



ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE COMMUNICATOR

APRIL 2026 EDITION

This Month from Pastor Wayne *A Stopped Clock*

Sunday, March 8 was a day of great blessing. That was the Sunday the Burgos family not only attended worship with us but also came to the front of the sanctuary and led us in singing that wonderful song of faith and devotion, "Here I am, Lord." My heart was filled to overflowing on Sunday, March 8, filled to overflowing with the blessing of having this precious family raising their voices in praise to God.

There is another reason Sunday, March 8 was a day of great blessing. Along with the blessing of having the Burgos family offering their praise to God in song, there were 79 other blessings on that Sunday morning. If you attended worship on Sunday, March 8, you were one of those 79 other blessings. You see, Sunday, March 8 marked the beginning of Daylight Savings. If you attended worship that Sunday, you were among the faithful few who "Sprung Forward" by setting your clocks ahead by one hour. The five members of the Burgos family were joined by 79 others, giving us a grand total of 84 people in attendance on the Sunday that Daylight Savings began. Every pastor harbors an unspoken fear on the day Daylight Savings begins. Every pastor is afraid the pews will be sparsely filled, perhaps even empty. As you well know, people who are instructed to "Spring Forward" also face the difficult challenge of losing an hour of sleep. Let me tell you, this pastor truly was counting his blessings on Sunday, March 8, counting my blessings 84 times for each one of you who ignored the loss of an hour's sleep and managed to walk through the doors and take a seat as we joined our hearts in worship.

Sunday, March 8, was a day of great blessing for yet another reason. The clock in the copy room at church has been set to the wrong time since the second day of November in the year of 2025. Those of you who are gifted in the art of deductive reasoning might have already deduced why the clock in the church copy room has been set to the wrong time since the second day of November in the year of 2025. Yep, you are right. November 2, 2025, was the day Daylight Savings ended, and we all fell back an hour.

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After worship on Sunday, March 8, which I have already testified to you was a wonderful day of blessing in worship, a day when 84 of you got it right and sprung forward, even at the cost of a precious hour of sleep, and on a Sunday when the Burgos family blessed us in such an inspiring and heartwarming manner, I found God had yet one more blessing to bestow. I walked to my office after worship to take off my robe and prepare to go home. As I passed the copy room, I looked in, not really for any reason other than I have a habit of glancing at every room that has an open door. When I glanced at the copy room, I saw a breathtaking sight. The clock in the copy room, which had been set to the wrong time for more than four months, was now miraculously set to the correct time. I chuckled to myself as the old adage came to mind, "Even a stopped clock is right twice a day."

Well, if you know the mind of a preacher, one thought leads to another, and in seconds flat, I guess you could say in no time at all, all I could think about was time, especially the kind of time we encounter in the Bible.

- There I was with the preacher in Ecclesiastes reflecting how for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. Just like the words to the well-known song made famous in the 60s, "A time to be born, a time to die..."
- My time travels took me to the days of the King Hezekiah, who answered God's offer of a sign by asking that the shadow before him retreat rather than advance...sort of like us having a time when we fall back...and sure enough, the shadow went back ten steps.
- I found myself back in Genesis chapter one during the time of those seven days of creation, again chuckling to myself as I remembered a corny joke my dad liked to tell. "When is baseball mentioned in the Bible." For all of you Astros fans looking forward with hope to another season cheering on the home team, the punchline isn't too hard to figure out. Baseball is first mentioned in Genesis 1:1, "In the Beginning," or "In the Big Inning."
- Jesus tells a parable about being on time. Ten bridesmaids are waiting for the bridegroom. Five have not planned appropriately, their lamps run out of oil. As they rush off to refill their lamps, the bridegroom arrives and they are not there; they are late, they are not on time and they miss out. In no uncertain terms Jesus tells us we better pay attention to the times around us, because when he returns he wants us all to be on time, to be ready.
- And yet, even when it is too late, with Jesus, there always seems to be a second chance. Hanging on the cross, suffering and in pain, when the thief on the cross next to him asks Jesus to remember him when he comes into the kingdom, we discover the time was just right for that thief who almost missed the deadline. Jesus says, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
- All of which is to say there is still time for you, still time for me, still time for us, still time for all God's precious children who populate this earth as a sea of humanity. In II Corinthians chapter six, the Apostle Paul proclaims,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you. See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation." No matter what season of the year, no matter what time of the day, no matter whether you are in the winter, spring, summer or fall of life, there is no wrong time to call on God. Anytime is the right time to call on God. Today is the day of salvation. Now is the time to call on the Lord.

