



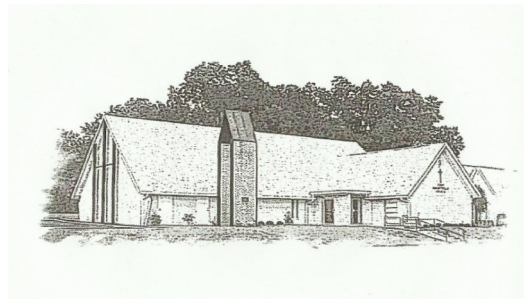
# First Presbyterian Church

Henderson, Texas



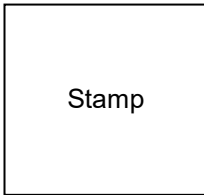
*“Serving God,  
Honoring Creation,  
Embracing Differences”*

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



903-657-2529

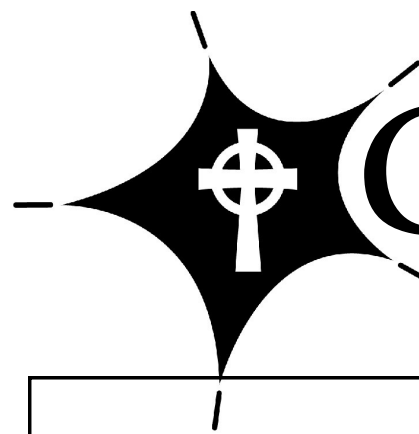
[www.fpchendersontx.org](http://www.fpchendersontx.org)



Stamp



Mailing Label



# Connections

## First Presbyterian Church

Henderson, Texas

October 2022 Vol. 54:10

### *Invincibly Loved*

There is a phrase I have come to embrace recently: God’s invincible love.

We sing of God, celebrating God’s immortality and wisdom. God is with us, within us and surrounding us. God is the beginning, the end, and the breath of life in between.

What is God’s love, if not invincible? God’s love has conquered death.

God’s loves us for all that we are. In good times and bad times, in sickness and in health, as we say in marriage vows. Even when we are thoughtless, hard-hearted, willful, ignorant, and small-minded, God still loves us. God’s mercy, forgiveness, and grace are much bigger than our puny sins whether they are acts of defiance and violence, or sins of ignorance and omission. No matter how many times we insist that we are right despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, God’s love for us endures.

God’s love is stronger than our dalliances with the idols of modern living. It has stood strong and unwavering for ages and will stand for all the ages to come. God welcomes our questions, absorbs our anger, and requires nothing in return. Instead, God lovingly invites us to explore the fullness of our humanity.

This love is the enigmatic, unfathomable, death-defying source of all life. God’s love is invincible. God’s love will withstand everything we have to throw at it, hold us close until our tantrums subside, and set us back on feet when we are ready to face the world again.

God is everything. We are the dust of the universe, breathed into something wonderful and beloved. We are loved by the One who is more powerful than anything we can imagine. God is invincible. God’s love is invincible. We are invincibly loved.

*Rev Michele*

Well it's that time of the year again where we get the first taste of cooler mornings and hopefully wave a tearful goodbye (just kidding) to summer's heat.

As a Certified Green Congregation, the **Building and Grounds** team is committed to helping the church and everybody save energy and consequently save money. Just like during the summer, a good practice is to regularly change A/C filters to allow for optimal ventilation. As we leave the hot weather and move toward cooler days and nights, many of us have gas furnaces that have sat idle for a while. Now might be a good time to schedule appointments to get your furnace inspected. Same goes for electric powered units. Another tidbit of knowledge, keep your intake areas inside your home free and clear of items that might affect the flow of air into your system. This includes furniture, boxes, or anything that would block the air from entering those metal screens generally located at the bottom of the wall next to the floor.

