



THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of Atascocita Presbyterian Church



I LOVE MY CHURCH

We begin our Adventure in Faith, a month-long study of the Psalms, on July 1. We will read five Psalms and one Proverb each day. By the end of July, we will have read each of the 150 Psalms and all 31 Proverbs. Our Adventure will be filled with blessings as we encounter once again verses that are touchstones of our faith, verses like, *O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth; The earth is the Lord's and everything in it; The Lord is my Shepherd; Make a joyful noise unto the Lord; Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me*, and many, many more.

One of my favorite passages from the psalms is often used as a call to worship. "I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go unto the house of the Lord.'" Although this verse is used frequently in our services of worship, the words about being glad to go unto the house of the Lord are not limited to Sunday mornings or other special times of worship.

In the few months we have been here at APC I have often entered the church on a weekday, which is a workday. Even though there might not be a service of worship on those weekday workdays, the words of the psalmist accompany me on a regular basis. Just walking through the doors of our church, I say to myself, "I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go unto the house of the Lord.'" What a blessing to peek in on our Yoga Group as they stretch and meditate on Mondays. The Mission Crafters always bring a sense of purpose and passion as they work busily and happily on Tuesdays. The Presbyterian Women combine delicious food, delightful fellowship, and dedicated devotion as they gather on Wednesdays, and the spring was filled with Wednesday night suppers that brought our church family together. Our Deacons meet monthly on Thursday. Listening to these faithful friends give updates on the ones they are reaching out to and offering care always inspires and encourages me. Fridays are a slower day in the summer, but throughout the year Fridays mark the end of another week of learning and love at our CLC. With such a varied and vibrant ministry taking place, it is only natural that my entrance through our church doors brings a sense of gladness to my heart and soul.

"I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go unto the house of the Lord.'" Except when...I am the first to arrive at church and I step in a puddle of water. Wednesday, June 21, was such a day. With all the excessive heat we have been enduring, our air conditioning system at church has been running full blast. Somehow a pipe was plugged, the air conditioning drained, the drain overflowed, and we had a nice little river running from the pantry of the kitchen, past the ovens, into the copy room, and reaching its final destination in the carpets outside the church office doors. Maybe on that day **I did not say**, "I was glad when they said unto me..."

continued on page 2



What's inside the latest issue

- "I Love My Church"
- Worship in July
- Faith Formation Classes Update
- PW Special Summer Schedule
- Streams of Living Water Bible Study
- Upcoming Events
- Pictures from Summer Camps
- Earth Care Corner
- Mission Opportunities
- Birthdays, Anniversaries, Attendance Report, and Prayers

Stay Connected!

Visit the [APC website](http://apchumble.org) (apchumble.org) for more information and service schedules.

Make sure you are subscribed to *The Communicator* newsletter and Narthex News email.

Check us out on Facebook!
facebook.com/AtascocitaPresbyterianChurch

continued from page 1

Well, I might not have said it when I entered the church, but by the end of day, I was saying it. Lisa Stacy, Terri Thomson and Cathy Gerald have done an amazing job organizing and leading our Summer Camp. Lisa showed up for camp that Wednesday, saw me futilely sloshing water around with a mop, took the mop from me and immediately brought our flooded condition under control. Ron Powell and Dick Bruns soon appeared to take a look at the issue. Watching those two guys work together to solve our plumbing problem reminded me how glad I am for all the ones who work so hard to keep our facility functioning.

Undeterred by our water woes, Summer Camp went off without a hitch. Shelley Craig had the kids making mud as they reenacted the story of Jesus healing a blind man. The Music Program led the kids to do just what the psalmist tells us to do. Those little ones were making a joyful noise unto the Lord. Late in the afternoon, a crew turned out to set up all the water activities for our Wacky Wednesday. Water, which was our nemesis earlier in the day, became our welcome friend as kids splashed and slid and played with soapy bubbles. What began as a day that promised to be a headache turned into a day when my heart was happy. I might not have said the words when I entered the church and found those puddles, but I drove home that night in complete agreement with the psalmist. "I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go unto the house of the Lord."

