

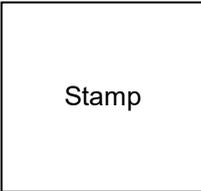
903-657-2529

www.fpchendersontx.org



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

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



As Christians, we are now well into the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday was February 18 and Easter will occur on April 5. So, the entire month of March is contained in the season of Lent. The forty week-days of Lent symbolize for Christians the period of time that Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness after his baptism by John the Baptist. The Christian writer Frederick Buechner writes: “After being baptized by John in the wilderness, Jesus went off alone into the wilderness where he spent forty days asking himself the question of what it meant to be Jesus. During Lent, Christians are supposed to ask one way or another what it means to be themselves.” What does it mean for each one of us to be a follower of Jesus? Lent is a time of repentance and renewal. We are reminded of our mortality and our need for forgiveness. Jill Duffield writes that Lent is an important time in our spiritual journey when we are entreated to be reconciled to God and not take God’s grace in vain. We are to look honestly at ourselves and call out those things that don’t fit God’s pattern for our lives. We are to take the time to look at how we spend our time, our money, and our energy and painstakingly begin to re-align all of those things with our true identity as children of God and disciples of Christ. Lent is a time for honest self-examination. It is not a time for any of us to criticize the faults of others. It is a time to look at ourselves and give an honest assessment of our lives. Often, we are able to hide aspects of our true selves from others, and sometimes even from ourselves. But we cannot hide those aspects from God. I invite each one of us to have a Holy Lent.

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

- **March 1 (Communion) Steve Newton**
- **March 8 Jimmy Chapman**
- **March 15 Evan Dolive**
- **March 22 Jim Dees**
- **March 29 (Palm Sunday) Crosby Fleming**

Jimmy Chapman—Moderator of Worship Committee; Members include Lynn, Mary, and Kathy.



FELLOWSHIP/ MEMBER CARE

Our next fellowship luncheon will be on **March 29**. An Easter feast is in the works and all are invited to come and enjoy! Easter is right around the corner.

Let us prepare our hearts during this season of Lent for our Lord's death and resurrection... all from God's love for each one of us! Thanks be to God!!!



Remembering our home bound members and others who are on our hearts, with prayers and visits is a special privilege for all Christians. Let us continue to remember Bob, Cindy, Bill, Carolyn, Margaret, Mariella and those in your hearts.

1 Timothy 2:1 reminds us to pray much for others, plead for God's mercy upon them, and give thanks for all he is going to do for them.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Building and Ground's next project is repairing the water sprinkler system as a leak has been discovered. We are getting assistance from the City of Henderson water department and a local company to repair this. By our next newsletter, we should have good news to report.



Grace and Peace,

Jan

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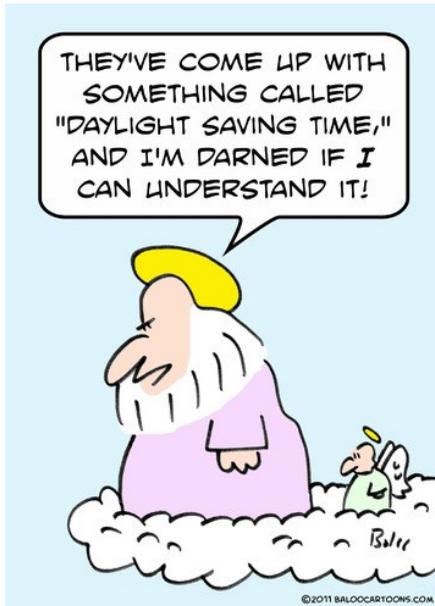
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FINANCE AT A GLANCE



| | | | |
|----------------|----------|----------|--|
| January 2026: | | | |
| IN | OUT | BALANCE | |
| \$5,886 | \$4,759 | \$1,127 | |
| December 2025: | | | |
| IN | OUT | BALANCE | |
| \$10,584 | \$13,282 | -\$2,698 | |
| Year to Date: | | | |
| IN | OUT | BALANCE | |
| \$5,886 | \$4,759 | \$1,127 | |



DID YOU KNOW?

IMAGINE A **SYSTEM** THAT REMOVES **CARBON** FROM THE **AIR**, COSTS **ALMOST NOTHING**, AND **GROWS ON ITS OWN...** IT IS KNOWN AS A **TREE.**



Plant trees today, breathe better tomorrow.

C.E. GREEN TEAM

My Lenten Practice

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes with the celebration of Easter. These 40 days of preparation lead us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. It is a special time to grow in faith through practices of spiritual discipline, prayer, self-examination, and repentance. While these practices are part of our year-round Christian Walk, Lent is a good time to refine our discipline, adjust our techniques, or even try something new.

