

The Circuit Rider



April
2026
Volume
55
Issue 4

Hondo Methodist Church

*"Growing in GOD's Grace
Rooted in HIS Word"*

1006 16th Street
Hondo, Texas 78861

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Office Hours...

Monday - Thursday
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Church Staff...

Pastor

Rev. J. Paul Bruhn
pastorbruhn@live.com

Family Ministries Director

Nihar Judah
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Leon Steward

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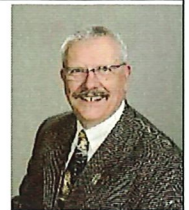
Nursery

Lupe Diaz
Sarah Holley

And they went out and
preached everywhere,
while the Lord worked
with them and confirmed
the message by
accompanying signs.

Mark 16:20 ESV

The Pastor's Pondering Rev. J. Paul Bruhn



Ten days until Easter, or to be more specific 'Resurrection Sunday.' The preparations are going full-speed preparing for one of the best attended worship services of the year. Studying Scripture and prayerfully considering how to make the message for that Sunday memorable.

What moves people to attend Resurrection Sunday services? Great question. Several years ago, there was a church in the Houston area that began giving away new cars. While that may attract a larger crowd, I would claim that it creates the wrong kind of attention.

Resurrection Sunday needs to focus on the sacrifice that set us free – Christ's death at the cross of Calvary – and our hope for new and eternal life as lived out by Jesus of Nazareth, the Anointed One, a.k.a. GOD's only begotten Son, when He was raised from the dead.

John the Evangelist shares with us

Revelation 7:9–12 (NKJV)

9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

12 saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

Cracking your Bible open and continuing the reading of chapter 7 you will discover that the crowd in question are those who accepted Jesus and were faithful during times of testing and tribulation. It seems to be particularly North American and Western European theology that may have difficulty acknowledging the concept of suffering of those who decide to follow Jesus.

It might help to remember that Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane did ask His Heavenly Father to allow for the cup to pass Him by, but that He would be obedient to His

The Pastor's Pondering continuing....

Father's command to bring us eternal salvation. Jesus – being fully human and fully divine – did not look forward to the amount of excruciating pain and violent death He would suffer so we may live.

Now John is given the privilege to see that those who finish the race will spend eternity in GOD's presence worshipping Him with endless abandonment. The older I get the more do I look forward to that final destination.

First, I hope and pray that you have made the decision to accept Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord. If you are not sure, you can invite Him into your life right now!

Second, ask the Holy Spirit to show you who in your family and in your neighborhood might need to learn about Jesus.

Third, be intentional about inviting the people identified to our Resurrection Sunday celebration and continue to nurture your relationship with them.

All of us are called to be Kingdom Builders for GOD.

In CHRIST's Unfailing Love

Pastor J. Paul

Global Methodist Church News

Study Guide the "World Is Our Parish" for all 4 Lessons

https://irp.cdn-website.com/1876eae9/files/uploaded/2026-01-20_TheWorldIsOurParish_StudyGuide_v2.pdf

Four short Teaching Videos of GMC Bishops:

Lesson 1: by Bishop Auto 'Methodism's Global Spread'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTPg361ea7Y&list=PLxzmHW4eeft5Ow9OsRMHB7E38M0qhbuJ_&index=16

Lesson 2: by Bishop Greenway 'Methodism & Mission'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pb_V4HV55HM&list=PLxzmHW4eeft5Ow9OsRMHB7E38M0qhbuJ_&index=14

Lesson 3: by Bishop Levingston 'Methodism & Evangelism'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBzrRmY1FuQ&list=PLxzmHW4eeft5Ow9OsRMHB7E38M0qhbuJ_&index=10

Lesson 4: by Moore 'Methodism & Ecumenism'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rrYR5nkzIKw&list=PLxzmHW4eeft5Ow9OsRMHB7E38M0qhbuJ_&index=1

A Note from the Director of Family Ministries



The Ultimate Mic Drop Moment!!

Hey Church Fam!

Y'all, I had to drive down to San Antonio last week, and you know what blew my mind? Those Texas wildflowers! It's been one year in Texas, but wow! One day the roadside looked all brown and dead, and the next day—BAM!—bluebonnets everywhere! It got me thinking about how April is literally the season of "things coming back to life," and honestly, that's exactly what we get to celebrate this month.

Resurrection Sunday is here, and I'm practically bouncing off the walls excited for your kids to really *get* how incredible this story is. Can we talk about how CRAZY the Resurrection story actually is? Like, if you were writing a movie, nobody would believe this script!

