality that starts NOW?

Can you catch the vision with me??

— Mike

FUN THINGS FOR KIDS TO DO

Corey Mills, Director of the Children's Department, has ambitious plans for kids at Tennison.

Nine new third graders got their very own bibles on Promotion Sunday and 23 kids got their backpacks blessed on Aug. 18.

Arts of Kindness classes, Kids Supper and Just for Kids Bible Study will meet Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. starting Sept. 11.

Sunday School classes are offered each week for children who are PreK through 6th grade and nursery care is available.



New third graders received study bibles on Promotion Sunday. Pictured are (l-r): Ella and Jake Anderson, Corey and Daniel Mills.



JUST FOR KIDS BIBLE STUDY

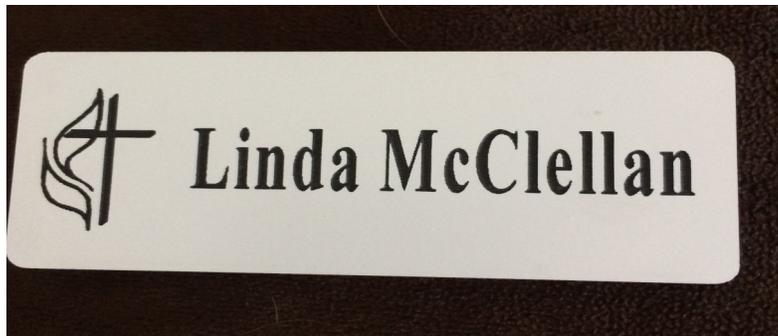
Long ago in a city called Athens, there was a man named Paul who tried to tell people about Jesus. It was a very dangerous thing to do. Paul felt alone and scared many times, but he kept on trying to tell the truth about God's love. He told people, "God loves us and takes care of us."

Learn how you can share God's love by coming to Just for Kid's Bible Study on Wednesday at 6 p.m. There will be stories, songs, crafts and games for kids ages 3 to 12 (PreK through 6th grade).

Supper for kids will be served at 5 p.m. in The Gathering Hall so be sure to sign up for both Kid's Supper and Just for Kids Bible Study. Corey Mills, Children's Director, is planning both programs. Call or text her at 903.746.5484 or email her at children@tennisonumc.org.

ORDER YOUR NEW NAMETAG

We're ordering nametags for \$7.50 each with your choice of a pin or magnet on the back. Contact the church office and order yours now. Remember, there's no need to pretend when you can just read the nametag.



SHOEBOX COUNTDOWN EVENT ON SEPT. 14

Highland Park Baptist Church, 2801 S Jefferson Ave., hosts a presentation by Gloria Brownwell who recently returned from a shoebox distribution in Nimibia, Africa. The event begins at 2 p.m. and describes the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child program.

MARTHA MINISTRIES MEETS SEPT. 24

All women in the church are invited to attend Martha Ministries on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. in the Gathering Hall. Dinner is being provided by Deloris O'Connor, Betty Russell and Mavis Brush. Judy Capps will share the programs of Hope Ministries of Northeast Texas. This non-profit organization empowered by the Holy Spirit was created to assist those broken in spirit and thirsty for life changes. One young mother who has been part of Hope Ministries for two years said, "I was angry, bitter and full of hate. I had nothing. Being here helped me know who I really am. I learned how to love myself and my children. I got my GED and even started college. Your help and prayers are not in vain."

CONTACT US

Church office: (903)572-5341

Mailing address: PO Box 967, Mt. Pleasant TX 75456

Office hours: Mon-Thurs, 8:30-4:30, closed for lunch 12-1
Closed on Fridays

Pastor: Mike Cline, pastor@tennisonumc.org

Administrative Assistant: Melissa Pearson,
admin@tennisonumc.org

Finance Secretary: Jeani Guest, finance@tennisonumc.org

Music Director: David Mills, music@tennisonumc.org

Children's Director: Corey Mills, children@tennisonumc.org

BIRTHDAYS

DUNGAN, Carolyn	09/04
HOLDER, Rose	09/04
RUSSELL, Tayler	09/04
SHELTON, Sarah	09/04
MCCARVER, Tracy	09/05
SANDERS, Wayne	09/05
RODRIGUEZ, Jonathan	09/11
WHITE, Wanda	09/12
PRICE, Ethan	09/13
PADEN, Thelma	09/14
SCHUMACHER, Chris	09/15
SHELTON, Colton	09/16
SPRINGSTEAD, Beverley	09/16
TAYLOR, Leigh	09/16
MCDANIEL, Marc	09/17
PRICE, Anna	09/18
ROESLER, Marvin	09/18
GREENLEE, Jack	09/21
NUCHOLS, Tom	09/22
TURNER, George	09/22
DENNY, Dolly	09/23
STANLEY, Jessie	09/23
FARR, Rebecca	09/25
GUEST, Jeani	09/25
HOLT, Gloria	09/25
REDFEARN, Patrick	09/27
GUEST, Charles	09/30
MEANS Jr., Bill	09/30
PFEFFER, Mary	09/30

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

August 4	144
August 11	127
August 18	105
August 25	128