



# RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

[www.RIDGLEAPRES.org](http://www.RIDGLEAPRES.org)

April, 2023

## Join Zoom Meeting (US and Canada)

Topic: Ridglea Worship for April, 2023

Time: 10:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Sun, until April 30, 2023,

5 occurrence(s)

April 2, 2023 10:30 AM

April 9, 2023 10:30 AM **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

April 16, 2023 10:30 AM

April 23, 2023 10:30 AM

April 30, 2023 10:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87422529872?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87422529872?pwd=S3pnRUFMMGM9ZL2FUZThYS0JhbXpodz09)

[pwd=S3pnRUFMMGM9ZL2FUZThYS0JhbXpodz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87422529872?pwd=S3pnRUFMMGM9ZL2FUZThYS0JhbXpodz09)

Meeting ID: 874 2252 9872

Passcode: 191022

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY APRIL 10, 2023**



We will celebrate the sacrament of Communion on **Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023**  
**Maundy Thursday, April 6, 2023**  
**and Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**  
**APRIL 6, 2023**  
**7:00 P.M.**



## ECLECTIC CAFÉ SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Eclectic Café Sunday School  
Zoom code is 661 636 9082.

No password required;  
Attendees will be admitted from the waiting room.

Lesson: The EC is doing a series on Christian Nationalism. Discussions of our Founding Fathers' Christian beliefs and subsequent separation of church and state, featuring some questionnaires regarding modern thoughts on Christian Nationalism, definitions and components, and some history of this concept. We'll end with a recent opinion from PC(USA).

SESSION MEETING  
WILL BE HELD ON  
APRIL 20, 2023 At 7:00 P.M.

APRIL NEWSLETTERS  
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE



# PASTOR'S NOTES

## Playing with Passion

As I was reading about the two-year delay of the once-a-decade performance of The Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany, I chuckled a bit, since the origins of the Oberammergau play are entwined with the plague that swept through Europe in the 1630's. The village vowed, collectively, to perform the Passion Play every decade, if God would bless them with protection from the plague. A 17<sup>th</sup>-century plague instigated the play, and a 21<sup>st</sup>-century plague threatened it again (*The Christian Century*, April, 2023, pp 70-73).

The article focused on the adaptations that the play has gone through in recent decades, some only obvious to the villagers, such as allowing women, and Protestants to perform, and others of a more theological nature. Last year's production tried to remove (as the magazine article put it), "false teachings that have assumed solid form over time," particularly the detrimental attitudes which confine the Passion events into a "Jews versus Jesus" focus. Such a perspective ignores the wide variety of Jewish expressions in both Jesus' era and today. Some of the changes were brought about after considerations that included how the gospels portray the Jewish authorities, portray Pontius Pilate's role, and portray Jesus; all of the gospels vary in their accounts of the Passion. And, lest we forget, in his letters (all of which pre-date the gospels) Paul hardly mentions any Jewish opposition to Jesus. Yet much of Christianity, and most versions of The Passion Play, have become comfortable in accepting a version of the Passion which blames the whole of Judaism for the death of Jesus. There were many Jewish people who followed Jesus, and considered his message as compatible with Judaism; we do harm to ourselves and Judaism when we ignore such realities.

These changes to The Passion Play have met with some resistance. It is hard to hear, and to learn, and to change what has become normative, traditional, expected, ingrained, particularly when those norms and traditions came from the Church. Except, we do ourselves a disfavor when we lock ourselves into one perspective. The stories we tell, and live into, about Easter (and Christmas, and others) are meant to be alive to us, here and now, just as much as they were when the plague was ravishing Europe, or when Paul was writing to his friends in Corinth. Fortunately, though oftentimes slowly, the Church has explored different perspectives, broader avenues, as the Spirit pokes and prods and encourages and expands.