I was reading this article the other day that had some mind-blowing facts about the Resurrection, and I thought it would be fun to share these with you—maybe you can pass them along to your kids at home while y'all are preparing for Easter:

- The tomb where Jesus was buried? It was sealed with a **2-ton stone** that would take multiple men to move. Yet it was rolled away like it was nothing.
- Jesus didn't just "come back to life". He walked through **locked doors**, appeared and disappeared, and had a body that was both real (he ate fish!) and supernatural. That's superhero-level stuff right there!
- **Over 500 people** saw Jesus alive after the Resurrection. That's like filling up our entire sanctuary twice!
- Here's a Texas-sized fact: The earthquake that happened when Jesus died was so powerful that **graves opened** up and dead saints walked around Jerusalem. Imagine that on the evening news!
- But here's my favorite part: The very first people Jesus chose to tell about His resurrection were **women**—and back then, women's testimony wasn't even considered valid in court. Jesus was basically saying, "I'm changing all the rules, starting now."

In our kids church, we just wrapped up our series on the Books of the Bible, and can I just say—I am SO proud of these kids! They've been learning the names, the authors, and the "big picture" of all 66 books. The head knowledge is there, and most of them now have their very own personal Bible in their hands. Parents, here's where you come in: Now that they *have* the Word, let's help them *love* the Word. Here's what I'm dreaming of—your kids getting so excited about what they find in their Bibles that they can't wait to tell you about it. Imagine them running to you saying, "Mom! Dad! You're not going to believe what I just read!"

Can we team up on this? This month, encourage them to actually open those Bibles at home. Let them see you reading yours (even if it's just for five minutes with your coffee).

Note from the Director of Family Ministries continuing . . .

Ask them, "Hey, what's one cool thing you found in your Bible today?" It doesn't have to be a 30-minute sermon—just a 2-minute "connection moment."

Starting this month, we're launching a brand-new, 8-week series called **Mic Drop** in our kid's church. We're diving deep into Worship—and no, it's not just about singing songs! We're talking about why we worship, how we do it with our whole lives, and those "Mic Drop" moments in the Bible where God's glory was so big, there was nothing left to say but "Wow." It's going to be loud, fun, and really deep. Your kids won't want to miss it!

Oh, and here's a little bonus: At our **Table Breakfast Fellowship**, we're also diving into worship with our '**Vibe Check**' series. Because apparently, we can't get enough of talking about worship around here! But seriously, we want your kids and youth to start bringing some of that worship energy home too – imagine praise music during Saturday morning pancakes!

Summer is Calling! (Mark Your Calendars)

I know it feels early, but Texas summer will be here before we know it! We have some incredible things planned, and we want to make sure your kids are there. Grab your phone right now and save these dates:

- **Summer House:** Every Tuesday from **June 2nd – July 7th** (9:30 AM – 12:30 PM). It's basically the best hangout ever.
- **VBS (Vacation Bible School): July 13th – 17th** (9:30 AM – 12:30 PM). Get ready for the best week of the year!
- **Poolside Parables (Youth):** Every Thursday **June 4th – July 9th** (6:00 PM – 8:00 PM). Nothing beats faith conversations by the water (especially when it's 100 degrees outside!).

I am so incredibly grateful to be on this journey with your families. Seeing your kids discover how amazing God's story really is—that's what gets me up every morning. See you Sunday!

**With love,
Nihar Judah**

Director of Family Ministries HMC
familyministries@hondo.church

Holy Week Schedule

Good Friday, April 3rd @ 6:00 p.m.:

This year we will have Good Friday Service with Special Music of the choir.

Saturday, April 4 @ 10:00 a.m.:

Come help set up the fellowship hall for Easter breakfast.

Easter Sunday, April 5th:

9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast.

9:30 a.m. Easter egg hunt.

10 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Our Prayer Concerns

Shannon Anna
Betty Barlow
Karen Callis
Carla Carlton
Glenn Carlton
Grayson Cowart
Richard Crosby
Jeff Friesenhahn
Ray Gomez
Pearson Hackebeil
Nola Hanson
Alice Harris
Angie Hawley
Linda Hayes
Vickie Hill
Martha Holcomb
Jed Knowlton
Angelica Martinez
Mason Plummer
Meleah Plummer
Christine Price
Vicky Sablatura
Debbie Southwell
Joleen Nixon Torres
Joy Trimble
Dade Turner
Kirk Van de Walle
Haley Young

Our Troops:

Erik Arias
Joshua Bruhn
William E. Bryant
Logan Dean
Bryan Franklin
Joe Frank Garcia, III
Logan Petersen

Worship Assistants

Liturgists

April 5 Chris Kailipaka
April 12 Skie Rozyskie
April 19 Bo Buescher
April 26 Jan Weems

Counters

April 5 Brenda Vavricek
April 12 Lorine Hackebeil
April 19 Tricia Boll
April 26 Cheryl Stroud

Counters

April 5
April 12 Katelin Buescher
April 19 Sherry Hartnett
April 26

Children's Church

April 5 Nihar & Melissa
April 12
April 19 Marcy Rothe
April 26 Tammy Lynch

Worship Attendance

March 1: 75
March 8: 70
March 15: 92
March 22: 75
March 29

Our Prayer Concerns:

Nursing Home:

