

Atascocita

Presbyterian
Church



The Communicator
July 2019

A word from the pastor....

Sometimes the month gets away from me and I realize that I need to write an article for the newsletter when the patient editor, in this case Carroll, politely tells me it is time.

This past month has been a whirlwind of activity and children. We had three summer camps that were filled to capacity with close to 35 youth in each. The first was Art Camp. The Mission Crafters from our church came up with wonderful ways of encouraging young children in technique and color as they listened to a book on the subject for the day. The second camp was Science camp. The children were so excited to experiment with everyday items that often go in the trash. The final camp was Music Camp. What a joy to hear the voices and see the excitement from children as they learned songs and motions to hymns about God's love and protection. They told me, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. They also learned about the whole armor of God from the Ephesians passage. We even had an unexpected visit from Alex Cruz as she spoke to the children about her experiences in Uganda with a missionary family.

Through all of this, our children had snacks that went along with the themes. We saw swords, shields, helmets, comets, stars, plastic-looking snacks, scribble snacks, and even Splat snacks. I won't explain them, just ask the children. I do not want to thank individuals but know that each of you is appreciated for all you did to make these three weeks a success. Most parents were ready to register for next year as they left.

The summer is a time for the church to reflect and think about plans for the next program year. We do not do this in a vacuum so please jump in with hands and feet and ideas. We are hoping to expand Wednesday evenings with more children-oriented activities. After six years, Jill Spross and Susan Sheridan have stepped away from being the "Kitchen Divas." They are taking a well-deserved vacation. Jill is actually leaving the state. So that makes an opportunity for a whole new group of individuals. Sharon Botkin will be planning dinner teams for the fall. If you have a few individuals with whom you enjoy working let her know. We will be scheduling different teams each week.

Kristi Burleigh will be planning adult classes each week on a variety of topics – wills, estate planning, refresher on using the iPhone, Facebook, and others. If you have any suggestions let us know.

Blessings
John

July

Lectionary

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost—

July 7

2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30

Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost—

July 14

Amos 7:7-17

Psalm 82

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost—

July 21

Amos 8:1-12

Psalm 52

Colossians 1:15-28

Luke 10:38-42

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost-

July 28

Hosea 1:2-10

Psalm 85

Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)

Luke 11:1-13

Stay Connected!

**Visit our website for
more information and
service schedules:**

www.apchumble.org

**Make sure you are
subscribed to the
Newsletter and
Narthex News email.**

**Check us out on
Facebook!**

<https://www.facebook.com/AtascocitaPresbyterianChurch/>

Our Debt Retirement Campaign is a Success!

On behalf of the Finance—Stewardship Committee I would like to extend a hearty **THANK YOU** to each and everyone in the congregation for the overwhelming response to our continuing “Debt Retirement Campaign.”

As of June 30 we have received pledges totaling \$76,515.25 and have received pledge payments of \$68,665.25. Because of your gifts beyond your annual giving, we will be able to retire our initial mortgage more than two years early!

Your giving statements for the first six months of 2019 will soon be sent to you. The giving statements will reflect your generosity to APC during the “Debt Retirement Campaign” but also your ongoing pledge commitment to the normal operating budget.

As we enter the summer months, which continue to be the time of least giving to the church, we ask that you review your statement and ongoing pledge and continue your generosity during the slow summer months.

Ron Tribolet

Finance-Stewardship committee



Mark Your Calendar for Our Special Celebration August 25

We're planning a big celebration for **Sunday, August 25** immediately after worship. We'll enjoy a fellowship brunch, a mortgage “retirement” ceremony (“burning” is the traditional word, but we'll think of some other ceremony that's more respectful of our building's history), and a special preview of our programming plans for the fall. You won't want to miss it!

Watch for more information coming soon.

SPRING-CREEK BARBEQUE

Seniors and Friends

Join us for lunch at Spring Creek BBQ on Thursday, July 11 at 11:30am.
For more information please contact Bonnie Carr at bnccr1@gmail.com or call 281-852-6292.



Ancient Mariners Trip

Ancient Mariners will travel to Trader Joe's in The Woodlands on Wednesday, August 28. The Precinct 4 bus will leave the church parking lot at 9 am. We will have lunch at Trader Joe's and be back at the church by 3 pm.

A sign up sheet will be placed in the narthex for your convenience. For more information please contact Linda Andrus at 281-852-1668.



