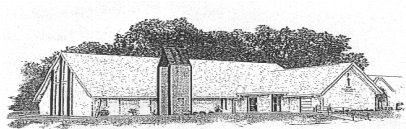




- Palm Sunday - Worship Service @ 11:00am
- Maundy Thursday - Worship Service @ 6:00pm
- Good Friday - Worship Service at FUMC @ 6:30pm
- Easter Sunrise - Service at Fair Park @ 7:00am
- Easter Breakfast - Following Sunrise Service in Fellowship Hall
- Easter - Worship Service @ 11:00am with flowers on the cross
- Easter Monday - Church offices closed



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

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April, 2017

Issue Four

WAITING FOR EASTER

During the past month, we have been on the 40 day journey that leads to Easter. In observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians are reminded of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness of fasting and praying. In the wilderness time, Jesus found his identity which allowed him to resist the temptations that were put before him. He came out of the wilderness to begin his ministry confident in who he was and what was his relationship to God.

What does this 40 days of testing story say to us today? Most of us at some time or another have experienced some kind of wilderness. Lent is a time of thinking about hard questions, like who we are and who we want to be. It may be uncomfortable but will be a good thing if it makes us more open to God.

During this time of Lent, we at FPC find ourselves in a type of wilderness. We are in a time of discernment of who we are and who we want to be. We are in a time of waiting to see where God leads us. But waiting is difficult. It may be one of the most difficult aspects of the Christian life. We are impatient to wait to see what God is about to do. Waiting does not mean doing nothing. Our waiting includes our work of kingdom building by continuing to do God's work here at FPC.

David in the Psalms tells us how to wait. Wait patiently—He tells us in Psalm 37 to be still and to wait patiently for God to act. Wait expectantly—He tells us in Psalm 105 to wait expectantly, trusting God to help by remembering all that he has done.. Waiting means that we give God the benefit of the doubt that he knows what he is doing. Waiting is God's way of seeing if we will trust Him before we move forward. While we wait, let us look for signs of God's love and grace in the world and continue to share *the Good News*.

As we approach Easter—a renewal, a Resurrection, let us remember our time is not God's time. It may seem like Friday, but remember Sunday is a'coming! Remember we do not wait alone for Jesus is already here. Thanks be to God.

Your Communications Team



COUNCIL ACTIONS

March 16, 2017

- Worshipped and prayed together
- Reviewed church finances
- Approved recommendation from Finance that interest income from TPF be sent to FPC rather than reinvested in the fund
- Moved that the CONC begin the process of getting nominees for PNC to search for a designated pastor
- Approved extended communion
- Received training for extended communion from Rev. Nick Setzer
- Reviewed Ash Wednesday service
- Reviewed Pipeline deadlines and procedures

DUTY ELDER FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:
Bill Stanley



“Books are the windows through which the soul looks out.” (Henry Ward Beecher)

Just a gentle reminder of the glorious treasure we have in our FPC-Library. It is more than a room full of books and of knowledge, it is a room full of spirit and full of soul. In addition to the hard back and paperback books available in our library, do you know that we also have the audio of the Bible? All the books the Seekers Sunday School class read and discuss are also available.

So, if you haven't visited our Library in a while – we invite and encourage you to do so.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that approximately three years ago your session made the following pledge on behalf of the church in order to become an Earth Care Congregation?

Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

1. Our worship and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation and declare that God calls us to cherish, protect and restore the earth.
2. In education, we will seek learning and teaching opportunities to know and understand the threats to God's creation and the damage already inflicted. We will encourage and support each other in finding ways of keeping and healing the creation in response to God's call to earth-keeping, justice and community.
3. Our facilities will be managed, maintained and upgraded in a manner that respect and cherishes all creation, human and non-human, while meeting equitably the needs of all people. In our buildings and on our grounds we will use energy efficiently, conserve resources, and share what we have in abundance so that God's holy creation will be sustainable for all life and future generations.
4. Our outreach will encourage public policy and community involvement that protect and restores the vulnerable and degraded earth as well as oppressed and neglected people. We will be mindful that our personal and collective actions can positively or negatively affect our neighborhood, region, nation, and world. We will seek to achieve environmental justice through coalitions and ecumenical partnerships.

