

*“Serving God, Honoring Creation,  
Embracing Differences”*

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



## THE PRESBYTERIAN PIPELINE

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Issue Eight

### Hello Saints!

VBS was a fun and wonderful time that we shared with our friends at First Christian Church. We had 20 children in our halls experiencing God’s love through the story of Moses and the exodus. What a tremendous privilege it is to have the time and the resources for VBS. Special thanks to all who made it possible.

In our Seeker’s class, we are reading Brueggemann’s *Sabbath as Resistance*. In it he describes how God’s command to honor the Sabbath by observing a day of rest has become estranged from modern society. In order to rediscover Sabbath rest, we have to take counter-cultural measures that declare ourselves as those who put God, other people, and life above all other priorities.

When I read this poem, it also reminded me of how easy it is to find our lives out of balance. Wendell Berry describes giving with no return, loving the undeserving and planting sequoias. None of these things provide instant or even short term gratification, but they do recognize that we are part of something much greater than ourselves. They recognize that we exist as creatures in God’s world.

Perhaps it will speak to your heart, too.

Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front by Wendell Berry

... So, friends, every day do something  
that won’t compute. Love the Lord.  
Love the world. Work for nothing.  
Take all that you have and be poor.  
Love someone who does not deserve it.

Denounce the government and embrace  
the flag. Hope to live in that free  
republic for which it stands.  
Give your approval to all you cannot  
understand. Praise ignorance, for what man  
has not encountered he has not destroyed.

*Continued on Page 2*

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Ask the questions that have no answers.  
Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.  
Say that your main crop is the forest  
that you did not plant,  
that you will not live to harvest.

Say that the leaves are harvested  
when they have rotted into the mold.  
Call that profit. Prophesy such returns.  
Put your faith in the two inches of humus  
that will build under the trees  
every thousand years.

Listen to carrion -- put your ear  
close, and hear the faint chattering  
of the songs that are to come.  
Expect the end of the world. Laugh.  
Laughter is immeasurable. Be joyful  
though you have considered all the facts.  
So long as women do not go cheap  
for power, please women more than men.

Ask yourself: Will this satisfy  
a woman satisfied to bear a child?  
Will this disturb the sleep  
of a woman near to giving birth?

Go with your love to the fields.  
Lie down in the shade. Rest your head  
in her lap. Swear allegiance  
to what is highest your thoughts.

As soon as the generals and the politicians  
can predict the motions of your mind,  
lose it. Leave it as a sign  
to mark the false trail, the way  
you didn't go.

Be like the fox  
who makes more tracks than necessary,  
some in the wrong direction.  
Practice resurrection.



## THANK YOU VERY MUCH, THANK YOU VERY MUCH

As of the end of July, the generosity of our congregation garnered \$12,000 for our Capital Campaign. With those funds, we were able to pay the non-covered costs of our new roof and we have purchased and installed a new (and improved) ice machine in the kitchen. If you have not seen it or experienced the “Sonic-like” ice from it – please do so! Speaking of that, just a gentle request to please replace the ice scoop into the metal ice scoop holder on the right-side of the ice machine when you are finished scooping. This helps with health reasons as well as functionality!



**SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY, AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup> @ 2:00 PM**  
**For an End of Summer Watermelon & Ice Cream Extravaganza!**  
**Hosted by First Presbyterian Church – In the backyard of FPC**  
**For our members and our neighbors**





We at FPC participate in the Yates Park Project – Back to School Supplies Drive. The distribution will take place at the Civic Center on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. We are invited again to help those who need a little assistance. If you want to participate but don't want to have to go shop for

the items, contact Claudia (903-646-0506) and she'll get your donation and purchase the items you'd like included. **DEADLINE TO BRING ITEMS TO THE CHURCH IS MONDAY, AUGUST 5TH**

TO HELP WITH YOUR PARTICIPATION, LISTED BELOW ARE SOME ITEMS TO CONTRIBUTE. These are just suggestions and if you want to shop for other items on the approved school list, please feel free to do so. All help is needed and all help is appreciated. Thank you in advance for always participating in this wonderful community drive.

**Options to include: (we've established this as one unit)**

**2 Spiral Notebooks**

**2 Composition Notebooks (wide ruled – not spiral)**

**24-Count Box of Crayons (basic colors – no glitter ones)**

**Bottle of Elmer's Glue OR 8 Glue Sticks**

**Package of #2 Pencils (the yellow ones)**

**Box of Kleenex**

**Hand sanitizers**

**OTHER ITEMS TO CONSIDER INCLUDING:**

**Plastic Folders w/ Brads (red or blue)**

**Paper Towels- individually wrapped**

**Ziploc Bags (either quart size and/or gallon size)**

**Package of wide-ruled notebook paper**

**Package of long colored pencils**

**Tab dividers (5-Tabs per package)**

**THANK YOU!**

**WORSHIP**

Your Worship Team along with the pastor and all the other committees on the Session provides service to God through attention to detail and providing designated persons, **members**, with the opportunity to ensure the church's services continue smoothly with little interruption. Currently, the Worship Team seeks someone who feels called to be a greeter, usher. This special someone would assist others in welcoming members and visitors on Sunday, handing out bulletins, lighting the acolyte candle, and receiving the offering. They would determine the number of worshippers at each service, and direct anyone as needed. We would hope that this person would be present in the Narthex by 10:40 am on Sunday morning, most Sunday mornings. Would this be a service to God for you?