A few weeks ago we celebrated the ministry of the Rev. Fred Rogers, the creator of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood (which was the subject of last month's newsletter), and we considered the question of the lawyer who asked Jesus, "who is my neighbor?" (cf. Luke 10:25ff) The question is seeking to find where the lines are between neighbor and stranger and enemy; if we can define our neighbor, it is easier to define our enemy. The parable that Jesus shares (the Good Samaritan) overturns the presumption of categories. The good news which Jesus shared – and died to share – is that God's love is larger than categories, traditions, expectations; God's love is for all people, all the time. That is an Easter message to celebrate and to live, every day.

Peace,

# 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](mailto:Clerk@RidgleaPres.org). Our deacons oversee our ministries of care and compassion. Email: [Deacons@RidgleaPres.org](mailto:Deacons@RidgleaPres.org)

<b>RPC SESSION</b>		
<u><b>Class of 2023</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2024</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2025</b></u>
Miriam Gallagher	Susan Everts	Mick Stuart
Gayle Johnson	Marji Raunikar	John Little
Nancy Staples	Dale Wagner	Durinda Walker
Nick Thoni		Mary Fisher
<i>Clerk of Session: Karen Landon</i>		

<b>RPC TRUSTEES</b>		
<u><b>Class of 2023</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2024</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2025</b></u>
Jim Godfrey	Tom Sisolak	

<b>2022-2023 RPC DEACONS</b>
Lynne Payne - Moderator
Kit Van Nostrand—Home Member Care Coordinator
Ruth Ann Rinewalt—Hospital Care Coordinator
Dean Phillips – Hospital Care Coordinator
Jean Godfrey – Funeral Reception Coordinator
Jo VanOosterhout
Glenna Cleworth

<b>RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>				
<u><b>Class of 2023</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2024</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2025</b></u>	<u><b>Class of 2026</b></u>	<u><b>Designee</b></u>
Will Stallworth	Steve Staples	Ken Kibler	Gordon Ramsey	Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

<b>Staff</b>	
Roger Harwerth, Pastor	<a href="mailto:roger@ridgleapres.org">roger@ridgleapres.org</a>
Patricia Taber, Office Manager	<a href="mailto:patricia@ridgleapres.org">patricia@ridgleapres.org</a>
John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries	<a href="mailto:john@ridgleapres.org">john@ridgleapres.org</a>
Dale Bench, Organist	<a href="mailto:dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net">dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Church Office #817.732.3388</b>	



**COME JOIN US!**  
**April 1, 2023**  
**1st Saturday of the month**

Gather in groups of 6 to 8 or more to enjoy a meal and fellowship at the host's home or a local restaurant. The Fellowship Committee will coordinate registration and organizing the Friends Groups. Groups will differ from month to month.

There has been interest in meeting for lunch instead of dinner. You may now indicate if you would like to participate in a lunchtime option. If there are enough people to make a lunch Friends Group, we will coordinate one.

If you agree to host in your home, you decide what entree you would like to serve and ask the assigned members of your Friends Group to bring side dishes to complement the meal.

If you agree to host in a restaurant, simply make a reservation at the restaurant of your choice. Then notify the members of your assigned Friends Group of the restaurant and reservation time. Dinner in a restaurant will be dutch treat.

**Please remember, if you attended or hosted, send pictures to the church office for the Newsletter.**



**REVITALIZING NEIGHBORHOODS**

*Grab a brush and join us!*

Howdy Painters!

The photograph is our project this Saturday. We were given supplies last night and I will make contact with the owner and review the work to be done onsite tomorrow.

I will bring the supplies Habitat provided if you will bring gloves, sunscreen, hat, sturdy shoes, pails, step stool, ladder or anything to make your painting efforts easier.

Please arrive by 8:15 am. From the photograph we should be able to complete this job in just a few hours.

Should there be a rain delay I will contact you by 7:00 am with instructions from Habitat.

Feel free to invite a friend to share in the fun.

Thank you,  
Walt



Marge Allen  
4900 Virgil St.  
Fort Worth, TX 76119  
682-559-6354  
Ridglea Presbyterian





**Fellowship Meal**

During our March Fellowship Luncheon, we celebrated the contribution of Rev. Mr. Fred Rogers (Host of TV's Mister Rogers' Neighborhood) and heard about the good works of the Presbyterian Children Homes and Services.



