



RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5000 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76116 ♦ (817) 732-3388

www.RIDGLEAPRES.org

April 2021



**We will celebrate Communion on
Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021**



Early morning services are being held in the parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE - ON ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82199420769?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82199420769?pwd=NGpRNEdQRkFzK244NC83R2ZuVGpyQT09)

[pwd=NGpRNEdQRkFzK244NC83R2ZuVGpyQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82199420769?pwd=NGpRNEdQRkFzK244NC83R2ZuVGpyQT09)

Meeting ID: 821 9942 0769

Passcode: 211142

April 4, 2021 10:30 AM

April 11, 2021 10:30 AM

April 18, 2021 10:30 AM

April 25, 2021 10:30 AM

**THE CHURCH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED APRIL 5, 2021**

February 17, 2021 – April 3, 2021



April 1, 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82111731651?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82111731651?pwd=OHFGYzVXVjhsUjlkcnUxenzld3g5UT09)

[pwd=OHFGYzVXVjhsUjlkcnUxenzld3g5UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82111731651?pwd=OHFGYzVXVjhsUjlkcnUxenzld3g5UT09)

Meeting ID: 821 1173 1651

Passcode: 577899



Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87940521540?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87940521540?pwd=WjBUSFdJOU1JSmlkcmVzOXU0WkUxQT09)

[pwd=WjBUSFdJOU1JSmlkcmVzOXU0WkUxQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87940521540?pwd=WjBUSFdJOU1JSmlkcmVzOXU0WkUxQT09)

Meeting ID: 879 4052 1540

Passcode: 464962

February 17—April 4, 2021



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

**You Shall Be Called
Repairers of the Breach**

— ISAIAH 58

APRIL NEWSLETTERS ARE
AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE





PASTOR'S NOTES

Living with Wisdom and Gristle

There were nine, or maybe ten of us around some tables, going through our little rituals of preparing for another committee meeting. I was still one of the rookies in presbytery circles, and almost all of the women and men in the room exuded a combination of wisdom and gristle, and every pastor there had been ordained before I had even been in junior high school.

Someone mentioned an upcoming presbytery meeting, called for the purpose of examining an individual who was accepting a call to a local congregation. Like my own less than twelve months earlier, this would be an ordination examination, which opened the tap for personal stories from decades past.

Laughter, groans, and forlorn head-shaking ensued, and one of those stories has stayed with me. The wanna'-be pastor stood nervously in front of the assemblage and was confronted with the question of whether, or not, the virgin birth was true. This is an inquiry meant to dash hopes upon craggy shores; meant to test if an ordinand is orthodox or heretical; meant to appease some clergy and inflame others – this we all knew as we heard the tale of the “examination with no right answer.”

That is, until our colleague let the Holy Spirit do the talking and said, “I stand with the gospel of Mark on that issue.” * We all chuckled at his wit and brevity, and we were thankful that “our presbytery” was more kind, more welcoming and less divisive (we weren't worried about a few weeds in our patch of grass).

Many of us pastors recount our ordination exams “on the floor of presbytery” as hours of anxiety that were, in reflection, important learning moments that were filled with more mercy than malice. They were also introductions to colleagues who sincerely pray for one another's ministries – particularly those “old hands” who ask thought-provoking questions. We also quickly realize that the horror stories – while few and far between – are also important to share and acknowledge.

The memory of that story, and the setting in which it was shared, has been bubbling around in my head for a few weeks, as I have been listening to stories of seeking, receiving, and experiencing COVID-19 vaccines, as well as stories from folks who are reluctant about these same vaccines. Most vaccination stories sound a bit like ordination examinations on the floor of a presbytery meeting: various degrees of anxiety that are not nearly as onerous or debilitating as feared. Some people have reactions to the first, but not the second dose, and others are the opposite, and some have no significant reaction to either, and very few have reactions to both, but in all cases the reactions are temporary.

I have listened to family, friends, and strangers tell me their reasons to opt out of receiving COVID-19 vaccines, and there is nearly always the idea that the decision is “what's best for me.” And while I really do understand liberty, and individualism, and anxiety, and trust, I also feel that “what's best for me” has been part of the reason this pandemic is in its fourth surge in fourteen months. No, I'm not suggesting giving up liberty or trust, but I am questioning the validity of “what's best for me” in the face of a mutating virus.

