

The Circuit Rider



October
2025
Volume 54
Issue 10

Hondo Methodist Church

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

1006 16th Street
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Office Hours...

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

Church Staff...

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Rev. J. Paul Bruhn
pastorbruhn@live.com

Family Ministries Director

Nihar Judah
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Leon Steward

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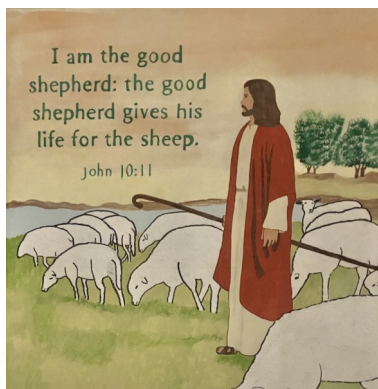
Marion Bruhn
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Custodians,

Jessica Gomez

Nursery,

Lupe Diaz
Jasmine Martinez



The Pastor's Pondering Rev. J. Paul Bruhn



The leaves are changing their colors – at least in the Wal Mart decorations hidden between the costumes of witches and pirates. Many people already make detailed plans for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years, knowing that invitations have to go out and arrangements have to be made. There is not much left of the lazy, hazy days of summer. In the midst of all the hustle and bustle it seems almost impossible to carve out time for a close and meaningful relationship with our Creator GOD. We know, He should be our #1 priority, but that is easier said than done.

Hence, it might be time to do a rerun of a set of keys available to all believers. Rerun? Yes, because we took a look at it several years ago. I am presenting you with four keys to a closer relationship with our Savior and LORD. I am indebted to Mark Virkler who developed these steps in response to his personal difficulties hearing from GOD, even though, he was convinced that GOD wanted to speak to GOD's children. It was just that the left hemisphere of his brain worked overtime, making it almost impossible to become still and wait upon the LORD (Psalm 46:10).

The best way to provide you with scriptural foundation for this approach is found in one of the books commonly referred to as the minor prophets. Please keep in mind that 'minor prophets' describes the length of individual books, but NOT their importance.

Habakkuk 2:1–3 (NKJV)

1 I will stand my watch And set myself on the rampart, And watch to see what He will say to me, And what I will answer when I am corrected.

2 Then the Lord answered me and said: "Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it.

3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.

We have 4 basic keys to improve our ability to listen to GOD and receive directions for our daily life.

Key #1

I must learn to still my own thoughts and emotions, so that I can sense GOD's flow of thoughts and emotions within me.



Basically we must attune our inner antennas to GOD's wavelength. Imagine an old-style radio that required the listener to carefully turn a knob until the frequency was just right, excluding all the white noise to the left and the right on the frequency dial.

Key #2

As I pray, I fix the eyes of my heart (Ephesians 1:18) upon JESUS, seeing in the spirit the dreams and visions of Almighty GOD.

Imagine an antique orthodox icon that depicts Jesus as the friend of a saint – and YES, you are a saint the moment you accept JESUS as your Savior and LORD – having HIS arm around the saint's shoulders and sharing what is on HIS heart and mind.



Key #3

GOD's voice in our hearts sounds like a flow of spontaneous thoughts. Therefore, when I tune to GOD, I tune to spontaneity.

Imagine a constant flow of divine revelation originating from the Throne of GOD. Maybe there is something hindering the flow of the signal, imagine a metal roof interrupting the reception. That roof could consist of unconfessed sin on your end. If so, deal with it immediately. If the signal is clear start writing it down, a.k.a. journaling.



Key #4

Journaling, the writing out of our prayers and GOD's answers.

This allows you to refrain from evaluating GOD's communication until the flow stops and you can take a closer look at the received revelation. Now you can go back and test and examine carefully, making sure everything lines up with the written Word of GOD, a.k.a. the Bible.

Disclaimer:

No one should attempt this without having first read through at least the New Testament (preferably the entire Bible), nor should one attempt this unless one is submitted to solid, spiritual leadership. All major directional moves (e.g. mates, jobs, and dates) that come through journaling should be submitted to some trusted friends in the faith before being acted upon.