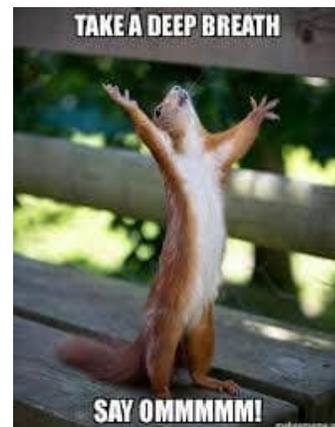
Game Day for Grown Ups

All are invited to join in a potluck lunch followed by a game of Mexican Train on Thursday, July 25 at 11am in the Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you. Bring a friend or two!



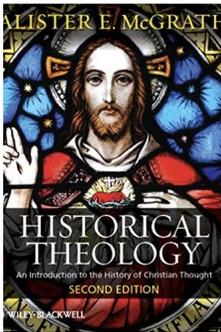
Our week to host the Family Promise families is only a month away (August 4-10) and the volunteer signup sheets are now available. To grab your favorite night to be an overnight host, or your preferred evening to provide a meal, go to the link in Signup Genius, or to the signup sheets in the narthex, and put your name in the appropriate spot. There's also a signup list for grocery supplies needed for the week.

One of the families currently in the program, Shantaria and daughter Cloe, will be graduating from the program this month. A graduation ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, July 18 at Atascocita United Methodist Church beginning at 7pm. You are welcome to come and wish them well as they begin a new chapter in their life journey.



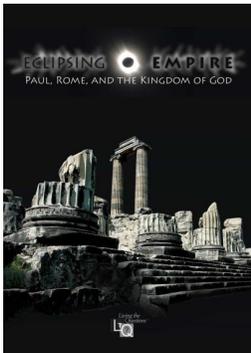
Yoga @ APC

Join us for Yoga!
All levels!
Mondays at 9:30 am
In the Fellowship Hall.



Doug Kennard's class will begin Sunday, July 7 with a summary of Christian Life Views to better familiarize ourselves with where our tradition places itself. We will read *Five Views on Sanctification* contributed to by Dieter, Hoekema, Horton, McQuilkin, and Walvoord.

On the 7th we will start with the two ways tradition and the contemplative tradition both of which are represented at Renovare' activities around Houston. These views are especially represented in Catholic, Orthodox, Coptic, Anabaptist such as Mennonite, some Episcopal churches and books like Bunyan's *Pilgrims Progress*.

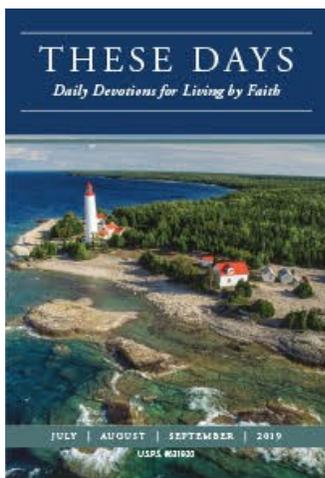


"Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome, and the Kingdom of God": This twelve part "Living the Questions" video series by John Crossan and Marcus Borg is presented by Lisa Ryan, of the ACE committee, in Room 101. Summer schedule continues July 21, August 4 and 11, and Sept 1. Everyone is more than welcome to watch the videos on off-weeks with materials in Lisa Ryan's box in the church office.

For more information, please contact Lisa Ryan, lkryan2@gmail.com.

"Growing in Grace & Gratitude" – Children's Faith Formation for ages 3 through 5th grade is in the children's classroom.

Pastor Shelley's class is on break until September 8.



Strengthen your faith with *These Days*, an inspiring and uplifting daily devotional!

Each issue of *These Days* features:

- Scripture suggestions
- Thought-provoking daily reflections written by clergy and lay leaders
- Inspiring prayers
- Adult coloring pages
- Colorful artwork on the outside covers with poems, prayers, and songs pertinent to the issue's theme
- Information about the writers

A supply of these booklets are available in the rack near the coffee bar area.

They are provided by the Adult Education fund for your use.

Consider taking one to a homebound friend, starting a new devotional habit, or using the devotions to enhance and share your faith journey with others.

Thanks everyone for continuing to support the Mission Market Place here at APC! As you know, the Mission Market Place is stocked by the Mission Crafters who meet regularly here at APC. We like to say we repurpose objects. Yes, some of those things that you have grown tired of and really don't want anymore can become a piece of our raw material and is needed to make works of art.

It is great fun to see what can be made from someone's trash. Ladies and gentlemen, join us on Tuesday, any Tuesday, as we are almost always at the church back in the youth area painting, sanding, beading, cutting, pasting, and most importantly, enjoying each other's company. Come early and stay late because we spend the day crafting for missions.

