

PRES PRESS

*Don't forget to
change your clocks
this Sunday!*

Give thanks to God for God's steadfast love endures forever. (2 Chron. 20:21)

It is good to give thanks together. On November 12, our Stewardship Dedication Sunday, we will be having Pot-luck. It will be a great time to feast, fellowship and give thanks together. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex entry-way of the Sanctuary, so think about whether you wish to bring a main course/casserole, a side dish or dessert. It will be a great day to celebrate the conclusion of our Live Generously Campaign. Sharing meals together is something we love to do here at SBPC. It's an important time to strengthen our community as we get to know each other deeper, share the latest news, laugh and cry together.

During this Stewardship season, we are asked to consider how the church of today can build up the church of the future. Contributions can be in the form of money, as well as giving of talents and time.

Time is something we are very aware of, we talk a lot about how busy we are. I hear people speak of being "crazy busy". Sometimes it feels like that this label of being so busy is almost worn as a badge of honor.

Often when someone is asked to volunteer time, the answer is, "I just don't have any extra time!" In fact, we all have extra time. The relevant point is what we do with it. For instance, how many people spend an hour or two each day watching TV.

We make choices each and every day on how we spend your time. Whether it in working out, reading a book, playing a game, watching TV, or so many other activities. Do we spend time reading the Bible and time talking to God, or time listening to other voices? The decisions we make affect the health of our bodies, our relationships and our spiritual vibrancy.

Scripture often exhorts us to spend time working towards the Kingdom of God, to participate in making this world more like God's Kingdom. But, there are times when we look out at our world and despair that there is too much to be done. Thoughts of despair make us question how we could possibly make a difference, or whisper that it would take too much time and effort! Yet, God speaks to us words of encouragement to "*Build up!*" community on this earth. We know our God can do amazing things within our very midst!

Just think, as we give an hour here and an hour there--so much is being accomplished. There are so many people that give an hour here and an hour there. It's small gifts, woven together through the Holy Spirit, that build up community and make amazing things happen among us.

People will sometimes tell me "This is what I like to do. I feel better when I can give in this way." Think about it. Gifts of time and talent help us feel better, and less crazy-busy. The gift of time that feeds our spirits and enhances the meaning of life, helping us feel more centered in life. May our gifts contribute to stitching together a fuller vision of the Kingdom of God, showing the world how God's steadfast love endures and builds us up!

Shalom,

Rev. Kristin

“What Now? Hurricane Harvey- Phase 2 Heather Lambert, LPC

- As our community repairs, rebuilds and restructures, what can we do to help?
- How can we foster resiliency and a culture of care in our community?
- Learn the behaviors and emotional responses that can be attributed to post traumatic stress

Heather Lambert, LPC is the founder and director of Clearhope Counseling Center. Heather spent 17 years in education and now leads training across multiple types of organizations. She is an engaging communicator who shares her passion for the importance of mental health awareness and social connectedness.



Nov 9th

5:30-6:30

1215 Campbell Rd.
Refreshments
Served

Childcare provided upon RSVP to
IdeaSpring@SpringBranchPres.org
Please respond by Nov 7th

relationships matter 

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD

www.facebook.com/SBPC.Idea.Spring

Save the Date for a Fun Mission Project!

Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018

Pillowcase Dress Workshop

More info in Dec. & Jan. Pres Press



Join us for Sunday morning "youth-style" worship followed by lunch, games, and a hands-on mission project. This event is FREE for youth ages 6th to 12th grade. Adult sponsors should accompany youth. Planned and led by the Presbytery's Youth Connection Council (PYCC).

