

# PRES PRESS

Yesterday, I received two different email notifications that looked suspicious. I debated on how to determine whether they were legitimate messages or someone phishing for digital information. One ended up being true. The other one, from a friend saying that she needed me to send cash to the Philippines, was definitely false! She had been hacked! It is just one example of how challenging it can be to what is to be trusted and where are our truest sources.

In changing times with new technology, I challenge myself to learn new practices and how to best reach out to people. As a church, we are challenged to adapt to new environments. Even for those who have lived in the same house, or neighborhood, or city for years, we see change occurring all around us.

As we struggle with the daily challenges of busy lives, we also struggle with how to tell a story of faith to a busy and distracted world, in a world with many different messages bombarding us from different sources.

From Psalm 27, we hear that the God we worship is the one who builds up the city and gathers the outcasts, heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds, lifts up the downtrodden and casts the wicked to the ground.

These are words to be trusted. They are from everlasting to everlasting. These words of truth still speak of us of God's power as the one who determines the number of the stars and gives all of them names, the one who is abundant in power and whose understanding is beyond measure.

These messages found in our Scriptures are those that hold promises and covenants that God makes with us. These words of covenant are worthy of study, meditation and trust. As we learn where to put our trust, these promises can weave a core of strength and comfort to hold us together during times of change that seem chaotic. God's voice continues to call to us; God still walks with us.

This message is not only to be studied and incorporated in our lives, but also shared with others. I am excited about how we do this in worship, study, fellowship, meals, music, and also in new outreach settings.

The Idea Spring series is well attended and creating quite an impact on all who participate in it! We hear about a wide variety of topics that stretch our minds to the stars and—this next event—into the deep space of our inner being!

Our first Messy Church worship service was a wonderful event with around sixty people of all ages, exploring God's love through the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). This worship was multi-sensory through crafts, music, message and food—not to mention lots of fun.

Let us continue to explore ways we can center ourselves on God's Truth, sharing a peace and joy that passes all understanding. This challenge continues to be renewed, even as we approach the ancient season and practice of Lent.

Lent will begin with an Ash Wednesday service on February 14. We will begin with our regular Wednesday Night Supper at 6:00 and then transition to the worship service around 6:30. It starts our journey where we will continue to explore God's covenant with us and how God walks with us and seeks our attention to God's Guidance and Truth. In this journey, may the ever blessed and expanding community of Spring Branch Presbyterian Church continue to bless each and every one of you.

Shalom,

*Rev. Kristin*

Rev. Kristin

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

Join us for food and fellowship

February 7th– Lasagna

February 14th– Red beans and Rice (Ash Wednesday)

February 21st– Ham and Mac & Cheese

(Men's Group cooks)

February 28th– Chili Cook– Off



## COMMUNICATIONS CORNER



Check out our new Announcement TV in the foyer of the Education Building during the week, and in the Narthex on Sundays! This TV scrolls every 10 seconds with announcements and upcoming events for both the Church & Academy.

Would you like to have an announcement added to this TV? Send submissions to [communications@springbranchpres.org](mailto:communications@springbranchpres.org)

**All PresPress articles will be added the first of each month!**

### Did you miss a Sunday?

Visit our YouTube channel to listen to the Prayer for Illumination, Readings, Anthem, and Sermon each week!

Go to [www.springbranchpres.org](http://www.springbranchpres.org) and select **Sermons**

This will redirect you to the Church YouTube channel.



SPRING BRANCH  
Presbyterian Church

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1215 Campbell Road  
Houston, TX 77055 713-464-7659



[www.facebook.com/springbranchpres](http://www.facebook.com/springbranchpres)  
[www.facebook.com/MessyChurchSBPC](http://www.facebook.com/MessyChurchSBPC)  
[www.facebook.com/SBPC.Idea.Spring](http://www.facebook.com/SBPC.Idea.Spring)

**SUBSCRIBE**

If you are interested in subscribing to the Church Calendar, please email [communications@springbranchpres.org](mailto:communications@springbranchpres.org) or find Ethan Mitchell in person!