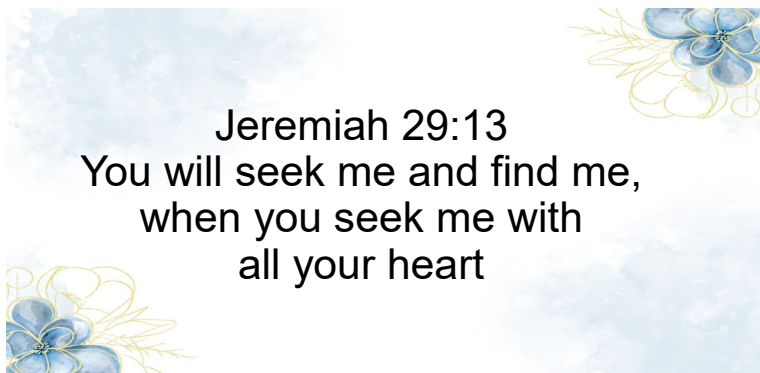
I have a key ring with all the keys important to unlock doors in our church. They are in a particular order. While they still function out of order, they are most beneficial when you know how they are arranged. The same is true when it comes to these four keys.

I hope and pray that you are now hungry for more, more of GOD, more of Scripture, and more of GOD's guidance for your life.

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

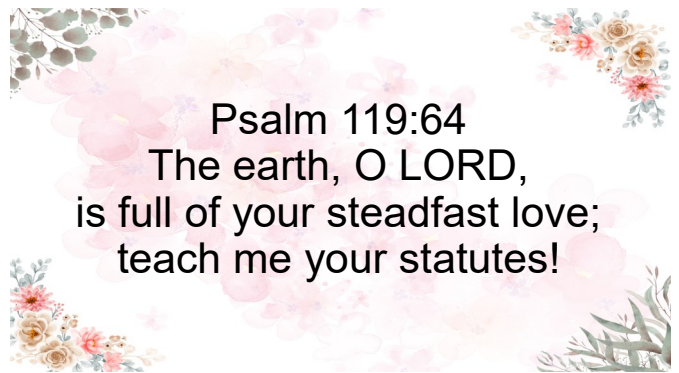
Jeremiah 29:13

You will seek me and find me,
when you seek me with
all your heart



Psalms 119:64

The earth, O LORD,
is full of your steadfast love;
teach me your statutes!



A Note from the Director of Family Ministries



Growing Together in Faith This October

Howdy Hondo Methodist Church Families,

As our South-central Texas heat finally starts to break and the pecan trees begin to change, we're reminded of God's faithful rhythms in our lives. This October, let's embrace this welcome shift as a time for gratitude, connection, and growing deeper in our faith together as families.

Finding God in your Backyard

You don't have to look far to see God's handiwork. Encourage your kids to spot His blessings all around us:

- The golden fields ready for harvest
- A beautiful sunset over the open land
- The smell of rain on the dry earth
- The community coming together for fall festivities.

These everyday moments are perfect opportunities for conversations about God's provision and care for us right where we are.

For Parents: Faith in the Flow of Life

Between school, sports, and work, life here keeps us busy. Weaving faith into your routine can be simple and natural:

Pickup Line Prayers: Turn waiting in the car line into a moment of gratitude. "Lord, thank you for today and for our family."

Supper Table Share: Go around the table and talk about, "What was one good thing God did for you today?"

Small, consistent moments like these build a strong foundation of faith that lasts.

Family Activity: A Harvest of Thankfulness

Let's create a visual reminder of our blessings!

Gather: Find a sturdy twig from the yard (maybe even a pecan branch!).

Create: Cut out leaf shapes from paper (brown paper bags work great!).

Share: Each day, have everyone write something they're thankful for on a leaf and tie or tape it to the branch.

Watch your thankfulness "tree" grow all month long as a centerpiece of gratitude.

An October Prayer for Our Families

Heavenly Father, thank you for this place we call home. As the seasons shift in Hondo, help our families grow in faith and love for each other. Guide us to see Your blessings in our everyday lives and to raise our children in Your truth. Amen.

Continues on the next page

Note from the Director of Family Ministries Continued

A Heartfelt Thanks

A big thank you to all our volunteers who serve our children and youth each week. If you have a heart for helping the next generation grow in faith, we'd be honored to have you join us. Blessings for a wonderful October, y'all!

