



# RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5000 Southwest Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76116 ♦(817) 732-3388

[www.RIDGLEAPRES.org](http://www.RIDGLEAPRES.org)

APRIL 2025

(US and Canada)

Topic: Ridglea Worship Service

Time: 10:30 AM Central Time

April	6, 2025	10:30 a.m.	
April	13, 2025	10:30 a.m.	Palm Sunday
April	17, 2025		Maundy Thursday
April	20, 2025	10:30 a.m.	Easter Sunday
April	27, 2025	10:30 a.m.	

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/94412640306?](https://zoom.us/j/94412640306?pwd=OAMaaNCwbNJAbIaNN0CKrv7C89WxKx.1)

[pwd=OAMaaNCwbNJAbIaNN0CKrv7C89WxKx.1](https://zoom.us/j/94412640306?pwd=OAMaaNCwbNJAbIaNN0CKrv7C89WxKx.1)

Meeting ID: 944 1264 0306

Passcode: 380490



We will celebrate the sacrament of Communion Sunday morning, April 6, 2025

## CHRIST IS RISEN



EASTER SUNDAY  
APRIL 20, 2025

### ECLECTIC CAFE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Apologize for the Zoom issues. We'll do better.

April 6—Judy will lead #5

April 13—Johanna will lead the last lesson #6.

Easter is April 20, and the Eclectic class will not meet.

After Easter on April 27, we'll go back to our study of Wisdom for several Sundays.

We hope many of you will join us. Don't forget your notebook.

**Eclectic Café Zoom meeting ID: 915 2396 5224**

**Password is Eclectic.**

### "THE GATHERING"

The Gathering, our multigenerational Sunday school class led by Paul Duncan, is conducting a DVD lesson series on the Book of Proverbs. The DVD lessons are short to allow plenty of time for discussion. All are welcome to attend!

SESSION MEETING  
WILL BE HELD ON  
APRIL 24, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.



### Mission/Vision statement

Following our Savior's example, Ridglea Presbyterian Church strives to perform acts of compassion and inclusivity in our daily lives while seeking to grow in spirit and hope.

APRIL NEWSLETTERS  
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

## Today and Always



Perhaps you've heard of an organization called Hamas – a group whose ideology, whose “raison d’etre,” as the French would say, is the destruction and elimination of Israel. Hamas has existed for more than thirty years, and has governed the Gaza Strip of Israel for more than a decade.

In October of 2023, nearly a year and a half ago, Hamas fighters breached the barriers that defined the territory of Gaza, and they went on a systemic attack of Israeli villages, infrastructure, and citizens. Over a thousand were killed, thousands more wounded, hundreds were kidnapped. It was horrific, atrocious, inexcusable; even the majority of Gazans were horrified.

In the months since that attack, Israel has been strident in its response, seemingly oblivious to who is, was, or may be affiliated with Hamas.

In March of this year a document was published that ran over 1,200 pages long, single spaced, that listed the 50,000 (fifty thousand) names of Gazans killed; the first 20+ pages listed those under 1 year old.

Which raises the question: if the ideology of destruction and elimination that is propounded by one group (e.g. Hamas) leads it to attempt horrific and inexcusable atrocities, when does the mirrored ideology (e.g. by Israel) become horrific and inexcusable? (the majority of Israelis are also horrified)

To be clear, this question is meant neither to support nor denigrate these warring factions, but to consider the ramifications of purification through annihilation.

It is an old, sad story, this ideology of salvation through destruction, and history shows its fallacy over and over again. The Hebrew scriptures are filled with – and many people cringe about – stories of “smiting one’s enemies” as the tribes of Israel became a monarchy in the already-populated lands of promise. Followers of Jesus have just as checkered a history, including multiple church-sanctioned Crusades meant to “rescue Jerusalem,” even to the point of destroying the city, and so much more.

We need not go as far as Gaza to realize, to ponder, how the ideology that “our group” will be saved by destroying an enemy, has reared its voice in recent years, months, and weeks. There have even been some elected officials who have suggested rounding up and eliminating citizens who have voted the “wrong” way. The divisiveness in our nation has reached the point where a vocal minority is calling for the destruction of democracy in order to rescue, rebuild, and refashion democracy. Another ideology of salvation through destruction that portends horrific, atrocious, needless suffering.