Youth Rally

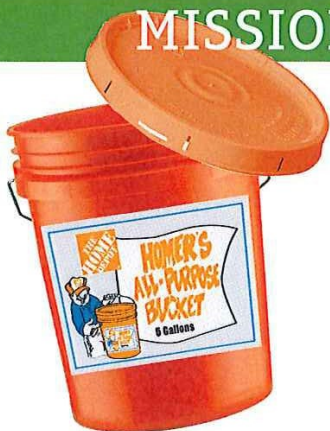


When? Sunday, November 12, 2017
10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Where? First Presbyterian Church
2727 N Loop 336 W
Conroe, TX

RSVP by Thursday, November 9 to Kristi Blankman kblankman@pbyofnewcovenant.org

MISSION PROJECT - HYGIENE BUCKETS



HERE'S WHAT WE'LL NEED:

- 5 gallon bucket with lid
- Hand towel (approx. 16" x 28", no fingertip or bath towels)
- Washcloth
- Wide-tooth comb (removed from package)
- Nail clipper (UPDATE: nail clippers with metal files or emery boards attached are now accepted. Removed from package)
- Bar of soap (*Bath size in wrapper*)
- Toothbrush (*in original package*)
- Band-Aids® or other adhesive bandage strips
- Tooth paste
- Shampoo and conditioner

COMING UP!

PW at a Glance

PW MODERATOR Training meets **11/01** at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room.

PW BOARD meets **11/01** at 10:15 AM in the Conference Room.

PW CIRCLE meets **11/08** at 9:30 AM. Will be held by Doris Wright.

No Happy Hands this month.

11/29 - the PW will cook Mission Soup (taco soup). All proceeds will be going to the PW and PM scholarship / mission fund!



November ZIP Trip for Presbyterian Women



On Wednesday, *November 15th* at Caninos Farmers market on Airline. We will be eating lunch at a restaurant near there. We will meet at the church at 9:30 am!

The **UnZip** trip will be to Premium Outlet Mall in Cypress date to be decided.

Please call or email Marguerite Priest if you plan to join us, 713-808-9888 - me-priest@hotmail.com

The Gathering Place meets Monday, November 20th at 10:00 AM! More volunteers are always needed. If you can spare one Monday of the month from 9ish to 1-ish, we would love for you to join us. Please join us. It will be a fun and rewarding experience!



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, November 12th, will be our Stewardship Potluck immediately following worship service.

No reservation is required! "Live Generously" is this year's Stewardship emphasis. Please remember to bring your Time and Talent and Pledge cards with you to service or turn them into the church office. We look forward to seeing you and enjoying this special time.



Live Generously
TAKE HOLD OF THE LIFE THAT REALLY IS LIFE
1 TIMOTHY 6:19

Take Home Ideas and After Church Treats for November!



To ponder:

How long do things last with you? Take some household objects and guess how long you've had them and how long you're going to keep them. Try it with toys, a mobile phone, a dinner plate, and clothes. Now try it with people you know – family and friends (be kind!). How long did Jesus stay with the disciples? How long did the Holy Spirit stay? How long does the Holy Spirit stay with us?

To do:

Make a "Gratitude Tree" as part of your Thanksgiving day, week, or just any day of the month! You can use a real tree, a cut branch, or an image of a bare tree to start. Cut out paper circles or leaf shapes for tree ornaments. On Thanksgiving Day, or whenever you choose, ask yourself and those around you to sit and write down on the ornaments at least three reasons you are thankful. Gather around your tree and share as you add your ornaments to the tree.

Dust off your Halos; It's Angel Tree Time Again!

Each year our church participates in this worthy program in which Texas prison chaplains work with incarcerated parents to help them make a connection with their children during the holidays.



A Program of Prison Fellowship

We receive the names of children to purchase gifts for, and we deliver the gifts, along with baskets of food, during the week before Christmas. Each child receives two gifts labeled as being from the incarcerated parent, along with a personal note the parent has written to the child. We also include a book or a game for each of the children in the family from our church family. Angel tags will be available both Sunday December 3 and Wednesday December 6 at supper. Pick a tag or two, purchase a gift in the \$20 price range, wrap the gift, stick the tag to the gift, and return it to the church office by Wednesday December 13. We also deliver food baskets along with the gifts, so we will be collecting kid friendly non-perishable foods to pack in baskets for the families. If you are interested in delivering to an Angel Tree family, you may sign up on the gift tag days or you may also contact Laurie Mitchell at lmitchell@stmes.org. If you are not a shopper, but would like to help, contact Laurie, as she will shop for you!



