



# ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE COMMUNICATOR

MAY 2026 EDITION

## This Month from Pastor Wayne | *Overshadowed*

The bible is filled with drama, with miraculous events, and with amazing signs and wonders. This is all good news. And yet if we are not careful, the drama, the miraculous events, and the amazing signs and wonders can overshadow the revelation of God that accompanies these astounding divine interventions. The Disciple Bible Study that has been meeting on Wednesdays at noon is nearing the end of our 34-week journey through the bible. While we have been filled with wonder and awe at these amazing events, we have worked hard to pay attention to what was revealed in these encounters with the divine. We did not want the miracles to overshadow the revelation.

· Our class stood with Moses as he was tending the sheep out in the desert. With a stunning flash a bush in that dry desert burst into flames. Though it burned, the flames did not consume the bush. What a miracle! Moses is drawn to the miracle. The miracle gets Moses' attention...and ours. But don't let the miracle of the burning bush overshadow the revelation of God, who says to Moses, "I have seen the misery of my people. I have heard their cries. I am concerned about their suffering. I have come down to help."

· We climbed the mountain with the prophet Elijah. His heart was full of fear. Elijah was being chased by the wicked Queen Jezebel. As Elijah waited upon the Lord, the prophet witnessed a miracle. A great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the very rocks surrounding him. After the wind there was more drama...an earthquake. After the earthquake there was even more drama...a fire. The drama of the wind, the earthquake and the fire threaten to overshadow the revelation of God. On that day the revelation of God came in a whisper, in a still small voice.

· You do not get more dramatic than the Sunday school favorite, the story of the Fiery Furnace. Our heroes Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego are thrown into the blazing flames of fire. It is tempting to remember only the outcome of that dramatic event as not a hair on their heads was singed. Our class learned that as remarkable as their rescue, the words of those three faithful servants reveal their deep and abiding trust in God. Their testimony before the great and mighty king is a powerful witness. "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand." The flames of the fiery furnace do not overshadow the faith of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

### What's Inside

Letter from Pastor Wayne

Worship in May & Upcoming Events

Kids Summer Camp Details

National Day of Prayer

Tomato Contest!

The Blessing Box & Celebration Fund Update

Sleep In Heavenly Peace

April Attendance & Giving

Book Club Information

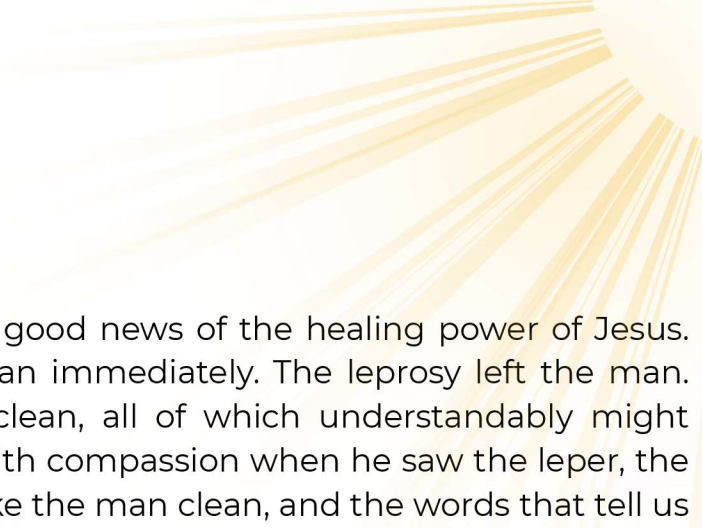
Courage to Care - CPR Training Information

Details on the New Sign!

Memorial Day Note & Earth Care Moment

April Highlights & May Birthdays Coming Soon!

Personal Note from Pastor Wayne



In the gospels of the New Testament we heard the good news of the healing power of Jesus. Jesus met a man with leprosy. Jesus healed the man immediately. The leprosy left the man. Amazingly and miraculously the man was made clean, all of which understandably might overshadow the words that tell us Jesus was filled with compassion when he saw the leper, the words of Jesus telling the leper he was willing to make the man clean, and the words that tell us Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man everyone else called unclean.

