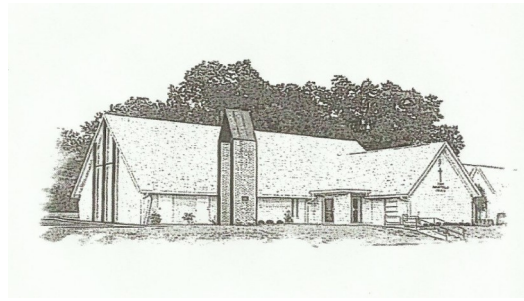




**First
Presbyterian
Church**
Henderson, Texas



903-657-2529

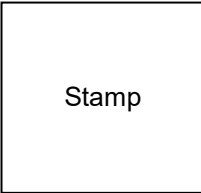
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*“Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences”*



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



Stamp



Mailing Label



Connections

First Presbyterian Church
Henderson, Texas

August 2024 Vol. 56:08

Summer sometimes has a way of draining us – it drains our energy from the heat; it drains our attendance due to travel while kids are out of school; it drains perhaps our patience with one another. Sometimes, it just drains us. So let’s help fill each other back up. Join us every Sunday for Worship and unbelievable music. Let us be part of filling you back up – spiritually.

We continue to welcome wonderful preachers to our pulpit. Please join us and let the music and the message speak to you.

This month in our pulpit:

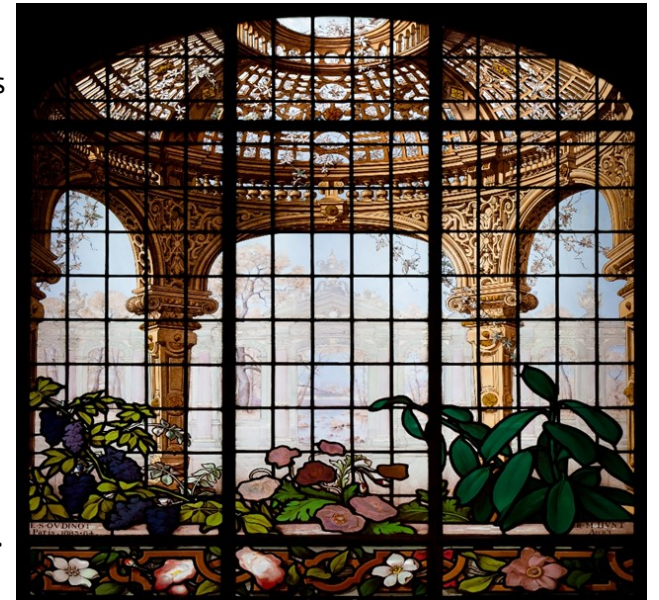
- August 4, Rev. Steve Newton.**
We will share the Lord’s Table in communion
- August 11, Jimmy Chapman**
- August 18, Rev. David Reeder**
- August 25, Rev Chris Lee, Presbyter**

We worship at 11:00 and would love to have you join us. We’ll save you a seat to share moments of fellowship, worship and music. See you on Sunday!

Sharing with you a blessed August.

The Worship Team

Mary, Jimmy, Kathy, Lynn, Jan, Joshua & Liz





Can it be? It's almost time for school to go back. Every year, we participate in the **Yates Park Back to School Project**. Our friend, Bettye Elder, leads the initiative and she is a force to be reckoned with. This year, the Project will be on Friday, August 9th from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Henderson Civic Center. They have specifically asked that our group contribute paper towels, Kleenex, crayons, glue sticks and spiral notebooks. We'll have a collection box in the narthex for you to deposit your donations or if you'd rather give a monetary donation, please make the check out to the church and remember to put in the memo line – **Yates Park School Supplies**. We'll get the money to the project for you. Please make your monetary donations by Sunday, **August 4th** and your materials donations by **August 7th**.

You know when you find yourself down in the dumps, sometimes the best thing to do is to do something for someone else. Here are two options for pick-me-upper opportunities for you!

FPC is a longtime supporter of the mission of **HIM**. Helping to provide food to people and families in our community that might otherwise be food insecure is a mission point that we hold dear. HIM needs increase during specific times of the year – summer – when school is out and kids are home; and during the holidays. Right now, the need is great and we ask that you maybe increase the amount of items you bring for the HIM basket in the narthex. They sure could use our help. Also remember that we ask folks to bring food items for HIM on the first Sunday of every month (you can bring other times too but this Sunday is set aside).