**DINNER WITH FRIENDS  
MARCH, 2023**



On Mister Rogers' Sunday, our RPC confirmands and their mentors learned about church fellowship, and baked and shared bread together. The confirmands will soon complete their 10-lesson confirmation class and attend a retreat on April 1st. Confirmation lessons were led by Rev. Harwerth, Nancy & Gordon Marchant, and Karen Landon. Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for April 9th, Easter Sunday.





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

## You Shall Be Called Repairers of the Breach

— ISAIAH 58

February 22—April 9, 2023

FOUNDED • 1987 FOR • DEVELOPMENT



### February 22-April 9, 2023

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

#### WAYS TO GIVE —

- ✦ Through your congregation
- ✦ Donate by credit card online at [pcusa.org/give-oghs](https://pcusa.org/give-oghs)
- ✦ Text OGH5 to 91999 to give



-or-

You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

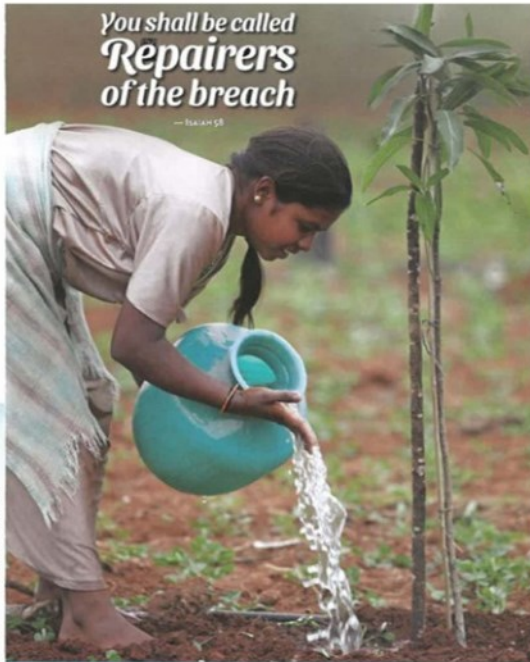
Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in over 100 countries.

#### IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference, visit [pcusa.org/oghs](https://pcusa.org/oghs)



One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four annual special offerings. The four churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for generosity, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.



COVER IMAGE: WELI FRANCIS/ALAMY STOCK

## You shall be called Repairers of the breach

— ISAIAH 58

PROVIDING RELIEF FROM NATURAL DISASTERS, FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY, AND SUPPORT FOR THE POOR AND OPPRESSED.



ALLIANCE FOR FAIR FOOD

During Lent, we celebrate that God connects with us through Jesus' resurrection, and connects us with "those who have least." One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together to work for a better world by advancing the causes of justice, resilience, and sustainability.

I WAS HUNGRY  
AND YOU GAVE ME FOOD.  
I WAS THIRSTY  
AND YOU GAVE ME  
SOMETHING TO DRINK.  
I WAS A STRANGER  
AND YOU WELCOMED ME.  
I WAS NAKED AND  
YOU GAVE ME CLOTHING.  
I WAS SICK AND  
YOU TOOK CARE OF ME.  
I WAS IN PRISON  
AND YOU VISITED ME.

— MATTHEW 25:31-46

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

## We Are There

In this Season of Lent, we follow Jesus' example; walking alongside the most vulnerable to partner in repairing harms inflicted upon them. We are the Church, Together; and we are there with those who need us.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through three life-saving programs —



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER  
ASSISTANCE**

Restore Streets  
to Live In



**PRESBYTERIAN  
HUNGER  
PROGRAM**

Share Bread with  
the Hungry



**SELF-  
DEVELOPMENT  
OF PEOPLE**

Loose the Bonds  
of Injustice

Please give generously.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!



## SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH



The RPC Women are collecting quarters in the Narthex after service every second Sunday of the month to assist Westaid in providing laundry services and supplies to those in need.