· The many miracles of Jesus, miracles which fill the pages of the gospels, the many miracles do not overshadow the cross. The miracles point to the cross. Each of the gospels arrives at the cross. Whether it is Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John, those who study the gospels come to the moment when we are standing in the shadow of the cross. Watching our dear Savior die, hearing the sound of a hammer pounding the nails, knowing the piercing pain caused by the nails, cringing at the cruel and haunting voices of his enemies taunting him and the guards teasing him, the sight of that crown of thorns thrust mockingly upon his head, when we stand in the shadow of the cross, the cruel suffering Jesus endures threatens to overshadow the meaning and purpose of his death

· But in the case of the cross, none of the cruelty, none of the agony, none of the rejection, none of the taunting, and none of the teasing can overshadow the great miracle, the greatest miracle, the most amazing sign and wonder in all of the bible. In the case of the cross, there is not one single thing that can overshadow the miracle that we witness on that Friday we now call Good. "Greater love has no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." Nothing can overshadow the words Jesus spoke when Nicodemus came to Jesus in the shadows of the night. "For God so loved the world he gave his only Begotten Son, that whosoever should believe in him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

Through Disciple Bible Study, our group learned amazing stories about Joshua and Jonah, astounding stories of the Red Sea parting and the storms on the Sea of Galilee being stilled, miraculous stories of water turning to wine and bread coming down from heaven. But not a one of these marvels and miracles overshadowed the wonderful truth of God's everlasting and eternal love that we discovered standing in the shadow of the cross. Nothing in all creation can overshadow the steadfast love of our Lord, the steadfast love of the Lord that never ceases. In the shadow of the cross, dear friends, that is where we all stand. In the shadow of the cross, that is where we all find our hope.

With the love of Christ,

*Wayne*

# Messages for May

**May 3**

Guest Preacher, Shelley Craig

**May 10**

“Seek First the Kingdom” | Matthew 6:19-34

**May 17**

“Rock Solid Faith” | Matthew 7:24-27

**May 24**

“Pentecost: One Spirit” | I Corinthians 12:4-13

**May 31**

“He Bore Our Diseases” | Matthew 7:24-27

**May 1: School Principals’ Day** 🏫

**May 2: World Tuna Day** 🐟

**May 8: No Socks Day** 🧦

**May 13 (second Wednesday in May): Root Canal Appreciation Day** 🦷

**May 14: Dance Like a Chicken Day** 🐔

**May 28: Slugs Return from Capistrano Day** 🐌

*How many of these rare facts about May did you know?*



## Office Hours

**Pastor Wayne Eberly**

Mon-Wed  
9 AM – 2 PM

**Rhonda Blake**

Mon-Fri  
9 AM – 2 PM

## Church Staff

**Pastor** - Reverend Wayne Eberly

**Office Coordinator** - Rhonda Blake

**Director of Music** - Joe Weir

**Pianist** - Carl Braden

**Director of Creative Learning Center** - Cathy Gerald

# MAY EVENTS



## 2026 Men's Conference at Mo Ranch

Friday, May 1 through Saturday, May 3

**Contact:** George Williams,  
geowmsjr@aol.com

**Location:** 2229 FM 1340, Hunt, TX 78024

MAY  
1-3



## Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Delivery

8:30am

**Contact:** Rick Anderson,  
713-859-1695

**Location:** APC Parking Lot

SATURDAY  
2



## Empty Nesters

5:30pm

**Contact:** Nancy Anderson at  
nancy.anderson56@yahoo.com

**Location:** Los Jarritos, 20669 W. Lake  
Houston Parkway

THURSDAY  
7



## New Member Class

9:15am

**Contact:** Pastor Wayne

**Location:** Fellowship Hall

SUNDAYS  
& 10  
17



## Time Out for Men

12:00pm

**Contact:** Pastor Wayne

**Location:** Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY  
12

# MAY EVENTS



## Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

Last one until September  
11:30am

**Contact** Linda Andrus [harley3064@aol.com](mailto:harley3064@aol.com).

**Location:** Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

14



## Graduation Sunday

10:30am

We honor and congratulate our graduates during service!

**Location:** Sanctuary

SUNDAY

17



## Seniors & Friends

11:30am

**Contact** Bonnie Carr,  
[bncrr1@gmail.com](mailto:bncrr1@gmail.com)

**Location:** Burger Fresh 1502 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Humble

THURSDAY

21



## Ancient Mariners

9:00am

A special trip to the Glenwood Cemetary.

