

The Circuit Rider



September
2025
Volume 54
Issue 9

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



Growing in GOD's Grace
Rooted in His Word

The Pastor's Pondering Rev. J. Paul Bruhn



Let me invite you to a trip down memory lane. The year was 2020 and we were all more than strongly encouraged to stay six feet apart. The shelves in stores were unusually empty, not only in the grocery stores, but also at places like 'Academy Sports and Outdoors'.

Talking with one of the employees at their gun counter he shared with me that people came into his section simply grabbed a box of ammunition from the shelf, came up to his counter and requested, "I would like a gun that shoots these bullets." They were surprised to learn that it takes easily over a week before someone without a License to Carry would be allowed to take ownership. More importantly they might have thought about a pistol and revolver only to learn that 'their bullets' would only fit a long gun.

Often the motivation of the buyers was to protect themselves and their loved ones from dangers during uncertain times. However, they did not follow due diligence when it came to training and acquiring the skills to master a firearm.

I am concerned that many Christians have a similar attitude when it comes to Holy Scriptures and the proper doctrines of the Christian faith. They turn to the Word of GOD only during difficult times. It almost feels like they keep the Bible in a glass case with a hammer to secure access in times of danger.

Do you know the tenants of the Christian faith that make the Methodist and Wesleyan strand of theology unique? Have you ever considered diving deeper into our rich history and traditional teaching? There are many hucksters peddling the word of GOD for profit – and that is a warning taken straight out of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. Knowing GOD's Word and applying it properly to our life is truly a spiritual survival skill

We are providing a training ground for your mind, beginning with the first Sunday in September and running until the second Sunday in November. We know how busy Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas seasons are and we do not want to overload you.

You are invited to join our brand-new Sunday school class. The '**DIVE TEAM**' will dive deeper into the Christian

faith. Our dive masters are Ryan Barnett and Jason Vickers who have developed *Profoundly Christian – Distinctly Methodist*, the ten-week curriculum that we will use with your pastor J. Paul Bruhn being the local instructor. We will meet in the conference room that is part of the church office.

Please prayerfully consider joining us and then R.S.V.P. by sending a quick email to the church office. The address is, office@hondo.church.

One more trip down memory lane. I attended a men's conference in Colorado and there was a young man – about twelve years of age – who carried a beautiful and large folding knife on his belt. He had come with his father, and it was clear both were hard-working ranchers, even the 'boy' had calluses on his hands. They wore starched shirts with snap buttons, starched cowboy-cut blue jeans and shined cowboy boots. My friend oversaw security at the conference. He walked over to the young gentleman, and they sat in front of a fireplace. He started a conversation, and the younger one let my friend have a close look at the knife. My friend commented on the beauty of the blade and returned the blade to the gentleman. He left him with some encouraging statement.

I later asked my friend for the reason for his interaction. His response was, "I wanted to make sure the young man knew how to handle the blade and the responsibility that comes with it – and he did. His dad is doing a great job!" This memory brings me to tears because it has become for me a parable that we as fathers are entrusted with the responsibility to teach our children how to use the Word of GOD – the Bible – that is the sword of the Spirit (Hebrews 4:12; Ephesians 6:17-18).

Please consider bringing your youth to 'A Place at the Table' our new Sunday School class for teenagers, that will also start on the first Sunday in September and then come on over to the Dive Team.

In CHRIST's Unfailing Love

Pastor J. Paul Bruhn <><



Wall Shaker Prayer Training September 13, 9-11 A.M.

Teaching individuals and churches to go beyond the prayer chain to experience wall shaking prayer through TII Prayers (transformational, intentional, intercessory prayers),

Armor Prayers,
Canopy Prayers,
Community Prayers,
and Revolutionary Prayers.

To let us know you are coming please email: office@hondo.church

A Note from the Director of Family Ministries



What Does a Christ-Centered Home Really Look Like?

Our homes are the first churches our children will ever know.

Before they understand sermons, they're learning about God's character through the atmosphere we create at home. The beautiful truth is that we don't need to be perfect to raise godly children – we just need to be intentional about weaving faith into the fabric of our daily lives.

Every ordinary moment becomes an opportunity to show our children who God is. When we start breakfast with gratitude, handle stress with prayer, or choose forgiveness when others hurt us, we're teaching them that faith isn't just for Sundays – it's for every moment of every day. Our children study us more than they study their textbooks, learning about God's character from our Monday morning attitudes and our responses to life's challenges.