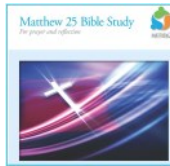


The women of Ridglea Presbyterian have a very exciting and informative meeting coming up April 25th for our general meeting.

Our speaker will be a representative from Med Star. You might think that all they do is offer ambulance service in time of an emergency. Well their services are much more extensive. They are recognized as one of the top EMS systems in the US and internationally. You will not want to miss this very important event.

It is open to all members of Ridglea, men and women, so please don't miss information that could be a life saver for all of us.

THE 2023 FLOWER CALENDAR IS POSTED IN THE NARTHEX FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES IN RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL DATES, OCCASIONS OR LOVED ONES YOU WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE IN THE UPCOMING YEAR.



### Matthew 25 Book Club Spring 2023

Our book club is open to all. We ask you to join as we read and study books that may push us out of our comfort zone. Join us on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6 pm with your own sack supper. The study will begin at 6:30 and go to about 8 pm.

Below is the list of the upcoming date, books, and leaders. You don't have to have read the book to attend.

April 25 **WE ARE NOT LIKE THEM**  
by Christine Pride & Jo Piazz.  
Becky Williamson is the Leader.

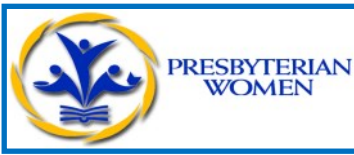
May 28 **THE OTHER WES MOORE**  
by Wes Moore. Leader Chris Shahan.

We hope you will be able to join us.

The Matthew 25 Study Group



**The Jam Sessions for April will be on Monday, the 10th and 24th 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!**



April, 2023

On a cool February morning, PW and friends gathered for a trip to see the Painted Churches. Without leaving the sanctuary, we travelled around Texas admiring the beautifully painted and decorated houses of worship. Our tour guide, Holly Hooper, shared the slides she herself took to document these works of art. A failure of the projector didn't interfere with our enjoyment as Katrina did an outstanding imitation of Vanna White, holding up the computer pictures so we could oooh and ahhh—as Holly explained, German and Polish settlers in the 1800's built churches and tried to make them as beautiful as those in Europe. They used local artists who painted murals on walls and ceilings, added tall columns and stain glass windows. St. John Baptist Church is entirely pink inside. Holly advised those who wish to go do so, visit in Spring or Fall, as churches are not air conditioned. For more information on scheduling a tour, call Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce, 1-866-504-5294.

Circles meet in March

One	April 11	At church (Fish Classroom)	10:30 a.m.
Two	April 11	At church (Eclectic Café Classroom)	10:30 a.m.
Three	April 4	At church (Eclectic Café Classroom)	6:15 p.m.

(Bring a bag supper; dessert is provided)

Just Bring It: April, 2023: Toiletries and kitchen trash bags for Quail Trail Apartments—a new Fort Worth project to get homeless into homes.

Birthday Offering will be taken in May. More information will be coming next month as this beloved offering begins its second hundred year of service.

Presbyterian Children's Homes And Services fund raiser luncheon is May 2nd at Ridglea Country Club. If you need more information or want to make a reservation, call a circle leader:

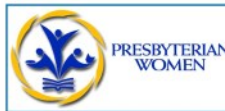
- Mac Zimmerman
- Kit Van Nostrand
- Thylis Chambless

All Women, Always Welcomed  
BIBLE STUDY - MISSION - FELLOWSHIP



On the first and second Sunday of each month, beautiful note cards will be available for RPC members to send to our "at home"

members. Following worship service, these cards will be in white baskets in the Narthex on a first come basis. For the month of April, Easter cards will be available.



APRIL "JUST BRING IT"

PWR is collecting toilet paper and kitchen size plastic trash bags for The Quail Trail Community residents, who are formerly homeless folks, now living in this new housing area in River Oaks.



If anyone needs a ride to the services on Maundy Thursday, April 6th, at 7:00 p.m., contact the church office (817-732-3388) and arrangements will be made to pick you up.





