Dear friends and members of SBPC,

A footprint is defined as the “setting down of a foot” or the sound it produces. While some footsteps are quite fleeting, there are others which are remarkably long lasting. In Glen Rose, Texas, for instance, anyone can go and see footprints made in soft earth by dinosaurs. Most of us who are old enough will never forget seeing the first footsteps on the moon made by astronaut, Neil Armstrong. Sometimes footsteps can be a powerful thing.

What if we could actually see the footprints of Jesus Christ? Well of course they no longer exist. Or do they? Could it be that those steps Christ made by walking the earth among humanity are still echoing, not just around Israel, but around our world as well? Could it be that if we truly listen, we can hear the sound of Jesus walking today?

As we look towards Lent, which begins on Wednesday, February 22nd, with our two services on Ash Wednesday, we will be exploring this subject in a series I am calling “Footsteps of the Servant.” We will see how Christ lived his life as a servant, both to those who loved him, and those who hated him. We will see how he laid down that perfect life as a servant. We will see how you and I are also invited to leave our own footprints for those who follow us. And, Lord willing, we will hear the voice of some who are truly laying down their lives in Christ’s name to serve our Lord. During Holy Week, we will have the sanctuary set aside for any who wish to visit what is often called the Stations of the Cross. Rather than our usual one-day vigil on Saturday, we want to make the footsteps of Christ a journey each of us can visit all week long. Finally, we will come together on April 9th to celebrate the victory of the Resurrection.

So I am asking you to come on this journey with me. Come join Christ’s servants around the world as we recommit ourselves to living out the good news in an age which so desperately needs to hear the echoes of our faithful footsteps.

In Christ’s Service,

Kevin Boyd, Pastor
For over 30 years, the Souper Bowl of Caring has been driving grassroots efforts using the energy of the Big Game to illustrate the collective impact of tackling hunger locally.

Each year, churches, schools and civic groups around the country join us, and host food and fundraising campaigns that benefit charities in their own neighborhoods.

Since 1990, over $170 million has been raised for almost 10,000 local charities around the nation and the world.

Plus, our Presbytery of New Covenant has been challenged by the Mission Presbytery (Austin/San Antonio and parts south) and Grace Presbytery (DFW/North Texas) to a friendly competition with the Souper Bowl of Caring. **The presbytery that collects the most dollars and food items wins!** Each dollar given = two cans of food. So… let’s see how many cans we can donate by Souper Bowl Sunday, February 12. All money and food collected will benefit the Fair Haven Food Pantry. Online donations can be made on behalf of SBPC here: [https://forms.tacklehunger.org/collections/view/2004649](https://forms.tacklehunger.org/collections/view/2004649).

**February Mission Updates and Opportunities**

**Seafarers Christmas Boxes Update** – Thank you, thank you, thank you! Presbyterians led the way with 2,146 Christmas boxes donated to the Port of Houston to support the Seafarers Ministry. Our Roman Catholic siblings offered 1,949. In all, there were 8,944 boxes donated. This does not include those donated to the Galveston center and the center in the Golden Triangle. Boxes can be put together all year for delivery in the Hallow-Thanks-Mas season.

**SBPC Hot Meals on Weekends** – The 4th Saturday of each month we look for individuals to deliver meals to shut-ins. We have 2 routes, so we usually need a total of 2 pairs of volunteers each month. Please contact Lu Taylor if you are interested in volunteering to deliver meals one month.

**Family Movie Night** – It’s time for some fellowship! SBPC is hosting a family movie night in the Gathering Place on February 10th at 6:30 pm. Come celebrate Valentine’s Day with us! Due to copyright laws and our video licensing agreement, we cannot share the movie title online. Check your email and remind messages for more information. Our Academy Teacher, Ms. Debbie, will have her food truck with $2.00 Chicken Quesadillas available between 5:45 and 6:30. You may have had some of Ms. Debbie’s food from her food truck at VBS or the Platinum Jubilee Festival! SBPC will be providing hot cocoa and lemonade. Come join us!