The Mission Team wanted to tell you about some of our church's benevolences. We have two Missions for the Month of November – Seafarers' and Fair Haven Food Pantry.

Seafarers' Christmas Shoeboxes

The majority of the things consumed in the US are brought to us via ships. The Port of Houston is the 8th largest port in the world. And on each of those ships are about 20-25 sailors. These men and women may have a 9-month contract before they get to go home. Because of being so busy working or maybe because of visa laws, some are unable to get off the ship during the few days the ship is docked at the port. They are usually hungry for conversation and a few laughs.

Seafarers depend a great deal on the services of The Seafarers' Center and the Chaplains that work there for outreach, pastoral care, evangelism, practical service, advocacy and hospitality. One of those items of hospitality is the distribution of Christmas Shoeboxes, which begins soon after Thanksgiving and continues until all of the boxes have been distributed. To give you a sense of how many seafarers enter the Port of Houston in just one month's time, during December of 2015 the chaplains distributed 12,278 Christmas Shoeboxes to seafarers on 538 ships!

Want to help our church gather fun and useful items for 100+ shoeboxes?

Start collecting items such as toiletries, stationery and envelopes, first aid items, Texas items, new T-shirts / tube socks, hard candy, chapstick, puzzles / puzzle books, pens / pencils, playing cards, chewing gum, sewing kits, magazines, shoelaces, and baseball caps. We'll have collection boxes available in November, then join us to pack and wrap on Sunday, November 26th during the Sunday School hour.

Our church also donates \$2500 to The Seafarers' Center each year.

Fair Haven Food Pantry

Fair Haven United Methodist Church on Gessner began a Food Pantry in 1975 to provide emergency food assistance to the Spring Branch-Memorial area. Typically each week, 200 sacks of food are given to families in our community. Because of the devastation so many have endured from the Hurricane Harvey flooding, the need is even greater. Fair Haven is dependent on the donations of congregations and groups in order to help those in need in our area.

Although we collect all year long for the Fair Haven Food Pantry, November is the month we make a special effort in the collection of non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry. The following foods would be particularly welcomed.

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Baby Cereal or Food | Canned Vegetables | Pasta Sauce |
| Canned Evaporated Milk | Cereal | Peanut Butter |
| Canned Fruits | Jelly | Soups |
| Canned Tuna or Chicken | Mac & Cheese | Spaghetti |

Our church also donates \$3000 to Fair Haven's Food Pantry each year. We will also be donating the food items collected from the Cornucopia Challenge to Fair Haven's Food Pantry.

Women's Little Christmas Epiphany Retreat

In some parts of the world, Epiphany is celebrated as Women's Christmas.

Originating in Ireland, it began as a day when the women, who often carried the domestic responsibilities of the year, could enjoy a bit of respite and celebrate together at the end of the holidays. Whether your holidays are hectic or calm, do-it-yourself or come pre-fabricated, come for a bit of time in reflection and congenial laughter with your sisters in Christ after the busy holiday season.

Saturday, January 6, 2017 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Hosted at the home of Kay Craig, 1748 Pine Village 77080. Led by Laura Grice, Associate Pastor of Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church.

The cost for the program is \$15 per person and includes breakfast, snacks, and lunch. Scholarships are available. Carpools from SBPC will also be coordinated.

Registration is required by January 2 to Carol Davis at the church or mailed to her 2515 Cezanne Circle, Missouri City, TX 77459.

Sponsored by Faith Development Team at SBPC





Introducing Messy Church to SPBC!

Starting in early 2018, Spring Branch Presbyterian Church will initiate a yearlong experiment of hosting our own Messy Church.

