



Volume 26 Issue 8.3

Atascocita Lutheran Church

*We seek to make Christ known in our community through
reflecting Christ in our lives.*



August 20, 2026

Thursday Seeds

How do you answer who Jesus is to you?

What do people say about that restaurant? What do people say about the team this year? What do people say about that school? What do people say about that neighborhood or church? These questions are not unusual in our daily lives. We can often provide an answer quickly and easily because we can repeat something we've heard about whatever it is that is being discussed. It gets a bit more difficult when the question asks us directly what we think about something, when we're asked for our personal thoughts and opinions. It's harder because we may not want people to know exactly what we think. In these situations, we can't hide behind someone else's thoughts and opinions.

That is where Jesus' disciples find themselves in this week's gospel from Matthew. Jesus has asked them, "Who do people say I am?" They give answers they have heard, but then Jesus gets personal and asks them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter responds, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." We don't know how the others responded. It appears they kept quiet, waiting to see how Peter's response was received.

Today, many of us tend to use Peter's answer when asked who Jesus is. How would we respond if someone then asked us directly, "But, who is Jesus to *you*?" We may not realize it, but we answer that question often without someone asking us the question. We demonstrate in our daily lives who Jesus is to us as we interact with others during the course of normal daily activities. How we treat others says a lot about who we think Jesus is and the important role He plays in our lives.

There is an old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words. We are drawing a picture about who Jesus is to us by putting a statement into action. While people may not directly ask us who Jesus is using words, they can learn a lot by how we treat them and others in our everyday encounters. Our actions demonstrate what Jesus is to us.

Here's the good news. We don't need a theological degree to share with others about Jesus. We can share the good news by telling stories of how Jesus works in our lives and by treating others the way Jesus teaches us to love one another. That will tell them a lot more about who we think Jesus is than mere words alone. And that is how we 'make Christ known' in our community and beyond!

God's peace,
Pastor Brian



Children's Sunday School held during worship

Children's Sunday School is held DURING worship time.

9:30 am - Children begin worship with parents

9:45 am - Children move to Sunday School (room 106) after Children's sermon

10:20 am - Children return to parents in pews (before Holy Communion)



Adult Forum meets every Sunday after worship in room 105. Pastor Brian guides the group through the current Sunday's lessons. Join us for lively discussions.



Wednesday Bible Study

Pastor leads a Bible study every Wednesday at 10:00 AM in his office. All are welcome!! Our focus is on the book of Luke.



Noisy Offering

Noisy offerings collected will go towards HAAM. Thank you for your continued generous support!



Email Scam is back again!

Warning! You may have recently received a new email claiming to come from Pastor Brian asking for you to contact him.

PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND to this email or any like it. Also do not respond to any similar text message. This request is not coming from Pastor Brian. Please know that Pastor Brian would never send such an email or text message out asking for help in that way. Please do not send money anywhere else because of such an email or text on Pastor Brian's behalf.



Diners' Group meets Thursday, August 20 at 6:00 pm

Join us at **Three B's Grill in Kingwood** 4590 Kingwood Dr.
for food, fun and fellowship. Please send your reservation to Judy Johnson at
jajohn4471@comcast.net so she can let the restaurant know how many to plan for.
All are welcome!

**Basket Weavers meet Saturday, August 22 at 9:00 am**

Join our basket weavers group as we gather from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.
Anyone interested in the craft of basket weaving is invited to attend.
Contact Joy C. for more information.

**Family Promise**

ALC's turn to host Family Promise clients is **August 23 - 30**.
Volunteers are needed to provide meals and/or overnight stays for the
Family Promise clients. There is also a list of food items needed for the week.
Sign up to help - the lists are on the bulletin board next to the coffee pot.
For any questions, please contact Judy Cargill or Judy Johnson.

**Family Promise of Lake Houston**

Great BBQ.
Great People.
Great Purpose.

Sept. 26, 2026
A.V. Bull Salas Park
12-5pm

**A Perk with a Purpose**

If you are a coffee drinker, and like the idea
of your coffee purchase doing more than
just jump-starting your day, check out
the [Brewing Hope website](#).

Making a difference, helping Humble Area Assistance Ministries (HAAM)

Below is a list of the types of items that are most in need at HAAM. Consider sharing the love of
God in a way that helps make a daily difference in someone's life. You can give directly to HAAM or
drop items in our HAAM box in the fellowship hall and we will deliver them to HAAM.

