



First Presbyterian Church

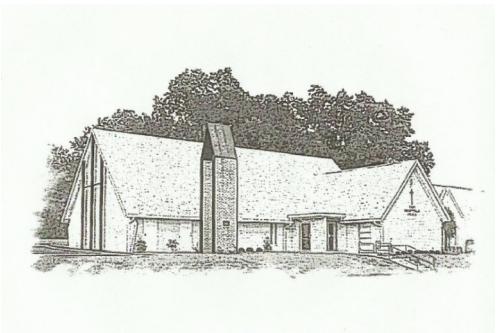
Henderson, Texas

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

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

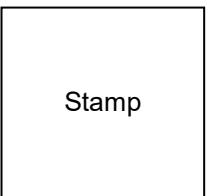


Mailing Label



903-657-2529

www.fpchendersontx.org



Stamp



Connections

First Presbyterian Church

Henderson, Texas

January 2026 Vol. 59:01

Happy New Year! A new year always brings with it a time for new beginnings in Christ. The concept of newness in our spiritual journey holds a profound meaning, bringing a sense of hope, renewal, and transformation. The Bible offers us encouragement to look for the possibilities of fresh beginnings that God offers us. We are no longer defined by our past mistakes or shortcomings but by the love and grace bestowed upon us by Jesus. As we explore Bible verses about newness, let's reflect on the wonderful implications of beginning anew with Christ guiding us every step of the way.

2 Corinthians 5:17—“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”

Isaiah 43:19—“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” What are we to do in this new year of 2026?

Colossians 3:2—“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

2 Timothy 1:7—“For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.” I do not know what the new year will bring for any of us. But, I encourage each one of us to look for new things, for new hope and for renewal. I also encourage us not to be trapped by past mistakes or feelings of guilt. I encourage us to be unafraid, to be loving, kind, compassionate, and caring, and to see what possibilities God has in mind for each of us.

The following persons will be in our pulpit for the month of January:

January 4 (Communion) Jimmy Chapman

January 11 David Reeder

January 18 Steve Newton

January 25 Jim Dees

Jimmy Chapman—Moderator of Worship Committee

Members include Lynn Tieken, Mary Lowe, and Kathy Porter.



FELLOWSHIP

Good food and fellowship was enjoyed at our December 21st Christmas luncheon. David Reeder was not able to attend and present his planned program due to a family conflict. Carol Scoggins, financial chair, thanked our church secretary, Debbi Ricci, for her ever important and efficient work and presented her with a church love gift. All present showed appreciation for Debbi with words of thankfulness and applause. Jack Brooks was not present but was also recognized with a love offering for his work as our organist.

Thank you to the fellowship committee of Kathy, Mary, Suzanne and Kelly for the preparation and overseeing of this, our final luncheon of 2025 and for a full year of dedication and commitment. Our next committee meeting will be Sunday, January 18, 2026, immediately after worship where we will make plans for the upcoming year.

With thankfulness to The Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

Happy New Year !

Jan, chair



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Sunday School class which meets in the parlor will finish its study of the book *Stay Awhile, Advent Lessons in Diving Hospitality* by Kara Eidson on Sunday, January 4. On January 11, we will resume our study of *Making Sense of the Bible*. It seems difficult to believe since we are just finishing the season of Advent and are in the midst of the season of Christmas, but Lent will be upon us before we know it. Ash Wednesday is February 18. That means that the Sunday School class will be choosing a Lenten study book sometime in January. When we know what that book is, we will let everyone else know. All are invited to the church parlor at 9:45 each Sunday morning to join the class in its study.

Jimmy Chapman—Moderator of Worship/Christian Education

Members of CE include Lynn, Kathy, Sylvia, John H., and Steve.



THE STAFF

Administrative Assistant – Debbi Ricci
hendersonfirstpres@gmail.com

THE SESSION

Jimmy Chapman
903-649-0341
jimmychapman46@hotmail.com

Louise Cochran
972-571-7724
louise_cochran@sbcglobal.net

Liz Cross
903-658-1732
eebuckner217@gmail.com

Jan Pennal
903-658-0004
Janeil58@yahoo.com

Carol Scoggins
903-649-0091
cscogg@eastex.net

Kathy Porter - Clerk of Session
903-646-0162
kathyporter301@gmail.com



FINANCE AT A GLANCE



November 2025:

IN	OUT	BALANCE
\$7,332	\$9,816	-\$2,484

October 2025:

IN	OUT	BALANCE
\$11,169	\$10,601	\$568

Year to Date:

IN	OUT	BALANCE
\$90,984	\$105,100	-\$14,116

The **Finance Committee** thanks you for your continuing monetary support for our congregation and the programs we support as a church.