And then I got home and read something really precious on social media. Debbie Becker came to that Wacky Wednesday with her grandchildren Avery and Doug. After Wacky Wednesday, which considering all the troubles with the flooding at church was truly a very Wacky Wednesday, Debbie drove her grandkids home. It had been a fun night at our church, an evening where we opened our arms to families and provided an evening filled with joy in a safe setting where everyone knew they were welcome. As Debbie was driving her grandkids home Avery said, "I love my Church." Friends, that is what it is all about. As I read Debbie's words about Avery, the words of a child saying, "I love my Church," I said to myself, Amen! You're not alone Avery. So do I. I love my Church." I hope you do too. I hope every time you come through the doors of the Atascocita Presbyterian Church you join with the psalmist in saying, "I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go unto the house of the Lord.'"

With a grateful heart,

Wayne

The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.

Psalm 145:17-19 NRSV

Worship in July

7/2 Communion Sunday

Sermon: "How Majestic is your name"
Psalm 8

7/9

Sermon: "As the deer pants for streams of water..."
Psalm 42

7/16

Sermon: "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord"
Psalm 84

7/23

Sermon: "Forget not all his benefits"
Psalm 103

7/30

Sermon: "His love endures forever"
Psalm 136

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Pastor Wayne Eberly
 Director of Youth Ministry.....Aaron Seay
 Office Coordinator.....Carroll Hebert
 Director of Music.....Joe Weir
 Pianist.....Carl Braden
 Pastor Wayne is in the office Monday through Wednesday,
 from 9 am until 2 pm.
 Carroll Hebert is in the office Monday through Thursday,
 from 9 am until 2 pm.
 Aaron Seay may be reached by email:
 aaron@apchumble.org

Children's Faith Formation Classes

Children 1st - 5th grade. Classes are on summer break from June 4 through July 30. Classes resume Sunday, August 6, 9:30 am in the orange classroom.

Nursery care will be open each week during summer months for children who haven't yet entered 1st grade. Sundays 9:30-11:30 am in the nursery.

Please feel free to contact Terri Thomson with any questions or concerns related to APC Children's Ministries by email (apcchildrenscommittee@apchumble.org).

Youth Faith Formation

Youth 6th - 12th grade. Bible Study is on summer break but will return at 9:20 am, Sunday, September 10.

Bible study with Aaron will return Sunday August 3 at 11:45 am in the youth room where we have a chance to fellowship, eat lunch, and study the Word.

Please feel free to contact Aaron (aaron@apchumble.org) with questions or concerns in regard to the youth program.

Youth News

Sign up now for **Jr High Jubilee** at Mo-Ranch, Sunday, July 9 through Thursday, July 13.

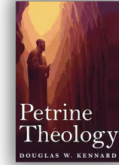
To register, please contact Aaron Seay (aaron@apchumble.org).

Coming soon! Watch for an exciting kick-off event for the fall semester youth program!

Adult Faith Formation

*****Doug's class meets at 9:15 am in the library.**

Discussion of Doug's recent book: *Petrine Theology*. Purchase the paperback book or Kindle from Amazon.



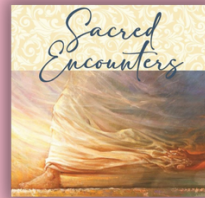
*****Shelley's class** is on summer break but will return Sunday, September 3. Meeting at 9:20 am in classroom 102.

Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study

The Bible study resumes in September when study will begin with the next book in the Horizons series (see below!).

In the meantime, the group will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of the month.

Attendants at the July 12 meeting will join Pastor Wayne's Wednesday Psalms Bible study at noon in the sanctuary. For more information, please contact Judi Anderson (jla.lpc55@gmail.com).



Presbyterian Women, good news! The 2023-2024 PW/Horizons Bible study, *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus in Luke-Acts* by Olive Mahabir, will begin at the September 13th meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Streams of Living Water an APC Adventure in Faith

A Study in Psalms and Proverbs

During the month of July, you are invited to join with the family of faith at APC as we read and study the Psalms.

This Adventure in Faith will have several components:

- A daily study guide is available in the narthex and on the website (apchumble.org). Each day during July, you will be asked to read five Psalms and one Proverb. Along with the readings from Psalms and Proverbs, Pastor Wayne has prepared a brief devotional.
- For those who want to gather to reflect on the readings, Pastor Wayne will hold a Bible study every Wednesday at noon in July. We will meet together, discuss the questions and insights from our daily readings, and consider how God is speaking to our hearts. You may also tune in on this Zoom [link](#).
- The sermons in July are based on the Psalms.
 - "How Majestic is your name" Psalm 8
 - "As the deer pants for streams of water..." Psalm 42
 - "I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of the Lord" Psalm 8
 - "Forget not all his benefits" Psalm 103
 - "His love endures forever" Psalm 136.