Even if my colleague, in that long-ago presbytery, had mumbled an awkward answer to the veracity of Mary's virginity, there was a 98% certainty that the examination would have successfully concluded and ordination authorized. Why? Because ordination exams are about simultaneous connections between candidate, congregation and denomination. And even during the most difficult examinations we presbyters are trying to model how we can grow together in ministry. This long-ago story reminds me of connections and community. As with hair-raising examination stories, we need to hear and honor each other's vaccinations and expectation experiences, and assure one another that the community is stronger when we are working together.

We will need as much of that as possible (working together) to get this pandemic under control. My prayer is to let the Holy Spirit fill my voice as I listen to personal stories, and as I share my rather routine story of getting a vaccination, for the good of us all.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Regan", with a stylized flourish underneath.

Making contact...

Ridglea Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is governed by the Session, an elected body composing of elders and pastors. Our committees, led by elders, oversee our ministries. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Email: Clerk@RidgleaPres.org. Our deacons oversee our ministries of care and compassion. Email: Deacons@RidgleaPres.org

RPC SESSION		
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Julie Ritz	Delaine Godwin	Miriam Gallagher
Butch Saxton	Katrina Little	Gayle Johnson
Tom Sisolak	George Tischler	Nancy Staples
Renee' Stuart	Reeve Van Nostrand	Nick Thoni
<i>Clerk of Session: Karen Landon</i>		

RPC TRUSTEES		
<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Jean Hadley	Chris Henderson	Jim Godfrey
Ken Kibler	Susan Maxwell	

2020 RPC DEACONS	
Michelle Birdwell	
Lynne Payne	
Ruth Ann Rinewalt	
Jane Johnson—Home Member Care Coordinator	
Dean Phillips – Hospital Care Coordinators	
*Betsy Kibler – Funeral Reception Coordinator	
*Not active Deacon	

RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Designee</u>
Thylis Chambless	Micky Severson	Will Stallworth	Steve Staples	Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

Staff

Roger Harwerth, Pastor	roger@ridgleapres.org
Patricia Taber, Office Manager	patricia@ridgleapres.org
Pier Crenshaw, Accountant	pier@ridgleapres.org
John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries	john@ridgleapres.org
Dale Bench, Organist	dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net
Thomas Rodriguez, Church Custodian	building
Church Office #817.732.3388	



Thanks to everyone for the cute and cuddly prayer bears for Cook Children's for our **February Just Bring It!** We collected a **total of 99 bears** that were delivered to the hospital.



Many of us know the blessings of having fellow church members pray for us and others.

Prayer Request items are distributed to a list maintained by PWR. Anyone who would like to be added to this distribution list should call the Church office.

Anyone who has a prayer request can send the information to Ruth Ann Rinewalt at r.rinewalt@att.net.

Just Bring It News

The generosity of our RPC family grows every month! Our March collection of beans, rice and pasta for WestAid in March has exceeded 500 pounds! What a joy to think of all of the families that will be blessed by what you have shared!



Our April **Just Bring It** is a special request from Meals on Wheels: pet food. During this year of isolation during the pandemic, companion animals have been an important source of comfort and strength for the recipients of Meals on Wheels. Yet feeding dogs and cats can be get expensive, and is a burden for many of those on fixed incomes. So Meals on Wheels not only helps with people food, whenever possible they help feed their client's pets. Canned or dry, whatever you have available, they will take. However, remember that many of these folks are quite frail, so if you're buying dry food, smaller bags are better. Another need would be large print magazines. If you have any around the house, bring them on in with the pet food.

Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County delivers nearly 1 million meals per year to over 5000 elderly and disable clients. Volunteers are always needed to help deliver meals. Several members of our church are delivery volunteers. It is generally a commitment of one day a week, and groups of neighbors or friends often work together to share delivery days. If more information is needed, please contact Nancy Marchant at nlsMarchant@gmail.com or call 817-946-4639.



Help Flower the Cross for Easter

The wooden cross that has been used in our Easter worship services will be decorated again this year! Please come place flowers on the cross. The cross will be on the portico outside the sanctuary on Saturday, April 3rd from 10:00am to 2:00pm. There will be flowers there for you to use. There will also be materials available to make flowers that can be placed on the cross.

If you would like to make flowers ahead of time and bring them on Saturday there will be flower making kits available to make several multicolored flowers. You may pick up a kit at the church during regular business hours the weeks of March 22nd-25th and March 29th-April 1st (Holy Week).





PRESBYTERIAN NIGHT SHELTER
of Tarrant County
Providing safety and hope since 1984

Please help us help others!!

There are sign ups for sandwich makers for the Presbyterian Night Shelter in the hallway on the bulletin board with the Flower Calendar. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Aprilant
nAprilant@charter.net



**Wednesday mornings at 8:00 a.m.
Sanctuary**



The RPC Scholarship application has opened for 2021. The application will be open till April 15, 2021.