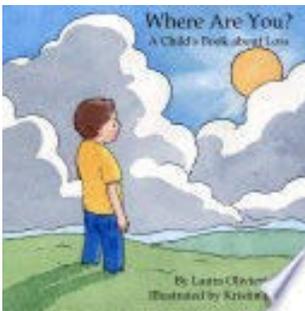
Finished projects are added to our boutique, Mission Market Place, located just off the narthex. All money received from the sale of those creations helps support the mission work of APC. In the last newsletter I reported that we had given over \$3,000 to several different missions of APC and today I'm happy to report that we gave Alex Cruz a \$500 check for her continued mission work in Africa. We are so proud of Alex and her work so far away from home and happy to think that we could help her through the sale of our merchandise. If you need a gift, remember Mission Market Place and realize that those dollars you might spend help to make life better for those in need either here at home or much farther away.

Our store is open on Tuesday as well as after church on Sunday—**Every Tuesday and every Sunday.** Don't forget to stop by because the merchandise is always changing.

Nancy Tribolet, one of the crafters

Library News

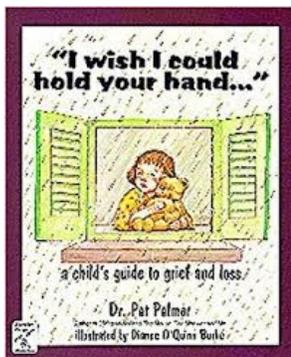
In our Family Life Book Collection are several books for families with young children who may be going through the loss of a loved one.



"Where Are You", by Laura Olivieri.

A child's book about loss is a kind and supportive text with beautiful illustrations designed to help children of all ages cope with the loss of a loved one. It is created with love and care so that even the youngest readers will find comfort during this stressful and difficult time.

(source: Amazon)



"I Wish I could Hold your Hand...", by Dr. Pat Palmer.

A best friend has moved away...Dad no longer lives with the family... A favorite relative or pet has died. This warm and comforting book gently helps the grieving child identify his or her feelings--from denial and anger to guilt and sadness--and learn to accept and deal with them. Expressive illustrations help children discover that it is natural to feel the pain of loss, and that they can help themselves feel better by seeking the comfort they need. (source: Amazon)

Children's Ministry News

Scribble, splatter, space, and song. June was filled with art, science, and music all day long as we hosted between 30 - 35 children in our church for our inaugural summer camp series. Thank you to all of the volunteers and planners who helped to make these events a huge success. Each day children participated in a variety of activities and honed different skills while also learning about God.

Picture is of (L to R) Kami, Janelle, and Aly Wiggin at Science Camp



We are in need of Faith Formation teachers for the rest of the summer. If you can commit to at least one Sunday in July or August, that would be great. We have all of the lessons planned and supplies you'll need ready to go. All we need is you.

Please email Gwen Poirier at daisydane@comcast.net or Jamie Hannan at jamie@apchumble.org if you are able to lead a lesson.

There will be no children's Faith Formation class on July 7.

2019 Youth Mission Trip

"10 out of 10 would go again!" – Jackson Clary & everyone else

- 9 days
- 8 different projects
- 7 excited youth
- 6 hours of work a day
- 5 nights of devotions
- 4 rental vehicles
- 3 crazy chaperones
- 2 nights in Lubbock
- 1 awesome trip



While we did have quite an adventure on our trip to and from Nederland, CO, which included 4 different rental vehicles and a last minute flight to Lubbock for Katie Hannan, there was much more to the trip than that. Our youth and adults spent 9 days getting to know each other better, playing in the snow and mountains for the first time in their lives, pushing each other to do their best as they helped all kinds of people, and being the hands and feet of the church.

Our group saw the connectional church in action. This is something we talked about in Confirmation this past spring, but it was somewhat abstract. We stayed at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lubbock, TX, worked alongside folks from Nederland Community Presbyterian Church of Nederland, CO, Arvada Presbyterian Church of Arvada, CO, and Westminster Presbyterian Church of Westminster, CO. We broke bread with the homeless, cleaned up homes of the sick, spent time in fellowship with the lonely, and worked together to show the love of Christ to the downtrodden.

We are grateful for the support of our congregation who gave financially through fundraisers and their regular giving to ensure this trip was possible, and for everyone's prayers and encouragement. In a time when cell phones and electronics dominate our lives, I watched youth put their cell phones down and stare at the beauty of the mountains, the flatlands of West Texas, and the beauty of painted skies. We spent a day hiking in Rocky Mountain National Park, and I wish everyone could have joined us because it was an amazing time. In fact, Jada Akrong, one of our youth, said, "This is so much better than Netflix!"