What is Messy Church?

It is a worship service open to all but particularly attractive to those in our neighborhoods that are looking for ways to experience God that are a little more intergenerational, interactive, and informal than what is typically found in our city's churches. A weeknight service might

look like this:

- Welcome time - people gathering informally
- Crafts/science/games/mission/activities that are centered around a single biblical theme
- Celebration - songs, scripture, and a short little talk that pulls together all of the activities
- A meal to share and continue the conversation
- Suggested activities to engage with at home

The Messy Church model comes from England and is starting to catch on in the US. It is based on the notion that traditional services are alienating to a lot of people that didn't grow up in the church. The songs and rhythm that many of us find so comforting are simply foreign and alienating to lots of people. People want to raise their kids in the faith or be in a faith community themselves, but don't find a connection to God in the mainline/traditional worship and programming.

The model is intended to stand on its own as a worship service. It wouldn't be created with the idea that it is a stepping stone to "real" worship, it is worship. Some of us from SBPC might be drawn to it (we would be), but it isn't intended to be "one more thing to do" for us. It would be for those that are not currently part of our church – or any church. It will meet monthly - it's a bit of work to run and by its nature needs a low commitment from its target audience - but foster its own community. Tentatively we are looking into holding Messy Church the first Thursday of the month starting in February 2018.

The model is intergenerational. It kind of sounds like a mini-VBS. In some ways it is, but all ages here would participate alongside others in the community - young, middle, old, and oldest. Activities would be for all ages, the message and music engaging for all. All would be experiencing God in the messiness of life and learning from each other as a community. Adults aren't there exclusively for the benefit of teaching the young – the relationship is symbiotic. All are there to be the church together.

This month we are forming a group of those interested in carrying this forward for our community. If you are interested in helping please let us know. If you want to check out a Messy Church already in Houston, please plan to join us to see a Messy Church in action on November 29th at 5:30 p.m. at St. Stephens United Methodist Church,
2003 W 43rd St, Houston, TX 77018

Looking forward to this adventure in Christ,

Kate Cross & Megan Hogg

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.



upcoming EVENTS



Unwind Dinner Group will meet Monday, November 20th at 6:00pm! Watch your email for the location. Text or email **Denise Wilborn** at [\(713\) 725-2816](tel:7137252816) or dwilborn55@gmail.com to rsvp or with any questions.

Join us for food and fellowship

6:00 PM every Wednesday

Nov. 8 - Chili with Rice

Nov. 15 - Oven Fried Chicken

Nov. 22 - No Supper

Nov. 29 - Taco Soup Mission Dinner (by PW) Proceeds go

ADVENT

ADVENT PARTY & SUPPER

DECEMBER 17TH AT 5:00 PM & 7:00 PM



All are invited to help decorate the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for Advent & Christmas.

Join us at 5:00 PM on Sunday, November 26th and stay for supper afterwards!!



Poinsettias!

We will have poinsettias for purchase again this year! You can place your order today! They are a beautiful way to bring color and brightness to the Church throughout the Advent Season! What a lovely way to honor your loved ones, or to have a beautiful remembrance of those who are no longer with us.

Don't forget to bring your poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Please remember to indicate who you are honoring, and/or remembering with your payment of \$10.00 to SBPC. You can drop off your payment in the Church Office, or during Worship Service in the offering Plate. Hope, Peace, Love and Joy for you and your family this Advent Season.

Wanting too get a little more fitness in your routine? Join us every **Tuesday and Thursday** in the gathering place at **10 am** for Flexercise!



Beautify the Church

INTERESTED in beautifying the sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? The 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.



Push your clocks back one hour at 2:00 AM on November 5th



IMPORTANT PRESSESS & BULLETIN REMINDERS

ALL PRESSESS articles are DUE no later than the 23rd of each month! A "Reminder Email" will be sent on the 20th of each month.

