

THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of Atascocita Presbyterian Church



TRAVEL TREASURES

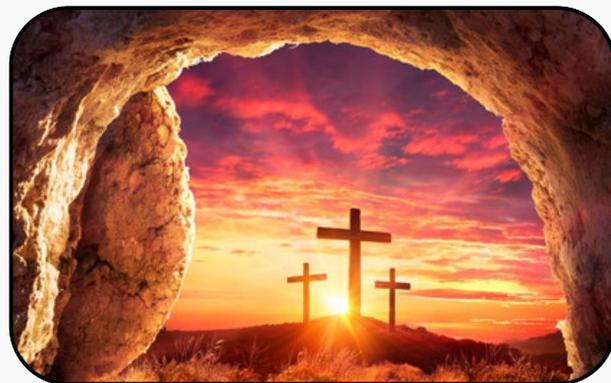
We have been fortunate to lead a variety of trips with the congregations we have served. That tradition carries on as a group of 49 travelers are off to see Greece and walk in the Footsteps of Paul. We will visit biblical sites like Corinth, Ephesus, Philippi, Thessalonica, and stand where Paul preached his famous sermon in Athens about an unknown God. Looking back on the trips we have led, I give thanks for all the travel treasures with which we have been blessed.

--We have communion sets from Israel and Greece, figures of the Good Shepherd, and a nativity scene carved from the olivewood in Bethlehem, and a rug from Ephesus that bears the same patterns as a Navajo rug my parents cherished from their days serving on a reservation in New Mexico. We have been able to bring tiny crosses back when we serve in Guatemala, and we love giving those crosses out to the children of the church. We even brought home some wine from Cana of Galilee.

--Our travel treasures are often not physical in nature. More often they are shared memories of moments that touched our hearts. In the Holy Land we shared the blessing of singing on the Sea of Galilee the hymn that proclaims, "How Great Thou Art." At the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem we celebrated communion and sang the old favorite, "I come to the garden alone." In Corinth we read Paul's words about the cross of Christ, the cross that is foolishness to the world, but for us who believe, that same cross is the power of God for our salvation. And, of course, it was in Corinth that we sang, "The Old Rugged Cross."

--Mission trips provide the opportunity to travel. When Hurricane Harvey brought such destruction to Houston, the Baptist pastor in Westerly, Rhode Island said to me, "Aren't you from Houston? Let's take a team there to help with recovery." Six churches from that small town in New England joined forces, we camped out in trailers near Webster Presbyterian Church, and did our best to lend a helping hand. We brought home a travel treasure from that trip. A World War II veteran was forced out of his home. He was dying. Our team was part of the restoration of his home that allowed him to spend his last days in his own home, surrounded by family and friends. A similar trip to North Carolina gave us the travel treasure of being there when a family with five children under the age of

continued on page 2



What's inside the latest issue

- "Travel Treasures"
- Worship in April
- Faith Formation Classes
- Easter Week Schedule
- Upcoming Events
- Kids' Summer Camps
- Jubilee at APC
- APC Community Garden
- Women's and Men's Conferences at Mo-Ranch
- Earth Care Topics
- Good Times With HAAM!
- Birthdays, Attendance Report, Prayers
- Lost and Found

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

five was able to move from a rented trailer (seven of them in one trailer) back into their home. The prayers of thanksgiving and tears of joy are one of my favorite travel treasures.

--My dad was diagnosed with a progressive disease that eventually led to his death. But immediately after his diagnosis, he was still in pretty good shape. He and my mom were part of the first trip we led in the spring of 1999, also to Greece. Although he was exhibiting some signs of his illness, for the most part my dad did really well. But there was the day we were walking through the ancient ruins of Philippi. The terrain was rough. My dad's walking was unsteady. A dear friend named Roger noticed my dad's situation, came alongside my dad, and guided him through those ruins with a sure and strong hand. That travel treasure always brings a tear to my eye.

I certainly feel blessed to have traveled and experienced so much of the world around us. But the travel treasures are not limited to crossing oceans and flying in planes. Our life together as a church family is a journey. It is a journey of faith. We travel together on this journey of faith. It's a rare Sunday that I don't go home thinking about yet another travel treasure God has blessed me with as I worship and share life with you, our dear family at APC.

