



THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of Atascocita Presbyterian Church



THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent is an opportune time to deepen one's relationship to Jesus by practicing certain spiritual disciplines: fasting, giving, praying, worshiping, observing nature and the change of the season, reading the Bible, and seeking to simplify our lifestyle.

"Lent" comes from an old English word for springtime, perhaps connected with the lengthening of days in this time of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. The season of Lent is a time for growth in faith—through prayer, spiritual discipline, and self-examination in preparation for the commemoration of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus Christ. In ancient Christian practice, Lent was a time of preparation for the celebration of Baptism at Easter. In many churches, it remains a time to equip and nurture candidates for Baptism or confirmation, and for the whole community of faith to reflect deeply on the theme of baptismal discipleship. Reconciliation is a key theme in the season of Lent—reconciliation with God and with one another through the grace of Jesus Christ.

Lent is a period of forty days—like the flood of Genesis, Moses' sojourn at Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mount Horeb, Jonah's call of repentance to Nineveh, and Jesus' time of testing in the wilderness. The Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days, as every Lord's Day is a celebration of Christ's resurrection. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and concludes at sunset on Holy Saturday, at the start of the Great Vigil of Easter.

color: purple (until the sanctuary is stripped on Maundy Thursday)

Pastor Richard



What's inside our latest issue

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Stay Connected!

Visit the [APC website](#) 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/AtascocitaPresbyterian Church](https://facebook.com/AtascocitaPresbyterianChurch)

LITANY FOR LENT

For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Take a moment to be silent and offer your own personal prayer to God.

Eternal God, as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life. For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior. Amen.

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence, he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
Psalm 91:1-4 NRSV

March Lectionary

3/2 Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or
Isaiah 58:1-12 and Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

3/6 1st Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13

3/13 2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 and
Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35

3/20 3rd Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9 and
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

3/27 4th Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12 and
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

What are YOUR plans for Lent?

Wednesday, March 2 (Ash Wednesday) APC is offering the opportunity to meet at 6 pm for a light meal (soup, bread, beverage) in the fellowship hall followed by a service at 6:45 pm in the sanctuary, including the imposition of ashes.

Wednesday, March 9 through 23, the light meal will continue followed by a study hour for adults, youth, and children. Pastor Richard will lead the adult study entitled "Practice Spiritual Disciplines." Youth and children will have age-appropriate study material as well.

The Lenten fellowship meal and study is for the first four Wednesdays in March with the possibility of doing one more, but it all depends on participation. Sign-up sheets will be available. Please make plans to share this special season in fellowship at our church.

Looking forward to seeing you!

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Richard Kleiman
Parish Associate.....Rev Shelley Craig
Director of Youth Mini.....Aaron Seay
Office Coordinator.....Carroll Hebert
Director of Music.....Joe Weir
Pianist.....Carl Braden
Interim IT Manager.....Forrest Craig

Pastor Richard is in the office Monday through Thursday.

Pastor Shelley is in the office Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am until 1 pm.

Carroll Hebert is in the office Monday through Thursday, from 9 am until 2 pm.

Aaron Seay may be reached by email:
aaron@apchumble.org

Lenten Devotional

Making the Road: Walking through Lent is an inspiring six-week set of Lenten devotions that includes daily reflections and prayers written by Presbyterian Outlook Editor Teri McDowell Ott is available by a link on the home page of the APC website.

A printed copy is available in the narthex if you prefer.

Children's Faith Formation

Children in Kindergarten through fifth grade meet in **the orange classroom, at 9:30 am.**

Currently, the nursery is open on an RSVP basis. Any parent or grandparent of a child under age five may contact Lisa Stacy or Terri Thomson (apcchildrenscommittee@apchumble.org) to let them know the child will be attending.

Please feel free to contact Lisa Stacy with any questions or concerns related to APC Children's Ministries by email, apcchildrenscommittee@apchumble.org.

Youth Faith Formation

Meet for fellowship in the Youth Minister's office **Sundays at 9:30 am.**

Meet with Aaron **Sundays at 11:45 am** in the fellowship hall. Lunch will be provided. Want reminders via a "Remind" group text? Send a text to 81010 with the message @apcyouthco.

Lunch is being provided to youth and their adult leaders on Sunday mornings by generous people like you. Please volunteer to help by emailing Traci Hlavaty at trh@entouch.net.

