Our own personal Pancake Chefs! Thank You Bob & Travis





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH P. O. BOX 773 HENDERSON, TEXAS 75653-0773



NON-PROFIT ORG. BULK RATE PERMIT NO. 101



THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - HENDERSON, TEXAS

Volume 46

April 01, 2014

Issue 03

Die, to Live

It isn't enough to say we've heard the Lenten story before. It isn't enough to understand that Jesus died. It isn't enough to recognize that my sins covered God's Son as he hung on the cross that day. If I understand the dramatic story that unfolded during his final week on earth, then I also understand that loving him, following him, serving him, calls me to die with him. The way of the cross, the way to Easter, is through death.

Resurrection necessitates death as a preceding act. The church's peculiar Lenten claim is that in dying we live, that all who are baptized into Christ are baptized into his death. And it is in dying, that we live.

So, at the beginning of Lent, we were reminded that our possessions, our dreams, our projects, our families and even our lives do not last forever. *"You are dust, and to dust you shall return"* (Genesis 3:19) For the next forty days, we journey with Christ as he heals, and feeds, as he teaches and preaches to as many as would hear him. We come to understand what his students did not. We celebrate as he rides into Jerusalem on the back of a young colt. We shout "hosanna!" along with the crowds.

We participate in communion as we reenact the *Last Supper* on Holy Thursday. We recognize the symbolism of a footwashing. What was startling about the footwashing story was not the act itself, but the identity of the servant who washed – Jesus, the Anointed One, God-with-us, God's Son. We are shocked as they lead him away to court, where he is abandoned and laughed at, no one in the courtroom standing with him, We listen as they ridicule him, spit in his face, beat him bloody. That very night, Jesus took on himself the humiliation of execution by crucifixion, and hung, unable at times to breathe, on the ultimate symbol of his selfless love for all humanity.

On Friday, we watch in shock as he carries his cross through the streets. We stand disbelieving as square, iron spikes are nailed into his flesh. We weep as he dies before our eyes. And on Saturday – oh on Saturday – we wait with all the world as the disbelief, the emptiness, and the horror overwhelm us.

He died a dreadful death. His throbbing pain was endless and he had no relief from it. He died because there was no one else who could do what he was called to do. He did it for you. He did it for you. And in his dying, we find life, because the way to Easter is through death.

We are called to follow him. To follow him to death and beyond. Will you do that..... now that you know?

Candice

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

Everything old has passed away, see everything has become new." - 2 Corinthians 5:17

WONDERFUL WORSHIP NEWS

Your Worship Team at First Presbyterian Church is in the process of planning services for Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Holy Week is the last week of Lent and begins on Palm Sunday, April 13. Accompanied by his disciples, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt and people cut branches from palm trees, waved them in the air and laid them across Jesus' path. The people greeted Jesus as a leader who would overthrow the Romans. They shouted "Hosanna" which in Hebrew means "save us." We will incorporate palms on Palm Sunday Worship to commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as foretold by the prophet Zechariah.

On Thursday, after washing the feet of the disciples, Jesus celebrated the Feast of the Passover and instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion at the "Last Supper." In the Presbyterian Church, we gather for a Maundy Thursday Service. After the meal together, Jesus taught his disciples a "new" commandment (John 13:34-35) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another..." This year the Maundy Thursday Service (April 17) will be at FPC with First Methodist joining us at 6:30 p.m. We will celebrate Holy Communion and "Remember" as Jesus asked.

Friday, the day of the crucifixion, has come to be called *Good Friday*. Maybe we can think of it as Good because the tragedy of Christ's death brought the greatest good there ever could be. On Friday, April 18 at 6:30 FPC will gather at First United Methodist Church to remember together the pain, suffering, and humiliation that Christ experienced on our behalf on his journey to the cross.

Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath, Jesus was in the tomb and the disciples were in mourning. The Saturday Vigil in many congregations is a time of waiting and prayer. We rejoice on Resurrection Sunday when Mary Magdalene was met by an angel and told that Jesus was not there—that he had risen from the dead. We too will gather early in the morning on Sunday, April 20 at the Fair Park Gazebo to celebrate the good news that Christ is risen indeed! At our 11 o'clock worship hour celebration, we will adorn the cross with fresh flowers as a symbol of our hope and new life through Christ.

Holy Week is the most important week of our church year, and we hope you all will join us for all our services this Holy Week. It is only in walking through the shadows and darkness of Holy Week and Good Friday, in realizing the magnitude of sin and its consequences, and in reflecting on the despair that the disciples felt that Friday and Saturday, that we can truly understand the light of Easter morning!

