



Aug 2025 Edition



ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE COMMUNICATOR

This Month from Pastor Wayne

My Cup Runneth Over

The Gospel of John introduces us to Jesus by saying, "From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another." (John 1:16) That verse hit home with me recently. Each time I would enter the church and head to my office, I would pass by the HAAM box, where we were collecting groceries as a back-to-school project for families. On Monday, there were three bags. Someone added three more. Another four arrived. By the middle of the week we were getting close to twenty bags. Finally, I posted on social media about the great response, as by the end of the week nearly 50 bags had been donated. With donated money, we actually surpassed the 50 bag goal George Williams had set for the church. Each bag of groceries had cans of soup, vegetables, boxes of cereal, and bags of rice. I just imagined, when the bags from APC were delivered to HAAM and unloaded by their staff the joy that must have come from seeing how God had provided one blessing after another.

Things felt a little bare at church after the groceries had been picked up by HAAM. And then I noticed something I had missed as the grocery bags occupied my full attention. The box that holds bedding supplies for Sleep in Heavenly Peace had miraculously filled up. Pillows and mattresses and sheets were piled high as God provided one blessing after another.

I am offering a new Bible study this fall, the Disciple Bible Study. We will meet at noon on Wednesdays. When I publicized the course, the number 12 came to my mind. Jesus had twelve disciples, and I hoped and prayed we might have 12 earnest students join the study. Well, I had to expand my expectations as a whole page of names filled our first sign-up sheet. At last tally, there are now 32 disciples signed up for our Disciple Bible Study. With each new name, I give thanks to Jesus Christ, who from the fullness of his grace provides one blessing after another.

We put out the word we wanted to send a team to North Carolina to help with the recovery from Hurricane Helene. Right now we have 19 on the list. The needs are great in North Carolina, and we are glad we can do our part in helping folks in their recovery. We hope we will be a blessing as we come alongside and offer our assistance. And yet if you have ever been part of this type of a mission trip experience, the blessing flows both ways. You can expect to hear stories upon our return that from the fullness of God's grace, we who went to serve received one blessing after another.

Sunday mornings have brought a wonderful blessing this summer as a small group of intergenerational participants, adults and children, have joined in a study based upon the children's program Bluey. We have talked and shared our feelings about worry, forgiveness, friendship, and many other helpful topics. One Sunday, Katie Hannan, our class leader, set up a small obstacle course in Fellowship Hall. Then all of us adults took a turn at the beginning of the course. It appeared it would be a simple task to navigate the obstacles...until Katie told us we had to close our eyes. With eyes closed, we then were instructed by the children where to move our feet, warned when we were in danger of bumping into something or stepping outside the lines, and enthusiastically guided until we safely reached our destination. Children and adults together, working together, learning together, laughing together, and solving problems together...oh yes, one blessing after another.

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This Month from Pastor Wayne

It is a good time in the life of our church. We are still riding high on the success of our Jubilee Campaign. Our campaign goal of \$425,000 felt like such a stretch. On Pentecost Sunday during our Jubilee Lunch, while we enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs, Will Nees gave us updates. The initial report was \$401,000. By the end of lunch, the total had risen to \$411,000. Late that same evening, we received news that the final count was \$431,000. At our July Session meeting, we heard from our Commitment Committee that the final number was not the final number. Our new total, as of July 27, is \$440,000. From the fullness of His grace, we have all received one blessing after another.

I have always loved the 23rd Psalm. The images of green pastures and still waters bring a gentle calm to my spirit. Knowing that our Lord walks with us, even through the valley of the shadow of death, brings great comfort and peace in troubled times. Yet there is one part I sometimes fail to fully appreciate. David gives thanks to God for all the blessings that come through the Lord who is our shepherd. There is that line in the 23rd Psalm that rejoices in God's abundance. David writes, "My cup runneth over." That truly is the case as God blesses our church. God keeps providing day by day and every step of the way. With grateful hearts, may we all join in giving thanks to God as we say, "Our cup runneth over."

With the love of Christ,

Wayne

GUEST PREACHER AND MISSION LUNCH SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

We are pleased to welcome Reverend John Nelson as our guest preacher on Sunday, August 31. John works with the Tres Rios Border Ministry, based in El Paso. John will preach during our worship service, and following worship, the Mission Committee will host a luncheon (Baked Potato Bar), where John will share more about the ministry on the border and take time to answer questions. Save the date as we gather to listen and learn about the challenges and hopes along our southern border.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER AUGUST 13

Our wonderful Wednesday Night Dinner team is back in action. Join us on Wednesday, August 13 at 5:30 pm, for a "Build Your Own Sandwich" Night. Along with the good food and friendly fellowship, Dick Bruns will be presenting a slideshow after dinner from the recent church trip to Greece and the ancient city of Ephesus.

