

The masks we wear

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”
— **Isaiah 41:10, English Standard Version**

We often feel the need to hide our brokenness, sin, pain and suffering behind a mask of happiness and perfection.

In the Word | Heather Hodges We conceal our true selves out of fear or self-preservation. The masks we wear become so comfortable and familiar. They become part of us and we would feel naked without them.

During those moments when our guard is down and we remove the mask, we feel vulnerable and exposed, but we are also authentic and raw.

Wearing the mask only perpetuates the pain and loneliness. But when we take the mask off, we open our hearts to the presence of God and to healing, restoration and transformation.

When we summon the courage and remove the mask we feel the presence of God surround and strengthen us.

Peace and love to you. “Soli Deo gloria.” To God alone be the glory.

HEATHER HODGES—Christian Chronicle, November 2015
Hodges is a mom, wife, artist, inspirational speaker and follower of Christ. She earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Abilene Christian University in Texas and has been in ministry alongside her husband, Wade, for almost 20 years. They worship with the Preston Road Church of Christ in Dallas, where Wade Hodges serves a preaching minister, with their sons Caleb and Elijah. See her gallery at heatherhodgesart.com.

PRAYER LIST

- Pauline Alvarez (health)
- Lauren Babb (health)
- Aaron Banks
- John Beiler (health)
- James Bohannon (Rex Boggs’s cousin—health)
- Jim Carpenter (Cody Chrismon’s great uncle—health)
- Dawn Clarke (Shirley Kuchynka’s daughter)
- Betty Cox (Brent Barnick’s sister—Texan nursing home)
- Dixie (Debbie Faires’s mother—Alzheimer’s)
- Jake Faires (Air Force, deployed to Jordan)
- Steven Faires, and Lexi
- Leon Giesecke (Jan Moerbe’s father—throat cancer)
- Family and friends of Herbert Hahn
- Josh Horn (Jacob White’s cousin—health)
- Debbie Jalufka
- Kevin and Victoria Johnson (healthy pregnancy/baby)
- Ada Powell (Sharron Mason’s sister—health)
- Jean Rice (Rex Boggs’s cousin—health)
- Randall Sweeney (recovering from surgery)
- Adrienne Zingrich (Susan Barnick’s cousin—cancer)

If you have any announcements or prayer requests you wish to have included in the bulletin or to sign up for weekly e-mail updates, please contact Victoria Johnson: 325-518-9205, victoria@gonzaleschurchofchrist.org.

PRAYER UPDATES

We extend sympathy to the family and friends of our brother Herbert Hahn who passed on Thursday, April 20, at the age of 88. Family visitation will be held **tonight from 4-6 p.m.** at Seydler-Hill Funeral Home (906 Saint Paul St.). A funeral service will be held **tomorrow at 10 a.m.**, also at Seydler-Hill. Following the funeral a meal will be hosted in our annex.

Josh Horn, Jacob White’s teenage cousin, suffers from Down’s syndrome and a severe autoimmune disease. His family currently exploring treatment options, including a very risky procedure to kill and rebuild his immune system.

Kameron Glass had successful surgery to remove the pins in his ankle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Funeral Meal Tomorrow

Tomorrow we will be providing a meal following Herb Hahn’s funeral. The church is providing fried chicken. We need volunteers to bring bread, sides, and desserts. If you have not already done so, please let Victoria Johnson know what items you can bring.

Singing at The Heights

Please join us **TODAY at 3:30 p.m.** at The Heights of Gonzales nursing home (701 N Sarah DeWitt) for our monthly singing and fellowship.

Peach Valley Bar-B-Q Fundraiser

Peach Valley Christian Youth Camp is hosting its Annual Bar-B-Q Fundraiser **this Saturday, April 29**. Please sign up in the foyer if you are able to prepare a dessert. Desserts need to be to the annex by 9:30 a.m. that morning.

Baby Shower

You’re invited to a baby shower honoring **Kevin and Victoria Johnson next Sunday, April 30, from 2-4 p.m.** at the home of Stacia Sweeney. Kevin and Victoria are registered at Wal-Mart, Target, Babies ‘R’ Us, and Babylist.com.

Kitchen Items

Please check the pew in the foyer to see if any of the items that were left in the kitchen belong to you. Any unclaimed items will be donated.

Volunteers Needed: Wednesday Night Meals

Volunteers are needed to prepare the entrée for meals on Wednesday evenings. To help, please sign up in the foyer. **If you signed up to prepare a meal, please send your menu to Victoria by Wednesday the week before your turn.**

Wednesday Evening Meal & Bible Study

Please join us **at 5:15 p.m. this Wednesday** for dinner in the annex. This week’s entrée is **pulled pork**. Anyone who is able is asked to bring sides to share, but please do not let that prevent you from joining us. Classes for all ages follow at 6 p.m.

Volunteers Needed: Communion Prep

Volunteers are needed to prepare communion in the coming months. This task takes very little time and is a great service to the congregation. Please sign up on the large bulletin board in the foyer.

Sunday Night Small Group

There is a small group that meets in the annex each Sunday evening from 6-7 p.m. The Lord’s Supper is available.

Tuesday Morning Men’s Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited to the annex each Tuesday morning at **6:20 a.m.** for a time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

Ladies Class

Ladies Class continues **this Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Jennie Chrismon’s house in Shiner**. We are continuing the series *Ruth: Loss, Love & Legacy* by Kelly Minter. For more information, please contact Jennie.

Stockdale Ladies Day

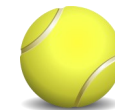
Stockdale Bilingual Church of Christ (633 State Hwy 123 N) invites you to Ladies Day on **Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m.– 1 p.m.** Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and lunch is provided. This year’s theme is “Safe Pasture...experiencing intimacy with the Shepherd of Your Soul” and features speaker Lori Grizzell from Bowling Green, Ky.

Mark Your Calendars

May 7—Senior Sunday

May 18—FCA End of Year Cookout

YOUTH ZONE



MONDAY, APRIL 24
LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL
ASTROS V. REDS, 6 P.M. (FIELD 5)
LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL
METS V. CUERO RANGERS, 7 P.M. (FIELD 1)
TUESDAY, APRIL 25
TEE BALL
BREWERS @ PADRES, 6 P.M. (FIELD 2)
LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL
CUBS @ YANKEES, 7 P.M. (FIELD 1)

Hunter Babb—Cubs (Shiner Baseball)
Madelyn Babb—Brewers (Shiner Tee Ball)
Caden Chrismon— Shiner Jr High Tennis,
Mets (Shiner Baseball)



APRIL 27-29
HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD
GONZALES @ REGIONAL MEET (KINGSVILLE)
THURSDAY, APRIL 27
JUNIOR HIGH TENNIS
SHINER @ HALLETTSVILLE
FRIDAY, APRIL 28
TEE BALL
BREWERS @ GIANTS, 6 P.M. (FIELD 2)
LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL
CUBS V. RANGERS, 7 P.M. (FIELD 1)

Callie Chrismon—Astros (Shiner Softball)
Jacy Chrismon—Shiner Jr High Tennis
Coach Kevin Johnson—Gonzales HS Girls Track & Field
Morgan Mason—Gonzales HS Varsity Softball

