



THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter of Atascocita Presbyterian Church



REFRAMING THE DISCUSSION

Rick Young joined us in worship recently. Rick served as a pastor, moved on to working with the denominational leadership, and is now President of the Texas Presbyterian Foundation. Rick is a good friend of mine and served as the mentor to Shelley Craig during her fourteen-month internship in preparation for pastoral ministry. Our commitment committee invited Rick to come and talk to our church because we wanted to explore the many ways people can give in support of the church. We titled his presentation, "Wills Emphasis." But when Rick joined us on Sunday, April 21, he reframed the issue in a way that brought an entirely new perspective to our discussion. Rick spoke of leaving a legacy. Now instead of a document that decides how money is distributed in death, we were being invited to consider how the things in our lives that matter, the things that have the deepest meaning and have left the greatest impact, can be passed on, not only to our closest family, but to many, many others. The measure of the impact Rick made is evidenced by how much I have been thinking of that word legacy. Legacy really is a life-giving word.

In 1978, a science teacher named Patrick Moriarity promised his first group of students that he would organize an eclipse-viewing party for the next one to pass near their hometown of Rochester, New York. On April 8, 2024, the 68-year-old teacher delivered on that promise as 100 of his former students watched the eclipse from Moriarity's driveway. (*The Week*, April 26, 2024, p.5) A science teacher left a legacy. When you think of legacy, do any teachers come to mind for you? I finally stopped counting when I got to about 100. How about you?

When I first worked at a church I was an intern and I barely made enough money to get by. I took on a second job as the church custodian, which meant I showed up early to open the church. The first people to arrive were Vince and Guy, the ushers. These two guys had been the ushers for years. They knew everyone by name. They welcomed everyone. They knew the kids, they knew who was sick, who was healthy, who was happy, who was getting married, and just about every other detail. They took me under their wing. I watched those two guys model a brand of hospitality that was warm and welcoming. Upon arriving at APC countless people mentioned a woman named Grayce Choate. When Tom Olson passed away so many talked about how Tom welcomed them. Now I keep my eye out and I see quite a few of you who welcome,

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What's inside the latest issue

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- Worship in May
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- Birthdays, Attendance Report, Stewardship Update, and Prayers

Stay Connected!

Visit the [APC website](http://apchumble.org) (apchumble.org) 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/AtascocitaPresbyterianChurch

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greet, shake hands, share a hug, introduce yourself, and share the gift of hospitality. Hospitality is a great legacy to leave.

I began training for pastoral ministry at an early age. I was probably five or six years old. It's not that I was a child prodigy or anything like that, I just had a mother who loved to visit people when they were sick or in the hospital or simply needed a friend. It was a rare visit to the grocery store, library, or family outing that she did not stop first to make a visit. She never asked whether I wanted to join her, she just brought me along. Mrs. Hernandez, Mrs. Senna, Grandma Crass (not my real grandma), Grandma Decker (again, not my real grandma), and a list that went on and on provided me the opportunity to cut my teeth on pastoral visitation. I can't say I enjoyed it at the time, sitting in a living room or hospital room. But later, when I really did make pastoral visits, the way my mom listened and loved the people she visited was a legacy I grabbed onto with gratitude.

Being part of the Body of Christ, being a member of the church, we are presented with a vast array of opportunities to consider our legacy. Last year on our Graduate Sunday we filled the front of the sanctuary with high school and college graduates. When those students formed a receiving line, it was more like a Legacy Line. I watched you, the members of APC who had been the teachers, youth leaders, advisors, chaperones, and mentors greet these young people of faith. They knew you. They remembered you. They remembered the life you lived and the faith you modeled.

Leaving a legacy. That is what we are really talking about. The Apostle Paul understood legacy giving. He wrote to Timothy, his young son in the faith, with words that point to the importance of leaving a legacy. "Timothy, the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others." In other words, Timothy, I left a legacy of faith with you, now you leave a legacy of faith with others, and they in turn will leave their own legacy in the life of future generations." (II Timothy 2:2)

Our friend Rick Young has reframed the issue for APC. We are all about leaving a legacy. In the days ahead you will hear more of not only the opportunities we have for leaving a legacy, but also of the vital importance of leaving a legacy. Leaving a legacy captures the essence of Jesus when he told us to go and make disciples. Leaving a legacy fulfills the commandment to be his witnesses wherever we go and in whatever we do. Along the way we will encourage you to consider how the generous and even sacrificial stewardship of our financial resources is a vital aspect of leaving a legacy. But this is about more than money. This is believing the love of Jesus Christ is the most important gift God has given, and it is exploring every way we know to share that love today, tomorrow, and by leaving a legacy, long into the future.

