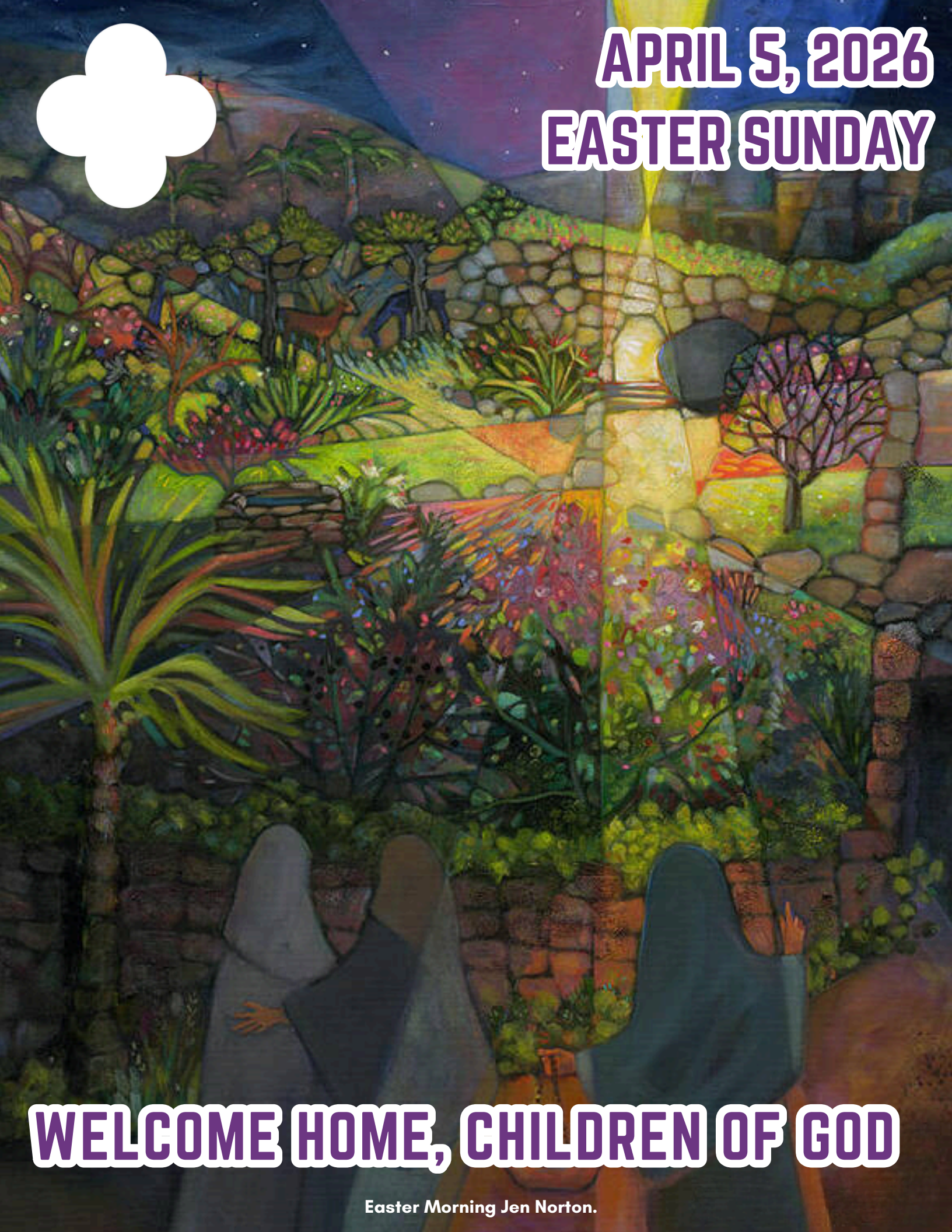




**APRIL 5, 2026**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**



**WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD**

Easter Morning Jen Norton.



# Integrative Method of Worship

There are many styles of worship. At First Presbyterian, our worship style, generally, is a traditional reformed service with liturgy, confession and classic Christian hymnody. Even with our traditional emphasis, we believe that relevant worship in the 21st century provides space for congregants and visitors to do integrative spiritual work. By this, we mean that our daily experiences inform and affect our theology and vice versa. In worship at First Presbyterian, we are striving to integrate experience and theology so that we feel responsive and genuine in our faith as we live our daily lives. Worship planning is anchored and planned around the sermon or the sermon series. Series are planned to address any one of four areas: mission of the church, life of the church family, Biblical literacy and current relevant topics. We strive to be balanced and thoughtful in what is offered for your prayer and reflection. However, because integration and responsiveness are the goal, we will often address sensitive issues. Prayers and confessions are written by our pastor. Our children's Spirit Box time is the opportunity for children to have a choice and voice in worship. We welcome you, as you are, to each worship service at First Presbyterian. Integrative work is not easy. It is not always comfortable, but it is essential to a vital church. Please feel free to reach out to our pastor with your questions.