1. Weave Scripture Into Daily Rhythms

We can make faith natural by incorporating it into our existing routines. Morning gratitude over breakfast, car conversations about showing kindness at school, and bedtime reflections about where they saw God working that day all become sacred moments without feeling forced or "churchy."

2. Model Grace and Truth Together

When our children mess up, we can connect before we correct, showing them, the same grace God shows us. When they succeed, we celebrate their character over their achievements.

3. Let Them See Real Faith in Action

Our children need to witness authentic faith lived out in real time. When we pray through frustration, apologize genuinely when we make mistakes, and choose forgiveness when others hurt us, we're showing them what it looks like to depend on God in everyday situations.

4. Build Service Into Family Culture

Faith becomes real when it's lived out in service to others. Whether we're packing homeless bags with toddlers, writing cards to nursing home residents with school-age kids, or organizing service projects with teenagers, we're teaching them that following Jesus means caring for others.

Creating a Christ-centered home isn't about having perfect devotions or never losing our temper. It's about consistently pointing our families toward Jesus through our words, actions, and the atmosphere we create together.

The Table- Youth Breakfast Fellowship

Starting Sunday, September 7th at 9:00 AM, we're launching THE TABLE – a youth breakfast fellowship designed to reinforce the biblical values we're instilling at home while providing the peer community our teenagers desperately need. This isn't just another youth program; it's where the dinner table conversations we're having at home find support and encouragement among peers who share the same values.

Continuing: *A Note from the Director of Family Ministries*

At THE TABLE, our teenagers will tackle real issues like social media pressure and identity questions through biblical truth, while building authentic friendships with other young people who celebrate faith rather than hide it.

Questions about THE TABLE?

Contact me per email at

familyministries@hondo.church

Launch Sunday: September 7th

| 9:00-9:45 AM | Seeker Class |

Ages 13+

Nihar Judah

**Director of Family Ministries Hondo
Methodist Church**

familyministries@hondo.church



Financial Report

July 2025

General Fund: \$ 189,073.34

Income: + \$ 28,407.98

Expense: - \$ 34,071.19

Corrections + \$ 2,521.51

Balance: \$ 185,931.60

Scholarship CD \$ 67,515.86

Balance: \$ 67,515.86

Building Fund: \$ 5,370.31

Balance: \$ 5,370.31

Memorial: \$ 36,643.62

Income: + \$ 475.00

Balance: \$ 37,118.62

Altar Fund: \$ 8,940.48

Income: \$ 199.70

Balance: \$ 9,140.18

Special Sunday School Class

Get ready to journey into the heart
of discipleship!

Profoundly Christian, Distinctly Methodist

is designed to deepen your understanding
of our doctrinal and theological foundations.
Your journey through this guide composed by
Ryan Barnett and Jason Vickers will be both
personal and communal, where your own
observations and questions help seed
group discussion.

Daily: Enrich your spiritual journey with
structured readings and reflections
over the course of ten weeks.

Weekly: Dive into new topics each week,
offering theological commentary, practical
applications, and group discussion opportunities

This study in the essentials of Christian Faith will
be held Sunday mornings in the conference room
Sept. 7 to November 9, 9:00-9:45 AM.

J. Paul will facilitate.

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



Our Prayer Concerns

Shannon Anna
Betty Barlow
Brian Bullard
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
Michelle Smith
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

Sept. 7 Carrie Self
Sept. 14 Skie Rozyskie
Sept. 21 Vivian Reed
Sept. 28 Bo Buescher

Counters

Sept. 7 Linda Bohlen
Sept. 14 Chad Elder
Sept. 21 Cassie Aelvoet
Sept. 28 Lorine Hackebeil

Counters

Sept. 7 Jim McMahon
Sept. 14 Chip Thornsburg
Sept. 21 Katelin Buescher
Sept. 28 Tricia Boll

Children's Church

Sept. 7 Nihar Judah
Sept. 14 Sandy Callis
Sept. 21 Cora Rothe
Sept. 28 Nihar Judah

Worship Attendance

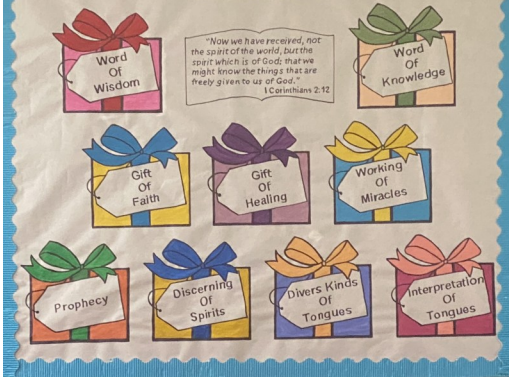
Aug. 3 99
Aug. 10 69
Aug. 17 80
Aug. 24 83
Aug. 31

Volunteers needed

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

The Gifts of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:1-10



Spiritual
GIFTS & *Spiritual*
PEOPLE

1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

Thank You,

Hondo Methodist Church
for partnering with us to
help children in crisis!
On behalf of the children
we serve at Bluebonnet
Children's Advocacy
Center, I wish to express
our sincere appreciation
for your "Back to School
Drive" for the children at
Bluebonnet Children's
Advocacy.

