

The Good News Herald



The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

4881 W. Panther Creek Drive

The Woodlands, TX 77381

281-363-2040

www.wcpc-tx.org

"An Inclusive Church Family: Loving, Sharing, and Serving Christ."

**DECEMBER
2017**

Advent Festival & Alternative Market



December 3RD

Once again, the Mission Outreach Team (MOT) and Children's Ministry Team have decided to combine the Alternative Market and Advent Festival into one big joyous occasion, which will take place on Sunday, Dec. 3rd. **So, please stop by between services or after the 11:00 Service on Sunday, December 3rd to pick up some Christmas gifts that keep on giving and to make decorations for your home.** Check out page 14 and 20 for additional information about this event!

CONGREGATION-WIDE EVENTS IN DECEMBER

December 3	Advent Festival and Alternative Market	9:30 a.m. & after 11 a.m. worship
	Service of Healing and Wholeness	5:00p.m.
December 9	Women's Christmas Luncheon	11:00 a.m.
December 10	Hot Cocoa & Caroling	3:00 p.m.
December 14	Woodlands Concert Band	7:30 p.m.
December 16	Woodlands Chorale	7:00 p.m.
December 17	Meal and Fellowship with Music provided by Children Choirs and Chimes, Fellowship Hall	5:00 p.m.
	Concert with Choir	6:15 p.m.
December 24	Morning Worship Service	8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
	Children Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	9:45a.m.
	Family Candle Lighting Service	5:00 p.m.
	Communion and Candle Lighting Service	7:00 p.m.
December 30	Coffee House	6:30 p.m.
December 31	Morning Worship Service	8:30 a.m. & 11:00a.m.



Rev. Dr. David F. Jones
Pastor

Dear WCPC family:

I know most of us don't like to wait. I know I never have and our culture certainly doesn't help. But waiting can have its own reward. Waiting can be a time of preparation so that when what we are waiting for finally arrives our joy is greater, fuller, richer.

Advent is about waiting and watching and preparing. Advent provides us with the opportunity to think more deeply about both the first coming of Christ into our world, and all those who were part of that story, and his second coming. As Presbyterians we don't spend any time worrying about the "when" of that second coming. Instead while we are waiting we act, in faithfulness, preparing again the way for our Lord as we seek to allow

God to use us in the building of God's Kingdom now. What we often discover is that while we are waiting and working and serving he does come again more fully into our lives.

In Advent we remember the patience of those who longed for a Messiah. We also remember their faithfulness while they were waiting. The prophets who time and time again called God's people back to their covenant relationship, with one another, with their world, and especially with their God. We remember Mary's patience as she struggled with her unconventional pregnancy and her faithfulness to God throughout. We remember John the Baptist as he paved the way – preparing the hearts of those who would listen to the good news that would be realized in Jesus Christ.

We are called to be patient and faithful as well. As we watch the evening news or read the morning newspaper we know that there is so much work yet to be done. It's as near as our own neighborhoods and on the other side of our planet. Lives cut short by hunger and disease. Lives cut short by war and terrorism.

While we are waiting for the hungry to be satisfied; for God's healing to be experienced; for wars and rumors of wars to end; for violence and terror to be no more; we pray and we act. We feed the hungry and advocate for actions that can bring about its end locally and globally. We visit and comfort the sick and the dying. We work for justice and peace realizing how elusive both are in this world that waits. And in all that we do we do not give up hope.

Ultimately that is the good news of Christmas. Our waiting is not in vain. God hasn't forgotten us or God's promises. Long ago, in the tiny, insignificant village, a baby was born. He grew up to speak the truth and live the truth and though he was rejected and finally killed, his story didn't end. Death, the tomb couldn't contain him. His truth, God's truth couldn't be ignored. He lives. And because he lived and lives we have hope as we wait and as we work for God's new creation.

"While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come."

(first verse of "While We Are Waiting, Come" #92 in Glory to God)

Your pastor,

Choose Wisely,
LIVE FULLY

WCPC Stewardship Campaign 2018

If you haven't returned your Commitment Card for 2018 you can put it in the offering plate on Sundays, mail it to the church office, drop it off in the office during the week, or easiest of all just go to www.wcpc-tx.org/2018-stewardship-commitments/ and make your commitment online.

Let us Choose Wisely as We Offer Our Lives to Christ!



Rev. Laura Grice

Dear Ones,

I am not a poet, but I do love poetry. Advent is one of those seasons of the church year which speaks poetically. I am almost certain I have shared my favorite Advent/Christmas poem with you all before. The theology and the high school chemistry lab imagery of Madeline L'Engle's "The Bethlehem Explosion" really speaks to me. As we rest in this season of Advent waiting and anticipation, I'd like to share a poem by Ann Weems with you.