Worship has been defined as “acknowledgment of worth”, “worthiness”. True worship, in other words, is defined by the priority we place on who God is in our lives and where God is on our list of priorities. The position of ‘usher’ is a very important position where people are welcomed and invited to share in our worship. I hope we have many who will want to join Steve Lowe and others who feel that this is a way to honor the Lord and share in service to the Lord. Please call Lynn Tieken, Worship Chair, at (903) 836-2418, or speak with Steve, or Pastor Michele.

The church is a body of believers, those who serve in reverence to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. All serve, sometimes just by being there; a witness, but this, too, is a service. Please consider serving as you can.

The Worship Team plans to meet following worship on Sunday, August 11, 2019. At present, members include Jan Mims, Cindy Ratliff, Margaret Hillin, Scott Hurst, Kelly Weaver, Kathy Porter, Jimmy Chapman, Pastor Michele, Joshua Allen, Choir Director, and Lynn Tieken, Chair. Please join with us as you can, to serve God.



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





## First-known minister of Gun Violence Prevention ordained July 7, 2019

On July 7, 2019 the Rev. Deanna Hollas became the first-known minister of Gun Violence Prevention following a service held at her home church in Dallas. Sponsored by Grace Presbytery, her service of ordination was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dallas. The ordination service was presided over by Rev. David Schaefer, the Moderator of Grace Presbytery. Rev. Clay Brantley preached for the service and said “In the last 100 days, 10,000 Americans have died from gun violence and 22,000 have been injured. Deanna’s call is a sign of the great persistence and wisdom of God.” In her new call, Hollas will serve as the Coordinator of Gun Violence Prevention Ministries of Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, serving a network of over 800 local Presbyterian gun violence prevention advocates in all 50 states. “With all the gun violence in our country, it is easy to lose hope and ask: where is God? But I am hopeful,” Hollas said. “I see God raising up so many people and churches to study and speak out and work towards ending the violence that is plaguing our nation. Change is coming.”

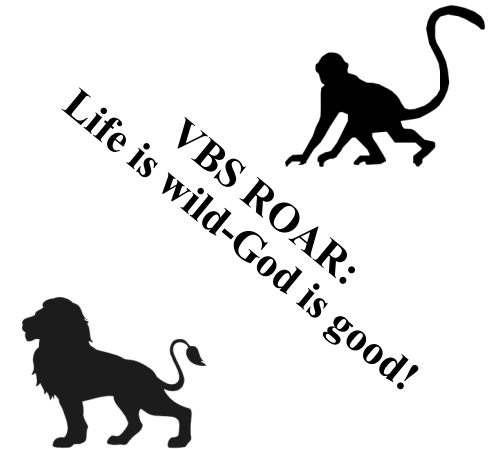


On July 28, Rev. Hollas was featured in a powerful interview with the *New York Times*. “The saying ‘thoughts and prayers’ has been co-opted by the gun lobby to keep the church from taking action so they can increase their profits,” Rev. Hollas said in an interview. “While all that we do as Christians should be rooted in worship and prayer, it should not stay there. It is like breathing—worship and prayer is the in-breath, and action is the out-breath.”

Rev. Hollas will hold a webinar for people of faith who want to engage in conversations and action to prevent gun violence on Tuesday, August 13 at 12:00 noon EST. For more information please go to [presbypeacefellowship.org](http://presbypeacefellowship.org).

from The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship

**DUTY ELDER FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:**  
**Steve Lowe**



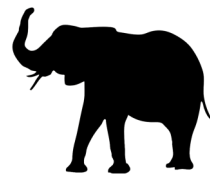
**A special thanks to all  
who helped make our  
VBS a success!!**







VBS ROAR:  
Life is wild-God is good!



## Reminder

You are invited to an evening book study on Tuesday evenings at 7:05 p.m. in the parlor beginning on July 30. The book to be studied is *Unclobber* by Colby Martin. Pastor Michele will lead the discussion. If you would like to have a copy of the book, please contact Kathy Porter or Pastor Michele.

## Sales Tax Holiday Tax Free Weekend: August 9-11, 2019

Texas shoppers get a break from state and local sales taxes on August 9, 10, and 11. The law exempts most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend.

### Liturgists for August:

08/04 Jan Pennal  
08/11 Jimmy Chapman  
08/18 Steve Lowe  
08/25 Kelly Weaver

*Please keep these dear ones in your prayers:*

Members of the Congregation: Judy Andrasko, Debbie Castro, Mary Chapman, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Patsy Snelgrove, and Sue Williams.

Connected Family: Billy Tapley (Bert's brother)

*All who need our prayers*





# August 2019

**\*\*\*\*Reminder\*\*\*\***  
*Bring H.I.M. donations the  
 First Sunday of every month*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>***A friendly reminder that School Starts in Henderson on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Be aware of the school zones and always practice safe driving – and no texting!***</p>				1	2 Meals On Wheels	3
4 Communion	5 Home Communion Visits	6 Choir Practice 6:00pm Unclobber Book Study 7:05pm	7	8	9 Meals On Wheels  Texas Sales Tax Holiday 9th - 11th	10
11 Worship Team Meeting following service  Texas Sales Tax Holiday 9th - 11th	12	13 Choir Practice 6:00pm Unclobber Book Study 7:05pm	14	15  Session Meeting 6:30pm	16 Meals On Wheels	17 End of Summer Watermelon & Ice Cream Extravaganza 2:00pm
18 Mark Davis Matthew Price	19 Pipeline Deadline Tom Laney	20 Choir Practice 6:00pm Unclobber Book Study 7:05pm	21	22 L.E.A.N. Meeting 2:00pm Hunter Davis Weldon Gray	23 Meals On Wheels	24
25	26	27 Choir Practice 6:00pm Unclobber Book Study 7:05pm	28 Tammy Hillin	29	30 Meals On Wheels	31