--On our journey of faith, we encounter the hardships of life, disappointments and discouragement, pain and sorrow. Like Roger supporting my dad you reach out to one another, you come alongside, you encourage and pray and provide kindness and concern. These travel treasures are the things that fill a pastor's heart with gratitude, a visible demonstration that we are one in God's Spirit.

--I also have an office filled with travel treasures that have come through our life together. There's a kaleidoscope, a sling shot, a Christmas Joy banner, a wonderful poster celebrating the baptism of our grandson Blake, my trophy for the best cornbread at the chili cookoff (and yes, I admit, I was the only one who brought cornbread, but still...I have the trophy!), and all the pictures the children and youth color on Sunday mornings and put in my hand on their way out of worship. Serving with you, our family of faith, has provided one travel treasure after another.

When we bring back travel treasures from our trip to Greece, we will add them to the travel treasures we are creating on our journey of faith here at APC, and I just know life will get richer and richer with the wonderful memories that come from the God who blesses our lives with his everlasting and eternal love.

I am so glad God has called us at this time in our life to share with you the joy of traveling this journey of faith. Our hearts are filled to overflowing.

With the love of Christ,

Wayne

Let love be genuine, hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Romans 12:9-13 NRSV

Worship in April

4/6 "Another good shepherd"
Luke 7:1-10

4/13 Palm Sunday
"The King is coming"
Luke 19:28-40

4/17 Maundy Thursday
Communion Service 7 pm

4/18 Good Friday
Prayer Service 12 noon

April 20 Easter Sunday
"The stone rolled away"
Luke 24:1-12

April 27 "Way better than a warm bath?"
Luke 24:13-35

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Pastor Wayne Eberly
Office Coordinator.....Carroll Hebert
Director of Music.....Joe Weir
Pianist.....Carl Braden

Pastor Wayne is in the office Monday through Wednesday, 9 am until 2 pm.
Carroll Hebert is in the office Monday through Friday, 9 am until 2 pm.

Children's Faith Formation Classes

Children's class (grades 1-5) meets in the orange classroom.

Children's class (age 4-K) meets in the teal classroom.

Nursery care will be open each week during FF and worship hours for children ages 0-3. 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 classes meet at 9:30 am in the youth room with Julie Eberly.

APC youth having just returned from Conclaves at Trinity Pines Conference Center, Adrianna Burleigh shared a note about the trip: Conclaves is a time for the youth from the Presbytery to gather and share the Good News. I always feel welcomed, inspired, and called to worship God. The energizers, small groups, and vespers are such great ways to build a relationship with my friends in God's presence. Next year I hope to join the PYCC (Presbyterian Youth Connection Council) to serve in a leadership role at future Conclaves.

Contacts for the Youth program are Julie Eberly, Lisa Clark, and Terri Thomson.

Adult Faith Formation

*****9:15 am Doug Kennard's class in the library. A new study begins April 6: an intro into the Gospel of John.**

*****9:30 am Sermon Scripture Study, with Rev Shelley Craig in classroom 102. Topic is the sermon scripture.**

*****9:30 am Christian Chat and Coffee in classroom 104. An informal discussion of a variety of topics.**

Faith Formation classes will not meet Sunday, April 20 so that families can enjoy special activities from 9:30 - 10:25 am before attending Easter worship service at 10:30 am.

Easter Week at APC

Join us for Worship

**Palm Sunday Service
April 13 at 10:30 am**

**Maundy Thursday Service
April 17 at 7 pm**

**Good Friday Prayer Service
April 18 at noon**

**EASTER Service
April 20 at 10:30 am**

*Children's Activities
9:30 - 10:15 am*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Delivery



Meet in the APC parking lot, **Saturday, April 5, 8:30 am** - usually done by 1 pm. Adults and teens are welcome - no previous experience is required.

In just a few hours of your time, you can make a direct, permanent impact in the quality of life for dozens, if not hundreds, and maybe even thousands of kids in your community.

Sign up on the SHP website (volunteer.shpbeds.org) or this [link](#). For more information please contact Rick Anderson (andericl@me.com). Twin-size bedding sets are welcome anytime at the display in the narthex.

.....



Sunday, April 6, 6 pm, in the sanctuary. *Haydn to Hagenberg* will highlight the choral classical magnificence of Haydn's *Te Deum* followed by the choral splendor of contemporary composer Elaine Hagenberg's *Illuminare*. Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased online from Eventbrite.com or see Joe Weir on Sunday.