Requested Food Donations

Canned Beans
Canned Fruit (low sugar)
Canned Meat (tuna or chicken)
Canned Vegetables (low sodium)
Cereal
1 Pound Bag of Dry Beans
Macaroni and Cheese
Pasta
Tomato Sauce
Peanut Butter
Soups (canned or dry)

Requested Hygiene Donations

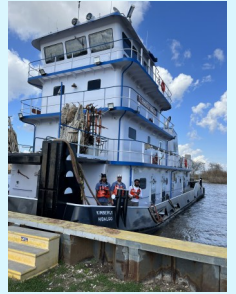
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste (full size or travel)
Razors
Shampoo/Conditioner (full or travel size)
Shaving cream
Lotion
Deodorant
Bar Soap - full size
Toilet Paper
Comb



Thank you!!!

Seafarers Christmas Shoebox Ministry

It is not just in the Hallmark movies, but you see it in the Houston Ship Channel and Gulf Coast region - seafarers on ships and mariners on towboats and tugboats, working on our waterways. They are on their vessels 24/7 for extended periods of time, working far from home and their loved ones. Sometimes seafarers cannot depart their ships when they are in port. For many years, the church, as well as other caring individuals and organizations have assembled shoeboxes for the seafarers. They are filled with items to help them “weather the storm” during the long days at sea, and let them know we care about them.



One of our church members, Rev. Nancy Simpson, Ministry on the River chaplain, shares that St. Nicholas is the patron saint of seafarers, as well as children, so this is a wonderful connection for Christmas giving to seafarers.

The Sunday School children invite you to join them in making this Christmas season special for seafarers. Their goal is to fill 100 plastic shoe boxes with gifts to help brighten the lives of seafarers far from home. We will collect items from now until Oct. 31. Items can be dropped off at the church. We will provide the shoe boxes, which will then be filled at the church and wrapped for delivery to the Houston International Seafarers Center in time for Christmas.

Needed items: full size items preferred over travel size

Band-aids (fabric)
Dental Floss
Flashlight w/batteries
Hairbrush/comb
Lotion
Nail clippers
Personal note or card
Q-tips
Socks
Toothbrush/Toothpaste
Word Search books

Baseball caps
Deodorant
Gold Bond Cream or powder
Kleenex
Magnets
Needle & thread
Playing cards
Shampoo/conditioner
Sudoku books
T-shirt

Body Wash
Earbuds/headphones
Gum and hard candy
Lip Balm
Mechanical pencils
Pens
Pocket-size notebooks
Shaving Cream/Disposable razors
Texas souvenirs
2027 Calendar (pocket size)



Christmas at Sea (CAS) Seafarer ministry opportunity

Another opportunity to serve seafarers is through the Christmas at Sea (CAS) program, making hand-knitted beanies. Included with the beanies are handcrafted Christmas cards that will be made by the Sunday School children. This organization has patterns for the beanies and recommendations for yarn. Every cap must be handcrafted – that is the hallmark of this oldest and longest continuously-running charter knitting program in the U.S. These hand-knitted items need to be sent in time for distribution in early November.



We are proud to share that Pastor Nancy will be one of the chaplains helping to distribute these gifts of love. For more information about The Seaman's Church Institute Christmas at Sea program, visit <https://seamenschurch.org/programs-services/christmas-at-sea/>

Project Zipline Moves Forward

At a congregational meeting on August 2, participants unanimously voted to allow the ALC Leadership Team to move forward with negotiations and signing a lease agreement with Zipline International to have them install a drone recharging station on the ALC grounds near where the shed currently stands. For those who were not able to join the meeting, here are the pertinent details.

Lease Proposal

- Russ provided the pertinent details of a proposed lease agreement between ALC and Zipline for a drone recharging station using 4,000 square feet of ALC's land where the shed presently stands.
- Zipline will demo and remove the shed and potentially two trees to make space for the station, which will have a gravel base and contain two charging stanchions and be surrounded by an 8-foot ornamental fence.
- The agreement is for five years at a rate of \$2,000/month for the first year, with a 3% increase each subsequent year. The lease can be renewed for an additional two five-year periods.
- After signing the agreement, Zipline will have 180 days to do due diligence. The first month's rent plus a security deposit would be collected during this time.

Zipline International

- Pastor Brian shared some background information on Zipline.
- Started in Rwanda delivering medical supplies to remote areas; now on four continents; 30+ charging stations in the Dallas area; now moving into the Houston area, with the first charging station in Spring.
- Based in San Francisco and has partnership with many of the largest U.S. companies and restaurants.
- Meets all FAA requirements and noise level is minimal, about the same as a conversation between people.