## Statement of Mission

First Presbyterian Church of Waco, Texas, welcomes all as children of God through our worship, outreach, Christian education and congregational life events. By the liberating and compelling grace of God, and in accord with our Reformed theological heritage, we follow Jesus Christ's example by reaching out to seekers and those in need, nurturing disciples, honoring diversity and seeking to reconcile the world to God through ministries of justice and mercy.

### **If You Are New Here**

Stop by our Welcome Center in the Narthex for information. When you are seated, please fill out the Welcome Folder you will find in the pew. After all in the pew have signed, pass it to the center aisle or use the QR code to sign in online.

### **These May Help During the Service (ask an usher for assistance)**

- Large-print hymnal
- Hearing enhancement device
- Worship bags & fidget toys for children in the Narthex "parental discretion with these items, please." Please return the bag after the service.

### **If You Are in Need of Prayer**

You will find prayer cards in the back of the pew. You may place them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. Your prayers are confidential unless you request otherwise.

### **Childcare**

Childcare is available from 8:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M in room S202.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude: *Festival Alleluia* Miller

+ Call to Worship

One: Easter morning, like a measure of yeast...

**Many: Easter morning, like a pearl uncovered...**

One: Easter morning, like a seed sown...

**Many: Easter morning, like a heavy weight rolled away...**

One: Let us worship God's possibilities this Easter morn.

**Many: Alleluia, Amen!**

**+ Please  
rise in  
body or in  
spirit.**

Introit: *Processional and Bell Chime* Margaret Tucker  
St. Cecilia Handbell Choir

+ Hymn #232 *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

Prayer of Celebration and Joy

**God of Life and Breath, we celebrate that each day of our life is an Easter experience. From the labors of the day, to the tomb-like comfort of sleep, we marvel at the mystery of rising. Gratitude fills us that your rising can provide presence. We celebrate your cycling through our generations, communities, and seasons. On this Easter morn, may we arrive to the eternal surprise that any dead end may be an opportunity for a u-turn back into our purpose. May we respond to your call. Grant us a genuine engagement with the world that allows for sharing, meaning and collaborating for healing. May we feel your living water at work as our circumstances baptize us into new understanding and new courage. We offer this prayer into the mystery of Jesus' arrival as Christ. Alpha, Omega and Alpha again. Amen.**

Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #341 *O God, Show Mercy to Us* THAXTED  
O God, show mercy to us, and bless us with your grace;  
and cause to shine upon us the brightness of your face.

Declaration of Grace & Sharing of the Peace of Christ

+ Invitation to Our Children *"Christ Before Me"* St. Patrick's Breastplate  
Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ beside me, Christ within me,  
Christ in the face of those who love me.

**We are grateful for last week's giving of \$12,805.57.**

**Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.**



Spirit Box

God be in my head. God be in my heart. God be on my left. God be on my right.  
God be beneath me. God be above me. God be in the faces of all who love me.

Prayer of Illumination

Epistle Reading: Revelation 22:1-5 (pew Bible NT pg.260)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

*Christ the Lord is Risen Again*

Rutter

Christ the Lord is risen again! Christ hath broken ev'ry chain! Hark, the angels shout for joy, singing evermore on high, alleluia! He who gave for us his life, who for us endur'd the strife, is our Paschal Lamb today! We too sing for joy and say alleluia! He who bore all and pain and loss, comfortless upon the cross, lives in glory now on high, pleads for us and hears our cry. Now he bids us tell abroad how the lost may be restor'd, how the penitent forgiv'n, how we too may enter heav'n. Thou our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ today thy people feed; take our sins and guilt away, that we all may sing for ay. Alleluia!

+ Gospel Reading: John 20: 1-8 (pew Bible NT pg.114)

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord. | **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Response to the Gospel

*Toccata*  
from *Symphony No. 5*

Widor

Sermon: Alpha and Omega: Rolling and Rocking Along

Leslie King, D. Min.