As Easter draws near, we ought to remember how the attempt to destroy the message and ministry of Jesus not only failed, but the attempt to crucify, to eliminate the good news which Jesus shared was turned inside out on Easter morning. Fear and hatred, atrocities and horror, war and greed, all continued past the first Easter, to this day and beyond, yet their power, their temptation, continues to be defeated. How?

Because trust is stronger than suspicion, and gratitude is stronger than greed. Because beauty is stronger than horror and curiosity is stronger than ignorance. Because community is stronger than tribalism and together is stronger than isolation. Because hope is stronger than fear. Most of all, because Easter living is stronger than crucifying enemies.

Let us, today and always, live as the people of Easter.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roger".

# Making contact...

Ridglea Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is governed by the Session, an elected body composing of elders and pastors. Our committees, led by elders, oversee our ministries. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us. Email: [Clerk@RidgleaPres.org](mailto:Clerk@RidgleaPres.org). Our deacons oversee our ministries of care and compassion. Email: [Deacons@RidgleaPres.org](mailto:Deacons@RidgleaPres.org)

## RPC SESSION

### Class of 2025

Mary Fisher  
John Little  
Mick Stuart  
Durinda Walker

### Class of 2026

Beth Duncan  
Shiryl Gillaspie  
George Tischler  
Reeve Van Nostrand

### Class of 2027

Paul Morrison  
Marji Raunikar  
Mary Beth Sisolak-Wagner  
Becky Williamson

*Clerk of Session: Karen Landon*

## RPC TRUSTEES

### Class of 2025

Tom Sisolak

### Class of 2026

Reeve Van Nostrand

### Class of 2027

Paul Morrison

## 2024-2025 RPC DEACONS

Lynne Payne - Moderator  
Kit Van Nostrand—Home Member Care Coordinator  
Jean Godfrey – Funeral Reception Coordinator  
Jo VanOosterhout  
Glenna Cleworth  
Diane Keller

## RPC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Class of 2025

Ken Kibler

### Class of 2026

Gordon Ramsey

### Class of 2027

Nancy Staples

### Class of 2028

Walter Ducease

### Designee

Shiryl Thompson Gillaspie

## Staff

Roger Harwerth, Pastor

Patricia Taber, Office Manager

John Sauvey, Director of Music Ministries

Maritza Caceres, Organist

Emily Everts, Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator

Caroline Maas, Pianist

[roger@ridgleapres.org](mailto:roger@ridgleapres.org)

[patricia@ridgleapres.org](mailto:patricia@ridgleapres.org)

[john@ridgleapres.org](mailto:john@ridgleapres.org)

[emily@ridgleapres.org](mailto:emily@ridgleapres.org)

Church Office #817.732.3388

# YOUTH FUN AND FELLOWSHIP MARCH, 2025



**YOUTH...RPC**  
**Sunday School**  
**9:15 a.m.—10:15 a.m.**

**No Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025**

Children and Youth **2025** April Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Conformation Retreat
13 Palm Sunday	14	15	16	17 Maundy Thursday	18	19
20 Easter	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## *Easter Sunday*

The Flowering of the Cross and the Easter Egg hunt will happen Easter Sunday 4/20/25 from 9:15 - 10:15 am.

We encourage all to bring flowers for the cross from your garden, a store, or make your own.

The CE committee is gathering a combination of pre-stuffed plastic eggs and goodies to fill our existing plastic eggs. Donations of physical goodies or monetary expenses are always welcomed.

We are looking to fill the plastic eggs with a variety of things like:

fun size chocolate	small toys
fun size non-chocolate candy	novelty erasers
fruit snacks	small bubbles
	fidget toys

You can find these things at different stores like Walmart, Target, Dollar Tree, Mardels, a party supply store, Sam's Club, and Costco.

**You can bring these donations on Sunday, and if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Emily Everts.**



**PWR Women's Retreat  
March 28 & 29, 2025**

**That's a wrap!** And what a wonderful retreat it was. We couldn't have asked for better weather or a more beautiful setting. We always like to be able to get out into nature, and The Inn on the River in Glen Rose certainly provided that. All of us who shopped had the extra benefit of a fair on the square, which was so fun. We got our steps in and discovered cool items.