**Contact:** Linda Andrus

**Location:** Depart from APC Parking Lot

FRIDAY

22



## Game Day, Grownups - Dominoes!

10:00am

**Contact:** Linda Andrus,  
[harley3064@aol.com](mailto:harley3064@aol.com) | Terri  
Parmerlee, [tmparmerlee@gmail.com](mailto:tmparmerlee@gmail.com)

**Location:** Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

28



# ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## ELEMENTARY DAY CAMP

**\$75**

per week

June 9-11, June 16-18, and June 23-25  
9:30am-2:30pm



**register**  
**here!**

Day Camp (Tues, Weds, Thurs)  
Week 1 Theme: Science  
Week 2 Theme: Music  
Week 3 Theme: 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: Sportball

For students entering 2nd-6th grade.

Siblings receive 10% off!



For more information  
call **(281) 852-8990**




# KIDS CAMP SUMMER



JUNE 9 - 11  
JUNE 16 - 18  
JUNE 23 - 25

## CREATIVE LEARNING CENTER

- 
- T/W/TH 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM
  - 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](http://www.creativelearningcenteratapc.org)



# 2026 National Day of Prayer



**THE CLUBS OF KINGWOOD**

Join us for a community  
morning prayer and breakfast!

*“Tell of His glory among the nations,  
His wonderful deeds among all the peoples.”*

1 CHRONICLES 16:24

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2026 | 8 - 9:30 a.m.

1700 Lake Kingwood Trail, Kingwood, TX 77339

Doors open at 7:30 a.m.



*Scan to register*

Presented by:



**Emcee:**

Kim Kossie McKee, 89.3 KSBJ/Hope Media Group  
Sr. Director of Community Engagement

**DEVOTION | \$5,000**

- VIP table of 10
- Prominent placement of name/logo on event signage
- Exclusive speaking opportunity during the program
- Social media/website feature

**ADORATION | \$3,500**

- VIP table of 8
- Prominent placement of name/logo on event signage
- Recognition during the program
- Social media/website feature

**FAITH | \$2,500**

- Reserved table of 8
- Placement of name/logo on event signage
- Recognition during the program
- Website feature

**GRACE | \$1,200**

- Reserved table of 8
- Placement of name/logo on event signage
- Recognition during the program

**BLESSING | \$600**

- Elected Officials Sponsor
- Reserved table of 8, includes 4 event tickets
- Recognition during the program

**INDIVIDUAL  
TICKET | \$35**

Breakfast included

# TOMATO GUESSING CONTEST!

## WHAT TO DO

Guess the total weight (pounds) of tomatoes delivered to HAAM from APC's church garden – closest guess **WITHOUT** going over **wins!**

## WINNER ANNOUNCED

May 31, 2026



A jar of **homemade salsa**   
made with vegetables from our APC garden!

## WHEN TO ENTER

Wednesday, April 22 – Sunday, May 3, 2026

## HOW TO ENTER

Write your name & guessing weight on the entry form, then place in the entry bowl!

## PROGRESS

Progress will be announced weekly!



## Humble Area Assistance Ministries

HAAM immediate needs are:

**DRY CEREAL** and **GALLON STORAGE BAGS.**

There is not a deadline for donating these items. Thanks to all who have donated cereal so far. Please check the expiration date on your non-perishable food donations to ensure that the food has not expired. Please leave your donated items in a grocery bag to facilitate handling and transporting.

Thanks for your continued support of HAAM.

 Questions about HAAM?

Contact George Williams at 281-772-4706.





# The Blessing



*Click here & Order Today!* 

## NOW AVAILABLE!

# ORDER & SHIP DIRECTLY FROM APC WEBSITE!



High Demand



**Chef Boyardee Beef Ravioli, Canned - 15 oz. (4-Pack)**  
\$3.99

ADD TO CART

High Demand



**Smuckers Grape Squeezable Jelly - 20 oz. (12-Pack)**  
\$33.48

ADD TO CART

Medium Demand



**Chicken of the Sea Light Tuna in Water - 5 oz. (10-Pack)**  
\$8.92

ADD TO CART

Medium Demand



**Quaker Instant Oatmeal Cups - 1.76 oz. (12-pack)**  
\$15.89

ADD TO CART

Medium Demand



**Kraft Mac and Easy Dinner (8-Pack)**  
\$8.92

ADD TO CART

Medium Demand



Contadina Tomato

Medium Demand



La Moderna

Medium Demand



Crest Complete

Medium Demand



Degree Womens Travel

Medium Demand



Degree Mens



# CELEBRATION FUND

Celebration Funds during April, May, and June will go to support the Houston Food Bank, a non-profit organization and the nation's largest food bank by distribution; providing access to 207 million nutritious meals in 18 counties in southeast Texas.