In closing, I am thankful we get to share this precious time together as brothers and sisters in Christ. This is a rich and wonderful time for us, and even though time flies by so quickly, I treasure each and every moment of our life together.

With the love of Christ,

Wayne



Messages for April

April 5

"The Good News of Easter: He Has Been Raised from the Dead" | Matthew 28:1-10

April 12

Guest Preacher, Ryan Arnold | Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

April 19

"A Giving Heart" | Matthew 6:1-4

April 26

"A Praying Heart" | Matthew 6:5-14

April is the seasonal equivalent of October in the Southern Hemisphere.

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Office Hours

Pastor Wayne Eberly

Mon-Wed
9 AM – 2 PM

Rhonda Blake

Mon-Fri
9 AM – 2 PM

Church Staff

Pastor - Reverend Wayne Eberly

Office Coordinator - Rhonda Blake

Director of Music - Joe Weir

Pianist - Carl Braden

Director of Creative Learning Center - Cathy Gerald

APRIL EVENTS



Maundy Thursday
Service @ 7:00pm

THURSDAY

2

Good Friday Prayer
Service @ 12:00pm

FRIDAY

3



Sleep in Heavenly
Peace Bed Delivery

8:30am

SATURDAY

4

Contact: Rick Anderson,
713-859-1695

Location: APC Parking Lot



Easter Sunday

9:30am - Activities for Everyone

10:30am - Worship Service

SUNDAY

5

Activities, Snacks, Egg Hunt and
Butterfly Release



Empty Nesters

5:30pm

TUESDAY

7

Contact: Nancy Anderson at
nancy.anderson56@yahoo.com

Location: Italiano's 8146 FM 1960,
Atascocita



Presbyterian Women's
Bible Study

11:30am

THURSDAY

9

Contact Linda Andrus
harley3064@aol.com.

Location: Fellowship Hall

APRIL EVENTS



Church Workday

8:00am - 12:00pm

Volunteers needed for various projects indoors and outdoors!

Contact Ryan Lewis: 346-805-4184.

SATURDAY

11



Time Out for Men

12:00pm

Contact: Pastor Wayne

Location: Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY

14



Seniors & Friends

11:30am

Contact Bonnie Carr,
bncrr1@gmail.com

Location: El Jimador on Lake Houston Parkway, Atascocita

THURSDAY

16



Gather & Grow

5:30pm

Join us on Earth Day for dinner, followed by activities, plant swaps, and learn tips and tricks for planting.

Contact: Rick Anderson

Location: Fellowship Hall & Narthex

WEDNESDAY

22



Game Day, Grownups ~ Bunco!

10:00am

Contact: Linda Andrus,
harley3064@aol.com | Terri Parmerlee,
tmparmerlee@gmail.com

Location: Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY

23

2026 MEN'S CONFERENCE AT MO-RANCH MAY 1-3, 2026



REGISTER HERE

It's not too late to register for the 2026 Men's Conference at Mo-Ranch, taking place Friday evening, May 1 through Sunday morning, May 4. The cost is \$375 per person, which includes tuition, meals, and housing.

If you plan to attend, please register as soon as possible.

The Men's Conference is a meaningful weekend of fellowship and spiritual renewal, featuring keynote presentations, worship, music, workshops, relaxation, and recreation. Saturday afternoon offers optional free time for sports and outdoor activities, and the Saturday evening BBQ is always a highlight.

Several APC men also choose to arrive early—leaving on Wednesday—to enjoy golf or explore the local area on Thursday and Friday morning. Early arrivals pay an additional fee for housing and meals.

If you plan to arrive on Thursday, the cost for your room, Thursday dinner, and Friday breakfast and lunch is \$150. **Please select this add-on when registering.**

Each participant is responsible for completing their own registration. Under the lodging option, select Group Lodging for the \$375 rate. If contacted by a Mo-Ranch representative, simply let them know you are with the APC men staying in the Triplex.

Registration and additional details are available at **moranch.org** under **Programs & Events.**

If you have questions, are interested in attending, or want to join the golf group, **please contact George Williams (281-772-4706) before March 31, 2026.**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're preparing for a
**Church-wide Workday on
Saturday, April 11 from 8:00am-12:00pm**
and we'd love for you to be part of it!

Volunteers are needed for a variety of projects, including:

- Refreshing the Fellowship Hall chairs
- Supporting our youth as they repaint the Youth Room
 - Tidying up the GATE area
 - Moving concrete furniture
 - Clearing debris along the APC curb

Whether you enjoy working indoors, prefer being outside,
or are simply willing to help wherever needed – there is a
spot for you.