Kathy Porter

Worship Team Leader

We have heard from several you concerning your preference of receiving the Pipeline. Thank you very much for your response. As mentioned last month, our hope is to be able to save on postage, paper and such. You may not be aware that we have been using a discounted bulk rate postage. In order to receive the bulk postage rate, we must mail out a minimum number of 200 copies of the Pipeline. Since we do not have 200 people to mail the Pipeline, we prepare the 200 copies and address several back to the church to reach our minimum. I think you will agree that this is not cost effective.

Just to be perfectly clear, it is very important that anyone that wants a copy of the Pipeline gets a copy. The intent is not to eliminate anyone from the list, maybe just change the way it is received. The Pipeline is such a great way to keep informed and in touch. You can receive by email, pick up a copy in the Narthex, or request that we continue to mail your copy.

Please take a moment to fill out this form. You may mail it back to the church, put it in the collection plate or just email me your preference to <u>onweaverpond@gmail.com</u>.

I would prefer to receive my Pipeline by

email to

- picking up in the Narthex
- □ continuing to receive by mail

Kelly Weaver Communications Chair



Note of Thanks

The Worship Team wishes to say "Thank you" to Martha for the creative and inspiring bulletin covers each week. We appreciate you, Martha!

If God raised Jesus from the dead, why didn't God fix him up? Why scars? Why the print of nails that you could feel with your fingers? Can it be that the gospel ... is saying to us in our waiting: "You will not see Jesus Christ unless you see the wounds"? Somehow we must understand that the resurrected Christ is forever the wounded Christ. Living, but never fixed up. Not bound by death, yet scarred for eternity.

The deaf have a sign for Jesus. Quickly they make this sign many times during their worship: the middle finger of each hand is placed into the palm of the other. Jesus, the one with wounded hands. And when they touch the place, they remember. They hear the name in their own flesh.

—John Vannorsdall





Sunday, April 13th – Palm Sunday worship 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Thursday, April 17th – Maundy Thursday worship 6:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall Friday, April 18th – Good Friday worship 6:30 p.m. – United Methodist Church Saturday, April 19th – Holy Vigil – a full day of individual prayer Sunday, April 20th – Easter Resurrection worship 7:00 a.m. – Fair Park pavilion Easter celebration Breakfast 7:45 a.m. – Fellowship Hall Easter Resurrection worship 11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary The Mission Committee fed 18 junior high/high school students with 5 adult chaperones from Dallas on Monday, March 10. The youth was led by Rev. Owen Ross, son of Donald and Diane Ross, formerly of Henderson. Special thanks to my committee members, Bob and Lavonne Schauwecker, Jimmy Chapman, and Fonta Conway for the help in serving the youth and visiting with all. Good food and a good time was had.

We are in the season of Lent. It is the 40 days, not counting Sundays, before Easter. Our church participates in the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering during this time. There are giving envelopes in the pews or just mark your check OGHS when putting it in the plate. The offering is split: 36% to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, 32% to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and 32% to the Self-Development of People. Remember these missions as we go through the Lenten Season.

Our next special offering will be the Pentecost Offering. It will begin after Easter to culminate on Pentecost Sunday. More information will be available in next month's "Pipeline".

Debbie Wasson, Mission Chair





On April 1 we will have a Mexican dinner starting at 5.30. On Easter Sunday we will have our Sunrise Service and breakfast at 7.45. On Tuesday May 13 we will have an Italian supper starting at 5.30. For the summer holidays we will not have a fellowship meeting for June and July. We will meet in August on the 12th with a watermelon and ice cream social at 5.30. On Tuesday Sept. 30 we will have a chili supper at 5:30. We voted to have a clean the kitchen on March 3 at 9 a.m.

Judy Andrasko

Fellowship Committee Chair



BUILDING & GROUNDS

Work continues on the hallway hand rails, 98% has been installed, & the filling of imperfections with wood filler & some sanding has begun. Tapered wooden plugs have been ordered to close the screw holes. When these processes are completed, a pre-stain material will be applied, followed by stain, then a poly-urethane finish. Bill Snow, Bill Stanley, John Hillin, Tom Laney, & I spent 2 full Saturdays installing railing. Tom Laney & Lynn Tieken worked at least half a day correcting paint errors. Bob Schauwecker & Tom Laney have been working on the wood filler & sanding. If you like their work please let them know along with their spouses, Fonda Snow, Lsha Stanley, Tammy Hillin, Pat Laney, Lavonne Schauwecker & Lynn Tieken. Kathy Porter, Candice Klein, & Lynn Tieken made sure we were fed & prayed for. Even though I think I speak for all of us when I say it was & is a labor of love, time is a valuable commodity. About 75% of the cost of the lumber was paid for by a member leaving a cost in dollars to the church of about than \$850. So not only are we getting a first class railing we are getting it at bargain basement prices. Your Building & Grounds Team continues to work to improve our building with beauty, safety, & dollars in mind.