APC Needlers

Meet the second Tuesday each month. The next meeting is **April 8, 7-9 pm** at a location to be determined.

For those who knit (or want to learn), crochet, or sew, there are projects to do. Currently we are working on baby booties and caps for a charity organization.

For more information, please contact Karen Frye (vkfrye62.kf@gmail.com) or Rosemary Mumford (rosesmum@aol.com).

.....

Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study

Meet Wednesday, April 9, 11:30 am in the fellowship hall.



Please bring a simple dish or salad to share for a potluck lunch. The Time Out for Men group will join us for lunch before they move to classroom 102 at noon for their fellowship with Pastor Wayne.

PW will continue at noon with the next chapter in *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*. For more information, please contact Linda Andrus (harley3064@aol.com).

.....

Time Out for Men

The second Wednesday of each month, APC men are invited to join Pastor Wayne in a program that gives everyone a chance to have fellowship, share a meal, and grow together in faith.

We look forward to our time together **Wednesday, April 9. Meet at 11:30 am** in the fellowship hall to share a potluck lunch with Presbyterian Women who meet for their monthly Bible study. At noon, the men's group will gather in classroom 102 for their fellowship.

Wednesday Bible Study

Join Pastor Wayne **April 16, noon**, classroom 102.

"Roots and Revelation:" A Bible study exploring the relationship between the Old and New Testament. Upcoming Bible study dates Wednesday, April 16, 23, and 30.

.....

Seniors and Friends

The group will not meet in April. Join us on the third Thursday in May for another luncheon outing at a local restaurant.

.....

Game Day for Grownups



Meet the fourth Thursday of the month. The next gathering is **Thursday, April 24, 10 am**, in the fellowship hall.

Treats are provided by one of the attendees on a rotating basis. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex or RSVP by email to rsvp@apchumble.org. For more information, please contact Linda Buchanan (buchananl2246@gmail.com).

.....



Yoga for all!

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

Empty Nesters



Meet for dinner the last Tuesday of each month at a local restaurant.

The next gathering is **Tuesday, April 29, 6 pm** at Skeeters Mesquite Grill, 4121 W Lake Houston Pkwy, 77339.

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex or RSVP by email to rsvp@apchumble.org. For more information, please contact Nancy Anderson (nancy.anderson56@yahoo.com).

.....

Ancient Mariners

The next adventure is **Friday, May 9** to the Houston Fire Museum. Harris County precinct bus departs APC at 9:30 am. Lunch is at Barnaby's Cafe in Houston.



Plans for Friday, June 20 is the Yellowstone paddleboat ride on the San Bernard River. Harris County precinct bus departs APC at 3:30 pm for the 6:30 pm paddleboat, followed by dinner at Dido's Seafood Restaurant, Brazoria TX. Cost of the Yellowstone is \$24 per person. Dinner is a separate cost.

Sign-ups for both trips are coming soon! For more information, please contact Linda Andrus (harley3064@aol.com).

DON'T
MISS OUT!



KIDS CAMP SUMMER

JUNE 10 - 12
JUNE 17 - 19
JUNE 24 - 26

CREATIVE LEARNING CENTER

- T/W/TH 9:30 - 2:30
- 18 Months - Children completing Kindergarten
- Early Bird Registration \$150 per week;
- Price Increases to \$165 after May 1st Deadline
- If registered for all 3 weeks, \$25 discount

REGISTER HERE!
OR AT:
www.creativelearningcenteratapc.org



SIGN UP &
TELL YOUR
FRIENDS!



ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ELEMENTARY DAY CAMP

early bird pricing!
\$60
per week
price increases to
\$75 on 5/1

June 10-12, June 17-19, and June 24-26
9:30am-2:30pm



**register
here!**

Day Camp (Tues, Weds, Thurs)
Week 1 Theme: Music
Weeks 2 & 3 Themes: TBD (Science or Art)

Daily Schedule:
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM: Bible Time & Classes
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM: Lunch (BYO)
12:30 PM - 2:30 PM: Sportzball

for students who have completed 1st-5th grade,
siblings receive 10% off!

for more information
call (281) 852-8990



Following the theme of Jubilee, described in Leviticus as a joyful festival celebrated once every fifty years, the "Jubilee at APC" campaign will run for 50 days. We will kick off the campaign on Easter Sunday, April 20.