**Blood Drive** – Come out and donate your blood February 12th before, during, or after church. You can reach out to Ashley Powell to sign up for a timeslot or just show up to give. This wonderful contribution can save a life for someone in the community or beyond. #Commitforlife
Come celebrate Valentine’s Day with your kids

Family Movie Night

In The Gathering Place

Friday, February 10

5:45–6:30pm   Food Truck
Chicken Quesadillas $2.00
Sodas $1.00
Cash (preferred) or Zelle

6:30pm    Movie Starts
Hot chocolate, lemonade and water served before and during movie
Bring blankets and camping chairs
Spring Branch Presbyterian

Sunday,
February 12th
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
1215 Campbell Rd

To schedule an appointment, contact Ashley Powell
(972) 571-2499
ashleycrawford161@gmail.com

Sponsor Code: 0324

FREE PULLOVERS FOR DONORS!

Scan for Appointments:
Wednesday Night Supper

Feb. 1 — Tacos
*Don & Barbara Tremble*

Feb. 8 — Lemon Pepper Chicken
*Nina Rach*

Feb. 15 — Chicken Parmesan
*Kay Craig & Betty Magnuson*

Feb. 22 — Red Beans & Rice
*Jan Fitts*

**Ash Wednesday**

Taking reservations during the pandemic has helped us to reduce food waste in the kitchen and improved our meal planning. We plan to continue the reservation process, but will also take walk-ins as long as we have extra food to serve. Kay Craig has taken over the reservation process, so, if you’d like to attend, please email Kay at kay@craig-heidt.com.

**Prices for the supper are as follows:**

- Adults (age 13 & up) $5.00
- Children (ages 1-12) $2.00
- Family w/children ages 1-12 $12.00 (immediate family only please)

We are now accepting credit card payments at Wednesday Night Supper!

Finding yourself short of cash on Wednesdays? You may now purchase meal tickets and pay by check or credit card. Each meal ticket is good for four meals. There are meal tickets for Adults ($20/four meals), Children ($8/four meals) and Families ($48/four family meals). Purchase the tickets at the cashier each week. Thank you!
**Presbyterian Women this Month**

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**PW at a Glance**

- **PW MODERATORS** on **2/1** at 9:30 a.m. (Conference Room)
- **PW BOARD MEETING** on **2/1** at 10:15 a.m. (Conference Room)
- **PW UNWIND** on **2/6** at 6:00 p.m. at Blue Agave Cantina (14555 Grisby Road)
- **PW DAY CIRCLE** meeting on **2/8** at 9:30 a.m. (Conference Room).

If you would like to join by Zoom, please contact Patti Nanney for an invitation.

**THE HORIZONS** Evening Bible study using **ZOOM** will be on Monday, **2/13** at 7:00 p.m.

*Lesson 6 Video:* [www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/celebrating-sabbath](http://www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/celebrating-sabbath)

- **ZIP TRIP** to the Sea Center in Lake Jackson on **2/15** at 9:30 a.m.
- **HAPPY HANDS** will meet on **2/22** at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

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**The Unwind Group will meet on Monday, February 6th, at 6:00 PM at the Blue Agave Cantina, 14555 Grisby Road, Houston, 77079.**

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114.

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**Bible Study Using Zoom: February 13th at 7:00 p.m.**

Lesson 6 of *Celebrating Sabbath* will be discussed by the group of women using Zoom on Monday, February 13th, at 7 p.m. All SBPC women are welcomed in this Bible study group through videoconference! Contact Sarah Powell at mrspowellitebe@yahoo.com to receive the Zoom invitation to join the meeting.

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**Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, February 22nd, at 9:30 am in the Conference Room.** Join us for stuffing and stitching and great conversation. If you have any donations you’ve been working on at home, bring them to the meeting or drop them in the Happy Hands box in the Church Office. We hope you can join us!
**February Birthday Celebration!**

Please join family, friends, and congregation members on Sunday, February 12th, right after our 10:50 worship service as we celebrate those in our church community born in February. Linger for conversation, fellowship, and light snacks.

