

First Presbyterian Church

Tidings

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

910 N WASHINGTON AVE

LIVINGSTON, TEXAS 77351

MAY 2025

“He ascended into heaven...”

During his earthly ministry, Jesus could be physically present in only one place at any given time. “Only those could speak to him who came to where he was,” explained Archbishop William Temple. “If he was in Galilee, people could not find him in Jerusalem; if he was in Jerusalem, they could not find him in Galilee” (from Readings in St. John’s Gospel).

Spiritually speaking, Christ’s Ascension means he is with us wherever we find ourselves. Christ desires to be present with us everywhere we go. His presence is universal. He is here now. “Believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory” (1 Timothy 3:16, NRSV) — that is what the Ascension affirms.



Powered by God

God made us: invented us as a [person] invents an engine. A car is made to run on petrol, and it would not run properly on anything else.

Now God designed the human machine to run on himself. He himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from himself, because it is not there.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Special Events

- May 4th - Communion Sunday, 10 a.m., Sanctuary
- May 7th – Administration Meeting, 9 a.m., AB
- May 8th - COSI Lecture: Paul Laverty, “Lake Livingston”
- May 11th - Mother’s Day; Fellowship Luncheon after the 10 a.m. Service, FH
- May 12th - Presbyterian Women Circle Meeting, 1:30 a.m., FH
- May 14th - Mission Meeting, 11:15 a.m., FH; Session Meeting, 3 p.m., FH
- May 16th - *Tidings* articles due
- May 18th – Communion Sunday, 10 a.m., Sanctuary
- May 20th – Naomi’s Sisters, 1 p.m., FH
- May 29th – Ascension of the Lord

It is May, so Happy Birthday to:

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Our last meeting for this year will be May 12th at 1:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. You will need to bring both books. The blue book, *Jewish Culture and Customs* and the brown book, *More Jewish Culture & Customs* for our final review. Check all your sticky notes for any questions or thoughts to share or ask during this final lesson.

Readings:

Only from the Brown Book - pages 139-161

Pages 139 – 143 Judaism VS. Jewishness

Pages 145 – 150 Chosen? For What?

Pages 151 – 156 When You’re Dead, You’re Dead

Pages 157 – 161 Pondering The Question Of Evil

We will be taking up a Birthday Offering that goes to Presbytery for grants both domestic and international.

There will be Birthday Cake!

Upcoming Presbyterian Women’s and Church Events:
Mo Ranch Women’s Conference June 6th to the 8th Kerrville TX.
Watch for more information.

-Beverly Davidson



A farewell gift given to Dan and Carolee Day as they plan to move to Seattle, Washington.

Christian symbol

ALPHA MU OMEGA — The Greek letters that begin the words yesterday, today and forever remind us of Jesus’ constant presence with us personally and his eternal nature that transcends time as we know it. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8, NIV). Dozens of psalms and other Bible passages also proclaim that the Lord’s “steadfast love endures forever” (for example, Psalm 100:5, NRSV). What reassurance when life seems tough and fleeting!



Puzzle!

Unscramble the names of these biblical mothers. Look up the verse if you need help. Then use the letters on the numbered blanks to complete the message below.

VEE (Genesis 3:20)

611

NNAHAH (1 Samuel 1:20)

14

RBAHEOD (Judges 5:7)

183

KREEHAB (Genesis 27:5)

165

EHLA (Genesis 30:14)

1

CLEHRA (Genesis 30:22)

712

MOIAN (Ruth 1:22)

101713

RAAHS (Genesis 17:19)

8

AMYR (Matthew 2:11)

2

ZEBLEHATI (Luke 1:13)

9154

123456789101112

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13814154161017318

Answers: Eve, Hannah, Deborah, Rebekah, Leah, Rachel, Naomi, Sarah, Mary, Mary, Elizabeth. A mother's love is a gift from God!

Administration Team

The Administration team met on April 2nd with four members present. Jay opened the meeting with prayer.

We discussed the importance of our contributing to the *Tidings* each month.

Session had their retreat on March 21st and 22nd. Each Elder was assigned a bulletin board in the Narthex, so be looking for these. Discussed ideas of what Administration could/would put on theirs.

Report from Treasurer that giving is down.

No progress has been made on moving the old sign or getting stairs on first floor of the Activity building re-carpeted. No one was there that could give us any information on progress.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 7th at 9 am.

Elizabeth dismissed us with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Lou Anderson



This month your Mission team will meet on the second Wednesday, May 14th, at 11:15 a.m., in Room 2 in FH. Anyone may attend. We will have a report on how much you donated to the One Great Hour of Sharing and hope to have someone (or two) ask us for help with Camp Cho-Yeh financials.

Our COSI event this month features Paul Laverty and Lake Livingston. This is set at 5 p.m. on May 8th, in Fellowship Hall. Paul has dug up old photos which show before and after perspectives. For those fairly new to Polk County, this will be very educational.

We thank Bonnie Laverty for organizing the trip to the Lakeside Country Club on April 24th to learn more about PCHAS and add a bit to their funding. They provide a fantastic service to those living at their facilities.

As you know, we support 20 organizations with funds and/or things they need; one being Yikesbikes, which is donating two bicycles to Chester ISD's top elementary readers in May. We continue to collect food items for the Revival food pantry and Our Father's House with containers for them in the alcove by the front door to the Sanctuary. Check out our bulletin boards too.

Reminder: during the summer months, we need donations of new shoes, socks & underwear for the August Kids Free Clothing second Sunday Luncheon, along with things in put in the shoeboxes for the seamen.

Our next fifth Sunday is in June.

Chuck Davidson, chair

Lord Why Is It

by Tommy Fluker

Lord why is it, when things go wrong, I call your name
When no, not others, tis I to blame
Am I quick to condemn, and slow to praise
Do I make meaningful or squander my days

Lord why is it, I seek to change and call your name
I try ot hard enough and stay the same
Do I feel grateful or wish for more
Can I give and can I adore

Lord why is it, when deeds hurt others, I call your name
Even though later, I'm filled with shame
Am I glad for or do I envy
Am I blind or do I see

Lord why is it, when blessings come, I forget your name
When inside I know, excuses are lame
If I pray hard enough, will you hear my plea
The answer is, you're always there for me

A prayer for Mother's Day

Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.


Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.



Celebrate!



- Chuck & Beverly Davidson, 05/08
- Tom & Ann Wilkins, 05/20
- Jan & Kathy Koman, 05/29
- Debbie Phillips, 05/05
- George Nixon, 05/18
- Katie Ferguson, 05/28
- Jan Koman, 05/29
- Rosalind Wiedman, 05/29

 **Elder**
of the Month
Chuck Davidson

Quotes

"Christ is present to us in so far as we are present to each other."
—Herbert McCabe

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"Life is not measured by how much one owns." —Jesus (Luke 12:15, NCV)

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"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly." —Buckminster Fuller

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"In the darkest moments, bright flows the river of God." —St. John of the Cross



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Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., M-F

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.