Q&A

- Insurance up to \$2 million is covered by Zipline. ALC's premium will increase \$15/year for extra protection up to \$1 million.
- Zipline has an excellent safety record.
- Zipline will have electrical power installed and cover the costs of all station utilities. When the lease expires, they will remove all of their equipment, but the electricity outlets will remain on ALC's property.
- Zipline will provide security cameras and lighting for the station.
- Zipline will get clearance from the Atascocita HOA as part of their due diligence.
- All maintenance and service will be handled locally on-site.
- ALC will purchase a new 10x10 shed, to be built at the back of the parking lot next to the trash receptacle. The shed will be paid for by individual donations.
- The ALC lawyer reviewing the agreement will ensure that we are not liable for any taxes as a result of this rental.
- Monthly rent will be used to pay off debt and obligations that have been put on 'hold' pending the sale of the land, starting with our line of credit.

The Leadership Team will provide updates to the congregation as this project moves forward.

We remember in Prayer

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"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." — Philipians 4:6



**Jose Alfaro
Carol Appleby
Shelly Baxter
Jennifer Bruce
Judy Cargill
Miguel Carlos
Bri Carrigan
Father John
Patrick Konikoff
Marilyn Konikoff
Darrell Kresta
Mary Sue Lee
Kay Mack**

**Debbie Marshall
Laurie McDonald
Tom McDonald
Sue Murtaugh
Donna Nice
Dave Noble
Ellen Poxon
Beryl Ragsdale
Bret & Vanesa Roe
Laura Rowe
Joy Sisler
Sam Sledge
Sharon Sledge**

**Alan Wade
Don Wilcox
Lori Austin Wilson
Mark Wilson
Conflict in the Middle East
People affected by
earthquakes
People affected by floods
and wildfires**

**Please keep those who are in active duty with
the U.S. Military in your prayers, especially
Christian Anderson, Caleb Gomez & Brady Mikesell.**

*If you or someone you requested prayer for has
recovered or can be removed from the list, please let us know.*



8/01 - Evan Siegrist
 8/04 - John Heinrich
 8/04 - Darrell Kresta
 8/08 - Karen Weeks
 8/10 - Pat Stine
 8/17 - Nicholas Poxon
 8/17 - Carol Schmidt
 8/20 - Heidi Clark
 8/26 - Michelle Mikesell
 8/26 - Carol Vorwald
 8/28 - Lori Reid

8/15 - Brian & Martha Deckinger

August Worship Team

	Greeter	Lector	Counter	Usher
Aug 2	Judy Johnson	Judy Cargill	Randy Gray	Clarissa Balcar & Tim Garcia
Aug 9	Joy Berthold	Ellen Poxon	Sue Murtaugh	Joy Berthold
Aug 16	Sid Nice	Martha Deckinger	Joy Berthold	Clarissa Balcar & Tim Garcia
Aug 23	Laurie & Tom McDonald	Nancy Garcia	Judy Cargill	
Aug 30	Joy Berthold	Ellen Poxon	Randy Gray	

ATASCOCITA LUTHERAN CHURCH
 7927 FM 1960 East
 Humble, Texas 77346 (281) 852-7333
 Worship Sundays at 9:30 am
www.alutheranchurch.org

ALC Staff

Brian Deckinger	Pastor	b.deckinger@alutheranchurch.org
Victor Vela	Worship accompanist & choir rehearsal leader	(210) 551-1248
Russ & Susan Senti	Thursday Seeds volunteers	ALC.Humble@hotmail.com

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00 am City On The Hill
2 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Special Congr. Meeting 11:00 am Holy Transfiguration church	3	4	5 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Holy Transfiguration vespers	6	7 3:30 pm Tai Chi with Peg	8 9:00 am City On The Hill
9 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am Holy Transfiguration church	10 7:00 pm Book Club	11	12 10:00 am Bible Study 5:00 pm Eden House of Prayer Mtg.	13	14 3:30 pm Tai Chi with Peg	15 9:00 am City On The Hill 3:30 pm HTC choir 6:00 pm Bunco
16 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am Holy Transfiguration church	17	18 6 pm Peace By Piecing Quilt Guild	19 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Holy Transfiguration vespers	20 6:00 Dining Out	21	22 9:00 am Basket Weavers 9:00 am City On The Hill
23 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am Holy Transfiguration church	24	25	26 10:00 am Bible Study	27	28	29 9:00 am City On The Hill 3:30 pm HTC choir
30 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum 11:00 am Holy Transfiguration church	31	ALC Hosts Family Promise Clients				