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**Ash Wednesday**

*Wednesday, February 22nd*

Worship Opportunities:
12:00 PM in the Sanctuary
6:45 PM in the Sanctuary

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**Let’s Grow in God**

Children’s Sunday School Class meets *1st & 3rd Sundays of the month* at 9:30am in the Children’s classroom in The Gathering Place.
Sunday Craft Workshop

In January, we had a great turnout of 14 ladies to make valentines for our PCHAS kids and others. We made 49 valentines and fun was had by all!

Glass Etching

Our February workshop will be glass etching on Sunday, Feb. 19 from 2 to 4 PM.

We will be using the stencil and Armour Etch cream method. Let Kay Craig know if you are interested in doing this craft. The Armour Etch cream will be provided, but you will need to bring your own glassware. I will have some small photo frames so you can practice on the flat glass. I will have a few stencils, but if you want something specific, you will need to purchase your own. There are a lot on Amazon. Be sure to get the Reusable Glass Etching Stencils. I will also bring white contact paper & Exacto knives so you can cut your own designs.

You can find really nice used glassware at resale shops such as MAM, Goodwill & St. Christopher’s Resale. You will be able to make multiple items if you wish, as the actual cream etching the Glass only takes about 5-6 minutes. Allow more time for making your own stencils. Another option is making stencils using a Cricut, if you have one. Kay- kay@craig-heitd.com or 713-248-4138
Spring Branch Presbyterian, and our friends at Pines Presbyterian Church, came together to participate in *Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack weekend*. *Feed My Starving Children* is an organization that helps bring your community together to help pack nutritious meals for children around the world.

On January 20-21st, our congregation was able to have 20 volunteers join 423 of our neighbors to pack 504 boxes, containing 108,864 meals!! This means that 298 children will receive a meal every day. A special thank you to everyone that volunteered! We especially appreciate our Girl Scout Troop 124182 members for joining us! We look forward to planning our next family volunteer event soon so stay tuned!

A Special Word of Thanks!!

The Mission Team and our friends at CUPS (Communities United for Health *Comunidades Unidas Pro Salud*) would like to thank our members and families at Spring Branch Presbyterian Church and Academy for donating 88 cold weather clothing items to help our neighbors in Rio Grande Valley and Mexico stay warm. We received 78 coats, jackets, and sweaters. In addition, we received 10 hats and gloves. If you would like to learn more about CUPS please visit their Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/cupsmission](https://www.facebook.com/cupsmission).
Family Valentine Devotions

In the twelve days leading up to Valentine’s day (Feb. 3-Feb 14), do these devotions with your family to see what the Bible says about love! Pick one each day, look up the scripture passage, and read it together with your family. Then, answer the following questions together & end by saying a prayer.

- What does this scripture say about God?
- What does this scripture say about each one of us?
- How can I use this scripture in my daily life?
- How does this scripture relate to the words on the heart?
- Was there a time today when it was hard to love someone?
- How can this scripture help you at times when you find it hard to love others?

Created By: Lisa Crisp-Witherspoon
Director of Children’s Ministry
First Presbyterian Church Greensboro, North Carolina
The Hedwig Village magazine, STROLL, published the following article in their January 2023 publication describing the Platinum Jubilee Celebration for SBPC.

PLATINUM JUBILEE

SBPC Celebrating 70 Years!

WRITTEN BY PATTI NANNEY, CO-CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE; SUBMITTED BY RESIDENT SARAH DIKMAN

This is the Platinum Jubilee year for Spring Branch Presbyterian Church — the 70th anniversary of the church. Not only that, it is the 70th anniversary of the church’s Boy Scout Troop #478. It also coincides with the 50th anniversary of the church’s Academy Day Care (delayed due to COVID-19).