# Upcoming Events

## *PW at a Glance*

**PW MODERATORS:** Wednesday, February 7th, 9:30 am in the Conference Room

**PW BOARD:** Wednesday, February 7th, 10:15 am, in the Conference Room

**PW CIRCLE:** Wednesday, February 14th, at 9:30 am

**PW ZIP TRIP:** Wednesday, February 21st, at 9:30 am. Please look for details to follow in the weekly bulletins.

**THE HAPPY HANDS** group will resume making the pillows for hospital patients on **Wednesday, February 28th, at 9:30am** in the Conference Room. If you haven't been participating, please join us for good fellowship and making the pillows. No experience is needed. Just come and enjoy!



## Save the Date

Annual Congregation meeting date set for February 25.

Please keep an eye out for the agenda and other information in the bulletins and emails.



## *Unwind 2018*

## *Save the Dates*

Unwind Dinner Group will continue to gather the third Monday of each month at 6:00 for food and friendship. Although we

are part of the Presbyterian Women, our purpose is fellowship. We meet each month in an area restaurant. We are a diverse group of women. We are a very flexible group, while an RSVP is helpful, just showing up is always welcomed and wonderful. Life happens and we offer a break in your month to laugh and talk and relax and unwind. The first two dates we will meet are: **February 19, at Fadi's Mediterranean Grill, on the Katy Freeway, and March 19, at Kim Son Café.** Watch your email, the newsletter, the weekly bulletin, and the church website for updates, reminders, and locations. If you are not receiving an email invitation and would like to, please let Denise Wilborn know ([dwilborn55@gmail.com](mailto:dwilborn55@gmail.com)). We do hope to see you around the table. Peace and plenty for the year to come.

## Missions of the Month

### Souper Bowl of Caring and Scouts

The Mission Team wants you to know about some of the benevolences our church supports. The “Missions of the Month” for February honor two of our youth programs – the Souper Bowl of Caring and Scouts.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a nationwide, grassroots movement of caring utilizing Super Bowl weekend to mobilize youth to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities. This program was started by a youth group at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC in 1990 after a simple prayer by that church’s pastor: *“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat.”* In 2017 the program grew to include 6,544 participating groups donating over \$10 million.



This year on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4, we will have the “Souper Bowl of Caring” Sunday, too. Please bring to the worship service cans of soup or monetary donations to put in the “soup pot”.

We also honor all of our scout troops in February.



For over 60 years, SBPC holds the charter for Boy Scout Troop #478. The Boy Scout Troop meets every Sunday evening in the Boy Scout Hut at the back of the property at 5:30pm. The troop has lots of fun, learns many new skills, makes new friends, and reaches the boy’s scouting goals. Troop 478 operates using the “patrol method.” All scouts are assigned to a patrol. Each patrol functions as an independent operating unit of the troop. They elect a patrol leader. A patrol adviser works closely with the patrol leader in developing and implementing a plan for

the patrol. In Troop 478, the boys provide the planning and leadership (with adult guidance). The troop goes on a camping trip each month and is looking forward to summer camp.

Also, we have 9 Girl Scout troops utilizing the Scout Room of the Gathering Place. The troops range from Daisy (5 yrs. old) to Senior (to age 18) Scouts.

The troops all work on Girl Scout Programs, including badges & three series of Leadership Journeys that are based on their level and age of the girls. They go camping and to special events; they do service projects; and much more! They can also earn the Bronze Award, the Silver Award and the Gold Award which are the highest awards at different levels of Girl Scouting. The Gold Award is comparable to the Boy Scout Eagle Award. Plus, they sell those wonderful cookies, which help build a lifetime of skills and confidence. She learns goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics—aspects essential to leadership, success, and life.



# The Messy Spread

February 2018

## Doing Church Differently

Messy Church is a form of church that involves creativity, celebration, and hospitality and enables people of all ages to belong to Christ together. It is designed to be comfortable to those who haven't been to church ever before or who haven't been in a long time.

**The second Messy Church at SBPC will be held on March 1, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Spring Branch Presbyterian, 1215 Campbell Road, 77055. The theme will be Jesus in the Wilderness!**

**We will have one on the first Thursday of every month in 2018. Each month, we'll begin with crafts and activities, tie those together as part of a brief celebration service time, and then conclude with a fellowship meal (kid friendly options always available). We plan to be finished by 7 p.m.**

Want to follow us? [facebook.com/messychurchSBPC](https://facebook.com/messychurchSBPC)

Come with a playful heart!

