


 PRES PRESS

“When you pass through the waters I will be with you ... Because you are precious in my sight and honored, and I love you...” Isaiah 43

Shalom,

The experiences of Hurricane Harvey are beyond the words of a short article. But, it is important to hear the ancient words of Scripture and be reminded that God is with us through it all. I have been through floods in Iowa, the Hill Country of Texas and Houston. While there is NO question that Harvey is the worst, each is horrible and takes so much time, money and effort to emerge from and rebuild. We will be processing this for a long time. Through this time, we must be wise, share God’s strength, grace and encouragement; and assist each other in navigating through very human systems of recovery. And so I share these points, some from my experiences and some from others. We are in a marathon now, not a sprint - everything will take much, much longer than you want it to.

Make sure to pace yourself! Let others help you, even if it seems minor and you know that others have it worse. I’ll never forget someone from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance coming into my house, us telling them, “We’ll be fine, others have it worse” and them saying, “This is bad! You need help.” If someone asks “what can I do?” tell them something specific – whether it’s bags, sandwiches, or hugs. Take pictures - lots of pictures. Establish how high the water was inside and outside of your house. You need to prove how deep the water was as part of your flood claim. Use a yardstick or ruler on the outside of your house to establish the high water mark. File your claim immediately - get in line for adjustors, etc Save all receipts - all of them. Also, you’ll also want to keep records of all gifts. As soon as the water recedes, start mitigating the damage. Shopvac out what water you can, remove the wet carpets, remove the baseboards and start removing wet sheetrock.

Cut a line above the damage. The straighter you cut, the easier the rebuild will be. Bag debris and take it outside. Save a square of ruined carpet and ruined carpet pad for the insurance to verify replacement value - if you have multiple carpets, save multiple samples. - Your goal is to get anything wet out of your house so it can begin to dry. Take pictures of any damage you see, wet sheetrock, carpet, furniture, anything you want to claim. Document individual items - each shirt, book, etc. needs to be documented for the claim - if you claim 20 books, photograph the 20 books - be exact and over detailed. Once you get the wet stuff out and open the walls, fans and your air conditioner, and a dehumidifier will go a long way. There are services that do this, but they can be pricey. Anything you do yourself or have friends help you with leaves more resources for rebuilding. Many “clean up kids” include bleach. Spray the studs with bleach as they dry out. Ask for references on contractors and workers.

Be prepared to wait for the good ones. Plastic storage tubs work better than cardboard for storage of your undamaged stuff. During this stressful time, remember to be nice to your adjustor - they will be valuing your loss and establishing the rebuild - every dollar counts, so be a pleasant memory for the adjustor, rather than being “that” person Insurance claims regarding flooding all go through FEMA. The time between the adjustor visiting your house and you getting money takes weeks/months - be patient - there will be lots of claims and the need for many people handling them. When you offer help for a friend, offer something specific, or just bring something like lunch. These are overwhelming times and sometimes the standard answer is “We’re fine” even when you know they’re not. Let us encourage each other as we seek to be the hands and feet of Christ, showing God’s love in action and remind all that Relationships Matter!

Rev. Kristin

Missions of the Month

Westside Homeless Prevention (WHP) Program

The Mission Team wanted to tell you about one of our church's benevolences. This is our "Mission of the Month" – the Westside Homeless Prevention Program.

The WHP program was created in 1994. It is a 501(c)(3) organization that depends entirely on private individuals, groups, grants, congregations, and businesses to fund its operations. WHP's mission is to prevent and end homelessness for families by providing them with resources and supporting services that lead to self-sufficiency. WHP's program is designed to empower families with children within the Spring Branch Independent School District (SBISD) area to achieve self-sufficiency and permanent housing through personal effort, education and growth. One major objective is to protect the children's education by preventing the families from having to move from one school to another during the same school year. **Our church donates \$1200 to WHP each year.**

How your donation helps:

- \$5,000 provides 3 months subsidized rent for 3 families
- \$1,200 provides 1st month's rent, utilities, apartment application fees and a bed for each child for a family entering the program
- \$500 provides continuing education courses through ESL, HCC and job-training classes for 3 parents which increases earning potential
- \$250 provides safe, after-school care for 1 child so a parent can work without worry
- \$100 provides transportation for 1 adult to and from work for 3 months
- \$50 provides one counseling session for 3 families. Therapy can be the key to healing trauma from homelessness



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women's new and improved

Go to www.presbyterianwomen.org

Visit this new website to learn more about PW's involvement with justice and peace, missions, community-building, *Horizons* magazine, the 2017-2018 Bible study on "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews," program information, 2018 Churchwide Gathering, Mission Pledge, and much more! Go to the different sections and then navigate the different links to see where everything is. Then you could type the new address in your browser, and bookmark the page to make frequent visits to the website easier. PW's new website awaits your exploration!