As always, I am so glad God has called us here to APC. Sharing this journey of faith with you is such an incredible and amazing gift.

With the love of Christ,

Wayne

"I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

Acts 2:25-28

Worship in May

5/5 Julie Eberly, "Let Prayer Change Your Life"
Psalm 25:14

5/12 Partners in faith "Mothers and grandmothers"
II Timothy 1:3-7

5/19 Partners in faith "The Holy Spirit"
Acts 2:1-21

5/26 "Gotcha Day"
Romans 8:12-17

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Pastor Wayne Eberly
Office Coordinator..Carroll Hebert
Director of Music.....Joe Weir
Pianist.....Carl Braden

Pastor Wayne is in the office Monday through Wednesday, 9 am until 2 pm.
Carroll Hebert is in the office Monday through Friday, 9 am until 2 pm.

Children's Faith Formation Classes

Children K - 5th grade. Classes meet at 9:30 am in the orange classroom.

Pre-school - 2-4 years old. Classes meet at 9:30 am in the teal classroom.

Nursery care will be open each week during FF and worship hours for children who haven't yet entered Kindergarten. Sundays 9:30-11:30 am in the nursery.

Please feel free to contact Terri Thomson with any questions or concerns related to APC Children's Ministries by email (apcchildrenscommittee@apchumble.org).

Youth Faith Formation

Youth 6th - 12th grade. Come and join our exciting new Sunday morning meeting time at 9:30 am.

We will be studying God's word, building friendships and faith, and exploring how we can reach out with God's love.

Contacts for the Youth program are Julie Eberly, Joe Breda, Joyce Olson, and Terri Thomson.

Time Out for Men

The second Wednesday of each month, APC men are invited to join Pastor Wayne in a program that gives everyone a chance to have fellowship, share a meal, and grow together in faith. We look forward to our time together **Wednesday, May 8.**

Meet at 11:30 am in the fellowship hall to share a potluck lunch with Presbyterian Women who meet for their monthly Bible study. At noon, the men's group will gather in classroom 102 for their fellowship.

Adult Faith Formation

*****Doug's class, 9:15 am in the library.**

Discussion of *Messiah Jesus: Christology in His Day and Ours* ends May 5.

A new unit begins May 12 that explores sin and solutions to sin by beginning with the fall. The text covers events in Genesis and Exodus.

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*****Sermon Scripture Study, 9:30 am in classroom 102/hybrid.**

Everyone is welcome for a discussion of Sunday's worship scripture.

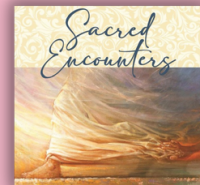
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*****Christian Chat and Coffee, 9:30 am in classroom 104.**

Everyone is welcome for an easy hour of discussions and fellowship.

Presbyterian Women Horizons Bible Study

The Bible Study meets **Wednesday, May 8** from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm, in the fellowship hall.

Share a potluck lunch at 11:30 am. We welcome the "Time Out for Men" group to join us before they break out for their own session.



PW will continue at noon with the final lesson of the Horizons series: *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus in Luke-Acts*, by Olive Mahabir.

The decision for summer meetings using a variety of topics is pending.

For more information, please contact Linda Andrus (harley3064@aol.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 2 8 - 9:15 am

Wayne and Julie hope you will join them for HAAM's National Day of Prayer Breakfast at The Clubs of Kingwood. The prayer breakfast is open to all community members. We hope others from APC will be able to attend this important time of praying for our nation. Hope to see you there!

Tickets are \$35 per person. Sponsorships range from Table Sponsor—a reserved table of eight, to Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum for a VIP table of 10. Registration is available at this [link](#).