On Wednesday, May 7 from 5:30-7:30 pm the entire church family is invited for a night to celebrate our Jubilee Campaign. We will share a meal together, have fun activities, recount special remembrances capturing the joy of APC throughout the years, enjoy music that will lift our spirits, and hear testimonies to inspire us with hope for our future.

The church burned to the ground on Pentecost Sunday in 2001. The Jubilee campaign will culminate with a Pentecost Picnic on Sunday, June 8.

Watch for more information about Jubilee at APC!

APC Community Garden



A new irrigation system has been set up to help give new tomato plants a good start
32 Celebrity (full-size) and six Sun Gold (cherry).

ATTENTION APC WOMEN 2025 Women's Conference at Mo-Ranch

A conference for women to come together, build relationships, worship, and do fun activities.
2025 Theme & Scripture: Crowded Table - Hebrews 10:24

As people of faith, we have opportunities to recognize that God is with us on this journey, giving us grace. Join us **Friday, June 6 through Sunday, June 8** as we spend the weekend reflecting on God's presence in all the times of our lives - and in the midst of singing, prayer, worship, keynotes, workshops, and rest, we will mark those times and places of grace in our lives.

Each year, women from across the region gather together for the Mo-Ranch Women's Conference. Take a break from the busyness of life to recharge physically, mentally, and spiritually. Conference activities include worship, keynote presentations, fellowship, recreation, free time, and fantastic workshops.

Dormitory housing is \$355 per person. If you would like to spend an extra day at Mo, register for Extended Stay! There will be no scheduled programming so you are free to enjoy the ranch at your own pace. More information can be found at moranch.org/attend.

Thanks to generous funding from St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, Mo-Ranch is thrilled to offer childcare during Women's Conference. Infants through 8th grade will be welcome, with structured programming offered to those Kinder-8th grade. Childcare is available at \$25/child and pre-registration is required by June 1st.

For more information or to register, contact Mo-Ranch at 1-800-460-4401 ext. 246 or email registrarmoranch.org.



ATTENTION APC MEN 2025 Men's Conference at Mo-Ranch

Please join several of us who will be attending this year's conference which will begin on Friday, May 2 and end on Sunday, May 4. The cost is \$375 per person which includes tuition, meals, and housing.
Now is the time to register! Deadline April 1, 2025.

Men's conference is a gathering of men for fellowship and spiritual renewal. Activities include keynote presentations, worship, song, workshops, relaxation, and recreation. Saturday afternoon optional free time includes recreational activities and sports. Saturday dinner is "not to be missed" BBQ.

The APC men, traditionally, stay in a Triplex which is comprised of two bedding areas, a family/dining room, and a full-sized kitchen. We have reserved Triplex 1, 2, and 3 for this year. Each Triplex sleeps at least five people - more if someone is willing to sleep in the upper bunk beds. Each evening, we enjoy games, libations, sitting outside by the fire pit, and viewing the Constellations.

Also, several of us leave on Wednesday before the conference to play golf or explore the local sites on Thursday and Friday morning. There will be an extra cost for housing and meals.

Fellow golfers/Early arrivals

Registration Options:

Arriving before dinner on Thursday, your room, Thursday dinner, and Friday breakfast and lunch = \$150

Each individual is responsible for registering for the conference. Under lodging option, select Group Lodging. If contacted by a MO representative, tell them you are with the APC men and staying in the Triplex.

The Registration Form and more detailed information may be found at moranch.org. Follow the link under Programs & Events.

If you have questions, are interested in attending the conference, or want to play golf, please contact George Williams (281-772-4706) before April 1, 2025.

Earth Care Corner

Our Secret Flood Defense and More - Trees!

A warmer atmosphere holds more moisture, so heavy rainfall events increase, which increases flooding risks - bad news. But the good news: trees are a strong natural defense against flooding by helping soil absorb water, soaking up rainfall through their roots. The roots reduce erosion and runoff while leafy canopies slow rain down that reduces flash flood risk.

Planting many different native species closely together can rapidly mimic a multi-layered forest ecosystem. In cities, roofs green with trees and plants keep buildings cool and absorb rainwater, reducing surface runoff. Trees already filter the air, keep us cool, provide habitat for species and so much more. They protect us from floods as well.

Climate change impacts the safety of drinking water supplies in numerous ways. During wildfires, toxic chemicals in the smoke can be sucked into water systems. When Hurricane Helene dropped 14 inches of rain on Asheville NC last year, the ensuing flooding swept away water lines and pushed E. coli contaminated water into 40% of water wells in the area. If bacteria like cholera are already present, flooding can cause outbreaks of water-borne illnesses when bacteria is swept into drinking water.