In Search of our Kneeling Places¹

In each heart lies a Bethlehem,
 an inn where we must ultimately answer
 whether there is room or not.
 When we are Bethlehem-bound
 we experience our own advent in his.
 When we are Bethlehem-bound
 we can no longer look the other way
 conveniently not seeing stars
 not hearing angel voices.
 We can no longer excuse ourselves by busily
 tending our sheep or our kingdoms.

This Advent let's go to Bethlehem
 and see this thing that the Lord has made known to us.
 In the midst of shopping sprees
 let's ponder in our hearts the Gift of Gifts.
 Through the tinsel
 let's look for the gold of the Christmas Star.
 In the excitement and confusion, in the merry chaos,
 let's listen for the brush of angels' wings.
 This Advent, let's go to Bethlehem
 and find our kneeling places.

This is truly my prayer for us this season of Advent, "let's go to Bethlehem and find our kneeling places."

Grace and Peace,

Laura

¹ Weems, Ann. "In Search of Our Kneeling Places." *Kneeling in Bethlehem*, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993, p. 21.

WCPC NOW HOSTS A WEEKLY AA MEETING.

Each Monday at 7:00 pm in Hendricks 306 a local AA group is meeting. If you know of anyone who would like to attend please share this information.

WORSHIP SERVICE: SUNDAY MORNINGS: 8:30AM & 11:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45AM-10:45AM

Pastor: Rev. Dr. David F. Jones	Music Ministries: Jonathan Aigner, Director of Music Sherry Hunter, Director, Bell Choirs Dr. Dave Faber, Organist	Early Learning Program: Cindy Mountain, Director Fran Weissbach, Administration	Our Missionaries Nancy Collins, Zambia Sara Armstrong, Peru Rusty Edmondson, Peru
Associate Pastor Rev. Laura R. Grice		Administration: Matthew Jensen Financial Administrator Shirley Barclay, Dir. of Communications	Our Seminarians Martin Garner Naomi Daka
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Charles Hendricks	Mission Outreach: Michele Stelter, Facilitator		
Parish Associate: Rev. Warren Johnson	Children's Ministries: Susan Duncan, Director		

SESSION MEMBERS

CLASS OF 2018	CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020
William Davis	Nancy Castro	Todd Duncan
Cinda Hitchcock	Jen Conner	Sheree Fleming
Gordon Lentz	Ria Du Bruyn	Megan Hansen
Chris Liddell	Bruce Lee	Betsy Whitehead
Sarah Martin		

TEAMS OF THE SESSION

Building and Grounds	Bruce Lee	balee5068@gmail.com
Christian Enrichment:		
Adults	Ria Du Bryn, Chair	ria.smit.dubruyn@gmail.com
Children/Tween	Jen Conner, Chair	jenniferconner79@gmail.com
Hospitality Team	Cinda Hitchcock	cchtx@att.net
Creation Care	Cinda Hitchcock, Chair	cchtx@att.net
Evangelism Team	Sheree Fleming, Chair	sgflemi@gmail.com
Fellowship Team	Cinda Hitchcock, Chair	cchtx@att.net
	Betsy Whitehead	bowhead8@yahoo.com
Finance Team	Bubba Davis, Chair	wdavis88@comcast.net
Mission Outreach	Gordy Lentz, Chair	gordon.lentz@yahoo.com
Personnel Team	Todd Duncan, Chair	tmduncan173@gmail.com
	Chris Liddell	liddellchris@hotmail.com
Worship Team	Nancy Castro, Chair	nancyc1254@yahoo.com
Youth Team	Sally Bowers, Co-Chair	sally_bowers@comcast.net
	Megan Hansen, Co-Chair	megateer@gmail.com
	Sarah Martin	
Moderator	David Jones	djones@wpcp-tx.org
Clerk of Session	Roger Richardson	roger8226@sbcglobal.net

BOARD OF DEACONS

CLASS OF 2018	CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020
Patty Ahern	Carrie Bucki	Ed Allen
Kathy Bray	Karen Gonzales	Kristen Campbell
Mary Jo Chapman	Barbie Hardy	Jane Harding
Beth North	Debra Martinez	Leslie Lee
Tammy Rand	Kim Petrie	Mignon Mabry
		Erin Michaelis
		Daniece Peck
		Janet Youngblood