We offer scholarships for all levels from Associates to Doctorates.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6rq_BJMP0mohzQu5LG2IcHgFF1iygqef8VO-aPh4OLCr4-Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

**Remember Our
Home Members**



The Care Committee wishes to encourage the congregation to send a note, a card, or make a phone call to a Home Member

to brighten their day, since visitors are not allowed at this time. For a Home Member's contact information, please call either Jane Johnson @ 817-307-9776 or Betsy Kibler @ 817-560-3141. ☺ Thank you for reaching out to our Home Members!

The Care Committee



**Cowtown Brush Up...
Revitalizing Neighborhoods**



We have the opportunity again this spring to make a difference for someone in need and extend Ridglea Presbyterian Church's commitment to our community to paint the exterior of a home on Saturday, April 10. Each of you has generously given your time in the past to paint a home and I am asking you to consider helping again. I will have the address of the house on Tuesday, April 6 and will pass it on to those that choose to volunteer for a few short hours the following Saturday.

Please let me know soon if you are interested in painting on April 10. wallyjolly@outlook.com or [817-570-5850](tel:817-570-5850).

Thanks, Walt



The Jam Sessions for April will be on Monday, April 5th and 19th, in the Sanctuary from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Lots of bluegrass, folk, Americana and country music is shared with acoustic (unamplified) instruments. Musicians of all skills are encouraged!



Presbyterian Women

APRIL 2021

In the last twelve months, we have worked hard to find ways to stay connected — with our study circles and mission projects. After debating whether it would even be possible to have a women's retreat this year, a spirited group stepped forward to tackle the challenge. The committee led by Katrina Little moved ahead in faith through countless hours of planning and prayers. On the first weekend of March, over fifty women “zoomed” to learn more of Micah's message and share some much needed fellowship. Friday night led off with a fun-filled game of Ridglea Bingo. Saturday turned serious as Dr. Candi Cabbage led us in a two session study on the book of Micah, a major message from a minor prophet. She did a marvelous job leading us to the awareness “If we are to be God's children, we are required (not suggested) to:

Act justly

Love mercy

and Walk humbly with our God

Micah 6:8

In smaller discussion groups, expertly led by volunteers, we expressed thoughts and feelings on how to change, share the power and be more openhearted. Lynne Payne helped us decorate picture frames into dry erase boards for our home members. Closing service brought us to the communion table. It was a weekend to reawaken what we already knew. It makes a difference how we treat each other and love our neighbors.

Circles will be meet in April:

Circle One:	April 13	10:30 a.m.	Zoom	Lesson eight
Circle Two:	April 13	10:30 a.m.	Zoom with Circle One	
Circle Three:	April 6	7:00 p.m.	Zoom	Lesson eight

Our April ***Just Bring It*** is a special request from Meals on Wheels: Pet Food. During this year of isolation during the pandemic, companion animals have been an important source of comfort and strength for the recipients of Meals on Wheels. Yet feeding dogs and cats can get expensive, and is a burden for many of those on fixed incomes. So Meals on Wheels not only helps with people food, whenever possible they help feed their clients' pets. Canned or dry, whatever you have available, they will take. However, remember that many of these folks are quite frail, so if you're buying dry food, smaller bags are better. Another need would be large print magazines. If you have any around the house, bring them on in with the pet food.

Mark your calendar for April 25, Gifts of Women's Sunday.



- ♦ We Welcome
 - ♦ We Witness
 - ♦ We Work (and play!)
- Putting faith in action is what we do!***

BIBLE STUDY - MISSION - FELLOWSHIP
All Women, Always Welcomed

Sign up for Covid Vaccine

<https://tcph.quickbase.com/db/bq3q4uet8?prfry=1>





The Women's Retreat held March 5-6, 2021, was an amazing journey of discovery.

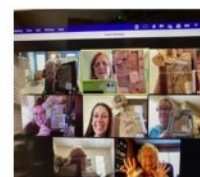
We discovered that, yes, 53 women will sign up to attend a retreat over Zoom. We found out that even on Zoom, you can have fun, you can experience fellowship, and you can be mentally and spiritually uplifted. And, yes, over Zoom people can participate, and even lead, from miles away.

Participants included RPC members and friends of all ages. We were led by Candi Vernon Cubbage, who grew up at Ridglea and is now a pastor in Kentucky. Micah 6:8 was our scriptural focus: **And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.** We came away from the retreat inspired to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. Thanks be to God for revealing His power in our lives.