Thank you for your continued support of Youth Ministry at Atascocita Presbyterian Church. A special thank you to Debbie Becker and Susie Shelton for spending the week with us in service and to Katie Hannan for dropping everything and flying to Lubbock to help us get home safely.

We took 10 youth and adults for a week of mission this summer. Can we make it 15 next year?

-Jamie Hannan



FAITH BUILDING



July is a month full of travel and faith building opportunities for our youth.

Please keep Garrett Clary, Eric Hlavaty, Hunter McPherson, Traci Hlavaty, and Jamie Hannan in your prayers as they attend Junior High Jubilee at Mo-Ranch from June 30 - July 4.

Please keep Lorrie, Maggie, and Heather Pritchett in your prayers as they attend Synod Youth Workshop in Tulsa, OK from July 7 - 13.

Please keep Lorrie and Maggie Pritchett and Kai Williams, as well as the rest of the delegation from the Presbytery of New Covenant in your prayers as they travel to Triennium at Purdue University from July 16 - 20.

All youth are invited to Pool Parties and Lake Days at the home of Forrest and Shelley Craig. July 21 and August 18 from 5-8pm. There will be swimming in the pool; a ride in the boat on the lake; or go tubing behind the boat for some extreme fun. Pizza and drinks will be provided. The Craig's address is 20523 Riverside Pines Dr, Humble, TX 77346. RSVP to Jamie at jamie@apchumble.org.



Have you seen the addition to our sign outside? We are proud to be an Earth Care Congregation and will continue our work throughout the year to maintain our certification. If you are interested in joining the Earth Care Committee or have ideas for Earth Care projects, contact Jamie Hannan at jamie@apchumble.org.



DID YOU KNOW.....

Plastic bags pose public health and safety threats because they are breeding grounds for malaria-carrying mosquitoes and can clog sewers and storm-water drains. They pose threats to wildlife that become entangled in them or inadvertently eat them. When they do ultimately break down, they don't biodegrade, but they photodegrade – break down into smaller and smaller pieces, ending up inside fish and animals we consume.

According to the US nonprofit [Ocean Conservancy](#), “every year 8 million metric tons of plastics enter our seas, adding to an estimated 150 million metric tons already circulating there. *That's like dumping one New York City garbage truck full of plastic into the ocean every minute of every day for an entire year!*”

Let's begin to consider how we, as APC EarthCare folk might use fewer plastic bags. For starters, watch for your free APC re-usable shopping bags coming soon.”

APC by the Numbers

Weekly Contributions Through 6/30

| | | |
|--------|----|---------|
| Budget | \$ | 207,370 |
| Actual | \$ | 198,065 |

Debt Retirement Campaign Through 6/23 (Goal is \$66,500)

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Pledged | \$76,515.25 |
| % of Goal Payments Received | 115.1% |
| | \$63,365.25 |

Weekly Attendance

| | 9:30am |
|--------|--------|
| Jun 2 | 110 |
| Jun 9 | 110 |
| Jun 16 | 106 |
| Jun 23 | 92 |
| Jun 30 | 98 |

Pledges and Giving

Some are behind
And some are on track.
Some are ahead
And not looking back.

Our pledges and giving
Reflect how we feel --
Rejoicing and praising,
We know God is Real.

And when you are giving
Put a smile on your face.
You are helping the church
And the whole human race.

July

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

7/1 Eric Hlavaty
7/1 Tiffany May
7/3 Debora Hedgepath
7/3 Kahlan Martin
7/6 Elliott Denmon
7/7 Judy Brookby
7/9 Katie Hannan
7/9 'Sine McCarty
7/10 Libby Boyce
7/10 Emily Gerald
7/10 Adam Mooney
7/11 Don Frye Jr.
7/11 Kathy Gava
7/12 Alex Lemer
7/14 Jonathan Akrong
7/14 Sharis Mayer
7/14 Linda Sheppard
7/15 Carol Cutshall
7/15 David McPherson
7/17 Mya Lauer
7/17 Sara Lewis
7/19 Jarrett Bennett
7/19 Summer Humlick
7/19 Jeffrey Spross
7/20 Suzanne Baker
7/20 Suzan Bosard
7/21 Karen Menke
7/21 Ellen Nipe
7/22 Allan Griffin
7/23 Melissa Breda
7/24 Dalton Cruz
7/24 Lisa Stacy
7/25 Kelly Mooney
7/25 Kristen Nazarko
7/27 Will Nees
7/27 Elizabeth
Wightman
7/28 Sarah Gerald
7/28 Dave Leyshon
7/29 Sharon Sessions
7/30 Bill Boyce
7/31 Joseph Breda
7/31 Natalie Burgos

Anniversaries

7/18 Kevin & Lisa Stacy
7/21 Carol & Thomas
Hedgepath
7/25 Sharon & Doug Botkin
7/25 Ronnie & Kristen
Knecht

Prayers

July is a month full of travel and faith building opportunities for our youth.