In the very first psalm, calling out to us as an invitation to enter into a bright and beautiful journey of faith, we are told that those who delight in the word of the Lord are like trees planted by streams of water. We hope you will join with the APC family on this adventure in faith, an adventure that will bring our hearts near to the stream of God's precious and holy living water.

To sign up for the Wednesday Bible study, please call the church office (281-852-8990) or email (apc@apchumble.org).

Seniors and Friends

SPRING-CREEK BARBEQUE

Meet for lunch and fellowship on the third Thursday

of the month. Join us **Thursday, July 20, 11:30 am** at Spring Creek BBQ, 5613 FM 1960 E, 77346.

For more information, please contact Bonnie Carr (bncrr1@gmail.com).

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Delivery Date

Sleep in Heavenly Peace will have a delivery date of **Saturday, July 22**. If you are available to help from 9 am until 1 pm, please sign up in the narthex.

Meet at the Family Promise House, 1590 FM 1960 Bypass East (behind Jack In The Box) at 9 am. For more information, please contact Libby Boyce (erboyce@hotmail.com).



Yoga for all!

Meet Monday mornings at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall. Bring your exercise mat.

Introduction to Photography

On **Tuesday, July 25, 6 pm** in the fellowship hall Emily Murphy will share some photo basics like camera settings and photo composition.

Emily is mostly self-taught with a life-long interest in photography. She is a member of the Kingwood Photo Club and has been involved in their presentations, field trips, and other learning classes. Emily's photos have been on the cover of the Lake Houston Chamber of Commerce magazine, and occasionally, she will do portraits for seniors, etc.

However, wildlife is Emily's favorite and she loves to take shots from her kayak while exploring the local waterways.

Please enter your name on the sign-up sheet is in the narthex if you plan to attend.

.....

We Want Your Favorite Hymns!

During the month of August, we are going to focus on favorite hymns of the congregation. If you have a favorite hymn, fill out one of the insert slips located inside the bulletin over the next few weeks and drop in the offering plate or send to the office (apceapchumble.org).

We will gather all your favorites and then incorporate them into worship throughout August. It would be helpful if you wrote a little note with your request to let us know what makes the hymn a favorite of yours. Music is a gift from God, and we look forward to hearing from you the hymns of faith that have touched your heart.

Game Day for Grownups!



Gather for a potluck lunch and fellowship **Thursday, July 27, 11:30 am**, in the fellowship hall and stay for games of Mexican Train or Bingo.

For more information, please contact Terri Parmerlee (tmparmerlee@gmail.com).

.....

Ancient Mariners

Mark your calendar!

Monday, September 18 we depart APC parking lot at 8 am to George H W Bush Library and Museum via Harris County precinct bus. The cost of admission to the library is \$7 per person. Lunch on your own at a local restaurant TBD. Last stop is Veterans Memorial Park in College Station before heading back to APC.

A sign-up sheet will be provided soon.

Linda is working on another trip for **Sunday, April 28**. TUTS has a 2 pm performance of "The Cher Show," a musical that celebrates all of the spectacle and glamour that is Cher wrapped in 35 smash hits for a nonstop musical celebration of her life. The Harris County precinct bus cannot be reserved until October, but Linda is on it!

Please take the opportunity to research TUTS.com for seating. Each person will need to purchase their own tickets to be picked up at Will Call, emailed, or mailed to you. Booking your own tickets will allow you to sit where you like.

The bus will take our group downtown for the show, then afterward enjoy dinner at Birraporetti's.

For more information, please contact Linda Andrus (call 281-852-1668 or text 281-923-6286).

Healing and Helping Care for God's Creation - Summer Camps

APC and CLC held their summer programs Tuesday through Thursday, June 6-8, 13-15, and 20-22.

Thanks to Lisa Stacy, Terri Thomson, and a troop of great volunteers who led 1st through 5th graders.

Thanks to Cathy Gerald and her team of teachers who led kids 18 mo through Kindergarten.

Cuteness alert!