B&G Team Leader, John Tieken





Christian Education Spring Happenings

Your Christian Education (CE) Ministry Team has been busy reaching for the goal of offering Sunday School for all ages. We have found an excellent curriculum, "Wee Believe," for the young ones in the nursery on Sunday mornings. Children, of course, are never too young to learn that Jesus loves them. The formation of a new class for the "millenniums" (young adults) is in progress.

The "Joy" Class for elementary school children is well named. We extend special thanks those who have taught that class a month at a time: Rev. Candice Klein, Kathy Porter, Bert Lowe, Lynn Tieken, Fonta Conway, Dr. Sue Williams, Pat Laney and Tom Laney.

The Lenten season may be the perfect time to get into the Sunday School habit. Our two adult classes—"Andrews" and "Seekers"—are meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am every Sunday morning during Lent. Rev. Candice is leading an in-depth study of Jesus' final days on earth. For warm fellow-ship and stimulating discussion, we hope you'll join us.

Other CE matters on our minds as summer approaches are Vacation Bible School and church camp. Vacation Bible School will be held at St. Matthews Episcopal Church this year. Stay tuned—we'll have more information soon. Meanwhile, be sure to check out our beautiful church library. Our library taskforce leader Pat Laney and the entire team are committed to holding it to a high standard.

We ask for your prayers as we strive to follow Christ's direction in meeting our education needs. May we experience the joy of the Resurrection together!

Your Christian Education Ministry Team

Jimmy Chapman, Pat Laney, Tom Laney, Jan Pennal, Lynn Tieken, Rev. Candice Klein, and Team Leader Bert Lowe



Outreach Summer Plans in the making......

Your outreach team is hard at work planning our upcoming summer projects. We are looking at an extension of Adopt-a-Block (AAB) to possibly include a Saturday event at FairPark and a Friendship Sunday event. Both are under consideration and planning at this time. We are also kicking around the idea of advertising any and all events with newspaper ads "with a twist".

Outreach is and will continue to be ongoing. Making contacts with our AAB neighbors is a high priority. Meals on Wheels, Kids for God, and our annual neighborhood party also remain vital outreach programs.

Thanks for your support of all of these and look in the coming months for our finalized summer projects.

Peace, Jan Pennal, chair





The Story of Palms

When Jesus entered Jerusalem days before his death, crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches, which were common symbols of victory and rejoicing. Thus churches continue to use them in remembrance of that occasion, knowing that Jesus' crucifixion was ultimately his triumph over sin and death. As early as Leviticus 23:40, God commanded Israel to use palms in a festival of rejoicing. In Revelation 7:9-10, Christian martyrs carry palm branches as they praise the Lamb before the throne of God.

According to one account of Jesus' ascension, commonly called the Great Commission, he told the disciples to do several things. Which of the following was not part of Jesus' instructions?

A. Make disciples C. Teach **B.** Perform miracles **D.** Baptize

Answer: B (See Matthew 28:19-20.)



The season of Lent holds some of the most poignant music in the repertoire – in terms of both the music and the text. With joy and dedication, the Chancel Choir has been hard at work preparing music that will enhance the Lenten worship experience. We have opted to even wear robes more fitting the Lenten spirit.

Then there is the joy of Easter! Our desire is to be worship leaders dedicated to providing support to the congregation as we join in hymn-singing as well as providing service music of the highest standard – the only standard acceptable in the worship of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Mary Tidwell **Organist & Choir Director**



Don't Forget!

The Worship Team is planning on using Glory to God - the new hymnal on Palm Sunday, April 13. The hymnals will be placed in the pew racks the week before so don't miss the opportunity to put a special name in a special HYMNAL by April 6. Many thanks to those who have already done so!

In June, 2012, I replaced 16 of the old light bulbs in my house with 16 new CFL (compact fluorescent lamp) bulbs. Last week, the first one of those 16 bulbs went out, after 1 year and 9 months of use. The other 15 are still burning brightly. Formerly, I had to replace some of those old bulbs at least every other month. So, it is clear to me that the new CFL bulbs last a lot longer than the old light bulbs did. They also save energy. The old bulbs used 100 watts of energy while their CFL replacements give out the same light using only 23 watts of energy. One study that I saw showed that the average cost of the old bulbs was \$7.88 per year while the CFL bulbs only cost \$1.71 per year.

There is further change on the way. LED (light emitting diode) bulbs are now out. They cost more initially than CFL bulbs but last a lot longer, so they are even more cost efficient than CFL bulbs. Light bulb technology is providing us a way to save money and use less energy at the same time. Therefore, we can help the planet and help ourselves too.