FPC Henderson and friends continue to be the only volunteers with the local Meals on Wheels. We deliver on Fridays. If you'd like to join our group of deliverers, please let Lynn know. The current Team is Lynn, Kathy, Kelly, Mary, Claudia and Rick. Come be and feel awesome with us.

THE STAFF

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Music and Worship Arts Facilitator—Joshua Allen

FINANCE AT A GLANCE



June 2024:			
	IN	OUT	BALANCE
	\$5,329	\$10,342	-\$5,013
May 2024:			
	IN	OUT	BALANCE
	\$10,729	\$8,437	\$2,292
Year to Date:			
	IN	OUT	BALANCE
	\$49,959	\$56,411	-\$6,452

DID YOU KNOW?

Bees play a vital role in our ecosystem by pollinating plants, which helps to produce fruits, vegetables, and other crops. However, bee populations are declining worldwide due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change. This decline in bee populations is a major concern because it could lead to a significant decrease in food production and biodiversity. That's why it's more important than ever to support the bee population, and there are ways you can help them in your yard.

You can plant native wildflowers, herbs, and flowering fruits and vegetables. Plant flowers with continuous blooms and long blooming cycles, avoid pesticides that can harm bees, and provide a water source and at times a little bit of sugar water. Bees need water to survive, just like they need nectar and pollen for food. Providing a water source for bees can help support their survival and health and can also help attract them to your garden for pollination.

You can provide a water source for bees by providing them with a bee bath. What is a bee bath? A bee bath is just a shallow dish or bowl with marbles or stones in it. The stones in the bowl provide a landing pad for the bees to land and rest while they drink. And of course, place the bee bath in a shaded area near your blooming plants.

Our bee populations are under threat, so let's give them all the support we can.



C.E. GREEN TEAM



Continuing the tradition of **Watermelon Extravaganza...** our next **Adopt a Block** will be our Annual Watermelon Extravaganza on Monday, **August 19th**. We'll meet at 4:30 and begin distributing the watermelons around 5:00. Come join us. And then stay and have watermelon with us in the Fellowship Hall. What better way to usher in August than to load the back of a pick-up with lots and lots of ice and then with lots and lots of watermelons and then drive around to our Adopt a Block neighbors (and beyond) and share an iced cold watermelon with neighbors. Then we all come back to the church and share watermelon in fellowship with our members and friends. It is a lip smacking, juice dripping, fun loving time – and it will be more so if you join us.

We are all within reach of grace.

The Outreach Team,

Claudia, Liz, Lynn, Mary, Kathy, Kelly, Jimmy, Louise, John, Jan, & Weldon

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me... Truly, I say to you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me.' ~ Matthew 25:35-40



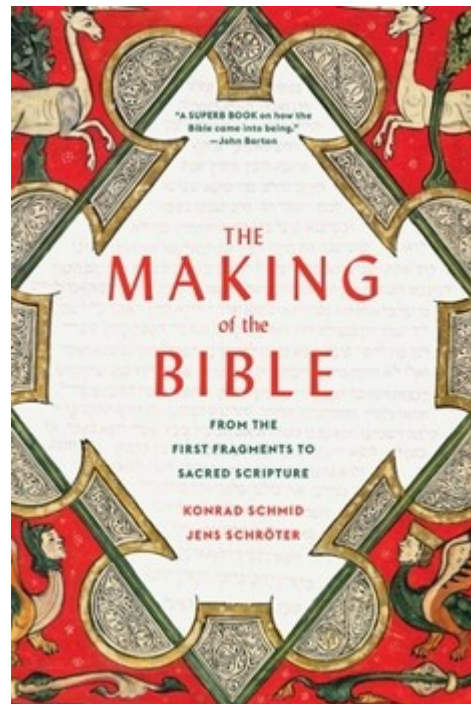
For the **Christian Education Team**, this a calm time – the calm days of summer. And we’re going to let them enjoy it aren’t we?

The Adult Sunday class is continuing the study and discussions of ***The Making of the Bible: From the First Fragments to Sacred Scripture***. Everyone is welcome to come and join in the discussion in the parlor at 9:45 each Sunday.

A Christian Education meeting is currently scheduled for Sunday, **August 11th** after church service. If you’d like to participate in this group, please mark your calendar to attend.