- Please keep Maggie and Lorrie Pritchett and Heather Pritchett as they travel to Tulsa Oklahoma for Synod Youth Workshop from July 7 - 13.
- Please keep Lorrie and Maggie Pritchett and Kai Williams, as well as the rest of the delegation from the Presbytery of New Covenant in your prayers as they travel to Triennium at Purdue University from July 16 - 20.
- Continued prayers for Julie Arnold, Esther Crosby, Bev O'Brien, and Sine McCarty.



**Worship
Schedule
for the
Summer**

Reminder that we only have one worship service through Labor Day Weekend. Worship is at 9:30am and the choir will be part of worship most Sundays.

Faith Formation is at 10:30am every Sunday morning.

JULY 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 Junior High Jubilee - Mo Ranch (6/30-7/4) 9:30 AM Yoga 7:00 PM Children's Ministry | 2 Junior High Jubilee - Mo Ranch (6/30-7/4) 10:00 AM Mission Crafters | 3 Junior High Jubilee - Mo Ranch (6/30-7/4) | 4 Independence Day Junior High Jubilee - Mo Ranch (6/30-7/4) | 5 | 6 |
| 7 SUMMER SCHEDULE THRU Sept. 1 9:30 AM Worship w/Communion (intinction) Shelley's Class (Room 102) - NO CLASS - Resumes on Sept. 8 Synod Youth University - University of Tulsa (7/7-7/13) 10:30 AM Children's Classroom - "Growing in Grace & Gratitude" - ages 3 thru 5th grade 10:30 AM Doug's Class (Library) - Five Views on Sanctification | 8 Synod Youth University - University of Tulsa (7/7-7/13) 9:30 AM Yoga 7:00 PM Adult Education Committee | 9 Synod Youth University - University of Tulsa (7/7-7/13) 10:00 AM Mission Crafters 7:00 PM Needlers Circle | 10 Synod Youth University - University of Tulsa (7/7-7/13) | 11 Synod Youth University - University of Tulsa (7/7-7/13) 11:30 AM Seniors & Friends Lunch | 12 Synod Youth University - University of Tulsa (7/7-7/13) | 13 Synod Youth University - University of Tulsa (7/7-7/13) |
| 14 SUMMER SCHEDULE THRU Sept. 1 9:30 AM Worship Shelley's Class (Room 102) - NO CLASS - Resumes on Sept. 8 10:30 AM Children's Classroom - "Growing in Grace & Gratitude" - ages 3 thru 5th grade 10:30 AM Doug's Class (Library) - Five Views on Sanctification 4:00 PM Lake Houston Chamber Singers Rehearsal | 15 9:30 AM Yoga 10:30 AM Spiritual Fellowship Committee 7:00 PM Finance Committee | 16 Youth Triennium - Purdue University (7/16-7/20) 10:00 AM Mission Crafters | 17 Youth Triennium - Purdue University (7/16-7/20) | 18 Youth Triennium - Purdue University (7/16-7/20) 7:00 PM Deacon Meeting | 19 Youth Triennium - Purdue University (7/16-7/20) | 20 Youth Triennium - Purdue University (7/16-7/20) |
| 21 SUMMER SCHEDULE THRU Sept. 1 9:30 AM Worship Shelley's Class (Room 102) - NO CLASS - Resumes on Sept. 8 10:30 AM Children's Classroom - "Growing in Grace & Gratitude" - ages 3 thru 5th grade 10:30 AM Doug's Class (Library) - Five Views on Sanctification 10:30 AM Room 101 - "Eclipsing Empire, Paul, Rome, & the Kingdom of God" Video Series 4:00 PM Lake Houston Chamber Singers Rehearsal | 22 9:30 AM Yoga | 23 10:00 AM Mission Crafters 7:00 PM Needlers Circle | 24 | 25 11:00 AM Game Day for Grownups 2:00 PM Library Volunteer Meeting 7:00 PM Session | 26 | 27 |
| 28 SUMMER SCHEDULE THRU Sept. 1 9:30 AM Worship Shelley's Class (Room 102) - NO CLASS - Resumes on Sept. 8 10:30 AM Children's Classroom - "Growing in Grace & Gratitude" - ages 3 thru 5th grade 10:30 AM Doug's Class (Library) - Five Views on Sanctification 4:00 PM Lake Houston Chamber Singers Rehearsal | 29 9:30 AM Yoga | 30 10:00 AM Mission Crafters | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |