



THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of Atascocita Presbyterian Church



This Month from Pastor Wayne

The Word of the Lord Never Returns Void



My life was transformed as a young teenager when I began to read the bible. I didn't exactly dive into the bible, but I definitely had an interest. I had been given a paraphrase, a bible that was written in a more up to date version, which made it easier for me to understand. It had pictures, and it was only the New Testament. The New Testament was a great place for me to start learning the word of God. My early years of reading the bible never ventured into the letters of Paul. But the gospels...oh my, the gospels. The stories of Jesus. The path leading up to his death and resurrection. The passion of a God who would give his life to prove the love he has for us as human beings. That message found a home in my heart, and since then, the bible has been a wonderful blessing that has shaped and guided my life.

This fall, I will be leading a study of the bible that I have found very helpful. It is a curriculum developed by and published through the Methodist Church. The Disciple Bible Study is a 34-week class that gives an overview of the entire bible. Each participant receives a study guide and is responsible for completing daily readings that guide the class discussions. There are five days of readings from the bible. On the sixth day, there is a very helpful commentary of four to six pages that gives participants important background information about the sections of the bible that they have been reading. If all of this sounds like there is homework involved...you are correct! Although it might sound daunting, imagine making this commitment and at the end of the 34-week course, having read a majority of the bible, and shared that experience with a group of fellow seekers who are also on the journey of learning the bible.

The weekly meetings will take place on Wednesdays from 12:00-1:30, beginning on Wednesday, August 27th. Here is the format for the weekly meetings.

- A time for the participants to gather and check in
- A ten-minute video presented by various speakers who have expertise in different parts of the bible.
- Around 45 minutes of group discussion. Having read the bible and the accompanying commentary, the group shares the things they have discovered, the questions that have been raised, and the way God's word is shaping our lives.
- We close with sharing prayer concerns and a time of prayer

I have led the Disciple Bible Study in previous churches, and the experience has been very rewarding. We see people grow in their understanding of the bible. We see people grow in their faith. We see people whose lives become bonded with the others in the group as this spiritual journey creates a sense of unity and love.

Disciple Bible Study is a big commitment. I hope you will consider giving it a try. We will begin sign-ups for the study in June. When we get a sense of how many will participate, we will order the study guides, which are \$45.00 per person.

The first time I led the Disciple study was in the fall of 2001. Two weeks into our study, the terrorist attacks of 9/11 took place. As we processed the grief and fear that arose from those attacks, it was like having a place of refuge to meet on a weekly basis to study and discuss and pray about the ways God was working in our world and in our lives.

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That first time with Disciple, a member was diagnosed with cancer and passed away during the year as we studied. Having a place to come together and share our grief and our love for this dear friend was an incredible blessing. And of course there were countless moments of joy along the way. Heck, you even get a certificate when you complete the study!

God makes a promise in the book of Isaiah. "As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return void, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it." That promise has guided my journey of faith that is marked by the study of God's word. "God's word shall not return void, but will accomplish what God intends."

I look forward to the wonderful work God will do in our lives as we study His word.

With the love of Christ,

Wayne

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10-11)

Worship in June

June 1: *A free will offering*
(Exodus 35:4-9)

June 8: *Pentecost - A Time to Dream* (Acts 2:1 - 21)

June 15: *How good and pleasant it is* (Psalm 133)

June 22: *A stone of remembrance* (1Samuel 7:7-12)

June 29: Guest preacher
Reverend Shelley Craig

Church Staff

Pastor -
Reverend Wayne Eberly

Office Coordinator -
Gail Mayers-Tran

Director of Music -
Joe Weir

Pianist: Carl Braden

Director of Christian Learning Center -
Cathy Gerald

Office Hours -
Pastor Wayne Eberly: Mon-Wed,
9 AM – 2 PM

Gail Mayers-Tran: Mon-Fri,
9 AM – 2 PM

Upcoming Events

Faith Formation Class: The Gospel According to Bluey. Come and be a part of this fun and meaningful intergenerational Faith Formation series! Join us as we explore faith, family, and scripture through the lens of the beloved children's show Bluey. The class will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays, June 15–July 27 (excluding July 6), from 9:40 to 10:20 a.m. All ages are welcome! Nursery care will be provided. Please contact Katie Hannan for more information. (kmhannan79@gmail.com)

Faith Formation Class: Disciple Bible Study, Hosted by Pastor Wayne. Sign up now to join this 34-week journey through the Bible! Participants will commit to daily readings, including five days of scripture and one day of insightful commentary. Beginning August 27, weekly meetings will take place on Wednesdays from 12:00–1:30 p.m. Each class includes video teaching, group discussion, and prayer. Study guides will be provided. The sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex.

Presbyterian Woman Horizons Bible Study. Sign up now to purchase the 2025–2026 study book (Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ). The sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex until June 15. Books are \$15 each. Please see Linda Buchanan to submit your payment.

Seniors and Friends Lunch, Thursday, June 19 at El Jimador Restaurant, 18455 W Lake Houston Pkwy, Humble. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex or RSVP to apc@apchumble.org. For more information, please contact Bonnie Carr. (bnccr1@gmail.com).

Ancient Mariners trip on Friday, June 20th. The Ancient Mariners will take a PCT bus to Brazoria, Texas, for a sunset cruise down the San Bernard River aboard the Yellowstone Paddle Wheeler. We'll depart the church at 3:30 p.m. and enjoy dinner at the on-site restaurant after the ride. Please sign up in the Narthex by June 15. For more information, contact Linda Andrus at 281-852-1668 or by email (harley3064@aol.com).