The PW Communi-tea headed by Delia Nix , held on Sunday, August 6, was attended by about 60 ladies and girls of all ages from our congregation and community. Over \$1700 was raised through the silent auction, benefit raffles and contributions for the Spring Branch Presbyterian Men and Women’s Scholarship/ Mission fund organized by Carol Davis. Among the Items donated were gift baskets, handmade cowboy boots, restaurant gift cards, babysitting and lawn services by youth of the church, jewelry, candles, vases, backpacks of school supplies, and perfumes. Hostesses of tables organized by Barbara Tremble provided their own china and centerpieces for the 8 tables. Thanks to Lu Taylor, Terry Austin, Barbara Tremble, Denise Wilborn, Delia Nix, Rev Kristen Galle, Jan Fitts, and Patty Nanney.

Scones, fruit trays, cookies, and tea sandwiches were provided by members of the congregation. Thanks to Kay Craig and her crew who provided the delicious treats: Betty Magnusson, Jessica Magnusson, Sarah Dikeman, Jan Fitts, Lu Taylor, Beth Mizwa, Patti Nanney, Terry Austin, Barbara Tremble, Kate Cross, Patty Blome, Jacquie Ballesteros, Laurie Mitchell, Miriam Vyles, Margaret Rouse, Elizabeth Powell, Susan Heitshusen, and Doris Wright. Patti Nanney gave an overview of the Horizons Bible study for the year – A Cloud of Witnesses, The Community of Christ in Hebrews. The guests heard witness statements from several recipients of the PW Scholarship and what it has meant to them in their pursuit of educational opportunities. Thank you Melissa Rendon, Alex Napuri, and Rebeca Alegria for sharing your stories.

Kudos to others who helped to set up and take down the tables, for taking tickets, and registration at the table, Patty and Steve Nanney, Linda Crawford, Susan Heitshusen, Marguerite Priest, Amber Murphy, Patty Walsh, Larie Mitchell, Kat Dethloff ,Margaret Rouse, Patty Blome, Jennifer Miller, Elizabeth Powell, Kate Cross, Jacquie Ballesteros, Doris Wright, Stephanie Premer and her mother.

A grateful thanks to Delia Nix who organized this annual event. What a wonderful way to begin the new season as we gather together in our church community.

OPEN HOUSE



Wed. Sept 13th
Scholastic Book Fair

You are invited to the Academy's Open House and Scholastic Book Fair. Come and check out your wonderful school mission. Meet the teachers, children and their parents. Remember, help to improve our children's minds - buy and donate books from the Book Fair.

Hope to see you there! - 1st Wednesday Supper



FESTIVAL

Friday, October 13
6:30 - 8:30 PM

Dear Church Friends,

The Academy's Fall Festival is **Friday, October 13th** - mark your calendar. It's time to start collecting the following items. See pumpkin patch poster on **Wednesday, September 13th**, by the office, to choose an item to donate.

FOOD ITEMS: Canned sodas, Juice boxes, Bottle water, Candy, Chips, (individually wrapped) Hot dogs & Buns, Cookies, Cakes, Cup cakes, Trinkets/mini toys for prizes.

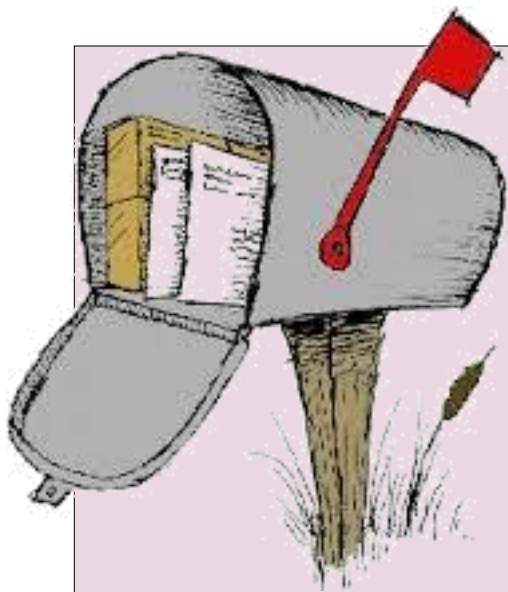
BIG SPONSOR ITEMS: Carousel \$350, Train Ride \$350, Bounce House Maze \$400, Petting Zoo \$500, Airplane Ride \$400

MONETARY DONATIONS ARE WELCOMED

The Academy heavily depends on donations from members, parents & friends who give graciously to help raise money. This year our goal is for classroom computers and a teacher computer for the school.