Other "around the house" things you might look into doing during the month of October include putting away any yard furniture you don't want exposed to the elements; not right yet but perhaps soon, stow your garden hoses and as we move to more winter type weather, remember to wrap your faucets; October is a good time to seed your yard – after the trials of summer, a little extra seeding now gives it time to root before winter; and, last but not least remember it may be a good time to have your gutters and/or downspouts cleaned.



Wishing us all a cooler and more colorful month,

Building & Grounds Team

If you'd like to donate some additional items to HIM during this time of increased need, they have provided us with a NEEDS LIST. They will gratefully accept other items too of course. These are just items that are in high request.

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Bread</b>                     | <b>Canned Fruit</b>               |
| <b>Crackers</b>                  | <b>Fresh Sweet Potatoes</b>       |
| <b>Chicken Broth</b>             | <b>Canned Vegetables</b>          |
| <b>Cornbread Mix (Jiffy)</b>     | <b>Apples</b>                     |
| <b>Beef Broth</b>                | <b>Diced Tomatoes</b>             |
| <b>Mac &amp; Cheese</b>          | <b>Oranges</b>                    |
| <b>Ramen Noodles</b>             | <b>Canned Carrots</b>             |
| <b>Canned Cranberry Sauce</b>    | <b>Canned Sweet Peas</b>          |
| <b>Hearty Canned Soup</b>        | <b>Eggs</b>                       |
| <b>Instant Potatoes</b>          | <b>Canned Sweet Potatoes/Yams</b> |
| <b>Cream of Mushroom Soup</b>    | <b>Canned Mixed Vegetables</b>    |
| <b>Tomato Sauce</b>              | <b>Breakfast Items</b>            |
| <b>Cream of Chicken Soup</b>     | <b>Oatmeal</b>                    |
| <b>Pasta Sauce</b>               | <b>Grits</b>                      |
| <b>Tomato Soup</b>               | <b>Cereal</b>                     |
| <b>Pasta Noodles (spaghetti)</b> | <b>Canned Beans</b>               |
| <b>Vienna Sausages</b>           | <b>Canned Greens</b>              |
| <b>Canned Tuna</b>               | <b>Peanut Butter</b>              |
| <b>Canned Milk</b>               | <b>Jelly</b>                      |
| <b>Canned Chicken</b>            | <b>Pumpkin Pie Mix</b>            |
| <b>Canned Chili</b>              | <b>Canned Frosting for Cakes</b>  |
| <b>Canned Spaghetti</b>          | <b>Cake Mixes</b>                 |
| <b>Ravioli/Spaghetti O's</b>     |                                   |
| <b>Fresh Potatoes</b>            |                                   |



*“We cannot do all the good that the world needs – but, the world needs all the good we can do.” JS*

Ronald Reagan said, *“We can’t help everyone but everyone can help someone.”* How true and how relevant both these quotes are today and every day. As we enter the season of Autumn, Thanksgiving will be here and then in a blink of an eye, Christmas. Yes, this time of year provides us and invites us to many giving opportunities. While we are beginning to see returning from the depths of Covid, it has left a path of struggle for pretty much everyone, but for so many the path back is daunting. Here’s where we come in – collectively as a church and also individually.

We are in the **Peace & Global Witness Offering** time (September 4 – October 2). This Special Offering encourages the church (and its members) to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God’s mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and those around the world.

Our “around the corner” outreach mission includes the **H.I.M.** ministry here in Henderson. For various and a sundry reasons, the requests for help through H.I.M. have been on a steady increase over the last year plus, and with the holidays coming soon it is expected to increase. Our church is a faithful supporter of H.I.M. and in this time of extraordinary need, we have stepped up our support and our delivery of food items. In addition, as has been tradition, we will again be doing sign-ups for Thanksgiving Baskets In Honor / In Memory of for additional support. The sign-up sheets will be in the narthex for sponsoring a basket at \$10.00 per basket. For those not coming into the church for service but want to participate in this special project, please contact Lynn or Claudia. We will be completing this project the first week of November so that H.I.M. has the time to put the baskets together for distribution beginning the second week of November. Please keep this deadline in mind when participating with us.