TIME OUT FOR MEN IS BACK: NEW TIME AND NEW DAY

Time Out for Men is a monthly gathering for all the men of the church. Beginning on Tuesday, August 12, we will be meeting at 12 noon on the second Tuesday of each month. We will share good food and enjoy great discussion as we grow together in our faith and friendships. Drop your lunch plans on Tuesday, August 12 and come be part of a great ministry for the men of APC.

YOUNG ADULTS AND COLLEGE AGED MINISTRY

We have started a new group that is open to all of our college-aged and young adults. Our kickoff event was a game night at church. On July 20, we gathered at the Craig house for a day of boating on the lake and feasting on grilled chicken kabobs. Monday, July 28, we took over the pickleball courts from Lifetime Fitness (thank you Jenny Ingram) and swung, swatted, and sweated as we enjoyed an evening of fun and fellowship.

Watch for future events, and if you know someone in this age group looking for a place to make friends and grow in faith, tell them about our new group. Everyone is welcome!

Wayne



Aug 3: Blessing of the Backpacks
Our precious children (Deut. 6:4-9)

Aug 10: Hymn Sing
From the rising of the sun...the name of the Lord be praised. (Psalm 113)

Aug 17: *Putting your Faith in Jesus*
(Luke 9:28 - 36)

Aug 24: *This is my beloved son...listen to him*
(Luke 9:28-26)

Aug 31: John Nelson, Guest Preacher



We pray for all those who learn—children, youth, young adults and adults. Keep them from being discouraged when facing the trials of the day. Instill in them a desire to grow in wisdom and understanding. Grant them the discipline of study and the ability to concentrate. We pray for all of us as learners, Oh God. We know that we never stop learning about your love and faithfulness. We thank you, Oh God our creator, for teaching us through your word and through your son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.



Office Hours

Pastor Wayne Eberly

Mon-Wed
9 AM – 2 PM

Gail Mayers-Tran

Mon-Fri
9 AM – 2 PM

Church Staff

Pastor - Reverend Wayne Eberly

Office Coordinator - Gail Mayers-Tran

Director of Music - Joe Weir

Pianist - Carl Braden

Director of Creative Learning Center - Cathy Gerald

HUMBLE AREA ASSISTANCE MINISTRIES (HAAM)



BACK-TO-SCHOOL FOOD BAG UPDATE

Thank you, thank you! We exceeded last year's donations! Over 45 food bags were donated, and with \$200 in cash donations, we surpassed our goal of 50 food bags for HAAM.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR PET LOVERS

Did you know HAAM has a Pet Pantry? It helps ensure no one has to choose between feeding themselves or feeding their pet. The pantry provides free pet food to those receiving assistance through HAAM.

HAAM also partners with Interfaith Ministries through the AniMeals program, which delivers pet food to homebound seniors.

If you'd like to contribute, please place pet food donations in the HAAM box located in the Narthex.

Thank you for your continued support of HAAM!

George Williams

JULY HIGHLIGHTS



Welcome new
members,
David & Cindy
Rozema!



MOMENTS OF JOY & CONNECTION



Seniors & Friends Lunch



Game Day for Grownups



Empty Nesters Dinner

Faith Formation: Sermon Scripture Study Begins Sept 7th

You're invited to join us in Room 102 at 9:30 every Sunday when we read and discuss the scripture that Pastor Wayne will preach. As we enter worship after class, we're familiar with the "who, what, where and when" of the scripture. We're prepared to listen for the meaning and message of Pastor Wayne's sermon.

Join us with your coffee and cookie for a time of fellowship and conversation.



Stop by the Mission Market Place!

After worship, swing by the Mission Market Place to browse our newest handmade items—home goods, jewelry, gifts, cards, and more! Every purchase supports APC's mission efforts. Shop with purpose and take home something meaningful!

Open Sundays: August 3, 17 & 31



help wanted!

We're looking for Ushers in September. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Questions? Contact Karen Frye at vkfrye62.kf@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Happy Birthday!



Garret Clary - Aug 02
Nam Arnold - Aug 03
Jim Hannan - Aug 04
Jeanne Wilkinson - Aug 04
Donae Harleston - Aug 05
Rene Lemer - Aug 05
Tommy Russell - Aug 05
Jaime Hannan - Aug 07
Linda Reppucci - Aug 07
Ryan Lewis - Aug 08
David Lasinsky - Aug 09
Lisa Cruz - Aug 10
Gary Frieders - Aug 11

Nancy Anderson - Aug 14
Lisa Clark - Aug 15
Dustin Inboden - Aug 15
Gabrielle Nelson - Aug 20
Lucy Ray - Aug 22
Gene Andrus - Aug 23
Elaine McCool - Aug 23
Randy Rea - Aug 24
Megan Vance - Aug 27
Edward Cooke - Aug 28
Bob Strader - Aug 29
Ron Lemer - Aug 30



Happy Anniversary!

Vicki & David Lasinsky - Aug 09
Jan & Doug Kennard - Aug 10
Terri & John Parmerlee - Aug 13
Linda & David Reppucci - Aug 19
Wayne & Julie Eberly - Aug 20