Jimmy Chapman The Green Team

Prayer Companions Ministry



The Prayer Companions of FPC Henderson is a group of dedicated prayer warriors, willing and available to pray on your behalf. When you have the need for your church family to pray for you, your family member, or for any situation you think needs prayer, you may contact one of the Co-Chairs -Lynn Tieken or Kathy Porter to request specific prayer. They distribute your information to the Companions and the entire team will pray for you by name or,

if you'd prefer to remain anonymous, you may contact the Pastor and she will make the information available for prayer without revealing your identity.

All information you share remains confidential and is shared only with the Prayer Companions team. Your prayers are lifted for a period of two weeks, unless you re-contact the team leaders and ask for your name or situation to remain active.



The team's ministry also includes the Prayer Blankets. Lap blankets or throws are provided and an inscription is added to each one with the church name and a Scripture passage. The blankets are passed through the congregation during Sunday worship for all the church family to add prayers into the fibers of the blanket. Then, two members of the Prayer Companions team personally deliver the blanket to the person for whom we have prayed. We hope that the blankets offer the symbolism of God's comfort and warmth, and we hope recipients come

to realize how much FPC Henderson cares about them.

Some of the blankets are hand knitted or crocheted, some are purchased. If you would like to provide a blanket, if you would like to hear more about this ministry, if you would like to be part of this ministry, or if you would like to request prayer, you may speak with either Co-Chair or with the Pastor for additional information.

All four gospels tell of Jesus' resurrection, but each gives a different list of women as the first to arrive at the empty tomb. Which woman appears in all four accounts?

A. Joanna B. Mary, the mother of Jesus

C. Salome D. Mary Magdalene E. Mary, the mother of James

Answer: D (See Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1; Luke 24:10; and John 20:1.)

SESSION ACTIONS March 13, 2014

- Elected commissioners to represent FPC at the three remaining Presbytery meetings
- Authorized Bill Stanley to continue to negotiate with 3D Security Co. as to the security needs of FPC
- Decided to purchase a Brita water filter for use with the Keurig coffeemaker
- Decided that the 4th Monday of every month will be the deadline for the submission of articles for the Pipeline
- Agreed to the request of Outreach for the use of a space in the Fellowship Hall for a Kids for God Honor Wall to display newspaper clippings, activities of KFG, and Mission Projects.
- Approved Communion for Maundy Thursday
- As in the past, voted to supplement the amount that Grace Presbytery provides for alternate commissioners to General Assembly. Kathy Porter will serve as an alternate in June at the 221st General Assembly in Detroit.

Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:

Members of the Congregation

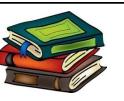
Bill and Carolyn Boren, Jack Clark, Helen Crim, Mark & Linda Davis, Jordan and Sunshine, Jane and Tolly Dill and Diane, Billie Manck, Neil, Mariella, and Jan Pennal, Cindy Ratliff, Travis Reynolds, Alicia Rich, Bob Schauwecker and family, Patsy, Ginny and Tela Snelgrove *Connected Family*

Connor Bradshaw – Porter's grandson, Caroline Reynolds – Reynolds' great-granddaughter Mike Rich – Mary Tidwell's son, Colton Wallace – Cody Conway's cousin

Friends and Neighbors

Myra Folmar – friend of Bert Lowe, Johnny Jackson – husband of *the other* Mary Jackson The Staff and Leadership of Grace Presbytery

Those loved ones known only to God



The Book Corner

Life of the Beloved by Henri J. M. Nouwen

In Life of the Beloved, the author, a Catholic, attempts to answer a request from Fred, his secular Jewish friend who asked "Why don't you write something about the spiritual life for me and my friends?" Nouwen saw this book as a necessary response to the great spiritual hunger that exists in countless people.

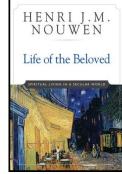
The friend was asking that Nouwen explain in a way that he could understand Nouwen's belief in God. Nouwen announced to Fred that he is Beloved of God, as is each of us. Realizing this, we are more attentive to God's call with an increased desire to hear that call more often, and more deeply.

As we recognize that we are the Beloved, we are then called to <u>become</u> who we are. Everything we think, say, or do is affected. We then acknowledge that we are chosen, celebrate that, and express gratitude to God and all. We are able to recognize the preciousness of others and their unique places in God's heart.

We also recognize our brokenness, how we can never measure up to our own expectations. But, with God, we can be a gift to others. What a wonderful mystery! We give whatever we can give: a smile, a handshake, a kiss, an embrace, a word of love, a present, a part of our life....all of our life. As we grow older, we discover more and more that the greatest gift we have to offer is our own joy of living, our own inner peace, our own silence and solitude, our own sense of well-being.

Maybe the great challenge is to trust so much in God's love that we don't have to be afraid to go into the world and speak about faith, hope, and love.

Lynn Tieken, Member, Christian Ed. Team



"Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime." —Martin Luther