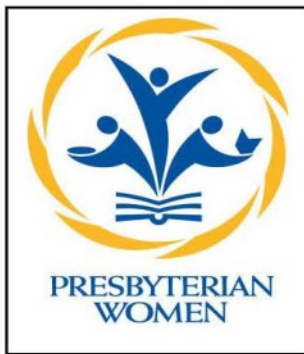
The food was delicious, and the portions were generous. It was great not to have to leave the inn to get supper. About 22 of us spent the night. Lots of chatting and laughing. Another 20 or more women showed up for the Saturday event.

Kudos to the Reverend Ashley Drake Mertz from First Presbyterian in Fort Worth for leading us in our theme of "Unplug to Recharge." Our scripture was Ps. 46:10. Be still and know that I am God. Ashley is a gifted presenter and facilitator. The time and the strategies provided for meditation were invaluable. The worship service that concluded our day was meaningful. And she's an all-around fun person.

Mandy Hand's music leadership was spot on. We learned some new songs and enjoyed some that were familiar.

The evaluations expressed thanks to the retreat committee. Special recognition goes to the chair, Becky Williamson and to the members: Katrina Little, Lynne Payne, Jo VanOosterhout, Marji Raunikar, Mac Zimmerman, Karen Landon, Allison Cleworth, and Marsha West.

Pictures are provided by Karen Landon. It's always a team effort made better by all the folks who attended.



**Circle Meeting Times:**

Circle 1: April 8<sup>th</sup> at Church (Fish Classroom) 10:30 a.m.

Circle 2: April 8<sup>th</sup> at Church (Eclectic Classroom) 10:30 a.m.

Circle 3: April 1<sup>st</sup> at Church (Eclectic Classroom) 6:30 p.m.

**Just Bring It –April 2025:** We will be collecting small toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, wet wipes, deodorant, etc.) for DRC Solutions (formerly Day Resource Center) whose mission is to provide respectful, responsible, and effective community-based solutions to help individuals and families emerge from homelessness. PWR is also collecting items for WestAid Food Pantry and the Presbyterian Night Shelter

Quail Trail Apartments on an ongoing basis: toiletry items (shampoo, soap, deodorant, wet wipes, etc.), sanitary products, and pet food. Please place items in the labeled box located near the office.

**Looking Ahead:**

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>:** PWR General Meeting – Join us at 10:30 a.m. to help make fleece fringed blankets for children living at the Presbyterian Children’s Homes and Services (PCHAS) Foster Care Village in Itasca, TX. This is a great opportunity to help PCHAS and visit with your PWR friends while you create blankets. Please bring a good pair of fabric scissors and a straight-edged ruler.

**May 27<sup>th</sup>:** Mark your calendars for our annual PWR Closing Luncheon. Great food & fun!

**June 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>:** Mo-Ranch Women’s Conference. Contact Karen Landon if you are interested in attending (karenlandon2010@gmail.com). The 2025 Theme & Scripture are: Crowded Table – Hebrews 10:24. The cost is \$425 each. We are planning to carpool from RPC.

**July 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>:** We have a few ladies interested in attending the Synod of the Sun 2025 PW Gathering at First United Presbyterian Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The theme is: Our Joy is in Christ. Contact Karen Landon if you are interested in attending. Cost and accommodations are unknown at this time. We are planning to carpool from RPC.

**Photos below -- (Left) Circles 1 & 2 celebrated their March Birthdays together.**

**(Right) We enjoyed a wonderful Fresh Herbs presentation from Master Gardener Sheryl Whited at the March 25<sup>th</sup> PWR General Meeting.**



## Matthew 25 Action Team



Movies That Matter: Thursday, April 3 at 7 pm for the movie The Grab about companies and countries stealing food from the needy. Dinner at McCallister's at 5:30. Diner & Movie at 7. Don't

forget to get your Free tickets on line here: [Movies That Matter Film Screening – Welcome to the City of Fort Worth.](#)

