

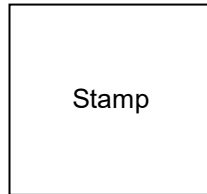
903-657-2529

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

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



April 2026 Vol. 59:04

Easter Sunday is the first Sunday in April, which is April 5. The festival of the Resurrection of the Lord is the center of the Christian year. On this occasion, the church joyfully proclaims the good news that is at the very heart of the gospel: that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Easter Sunday is something like the keystone of an arch — the top and center stone upon which all the other stones lean and depend — both in terms of its theological significance and its relation to other events in the Christian year. Theologically speaking, the faith we claim and the life we live depend on the affirmation, celebration and proclamation of Christ’s resurrection. In a chronological sense — since Easter is a “moveable feast,” taking place on a different date each year — all the other events of the Christian year (from the Transfiguration of the Lord and Ash Wednesday through Pentecost and Trinity Sunday) pivot around the date of Easter Sunday, shifting accordingly. Easter is not simply the miracle of a dead person raised from the grave, but a celebration of power that can shatter death in order that people can freely serve the God of life. In the resurrection of Christ, God’s awesome purposes were on display, revealing a radically new world of peace and harmony and equality and mutuality, about which we can only dream. The Lord of the future has been disclosed to us. Both the incarnation at Christmas and the resurrection at Easter testify to the lordship of Christ.

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

- April 2 (Maundy Thursday) Jimmy Chapman**
- April 5 (Easter & Communion) Steve Newton**
- April 12 Jimmy Chapman**
- April 19 Michele Goff**
- April 26 David Reeder**



You will notice a familiar name among next month’s preachers. Michele Goff, former pastor, will be preaching here on April 19.

Jimmy Chapman—Moderator of Worship Committee  
Members include Lynn Tieken, Mary Lowe, and Kathy Porter.

### FELLOWSHIP/ MEMBER CARE

HAPPY EASTER from Kathy, Mary, Suzanne, Kelly and Jan, your fellowship and member care team.

Our first luncheon of the year was Sunday, March 29 in celebration of Easter. Good food catered from Snowflake and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Our beloved church member and friend, Margaret Hillin, entered into the presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on March 15, 2026. Margaret turned 102 years old in October 2025. She was a light to all who knew her and will be greatly missed.



The Hillin family's service was held at our church on Saturday, March 21 with visitation/reception followed by worship of God in remembering Margaret. Jimmy Chapman led worship.

Jack Brook's dad, Ray Brooks, passed away on Thursday, March 26. A service for Mr. Ray Brooks will be held on Saturday, April 11 at Calvary Baptist Church.

*In John 11:25-26, Jesus was speaking to Martha as he comforted Mary and Martha of Lazarus when he said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"*

Thanks be to God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Greetings from your building and grounds team of Charlie, John Bruce, Steve, Tom, Kathy, Elizabeth and Jan.

Repairs and upkeep around the building are continuing as this past month Petty Plus Sprinkler out of Longview was out to check on our leaking sprinkler system. The good news is they found no leaks but did have to repair/replace three sprinkler heads. We are confident that this will correct the water use of our sprinkler system, as our previous bill indicated otherwise. We remain thankful that we can call on companies like Petty Plus to help us with these repairs.

### THE STAFF

Administrative Assistant – Debbi Ricci  
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### THE SESSION

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## FINANCE AT A GLANCE



<b>February 2026:</b>		
<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
\$8,721	\$5,570	\$3,151
<b>January 2026:</b>		
<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
\$5,886	\$4,759	\$1,127
<b>Year to Date:</b>		
<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
\$14,607	\$10,329	\$4,278



### 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

## DID YOU KNOW?



**EARTH CARE**  
CONGREGATIONS

“The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.” Psalm 24:1

Compassion, Peace & Justice



**PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM**  
*certifies*

***First Presbyterian Church***  
***Henderson***

*as an*

**EARTH CARE CONGREGATION**

*on this*

***10th+ year of certification***

*for its outstanding environmental stewardship achievements in worship, education, facilities and outreach in the life of the church.*

Through February, 2027

Signature Jessica Mandlin Date 3/13/2026

Associate for Sustainable Living and Earth Care Concerns

### C.E. GREEN TEAM

## COMMUNICATIONS

Each week, the Communication Committee posts the church service bulletin to the website and ensures the site remains up to date. On a monthly basis, we collect newsletter submissions, carefully proofread the draft multiple times, and give final approval for publication and distribution.