Adult Faith Formation

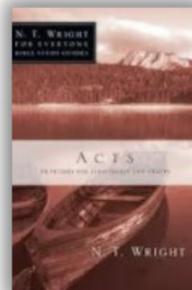
Pastor Shelley's class meets at 9:20 am in room 102.

Interested in the "who/what/where/when" of the scripture Richard will preach in worship? Join Shelley and others to consider the biblical "story of the day."

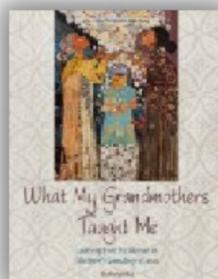
Then, enter worship with the background ready to receive the meaning and reflections on this story for us today. All are welcome regardless of biblical background.

Doug's class meets at 9:15 am in the library.

Currently studying the book of Acts by reading the scripture and the book "Acts," by N.T. Wright as a study guide.



Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study



The Presbyterian Women group will meet **Wednesday, March 9, at 11:30 am** in the fellowship hall for a sack lunch and the Bible study from noon until 1 pm.

Please join us as we explore the Horizons Bible Study,

"What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus." The women in Jesus' family tree have backstories that are exactly the kind of story you can imagine hearing while sitting spell-bound as your grandmother reminisces about her early life.

For more information please contact Judi Anderson (jla.lpc55@gmail.com).

Faith Formation Teacher of the Month - Lisa Stacy

The Christian Growth and Nurture Committee will feature one teacher each month in *The Communicator*.



We posed a few questions to Lisa to help you get to know her.

Number of years teaching Faith Formation (Sunday School) at Atascocita Presbyterian Church?

About 10 years

What does prayer mean to you?

Prayer for me is not only a time to talk with God, but to listen to what He has to say to me.

What is your favorite worship song/hymn? Why?

My favorite hymn is Away In A Manger. It has been since I was a little girl.

Who is your favorite person in the Bible? Why?

The disciple Thomas is one of my favorite people of the Bible. Thomas lets us know that it is okay to question, and to have doubts.

What are three things you believe about God?

- 1) That God is always present in my life, even if I don't realize it at the time.
- 2) That God is always there to help carry the load. I don't have to go through life alone.
- 3) That God loves all of us, not just the good parts, but all of our parts.

Anything else you would like to share about yourself?

I love working with and teaching children. It is one of the things that gives me great joy!

****Lisa serves as co-chair in the Christian Growth and Nurture Committee and is one of the children's Faith Formation teachers.**

The Three "L"s of Christian Growth and Nurture Lightly, Lively, Lovingly

Christian growth and nurture at APC is an exciting time! We understand faith formation as more than just Christian education and as more than just classes on Sunday mornings even though classes will continue to be offered. How do we enhance and engage in Christian growth and nurture as a daily journey to deepen our faith across all ages? Faith formation is a lifelong process that can be carried in light, lively, and loving ways.

LIGHTLY: While our faith is a serious part of discipleship in following Jesus Christ, we don't carry our faith in a demanding, burdensome way of pursuing certainties in life. We use scripture as a guide to understanding God's Word to us and we can be open to various and differing ways to interpret the meaning scripture offers to our 2022 lives together. Jesus opened up interpretation of the Hebrew scriptures, probing for the truths of his Jewish faith. So too, we listen to scripture written in a wholly (not always holy!) different time and place. We remember how Jesus loved to eat with any and everyone, celebrating weddings and wine with gusto. Let's tread lightly as we listen, learn, and then pass along our understandings to our children and grandchildren.

LIVELY: The vast array of genres and stories in our Bible reminds us of the liveliness of both our ancestors in the Hebrew Bible and the liveliness of Jesus' robust way of life. The praise and alleluias abounding throughout the Bible can characterize our lives in Christ. While life isn't always full of sunshine (I write with clouds and rain outside), we look for Christ's presence in the often mundane. Faith formation, even with its doubts and daily routines, can be lively with expectation of what awaits our awareness.

LOVING: The truest mark of faith formation is letting our lives be shaped with love - love for our family, friends, creation, and God. "God so loved the world that....." As we continue our Christian growth and nurturing faith journey TOGETHER, what does it mean to you that God so loves the world? Let's answer this question with one another in light, lively, and loving ways. Thanks be to God for the many possibilities!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Shelley

COMING ATTRACTIONS!

Events and Activities to Enjoy

Empty Nesters

Empty Nesters meet for dinner and fellowship at a local restaurant on the second Tuesday every other month. Watch for more information about April's dinner in the next *Communicator*.