To learn more, or for volunteer opportunities, visit their website at: [www.houstonfoodbank.org](http://www.houstonfoodbank.org)



## Key Houston Hunger Facts

- **High-Need Areas:** In the Greenspoint/IAH neighborhood, 4 out of 5 households (80%) are food insecure.
- **Childhood Hunger:** As of 2023, 24.6% of children in Harris County (over 306,000) are food insecure.
- **Disparities:** Food insecurity is highest among Black (53%) and Hispanic (47%) households.
- **Economic Drivers:** Around 81% of people facing food insecurity in the Houston metroplex spend over 50% of their income on housing.
- **Daily Struggles:** 97% of food-insecure households report cutting meal sizes or skipping meals, while 96% report eating less nutritious food.
- **Health Impacts:** 29% of food-insecure residents in Harris County report poor or fair physical health, compared to 12% in secure households.
- **Food Deserts:** Over 500,000 residents live in areas with limited access to fresh, affordable food.



We will honor the graduating class of 2026 on  
Sunday, May 17.

If you know of a graduate you would like  
included, please submit their name and  
graduation information to the church office by  
Sunday, May 3.



The next delivery Sleep in Heavenly Peace is **Saturday, May 2 at 8:30am**, and we'd love your support! We are especially in need of **twin size beds-in-a-bag**, which can be placed in the collection bin in the Narthex.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is a volunteer-driven organization that builds and delivers beds to children who don't have one of their own.

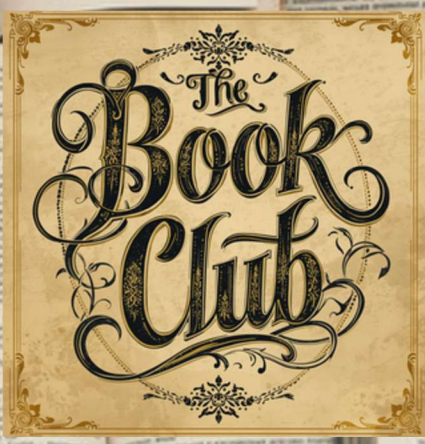
What began as a single bunk-bed project in a garage has grown into a nationwide movement—now reaching into Canada—powered by generous volunteers, community partners, and a simple belief: every child deserves a safe, warm place to sleep. SHP continues to expand its mission so that, in every community they serve,

**\*No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town.\***

Every donation helps a child sleep in comfort and dignity. z-z

## April 2026 Attendance & Offering Summary

2026 Worship Attendance and Offering Summary		
Date	Attendance	Offering Total
5-Apr	237	\$2,393
12-Apr	101	\$1,518
19-Apr	105	\$3,759
26-Apr	105	\$9,835
<b>Total Offerings for Year-to-date</b>		<b>\$104,578</b>
<b>Budgeted Offerings for Year-to-date</b>		<b>\$118,130</b>



## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN AN APC BOOK CLUB?

The question was posed recently whether there would be interest among our members and friends in forming a book club. The focus of the reading in the Book Club would be on issues that impact our faith, so the books would be primarily historical in nature. By exploring past events and historical figures, as well as current events, those who participate in the Book Club would have an opportunity to discuss together how others have offered a faithful Christian response in a variety of settings either in the past or in our current environment.

If you are interested, please contact the church office or use the sign-up sheet, to be posted in the fall.

The Book Club would begin meeting in the fall and carry on through May.

# COURGAGE TO CARE

## Take CPR and Save a Neighbor

APC is building a volunteer list of members who are currently certified in CPR and willing to be contacted in the event of an on-site emergency. If you have CPR training, we invite you to add your name to this list so our staff and ministry leaders know whom to call upon when help is needed.

For those who have never taken CPR, or would like to refresh their skill, we are offering free CPR training here at the church June 1 through June 6.

For anyone who would like an official certification card, a CPR Certification Course will also be offered that same week for \$40. This course meets national standards and provides the credential required by many workplaces and volunteer organizations.