Your session re-affirmed this pledge in January of this year in order to be re-certified as an Earth Care Congregation. May it be so.

Your C.E. Green Team



We had a wonderful first St. Patrick's Day Corned beef and cabbage dinner on March 17th. Good food, great turnout, and fun-loving interaction. To add an additional element of fun, our own Bob Schauwecker donned green-braids to help get our guests in more of the spirit. In addition to corned beef, cabbage and new potatoes, we all enjoyed Irish Soda Bread baked by Margaret Hillin, Chocolate Delight provided by Lavonne Schauwecker and a Pistachio & Whipped Cream delight by Jan Mims. It was a happy, festive and fun evening. Thanks to all who came out and shared the evening and the spirit of the evening with us.

For April, we will help host Easter Sunday breakfast after the Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 16th.

Five of the sixteen drawers for the cabinets are almost ready for installation in the kitchen. And all of our backs sigh a collective sigh of relief!

Remember that FELLOWSHIP MATTERS and we hope you will join us as often as you can.

Thankfully submitted,
FPC Fellowship Committee



AND THE GLORY

The silence breaks into morning.
That One Star lights the world.
The lily springs to life and
not even Solomon...

Let it begin with singing
and never end!
Oh, angels, quit your lamenting!
Oh, pilgrims,
rise up
and take your hearts and run!
We who were no people
are named anew
God's people,
for he who was no more
Is forevermore.

Kneeling in Jerusalem, Ann Weems



Presbyterian Hustlers hustling kindness by providing lunch for the March meeting of the Rusk County Children's Advocacy Board.

FPC-HENDERSON HONORS EARTH DAY 2017

The first Earth Day, held on April 22, 1970 in the U.S. was designed to draw popular attention to environmental causes and the need to protect nature. The observation has now spread to over 193 countries. Earth Day reminds us to think hard about the future we want for our planet, ourselves, and all those who come after us.

In recognition of one of the tenets of the Presbyterian faith—Faithful Stewardship of Creation: Responsibility on us to care for each other as well as creation—a brief prayer service will held in our sanctuary at 311 S. High Street, Henderson, Texas on Earth Day, April 22nd, at 10:00 a.m. After our brief ceremony, members of the Christian Education Team will plant an evergreen tree—a symbol of hope and eternity. We hope you will take a few minutes to join us as we give honor to our Creator God and all of his creation.



**HELP US TO LET PEOPLE KNOW WE ARE
HERE! LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HENDERSON, TEXAS.**



Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:

Members of the Congregation: Robbie Brooks, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, Debbie Murphy, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, Patsy Snelgrove, Sue Williams, Session and Congregation of our church during this transition time

Friends and Neighbors: Dr. David Craig – friend of the congregation

Those loved ones known only to God



WORSHIP TEAM

Easter is fast approaching! Please plan to worship with us during the entire month of April. Ruling Elder Jimmy Chapman will bring God's message to us on the first Sunday. Thank you, Jimmy. On Palm Sunday, we will welcome Rev. Kathy Collier, who will administer Holy Communion. Kathy has visited us before, but not in the pulpit, so we look forward to her presence with us. Jimmy Chapman will conduct the Maundy Thursday service with communion, which always is a moving service. On Good Friday, First United Methodist Church will have a Tenebrae Service. The choir will include members of our church along with First Christian, and First Baptist. We enjoy being part of this service. Easter Sunrise Service will be at the Fair Park Pavilion at approximately 7 a.m. At our 11 a.m. service Rev. Jimmy Barry from Tyler, will bring the Word. On April 23, Jennifer Mitchell, DCE at First Presbyterian, Kilgore will lead our service. We will recognize celebration for Earth Day, and will also acknowledge Child Advocacy Center's Blue Ribbon Awareness month. The last Sunday of the month, we welcome Rev. Debbie Tipps, Minister of Congregational Care & Children at First United Methodist Church, Henderson.

During this season of Lent, as we approach both the agony of the crucifixion and the joy of resurrection, let us remember the promise of new life in Christ. By preparing for God's new creation during the season of Lent, we can experience new life sprouting within us just like new plants and flowers in the Spring. New life that can bring us new joy and give hope to those around us. May God let it be so!