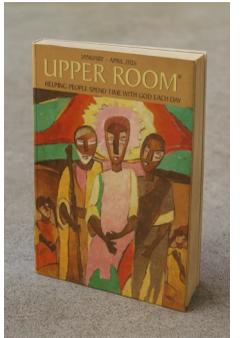


- Make a list of things, people, and experiences for which you are thankful. Add to it each day. Give prayerful thanks.
- Light a candle and meditate for five minutes each day on a word your spirit needs to hear right now. Maybe your star word, a name for God, or a phrase like “I am forgiven.”
- Go outside and don’t take any pictures. Just appreciate the beauty of nature for yourself through your senses.
- Participate in the Lenten Sunday School class “*Meeting Jesus on the Road*” beginning February 22nd in the parlor.
- Invite a friend to worship on Sunday mornings.
- Pray the Jesus prayer daily several times a day using “Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner.” Then change the next day to, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me your beloved child.”
- Do a traditional fast, like abstaining from meat, dessert, cola, or chocolate and donate the money saved to charity like HIM, or Rusk County Children’s Advocacy.

The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide is available in the narthex for your use especially during this Lenten season.

The mission of *The Upper Room* daily devotional guide is to provide a practical way to listen to scripture, connect with believers around the world, and spend time with God each day.

“Where the world meets to pray”



COUNCIL ACTIONS

February 21, 2026

- Prayed and shared joys and concerns with one another
- Had Elder Training
- Determined not to stream sermon
- Approval of Statistical Report
- Elected Commissioner for February 26 Presbytery Meeting at Flower Mound
- Elected Treasurer
- Elected Moderator of CONC for 2026
- Set dates for Communion
- Approved Sunday School Teachers
- Made Duty Elder Assignments
- Discussed the Future of the Church

OUTREACH

What a joy it is to knock on a neighbor's door and have them say "You're from the church." Words of appreciation for the gifts left or delivered are confirmation that our love is noticed. This February the bags included a pad of post it notes, some Valentines candy and a Valentine note that said "Be our Valentine, First Presbyterian Church."

Consider putting **May 23** on your calendar to join us on our next adopt-a-block outing.

Everyone is also invited to join the Chamber Mid-Morning Coffee. This month it will be **March 12** at Henderson hospital from 9:30 to 10:30.

Also during March we will be asking you to be prayerfully considering your gifts for One Great Hour of Sharing.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The work done in support of the causes supported by One Great Hour of Sharing-disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees-serves individuals and communities in need. This work provides people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Your Outreach team,

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Sunday School class which meets in the parlor is now studying the book *Meeting Jesus on the Road*, by Cynthia Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr. The Gospels are full of stories of Jesus traveling from here to there. The book contains 7 Gospel stories of Jesus as he went from place to place. If the book title sounds familiar, last year at Lent we read *Meeting Jesus at the Table* by the same two authors. It was an excellent study. 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.



COMMUNICATIONS

Each week your Communication Committee posts the church service bulletin to the website and keeps the church website updated.

Monthly we collect newsletter submissions, conduct multiple proofreads of the newsletter draft and sign off on the newsletter for publication and distribution. With many responsibilities, our committee members keep busy and meet multiple times per month by telephone, text, face-to-face, and e-mail doing what they do best - "communicating."

If you have something to include in the newsletter, the submission deadline is the third Friday of each month. We also encourage you to take photos throughout the month of church and committee events and submit them for the newsletter.

Please email submissions to Liz, Louise, or Kathy.



March 2026



Sun

Mon

Tue

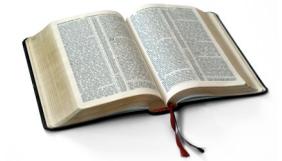
Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---|-----------|--|---|---|
| 1 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship & Communion with Steve Newton Home Communion | 2 11:00 Worship Meeting | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Meals on Wheels | 7  |
| 8 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Jimmy Chapman | 9 11:00 Worship Meeting | 10 | 11 | 12 9:30 Chamber Mid-Morning Coffee @ Henderson Hospital | 13 Meals on Wheels | 14 |
| 15 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Evan Dolive | 16 11:00 Worship Meeting | 17 St. Patrick's Day  | 18 | 19 2:30 L.E.A.N. Coalition | 20 Meals on Wheels Newsletter Deadline | 21 |
| 22 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Jim Dees Session Meeting | 23 11:00 Worship Meeting | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Meals on Wheels | 28 |
| 29 Palm Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Crosby Fleming Fellowship Luncheon | 30 11:00 Worship Meeting | 31 | | | |  |



Liturgists for March

- 1—John H.
- 8—Jan
- 15—Kathy
- 22—Louise
- 29—Jimmy

Birthdays of the Month

March Birthdays:

- 20—John H
- 23—Robbie
- 27—Debbi