With these ongoing responsibilities, our committee members stay busy and connect frequently—by phone, text, face-to-face, and email—doing what they do best: communicating.

If you have something you would like included in the newsletter, please note that the submission deadline is the third Friday of each month. Please email your submissions to Liz, Louise, or Kathy.

**COLOR THE WAY**

**HIM 5K COLOR RUN**

FAIR PARK, HENDERSON, TX

**SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026**

"I am the way, the truth, and the life."  
John 14:6

JESUS FED THE 5,000. NOW, YOU CAN RUN TO HELP FEED YOUR COMMUNITY!! REGISTER TODAY TO HELP SUPPORT THE HENDERSON INTERCHURCH MINISTRY!

**REGISTER TODAY** →

KIDS RUN FOR ONLY **\$15**

**FAMILY FUN**

**Fellowship Committee Prepares Fellowship Hall for Easter**



**Council Actions**

**March 22, 2026**

- Prayed together, meditated, and shared joys and concerns
- Heard report on the sale of the handbells
- Signed card of appreciation for Karen Mobb's help in sale of bells
- Session decided to donate \$1000 of handbell income to Rusk County Pets Alive
- Assigned duty elder Sundays
- Determined to have communion on Maundy Thursday
- Assigned elders for home communion for April
- Discussed the future of the church

## OUTREACH

Two families were assisted with their electric bills during the month of March.

Donations for the One Great Hour of Sharing are due by Easter Sunday, April 5. This is the one offering that we participate in beyond our local community.



I recently noticed that the price of canned vegetables at Kroger had risen from \$.87 to \$1.09. With 47% of Rusk County struggling to pay bills, this increase adds to their food insecurities. Please remember to bring food to the church on the first Sunday, which in April will be Easter. Let's celebrate our risen Lord by feeding His children.

Mid-morning coffee will be held at 9:30 on Thursday, April 9 at the Texas Baptist Institute.

Outreach Committee will meet on Monday, April 13 in the church parlor at 1:00 to finalize plans for Hustle Kindness. We will hustle the county Commissioner's Court on Tuesday, April 14 at 9:00. Plans for the May Adopt-a-block will be finalized.

## *Palm Sunday Luncheon*



*March 29,  
2026*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The parlor Sunday School class will finish its study of *Meeting Jesus on the Road* on Easter Sunday, April 5. Then we will resume our study of *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton on Sunday, April 12. 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 Tieken, Kathy Porter, Sylvia Conlee, John Hillin, Steve Lowe.



## Souper Bowl of Caring

# THANK YOU!

### RUSK COUNTY 4H'S 2026 FOOD DRIVE

**Raised: \$120.00 + 855 food items**

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

**Monday, February 9, 2026**



*Alison Reese*  
Alison Reese  
Executive Director  
Tackle Hunger: Home of the  
Souper Bowl of Caring

... Of this "Souper Bowl of Caring" donation, a special thank you goes to First Presbyterian Church of Henderson for their generous contribution.

They donated a total of 695 food items, sorted into team boxes as follows:  
Seattle Seahawks: 620 items,  
New England Patriots: 75 items.

In addition, they contributed a monetary donation of \$120.00. All items and funds were donated to Henderson Interchurch Ministry to support those in need in our community.

Charlie Rodriguez, Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador, Rusk County 4-H

# April 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



			<p>1</p>	<p>2 <b>Mauudy Thursday</b> 5:30 Worship &amp; Communion with Jimmy Chapman</p>	<p>3 Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship &amp; Communion with Steve Newton <b>Home Communion</b></p>	<p>6 <b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p>7 11:00 Worship Meeting</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 9:30 Chamber Mid-Morning Coffee @ Texas Baptist Institute</p>	<p>10 Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Jimmy Chapman</p>	<p>13 11:00 Worship Meeting 1:00 Outreach Meeting</p>	<p>14 9:00 Hustle Kindness @ County Commissioners'</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 2:30 L.E.A.N. Coalition</p>	<p>17 Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Michele Goff Fellowship &amp; Building &amp; Grounds Meetings</p>	<p>20 11:00 Worship Meeting</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Meals on Wheels Connections Deadline</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with David Reeder</p>	<p>27 11:00 Worship Meeting</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>		



### Liturgists for April

- 2—Lynn
- 5—Jan
- 12—Steve
- 19—Carol
- 26—Liz



### April Birthdays:

- 13—Tom