## The Messy Spread

Is a resource of creative ways to live faithfully throughout the month. Got an idea for the next month? Please share it with us at [messychurch@springbranchpres.org](mailto:messychurch@springbranchpres.org).

## Valentine's Day

February 14th is Valentine's Day. Celebrate with a heart attack: Cut paper hearts out and stick them in various places to be found on Valentine's Day. Put them in mailboxes, briefcases, and lunch boxes; tape them to toothbrushes and remotes; and

unexpected places. Add a message if you want.

## Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday

Some Christians observe Lent, 40 days (not including Sundays) before Easter. It represents the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry. This year Ash Wednesday (the start of Lent) will be on February 14th right along with Valentine's Day. Easter will be on April 1st—April Fool's Day!

The day before Ash Wednesday is Fat Tuesday (or Mardi Gras in French). Since fasting is sometimes a part of lent, getting rid of all the rich foods before Ash Wednesday is also a part of getting ready for Lent. In England (and other places) Fat Tuesday is marked with pancakes to help get rid of the sugar and the eggs in the house. Observing Lent or no—breakfast for dinner anyone?

## Mindfulness Idea Spring

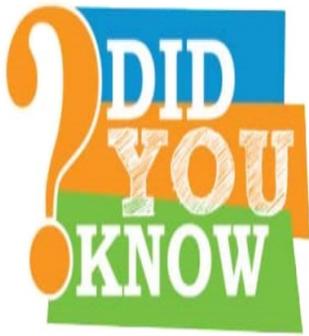
The next Idea Spring will be on February 22nd! Come join us at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Spring Branch Presbyterian to learn how to be mindful—calm and aware of the world around you! RSVP to this one at [ideaspring@springbranchpres.org](mailto:ideaspring@springbranchpres.org)

## Listening Car Rides

An idea from Traci Smith's *Faithful Families*: Try going on a listening car ride this month. Turn off the radio. On an unhurried, short trip, prep your fellow passengers to also be silent and simply listen to what God has to say to you on your trip. Start with a prayer: "Thank you for this listening car ride. Help us to hear you. Amen." End with a prayer: "Thank you for this opportunity to hear your voice and for taking us safely to \_\_\_\_\_. Amen."



Spring Branch Presbyterian



Mindfulness is proven to:

- Reduce stress
- Improve immune function
- Help children (and adults) calm themselves
- Reduce anxiety and depression

*want to know more?*



Join us for:

# Mindfulness for Families



Ann Friedman, PhD

Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>

5:30-6:30

1215 Campbell Road

Refreshments Served



RSVP required

 @SBPC.Idea.Spring **OR email**

[IdeaSpring@SpringBranchPres.org](mailto:IdeaSpring@SpringBranchPres.org)

This event is specifically crafted for kids and parents! The recommended age range is 6-12, but it's up to your discretion.



Celebrate the start of  
Rodeo Season

with a Chili Cook-Off

Date: Wednesday, February 28

Time: 6 pm

Chili Cooks are invited to bring a  
pot of your

favorite Chili Recipe to the Feb.  
28 Wednesday Night Supper.

Please contact Doris Wright at:

(2815971693 or

[doriswright66@gmail.com](mailto:doriswright66@gmail.com))

if you will be bringing a pot of  
chili (a Crock Pot will work well  
for transporting and keeping it  
warm). When you RSVP, tell Doris  
approximately how many

servings your pot of Chili will be.

Bring your pot of Chili no later  
than 5:45 so we can put out the  
pots.

**CHILI  
COOK~OFF**



## Great Mission Work, Great Fun, Fellowship & Food!

Thirteen people worked on Saturday, Jan. 27 to help make a difference in the life of young girls in other countries. We worked on pillowcase dresses in the Fellowship Hall. Some sewed, some ironed, some cut out, some pinned, some made pockets and added trim, and all had a good time. We finished about 27 dresses, and have about 30 more in various stages of completion.

Thanks to Anne Brewin, Kay Craig, Linda & Ken Crawford, Carol Davis, Karen Dikeman, Sarah Dikeman, Susan Heitshusen, Betty Magnuson, Jennifer Miller, Patti Nanney, Barbara Tremble, and Doris Wright.