It all began on March 23, 1952, when SBPC held its first worship service at the Dad’s Club on Voss Road. The Charter Roll closed on Sept. 14 with 72 members. The church purchased 3.8 acres of land, including easements, in Campbell Place for $7,000 in November 1952. The sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 478 began with nine charter members and currently has grown to around 50.

In April 1970, a daycare program opened and has been in continuous operation — even through a fire in 1989 which destroyed the education building.

With so many things to rejoice, SBPC needed two days of celebration. Saturday, Nov. 5, they started with a Jubilee Festival attended by 300 people who enjoyed over 40 free activities plus all types of carnival food. On Sunday, Nov. 6, SBPC celebrated with special worship and a catered lunch for 170 people.
Dear Elders and Congregation,

My heart overflows with thanksgiving to God and to each of you, for your faith, hope, and love in being Spring Branch Presbyterian Church. Thank you for the invitation and the gift to be able to celebrate the 70th anniversary weekend. It was a joy to be there and to see so many! The anniversary committee did an outstanding job in celebrating together the 50th anniversary of the Academy, the 70th anniversary of the Boy Scout Troop, along with the 70th anniversary of the Church. Wow, what a witness in the faith! You could almost hear the “Hallelujah” chorus of all the saints who have gone before us in making it possible! It was indeed a glimpse of heaven for us all who were able to gather! Thank you all from the bottom of my heart and the fullness there of for you all!

Love in Christ,
Laurey Harrell

“I thank God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you.”
- Philippians 1:3, 4

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Dear SBPC,

It was so good to be with you for your Platinum Jubilee! Thank you for inviting me to assist with worship and for the beautiful bookmark you gifted me. Know that I am grateful for your Christian witness and hold you in my prayers - always!

Rev. Kristi Blankman

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Dear Friends at SBPC,

Thank you for the gift of the lovely silver bookmark with the cross.

I was glad I was able to join you for your anniversary celebration, and I enjoyed it very much. Spring Branch was the church that brought me to Houston, and I spent three very happy years there as your DCE. May you have many more years of service to the community and to our Lord.

Sincerely,
Margaret Swarts
You are invited to attend Pastor’s Bible Study with Kevin! The group gathers at 11:00 AM on Tuesday mornings. The Bible Study is now being offered both in-person and virtually. You may either join in-person at 11:00 AM in the Conference Room, or by Zoom using the information below. We hope to see you there!

Meeting ID: 897 7951 2452 | Password: 754888 | Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89779512452?pwd=VU1VZVByeFI1MEwxNmxrR090S0JVQT09

February 5, 2023; 5th Sunday after Epiphany; Communion
Text: Matthew 5:12-10
Title: “Wear Your Shine”
Focus: We are responsible for reflecting the light of Christ to our world.

February 12, 2023; 6th Sunday after Epiphany; Scout Sunday
First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Text: Matthew 5:21-37
Title: “No Matter What They Say”
Focus: We are called to walk a different path from the rest of the world.

February 19, 2023; Transfiguration of the Lord
First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18
Text: Matthew 17:1-9
Title: “Who Must This Be?”
Focus: Realizing who Jesus truly was changed the lives of the disciples.

February 26, 2023; 1st Sunday in Lent
First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Text: Matthew 4:1-11
Title: The Footsteps of the Servant 1
Focus: Our Servant showed us an example of how to live for God, rather than for self.
SBPC Scholarship applications are now available for interested students! Completed applications are due May 1 for the year applying and should be turned in to Sarah Dikeman for the women’s scholarship and Ken Crawford for the men’s scholarship.