Join us as we care for our campus and get ready for spring.

For more information, please contact:

Ryan Lewis at 346-805-4184



SAVE THE DATE



AUSTIN PRESBYTERIAN
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Austin Seminary Comes to Atascocita on Sunday, April 12

We are delighted to share that Atascocita Presbyterian Church will be one of the Houston-area congregations hosting leaders from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary on **Sunday, April 12**.

As part of a special day of preaching and conversation, **Rev. Ryan Arnold** will be preaching here at APC at 10:30am, offering our congregation the chance to hear directly from one of Austin Seminary's gifted voices.



THE REVEREND DR. RYAN ARNOLD
VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The Reverend Dr. Ryan Arnold serves as vice president for institutional advancement at Austin Seminary. An ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), he holds a PhD in education from Drake University. His background includes pastoral ministry and higher education administration, and he brings a passion for building relationships, fostering community engagement, and exploring how education shapes lives.

Later that afternoon, everyone is invited to join the wider presbytery community for "Theology on Tap" at 2:00 pm at Drops of the Creator Spirits Company, 10929 Chimney Rock in southwest Houston.

The gathering will feature President José Irizarry and Dean Margaret Aymer, who will lead an engaging conversation on faith, ministry, and theological imagination. It promises to be a lively and meaningful time of connection with friends from across the region.



THE REVEREND DR. JOSÉ R. IRIZARRY
PRESIDENT

The Reverend Dr. José Ramon Irizarry became Austin Seminary's tenth president in June 2022. Since 2016, Irizarry has served as vice president of education at the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). A scholar in the field of practical theology, Irizarry taught at Villanova University and has held teaching and administrative positions at various educational and theological institutions, including the University of Cambridge (Visiting Fellow), Lutheran School of Theology, the Pacific School of Religion, and McCormick Theological Seminary.



THE REVEREND DR. MARGARET AYMER
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The Reverend Dr. Margaret Aymer serves as vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty, and is the First Presbyterian Church, Shreveport, D. Thomason Professor of New Testament Studies. Aymer teaches core courses on the Introduction to the New Testament, Exegesis, and Greek, as well as elective courses in various disciplines, including African Americans and the Bible, and feminist and womanist biblical interpretation. She became academic dean at Austin Seminary in 2022—the first woman and the first person of color to hold that position. Aymer has published four books: *James: Diaspora Rhetorics of a Friend of God* (Sheffield Publishing, 2014), *Fortress Commentary on the Bible* (with Gale A. Yee, Fortress Press, 2014); *First Pure, then Peaceable: Frederick Douglass Reads James* (T&T Clark, 2008), and *Islanders, Islands and the Bible: Ruminations* (Semeia Studies, 2015; with Jione Havea).

Theology on Tap
2:00pm

Drops of the Creator Spirits Company
Address: 10929 Chimney Rock Rd, Houston, TX 77096
Phone: (346) 867-6992

SATURDAY

12

APRIL

We hope you'll join us for this special day—beginning right here at APC
and continuing with rich conversation in the afternoon.

Gather & Grow

Dinner in Fellowship Hall at 5:30pm

Followed by a plant swap!

Wednesday, April 22



Bring your plants & cuttings to share & swap!

Come Gather & Grow with us on Wednesday, April 22 at 5:30pm for an evening of springtime fun, food, and plant-sharing. Bring a plant to swap and take home something new — everything from succulents and annuals to perennials, herbs, vegetables, fruit trees, and seeds is welcome.

The Narthex will be filled with tables for displaying plants, trading tips, and enjoying simple “how-to” demonstrations to help your garden thrive this season. We’ll also have lighthearted games (with prizes!) to test your gardening know-how. It’s a wonderful chance to share your favorite plants, discover new ones, and enjoy time with friends.

While you’re here, take a peaceful stroll through the GATE area and experience the meditation stations along the path. Dust off those shovels and trowels—we can’t wait to see what you bring!

For more information, please contact Rick Anderson at 713-859-1695.



ATASCOCITA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ELEMENTARY DAY CAMP

\$75

per week

June 9-11, June 16-18, and June 23-25
9:30am-2:30pm



register
here!

Day Camp (Tues, Weds, Thurs)
Week 1 Theme: Science
Week 2 Themes: Music
Week 3 Theme: Art

Daily Schedule:
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Bible Time & Classes
12:00 PM – 12:30 PM: Lunch (BYO)
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM: Sportball

For students entering 2nd-6th grade.

Siblings receive 10% off!