Thank you for your generous support!





New volunteers are needed !!

Volunteers needed to participate in SBPC's College Connection, an outreach ministry to the SBPC and PCHAS (Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services) college students. Mail encouragement letters and birthday and holiday cards to an assigned college student throughout this school year. And PRAY for your student as he/she goes through the college experience.

In addition, PW will be sending fall and spring "care packages" with tasty treats and school supplies to all students. YOUR participation in College Connection is so important to maintain a personal touch with students from SBPC members---Contact Carol Davis to volunteer!



CLEANUP KIT COLLECTION

In cooperation with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, we are collecting supplies for cleanup buckets to aid those affected by Hurricane Harvey. Please obtain and bring items from the list below, which we will assemble with the quantities listed.



Cleanup Bucket Kit

- 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid (1)
- Scouring pads (5)
- Sponges, assorted sizes (7)
- Scrub brush (1)
- Cleaning towels (18 reusable, like Easy Wipes®) (1 pkg)
- Dry laundry detergent, 50-78 oz. (1 box)
- Liquid concentrated household cleaner (like Lysol®), 12 oz. (1)
- Liquid disinfectant dish soap (like Dawn®), 24-28 oz. (1)
- Clothespins, 48-50 (1 pkg)
- Clothesline, 50 or 100 ft (1, or 2 - 50 ft.)
- Dust masks (5)
- Rubber/latex gloves (like Playtex®) (2 pair)
- Work gloves (1 pair)
- Heavy-duty trash bags (24 to 28 count roll, 30-45 gallon) (1)
- Insect repellent (prefer pump, drops or lotion), 6-9 oz. (1)



SPRING BRANCH
Presbyterian Church



In the aftermath of Harvey, the church provided a safe place to drop off children so their parents could spend some time getting work done, or just getting a break. A thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who helped staff this outreach. Fun was had by all!

FESTIVAL



FAITH

Spring Branch Presbyterian

September 17, 2017

Begin in worship at 10:50 am

1215 Campbell Road

Food Trucks

Bounce House

Games

Pops

Mission Projects

and more!

**Find new ways to grow in your faith this year!
Worship * Mission * Fellowship * Faith Development**



SCIENCE NIGHT



**Presented by:
Mad Science Houston**

relationships matter 
GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



www.springbranchpres.org/ideaspring

Questions? IdeaSpring@SpringBranchPres.org



CHECK *it* OUT

PW has
a new
Webpage!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women (PW)

The church has one circle which meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m., sometimes in homes and sometimes at the church. There is another night circle, the Unwind Circle, which usually meets the 3rd Monday of the month at a local restaurant. The PW involves the women in Bible study, fellowship, mission, and service. [Click here](#) for more information.

Bible Study — The 2017-2018 study will use the Horizons' curriculum *Cloud of Witnesses, The Community of Christ in Hebrews*.

Fellowship — In addition to the fellowship enjoyed at Circle meetings, the women plan various outings on the 3rd Wednesday morning of the month as well as some outings on other days of the month.

Mission — The PW sponsor a mission fund to support church women with scholarships and emergency needs as well as supporting the Presbyterian Children's Home and Services (PCHAS) through donations, birthday cards, care packages, and other donation items.

Service — To raise funds for their mission, they hold Mission Soup Dinners as well as other activities. Also, the 4th Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., women meet to stuff heart shaped pillows which are donated through Common Threads (a community based group) to hospitalized patients. Members also knit, crochet, or sew items on their own time that are donated.

Leadership — Our PW officers/moderators are not elected but are all volunteers every year, stepping up to take the positions needed for whatever, whenever, however.

Forms and Documents

What is PW?

"PW" is the women's organization of the Presbyterian Church USA. Come join us and learn how to give back!

Presbyterian Women and Presbyterian Men Scholarships are available to men and women of BBPC—college students, post grads, anyone taking technical courses, graduating high school seniors entering into a College or University.