BOARD OF DEACONS TEAM LEADERS

<i>Baby Ministry-</i>	Beth North	
<i>Bereavement Ministry</i>	Tricia McDonald	
<i>Card Ministry-</i>	Karen Gonzales	409-789-5631
	rigozales@earthlink.net	
<i>Cookie Ministry</i>	Barbie Hardy	
<i>Home Outreach Ministry</i>	Tammy Rand	281-615-4900
	fromaway1958@me.com	
<i>Hospital Ministry-</i>	Kathy Bray	281-419-0373
	kathyj.bray@gmail.com	
<i>Meals Ministry</i>	Erin Michaelis	
	erintbaker@gmail.com	
<i>New Member Ministry</i>	Mary Jo Chapman	281-361-5779
	maryjo.chapman5206@gmail.com	
<i>Prayer Ministry</i>	Kim Petrie	281-419-5309
	petrie_kim@msn.com	
<i>Moderator</i>	Patty Ahern	
	pahernrd@sbcglobal.net	
<i>Co- Moderator</i>	Carrie Bucki	
	clschaef@hotmail.com	

WCPC PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer is one of the greatest gifts God has given to us. At WCPC, we have the opportunity to participate in the prayer ministry as well as request prayers in several different ways.

- The Prayer Book is located in the foyer of the church. Members are asked to sign the book requesting prayers for themselves or others prior to the church service. Prayers for these individuals are included during the worship services and are added to the Church Prayer List.
- The Church Prayer List is available online (www.wpcp-tx.org) and at church on Sundays. Prayer requests may be added to or removed from the list by contacting Rev. Laura Grice in the church office (281-363-2040 ext. 2; lgrice@wpcp-tx.org). Please obtain permission from the person prior to adding their name to the prayer list.
- The Thursday Morning Prayer Group meets on Thursday at 9:30—10:30 am at the church. This group is led by Sally Lichtenwalter. Through the use of Lectio Divinia and Intercessory Prayer, the group prays for members, family, and friends that have requested prayers. Contact Sally Lichtenwalter (218-292-3152) if you would like more information about this group.

During the next few months, deacons will be contacting members who have added the names of friends and family to the WCPC Prayer List. The purpose of these calls is to assure the member that the WCPC church family is praying for those who need our prayers.

Fall Adult Class & Study Opportunities

SUNDAY MORNING 9:45—10:45 am

The Apocryphal Jesus CHEB 301a
led by Corliss Lentz, Bill McCleary & Joe Christoffel
The 27 canonical books of the New Testament are a tiny fraction of what has been written about Jesus, his family and the apostles. These other writings offer fascinating insights into how different groups in the early Christian world understood Jesus and the first apostles.

Lectionary Class CHEB 303
led by Bob Campbell
In this class, we dig more deeply into the day's Revised Common Lectionary readings so that we can increase our understanding, enhance our worship experience and equip ourselves and each other to apply these biblical lessons in our daily lives.

Connecting Through the Bible CHEB 304
led by Sue Watkins, Neville Walker and Dave Watkins
NEW Sunday School Group! A fun, interactive discussion of the book of James. Part of N.T. Wright's series, *New Testament for Everyone*, this study of James is an accessible and practical study for everyone. Great for those new or well-versed in Bible Study.

Parenting, the Early Years CHEB 306
led by Mike and Tara Devoley
Are you the parent of a young child? If so, please join us as we seek to learn how to bring God's will into our life as parents. We will laugh together and form bonds as we try to navigate the hardest job we have; being a parent! We will also have the opportunity for fellowship together (childcare provided) on one Friday night a month!

First Place 4 Health Parlor
led by Patty Ahern
This class is a Christ-centered weight-loss and healthy living program. Using the Bible Study *Make Everyday Your Best Day*, we will examine the way in which you live your life so you can focus on the present, leave the past behind and avoid worrying about tomorrow.

MONDAY

Women's Bible Study CHEB 301b
9:30-11:30 am

led by Tricia Knight

This fall this group will be a test group for a new Horizons Bible Study on the Ten Commandments.

New members are always welcome!

Moms' Group Youth Room/CE 200

Fourth Mondays, 9:30-11:30 am

Contact Marnie Bush

This year we will be reading *More Than Enough: How Jesus Meets Our Deepest Need* by Jeff Iorg. Using the Gospel of John we will explore how, in Jesus, we can find peace, security and fulfillment— everything we need.

TUESDAY

Dorothy Johnson Circle Parlor

First Tuesdays, 10:00 am– 12:00 pm

This year we are using the Horizons Bible Study "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews" by Melissa Bane Sevier. This study invites you to explore major themes in Hebrews as they relate to the overarching motif of community.

Presbyterian Women Evening Circle

First Tuesdays, 7:00 pm in Member Homes

This year we will be using the study *Deeply Rooted: Knowing Self, Growing in God* by Christopher Maricle.

WEDNESDAY

Wed. Morning Men's Study Group Library

1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 am

led by Rev. Dr. David Jones

The focus of the study is the text for the upcoming sermon our pastor will be delivering.