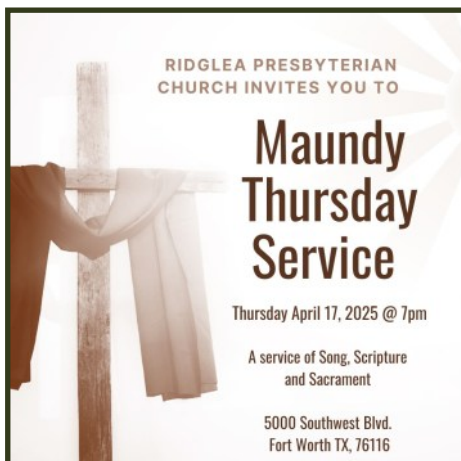
Room in the Inn at Ridglea Christian Church participation. The committee chose July 18 and August 1 as the summer Friday's to provide the meal for a group of homeless men who get to spend the night off the street, get a good meal, a shower, and a chance to wash their clothes. We'll provide the meal for approximately 15-17 people. This includes the 7 guests and the people who are providing the meal. We'd love to take some of our RPC men along to visit and play games with the guests. You'll get a free meal and provide support for the men. If you're interested in helping with this, please put these two dates on your calendar, and let us know you'd like to help. It's a pretty unique experience. You'll be glad you got involved.

Quail Trail Updates: Next dates at QT April 18 9:15 am TAFB distribution. April 29 Birthday Celebration at 11 am.

The next Matthew 25 Action Team Meeting is April 29 at 6 pm in the Fish Class. We'll hear a representative from Grace Presbytery discuss issues around race. Bring your sack supper. All are welcome.

On May 27, we'll discuss Chris Hayes' book THE SIRENS CALL: How Attention Became the World's Most Endangered Resource. Melissa Burkhead will lead that discussion.

Marsha West



RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH INVITES YOU TO

# Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday April 17, 2025 @ 7pm

A service of Song, Scripture  
and Sacrament

5000 Southwest Blvd.  
Fort Worth TX, 76116



Ridglea Presbyterian  
Church invites you to

# PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

April 13, 2025  
10:30 a.m.  
5000 Southwest Blvd.  
Fort Worth, TX 76116



Ridglea Presbyterin  
Chuch invites to you

# Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025 @ 10:30 am

Please join us for a light Breakfast  
from 9:15 - 10:15

We will have different activities for Children, Youth,  
and Families from 9:15 - to 10:15.  
Including an Easter Egg Hunt, Flowering of the Cross,  
and Arts and Crafts for all ages. We will also be  
partaking in the Sacrament during the service.

5000 Southwest Blvd. Fort Worth TX, 76116



This QR code (for phone apps) will direct people to our Realm portal for online giving; a Realm account will need to be created, though it is very simple to do.



Many of us know the blessings of having fellow church members pray for us and others. Prayer Request items are distributed to a list maintained by PWR. Anyone who would like to be added to this distribution list should call the Church office. Anyone who has a prayer request can send the information to Ruth Ann Rinewalt at [r.rinewalt@att.net](mailto:r.rinewalt@att.net).



We need ushers, communion servers, and liturgists for Sundays during the 2024 year of worship. Please volunteer to help with the Sunday morning worship service. Also, if you signed up for a particular Sunday and something comes up, please contact Durinda Walker at 817-229-9880 in order to fill those positions.

Sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d49a4ae2ea3f85-ushers1>

Remember Our Home Members



On the first and second Sunday of each month, beautiful note cards will be available for RPC members to send to our "Home" members. Following worship service, these cards will be in white baskets in the Narthex on a first come basis.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH



The RPC Women are collecting quarters in the Narthex after service every second Sunday of the month to assist Westaid.



The Jam Sessions are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday in the Sanctuary from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Lots of bluegrass, folk, Americana and country music is shared with acoustic (unamplified) instruments. Musicians of all skills are encouraged!

Are you interested in membership at Ridglea Presbyterian Church? Contact Pastor Roger for all the deets and FAQ's.



a new church for you to call home

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Wednesday mornings  
8:30 a.m.  
Central Market- Upstairs

The men's prayer breakfast has been a vital part of Ridglea's mission and ministry for decades. We enjoy a hearty breakfast and pray for people and events around the world.