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Delivery

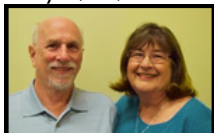
Saturday, May 4, 8:30 am meet in the APC parking lot to load your truck and get your delivery route. Adult and teen volunteers are needed! Sign up on the website (shpbeds.org/chapter/tx-houston-n) or use this [link](#).

Pictorial Directory Update



The Pictorial Directory Committee members will be taking free pictures of individuals and households before and after Sunday worship on May 5, 12, and 19.

Photos will go in our online members and friends directory. Bring your smiles to share God's love with one another!



APC Needlers

Meet the second Tuesday each month. The next meeting is **May 14, 7-9 pm** at Karen Frye's house, 8335 Atascocita Lake Way, 77346.

For those who knit (or want to learn), crochet, or sew, there are projects to do. Currently we are working on mariners' scarves, crochet/knit blankets for charity, and baptismal quilts.

For more information, please contact Karen Frye (vkfrye62.kf@gmail.com) or Rosemary Mumford (rosesmum@aol.com).



Yoga for all!

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

Game Day for Grownups!



Gather for a potluck lunch and fellowship **Thursday, May 23, 11:30 am**, in the fellowship hall and stay for games of Mexican Train or Bingo.

****RSVP to rsvpeapchumble.org.**

Seniors and Friends



Meet for lunch on the third Thursday of the month. Join us **May 16, 11:30 am** at Italiano's, 8146 FM 1960E, 77346. ****RSVP to rsvpeapchumble.org.**

A Walk in the Word: "The Acts of the Apostles"

Join Pastor Wayne for the second of three Bible study series, "The Acts of the Apostles." Meet Wednesdays at noon in classroom 102 through May 22. Study Guides are available in the narthex. The complete series is available for download on the website (apchumble.org).

The remaining readings are:

- May 1 - Paul's first Missionary Journey, Acts 13-15
- May 8 Time Out for Men (Meets at 11:30 am with PW)
- May 15 Paul's second Missionary Journey, Acts 16-20
- May 22 To Rome and the ends of the earth, Acts 21-28

Women's Conference Mo-Ranch

June 7-9

The theme for this year's conference is: "Getting to the Good Part: Weaving Community in Christ." The focus scripture is Luke 10:38-42 where Jesus has visited the house of Mary and Martha. "Martha is distracted by her many tasks" and concerned that Mary is not helping her. Jesus tells Martha, "Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

We will spend the weekend reflecting on God's presence in all the times of our lives - and in the midst of singing, prayer, worship, keynotes, workshops, and rest, we will mark those times and places of grace in our lives.

Take a break from the busyness of life to recharge physically, mentally and spiritually. Conference activities include keynote presentations, worship, fellowship, recreation, free time and workshops.

*****You can sign up for one of two art classes presented by Kathy Gava during the conference.*****

Register on the Mo-Ranch website (moranch.org) or use this [link](#).

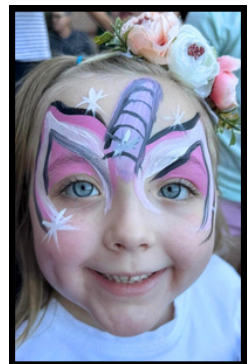
**Please note a change in sign-ups for some events

Scenes from Wacky Wednesday April 24

Thanks to the Creative Learning Center for a great event!



Melissa Grace - the artist at work.



POTPOURRI

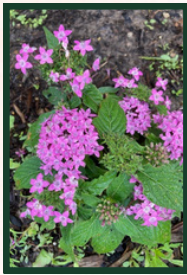
Yoga group celebrating Frieda Walker's 90th Birthday



Frieda will be celebrating all week with friends and family!



What's your pleasure? We got it!



Pollinators?



Herbs?



Vegetables?

All the while creating a friendly environment for some of God's smallest (but irritating!) creatures.


CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Proudly presented to :

APC

For creating a fire ant friendly environment showing its commitment to caring for all creatures great and small.

Monday, April 1, 2024

Bite E. McBiter
Head of Pain

Anne T. Hill
Head Mound Architect

Pentecost...A Day of Celebration for APC Sunday, May 19



Pentecost is always a day of celebration, the celebration of the birth of the church and the incredible blessing of the Holy Spirit. This year Pentecost Sunday, which is May 19, will be an extra special celebration.