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
Women’s/ Men’s Scholarship Application
2023-2024 Academic Year

Name: ___________________________ DOB________________________

Permanent Address: __________________________________________

School Address: _____________________________________________

Phone cell: ______________ home: _____________________________

Are you employed: FT____ PT____ Work Study____ N/A _____

Name of College, University, or Technical School: __________________________

Level: Freshman_____ Sophomore_____ Junior_____
Senior____ Post- Grad_____

Degree Program: _____________________________________________

Years Attended: ______________ FT/ PT student __________________

GPA: ______ Honors Program:_______ Year of Graduation: _____________

On a separate piece of paper, in paragraph form, please describe:
1. Your goals
2. Extracurricular activities
3. Community service
4. How your faith and belief in God affects your studies
5. Your membership and involvement in Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
6. Use of Scholarship money
7. Any other information you’d like to share
8. Optional Photograph

**Applications are due the 1st of May for the year applying and should be turned in to Sarah Dikeman for the Women’s Scholarship and Ken Crawford for the Men’s Scholarship. Applicant must be enrolled or accepted at a college, university, technical school, or certification program. Scholarships will be awarded in the summer of the year applying. Recipient must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0/C average. Applicant must be an active member in good standing of Spring Branch Presbyterian Church. Reapplication may be made each year beginning January 1.**
CONCLAVES MISSION PROJECT

Donations needed:
Reusable water bottles
Carabiner clips
Water flavoring packets
Flexible reusable plastic straws
Small items to fit in water bottles: hand sanitizer, mints, etc.

Presbyterian Youth Connection Council will be donating completed water bottle projects to food pantries and schools in the Houston area. This mission will be completed during youth conclaves at Camp Cho-Yeh.

Donation due: Monday, March 13th to Presbytery office
Home churches with youth attending Conclaves can bring items on the 17th

Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” – John 4:13-14
“Let all that you do be done in love.”

-1 Corinthians 16:14

Platinum Jubilee Logos are now available on our SBPC Lands’ End storefront!
Are T-shirts not your style? Choose your own style apparel from Lands’ End and pick from two embroidered anniversary logos!

You can choose from men’s and women’s polos, shirts, t-shirts, pullovers, jackets, totes, caps, aprons, and much more – all with a Platinum Jubilee logo!

There are two different logo options available (pictured above). The large size logo is 4.5” x 2.75”, and the small size logo is 3.5” x 2”.

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.”
Did you know that you can help the church by doing your grocery shopping at Randalls? By giving our Good Neighbor Number (1140) at the checkout line when you shop with your Remarkable Card, a portion of the proceeds will be contributed to the church.

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, or wallet! Help us save a few dollars the next time you make a purchase for the church.

**BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH**

Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? The 2023 Flower Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex. If you are currently worshiping from home, but would still like to sponsor flowers for a Worship Service, you may signup digitally by using this form: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084cabac2ba1fa7-2023#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084cabac2ba1fa7-2023#/), or to jorida.vakiari@springbranchpres.org. **The cost per arrangement is $65.00. Special arrangements vary and should be requested EARLY!** Checks should be written to SBPC and mailed to the Church Office (Attn: Jorida) or placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.

**Church’s Prayer Chain List?**

The email prayer chain is open all who would like to pray for those individuals in need of prayer. If you would like to be included in the email prayer chain as a prayer warrior or if you have a prayer request for an individual, contact swdmmd@dikeman.net. It is requested that prayers be for your **family members, or extended families and friends** who are in need of prayer.
Happy Birthday!

Sarah Fake 2/1  Jacob Ruiz 2/11
Clara Dikeman 2/2  Merveilles Massamba 2/13
James Daley 2/3  Dr. Doris Wright 2/13
Silvia Argyriou 2/4  Eric Purfurst 2/14
Victoria Kissinger 2/4  Lynn Dudinsky 2/15
Cali Alegria 2/6  Beth Mizwa 2/15
Stephen Earnest 2/7  Kayla Mizwa 2/18
Loretta Pittman 2/8  Kayla Ballejo 2/20
Logan Balli 2/9  Richard Machain 2/20
Fonda Blair 2/10  Dianne Bigelow 2/21
Daniel Powell 2/10  Amelia Laverty 2/27
Jordan Lynn Powell 2/10

Happy Anniversary!

Barbara and Don Tremble 2/5
Jennifer and Hector Tapia 2/7
And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13 NKJV