Nihar Judah

Director of Family Ministries Hondo Methodist Church

familyministries@hondo.church

*Sunday October 5 is
World Communion Sunday*



Global Methodist Church News

Our Bishops recorded two mini-teaching series:

The first one on
"Scriptural Holiness".

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=beOFv_hqSEk



The second one is titled:
"Guardians of the Faith"

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxzmHW4eeft5rXW2lxIFdmIO-1FBGMXu2>



The third will be "Spirit-Filled Methodism and is starting Sept. 30.

The Global Methodist Church welcomed newly established Annual Conferences in Zimbabwe, Malawi and Thailand.

I highly recommend you visit the website of the Global Methodist Church
<https://globalmethodist.org> and subscribe to it!

Mid-Texas Global Methodist Church

Pray for the last Mission Trip to Costa Rica: Trip 4 goes to the Methodist Children's Home at San José, October 4 - 20

And pray for more Mission Groups to come and help with flood restorations. Kerrville and the Hill Country was in the news a lot, however there was also great devastation in San Angelo. Looks like they have supplies but they need workers.

Consider attending the **Anew 2025 Women's Event** November 8 at First Methodist Temple.

Or the **Spirit & Truth Conference** on November 14-15, 2025, at First Methodist Church in Irving, TX. Registration for both are open.

I hope you also visit the website of our Conference and subscribe to their weekly updates at: <https://www.midtexasgmc.org>

Our Prayer Concerns

Shannon Anna
Betty Barlow
Carla Carlton
Glenn Carlton
Richard Crosby
Jeff Friesenhahn
Dale Gage
Ray Gomez
Pearson Hackebeil
Alice Harris
Bryan Hartnett
Angie Hawley
Vickie Hill
Martha Holcomb
Jed Knowlton
Angelica Martinez
Jack & Keith Neumann
Yvette Pirkle
Mason Plummer
Meleah Plummer
Christine Price
Vicky Sablatura
Denise Saucedo
Debbie Southwell
Joy Trimble
Dade Turner
Susan Wright
Haley Young

Our Troops:

Erik Arias
Joshua Bruhn
William E. Bryant
Logan Dean
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

Oct. 5 Tammy Lynch
Oct. 12 Sondra Burris
Oct. 19 Ashlyn Elder
Oct. 26 Brenda Vavricek

Counters

Oct. 5 Chip Thornsburg
Oct. 12 Cheryl Stroud
Oct. 19 Katelin Buescher
Oct. 26 Lorine Hackebeil

Counters

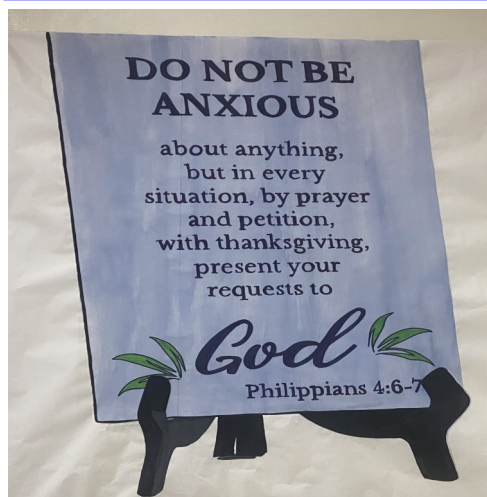
Oct. 5 Jim McMahon
Oct. 12
Oct. 19 Cassie Aelvoet
Oct. 26 Tricia Boll

Children's Church

Oct. 5 Marcy Rothe
Oct. 12 Nihar Judah
Oct. 19 Sandy Callis
Oct. 26 Nihar Judah

Worship Attendance

Aug. 31 58
Sept. 7 70
Sept. 14 80
Sept. 21 73
Sept. 28



Financial Report

August 2025

General Fund: \$ 185,931.60
Income: + \$ 44,527.95
Expense: - \$ 33,715.70
Transfers - \$ 5,497.64
Balance: \$ 191,246.21

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

Building Fund: \$ 5,370.31
July Expense - \$ 285.00
Aug. Expense - \$ 925.29
Transfer: + \$ 4,475.00
Balance: \$ 8,635.02

Memorial: \$ 37,118.62
Transfer: + \$ 1,022.64
Balance: \$ 38,141.26

Altar Fund: \$ 9,140.18
Expense: - \$ 117.85
Balance: \$ 9,022.33

Our 2024 Budget is \$431,017.
We have received
GF Pledges for \$120,865
from 15 family units

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



Volunteers needed

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

Hondo Methodist Women

Hondo Methodist Women joined Center Point Methodist Women on September 17. Center Point women provided a delicious lunch.