Empty Nesters needs a new coordinator. If you are interested in organizing the outings for Empty Nesters, please contact Ellen Nipe (enipe@).

Seniors and Friends

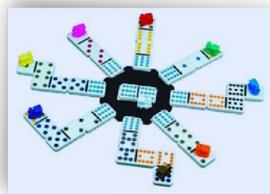


Meet for lunch and fellowship **Thursday, March 10** (that's the second Thursday), 11:30 am, at Italiano's Restaurant, 8146 FM 1960, Atascocita.

For a head-count, please email Bonnie Carr (bncrrl@gmail.com) or phone 281-852-6292 and leave a message.

Game Day for Grownups

Meet in the fellowship hall **Thursday, March 24 at 11:30 am**. Please bring your own lunch, then stay for games of Mexican Train or Bingo.



Yoga for all!

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

Lake Houston Chamber Singers Winter Concert



LHCS will present **Mostly Mozart**, featuring Kings Park HS, Chorale Women, Coronation Mass in C, soloists, choir, and orchestra in the APC sanctuary, **Sunday, March 6 at 6 pm**.

Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased ahead of time at Eventbrite.com, from Joe Weir, or at the door. Masks will be required.

We hope to see you there!

Ancient Mariners

Ancient Mariners is a Senior group organization with APC for those who are age 55 and over.

Ancient Mariners will travel by Harris County precinct bus to Space Center Houston, **Friday, April 8**. Please meet in the APC parking lot for a 9 am departure.



A sign-up sheet is in the narthex until Sunday, March 20. For more information, please contact Linda Andrus (harley3064@aol.com).

Your Opportunities Await!

Sign up for these opportunities at APC.

Currently, your service is welcome:

- as a front door greeter,
- an usher during worship, and
- a cookie provider for Sunday morning

Pick Me!

Mission Market Place is Moving!

The store will be open again soon just inside the front door in room 101.

The crafters have been busily preparing for a new season and a new location!

Gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, or "just because." You will find home decor items, seasonal decor, jewelry, and greeting cards.



A preview is set up in the narthex, next to the coffee bar, of what's in store in the Mission Market Place!

All items are custom-made by talented crafters in the APC family. We take materials discarded or originally intended for other purposes and remake them into beautiful one-of-a-kind items - all in one location in the narthex. All proceeds go toward missions supported by APC, such as Wounded Warrior Project and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Anyone is welcome to come to the APC crafters' workroom on Tuesday mornings at 10 am and work on any number of projects along with Kathy, Elaine, Vera, Eunice, Deana, Linda, Mel, and others with a passion for creating beautiful items. No previous skills required!

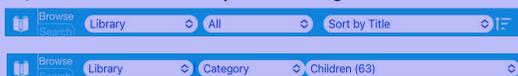
Shop before or after worship service on Sundays or from 10 am until 3 pm on Tuesdays. Other times are available by request. For more information, please contact Kathy Gava (713-591-5323).

Library News

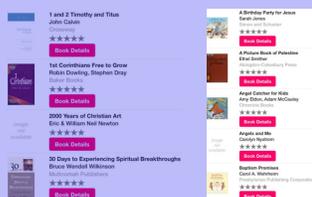
The APC Library now uses an App called BookBuddy. There is a user-friendly search interface available on the APC website. Using your library is as easy as 1-2-3-4!

1) Click the Link:
APC Humble Library
<https://www.kimicoapps.net?lib=GVN-FXL-GVT-L>

2) Find a book by filtering on Genre, Category (including Children), or Author



3) Visit the church library and locate the book on the selected category shelf.



4) Sign the materials out using the clipboard conveniently located on the shelf by the door.

Clothing & Food Donations

HAAM's Resale Store on First Street and the Black Cat Junction on Loop 494 in Kingwood are accepting donations only on the days and hours noted - Thursday through Saturday from 1 to 4 pm.



HAAM is in need of Cereal and Mac & Cheese. Please place your bagged donations in the HAAM box in the narthex. The HAAM box in the narthex is for non-perishable food or specially requested items ONLY! Please bag all donated food items. Books, toys, clothes, etc must be taken to HAAM by the donor.

Please note that HAAM has removed the clothing bin that was on the east side of the church parking lot. The bins were being used for trash and junk at many locations so a decision was made to remove all of them. HAAM will revisit this decision at a later date.

Volunteer Opportunity

HAAM is looking for Food Pantry volunteers. Duties are filling baskets with food items for the families and replenishing the shelves.