Ralph Gilliam
Johnny Wilson
Albert Castro (Cast.)
Florine Carman (SA)
Judith Kuykendall (SA)
Sterling Martin (SA)

Financial Report

January 2026

General Fund: \$ 93,064.91
Income: + \$ 23,523.30
Expense: - \$ 31,268.60
Balance: \$ 85,319.61

General F. CDs: \$ 80,000.00
Balance: \$ 80,000.00

Scholarship CD \$ 67,515.86
Balance: \$ 67,515.86

Building Fund: \$ 17,085.20
Income: \$ 3,050.00
Expense: - \$ 756.44
Balance: \$ 19,378.76

Memorial: \$ 38,886.26
Income: + \$ 879.24
Balance: \$ 39,765.50

Altar Fund: \$ 8,917.15
Expense: - \$ 218.52
Balance: \$ 8,698.63

Our 2026 Budget is
\$471,875.

We have received
GF Pledges for \$73481.56
from 13 family units

We cannot automatically
renew pledges.

Please let us know in
writing, if you want
to continue or
increase your pledge!

Hondo Methodist Women

The next meeting for Hondo Methodist Women will be held on April 1 at 9:30am.

The meeting will be held at the Fellowship Hall and Betty Gilliam will be our hostess.

We will continue our study of Women of the Bible.

Betty will give the program on Rahab.

All women are welcome to join us.

We look forward to seeing you on April 1st!

Food Drive MCFP

ITEMS TO DONATE:

Boxed Macaroni & Cheese
Ramen Noodles
Spaghetti Noodles
1lb Bag Rice
Any Dry Pasta
1lb Bag Pinto Beans
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Dry Cereal or Oatmeal
Canned Tuna
Canned Chicken
Canned Chili with Beans
Spam
Spaghetti Sauce
Vegetable Oil 16oz
Flour Tortilla Mix
Sugar 2lbs
Canned Vegetables (Corn, Green Beans, Peas, Potatoes)
4 pack Toilet Paper
Small Dish Soap
Bar Soap
PLEASE NO CANNED BEANS

Memorials

Received this month

IN MEMORY OF:

Ronnie Nolan

by

Cliff & Kim Reed
Eric & Lisa Rothe

Hasey Hollmig

by

Ralph & Betty Gilliam
Jack & Beverly Gruber
Matt & Shannon Windrow
Alan & Karen Muennink
Larry & Andrea Bohmfalk
Tim & Molly Herbst
Craig & Vickie Hollmig
Cynthia Rauwerdink
Tammy Williams
Candace & Hilo DelBosque
Patti Hunter
Fredericksburg Golf Club
Pat & Barbara Kasper
Susan Hartmann
Michelle Hutto
Cliff & Kim Reed
Robert Schmidt
Eric & Lisa Rothe
Mike & Betty Crowell
Chris Kailipaka
Richard Shimer
Sheryl A. Wallgren
Mary Dean & Allen Massey
Rose Aelvoet



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THE 'READING' PORTRAIT OF JOHN WESLEY
From a miniature by David Allan (the painting by John Russell, 1841)

I build on Christ,
the rock of ages;
on his sure mercies
described in his word,
and on his promises,
all which I know are
yes and amen.

John Wesley

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 HMW meets at 9:30 FH 6 PM Choir	2 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	3 6 PM Good Friday Service	4 10 AM Set up Easter breakfast
5 Easter 9:00 AM Breakfast 9:30 Easter Egg Hunt 10 AM Worship w. C Children's Church 6PM Healing Service	6	7 5:30 Pre- Picnic Meeting	8 6 PM Choir	9 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	10	11
12 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church 4:30 W w Jesus Gath. Devine Wesleyan Fell.	13 5 PM Worship C. 6 PM Health C	14	15 6 PM Choir	16 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar SPRC 6 PM 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	17	18
19 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22 6 PM Choir	23 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	24	25
26 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church	27 Newsletter Prep & Mail	28 1-3 FH WN Resource Meeting	29 6 PM Choir	30 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM FH occupied		



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Volunteers Needed

To revive Communion to the Homebound we are looking for a pair or two of people willing to go take (or already have) the Ministry-Safe training and visit Homebound on a monthly basis. Please contact the office.

*The Newsletter can be seen
in full COLOR online at
www.hondo.church*

San Antonio Food Bank

Next Food Bank Distribution will be
April 14, 2026, at the Fairground.
Volunteers start at 7:30AM
**Clients must pre-register
by calling the
SAFB at 210-431-8326.**

Walking With Jesus Reunion Group

We have a Men's group Wednesday's
at 7PM in the Seeker Class.
The Women's group will meet the first
Monday of the month at noon.

Gathering

April 12, 4:30 PM at
Devine Wesleyan Fellowship

Methodist Websites:

Hondo Methodist Church
www.hondo.church

Mid Texas Conference GMC
<https://midtexasgmc.org/>

Global Methodist Church
<https://globalmethodist.org/>

General Conference Website
<https://www.sotheworldwillknow.org/>