

# The Circuit Rider



March  
2025  
Volume 54  
Issue 3

## Hondo Methodist Church

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

1006 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hondo, Texas 78861  
(830)584.0300

office@hondo.church  
[www.hondo.church](http://www.hondo.church)

## Office Hours...

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

## Church Staff...

### Pastor

Rev. J. Paul Bruhn  
pastorbruhn@live.com

### Choir Director

Leon Steward

### Office Manager

Marion Bruhn  
office@hondo.church

### Custodians,

Ramon Martinez  
Angelica Martinez  
Jessica Gomez

### Nursery,

Lupe Diaz  
Jasmine Martinez



## The Pastor's Pondering Rev. J. Paul Bruhn



The irony is not lost on me. I am currently sitting at home dealing with a runny nose, cough, and just feeling very much under the weather. I dislike allergies with a passion – and I am not the only one. “Irony?” Yes, because over the last several weeks we looked at the testimony of healing in the Bible. Looking at the Gospels, there are 17 passages in which Jesus healed all the sick individuals that were present.

This is – at least currently – not matching our experience, neither in corporate worship nor individually. But even Jesus encountered problems. We read in the Gospel of Mark, chapter 6:5–6 (NKJV) “Now He [Jesus] could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.”

It would have been easy for Jesus to blame the circumstances. Instead, He pushed in and moved forward by equipping the original 12 with the calling to proclaim that the Kingdom of GOD was at hand. They were given authority over unclean spirits and healed many by anointing them with oil (Mark 6:13, NKJV)

Healing and deliverance have been part of the Kingdom of GOD from the very beginning. It is actually Matthew who makes the connection from the Old Testament to the New Testament. He writes in Matthew 8:16–17 (NKJV) “When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses.”

If you are the owner of a reference Bible that connects different Scripture passages, I would invite you to spend some extra time and follow those leads. You might even come up with some connections that the editors of your Bible edition have not explored. What an amazing adventure.

The above connection is found in Isaiah 53. Before we go there, I want to draw your attention to Psalm 103:3 (even though, I believe one should read Psalm 103:1-5 for context). Healing comes from GOD. Sickness is not part of

GOD' original plan but an expression of the fallenness of creation after sin entered the human experience. Another Psalm passage would be Psalm 107:20, NASB 1995, "He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." Who is 'His word'? The standard Sunday School answer is correct, "JESUS". We read in John 1:1–4 (NKJV) ,"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men."

In Jesus we have healing for all our brokenness in spirit, soul, and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23, NKJV).

The Prophet Isaiah introduces believers to the concept of the 'suffering servant', an individual that is sent by GOD to restore the original relationship between every human and their Creator GOD. This servant is accomplishing this task by taking on our punishment so we can stand before GOD sinless, receiving all the blessings he has for us. Isaiah vividly describes that servant in Isaiah 53:3–6 (NKJV), "He is despised and rejected [*forsaken*] by men, A Man of sorrows [*pains*] and acquainted with grief [*sickness*]. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs [*sicknesses*] and carried our sorrows [*pains*]; Yet we esteemed [*reckoned*] Him stricken, Smitten [*struck down*] by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded [*pierced through*] for our transgressions, He was bruised [*crushed*] for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes [*blows that cut in*] we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, everyone, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him [*has caused to land on Him*] the iniquity of us all."

In this rich passage we need to familiarize ourselves with a unique feature of the Hebrew language. The same Hebrew term can often have several meanings. For that reason, I have included in the above reading the alternative wording. This makes clear that GOD covers ALL our short comings, unintentional sin as well as intentional iniquities. GOD has caused our punishment to land upon Yeshua (= YaHWeH saves, heals, and delivers) so we are free of shame and condemnation.

Beginning on March 2, 2025 we will have a monthly healing service at 6:00 pm on the first Sunday of the month in our sanctuary. If you would like prayer for healing -- with or without anointing -- or just want to learn more about the amazing love our Savior has for us, you are welcome to join. See you Sunday!