Down on the farm, milking a cow



A stroll in GATE



Picnic with Ms Madison



Making bubbles



A Safari complete with helmet and binoculars



Science Camp experiments with Ms Maggie, Ms Bonnie, and Ms Linda



Bible Time



Creativity in Art Camp,



Hockey - one of many sports with Sportsball



Music Camp with Ms Summer and Mr Erik



Mission Opportunities for APC

The bed in the narthex reminds us that we're engaged with building and delivering beds to children who don't have a bed for their sleep through Jim Hannan's role with "Sleep in Heavenly Peace." If you'd like to help, consider buying a "Bed in a Bag" for a twin bed for a young boy or girl. The next bed delivery will be July 22. If you are available to help from 9 am until 1 pm, please sign up in the narthex. Meet at the Family Promise House, 1590 FM 1960 Bypass East (behind Jack In The Box) at 9 am. For more information, please contact Libby Boyce (erboyce@hotmail.com).

Also in July, APC will collect school supplies Sunday, July 2 through Sunday, August 6 for distribution to families who cannot afford this pricey part of sending our children to school. After July worship services, Mission Committee members will be outside the sanctuary with a Ziploc gallon bag with a list of items requested.

Let's ensure every child shows up to the first day of school with all the supplies that are needed. Please help us help them by donating any or all of the following items in your Ziplock bag: Crayola Brand crayons, glue sticks, round-end scissors, 3x5 lined index cards, Expo markers, colored pencils, sharpened writing pencils, and highlighters. The committee thanks you in advance for your generosity!

Summer Camps Healing and Helping Care for God's Creation

Summer Camps were a *Sizzling Success* full of learning, laughing and sharing God's word and love! This success is the result of our congregation's continued support and participation.

A GRAND THANK YOU to the following people for the blessing of their service. Forrest Craig for maintaining the online registration and payment process via our website.

Science Camp–Doris Fisher, Libby Boyce, Mary Ann Kaminski, Bonnie Russell, Pastor Wayne, William Breda, Joseph Breda, Maggie Pritchett, Kevin Stacy, Lisa Stacy, and Terri Thomson.

Art Camp– Katie Corkern, Geovanni Casillas, Pastor Wayne, Mary Ann Kaminski, Bonnie Russell, William Breda, Joseph Breda, Libby Boyce, Doris Fisher, Lisa Stacy, and Terri Thomson

Music Camp– Mary Ann Kaminski, Linda Andrus, Liz Frye, Shelley Craig, Summer McKee, Erik Jones, Grace Jones, Adrianna Burleigh, Libby Boyce, Doris Fisher, Carroll Hebert, Lisa Stacy, and Terri Thomson

Summer Camps' Mission Project



Summer Campers participated in APC's mission to "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" by donating pillows.

Earth Care Corner

Be a Part of the Pollution Solution

Join in an Effort for Plastic Free July: An Adventure in Less is More!

This summer, more than 140 million faith communities around the world, as well as other organizations concerned about our environment, are coming together to promote, work in concert, and live a Plastic Free July. The focus is on reducing and/or eliminating single use plastics for the month of July. It's going to be fun, it's going to be challenging, and we will learn a lot that can help us advocate for better alternatives for our world.



You know this, but you may need to be reminded: in 2023, about 380 million metric tons of plastic – about the weight of all of humanity living today – will be created from liquid fossil fuels and thousands of chemical additives, many of them known carcinogens. Much of this new plastic will enjoy a single use (That plastic bottle of water? That vegetable wrapped in cellophane at the grocery store?) before heading to a landfill (less than 10% is recycled), where it will not break down for hundreds of years or longer. The health consequences of this plastic are staggering, to humans and to all of life on earth.

Presbyterians for Earth Care is encouraging this opportunity for PC(USA) churches to join in, make connections, and increase their impact. They have a pledge – to do our best, not to be perfect. Learn more about [Plastic Free July](#), an international non-profit intent on starting a movement. The focus is on those single use plastics we didn't have in 1949 and can't seem to live without in 2023.

From *Choose to Refuse*, Presbyterians for Earth Care newsletter

EARTHCARE SUNDAY JULY 30

Atascocita Presbyterian Church is renewing our commitment to Earthcare, caring for God's creation and celebrating the wonder and beauty of our planet. We are planning quarterly celebrations of Earthcare, which will be held on every fifth Sunday of the month.

