

The Circuit Rider



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Hondo Methodist Church

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

1006 16th Street
Hondo, Texas 78861
(830)584.0300
office@hondo.church
www.hondo.church

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
Familyministries
@hondo.church

Choir Director

Leon Steward

Office Manager

Marion Bruhn
office@hondo.church

Custodians,

Ramon Martinez
Angelica Martinez
Jessica Gomez

Nursery,

Lupe Diaz
Jasmine Martinez

WHATEVER IS TRUE,
WHATEVER IS NOBLE,
WHATEVER IS RIGHT,
WHATEVER IS PURE,
WHATEVER IS
LOVELY, WHATEVER
IS ADMIRABLE—IF
ANYTHING IS
EXCELLENT OR
PRAISEWORTHY—MAY
I THINK ABOUT SUCH
THINGS, LORD.

From Philippians 4:8 (NIV)

The Pastor's Pondering Rev. J. Paul Bruhn



Last month we celebrated the 250th 'birthday' of the United States Army and Navy. The latter one is debatable since the Navy had been discontinued for several years due to budget restraints until it was needed again to protect our interest in the Mediterranean opposing pirates. That is why the Marines sing, "From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli ...".

However, we are celebrating the 249th 'birthday' of the United States of America, the longest running republic in modern history. It took several more years before our founders agreed on a Constitution and the Bill of Rights which consisted of the first ten Amendments.

When we first came to the United States we were surprised to find that many public meetings started with the Pledge of Allegiance and often with the singing of the National Anthem. This was something we were not used to coming from Germany where we had a National Anthem, but we rarely sung it. I remember being asked to lead the Pledge, and I was nervous not being sure if I would know all the words. A friend of mine smiled giving me the advice to simply start with, "I pledge ...", at that point, he explained, everybody else would chime in and I had nothing to worry. He was absolutely correct.

It was President Dwight D. Eisenhower who, on June 14, 1954 — Flag Day --, signed into law that the words, "... one Nation under God ..." were to be added to the Pledge of Allegiance, recognizing that our Nation was not only founded upon but also sustained by the grace of God.

If you study the early history of the United States, you will find that our founders were convinced that the Republic that they had created could only survive and thrive when the citizens would live their lives acknowledging the God of the Judeo-Christian traditions.

George Washington, our first President, led Congress to a church immediately following his installation as President. Congress under the leadership of Washington dedicated our Nation to God.

One might want to study the history of the First Great Awakening (1720s to 1740s). Prominent figures were Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield. The latter was a contemporary of John and Charles Wesley. He convinced John to preach outside of church buildings leading thousands of miners to accept Christ and live holy lives.

The Second Great Awakening (1795 to 1835) led to a nationwide revival. One of the leaders was Charles G. Finney. Theologically the emphasis shifted to a practical Arminianism which focused

on God's universal grace available to everyone, yet requiring an individual response, accepting the invitation to become a follower of Christ. It was during that season that our Constitution and Bill of Rights were finalized. We are a Nation built upon Christian values, and we should never be ashamed of that fact.

Psalm 127 states, "Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain." (Ps. 127:1, NKJV)

President Dwight D. Eisenhower placed his hand on that Scripture when he took the presidential oath of office in 1953.

When we celebrate July 4th this year let us remember that our Nation is dedicated to God and live our lives according to His standards inviting others to explore GOD's forgiveness and grace for themselves.

In CHRIST's Unfailing Love Pastor J. Paul Bruhn <><

Nihar Judah Director of Family Ministries



Holy Chaos & Heavenly Growth!

What a joy-filled summer it's been already at Hondo Methodist Church!

We're thrilled to share the overwhelming outpouring of God's Grace on our Vacation Bible School (VBS) and the continued blessings of our Summer House program.

This year's VBS, "What a Mess?!", was a powerful reminder that God's love meets us right in the middle of our mess. With up to 71 children participating, laughter and learning filled the church as kids discovered God's grace, forgiveness, and the good news of Jesus. Through stories, crafts, worship, and skits, young hearts were drawn closer to the heart of God.

But the joy hasn't stopped there!

Summer House—our weekly Tuesday gathering for kids—has been another beautiful way we've seen God moving in the lives of children. Week after week, kids have returned excited to grow in faith, build friendships, and explore the Bible through creative lessons and activities. It's been such a gift to witness their joy, questions, and spiritual growth.

To all the parents and caregivers—we want to say thank you. Thank you for planting seeds of faith in your children and helping them take steps toward Jesus. Your willingness to bring them, encourage them, and partner with us in their spiritual journey is invaluable. You are the first and most important pastors your kids will ever have, and your faithfulness is bearing fruit.

Summer House continues every Tuesday through July 29th. Mark your calendars now for a special end-of-summer gathering: Blessing of the Backpacks & Family Worship on Sunday, August 3rd at 10AM. It will be a sweet time to pray over our children as they head into the school year and worship together as families.

As summer continues, we encourage you to keep leaning in. Let's keep giving our children opportunities to grow in the knowledge of God, to know His voice, and to walk in His love. Church isn't just a place we go—it's a people we're becoming. And we're so grateful to become that people together, one generation at a time.