+ Hymn #250

*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

PROMISE

+ Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in beginnings that are endings and endings that are beginnings. Whether reading or relating, awareness begins, and previous paradigms perish. Jesus' growth model cycles us through beginnings and endings. We arrive as we are, yet cannot help being affected. We respond into beginnings, and endings, and the butterfly effect ripples out to our community. Scripture and sacrament anchor us like roots as our Creator God draws us forward to stretch. Gaining and losing are real. The Spirit comforts us in our beginnings and endings. Amen.**

Offering

Meditation on "*There in God's Garden*"  
Text can be found on Hymn #226

Burkhardt

+ Doxology #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

+ Prayers of the People

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

+ Closing Hymn #233

*The Day of Resurrection!*

LANCASHIRE

+ Charge & Benediction

Postlude:

*Prelude in Classic Style*

Young

Scan and register your attendance.



## Parlor Plants



With gratitude for our church family.

Given by: Jim & Carolyn Maxwell

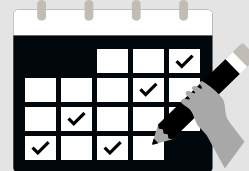


## Easter offering

Our goal is to raise \$5,500 for the Heart of Texas Network for Immigrant Rights (HOTNIR) with our Easter Offering. HOTNIR organizes volunteers who provide advocacy, archival, transportation, food, and legal services for immigrants. Funds given to HOTNIR help cover legal fees for individuals without a criminal record that HOTNIR has agreed to support.



# UPCOMING THIS WEEK



**SUN**

**5**

**8:30 A.M.**  
**9:15 A.M.**  
**10:30 A.M.**

Worship Service - Hybrid  
Easter Breakfast Tacos - Foundation Parlor  
Worship Service - Hybrid

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**MON**

**6**

Office Holiday  
Diaconate Holiday

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**TUE**

**7**

**8:30 - 11:30 A.M.**  
**5:30 P.M.**

Meals on Wheels - For more information  
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305  
Congregational Life Meeting - Hybrid

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**WED**

**8**

**6:00 P.M.**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**7:00 P.M.**

In The Wings Youth Programming  
Bell Choir Practice  
Choir Practice

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**THU**

**9**

**8:30 - 11:30 A.M.**  
**9:00 A.M.**

Meals on Wheels - For more information  
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305  
Personnel Committee Meeting - Zoom

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**FRI**

**10**

**6:00 P.M.**

Reel Spirituality - Pinewood  
Movie: The Manchurian Candidate (1962)

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**SUN**

**12**

**8:30 A.M.**  
**9:15 A.M.**  
**10:30 A.M.**  
**11:30 A.M.**  
**5:00 P.M.**

Worship Service - Hybrid  
Christian Formation Classes for all ages  
Worship Service - Hybrid  
Coffee Fellowship  
Our Hybrid House - Zoom

# FIRST PRES NEWS



Our Hybrid House is the newest committee of the Diaconate, focusing on enriching our environment for hybrid worship and meetings held on Zoom. We are particularly interested in your opinions and experiences if you are a non-local participant of First Presbyterian. Look for our Hybrid House meeting on **April 12. Our question will be "Who is a caregiver you remember & what did they teach you?"**



## WEDNESDAY IN THE WINGS LINE UP 6-8 P.M.

Join Malorie, Brian & our volunteers on Wednesday for our April evening programming.

- April 8: Cha & Chat. Meet at the church at 6:00 P.M., or at Cha Community if arriving after 6:15.
- April 15: God & Gaming - Jeremy Mercer.
- April 22: Grief & Loss with Dr. Helen Harris.
- April 29: Youth Planning Session.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SHOWER FOR TALITHA KOUM INSTITUTE

Presbyterian Women invite all women of FPC to an "April Shower" for Talitha Koum Institute of Waco on Saturday, April 25, 2:00-4:00 pm in the Foundation Parlor. Enjoy fellowship and refreshments while learning about TKI's work with young children and families from Kris Olson. Those who wish to give may bring an HEB gift card, Huggies diapers (sizes 5-7), or shop the Amazon Wish List at talithakoum.org.

For more information, contact

- Sherry Cragen (254-644-1019) or
- Susan Somerville (512-921-1732).

## CHANGES TO OUR WEBSITE

Check out the new changes to our website by scanning the QR code



## JUNIOR HIGH JUBILEE INTEREST

Junior High Jubilee: A week-long conference for 6th-8th graders featuring worship, friends, and fun! To register a student or volunteer as an adult sponsor, contact Malorie ([dcf@firstpreswaco.org](mailto:dcf@firstpreswaco.org)) or Taylor ([tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org](mailto:tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org)).