Blessing to all,

Jimmy, Steve, Kathy, Lynn, Claudia & Liz



Fellowship – friendly association, especially with people who share one’s interests.

Continuing our vibrant gatherings, the Fellowship Team in concert with the Outreach Team and Joshua, the Worship Arts Facilitator, extend an invitation to the second in a monthly series of More Light Fellowship events. The second gathering will be a Shared Sweet and/or Savory Snack-luck (relative of Potluck – but snack not dinner). On **Wednesday, August 14th**, meet us in the Fellowship Hall with one of your favorite snack items to share

with the group. The first gathering focused on the M in More Light and we discussed Mission; the August meeting will focus on the O for Openness. As you can see from the pictures, we had good fellowship, great conversation, meaningful interaction and a desire to do it again.



Each month, we will address an element of the MORELIGHT designation.

- M= Mission - July**
- O= Openness - August**
- R= Reconciliation - September**
- E= Education - October**
- L= Love - November**
- I= Inclusion - December**
- G= Growth – January 2025**
- H= Healing – February 2025**
- T= Transformation – March 2025**

Come share the spirit with us. If you’re interested in attending or knowing more, please feel free to contact Claudia or Joshua. We hope that the spirit will move you to come share more-light with us.

Always know, that each of you are with us always in mind, body and spirit even when we’re not together in person.

The Fellowship and Member Care Team



“What does Jesus have to say about the nation that kills its children?”

This question, addressed to the General Assembly, echoed through the otherwise silent ballroom on July 2. It was asked by Benjamin Fitzgerald-Fye, one of four commissioners who gave testimony about the effects of gun violence on children in the U.S. The testimonies came before a vote on overture DOE-03, which calls “for action so that children may live free from gun violence.”

DOE-03, “An Overture Calling for Action so that Children May Live Free from Gun Violence” passed unanimously.

Overture DOE-03 proposes seven concrete steps including prayer, gun storage safety, ending gun marketing to children, promoting gun security technology, and voting, and calls upon “every congregation in the PC(USA) to take some specific action of love and responsibility for children as part of the movement to prevent gun violence.”

The gathered assembly listened in silence as the four presented impassioned and compelling testimonies, pleading to the church’s consciousness, asking hard questions of those assembled, demanding action, listing some of the types of violence that children face daily — in school, at homes, through advertising and marketing, video games, television and other forms of media. The overture, which had been placed on the consent agenda, was pulled so that all present could bear witness to the testimonies.

The overture passed unanimously, 424-0.



Happy August everyone! The **Building & Grounds Team** hopes you’ve had a great summer. Looking to August reminds all of us that summer is about to wind down!

With the unusual weather of rain and wind (some from the hurricane others experienced first-hand), we reflect that it was a year ago we had to get a new roof on the church. No small task. Thankful this year the impacts were less severe. The late summer rains have been blessings to help keep the temperatures down just a tad.

We continue to be grateful for the group of folks that serve as the Building & Grounds Team for the care and work that they do around the church to keep things operating and functional.

We ask that everyone be aware of your surroundings while at the church. And if you notice something needing attention – say something. And in this time that can include excessive heat, we remind you to keep yourself, your pets and plants hydrated.

Take a minute from each day to enjoy God’s glory and creative hand at work all over the place including on our church grounds. Look around and take it all in.

Building & Grounds,

Steve, Tom, John T, Weldon, Charlie, Michael, Kathy and Claudia

August 2024



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2 Meals on Wheels	3
4 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/ Communion with Steve Newton Home Communion	5	6	7	8	9 8-12 Yates Park School Supply Distribution Meals on Wheels	10
11 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Jimmy Chapman CE Meeting	12	13	14 1st Day of School Henderson ISD 6:30 More Light Shared Sweet and/or Savory Snack-luck	15 2:30 L.E.A.N. Mtg. 6:00 Session Mtg.	16 Meals on Wheels Newsletter Deadline	17
18 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with David Reeder	19 4:30 Adopt-a-Block Watermelon Extravaganza	20	21	22	23 Meals on Wheels	24
25 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship with Chris Lee	26	27	28	29	30 Meals on Wheels	31

Duty Elder for August:

Liz

Liturgists for August:

4 -Kathy

11—Steve

18—Suzanne

25—Jimmy



August Birthdays:

1—Joshua

14—Michael

18—Assane

19—Tom L.

22—Weldon

27—Charlie

28—Tammy