Blessings

Nihar Judah Director of Family Ministries Email: familyministries@hondo.church

Our Prayer Concerns

Shannon Anna
Betty Barlow
Brian Bullard
Carla Carlton
Glenn Carlton
Richard Crosby
Jeff Friesenhahn
Dale Gage
Ray Gomez
Pearson Hackebeil
Angie Hawley
Vickie Hill
Martha Holcomb
Jed Knowlton
Fred Meyer
Yvette Pirkle
Mason Plummer
Meleah Plummer
Christine Price
Vicky Sablatura
Denise Saucedo
Michelle Smith
Debbie Southwell
Joy Trimble
Dade Turner
Susan Wright
Haley Young

Our Troops:

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

Nursing Home:

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

Worship Assistants

Liturgists

July 6 Joe Vavricek
July 13 Jeannie Hart
July 20 Youth
July 27 Bob Hart

Counters

July 6 Katelin Buescher
July 13
July 20
July 27 Chad Elder

Counters

July 6 Tricia Boll
July 13
July 20 Brenda Varicek
July 27

Children's Church

July 6 Tammy Lynch
July 13 Cora Rothe
July 20 Marcy Rothe
July 27 Sandy Callis

Worship Attendance

June 1 85
June 8 87
June 15 87
June 22 68
June 29

Memorials

Received this month
IN MEMORY OF:

Glenn Bragg

by

Karl & Gina King
Mike & Jan Weems

Renae Zinsmeyer
McNiel

Mike & Brenda Groff
Raph & Betty Gilliam
Karen & Alan Muennink
Marcy Rothe

Thank You

Dear Scholarship Committee
I am writing to express my gratitude for being selected as a recipient of the Nancy Groff Memorial Scholarship.

I am truly honored and appreciative of your support, which will significantly impact my education journey!

Thank you once again for your generosity and belief in my potential!

Jessa Frosch

Thank You

Scholarship Committee &
Hondo Methodist Church
Thank you for the generous scholarship.

It is a huge blessing and greatly appreciated.

Love Kylee Thompson

Thank You

Thank you for awarding me a Scholarship. While I am not a member of your Church, I do see the great things you do for our community. I am incredibly grateful for your support.

Thank You, Carynn Jacobs

Hondo Methodist Women

Hondo Methodist Women had their annual June luncheon on June 4th.

Shelly Malatek presented a wonderful program about her mission trip to Kenya. Several members and visitors were in attendance.

The next meeting for Hondo Methodist Women will be on August 6 at 9:30am.

The meeting will be hosted by

Joan Lindeman at her home.

Joan will also lead the program entitled "Praying Personalities."

We look forward to seeing everyone in August!



Food Drive MCFP

July 6

ITEMS TO DONATE

CANNED BEANS

(Pinto, Refried, Garbanzos, Red Beans, Black Beans)

BOXED MACARONI & CHEESE

RAMEN NOODLES

(any variety)

BOXED VERMICELLI (Fideo)

16 OZ SPAGHETTI NOODLES

1 LB BAG RICE

16 OZ ELBOW MACARONI

1 LB BAG PINTO BEANS

8 OZ PEANUT BUTTER

18 OZ JELLY

DRY CEREAL (any variety)

OATMEAL (any variety)

CANNED TUNA

CANNED CHICKEN

CANNED CHILI

SPAM

POTTED MEAT

VIENNA SAUSAGE

CANNED VEGETABLES

(corn, green beans, any other variety)

Wesley Nurse Corner

Dear Hondo Congregation and Community Members.

I wanted to thank everyone that dropped off box fans for our community.

We are still in need for volunteers for the San Antonio Food Bank

"Mega Distribution" at the Medina County Fair grounds that is held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

In the past I have facilitated a GriefShare program. It is outdated; New Fountain Methodist Church is going to share the cost with our church.

Thank you for all you do to support me and the Wesley Nurse Program!!

God Bless,

Barbara Brennan-West RN Wesley Nurse

Telehealth & Visit by Appointment Hours:

M-F 8am – 5pm Call: 830-584-1760





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We now walk with
joy and not with
fear.

*We look on pleasure, wealth,
praise, all things of the earth,
as worth nothing in the clear,
steady light of eternal things.*

-John Wesley

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Summer House 1-3	2 6 PM Choir	3 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	4  Happy 4th of July	5
6 Food Drive 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship w. C. Children's Church 6PM Healing Service	7	8 Summer House 1-3	9 6 PM Choir	10 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	11	12
13 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship Children's Church 4:30 W w Jesus Gath. Devine Wesleyan Fel.	14 5:30PM Education Com. office	15 Summer House 1-3	16 6 PM Choir	17 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	18	19
20 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship Children's Church 5 PM Youth Service	21 Newsletter Deadline	22 Summer House 1-3	23 6 PM Choir	24 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	25 26 <div>FBSN at Cornerstone in S.A Pastor Continuing Ed.</div>	
27 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship Children's Church	28 Newsletter Prep&Mail	29 Summer House 1-3 6 PM SPRC Office	30 6 PM Choir	31 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 Safe-Gathering training and visit Homebounds 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
July 8, 2025, 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
week of the month

Gathering

July 13, at 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/>