Please email your articles to secretary@springbranchpres.org no later than the 23rd.
BULLETIN information is DUE no later than the Wednesday before service.

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.

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



****UPDATE FOR PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING****

God is spreading a table of peace through the witness of congregations just like yours. Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, Presbyterians are addressing some of the most challenging conflicts of our time. We are happy to report that we collected \$610 for our 2017 Peace and Global Witness Offering! That amount will be donated to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Thank you for your generous donations!



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church was given a lot of “Thank yous” by several different organizations for our generosity in donations! Some being United Campus Ministry of Greater Houston, Religious Life Program, The Presbyterian Mission Agency, Mission Engagement & support, Presbyterian Children’s Homes and Services, Fair Haven Food Pantry and, Houston reVision.

Shelley Canada of The Girl Scouts of Reign 8, San Jacinto Council, would like to thank the church for all its support towards their troop!

Laurie Mitchell would also like to give thanks to the church for all their support in the passing of Harold Miller.

A special **THANK YOU** to Jessica Albert, her family and Barbara Tremble for delivering Meals on Wheels on behalf of SBPC. Thanks to all for your continued support of this important ministry!





Cynthia "Cyndi" Ballesteros	11/1		
Marguerite Priest	11/2	Jeff Hogg	11/21
Jacque Ballesteros	11/3	Melissa Rendon	11/21
Lavon Barnes	11/4	Luke Balli	11/23
Clementine Lanan	11/5	McCaslin Ballesteros	11/25
Isaiah Lanan	11/5	Brice Wilborn	11/26
Lily Lanan	11/5	Dorothy Briley	11/29
Deona Vakiari	11/7	Matthew Albert	11/29
Elizabeth Powell	11/10	Rhonda Hill	11/30
Joel Alegria	11/10		
Nina Rach	11/10		
Jacqueline "Jackie" Nix	11/11		
Jennifer Miller	11/11		
Carrie Whittlesey	11/12		
Charles Fairchild	11/14		
Jayden Talley Earnest	11/15		
Kate Cross	11/16		



Jeff and Megan Hogg	11/4
Steve and Fonda Blair	11/4
Liz and Stephen Earnest	11/6
Jay and Kathleen Holder	11/15
C. Richard and Delia Nix	11/16
Rocco and Lin Sabala	11/27



Church Calendar

Nov 2017 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>29</p> <p>9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 4pm - Eagle Scout Court of 4pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Community Room 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Academy Halloween 10am - Flexercise (GP)</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:30am - PW Moderator (CR) 10:15am - PW Board Meeting 4:30pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>All Saints Day - Communion 9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts Daylight Saving time ends </p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Community Room 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10am - Flexercise (GP)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30am - PW Circle 4:30pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11am - Anna Bogan Memorial</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12pm - Stewardship and Pot Luck 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Community Room 5pm - Academy Board Meeting 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10am - Flexercise (GP)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30am - Zip Trip 4:30pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30am - Early Bird 10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8am - Presb. Men 9am - Presbyterian Meeting</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Baptism of Kinsl Balesteros 9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Community Room 10am - The Gathering Place (FH) 6pm - Unwind Circle 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10am - Flexercise (GP) 9pm - Finance Meeting (CR)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30am - Happy Hands (CR) 2:30pm - Academy closed 4:30pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Church Office/Academy Closed PresPress Articles DUE Thanksgiving Day </p>	<p>24</p> <p>11am - MOW</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Hanging of Greens 9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 4pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30am - Adult Community Room 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10am - Flexercise (GP) 5pm - Session (CR)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>4:30pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir 7pm - PW Lunch</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Yoga (CR)</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>



Sponsored By:

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
1215 Campbell Road
Houston, Texas 77055
(713) 464-7659
www.springbranchpres.org

relationships matter 

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD

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change your clocks
this Sunday!*



**Happy
Thanksgiving**

**“Let us come into his presence with
thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to
him with songs of praise.”**

Psalm 95:2