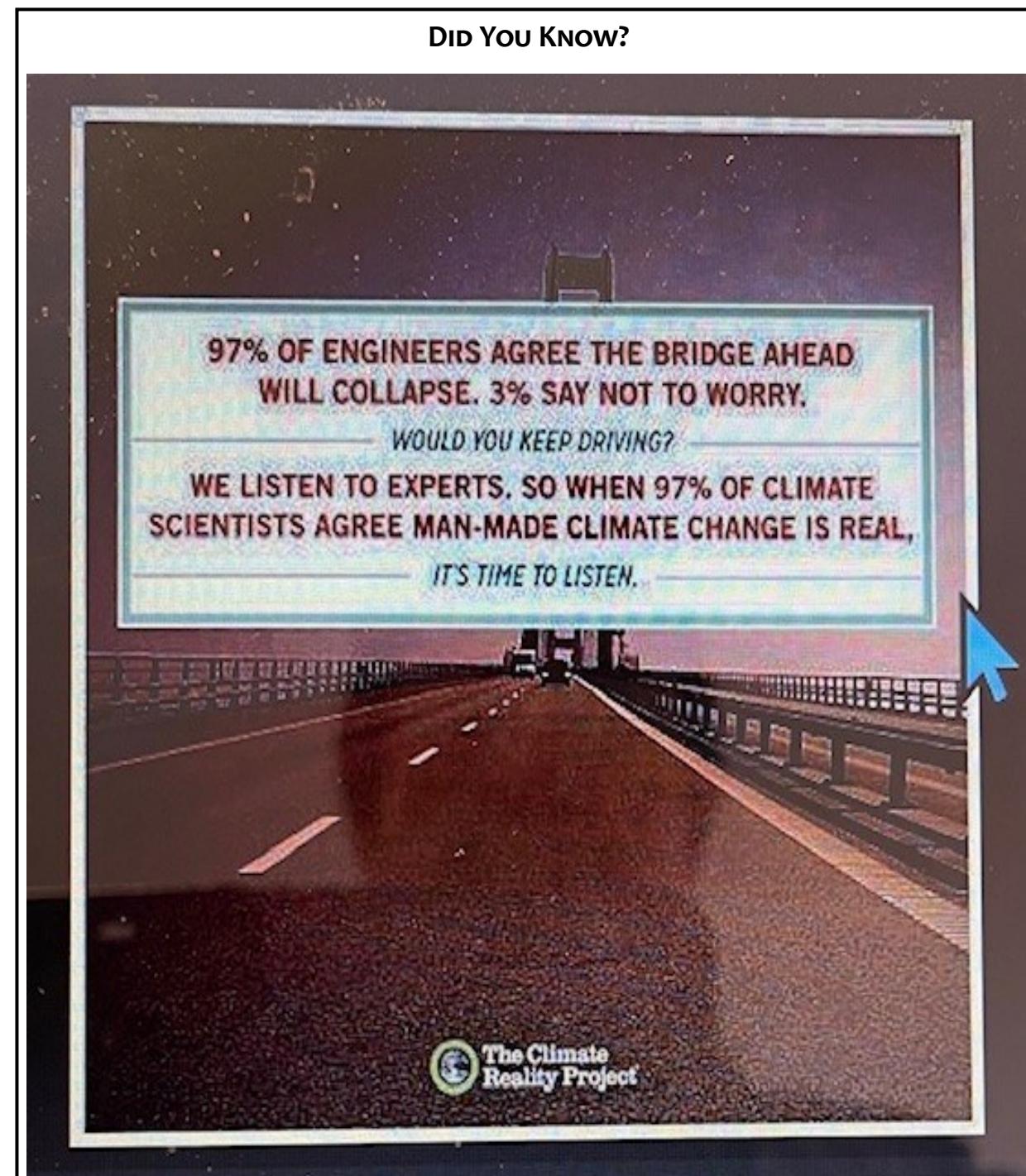
We want to be transparent and be sure all members understand that we have been running an insufficient budget for several years. That means our expenses exceed our income and each year we transfer money from our savings account to our operating account, usually in an amount of around \$10,000 per year. Obviously, this is not infinitely sustainable.