If you would like to join the volunteer first responder list, attend the free training, or complete the certification course, please contact:

**Tommy Russell at (936) 203-1610 | [nateandkate1982@earthlink.net](mailto:nateandkate1982@earthlink.net)**

*He went to him and bandaged his wounds,  
having poured oil and wine on them.  
Then he put him on his own animal, brought  
him to an inn, and took care of him.*

*Luke 10:34*



# A NEW SIGN IS COMING



On Sunday, April 19th, David Gerald, on behalf of our Facilities Committee, shared the good news in our worship service that APC is moving forward with installing a new electronic sign that will replace our existing sign. Our current sign survived the fire back in 2001 and has served the church well, but it is time for a new sign that will allow us to let the community know the many things taking place at our church. The cost for the new sign is right around \$32,000. We are very thankful to the Creative Learning Center for sharing in the project by paying half of the cost.



**Memorial Day** invites us to pause and remember the men and women who gave their lives in service to our country. It is a day of gratitude, reflection, and quiet honor – a moment to recognize the cost of our freedoms and to hold in our hearts the families and communities forever shaped by their sacrifice. May our remembrance inspire us to live with courage, compassion, and a commitment to peace.

## How to Properly Fly the American Flag: A Guide for Respectful Display

### Why It Matters

Flying the American flag is a meaningful way to show respect for our nation and honor those who have served. Proper display ensures the flag is treated with the dignity it deserves.

### Raising & Lowering the Flag

- Raise briskly
- Lower slowly and with ceremony
- Display from sunrise to sunset
- May be flown at night only if illuminated

### Weather Guidelines

- Do not fly the flag in severe weather
  - Exception: all-weather flags, which most modern outdoor flags are

### Position of Honor

- When displayed with other flags, the U.S. flag is always in the position of honor
  - On a shared pole, it must be at the highest point
  - Indoors, place it to the speaker's right

### Folding the Flag

The traditional fold creates a triangular shape with only the blue union visible – a symbol of honor often used in ceremonies and memorials.

### Half-Staff Protocol

Raise the flag fully to the top  
Lower it to half-staff  
At day's end, raise it to the top again before lowering completely

### Displaying on a Wall or Building

- The union (blue field) must always be at the top left from the viewer's perspective
  - Never drape the flag over vehicles, podiums, or statues

### Respectful Handling

- The flag should never touch the ground
  - Do not use it as clothing, bedding, or decoration
  - Retire worn or damaged flags respectfully
  - Many VFW, American Legion, and Scout groups offer retirement services

### A Symbol Worth Honoring

Displaying the American flag is a gesture of unity, gratitude, and shared identity. By following these guidelines, we preserve the respect the flag deserves and pass that tradition on to future generations.





A NOTE FROM THE

***earth care team***

## EarthCare Reflection Questions

Our EarthCare Committee invites you to consider your relationship with the earth God has created for us and how we “Care” for this earth. Please take a few moments in prayer, and reflect on the questions below.

How does your faith or spiritual life speak to your relationship with the earth and other living things?

How do your daily habits (what you buy, throw away, or consume) reflect either awareness or “amnesia”?

What are areas of creation—or people or communities—you feel disconnected from? Why might that be?

How can creating meaningful experiences (for yourself or others) lead to greater care and responsibility?



# April Highlights



He Is Risen



He Transforms Us



Palm Sunday



Church-wide Work Day



Happy Easter!



Yoga Mondays

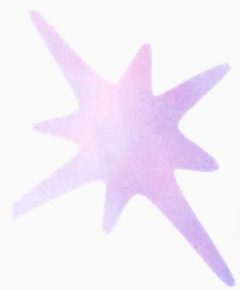


The Blessing Box

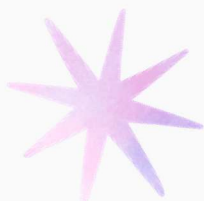
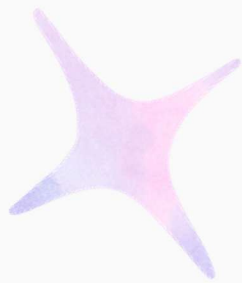


Working Hard!

