Well, the last couple of days have gotten me more into the Fall vibe. But in true Texas fashion we'll be back up to 80 degrees in no time! This time of year always brings with it certain events, like the Texas State Fair (which just ended). If you missed the State Fair, you can still take the kids to have a good time (a much cheaper time, and probably a safer time) at the **BAS FALL FESTIVAL** on November 12th from 12:30 – 3:00. Activities include face and hair painting, train rides, and all the traditional Fall Fair favorites. Of course, half the fun of a fair is the food, and this event will not disappoint with vegeburgers, elote, street tacos, nacho bar, cotton candy, and more. Each booth is sponsored by a different classroom and the proceeds go to benefit the activities of that class. So come out and support all the teachers!



HARVEST TREE:

As you heard in my last letter, we are preceding our traditional Angel Tree with a Harvest Tree. This autumn "tree" will give you the opportunity to donate non-perishable food items to make Thanksgiving baskets for families in need and will be in the inner lobby until November 18th. Take a leaf (or two) and return the items written on the back to the baskets under the tree. If you have names of families who could benefit from this effort (either at church, school, or in your community), please let us know.

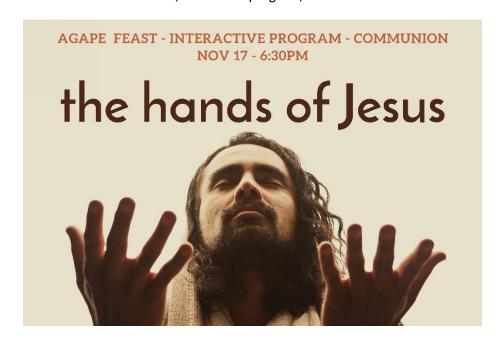
Most of the leaves were taken last Sabbath (yeah!), but magically more have appeared, just in case you didn't get a chance to pick one yet. I was informed by some of you that the request for pre-made pie crusts was not going to work since they are a refrigerated/frozen item. Duh...can you tell I don't bake pies?! If your leaf listed sugar and a pre-made pie crust, just substitute any canned pie filling for the pie crust.



AGAPE FEAST:

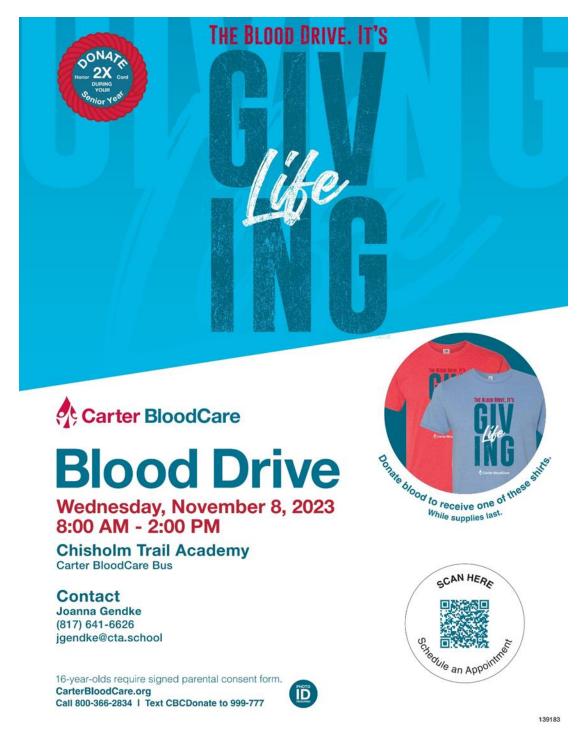
If you have attended any of our Agape Feasts in the last few years, you know what a beautiful and spiritual event this is for you and your family. This year the program is entitled, "The Hands of Jesus" and will be in a more biblical setting. We are looking for about ten adult volunteers (women or men) to dress in biblical style costumes and assist with serving the food. This would only take a short amount of time, so you would still be able to enjoy the program. Just reply to this message or let one of the pastors or me know when you see us at church.

By the way, this event is growing in popularity and last year we had very few empty seats. We hope you will plan to attend this delicious meal, interactive program, and communion service. Come early to ensure a place at the table.



CTA BLOOD DRIVE:

Just a reminder that you can give the gift of life by donating blood for the Carter Blood Drive at Chisholm Trail Academy on Wednesday, November 8, from 8:00am–2:00pm. As a former Operating Nurse, I can tell you how crucial it is to have access to blood in a crisis situation. I hope, if you are able, you can donate at this or any blood drive.



SELLERS FAMILY:

Many of you attended Bryan Sellers' funeral last Sabbath. I know it was a comfort to the family to see the outpouring of support. As I mentioned last week, the Keene church has organized a Meal Train for the family at this LINK. Currently

meals are scheduled for all dates, but monetary or gift card donations can be made through this site as well. Thank you for continuing to pray for Erin, Dylan, and Cameron Sellers, Kristen Iverson, and Tim and Janet Sellers; all who have formerly been long time members of our church family.

Have a blessed week, friends. ~ Liz Simons ~



I bless them all—the friends who didn't back away when I said clumsy, foolish things, or added insult to an injury. I bless the ones who held me in the grip of grace before I had an inkling they were doing anything at all.

I call to mind the line of kind, consistent people who forgave before I knew how much I had offended, who didn't hold my sins against me, or wait to even up the score. I thank the Lord who taught them grace so that when my life was stirred by grace, I had a living, breathing demonstration standing right beside me.

Grace has a face—or faces, actually—one, two or ten who make the gospel come to life by holding, healing, loving, serving. They are my church, my backstop, my community.

Because of them, I dare to do some gracious act that covers sin or heals pain. They've made a choice, and so have I.

We stay in grace.

—Bill Knott

FUNNIES:



"You can call me Pharaoh. Because I will never let you go."





"The Pastor keeps referring to 'this morning's text' ... but which one?"

Me, when I lean on my own understanding