For more information
call **(281) 852-8990**



KIDS CAMP SUMMER



JUNE 9 - 11
JUNE 16 - 18
JUNE 23 - 25

CREATIVE LEARNING CENTER

- 
- T/W/TH 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM
 - 18 Months - Children completing Kindergarten
 - Early Bird Registration \$150 per week;
 - Price Increases to \$165 after May 1st Deadline
 - If registered for all 3 weeks, \$25 discount

REGISTER HERE!
OR AT:
www.creativelearningcenteratapc.org



SAFETY moment

As we move into a busy spring season, it's a good time to pause and think about the simple skills that help us care for one another — both in daily life and in moments we never expect.

One of the most important tools any of us can learn is CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation). Sudden cardiac emergencies can happen anywhere: at home, at church, at school, or in the community. When they do, the first few minutes matter more than anything else. A bystander who knows CPR can double or even triple a person's chance of survival.

Learning CPR doesn't require medical training or special equipment — just a willingness to step in and help until professional responders arrive. It's a skill that empowers us to protect our families, our neighbors, and our church community. In the coming months, we encourage everyone to consider taking a CPR class or refreshing a past certification. It's a small investment of time that can make a life-changing difference.

Together, we can create a safer, more prepared congregation—one where care, readiness, and compassion are part of how we live out our faith.

Stay tuned for training opportunities – details coming soon!



March 2026 Attendance & Offering Summary

2026 Worship Attendance and Offering Summary		
Date	Attendance	Offering Total
1-Mar	102	\$2,877
8-Mar	84	\$995
15-Mar	110	\$3,296
22-Mar	91	\$1,842
29-Mar	133	\$8,887
Total Offerings for Year-to-date		\$87,073
Budgeted Offerings for Year-to-date		\$90,335



Humble Area Assistance Ministries

HAAM immediate needs are:

DRY CEREAL and GALLON STORAGE BAGS.

There is not a deadline for donating these items.

Thanks to all who have donated cereal so far.

Please check the expiration date on your non-perishable food donations to ensure that the food has not expired.

Please leave your donated items in a grocery bag to facilitate handling and transporting.

Thanks for your continued support of HAAM.



From the beginning, the goal of HAAM was simple and bold—centralize outreach, strengthen collaboration, and make sure no family in crisis fell through the cracks. By pooling resources, HAAM made it possible for churches, schools, and volunteers to offer coordinated & compassionate support to neighbors facing hardships.

Questions about HAAM? Contact George Williams at 281-772-4706.



Our March Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed delivery brought big smiles across our community, and we're grateful for everyone who helped make it happen.

The next delivery is **Saturday, April 4 at 8:30am**, and we'd love your support! We are especially in need of twin-size blankets, which can be placed in the collection bin in the Narthex.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is a volunteer-driven organization that builds and delivers beds to children who don't have one of their own.

What began as a single bunk-bed project in a garage has grown into a nationwide movement—now reaching into Canada—powered by generous volunteers, community partners, and a simple belief: every child deserves a safe, warm place to sleep. SHP continues to expand its mission so that, in every community they serve,

No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town.

Every donation helps a child sleep in comfort and dignity.



The Blessing Box

We're inviting our church family to help keep the **Blessing Box** stocked with items that support neighbors facing food insecurity.

Current needs include:

- **Non-perishable snacks** such as granola bars, crackers, fruit cups, and peanut butter packs
- **Canned goods and shelf-stable foods**, including soups, vegetables, pasta meals, and mac & cheese
- **Easy-to-eat items** that require little or no preparation for those without full kitchen access
- **Toiletries and personal care essentials** like soap, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, and feminine hygiene products



Your generosity helps ensure our neighbors have what they need— every single item makes a meaningful difference.



We will honor the graduating class of 2026 on
Sunday, May 17.

If you know of a graduate you would like
included, please submit their name and
graduation information to the church office by
Sunday, May 3.

CELEBRATION FUND



Celebration Funds during April, May, and June will go to support the Houston Food Bank, a non-profit organization and the nation's largest food bank by distribution; providing access to 207 million nutritious meals in 18 counties in southeast Texas.