If interested, please contact Cathy Schrof at 281-446-3663, ext. 120

Upcoming Food Fairs

March 10 - St. Martha Catholic Church 10am - 12pm*

March 12 - The Lighthouse Church 11am - 1pm*

March 17 - Atascocita Lutheran Church 11am-1pm*

*While supplies last

Food fairs provide fresh produce and are open to the public.

New HAAM Covenant Representative for APC

Please welcome Michael Burgos as a new covenant representative replacing Ray Peregoy. A big thanks to Ray for his service as a covenant representative!

Thanks for your continued support of HAAM!

George Williams

Michael Burgos

ATTENTION APC MEN

70th MEN'S CONFERENCE AT MO RANCH

Please join several of us who will be attending this year's conference which will begin Friday, April 29 and end Sunday, May 1. The cost is \$390 per person, which includes tuition, meals, and housing.

The men's conference is a gathering of men for fellowship and spiritual renewal. Activities include keynote presentations, worship, song, workshops, relaxation, and recreation. The 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 one of the Triplexes and have a hold on another one depending on the number of APC participants. Each evening we enjoy games, libations, and sitting outside by the fire pit.

Also, several of us leave on Wednesday before the conference to play golf on Thursday and Friday mornings. If you have questions, are interested in attending the conference, and want to play golf, please contact George Williams (281-772-4706) before April 1, 2022.

Pros: Everything about the weekend!

Cons: Being away from family
Very limited cell phone service

More detailed information may be found at moranch.org. Follow the link under Programs & Events.

Birthdays

3/1 Lorrie Pritchett
 3/4 Tom Olson
 3/4 Gwen Poirier
 3/6 Betsy Gould
 3/6 Karen Frye
 3/6 Scott Mayer
 3/6 Aaron Mooney
 3/7 Laura Griffin-Stein
 3/7 Laura Bennett
 3/8 Ronald Morrison
 3/9 Carol Hedgepath
 3/9 Forrest Craig
 3/13 Elaine Morrison
 3/13 Melissa Williams
 3/14 Henry Kepeden
 3/15 Russ Nipe
 3/16 Ellen Taylor
 3/17 Marilyn Henderson
 3/17 Minerva Renteria
 3/20 Daryl Munoz
 3/21 Steve Hlavaty
 3/22 Johnathan Martin
 3/22 Glen Boudreaux
 3/24 Lee Merrick
 3/24 Samuel Sheppard
 3/26 Tom Hedgepath
 3/27 Bonnie Carr
 3/28 Pete Nazarko
 3/31 Jessica Buchanan
 3/31 Julie Rea

Anniversaries

3/16 Adelaide & Will Douglas

Prayers, Concerns, & Condolences

We lift prayers to the Lord for friends and family:

- Ukrainians who have fled their country for safety and for those who are currently trying to leave.
- Sandy Lee's cousin
- Vicky Lasinsky, recovering from knee surgery.
- Joy and thanksgiving for the birth of Harrison Grandin Hunt born Monday, February 28. Proud parents are Sarah and Dave Hunt. Proud grandparents are Tom and Joyce Olson.
- Sine McCarty

Please email prayer requests to the church office (apc@apchumble.org).

For pastoral care emergencies, please contact your deacon or elder for March, Judi Anderson 281-221-8720

Pastor Nominating Committee

Please pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee that has been selected for a most important task.

From the session: Marilyn Friedersdorf, Traci Hlavaty, and Will Nees.

APC members from the congregation: Michael Burgos, Cathy Gerald, Allan Griffin, Claudia Nelson, and Tom Olson.

You will be hearing about updates from them as they go through the process of making a recommendation for an installed pastor.

Worship Attendance and Offering Summary

Date	In Person	BoxCast Live	Facebook Live	YouTube Live	Total Viewers	Offering Total
2-Jan	??	32	16	1	49	\$1,835
9-Jan	71	26	56	1	154	\$5,451
16-Jan	69	26	44	2	141	\$1,945
23-Jan	??	24	33	1	58	\$7,244
30-Jan	75	25	32	1	133	\$5,794
End of Month Credit Card Receipts						\$2,778
6-Feb	68	35	17	1	121	\$4,027
13-Feb	69	31	44	0	144	\$2,807
20-Feb	68	19	24	0	111	\$7,091
Total Offerings for Time Period						\$38,972
Budgeted Offerings for Time Period						\$47,191