FPC-Henderson is deeply involved with Henderson Interchurch Ministry (H.I.M.) and has been since its conception. Remembering this connection, our team plans to continue our emphasis on giving to H.I.M. throughout the remainder of 2022 – including a Christmastime giving option. We’ll share more on that later.

Our other “around the corner” outreach mission includes our **Adopt-A-Block program**. We walk and visit with neighbors around our church on a regular basis. Our next Adopt-A-Block will be Monday, October 17th and again on December 12th. We meet at 4 pm – if you’d like to join us – come on!

Your **Outreach Team**: John T, Tom, Claudia, Lynn, Kathy, Jimmy and Rev. Michele

## Council Actions

September 15, 2022

- Prayed and worshiped together
- Discussed (Post Pandemic) Pondering and Planning
- Received committee budgets
- Decided to host Session Records Review for the East Region on Oct. 15
- Reviewed the church insurance



Our team members consist of Carol, Kathy, Kelly, Steve (Co Chair) and Tom (Chair). The committee met on September 8, 2022, with all members present except Steve. After reviewing our church’s finances through the first eight months of 2022, it was noted that both our pledges and plate are running below budget as well as our expenses.

The committee reviewed the church’s insurance coverage for the period September 19, 2022, to September 19, 2023. It was noted that our insurance with Church Mutual went up \$333. After discussion, the committee voted to accept their insurance bid.

The committee discussed this year’s stewardship campaign including a timetable of events. It was determined to mail our stewardship letter with the 2023 pledge cards on October 10<sup>th</sup> and request them to be returned to the church by October 23, 2022. The cards will be dedicated on Sunday, October 30, 2022. Also, a member of our committee will do a minute for stewardship each Sunday during this time. Finally, the committee decided to have a catered lunch on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Peace and thankfulness,  
Tom, Chair



*As human beings we each have a responsibility to care for humanity. Expressing concern for others brings inner strength and deep satisfaction. Dalai Lama*

Truth be told, our whole congregation is one big Member Care Committee. But we do have a subset of members that take particular care of our flock. We double up on prayers for those that have specific or particular needs. We help bring food to those among us to share not only spiritual nourishment but also body nourishment. And we try to help make those who may sometimes feel alone and/or forgotten know that they are not alone and they are not forgotten.

That said, October has a lot going on – locally and nationally. After **World Communion Sunday**, we will serve Home Communion to our homebound on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

There is a lot of care needed in this world of ours. We share the following information and ask for your prayers. The first week of October is **Mental Illness Awareness Week**. Pray for those impacted daily and if you'd like more information you can go to "[nami.org](http://nami.org)" to learn more.

October is also **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** - if you know of someone that might be in need of help the "National Domestic Violence Hotline" number is 1-800-799-safe.

If you or someone you know needs a little extra care, please let us know. You can send information or prayer requests to [FPCHendersoninfo@gmail.com](mailto:FPCHendersoninfo@gmail.com) or for special prayer requests please send your request to [FPCHendersonprayers@gmail.com](mailto:FPCHendersonprayers@gmail.com)

Have a blessed October,

**Member Care Team**

### Christian Education

Our Sunday School Class is beginning a new book: ***Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*** by Diana Butler Bass. This book study will be a thoughtful, fun, and theologically sound exploration of the various roles Jesus plays at different stages of our lives. Bass tells what it means to be a Christian now, in a moment when many can't summon the energy or hope required. Readers, regardless of their location on the theological continuum, will be inspired to get Jesus out of the confines they have constructed for him. You are all invited to join us at 9:45 am in the Parlor to explore our faith together.

**Your C E Team**

Lynn, Claudia, Jimmy, Kathy, Rev. Michele

Did You Know ?



