

- Plastic pocket folders - 2
- Index cards (4x6) - 1 package
- Pencil sharpener (hand held) - 1
- No. 2 pencils - 24
- Highlighters - 2 yellow and 2 pink
- Wide ruled notebook paper - 1 package
- Quart size Ziploc bags - 1 box
- 1" 3 ring binder - 1

**6th Grade**

- No. 2 pencils (Ticonderoga) - 12
- Facial tissues - 2 boxes
- Cloth book covers (jumbo size) - 2
- Plastic pocket folders - 3
- 1" 3 ring binder - 1
- Colored pencils (12 count, Crayola brand) - 1
- Highlighters - 2 yellow and 2 pink
- Paper pocket folders - 2
- Glue sticks - 4

**Mrs. Taylor's Science Classes**

- Notebook Paper
- Highlighters - 2 yellow
- Glue sticks - 12
- Zippered pencil/pen bag for 3-ring binder
- 1" 3 ring binder for Science notes and other work, separate from other classes)

- 1 set of dividers (titles for 5 sections)
- #2 pencils - 12
- Box of Kleenex
- 100 page composition notebook - 2
- Black or blue pens (no fluorescent or metallic colors)

**Mrs. Middleton's Classes**

- 3 ring binder
- 100 page composition book - 2
- Notebook paper (no spiral paper)
- Pencils/lead instruments
- Highlighters
- Glue sticks
- \*Map Colors
- \*1 box of Kleenex
- \*Red pen

\*indicates optional items

teaching. Some are gifted at leadership, some at giving, and so on.

In short, spiritual gifts are the individual tools that we use to make an impact. A proper discussion of spiritual gifts requires honest self-reflection and examination. What you 'wish' to be your spiritual gift may not be the gift you actually possess. It is important to use what you have, rather than waste it wishing for something else. It's also important to remember that no gift is better than the other. Each gift is very different, but vitally important. A church needs singers, but a church full of singers with no teachers and servants would be lacking.

And so I wonder...have we ever considered the concept of community-oriented gifts? What specific abilities and gifts do we each possess, individually, that we can use for the good of the community around us and the people of the community?

Have you ever thought about your own community-oriented gifts? Much like spiritual gifts, some have the gift of service within the community - the worker bee who stays behind the scenes but makes every event functional. Others are gifted with leadership, to seek elected office or other leadership roles and use that position to inspire and lead others. Some have the gift of giving through financial resources - they can donate to good causes or finance new businesses. Others have a gift and passion for culture - perhaps they want to see the community grow its arts and culture, so they take on a leadership role in spearheading new cultural offerings.

A church with all servants and no leaders would not function very well. A town with all leaders and no servants won't function well either. Much like all the cogs in a machine, a well-run church or community needs each cog doing the best for what it was designed to do.

We were each designed to do



**Cheer Camp!** The Robert Lee High School Cheerleaders received one of the Most Improved awards at Cheer Camp held at Texas Tech University recently.

something great in our community. What I'm designed for is different than what you're designed for, but both are equally important cogs specifically designed for a purpose. Have we ever engaged in self-reflection to examine our community-oriented gifts? Have we talked with others to plan out how our individual gifts might come together for the betterment of the community at large? Perhaps we should.

*James Decker is a lawyer, farmer, and mayor in Stamford, and the creator of the forthcoming "West of 98" podcast and website. He may be contacted through Facebook at <https://facebook.com/james.decker>.*

**House approves farm bill legislation**

The U.S. House of Representatives recently passed its legislation authorizing a 2018 Farm Bill in a 213 to 211 vote.

"This is a positive step forward for farmers, ranchers and consumers," John Ross

Copeland, Coke County Farm Bureau president, said.

The farm bill provides stability, risk management tools and the certainty that farmers and ranchers need.

"Farm income levels have dropped to decade lows, and the House's version of the farm bill makes much-needed improvements in risk management and crop insurance programs," said. "The drought, devastating hurricane and wildfires are just a few of the examples of why crop insurance is important."

The farm bill, which is passed every five years, is also essential to national policy.

"It's about keeping farmers—both large and small—on the land. The ability to grow our own food makes us more secure," said Copeland.

The farm bill includes nutrition programs, conservation and animal health research.

The Senate is expected to vote on its agriculture committee's version of the farm bill before the Fourth of July.

It is likely a conference committee will be appointed to reconcile the differences between the two bills.

"We are confident a bill that meets the interests of farmers, ranchers and consumers will be the result," said Copeland.



**A Community of Gifts**

by James M. Decker

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. - 1 Peter 4:10-11

As a Christian, I've found that spiritual gifts are a topic we need to discuss more, and discuss more often. A simple definition is that spiritual gifts are the specific abilities and gifts given to individual persons to use for the good of others and the world around them.

If you've never thought too much about it, it's very simple: different people have differing abilities and each should use their own ability accordingly. Some people have a gift for music. I am not that person. Others have a gift for service. Still others are well suited for

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