We also want to thank RPC for your support; Candi for her leadership; the participants who embraced a "different" kind of retreat; and the committee who had the creativity to organize the event.

Retreat Committee:

Katrina Little, Chair. Members: Lilia Briseno, Delaine Godwin, Brenda Harwerth, Jane Johnson, Karen Landon, Nancy Marchant, Lynne Payne, Chris Shahan, Ann Shelton, Renee Stuart, Marsha West.



The Women's 2021 Retreat Committee
and several retreat attendees
donate the enclosed check for
\$262.57
to The Center for Transforming Lives.

We thank the Center for its dedication to changing lives for so many of
the young women and their children in our community.

This donation is made in honor of
Katrina Little, chairman of the retreat committee,
and the winners of the virtual bingo games:
Roberta Broussard
Beth Duncan
Mary Fisher
Judy Humphries
Catherine Larkin and her granddaughter, Jennifer
Luanne Morrison
Robyn Reid
Ruth Ann Rinewalt
Mary Beth Wagner

Remembering our Home Members
at Easter with the frames made by
PWR during their retreat and Easter
Lilies to enjoy for the holiday.



Session Meeting Notes for March 18, 2021

- The Ridglea Presbyterian Church regular stated session meeting took place on Thursday, March 18, 2021, using the Zoom video conferencing application. The Reverend Roger Harwerth moderated the meeting from his RPC office. RPC Clerk Karen Landon took the minutes of the meeting. Members of the Session and guests to the meeting remotely accessed the meeting.
- The minutes of the February 18, 2021 Stated Session meeting and the February 2021 Financial Statement were approved.
- The Clerk shared information from the March 2, 2021 Grace Presbytery presbytery-wide virtual Zoom gathering. Interim General Presbyter Steve Shive was introduced and spoke to the group. A Grace Presbytery 2021 Stewardship Shared Mission Giving video was shared, with RPC featured at 4:50 on the video: <https://vimeo.com/gracepresbytery>.
- The Building & Equipment Committee reported that roof repairs are scheduled to begin during the first week of April. After the roof is repaired, the property will be landscaped, and then a sprinkler system will be installed.
- The Personnel Committee is continuing efforts in the search to fill the position of Director of Youth Ministries.
- The Session approved on-site worship services beginning April 18, 2021. COVID-19 safety protocols will be implemented for the two services (8:30 & 10:30). Attendees will need to make reservations. The reservation process is still being finalized.
- The next stated meeting of Grace Presbytery will take place Saturday, May 1, 2021, at First Presbyterian Church in Richardson. Developments related to the pandemic, as the date of May 1 nears, will affect whether or not this meeting takes place in person.
- The next stated session meeting will be Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.
Note: This is the 4th Thursday in April.

**WELCOME
AUGUST 18, 2021
8:30 A.M. AND
10:30 A.M.
SERVICES**



On-site worship services will resume on Sunday, April 18th. We will have services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. with limited seating at each service – the sanctuary and narthex will be arranged to accommodate 65 people in rows that are six feet apart. Masks will be required at both services, and those who do not wish to wear masks or practice social distancing will be able to join us through our Zoom or Facebook streaming platforms.

We are working toward a reservation system, which will be available on April 12th for the services on the 18th (please do not call prior to the 12th, as the system is not yet operable). The session is aware that there are a number of additional activities to consider, such as Sunday School (for all ages), Presbyterian Women's Circles, Scouting, Youth and Messengers activities, and more.

We ask for patience as we move forward toward these exciting transitions.

In the meantime, please see directions below to set up sign on for Realm if you don't have an account.

1. [Go to onrealm.org](https://onrealm.org)
2. Sign in
3. Set up account - User name and password
4. Admin (left side of screen)
5. Registration Events
6. Click on event you wish to attend
7. Start typing your name and your profile should pop up
8. Hit register
9. And you should receive a confirmation email

RPC Youth & Children's News.....

Ridglea Presbyterian Church

CHILDREN AND YOUTH 2021 SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR



April 4 (Easter)

Pre-school - K 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
1st -12th grade - **No Sunday School**

April 11

Pre-school - K 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
1st -12th grade 4:00 p.m. Sunday School

April 18

Pre-school -K - **No Sunday school**
1st -12th grade 4:00 p.m. Sunday School

April 25

Pre-school - K 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
1st -12th grade 4:00 p.m. Fellowship at the church

ZOOM links are provided by your teacher.



Youth Fellowship—March 28 Pizza and Cookie Decorating

Thank you to Beth Duncan for baking the cookies for decorating and thank you to Julie Ritz and Renee Stuart for arranging the event.