## BEER & HYMNS

Join us Sunday, April 26th 12:30-2:00 p.m. for Beer, Brats, and Hymns at Brotherwell Brewery after church.

Non alcoholic beverages available.

## NOW HIRING: STREAMING & SLIDE OPERATOR

First Pres Waco is seeking paid Streaming Operators to join our Sunday morning team, typically serving twice a month. No experience is necessary; full training is provided. To apply, email [office@firstpreswaco.org](mailto:office@firstpreswaco.org) or call (254) 752-1665.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG](http://WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG) OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @FIRSTPRESWACO



## Staff

Pastor	Leslie King, D. Min. (lking@firstpreswaco.org)
Director of Congregational Life	Taylor Holleyman, Ph.D (tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org)
Operations Manager	Shane Montoya, MBA (office@firstpreswaco.org)
Communication & Design Specialist	Evan Cole (ecole@firstpreswaco.org)
Chancel Choir Director	Austin Ingalls (chancelchoir@firstpreswaco.org)
Handbell Director	Amy Goodman, Ph. D (amy_goodman@baylor.edu)
Organist	Becky Ward, M.M. (vward@hotmail.com)
Pianist (8:30 am service)	Trisha Anderson (trishaanderson0926@gmail.com)
Nursery Coordinator	Chelley Breemes (bigcatz2000@yahoo.com)
Parish Associate for Theology & Ethics	Dr. Neil Messer (Neil_Messer@baylor.edu)
Church Historian	Katelyn Jaynes, Ph. D (kljaynes204@gmail.com)
Parish Associate for Gerontology	Jim Ellor, D. Min. Ph. D, H.R. (james_ellor@baylor.edu)
Streaming Team	James Karney, Amanda Lassetter, Thomas Munn, Adam Redmer, Mike Vale
Custodian	Adriana Goytortu

## Organizational Officers

Clerk of Session	Ken Kuhns
Church Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer	Mark Harren, Donna Black
First Presbyterian Church Foundation	President - Chuck Weaver, Carr DuPuy, Carol Miller, Malorie Montoya, Charles Stern
Forman Fund	David Smith, Phil Hering, Cathy McPhee, Patsy Norman, Bob Grayson
Presbyterian Women	Susan Somerville, Sherry Cragen, Mary Lynn Klingman and Sue Young
Sanctuary Guild	Sharon Stern, Michael Muehlenbein
Sanctuary Flowers	Brenda Stephens, Susan Somerville, Kathy Jones
Celebration Way	Cary DuPuy

## Session Committee Members

Administration Committee	Lyndon Olson, Roane Lacy, Mike Morrison
Christian Formation Committee	Shannon Field, Anita Karney
Congregational Life Committee	Ryan Joyner, Marsha Alvarado, Kathryn Delk
Facilities Committee	Hunter Harren, Mark Anderson, Christine Miller, James Hill, Bob Cragen
Finance Committee	Donna Black, Phil Hering, Chip Somerville
Outreach Committee	Lenore Wright, Sam Parler, Brenda Stephens
Personnel Committee	Chuck Weaver, Todd Ehlers
Worship Committee	Esther Lee, Meredith Palm

## Diaconate Committee Members

Diaconate Moderator/Vice Moderator	Malorie Montoya, Bricker Bruner
Diaconate Secretary	Christine Dennis
Agape Committee	All Deacons
Our Hybrid House	Jeremy Mercer, Dave Reagan, Jen Ferretter, Avery Kerley, Cynthia Perry, Marilyn Harren, Zdzislaw Wieckowski
Power of the Pen	Katie Valenzuela, Scott Wagner, Melanie Cook, Helen Harris, Peggy Graham
Prayer Committee	Drew Risinger, Toni Percivill, John Jovicich, Kathy Jones
Stork Committee	Mike McPhee, Jerry Barrett, Kevin Bartley
Ushering Coordinator	Wes Field



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - WACO, TEXAS**  
1100 Austin Ave. - Waco, TX 76701 - 254.752.1665 - [www.firstpreswaco.org](http://www.firstpreswaco.org)  
Church Office Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
Sunday Services 8:30 A.M. (Weekly Communion) and 10:30 A.M. (Morning Worship)  
Pastor - Leslie King