An Honorary Life Membership (HLM) in Presbyterian Women honors an individual's faithful service in some area of church work. Men, women, moderators, leaders, teachers, officers, pastors, missionaries and staff have received this honor. The church group conferring this honor is asked to send an honorary life membership form with a check (payable to Treasurer of Presbyterian Women) to the treasurer of Presbyterian Women in their presbytery.

Links

[National Presbyterian Women's Website](#)

[Synod of the Sun Presbyterian Women's Website](#)

[PC\(USA\) Women's Ministries](#)

Now you can go to one location to get all of the news about the Presbyterian Women's (PW) group for our church.

Do you want to know what is PW?
It's there!

Do you want to know about circle groups, what they do, and when they meet?
It's there!

Do you want to get a scholarship form to submit for the *SBPC Presbyterian Women and Presbyterian Men Scholarships*?
It's there!

Do you want a quick link to the national and synod PW websites?
It's there!

Even if you want to contact a member of the PW Board or find out more PW information,
It's there!

We hope you will check it out and find it helpful.

Celebrating the Reformation

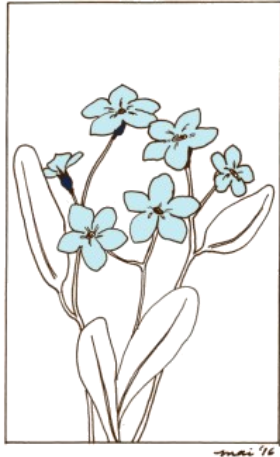
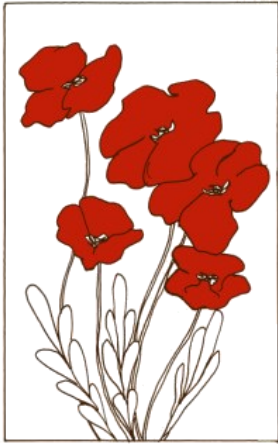
This year marks the 500th anniversary of the legendary posting of Martin Luther's 95 Theses, an act that galvanized the Protestant Reformation.

To celebrate, Worship and Faith Development have collaborated to bring you a sermon series on what it means to be Reformed. The series will begin on September 17th and end on Reformation Sunday, October 29th. We hope that you will join us to learn more about our reformed heritage!

Can't make it? Want more? The New Covenant Presbytery is offering a FREE online study developed with some of our partner denominations. To access it, go online to www.odtd.net, select option C, and use the code 31627 to register. The twelve units offer a solid, accessible study in faith. Partner with a brother or sister in Christ to dig even deeper.

If you complete the sessions let Mary Marcotte (mmarcotte@pbyofnewcovenant.org) know and you'll be recognized at the November 18th Presbytery Meeting!





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.



IMPORTANT PRES PRESS & BULLETIN REMINDER

ALL PRES PRESS articles are DUE no later than the 23RD of each month! A "Remind 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".

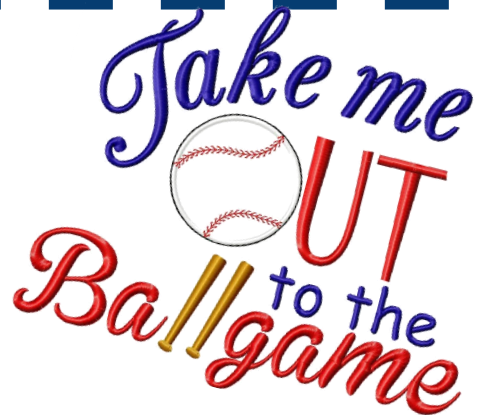
Church's Prayer Chain List?

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.



The Gathering Place meets Monday, September 18th at 10:00 AM! More volunteers are always needed.

If you can spare one Monday of the month (the third Monday) from 9ish to 1ish, we would love for you to join us. Please join us. It will be a fun and rewarding experience!



Unwind Dinner Group will meet Monday, September 18th at 6:00pm! Watch your email for the location. Text or email Denise Wilborn at (713) 725-2816 or dwilborn55@gmail.com to rsvp or with any questions.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER
("Hamburgers") will resume September
6th at 6:00pm.



HAPPY HANDS Meets September 27th at 9:30 AM in Conference Room. Join us for stuffing and sewing heart pillows for local hospital patients.