Lynn Tieken



Worship Committee

EASTER

**Just when I thought
there would be no more light
in the Jerusalem sky
the Bright and Morning Star
appeared
and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Kneeling in Jerusalem. Ann Weems

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CE) MINISTRY TEAM:

Our Purpose

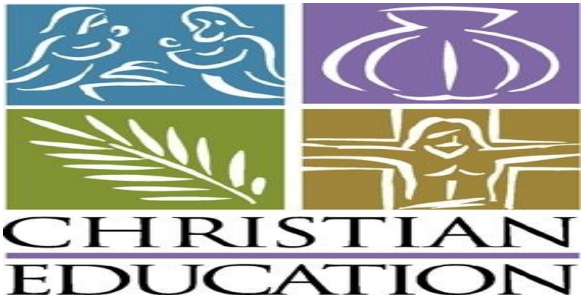
The purpose of the Christian Education Ministry Team is to help grow our faith so that we may be worthy disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are blessed! We have three adult classes—Presbyterian Women, Andrews, and Seekers—that are striving to fulfill that stated purpose. In their monthly “brown bag” meeting, Presbyterian Women are focusing on “Who Is Jesus?” The Andrews Sunday School Class is studying the Gospel of *Matthew*; and the Seekers Sunday School Class is studying *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Ann Spangler and Lois Tverberg. Together, we are growing in knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ. Please join us as we strive to become worthy disciples of Christ.

Our next Christian Education Ministry Team meeting is at 10am on Thursday, April 6, in the church parlor. We’d love to have you join us whenever possible. Please feel free to contact anyone on our CE Team listed below if you have a suggestion for a Christian study that would interest you.

Christian Education Ministry Team

Jimmy Chapman, Tolly Dill,
Claudia Morgan-Gray, Kathy Porter,
Jan Pennal, and Team Leader Bert Lowe



LOST AND FOUND

As we approached Jerusalem
The crowd stood at the gate
and cried in tear-choked voice:
“We are lost in his death.”

Upon the hill
the angels sang:
“We are found in his rising.”

Kneeling in Jerusalem, Ann Weems

April 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Patsy Hays
2 Bill Snow	3 Choir Practice 5pm	4 Kids For God 4:15pm	5 C.E. Meeting 10:00am	6 Meds On Wheels	7 Meds On Wheels	8
9 Communion	10 Choir Practice 5pm	11 Kids For God 4:15pm	12 L.E.A.N. Mtg 2:00pm	13 Session Meeting 6:30pm	14 Meds On Wheels	15
16 Sunday	17 Choir Practice 5pm	18 Kids For God 4:15pm	19 Kids For God 4:15pm	20 Meds On Wheels	21 Meds On Wheels	22 Prayer Service @ 10am
23 P.W. Meeting 11:30am	24 Adopt-A-Block 4:15pm	25 Choir Practice 5pm	26 Kids For God 4:15pm	27	28	29 Lavonne Schauwecker
30 Pipeline Deadline						

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Welcome She:kon
 Bienvenue vítaný welkom
 Yin Dee 歡迎される
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 Swaagatam Kolipaio
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välkommen
 Chào mừng benvenuto

WE CHOSE WELCOME! A small group from our congregation (John Tieken, Lynn Tieken, Kathy Porter, Bert Lowe, Jan Mims and Claudia Morgan-Gray) in coordination and follow-up with PDA projects and with the blessing and grace of our Mission Committee, travelled to McAllen Texas for a week of helping with the Catholic Charities Organization on Refugee and Asylum Seekers processing. In addition to volunteering at the Asylum seeking location, our group also worked at a local food bank, met and toured an extended stay operation opened and run by a group of nuns from Missouri, visited and learned more about the “border wall” and visited the First Presbyterian Churches in McAllen and in Brownsville. It was a trip full of grace, wonder and education on an issue that is consuming the minds and hearts of many Americans. Our group is putting together a slide show of pictures, a narrative of the experiences and information to share with our congregation and interested members of our community. We hope to schedule an evening in the near future where we will break bread together and share our trip with you.



McAlLEN MISSION TRIP



McAlLEN MISSION TRIP