- In worship we will recognize our graduates. Please send us the names of any graduates you know who are connected to our church (apc@apchumble.org). We don't want to miss anyone. **Deadline to submit names of graduates is May 10.**
- Worship will be a spirit-filled celebration with an emphasis on the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Following worship our youth will be providing a Pentecost Picnic, with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and lots of other tasty treats.

- The Pentecost Picnic and the Pentecost offering, which we will gather during worship, is a chance for our youth to do something really meaningful, not just for our church, but also for a group of teens they met at their Conclaves back in February. Iglesia Latina Presbiteriana is a Hispanic congregation, and they brought some 20 young people to Conclaves. Their next big trip is to the Synod Youth Camp this summer. In hosting the Pentecost Picnic the youth will be raising money for their own activities and ministries and through the Pentecost offering we will be raising money to help our newfound friends in faith to attend the Synod Camp. We hope you bring a big appetite to the picnic and a generous spirit as we help our youth come alongside the young people from Iglesia Latina Presbiteriana.

The celebration of Pentecost is often marked by the color red, symbolizing the tongues of fire that fell upon the early church. So break out your red, invite your graduates, get your heart ready for worship, bring a big appetite, and let's give our best to support the work of the church.

Pentecost Special Offering



A very special program that focuses on children at risk, youth, and young adults is collected from April 1 to May 19. A foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ. Distribution of donations are handled this way:

- 40% is retained by our congregation to develop and support programs for young people in our church and community.
- 25% supports young adult volunteers serving in communities around the world and growing as leaders through transformative Christian service.
- 25% supports ministries like the Presbyterian Youth Triennium that inspire and guide youth as they grow in their walk with Christ.
- 10% provides advocacy and education that protects and nurtures our children and youth.

For more information, please refer to a brochure in the pew pocket in the sanctuary. Your gift of cash or check (indicate Pentecost offering on the memo line) may be placed in the envelope provided for your convenience or online through the APC website (apchumble.org). Click on the "Give Now" button, choose the appropriate category, and enter the amount.

Earth Care Corner

Clothing and Its Climate Impact

Clothing may not be one of the top things you think about in terms of climate solutions, but the way we source, make, and churn through clothes has a big impact on emissions, land, and water use - that's apart from the other harms it can have on workers and public health.

Starting with the creation of garments, you could look at the working conditions in garment factories. Many have cleaned up their operations and labor practices over the past several years but the process of dyeing clothes still creates a lot of water pollution and the majority of clothing factories in Asia run on coal-fired electricity.

[I do not intend to diminish the impact of the garment industry on workers at every level, but that is another whole issue that could be examined at length on its own another time. The information that I am currently sharing is about what the garment industry is doing to Earth.]

Before a garment reaches the purchaser, it might go through as many as 50 hands. The supply chain, the way it is fragmented, means that the garment is constructed in one place, the buttons are sewn somewhere else, but then the tags are put on somewhere else. Oftentimes that simple purchase you made might have gone on more airplanes than you did in a calendar year. Because we buy so much more clothing now than we did say ten, twenty years, or more ago, we are cycling through garments at a speed that the planet cannot keep up with.

When we in wealthy countries are done with our clothes, we may donate them to a thrift store that sorts through piles of plastic bags containing our cast-offs in order to pull out what they think they can sell in their store. The rest goes into a pile that is likely sent to another charity shop in an area where the incomes are lower. If not sold, clothing is shipped in bales to countries in the global south to be sorted again and possibly sold again. If not sold again, a lot of the clothing can end up becoming waste in a municipal dump in another part of the world. When stockpiles of abandoned clothing are burned, it creates a toxic smoke because a lot of what today's clothing is made of is petroleum derivatives - oil, essentially, turned into polyester. In order for a mindful clothing consumer to stay within planetary boundaries, we should each be buying only something like five new clothing items a year, but the average American buys somewhere around 60 or 70.

In this process, there are many harmful problems. We, as consumers have a lot of power to make it better. In climate circles, sometimes you can feel like the problems are big and hard to solve. This is a place where you can make decisions that do matter, especially when done in concert with other people. People may have the misconception that we can ethically consume our way out of this problem. But if you are still buying things at the same rate as before, that is just the same problem repeated with a different set of new problems. If the average consumer is buying 68 items a year and that is not the low, nor the high, that is the average. We really need to think about not buying that amount of clothing per year.

