

FEBRUARY 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1801 - 19TH STREET
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS 77340

Crossroads Newsletter



A MEDITATION BY THE LATE HENRI NOUWEN

The Wind Blows Where It Pleases

God cannot be understood: he cannot be grasped by the human mind. The truth escapes our human capacities. The only way to come close to it is by a constant emphasis on the limitations of our human capacities to “have” or “hold” the truth. We can neither explain God nor his presence in history. As soon as we identify God with any specific event or situation, we play God and distort the truth. We only can be faithful in our affirmation that God has not deserted us but calls us in the middle of all the unexplainable absurdities of life. It is very important to be deeply aware of this. There is a great and subtle temptation to suggest to myself or to others where God is working or where not, when he is present and when not; but nobody, no Christian, no priest, no monk, has any “special” knowledge about God. God cannot be limited by any human concept or prediction. He is greater than our mind and heart and perfectly free to reveal himself where and when he wants. [1]

- Souper Bowl of Caring/ Tackle Hunger Offering
- Birthdays
- Wed Night Dinners
- Book Club
- Lectio Divina
- Women’s Bible Study
- Gathering Place
- 5x5x5 Bible Reading Plan
- Youth’s “A Taste of Italy” Dinner
- Youth Conclaves
- Great Give-a-Way
- Parent’s Day Out

[1] <https://henrinouwen.org/>



Super Bowl of Caring 2025

To help tackle hunger, the youth have been collecting money and non-perishable food items. The effort began on January 12 and ends on Super Bowl Sunday, February 9. A collection box is available in the fellowship hall to help “fill” our food pantry and Blessing Box.

**March Newsletter Articles Due
No Later Than February 18th**

February Birthdays

- 1 Cathy King
- 3 Dean Thomason
- 5 Janet Hobbs
- 9 Joe Ashworth
- 15 Noah Speer
- 17 Drue Strickland
- 19 Julia Tuttle
- 21 Leola McCarty
- 22 Bailee Wade
- 22 Michael McDougal
- 24 Blake Thomason Smith
- 24 Pat Speer
- 25 Debbie Bradbury

Wednesday Night February 5th

Dinner and “The Land Between” Study will **NOT** be held on **February 5th**. We will resume on February 12th at the usual times. The Youth will be serving spaghetti for their “Taste of Italy Night.”

Come Support our Youth!

Join Us for Book Club

Wednesday, February 7 @ 10 a.m.

In the parlor.

"Daisy Fay and the Miracle Man"

by Fannie Flagg

"A hilarious, endearing novel."

March Book

"Two Steps Forward..."

by Sharon Garlough Brown

A story of persevering in hope.

A Time of Lectio Divina

for the Discerning Hearts

Wednesdays at 11 a.m.

in the Parlor

Bring your journal and pen.

God communicates with us in many ways, but prayer is a special time when God's voice is often heard most clearly because we are giving God our most undivided attention. God's still small voice can be heard with a clarity that can delight, astonish and surprise us. So, when we pray, no matter how we pray, pay attention!

by James Martin

"Let Justice Roll Down"

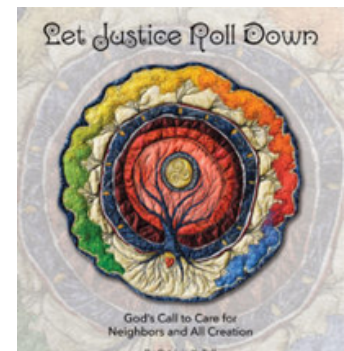
A Women's Bible Study

Please join us as we continue with our study entitled "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation." Scripture reminds us that we are called to speak out to urge our society to act for just transitions with particular care for society's least powerful members who are disproportionately impacted by unjust systems.

We meet the third Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. The lesson for February 22 is *Water Justice*.

Contact Brenda Brock, 936-581-3329, for additional information.

Hope to see you there!



Gathering Place

The Gathering Place, where caregivers can bring their loved one for meaningful engagement with a group of well-trained volunteers while they can either stay and participate themselves or take a much-needed break. The Gathering Place meets 10 am - 2 pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the Family Life Center at the First Baptist Church, 1229 Avenue J.

Church-Wide 5x5x5 Bible Reading Plan

To help instill the habit of reading the Bible daily, the Christian Education Ministry Team invited everyone to join together in a commitment to read your Bible 5 minutes a day, 5 days a week. By following this easy-to-use reading plan, you will be able to read all 260 chapters of the New Testament, one chapter per day. The plan began on Monday, January 6, with Mark Chapter 1 and progresses in such a way that will weave the story of Christ throughout the year. Copies of the reading plan are available on a table in the narthex and by calling or emailing the church: info.fpch@gmail.com. There is also a link on the home page of the FPCH website: firstpreshuntsvilletx.org

Previous Scripture Readings: Week 1 (1/6-11) - Mark 1-5; Week 2 (1/13-18) - Mark 6-10; Week 3 (1/20-25) - Mark 11-15; Week 4 (1/27-2/1) - Mark 16, Acts 1-4

Reading Schedule for February:

Week 5 (2/3-8) - Acts 5-9; Week 6 (2/10-15) - Acts 10-14; Week 7 (2/17-22) - Acts 15-19; Week 8 (2/24-3/1) - Acts 20-24

Sunday Morning Class Opportunities

9:15 a.m.

Parlor Class:

This group is following the Navigator's 5x5x5 Bible Reading Plan. (See above article.) You are invited to join in a discussion of the previous week's readings. Bring your questions, "aha's" and insights!

Conference Room Class (Previously met in the Chapel):

Milton Brock leads this study of the Old Testament. The class began in January with 2 Kings.

Godly Play:

Meredith is leading the children in a Bible discovery adventure. They are learning the Books of the Old and New Testament, along with the Lord's Prayer and the Apostle's Creed. The class meets in the Godly Play Room.

Middle School:

Meets in the room outside the pastor's office.

High School:

Meets upstairs.



Wednesday Night Dinner

**Don't Miss the Youth's
"A Taste of Italy"**

Wednesday, February 12th
at 5:30 PM

Proceeds go to help fund youth activities.



Presbyterian Youth Conclaves

Theme: New People, New Places, but God Remains

February 28th - March 2nd

Trinity Pines Conference Center

Our Presbytery's Youth Connection Council (PYCC) is planning a retreat that will enable your youth (grades 6-12) to grow closer to one another, connect with youth from all over our presbytery, engage in small groups, do a mission project, experience dynamic worship, and of course, have a blast playing games and making new friends!

The deadline for early registration is past. The registration fee after February 1st is \$130 per person. This fee includes lodging, 3 meals on Saturday, breakfast on Sunday, and a conference t-shirt. Scholarships are available.



PARENT'S DAY OUT NEEDS...

PDO is in need of **empty** and **clean**, plastic containers specifically from **antibacterial wipes** and **cake frosting**, like the [images below](#). You may leave them in the plastic bin beneath the wall calendar outside the secretary's office.