Rainwater is no longer safe to drink anywhere on Earth



A recent study found that anywhere on Earth, rainwater contains forever chemicals (PFAS) linked to cancer.



**CE Green Team**

How can we sum up "Loving our Neighbors?"

Mark12:31

*Loving our neighbors mean "doing."*

*Loving our neighbors means helping all sorts of people, everywhere, in practical ways.*

*Loving our neighbors means practicing courtesy, forgiveness, mercy, and giving*

*Loving our neighbors means ministering to both spiritual and material needs.*

*Loving our neighbors begins in our families, then reaches out to touch our community, state, nation, and world.*

*Loving our neighbors means ministering to others in the same ways we'd minister to Jesus.*

join us for

CAMP GILMONT CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

**BATTLE OF THE BAGS**

October 8, 2022



**Camp Gilmont**

Get excited! Tickets for Camp Gilmont's biggest fundraiser of the year; Battle of the Bags are NOW AVAILABLE!!!! 🎉🎉🎉

Join us at Camp Gilmont on October 8th 2022 from 11am-4pm for our fundraising event with live music, a delicious BBQ lunch, a signature raffle, beginner and champion brackets for cornhole, an online silent auction, and a variety of activities to enjoy!

We can't wait to see you there! Buy your tickets here: <https://gilmont.networkforgood.com/events/44036-battle-of-the-bags>



**FREE EVENT**

Tuesday  
October 4, 2022 | 5:30PM- 8:30PM

**Fairpark**

HOTDOGS • HAMBURGERS • DRINKS • MUSIC

Come on out to meet your  
**First Responders and City Representatives**

Corporate Sponsors  
MTC East Texas Treatment Facility • Gabriel Jordan Chevrolet  
Angel Care Hospice • New Life Church • UT Health Henderson

Inquiries for this event contact Lt. Helton at 903- 657- 3512 ext 349  
\*Bring your lawn chairs due to limited seating

"October, here's to you. Here's to the heady aroma of the frost-kissed apples, the wild-as-the-wind smell of hickory nuts, and the nostalgic whiff of that first wood smoke fire."



I'm sure everyone is ready for some Autumn-like weather.

October will bring us more than ghosts and goblins and candy corn.

October is the month that many denominations come together in spirit and in person to celebrate World Communion. This year, on October 2<sup>nd</sup> we will celebrate together World Communion Sunday – Christians around the globe will join us in this celebration of World Communion. This simple and important event highlights our Christian Unity and Ecumenical

cooperation. Come join us and others as we unite together in a service of Christian unity—in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information, and above all, to know the importance of Jesus Christ and how each congregation is interconnected one with another.

October 9th, we will welcome back to our pulpit Sharon Templeman. We invite you to join us in person or on Facebook live to share in the message.

We are a fortunate congregation -- every Sunday there is joy. Together, we hear the message, we bask in wonderful music, and we share in fellowship. Our Church may be small, but we are mighty, and everyone is welcome. Come worship with us.

**Worship Committee**





# October 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2</b> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live/Communion <b>HIM Donation Day</b> <b>Peace &amp; Global Witness</b>	<b>3</b> Home Communion	<b>4</b> 5:30-8:30 Fair Park — National Night Out	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Meals on Wheels	<b>8</b> Battle of the Bags— Gilmont
<b>9</b> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live, Rev. Sharon Templeman, guest preacher	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Meals on Wheels	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live	<b>17</b> 4:00 Adopt-a-Block	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:00 Session Meeting	<b>21</b> Meals on Wheels	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live	<b>24</b> Newsletter Deadline	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Meals on Wheels	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship in Sanctuary and FB Live	<b>31</b> <b>Halloween</b>					

**Duty Elder for October**

Session Elders

**Liturgists for October:**

- 10/2 Kathy
- 10/9 Carol
- 10/16 Lynn
- 10/23 Steve
- 10/30 John T.

**October Birthdays:**

- 10/12 Margaret
- 10/27 Judy