SHALOM

Pastor J. Paul Bruhn <><



## Nihar Judah Director of Family Ministries



### Parenting by God's Design

As parents, we often feel the weight of responsibility to provide, protect, and guide our children. In the midst of busy schedules, school runs, and life's demands, it's easy to forget that God has uniquely placed you in your child's life for something even greater. Our children first begin to understand who God is by watching us. The patience we show in their struggles, the grace we offer when they fall, and the joy we share in their victories these moments shape their view of a loving, present God. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 reminds us:

***"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home, when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."***

This is not about perfection. We will fail at times. But God's grace is enough, and every day is a new opportunity to love our children with His heart- with words of encouragement, gentle correction, and faithful prayers. You are God's chosen vessel in your child's life. Love deeply. Lead faithfully. And trust God to work through you.

### Make a Difference

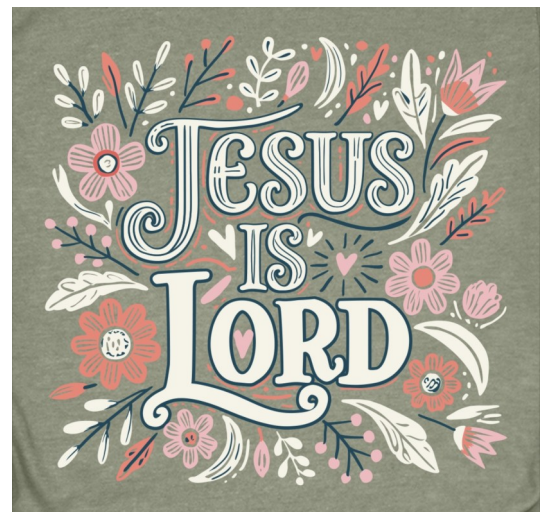
God is calling us to invest in the next generation, and we need your help! If you feel inspired to serve and use your gifts for His kingdom, we invite you to join us in bringing exciting new initiatives to the children and youth ministry of our church. Together, we can make a lasting impact—please reach out if you're ready to make a difference!

In Christ's love,  
Nihar Judah Director of Family Ministries  
Hondo Methodist Church  
My email is: [familyministries@hondo.church](mailto:familyministries@hondo.church)



## God's Top Ten

1. Put God First
  2. Worship Him Only
  3. No Bad Words
  4. Work 6 Rest 1
  5. Obey Your Parents
  6. Harm No One
  7. Don't Cheat
  8. If Its Not Yours, Don't Take It
  9. Tell the Truth
  10. Don't Be Jealous of Other People's Stuff
- 



## *Lenten Activities 2025*

Lent starts Ash Wednesday, March 5 and ends Easter Sunday, April 20th.

Mark your calendars for the following events and activities:

### Wednesday, March 5th:

Ash Wednesday services 12:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

### Each Friday starting March 7th,

The women's group will be sponsoring the Lenten lunch. Beans and cornbread in the fellowship hall. There will be no lunch served on Good Friday.

Communion will be served every Sunday of Lent ending April 20th.

Easter Lilies: Flyers/forms to request the purchase of Easter Lilies in Honor or Memory of a loved one will be available starting the 16th and 23rd of March. Each lily will be \$20

### Palm Sunday, April 13th @ 10:00 a.m

### Maundy Thursday, April 17th @ 6:00 pm:

This year the service will be shorter and more descriptive of each food and then we are to taste each one. Please come and learn about the foods and what each represent.

Saturday, April 19th . . 10:00 a.m. Come help set up the fellowship hall for Easter breakfast.

### Easter Sunday, April 20th:

9:00 a.m. Easter Brunch. A sign up sheet to bring breakfast items will be put out a few weeks prior to Easter.

9:30 a.m. Easter egg hunt. More info to follow.

Other future events:

Annual Church picnic will be held on April 27th 10:00 a.m. at City Park in Hondo. More info to follow.