The next Hondo Methodist Women's meeting will be on October 1st in the Fellowship hall at 9:30am.

Lorine Hackebeil is our hostess.

Chris Kailipaka will present the program entitled "Fire and Faithfulness—Daniel"

Join us for food and fellowship!



Our Food Drive weigh-in: was 327.2 lbs
Thank you so much.

Food Drive MCFP

ITEMS TO DONATE

CANNED BEANS
BOXED MACARONI & CHEESE
RAMEN NOODLES
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
OATMEAL
CANNED TUNA
CANNED CHICKEN
CANNED CHILI
SPAM
POTTED MEAT
VIENNA SAUSAGE
CANNED VEGETABLES

Christmas in God's Country

It is that time of year to start thinking about Christmas in God's Country which will be on Saturday, November 22. Once again our church will have a reserved space and hand out loaves of bread and water to the visitors to our booth.

We will be asking members to help us out by baking loaves of the bread of your choice (NO NUTS). We will furnish small (3.5x6in) aluminum loaf pans in which to bake your bread and label what kind it is and bring it (still in the pan) to the church. More details to come as we get into October and November.

If you would like to begin baking now and freezing them, you can bring them to the church by November 18.

We will have a sign up sheet in the foyer in early October so you can let us know how many you would like to make. We would like to shoot for at least 300 loaves to be distributed at CIGC.

Cora Rothe, Outreach C.

November 2

we will celebrate
All Saints Day.

To worship with us
please remember to
set our clocks back
to Winter time.





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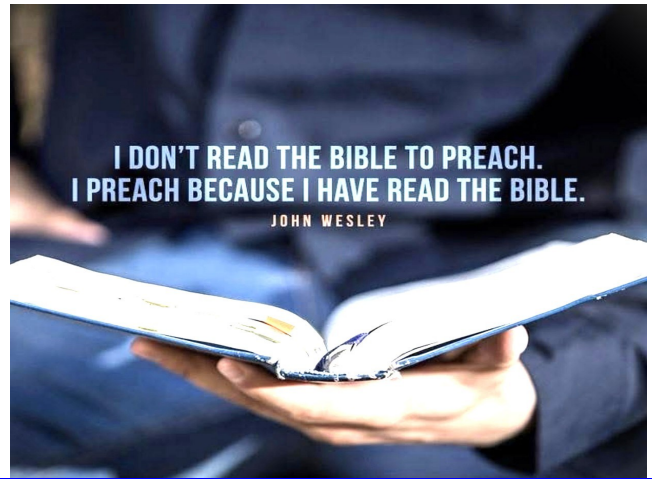
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October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 HMW 9:30 FH 6 PM Choir	2 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	3	4
5 World Com. Sunday 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. Dive T + The Table 10 AM Worship w. C. Children's Church 6PM Healing Service	6	7	8 6 PM Choir	9 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar Education C 5:30 FH SPRC M. 6:30PM office 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	10	11
12 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. Dive T + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church 4:30 W w Jesus Gath. Hondo Methodist Church	13 Health Talk Express 10-11:30 FH Worship C 6PM office	14	15 6 PM Choir	16 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	17	18
19 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. Dive T + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church	20 NewsI. Deadline Health Talk Express 10-11:30 FH 5:30 Children's Church teacher Meeting office	21	22 6 PM Choir	23 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM	24	25
26 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. Dive T + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church	27 Health Talk Express 10-11:30 FH Newsletter Prep&Mail	28 FH WN Resource Meeting 1:30-2:30	29 6 PM Choir	30 Backpack Ministry 8:30 10-12 FH FA & Nihar 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	31	Turn your clocks back one hour!



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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
Oct. 14, 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

October 12, at 4:30 PM at
Hondo Methodist Church

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/>