Plans are underway for attending the Mo-Ranch Women's Conference June 6-8, 2025. Contact Karen Landon if you are interested in joining us this year (karenlandon2010@gmail.com).



### Ridglea Presbyterian 2025 Scholarship Application

Ridglea Presbyterian offers scholarships for all levels from Associate to Doctorates. Applications for 2025 will be open until April 15, 2025.



See details and register on Realm for these upcoming events:

Event:	Date:	Register By:	Information:
Dinner With Friends	April 5th	Sunday, March 30th	
Palm Sunday	April 13		
Maundy Thursday	April 17		Service 7:00 p.m.
<b>Easter Sunday</b> (light breakfast prior to Worship 9:30—10:15 a.m.)	<b>April 20</b>		No Sunday School  No Fellowship Luncheon

## The 2025 Flower

Calendar is posted in the Narthex if you wish to celebrate, honor or remember a special person, date or occasion. Please sign up as the spaces fill up pretty quickly.



Mark your calendars for events coming soon:  
(We'll let you know when registration opens on Realm)



Event:	Date:
Mother's Day	May 11, 2025
Fellowship Luncheon (Theme: RPC Senior Recognition)	May 18, 2025

**YOUR SESSION INVITES YOU TO  
FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:**

- 1. FIND YOUR PASSION**
- 2. FIND YOUR TEAM/COMMITTEE**
- 3. IDENTIFY YOUR MEETING NIGHT**
- 4. GET INVOLVED!**

**2nd Sunday of the Month**  
**April 13, 2025 11:45 a.m.**  
**Board of Deacons: Focus on Members**  
**Lynne Payne, Moderator**

**2nd Tuesday of the Month**  
**April 8, 2025 6:15 p.m.**  
**Christian Education: Focus on Learning and Growing**  
**Mary Beth Wagner, Chair**

**1st Tuesday of the Month**  
**April 1, 2025 7:00 p.m. & Zoom**  
**Fellowship Team: Focus on Social Gatherings**  
**Beth Duncan, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**  
**April 9, 2025 6:30 p.m.**  
**Building & Equipment :**  
**Focus on Physical Structures**  
**George Tischler, Chair**

**1st Wednesday of the Month**  
**April 2, 2025 5:30 p.m.**  
**Worship Team:**  
**Focus on Sunday & Special Services**  
**Durinda Walker, Chair**

**2nd Wednesday of the Month**  
**April 9, 2025 5:30 p.m.**  
**Commitment Team: Focus on Guests**  
**John Little, Chair**

**1st Thursday of the Month**  
**April 3, 2025 6:00 p.m.**  
**Personnel: Focus on Staff Support**  
**Mick Stuart, Chair**

**2nd Thursday**  
**(week prior to Session Meeting)**  
**6:00 p.m. - Zoom**  
**Finance & Budget: Focus on Stewardship**  
**Reeve Van Nostrand, Chair**

**2nd Tuesday of the Month**  
**April 8, 2025 6:00 p.m.**  
**Outreach Team: Focus on Mission**  
**Marji Raunikar, Chair**

**3rd Thursday of the Month**  
**April 24, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m.—RPC Sanctuary & Zoom**  
**Session Meeting**  
**Pastor Roger Harwerth, Moderator**  
**Rescheduled to the 24th in April**

**AV Team**  
**Contact: Nancy Staples**

**Clerk of Session**  
**Karen Landon**



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

RIDGLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
5000 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116

Judy Groulx	4	8
Jennie Paget	4	8
Sonny McCutcheon	4	9
Jan Renfro	4	9
Martin Cleworth	4	12
Ken Kibler	4	15
Debbie Odom	4	15
Shirley Baxter	4	16
Sonja Conway	4	17
Thomas Carter	4	19
Ann Landon	4	20
Mary Hanson	4	21
Tom Jenkins	4	24
Jared Hoaldridge	4	24
Melissa Burkhead	4	27
Carla Vega	4	28
Gordon Ramsey	4	28
Lilia Briseno	4	28
Terry Aycock	4	29
Amelia Keating	4	29

The next  
newsletter  
deadline  
will be  
April 17, 2025  
at noon.