To learn more, or for volunteer opportunities, visit their website at: www.houstonfoodbank.org

Key Houston Hunger Facts

- **High-Need Areas:** In the Greenspoint/IAH neighborhood, 4 out of 5 households (80%) are food insecure.
- **Childhood Hunger:** As of 2023, 24.6% of children in Harris County (over 306,000) are food insecure.
- **Disparities:** Food insecurity is highest among Black (53%) and Hispanic (47%) households.
- **Economic Drivers:** Around 81% of people facing food insecurity in the Houston metroplex spend over 50% of their income on housing.
- **Daily Struggles:** 97% of food-insecure households report cutting meal sizes or skipping meals, while 96% report eating less nutritious food.
- **Health Impacts:** 29% of food-insecure residents in Harris County report poor or fair physical health, compared to 12% in secure households.
- **Food Deserts:** Over 500,000 residents live in areas with limited access to fresh, affordable food.



A NOTE FROM THE

earth care team

Amazing Aluminum Recycling!

Aluminum is one of the most recycled materials in the world. Nearly 70% of aluminum cans are recycled globally — yet the United States recycles only about 43%. Aluminum is also one of the few materials we throw away that more than pays for the cost of its own collection!

Did you know...

- 100% of aluminum can be recycled.
- Aluminum retains its properties indefinitely — it never wears out.
- Nearly 75% of all aluminum ever produced is still in use today.
- Aluminum can be recycled infinitely with no loss of quality.
- Recycling is fast: it takes only about 60 days for a used can to be recycled and returned to store shelves.
- Recycling aluminum uses just 5% of the energy required to produce new aluminum from raw materials.
- Recycling emits 95% fewer greenhouse gases compared to producing aluminum from virgin ore.
- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to power a TV for several hours.
- Recycling one ton of aluminum prevents carbon emissions equivalent to driving approximately 27,000 miles.



March Highlights



Planting
Wildflower Seeds



Palm Sunday



LHCS Spring Concert



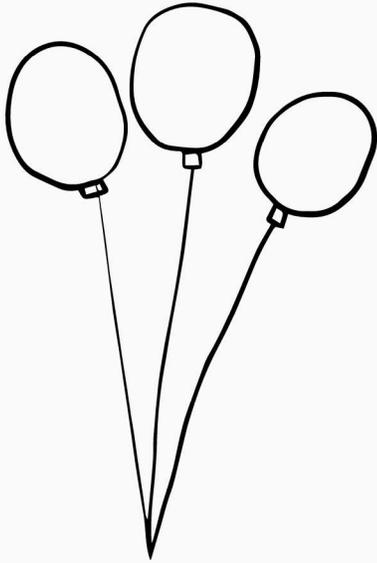
Enjoying the Free Library



Big Smiles!



APC Night of Dabbling!



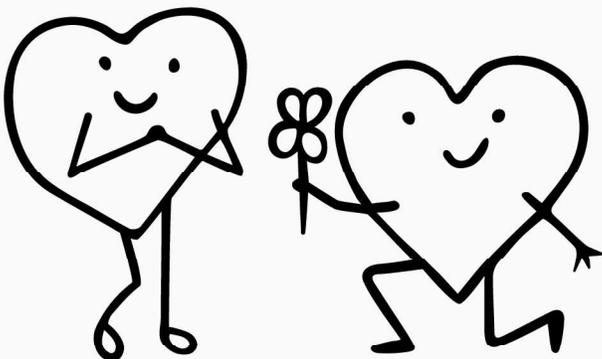
APRIL

Birthdays

Erin Rea	Apr 05
Terry Harshaw	Apr 09
Traci Hlavaty	Apr 13
Mary Ann Sarver	Apr 14
Sandra Berry	Apr 15
Cathy Fovargue	Apr 17
Tchana Fangtang	Apr 18
Doug Hebert	Apr 19
Rachel Potts-Wells	Apr 19
Max Reppucci	Apr 19
Erik Jones	Apr 22
Don Nelson	Apr 23
Betty Jo Pruett	Apr 23
Jane Church	Apr 25
Kelly Muñoz	Apr 25
Linda Coleman	Apr 28
Matthew Burgos	Apr 29
Jerry Havlik	Apr 29
Frieda Walker	Apr 30

Happy Anniversary

Sandra & Jeff Berry	Apr 24
Daniel & Christina Michie	Apr 25
Mike & Lisa Ryan	Apr 30





A Prayer for April

Holy God, as April opens before us, we give thanks for the renewal you weave through creation and through our lives.

In this season of resurrection hope, remind us that you are sovereign over all things – guiding, sustaining, and calling us to follow Christ with humility and joy.

Shape us as a people formed by your Word, grounded in grace, and eager to serve our neighbors with compassion.

Strengthen our commitment to justice, stewardship, and the shared ministry you entrust to your church.

As new life blossoms around us, let your Spirit also blossom within us – deepening our faith, widening our love, and sending us out as instruments of your peace.

In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.



Atascocita Presbyterian Church

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