Sunday's Faith Formation Classes (Beginning 6/15/2025)

- 9:15 am Doug Kennard's class - Library
 - 9:40 am The Gospel According to Bluey - Fellowship Hall
(Note: The Bluey FF class begins on June 15 - July 27, excluding July 27)
 - 9:30 am Nursery (ages 0-3) Open during the Faith Formation and worship hours
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APC Highlights



Congratulations Graduates!

On May 18, 2025, we honored our graduates during the service. Congratulations to: Ryan Lewis (Master's Degree) University of Houston, Catherine Inboden, (Associate Degree) Bryant & Stratton College, Austin Colescott (Bachelor's Degree) Texas A&M, Kamdyn Wiggin (Bachelor's Degree) Texas State University, Ashton Landry, Atascocita High School, Daniella Delgado, Atascocita High School, and Cameron Tie, Porter High School



Ancient Mariners Road Trip

On Friday, May 9, the Ancient Mariners enjoyed a fun and educational outing to the Houston Fire Museum. It was a day filled with fellowship, history, and good food!

Sleep in Heavenly Peace May 16, 2025 Build Event



On May 16, thirteen APC volunteers joined forces with FedEx at Sleep in Heavenly Peace's Houston workshop to build 50 beds for children in North Houston.

Thanks to the support from FedEx and local volunteers, Sleep in Heavenly Peace continues its mission: "No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town." Yet, over 8,400 children are still waiting for beds.

You can help by joining the monthly bed deliveries which take place on the first Saturday of each month. The group departs at 8:30 am from the APC parking lot. You can also contribute by donating a "Bed in a Bag" to the Narthex bin.

For more information, contact Rick Anderson at (713) 859-1695.



Digging in and making a difference—the APC Garden Team in action!



Exciting things are growing in our church garden! The Garden Team has added a third garden bed, expanding our growing space by 140 square feet. This extra room will allow us to increase our fresh produce donations to HAAM by one-third. So far this spring, we've already delivered 24 pounds of tomatoes—with cucumbers, peppers, peas, and okra on the way! After worship, take a moment to stroll through the flourishing vegetable garden and the vibrant pollinator garden, now bursting with color.

EarthCare Through Community Garden

Spring 2025 marks the 2nd year of APC's community garden. Last year we raised and donated over 200 lbs of produce to HAAM to help feed the food insecure residents of our Humble community. Building on last year's success, we again plan to organically grow tomatoes, peppers, peas, okra, and cucumbers and will deliver our harvest to HAAM in late May.

Thanks to the congregation's donations of used coffee grounds and leaves from our GATE area, we have our own composting station and were able to compost half our garden with our own "homegrown" compost. Next year we should be able to provide our own rich compost to the whole garden (eliminating a chance of introducing viruses or pesticide/herbicide residues from purchased soil or compost.)

To insure our vegetables receive the pollination needed to flower and produce fruit we've built a pollinator garden extending the entire length of the west side of our building. This flower garden contains a wide variety of native flowers to attract bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects.

If you haven't visited the garden, now is the perfect time to check it out. All pollinator flowers are in full bloom; tomato plants are loaded with fruit; and the cucumbers are just starting to climb their trellis. The garden is always changing. Something new is always growing and it's always fun to come take a look.



HAAM NEWS

Help Fill the Pantry –

HAAM needs the following items:

- Dried Beans
- Peanut Butter
- Dry Pasta
- Tomato Sauce
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Ziploc Bags (Pint & Quart Sizes)

Please place donated items in the HAAM box located in the Narthex.

Important Volunteer Information –

Volunteer in the Employment Department:

Assist the case manager by screening clients and keeping the job bulletin updated.

Volunteer with Data/Administration:

Help the Volunteer Coordinator update volunteer hours and input Meals on Wheels data.

Other Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Food Pantry:** Fill baskets with food for families and restock shelves.
Shifts available: 9 am – 12 pm and 12 pm – 3 pm
- **Bilingual Volunteers:** Help answer phones from 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm each day.

If you're interested or need more information, contact **Taylor** at  281-446-3663 x115 or  tguevara@haamministries.org.

Thank you for your continued support of HAAM.

– *George Williams*

Happy Birthday

Joyce Olson	Jun 03
Patti Schreiber	Jun 05
Elijah Strader	Jun 09
Marilyn Friedersdorf	Jun 11
Joe Breda	Jun 13
Emily Reppucci	Jun 15
Mike Linskey	Jun 18
Doug Kennard	Jun 19
Taryn Hemsing	Jun 20
Grace Burgos	Jun 23
Chris Friedersdorf	Jun 24
Gina O'Toole	Jun 24
Kris Betts-Adrian	Jun 27
Pam Stringer	Jun 28
Ryan Lauer	Jun 30
Susan Sheridan	Jun 30

HAPPY Anniversary!

Shelley & Forrest Craig	Jun 02
Ron & Cathy Fovargue	Jun 10
Tommy & Bonnie Russell	Jun 12
Russ & Ellen Nipe	Jun 15
Linda & Gene Andrus	Jun 18
Don & Karen Frye Jr.	Jun 21
Traci & Steve Hlavaty	Jun 21
Jim & Jackie Hannan	Jun 22

2025 Worship Attendance and Offering Summary					
Date	In Person	BoxCast Live	Facebook Live	Total Viewers	Offering Total
4-May	75	19	113	207	\$2,342
11-May	84	35	68	187	\$3,919
18-May	100	30	102	232	\$1,806
25-May	83	21	89	193	\$13,261
Total Offerings for Year-to-Date					\$138,817
Budgeted Offerings for Year-to-Date					\$159,823

*****Prayers of the People: See Sunday's bulletin & Narthex News for weekly updates**

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