

First Presbyterian Church *Tidings*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
910 N WASHINGTON AVE
LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351
APRIL 2025

Clothed in compassion

In Colossians 3:12, Paul tells us to clothe ourselves in compassion. What does that look like? Consider these parallels to actual clothes:

Each morning, we select outfits depending on our activities and who we'll see. For example, clothing looks different for a day of chores than for worship on Easter Sunday. To maintain our wardrobe, we regularly clean, fold and repair items. Likewise, each day we choose how we'll treat others. Our approach to

each activity or interaction might differ, as we seek to represent Christ well. And to maintain an effective witness, we often must renew and "mend" our attitude.

One more comparison: Look in your closet. Have you updated your clothes lately? Compassion looks different than it did decades ago. While staying grounded in biblical truth, let's adapt the care we wear — making it "fit" better for today's generations.

—Janna Firestone

Christian symbol

PALM BRANCH — When Jesus entered Jerusalem days before his death, crowds welcomed him by waving palm branches, common symbols of victory and rejoicing. Churches still use them to remember that occasion, knowing that Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate triumph over sin and death. As early as Leviticus 23:40, God commanded Israel to use palms in a festival of rejoicing. In Revelation 7:9-10, Christian martyrs carry palm branches as they praise the Lamb before God's throne.



Special Events

- **Apr 2nd - Administration Meeting, 9 a.m., AB; Mission Meeting, 11:15 a.m., FH**
- **Apr 6th – Communion Worship Service, 10 a.m., Sanctuary; 5th Sunday in Lent**
- **Apr 9th – Lenten Soup & Sandwich Service, 4 p.m., FH**
- **Apr 13th - Fellowship Luncheon after the Service, FH; Palm Sunday; Holy Week begins**
- **Apr 14th - PW Circle Meeting, 1:30 p.m., FH**
- **Apr 15th - Naomi's Sisters, 1 p.m., FH**
- **Apr 17th - Maundy Thursday, 5 p.m., Sanctuary**
- **Apr 20th - Easter Sunday Service with Communion, 10 a.m., Sanctuary; One Great Hour of Sharing**
- **Apr 26th - Session Meeting, 9 a.m., FH**

Mission Team Update

Your Mission team met on March 5th, and meets again on April 2nd. We are beginning to plan on our next Mission Sunday. Need a date or two from Worship Team or Pastor.

Our Souper Bowl of Caring collection totaled 73.5 pounds of food delivered to the Revival Food Pantry along with cash donations of \$209. We will decide in April where this will be sent.

We held a COSI event on March 13th in a full sanctuary featuring Ethan Ainsworth from the Methodist church playing our pipe organ. He would like to do more musical events with us. Our next COSI

event will be in May featuring Paul Laverty and his visual report about Lake Livingston.

April is our first PCUSA special offering, the One Great Hour of Sharing and on April 24th, several church members will travel to Houston in support of the PCHAS luncheon. If interested, Bonnie Laverty is coordinating this.

Chuck Davidson, chair



Presbyterian Children's
Homes and ServicesSM

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Our next meeting will be April 14th at 1:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. You will need to bring your blue book, *Jewish Culture and Customs* and the brown book, *More Jewish Culture & Customs*. This year our study will be a "Sharing" Lesson. As you read your chapters use your sticky notes to mark any questions or thoughts you would want to share or ask during the lesson. Please begin making notes about this year's study for a Comment and Questions review at our May 12th meeting.

Readings:

Only from the Brown Book – Pages 85 – 93 From Badge to Banner and pages 169 – 172 The Tattoo Is Taboo

Upcoming Presbyterian Women's and Church Events:

PCHAS Luncheon – April 24th, 12 -1 p.m., Lakeside Country Club Houston

Carpooling from the Church and open to all. Contact Bonnie!

Mo Ranch Women's Conference, June 6th to the 8th Kerrville, TX.

Watch for more information.

-Beverly Davidson



The new education building at the Alabama-Coushatta reservation taken at dedication event on March 20th, 2025.

Congregational Care Update

It's hard to believe Easter is just around the corner. Our Easter luncheon will be Sunday, April 13th. We will be serving ham. So, start planning what you would like to contribute to the meal. You can call or text me at 832-545-5332 with your donation.

In the meantime, if you have any ideas of what you would like served at future meals, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Also, if the congregation needs to be aware of an event or prayer need, reach out to me.

Remember I'm here if you need me (832-545-5332).

Virginia Key, Chair

Administration Team

The admin team met on March 5th, with six members present. Jay opened the meeting with prayer.

We discussed when the *Tidings* article is due. Stated that Session will have a retreat this month.

It was reported that the Greeters are doing great. Discussed the Activities Building carpet and noted both sets of stairs need new carpet. All office equipment is in good working order.

Our next meeting is at 9 a.m. on April 2nd, in the Activities Building. Closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Lou Anderson



Ethan Ainsworth playing our Visser-Rowland pipe organ on March 13th, 2025

Somewhere

by Tommy Fluker

Should a teardrop fall it will quickly vanish
Yet the sadness from whence it came will often languish
Will a cry for help go unheeded
Or will an answer come that's sorely needed

Will memories last or fade away
For youth is fleeting and turns to gray
When petals fall from yesterday's rose
There's always rain and wind that blows
Smiles that come will never last

All that's new will be the past
A mother's love will never die
Someone will laugh a child will dry

A voice shall shout another sing
Someone will cast away another bring
An arm will strike another embrace
Someone will turn away another face

The sun will rise and greet a day
Clouds shall come then fade away
Night will fall and stars to shine
One shall hunger another dine

Somewhere there's drought elsewhere a flood
In deserts there's sand somewhere there's mud
Somewhere a leaf falls and sails on the breeze
Someone will hurt another please

Somewhere a dog barks and children play
Somewhere people kill and others pray
Somewhere a tree falls that's stood for years
Lightning will strike as a summer storm nears

A baby is born another life's over
One stays put another's a rover
Someone takes leave another a wife
Someone seeks God to be in their life

Celebrate!



- Rev. John & Terri Hirling, 04/13
- Jerry & Rosalind Wiedman, 04/23



- Joan Fluker, 04/09
- Larry Ketterling, 04/11
- Elena Walrath, 04/11
- Karen Palmer, 04/12
- Joyce Howard, 04/14
- Fred Durham, 04/23
- Debra Dawson, 04/30
- Bonnie Laverty, 04/30
- Donna Swanson, 04/30

?? Bible Quiz ??

From the cross, Jesus prayed words from the book of Psalms. What were they?

- A. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- B. "I thirst!"
- C. "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- D. "It is finished!"



Answer: A (See Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; and Psalm 22:1.)



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Sunday Schedule
Friendship Bible Class - 9 a.m.
Worship - 10 a.m.
Adult Bible Study - 11 a.m.
Wednesdays
Prayer Group - 1 p.m.
Adult Bible Study - 2 p.m.