## Hondo Methodist Church News From Lay Leader Tricia Boll



It has been almost two years (2/27/2023) since our church disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church. One of the conflicts between the UMC churches wanting to leave the denomination was that UMC had (has) a trust clause for their member churches, stating that 'all properties of UM local churches are held, *in trust*, for the benefit of the entire denomination, and ownership and usage of church property is subject to the *Discipline*.' Very fortunately, the UMC, for a limited period of time in 2023, released the properties of disaffiliating churches from that rule. Hondo Methodist Church is a non-profit corporation recognized by the State of Texas and is the sole owner of its properties, but the names on the titles have not been changed, and must be by April 13, 2025. In December, 2023, the Corporate Board of Directors voted to form a holding company to protect our properties from any other denomination who might choose to have a trust clause for its member churches in the future. The Global Methodist Church does not have a trust clause, but most denominations in the United States do. Hondo Methodist Church Holdings, Inc. is now a non-profit corporation recognized by the State of Texas. On March 16 after the Worship Service, we will have a Church Conference where the members of the congregation will vote on either:

1. To transfer our church properties to Hondo Methodist Church Holdings, Inc. or
2. Not to transfer church properties to HMCH, Inc.

The benefit of our properties being held by a holding company is to keep control of our properties locally and to protect our church from liability. It is important that HMC members are informed and will have the opportunity to vote their preference in March by attending the Church Conference.

A two-thirds majority vote is required to go forward with transferring church titles to HMCH, Inc.

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THERE'S A REASON JESUS  
WAS A CARPENTER.  
HE TAKES WHAT'S BROKEN  
AND REBUILDS IT.  
REPAIRS IT. RESTORES IT.  
WE GO INTO HIS  
WORKSHOP FALLING APART  
AND WE EMERGE COMPLETELY  
BRAND NEW; UNRECOGNIZABLE.  
THERE ISN'T ANYTHING JESUS CAN'T FIX.

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OSCARS OF FAITH



### Memorials

Received this month  
**IN MEMORY OF:**  
**Glenn Garrison**  
by  
Mike & Jan Weems  
Laura Grafe  
Court & Anne Koontz  
Susan Hartmann and  
Tom Tompkins

## *Our Prayer Concerns*

Shannon Anna  
Betty Barlow  
Glenn Bragg  
Rita Callis  
Carla Carlton  
Glenn Carlton  
Richard Crosby  
Barbara Fisher  
Jeff Friesenhahn  
Ray Gomez  
Pearson Hackebeil  
Angie Hawley  
Vickie Hill  
Martha Holcomb  
Jed Knowlton  
Sterling Martin  
Ramon Martinez  
Fred Meyer  
Yvette Pirkle  
Mason Plummer  
Meleah Plummer  
Christine Price  
Denise Saucedo  
Debbie Southwell  
Billy Stroud  
Joy Trimble  
Rose Vavricek  
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  
Glenn Bragg (Cast.)  
Albert Castro (Cast.)  
Florine Carman (SA)  
Judith Kuykendall (SA)

## *Worship Assistants*

### Liturgists

March 2 Joan Lindeman  
March 9 Sondra Burris  
March 16 B. Vavricek  
March 23 Jeannie Hart  
March 30 Bob Hart

### Counters

March 2  
March 9 B. Vavricek  
March 16  
March 23 Cheryl Stroud  
March 30

### Counters

March 2  
March 9 Chris Kailipaka  
March 16 C. Kailipaka  
March 23  
March 30

### Children's Church

March 2 Tammy Lynch  
March 9 Marcy Rothe  
March 16  
March 23  
March 30 Sandy Callis

## *Worship Attendance*

Feb. 2 85  
Feb. 9 86  
Feb. 16 81  
Feb. 23 81

## *Financial Report*

### **January 2025**

General Fund: \$ 203,626.31  
Income: + \$ 47,193.33  
Expense: - \$ 27,062.56  
Transfers: - \$ 6,400.00  
Balance: \$ 217,357.08

Scholarship CD \$ 46,000.00  
Balance: \$ 46,000.00

Building Fund: \$ 45,361.64  
Income: + \$ 675.00  
Expense: - \$ 20,000.00  
Transf. to GF - \$ 2,700.00  
Balance: \$ 23,336.64

Memorial: \$ 41,193.74  
Income: \$ 2,313.26  
Transf. to GF - \$ 900.00  
Balance: \$ 42,607.00

Altar Fund: \$ 8,825.08  
Income: + \$ 199.70  
Transf. f GF + \$ 10,000.00  
Expense - \$ 284.00  
Balance: \$ 18,740.78

Our 2024 Budget is  
\$ 431,017 .