Wednesday mornings  
8:00 a.m.  
Sanctuary

The men's prayer breakfast has been a vital part of Ridglea's mission and ministry for decades. We enjoy a home-cooked breakfast (just \$4.00) and pray for people and events throughout the world.



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](mailto:r.rinewalt@att.net).



We need ushers, communion servers, and liturgists for Sundays during the 2023 year of worship. Please volunteer to help with the Sunday morning worship service. Also, if you signed up for a particular Sunday and something comes up, please contact Durinda Walker at 817-229-9880 in order to fill those positions.

Sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d49a4ae2ea3f85-ushers1>

## Easter Breakfast

**No Sunday School**  
**Easter Sunday, April 9th**  
**Fellowship Breakfast at 9:15 a.m.,**  
**Easter egg hunt and activities at 9:30 a.m. and**  
**Flowering of the Cross**

Members of the congregation are encouraged to bring flowers on April 9th, Easter Sunday, for Flowering of the Cross. Also, there is no Sunday School and at 9:15 a.m. a light breakfast will be served, and an Easter egg hunt and activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. Bags for collecting eggs will be available if you don't have your own basket.





**UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Fellowship Fun**

**See details and register on Realm for these upcoming events:**

Event:	Date:	Register By:	Info:
April Dinner with Friends	Saturday, April 1st	Monday, March 27th	Dinner or Lunch groups are available
Outing: The Promise in Glen Rose	Sunday, April 2nd	Sunday, March 12	Depart at 3pm for the Texas Amphitheater in Glen Rose to see the Promise of Passover. Seats on the RPC bus are available for trip to and from Glen Rose.

**Mark your calendars for events coming soon:**

(We'll let you know when registration opens on Realm)

Event:	Date:
April Fellowship Lunch	Because there are other Fellowship events in April and we are serving Easter breakfast on April 9th <b>we will not host a Fellowship Lunch in April.</b>
May Dinner with Friends	Saturday, May 6th
May Fellowship Lunch	Sunday, May 21st

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

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

**2nd Sunday of the Month**

**Except for this month**

**April 23, 2023 11:45 a.m.**

**Board of Deacons: Focus on Members  
Lynne Payne, Moderator**

**2nd Tuesday of the Month**

**April 11, 2023 6:15 p.m.**

**Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing  
Susan Everts, Chair**

**1st Tuesday of the Month**

**April 4, 2023 7:00 p.m. & Zoom**

**Fellowship Team: Focus on Social Gatherings  
Gayle Johnson, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**

**April 12, 2023 5:30 p.m.**

**Commitment Team: Focus on Guests  
Mary Fisher, Chair**

**1st Wednesday of the Month**

**April 5, 2023 5:30 p.m.**

**Worship Team:  
Focus on Sunday & Special Services  
Durinda Walker, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**

**April 12, 2023 6:30 p.m.**

**Building & Equipment :  
Focus on Physical Structures  
George Tischler, Chair**

**1st Thursday of the Month**

**April 6, 2023 6:00 p.m.**

**Personnel: Focus on Staff Support  
Nick Thoni, Chair**

**2nd Thursday**

**(week prior to Session Meeting)**

**6:00 p.m. - Zoom**

**Finance & Budget: Focus on Stewardship  
Reeve Van Nostrand, Chair**

**2nd Tuesday of the Month**

**April 11, 2023 6:00 p.m.**

**Outreach Team: Focus on Mission  
Marji Raunikar, Chair**

**3rd Thursday of the Month**

**April 20, 2023**

**7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom**

**Session Meeting**

**Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator**

**Clerk of Session**

**Karen Landon**



## April 2023 Birthdays

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
Shirley Baxter	4	16
Sonja Conway	4	17
Marge Stubbeman	4	18
John Godwin	4	19
Thomas Carter	4	19
Gary Guly	4	20
Mary Hanson	4	21
Tom Jenkins	4	24
Jared Hoaldrige	4	24
Melissa Burkhead	4	27
Carla Rodriguez	4	28
Gordon Ramsey	4	28
Lilia Briseno	4	28

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116

The next  
newsletter  
deadline  
will be  
April 20, 2023  
at noon.