Droughts also put drinking water at risk. When water levels are low, decomposing plant matter gets concentrated in surface water, forcing water treatment plants to use more chlorine, which leads to toxic byproducts. Utilities face a balancing act: using too little chlorine could allow opportunistic pathogens to survive. Using too much chlorine could allow harmful toxic disinfection byproducts to build up in drinking water. SO: Plant trees!

Edited from Katharine Hayhoe, Climate Scientist

Battery/Light Bulb Recycling Now Available

The Earth Care Team is again accepting all batteries and compact fluorescent light bulbs for recycling. Please place them in the black bucket in the narthex.



A Blue Bird house has been mounted on a pole on the west side of the building. Welcome Blue Birds!

Tips for Kitchen Cleanup



When it comes to the granite countertop, for lasting shine and durability, please clean with water or the granite counter cleaner in the kitchen.

Avoid cutting citrus on the counter. Also, avoid using the vinegar cleaner. Any acidic solutions will eat into the surface.



Enjoy flower beds around APC!

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



Good Times with HAAM



HAAM seniors are welcomed and treated by APC to a Thanksgiving luncheon, November 2024.



HAAM Empty Stocking Toy Drive, December, 2024. APC and CLC contributed to the joy that families in need would experience through our donations.





- 4/04 Jennifer Buchanan
- 4/09 Terry Harshaw
- 4/13 Traci Hlavaty
- 4/14 Mary Ann Sarver
- 4/15 Sandra Berry
- 4/17 Cathy Fovargue
- 4/18 Tchana Fangtang
- 4/19 Doug Hebert
- 4/19 Max Reppucci
- 4/22 Erik Jones
- 4/23 Don Nelson
- 4/23 Betty Jo Pruett
- 4/25 Jane Church
- 4/25 Kelly Munoz
- 4/28 Linda Coleman
- 4/29 Matthew Burgos
- 4/29 Jerry Havlik
- 4/30 Frieda Walker



- 4/24 Sandra & Jeff Berry
- 4/25 Christina & Daniel Michie
- 4/30 Lisa & Mike Ryan

2025 Worship Attendance and Offering Summary					
Date	In Person	BoxCast Live	Facebook Live	Total Viewers	Offering Total
2-Mar	110	10	77	197	\$1,695
9-Mar	94	17	59	170	\$4,126
16-Mar	107	8	85	200	\$7,904
23-Mar	74	15	54	143	\$2,308

Prayers, Concerns, & Condolences

We lift prayers to the Lord for friends and family:

- Praying for peace where there is war.
- Ukraine
- Those impacted by recent floods and other natural disasters and weather extremes.
- Victims and families caught in gun violence.
- Peace and safety for all who are serving in the military away from home.
- Denis Poirier has health concerns.
- Betty Shipley in hospice.
- Peace and comfort to family and friends of Sixtus Laskowski, brother-in-law of Mary Ann Kaminsky, has passed away Friday, 3/21.
- Mission Crafters friend Deana has health concerns.
- Allie Marich, niece of Danny and Patty Williams, having surgery to remove an ulcer on her bronchial tube. It is a "life and death" procedure by a specialist in Colorado.
- Lou James, friend of Emily Murphy, diagnosed with cancer.
- Connie Brown fell, has broken vertebrae, and experiencing pain.
- Catherine, niece of Mission Crafters friend Vera, has cancer diagnosis.
- Dede Murphy, Emily Murphy's sister-in-law, recovering from successful breast cancer surgery.
- Peace and comfort for family and friends of Charlotte Bruen Spencer of Tennessee, Emily Murphy's aunt, she passed away 3/27.
- Ongoing concerns: Sine McCarty, Garland McCarthy, Anne Wallace, Michael Burgos, Ann Owen, Connie Brown, Carl Braden, Russ Nipe, Judi Anderson, Jane Church, David and Vicki Lasinsky, Danny Eberly, Pope Francis

Please email prayer requests to the church office (apceapchumble.org).

For pastoral care emergencies, please contact your deacon or elder for April, Joe Weir (713-502-2084).

Lost and Found

Have you lost a Bluetooth head set?
 The set has been found.
 Please contact Carroll
 in the church office
 (281-852-8990).