Instead of looking for a certain brand, look for fair wages because brands, particularly small brands that pay fairly are excited to tell you about that. Do not focus so hard on the sustainability aspect of pieces. If everybody is paying everyone fairly, brands cannot produce the large volumes of clothing that they are producing and shredding or burning when it does not sell. When you cannot do the small brand, try to do something secondhand. For example, do not buy denim new. Find a company that makes good denim and instead of giving them your money, go on eBay and buy pieces because this brand overproduces. You could be saving an item that might be landfilled or end up in the global south. You are getting a good price on something and not contributing to the demand for more and more and more new new new. If you buy a couple of items secondhand, that is a great first move.

Climate One is a weekly hour-long program that airs on NPR. They presented so much more information in that program than I could condense down for *The Communicator*. If you are interested in listening to the entire podcast or reading the text, go to climateone.org for a list of recent programs.

APC is a certified Earth Care
 Congregation of the PC(USA).





- 5/3 Robert Frye
- 5/4 Jan Kennard
- 5/4 Charis Nees
- 5/5 Cathy Vance
- 5/6 Valerie Phillips
- 5/7 Mazie Williams
- 5/9 Vicky Eynon
- 5/10 Connie Brown
- 5/12 Anne Wallace
- 5/18 Mary Ann Kaminski
- 5/19 Kristi Stanley
- 5/24 Bob Arnold
- 5/25 Laurie Coleman
- 5/26 Bradley Clark
- 5/27 Alexandria Cruz
- 5/27 Heather Pritchett
- 5/30 Rick Anderson
- 5/30 Patty Williams



- 5/1 Susie & Jonathan Akrong
- 5/11 Mazie & George Williams
- 5/18 Susan & John Sheridan
- 5/30 Nancy & Rick Anderson

Prayers, Concerns, & Condolences

We lift prayers to the Lord for friends and family:

- Peace and safety for the people of Ukraine, Sudan, and in other parts of the world where there is war.
- Praying for peace in Israel and Palestine.
- Victims, families, and communities affected by violence.
- People of Ecuador as they deal with turmoil and unrest right now.
- People of Haiti in their country's unrest.
- Those impacted by recent natural disasters and weather extremes.
- Victims and families caught in recent gun violence.
- Peace and safety for all who are serving in the military away from home.
- Pat Litzinger recovering from surgery.
- Judi Anderson for health concerns.
- Peace and patience for Pastor Wayne as his recovery takes another "step" forward.
- Russ Nipe awaiting treatment plan for heart condition. Strength for Ellen.
- Comfort for Kay Pritchett, Bob Pritchett's mother, in dementia care. Peace and strength for the family.
- Carl Braden in treatment for cancer.
- Elroy McHenry hospitalized, in treatment for heart condition.
- Peace and comfort to wife, Pat Marshburn, family, and friends of Tommy Marshburn, friend of Russ and Ellen Nipe, has passed away.
- Baby Pia, daughter of James Stacy's friends, in NICU born premature.
- Safe travels for APC men going to their retreat at Mo-Ranch.
- Peace and comfort for family and friends of Mike Trippel, cousin of Danny Williams. He has passed away. Prayers for Mike's wife Tammy and two sons.
- Steve Pearson, friend of Libby Boyce, recovering from broken neck resulting from a fall.
- Ongoing concerns: Sine McCarty, Garland McCarthy, Betsy Gould, Anne Wallace, Michael Burgos, Ann Owen, Connie Brown.

Please email prayer requests to the church office (apceapchumble.org).

For pastoral care emergencies, please contact your deacon or elder for May, Joe Weir (713-502-2084).

2024 Worship Attendance and Offering Summary					
Date	In Person	BoxCast Live	Facebook Live	Total Viewers	Offering Total
7-Apr	109	8	54	171	\$4,117
14-Apr	96	16	108	220	\$1,490
21-Apr	102	10	50	162	\$4,395
28-Apr	103	10	41	154	\$2,987
Total Offerings for Year-to-date					\$85,958
Budgeted Offerings for Year-to-date					\$90,967