MAY



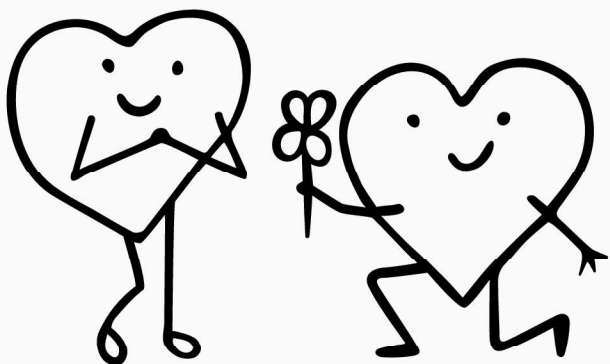
# Birthdays



Adelaide Douglas	May 01
Robert Frye	May 03
Jan Kennard	May 04
Charis Nees	May 04
Cathy Vance	May 05
Valerie Phillips	May 06
Mazie Williams	May 07
Vicky Eynon	May 09
Connie Brown	May 10
Anne Wallace	May 12
James Moser	May 15
Rhonda Blake	May 18
Mary Ann Kaminski	May 18
Kristi Stanley	May 19
Bob Arnold	May 24
Laurie Coleman	May 25
Bradley Clark	May 26
Alexandria Cruz	May 27
Heather Pritchett	May 27
Rick Anderson	May 30
Patricia Williams	May 30

# Happy Anniversary

Mazie & George Williams	May 11
Susan & John Sheridan	May 18
Rick & Nancy Anderson	May 30



**COMING  
SOON**

## **Ancient Mariners**

Mark your calendars for these exciting  
**Ancient Mariners excursions!**

Friday, July 10: Premium Outlet Shopping

Sunday, August 16th: Afternoon Service at Brookwood Community in Brookshire, Texas

Monday, September 14th: Lanier Theological Museum

Sunday, October 18th TUTS Mrs. Doubtfire Play

Friday, November 20th: Bryan Museum in Galveston, Texas

Monday, December 14th: Holey Moley Putt Putt Golf

*Locations are subject to change, and exact times will be announced closer to each date.*

## **Special Luncheon & Movie- May 27**

Please join us for a special luncheon and  
presentation of the movie, "A Time To Remember."

*The movie chronicles the way of life of the Inupiat, an indigenous group in Alaska. Emily Murphy's father, Fred Klerekoper served as a missionary in Barrow, Alaska in the 1930s and 40s. His parish extended some six hundred miles and he traveled the parish twice a year on dog sled. The movie that was produced by Emily's mother and father won an award in Washington, DC. This is a fascinating story of the missionary way of life, and we hope you will join us as Emily shares her recollections and we watch the movie. A light lunch will be served.*

*Sign-up in the narthex or by contacting the church office.*

## **Mission Trip!**

Save the date for  
**APC's Mission Trip to Kerrville!**

*APC is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to support families still rebuilding after the July 2025 floods in Kerrville.*

*On October 12-17, volunteers will head to Mo Ranch, located 30 minutes outside Kerrville. The cost is \$150 per person, with a \$400 per family max cost. Scholarships are available! Contact the church office for information. More details on the trip will be sent out in the next few months. Stay tuned!*



Dear family and friends at APC,

I want to share with you a special celebration in our life. This June will mark the 40th anniversary of my ordination as a minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA). In June of 1986, I was ordained at Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church in Sacramento. Over the past 40 years, we have served at Fair Oaks Presbyterian and the First Presbyterian Church of Fresno, California.

In 1995 we moved to Houston, Texas, and served at Pines Presbyterian Church in west Houston for 20 years. In 2015 we moved to Westerly, Rhode Island, where we had a delightful time with the congregation at Dunns Corners Community Church, Presbyterian. (Try fitting that name on a business card!) Since February of 2023, we have been blessed to make our home among you at Atascocita Presbyterian Church.

To mark this anniversary, I have invited my dear friend, mentor, and the youth pastor who encouraged me to pursue ministry, the Reverend Mark Nazarian, to come and preach at our church on Sunday, June 7. Mark and his wife Jenny have played a huge role in our life. I was living with Mark and Jenny in 1981 when Julie and I met, fell in love, and decided to share our life together both as a married couple and in ministry.

We are grateful that we get to share this special occasion with you, our family and friends at Atascocita Presbyterian Church. As we say together so often, God is good all the time!

With grateful hearts,  
Wayne and Julie





## A Prayer for May

Holy God, as May unfolds around us, we give thanks for the steady growth you nurture in creation and in our hearts. In this season of lengthening light, remind us that your faithfulness meets us in every moment – guiding, sustaining, and calling us to follow Christ with courage and compassion.

Shape us as a people formed by your Word, rooted in grace, and eager to serve our neighbors with generosity and joy.

Deepen our commitment to justice, stewardship, and the shared ministry you entrust to your church, that we may reflect your love in all we do.

Let your Spirit open our lives to new possibilities, strengthening our faith, widening our mercy, and sending us out as instruments of your peace.

In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.



Atascocita Presbyterian Church

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