The Property Committee has approval from Session to replace the Sanctuary Carpet (lower and upper levels). Property is accepting contributions toward the cost of the carpet (\$13,122). Please mark you checks "sanctuary carpet".



# **SPRING FLING FESTIVAL**

***Friday, March 2 6:30-8:30***

Dear Church Friends,

Our Spring Fling is a fun filled and exciting fundraiser for the children at the Academy to help improve our school. The big goal this year is to increase the access to technology on campus for both students and teachers. This would include adding a computer and printer to the teacher lounge to use for teacher planning purposes, as well as purchasing laptops or ipads for the PreK program. We appreciate any help and donations by our friends at the Church.

## **Big Item Donations:**

Air Plane Ride \$500. Carrousel \$350.

Train Ride \$350. Bounce House \$400.

Petting Zoo \$500.

## **\$\$ Monetary Donations are Welcomed \$\$**

Donations may be dropped off at the Academy office.

## **Themed Baskets/Silent Auction**

This year we will be holding a silent auction. Any items you would like to donate are very much appreciated.



## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

If you are interested in signing up for Children's Moment please contact Marguerite Priest at 281-435-3941 or [mepriest@hotmail.com](mailto:mepriest@hotmail.com).

Having trouble hearing in worship? We have hearing assistance aides available in the narthex! Please let an usher know if you would like access to one!! They will be happy to oblige!



Wanting to get a little more fitness into your routine? Join us every *Tuesday and Thursday* in the GatheringPlace at **10:00am** for Flexercise!

Want to add soothing movement and relaxation in your life? Join Marguerite Priest on Mondays and Thursdays at 6 pm in the conference room for an hour of yoga.



# GET INVOLVED!

Every year meals are delivered to people who are in need of our help! Once a month volunteers from Spring Branch Presbyterian Church meals through 2 different routes. If you would like to get involved and participate in this wonderful program please contact Liz Earnest at 713-202-8677 or [westsideu@yahoo.com](mailto:westsideu@yahoo.com) to sign up and be a part of giving back to our community!

# BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH

**INTERESTED** in beautifying the sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? The Flowers Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex! **The cost per arrangement is \$65.00. Special arrangements vary and should be requested EARLY!** Checks should be written to SBPC and given to Jorida in Church Office.



If you are purchasing something for reimbursement by the church, please take a tax exempt form from the Church Office with you. You can keep it in your car, purse, wallet, etc.! Help us save a few dollars the next time you make a purchase for the church.



## IMPORTANT PRESPRESS & BULLETIN REMINDER

**ALL PRESPRESS articles** are DUE no later than the **23RD** of this **month!** A "Reminder Email" will be sent on the 20th of each month. Please email your articles to [secretary@springbranchpres.org](mailto:secretary@springbranchpres.org) no later than the 23rd.

### FRIDAY EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would you like to receive our weekly announcements via email every Friday? Sign-up by visiting our Church website, [www.springbranchpres.org](http://www.springbranchpres.org).

CLICK "*Sign up for our Mailing List.*"

### Church's Prayer Chain List?

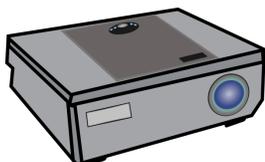
A Prayer Chain Email is sent to our "prayer warriors" when we receive word about someone in need.

Contact the Church Office or Sarah Dikeman if you'd like to be added.

## Do you need AV Equipment for your next event?

Submit an AV Request at: [www.springbranchpres.org/av-request](http://www.springbranchpres.org/av-request).

Hard copy forms are also available in the Church Office.



If you have any questions, please contact Ethan Mitchell at: [ethan@springbranchpres.org](mailto:ethan@springbranchpres.org)

# CONCLAVES 2018

**FEBRUARY 23-25 OR MARCH 2-4**

Whether you have a troubled past, an undecided future, or are dealing with difficulties in the present, it doesn't matter at CONCLAVES. Christ will assure that you are not crushed, in despair, persecuted, or abandoned. Come reclaim the strength of your faith at CONCLAVES!