We cannot thank your
congregation enough
for their kindness in
remembering the children
who have experienced
abuse and neglect in our
rural community.

Your gift of school supplies
means one less worry for
their families during a very
personal, difficult time.

Respectfully
Edward Gentry (ED)

Hondo Methodist Women

Last year a group of ladies from Center Point Methodist Church came to visit us for one of our meetings.

They are excited for us to come and visit them this year.

Therefore we will meet on **September 17**, at **8:45 AM** to carpool to **Center Point MC**.

Their meeting starts at 10 AM and they will provide lunch for us.

Please RSVP Joan by Sept. 14, so she can let them know for how many to prepare for.

The October Meeting will be October 1, 9:30 at Hondo Methodist Church fellowship hall.

Lorine Hackebell will be the host and Chris Kailipaka will do the program.

Food Drive MCFP Sept. 7

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

Wall Shaker Prayer Training

Please join us September 13, 9-11 A.M.

Teaching individuals and churches to go beyond the prayer chain to experience wall shaking prayer through

TII Prayers (transformational, intentional, intercessory prayers),
Armor Prayers, Canopy Prayers, Community Prayers,
and Revolutionary Prayers.

To let us know you are coming please email: office@hondo.church

Wesley Nurse Corner

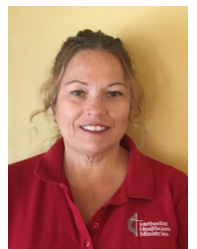
Dear Hondo Congregation and Community Members.

I'm getting ready to offer a Grief Share, if you lost a love one in the last 18 months and would like to participate in it, please contact me so we can find the right day and time for 13 weeks of support group meetings. Also, let's share ideas, how we can use the 2 booths and parking lot at Christmas in God's Country as outreach and place of fun and rest.

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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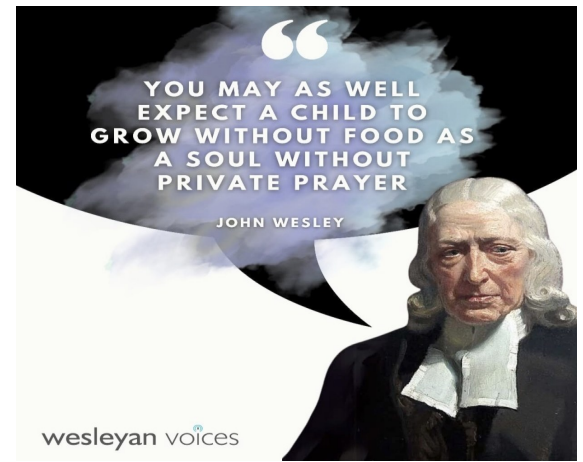
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September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy Labor Day Office closed	2 Friends Academy starts	3 6 PM Choir	4 Backpack Ministry 8:30 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	5	6
7 Food Drive 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. PC/DM + The Table 10 AM Worship w. C. Children's Church 6PM Healing Service	8	9	10 6 PM Choir	11 Backpack Ministry 8:30 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	12	13 9-11 AM Wall Shaker Prayer Workshop
14 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. PC/DM + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church 4:30 W w Jesus Gath. Western Heritage Cowboy Church Pipe Creek	15	16	17 HMW Carpool at 8:45 AM going to Center Point MC 6 PM Choir	18 Backpack Ministry 8:30 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	19	20
21 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. PC/DM + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24 6 PM Choir	25 Backpack Ministry 8:30 7-8:30 PM FH occupied	26 FH occupied Decorating and Rehearsal	27 FH occupied Wedding
28 8:30 AM Fellowship 9:00 AM Chapel C. PC/DM + The Table 10 AM Worship Children's Church	29 Newsletter Prep&Mail	30 FH WN Resource Meeting 1:30-2:30				



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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
Sept. 9, 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

Sept. 14, at 4:30 PM at
Western Heritage Cowboy Church
Pipe Creek

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/>