We have received  
GF Pledges for \$ 8,848  
from only 15 family units

## *Volunteers needed*

We are eager to train more  
people on slides, sound  
board and media.  
Please talk to Marion, Ted  
or Dee



You can use this  
QR-code to get to  
our secure  
VANCO site

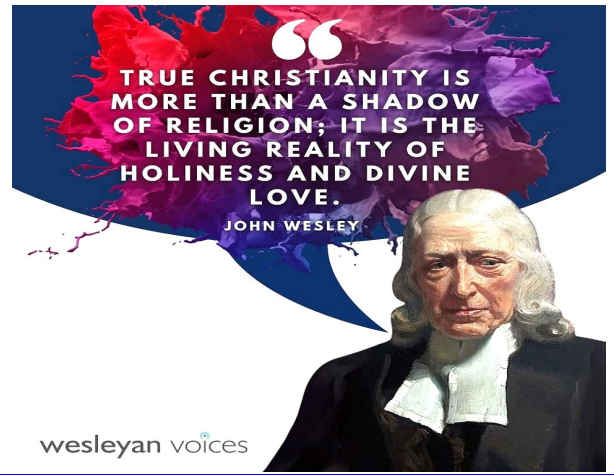


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Growing in GOD's Grace  
Rooted in His Word



wesleyan voices

# March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <b>Food Drive</b> 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship w. C. Children's Church <b>6PM Healing Service</b>	3 <b>4:30 PM Outreach</b> <b>6PM C. Board of Trustees</b>	4	5 HMW 9:30AM FH Ash Wednesday Services 12:15 & 6 PM 6:45 PM Choir	6 8:00 AM Back Pack Min Bible Study 10 -11:30 <b>2:30 PM Scholarship</b> 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	7 Lenten Lunch 11-1 FH	8 <b>DST starts March 9 Set your clocks 1 hour ahead!!!</b>
9 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship w C Children's Church 4:30 W w Jesus Gath. W. Heritage C Lakehills	10	11	12  6 PM Choir	13 8:00 AM Back Pack Min Bible Study 10 -11:30 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	14 Lenten Lunch 11-1 FH	15
16 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship w C. Children's Church 11:15 Church Confr. <b>5 PM Youth Service</b>	17	18	19 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>  6 PM Choir	20 8:00 AM Back Pack Min Bible Study 10 -11:30 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	21 Lenten Lunch 11-1 FH	22
23 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship w C Children's Church	24	25 2-3 PM FH WN Com. Resource Meeting	26 <b>Newsletter Prep &amp; Mail</b>  6 PM Choir	27 8:00 AM Back Pack Min Bible Study 10 -11:30 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	28 Lenten Lunch 11-1 FH	29
<b>J. Paul &amp; Marion on Vacation</b>						
30 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Ad. Sun.-S 10 AM Worship w C Children's Church Church Lunch HMM	31  <b>6PM SPRC</b>					



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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](http://www.hondo.church)*

### *San Antonio Food Bank*

Next Food Bank Distribution will be  
March 11, 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 Groups*

We have a Women's Reunion group

Tuesday's at noon at the Church office

And a Men's group

Wednesday's at 7PM in the Seeker Class.

#### *Gathering*

March 9, at 4:30 at Western Heritage  
Cowboy Church Lakehills

### *Methodist Websites:*

**Hondo Methodist Church**

[www.hondo.church](http://www.hondo.church)

**Mid Texas Conference GMC**

<https://midtexasgmc.org/>

**Global Methodist Church**

<https://globalmethodist.org/>

**General Conference Website**

[https://  
www.sotheworldwillknow.org/](https://www.sotheworldwillknow.org/)