## DETAILS

CONCLAVES are fun, faith-filled weekends at Camp Cho-Yeh that will enable you to grow closer to God and connect with other young people from all over our presbytery. You will engage in Bible Study and small groups, experience dynamic worship, participate in a mission project, explore ways to connect with God in the Spirituality Center, and of course have a blast playing games and making new friends.

**DON'T MISS IT!**

*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.*  
- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9



PRESBYTERY OF  
NEW COVENANT

- WHERE:** Camp Cho-Yeh  
2200 S Washington Ave., Livingston, TX
- WHO:** Middle and Senior High Youth  
(current 6th - 12th graders, plus adult sponsors 21 and older)
- COST:** \$135 per person  
Scholarships are available.





## @ Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Our first Messy Church worship service was a wonderful event with around sixty people of all ages, exploring God's love through the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32).

This worship was multi-sensory through crafts, music, message and food—not to mention lots of fun.

Join us next month, March 1st @ 5:30 pm.





# Happy Birthday

Sarah Fake	2/1
Clara Dikeman	2/2
James Daley	2/3
Victoria Miller	2/4
Cali Alegria	2/6
Stephen Earnest	2/7
Loretta Pittman	2/8
Logan Balli	2/9
Daniel Powell	2/10
Fonda Blair	2/10
Merveilles Massamba	2/13
Dr. Doris Wright	2/13
Eric Purfurst	2/14
Jo Witte	2/14
Lynn Dudinsky	2/15
Beth Mizwa	2/15
Kayla Mizwa	2/18

Don and Barbara Tremble 2/5



Church Calendar

Feb 2018 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 4pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	29 9:30am - Adult 6pm - Yoga (CR)	30 9:15am - Cong. Care 10am - Flexercise	31 9:30am - PW 10:15am - PW Board 4pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir	1 10am - Flexercise 5:30pm - Messy 6pm - Yoga (CR)	2	3
4 <b>Communion Sunday</b> 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 3:30pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	5 9:30am - Adult 6pm - Yoga (CR)	6 9:15am - Cong. Care 10am - Flexercise	7 9:30am - PW 10:15am - PW Board 4pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir	8 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Yoga (CR)	9	10
11 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	12 9:30am - Adult 5pm - Academy 6pm - Yoga (CR)	13 10am - Flexercise 6:30pm - Fellowship	14 9:30am - PW Circle 4pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir	15 6:30am - Early Bird 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Yoga (CR)	16	17 8am - Presb. Men
18 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	19 9:30am - Adult 9:30am - Adult 10am - The 6pm - Unwind Circle 6pm - Yoga (CR)	20 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Finance	21 9:30am - Zip Trip 4pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir	22 10am - Flexercise 5:30pm - Idea 6pm - Yoga (CR)	23 <b>PresPress Articles</b>	24 11am - MOW
25 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 4pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	26 9:30am - Adult 6pm - Yoga (CR)	27 10am - Flexercise 7pm - Session (CR)	28 9:30am - Happy 4pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir	1	2	3



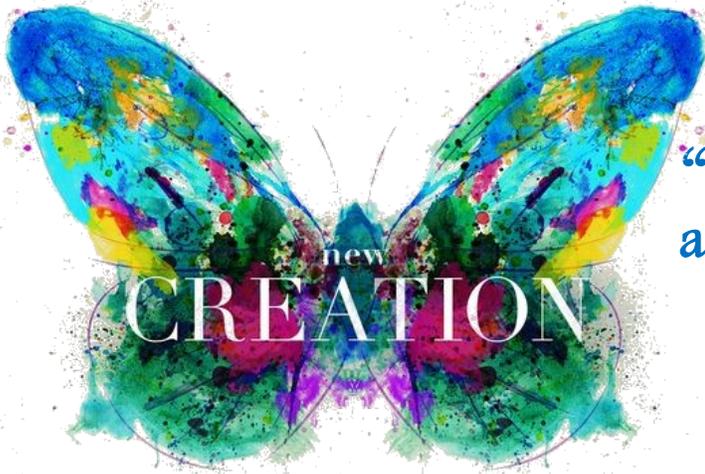
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Spring Branch Presbyterian Church  
1215 Campbell Road  
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[www.springbranchpres.org](http://www.springbranchpres.org)

*relationships matter*



GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



“ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!”