The 2021 Flower Calendar is now posted in the Gathering Room

Sign up to provide the floral arrangement used in both worship services. You can honor or remember a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or just provide some beauty for our new worship space.

Arrangements are normally \$50.00. You may take the flowers with you after the 10:30 service.

If you have any questions, contact Patricia at the church office 817-732-3388.

RPC Financials as of 02/28/21

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
February:	\$37,144*	\$30,103
Year-to-Date:	\$76,783	\$60,561

*February Revenues include:

Pledge Giving	\$ 29,077
Non-Pledge Giving	\$ 7,040
Special Gifts	\$ 100
Other	\$ 927

"Be kind whenever possible.

It is always possible."

Dalai Lama

1st Tree Planting

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our friends at Ridglea Hills Area Neighborhood Association. Lacey Imbert of RHANA has been extremely helpful obtaining for RPC our first tree- a Cedar Elm for our upcoming sprinkler system and landscaping project. Lacey has told us they also plan to provide a Chinese Pistache tree and possibly 1 or 2 Crepe Myrtles, all at no cost to RPC. It is the Association's way of saying "welcome to the neighborhood".



Pictured are Jacob Juszcak and Paul Patterson, arborists with Bartlett Tree Experts who were instrumental locating the tree. Bartlett Tree Experts paid for the tree, picked up the tree and planted it on Monday. They purchased the tree from Fannin Tree Farm. They also took the time to educate the Landscaping Committee how to care for the tree.



Please take the time to thank Bartlett Tree Experts & Ridglea Hills Area Neighborhood Association. We look forward to opening our doors to the neighborhood and watching the tree grow.



The Landscaping Committee

Celebration of the Gifts of Women
April 25, 2021



Service Session Work Group:

Primary task is to provide for the service of the people of God, focusing on the external life of the church.

1st Monday of the Month (*as needed*)

April 5 , 2021

Ministry Teams meetings

- **Outreach Team: Focus on Mission**
Miriam Gallagher, Chair (**6:00 p.m.**)

3rd Wednesday of the Month

April 21, 2021

- **Commitment Focus on Guests**
Katrina Little, Chair
(**as needed**)

1st Tuesday of the Month

April 6 2021

Ministry Team meeting at 10:30 a.m.

- **Care Team: Focus on Members**
Betsy Kibler, Chair (**as needed**)

1st Wednesday of the month

April 7, 2021

- **Worship Team: Delaine Godwin , Chair**
(**as needed**)

Worship & Nurture Work Group:

Primary task is to provide for the service of the people of God, focusing on the internal life of the church.

2nd Tuesday of the Month

April 13 , 2021

Ministry Teams meeting

- **Christian Education:** *Julie Ritz, Chair*
(**6:15 pm**)
- **Fellowship Team:** *Bill Long, Chair; Butch Saxton, Vice Chair* (**as needed**)

3rd Tuesday of the week

Session Meeting week

Ministry Team meeting

- **Finance & Budget, Reeve Van Nostrand**
(**5:30 pm**) (**as needed**)

**YOUR SESSION INVITES YOU TO
FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:**

- 1. FIND YOUR PASSION**
- 2. FIND YOUR MINISTRY TEAM**
- 3. IDENTIFY YOUR MEETING NIGHT**
- 4. GET INVOLVED!**

Government Session Work Group:

Primary task is to provide support & resources for the church.

2nd Wednesday of the Month

April 14, 2021

Ministry Teams meeting

- **Building & Equipment** (**as needed**)
George Tischler & John Godwin,
Co-Chairs
- **Personnel** (**as needed**)
Blythe Lee, Chair and Julie Ritz
- **Clerk of Session**
Karen Landon

Session Meeting
April 22, 2021 7:00 pm

April Birthdays

John Bacon	4	6
Judy Groulx	4	8
Jennie Paget	4	8
Sonny McCutcheon	4	9
Jan Renfro	4	9
Martin Cleworth	4	12
Lindsey Staples	4	13
Ken Kibler	4	15
Debbie Odom	4	15
Sonia Conway	4	17
Marge Stubbeman	4	18
Adam Carpenter	4	18
John Godwin	4	19
Thomas Carter	4	19
Gary Guly	4	20
Mary Hanson	4	21
Mike Strange	4	23
Tom Jenkins	4	24
Carla Rodriguez	4	28
Gordon Ramsey	4	28
Lilia Briseno	4	28



The next
newsletter
deadline
will be
April 22, 2021 at
noon.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGE LEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116