Our current local savings account is approximately \$37,000. We also have money invested at the Texas Presbyterian Foundation, approximately \$40,000. We will draw on these accounts as needed in the years ahead. Please continue your monetary support and your prayers for our congregation and our light in this community.

Committee Chair, Carol

FINANCE
COMMITTEE

DID YOU KNOW?



C.E. GREEN TEAM



Dear Church Family,

I am blessed to have a job that I love, but especially a church family that appreciates me and loves me as you all do. I really appreciate the Love Gift and your gratitude.

Blessings,

Debbi

Dear Presbys...It's such a blessing to be a part of the worship experience at FPC. And thanks so much for the monetary gift for Christmas. Your generosity is always amazing. I look forward to the coming year.

Grace to you all.

Jack



MEMBER CARE

Christmas gift baskets packed with fine treats and sweets were secured by Mary and Kathy and were taken to our homebound members: Margaret Hillin, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, and Carolyn and Bill Boren. Please keep all members and other friends who are in our hearts in prayer.

Thanks to Kathy, Mary, Suzanne and Kelly for your leadership and service to all members.

Again, our next meeting to plan for 2026 will be Sunday, January 18, 2026, immediately following worship.

To God be the glory, Happy New Year!

Jan, chair



**May the New Year
bring you joy, peace,
and abundant
blessings!"**

*Your
Communications
Team*

OUTREACH

The great news from December is the purchase of the new home for HIM. Now the preparation of the interior begins so HIM can move into the facility.



Henderson Interchurch Ministry

“Whatever you did for one of the least of these ... you did for me.” - Matthew 25:40

Members of the outreach team continue to attend the Chamber's mid-morning coffee. The next coffee will be on January 8, 9:30 AM at Campfire Coffee. Everyone is welcome.

The committee will meet January 19 at 1:00 to finish planning the first quarter's outreach activities.

Wishing all a very HAPPY NEW YEAR from the team –

Louise, Jan, Lynn, John T, John H, Sylvia, and Kathy

Star Words for 2026

The magi followed the star to find baby Jesus, bringing their gifts. We are also seeking Jesus, trusting God can and does use many signs (or stars) to guide us closer to the Divine presence. Take a star from the basket in the narthex. Trust the star that you receive has something to offer you. Reflect on that word for the coming year. Ponder what significance this word might have in your life, and how God might be speaking to you through this simple message. Place the star where you will see it: on the refrigerator, where you keep your keys, with your daily devotionals – someplace where you will be reminded of it often.



BUILDING AND GROUNDS

December was a very quiet and much needed rest for building and grounds. The yard work by Chilo and church cleaning by Busy B continues as usual and we are current and up to date in our maintenance of the A/C and heating and ice machine.

While repairs and upkeep are ongoing, no major project is in the works or anticipated at this time. As always, the team of Kathy, Charlie, John H, Tom, and Steve and new member, Elizabeth, are ready and on stand by for anything that needs attention.

Much appreciation from this chair to all committee members past and present is in order. Thank you for your input, work and ongoing efforts to secure and maintain the building and grounds.

Our first meeting of the new year will be Sunday, January 18, 2026 around 1:00pm immediately following worship (after the fellowship and member care meeting).

Much praise, adoration and thankfulness to our God,

Happy New Year,

Jan, chair

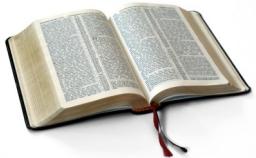


January 2026



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED 	2 Meals on Wheels	3
4 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship & Communion with Jimmy Chapman Home Communion	5 11:00 Worship Meeting	6 Epiphany 	7	8 9:30 Chamber Mid-Morning Coffee @ Campfire Coffee	9 Meals on Wheels	10
11 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with David Reeder	12 11:00 Worship Meeting	13	14	15 2:30 L.E.A.N. Coalition	16 Meals on Wheels	17
18 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Steve Newton 12:00 Fellowship/ Member Care 1:00 Building & Grounds	19 OFFICE CLOSED Martin Luthor King Day 11:00 Worship Meeting 1:00 Outreach Meeting	20	21	22	23 Meals on Wheels	24
25 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Jim Dees Session Meeting	26 11:00 Worship Meeting Newsletter Deadline	27	28	29	30 Meals on Wheels	31



Liturgists for January

4—Kathy

11—Louise

18—Carol

25—Jan



January Birthdays:

10—Dee Lee

19—Kathy