Our first Earth Care Sunday will be July 30. Before and after worship we will have a display telling you about current opportunities to be involved in the Earth Care efforts of our congregation. During worship we will turn our attention to our role as stewards of God's creation. Some hearty souls are even planning on walking or riding their bikes to church that Sunday! It will be a great day for giving thanks for the joy and wonder of God's creation and exploring the many ways we can work toward preserving and protecting our planet.

Watch for more details in the days ahead, and plan on participating in our Earth Care Celebration on Sunday, July 30.

**APC is a certified Earth Care
Congregation of the PC(USA).**

Birthdays

7/1 Tiffany May
 7/1 Eric Hlavaty
 7/3 Debora Hedgepath
 7/3 Kahlan Martin
 7/3 Mike Ryan
 7/6 Elliott Denmon
 7/7 Judy Brookby
 7/9 Katie Hannan
 7/9 'Sine McCarty
 7/10 Libby Boyce
 7/11 Don Frye Jr
 7/11 Kathy Gava
 7/12 Alex Lemer
 7/14 Jonathan Akrong
 7/14 Sharis Mayer
 7/15 Carol Cutshall
 7/15 Bobby Grawl
 7/15 David McPherson
 7/17 Mya Lauer
 7/17 Sara Lewis
 7/19 Summer Humlick
 7/21 Ellen Nipe
 7/22 Allan Griffin
 7/23 Melissa Breda
 7/24 Lisa Stacy
 7/27 Will Nees
 7/29 Sharon Sessions
 7/30 Bill Boyce
 7/31 Joseph Breda
 7/31 Natalie Burgos

Anniversaries

7/10 Marilyn & Chris Friedersdorf
 7/18 Lisa & Kevin Stacy
 7/21 Carol & Tom Hedgepath Sr

Worship Attendance and Offering Summary					
Date	In Person	BoxCast Live	Facebook Live	Total Viewers	Offering Total
28-May	77	15	71	163	\$2,653
May End of Month Credit Card Receipts					\$5,819
4-Jun	88	14	87	189	\$3,466
11-Jun	63	18	41	122	\$1,513
18-Jun	68	14	14	96	\$1,014
25-Jun	79	15	93	187	\$4,136
Total Offerings for Year-to-date					\$164,579
Budgeted Offerings for Year-to-date					\$139,125

Prayers, Concerns, & Condolences

We lift prayers to the Lord for friends and family:

- Peace and safety for the people of Ukraine, the Middle East, and in other parts of the world.
- Victims, families, and communities affected by gun violence.
- Michael Burgos, continued treatment. Strength and peace for Grace and the family.
- Jerry Sessions, health concerns.
- Peace and comfort for Kevin, Michelle, Sarah, and Laura Bennett.
- Ann Owen, health concerns.
- Tom Olson, health concerns.
- Petra, friend of Heather Pritchett, enduring significant complications during cancer treatment.
- Prayers of comfort for family and friends of Ed Hinson, family friend of Will and Charis Nees, in hospice. Prayers of thanksgiving for a wonderful life well lived and comfort for the family.
- Todd Murphy, Emily's son, recovering from surgery.
- Charles Andrus, Gene's brother, recovery from car accident.
- Travel mercies to those who have begun summer vacations.
- Krista Sherwood, Paul and Carol Curtis' daughter, recovering from surgery.
- Joe Weir, strength and healing from surgery.
- Dalton Cruz, son of Lisa Cruz, health, healing, and wisdom.
- Donna Garris, friend of Kathy Gava, recovery from surgery.
- Betsy Gould is in hospice care.
- Deana Price, Kathy Gava's friend and fellow crafter, recovering from surgery.
- de la Rosa family, Kathy Gava's daughter, to be granted peace and comfort
- Jan, sister-in-law of Emily Murphy, in hospital with multiple health concerns.
- Donald Peregoy, Ray's son, in Galveston hospital for treatment.
- Kathleen McPherson recovering from surgery.
- Connor Fovargue USMC, Alexis Harrison USAF, and grandkids of Ron and Cathy Fovargue
- Jan Chargois, Emily Murphy's sister-in-law, health concerns.
- Sine McCarty, Anne Wallace, Garland McCarthy

Please email prayer requests to the church office (apcc@apchumble.org).

For pastoral care emergencies, please contact your deacon or elder for July, Ron Powell (580-467-3095).