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| James M. "Mike" | 9/1 |
| Marcos Franco Jr. | 9/1 |
| Robert "Bobby" Balli | 9/2 |
| Donal McRoberts | 9/4 |
| Collgen Lanan Rust | 9/4 |
| Colc Jon Cassidy | 9/5 |
| Alex Norris | 9/5 |
| Rev. Mark Plunkett | 9/6 |
| Lisa Merritt | 9/7 |
| Ron Tremble | 9/8 |
| Jonathon "Jong" Hammond | 9/10 |
| Abigail Arce | 9/10 |
| Garth Heitshusen | 9/12 |
| Sara Lanan | 9/12 |
| Carol Davis | 9/13 |
| Liam Rust | 9/13 |
| Lindsey Rene Craig | 9/15 |
| Katie Fairchild | 9/15 |
| Ruden Vakiari | 9/15 |
| Del Kennedy | 9/16 |
| Beverly "BJ" Cook | 9/17 |
| Dylan Mancilla | 9/17 |
| Joseph Vaden | 9/18 |
| Daphne Holder | 9/18 |
| Theresa "Tessie" Morris | 9/18 |
| Jessie Skinn | 9/18 |
| Angel Parra | 9/18 |
| Joseph Hill | 9/18 |



| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Paul Craig | 9/19 |
| William "Bill" Fairchild | 9/20 |
| Warren Ballesteros | 9/20 |
| Angela Arce | 9/21 |
| Frances Millar | 9/22 |
| Grace Dalcy | 9/24 |
| Colin Gray | 9/25 |
| Jake Miller | 9/26 |
| Caleb Michael Burns | 9/26 |
| Lu Mitchell | 9/27 |
| Zachary Arce | 9/27 |
| Bruce Blome | 9/28 |
| Sarah Dikeman | 9/30 |
| Ron Fake | 9/30 |



| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Aubrey and Dauris Galbreath | 9/2 |
| Jean and Dr. Gene Boisaubin | 9/6 |
| Jennifer and David Fuller | 9/1 |
| Lang and Leslie Kennedy | 9/8 |
| Laurie and Gary Mitchell | 9/2 |
| Ludovic Massamba and Edda Chiwa | 9/15 |
| Rev. Pat and Tom Ryan | 9/15 |
| Stephen and Bunnie Lezon | 9/22 |

Church Calendar

Sep 2017 (Central Time)

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|--|--|-----|---|
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| Church & Academy Closed due to Weather | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Communion Sunday 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts | Labor Day SBPC/SBPA Closed | 10am - Flexercise | 10am - PW Board 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir 7pm - PNC Meeting | 5pm - Pop-Up 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Yoga (CR) | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 3pm - Volleyball 5:30pm - Boy Scouts | 9:30am - Adult 5pm - Academy 6pm - Yoga (CR) | 10am - Flexercise | SBPA Open House 9:30am - PW Circle 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir 7pm - PNC Meeting | 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Yoga (CR) | | 8am - Presb. Men |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Festival of Faith 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts | 9:30am - Adult 10am - The 6pm - Unwind Circle 6pm - Yoga (CR) | 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Finance | 9:30am - Zip Trip 4pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir 7pm - PNC Meeting | 6:30am - Early Bird 10am - Flexercise 5:30pm - Idea 6pm - Yoga (CR) | | PresPress Articles 11am - MOW 4pm - Girl Scouts |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 9:30am - Sunday 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 4pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Boy Scouts | 9:30am - Adult 6pm - Yoga (CR) | 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Team Leader 7pm - Session (CR) | 9:30am - Happy 4pm - WOW 6pm - WNS 7pm - Choir 7pm - PNC Meeting | 10am - Flexercise 6pm - Yoga (CR) | | |



Sponsored By:

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

relationships matter



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Personnel would like to introduce our two new faces around the church:

Our new Church **Assistant, Secretary and Receptionist** is **Esther De Avila**. She describes herself as a 26-year-old student and a woman of faith. She is currently studying professional writing at the University of Houston Downtown and she looks forward to a career in public relations. Esther feels blessed to come from a family who has shown her what it is to love. She puts a lot of importance on her family and her upbringing because they have shaped who she has become. "They are hardworking, caring, and love you down to the bone" is how she describes them!

Our new **Audio/Visual Technician** is **Ethan Lakey** (yes, another Ethan!) He was born in Littleton, Colorado, and he has lived in 6 other states, and Malaysia too at one point! He has been very interested in technology since he was very young. Right now, Ethan is currently enrolled at Stratford High School as a senior. He is also taking classes at the Guthrie Center, where he has been learning skills for IT, computer maintenance, and computer networking.

Please stop by the Church office to welcome Esther and give Ethan a wave when you see him on the balcony with all the electronics!