Wednesday Morning Study Group CHEB 301b

10:00-11:30 am

contact Sylvia Campbell

This group is using The Great Courses study- *Death, Dying, and the Afterlife: Lessons from World Cultures* by Professor Mark Berkson, Ph.D.

Wed. Evening Men's Study Group Crust Pizza

1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 pm

led by Rev. Dr. David Jones

The focus of the study is the text for the upcoming sermon our pastor will be delivering.

THURSDAY

Circle of Blessings - Women's Circle

2nd Thursdays, 7:00 pm in Member Homes

This year we are using the study *The Bad Girls of the Bible, and What We Can Learn from Them* by Liz Curtis Higgs.



The Early Learning Program

of the Woodlands Community
Presbyterian Church



*"For Unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11*

ELP is preparing for the coming of Jesus this month. We are leaving Santa in the stores, and we are focusing on the real reason for the season.

Decorations, lights, and anticipation of presents under a tree will certainly cause our children much excitement; but nothing can compare to the true Christmas story of the birth of Jesus. Our teachers are very intentionally preparing their lessons and classroom activities around The Savior this year, and our parents have also been invited to participate in a Family Advent celebration; "Let Your Light Shine" Live and Love Christmas, Don't Just Survive It! This is a simple, family time Advent packet they have been given that will help them create family memories that center on Jesus.

As the month begins, we will be making ornaments from birdseed for our birds and squirrels and we will host a night time story hour out by the newly decorated tree. The children will come in Pj's with their families and enjoy this time together singing and listening to a story. We will also have a visit from the manger animals during our school day and will ride a donkey, like Mary, and a camel like the wise men. It doesn't get more magical than that.

Of course we will end with our classroom Christmas parties, caroling at The Gathering Place and making our very own Rice Baby Jesus dolls in chapel. Rice Baby Jesus dolls are an old tradition here at ELP. Our children will sing "Away in a Manger" as they cling to their own little Baby Jesus dolls and take Him home for Christmas.

As we end this 2017 year, ELP thanks you all for your continued prayers and support. We wish you Joy and Peace this Christmas!

Cindy Mountain



All Ears! loves science! All Ears! is grateful to be a part of ELP and WCPC. We teach deaf children how to talk! We empower families of children who are deaf and hard of hearing, without financial burden, who have chosen listening and spoken language as their child's communication option by teaching them listening, speaking and literacy skills in order to promote independence. To learn more about All Ears! go to allearscenter.org or email shelley@allearscenter.org



DOROTHY JOHNSON CIRCLE

1st Tuesdays, December 5 at 10:00 am in the WCPC Parlor

This year we are using the Horizons Bible Study "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews" by Melissa Bane Sevier. This study invites you to explore major themes in Hebrews as they relate to the overarching motif of community.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN EVENING CIRCLE **1st Tuesdays, December 5 at 7:00 pm** in Member Homes

This year we will be using the study *Deeply Rooted: Knowing Self, Growing in God* by Christopher Maricle.

CIRCLE OF BLESSINGS - WOMEN'S CIRCLE **2nd Thursdays, December 14 at 7:00 pm** in Member Homes

This year we are using the study *The Bad Girls of the Bible, and What We Can Learn from Them* by Liz Curtis Higgs.

THE SANCTUARY GUILD

1st Wednesdays, January 3, in the WCPC Parlor

The next Sanctuary Guild meeting is on **Wednesday, January 3 in the parlor** with coffee at 9:30 and the meeting at 10:00. Everyone is welcome! For info, contact Nancy Schlirf at pschlirf@comcast.net.

Moms in Mission

Join Moms in Mission for a festive holiday luncheon on Wed., Dec. 6, at 11:30 in the CHEB building. Come, enjoy the fellowship, and bring a dish to share. For more information, email mimswcpc@gmail.com.

MIMs will be on holiday break after our luncheon on Dec 6 until our next lunch outing on Wed., Jan 10 to Zoe's Kitchen in Sterling Ridge.

Moms Group

A Fellowship and Support Group for Mothers of Children
from Birth through the Elementary Years
A Ministry of The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

For additional information contact any of the following Steering Committee Members:

Marnie Bush	marniebush@gmail.com	Stephanie Keiser	stephaniekeiser1@gmail.com
Sarah Parker	ssnyder888@gmail.com	Robin Ward	robinmctx@yahoo.com

Dec 4 th	Mom's Meeting	9:30-11:30	Art Room	We will meet for a Christmas cookie exchange. Please bring two dozen of your holiday favorites to share with each other. Afterward, we will be crafting Christmas trees for the Women's Christmas Luncheon. *RSVP to Susan Duncan at SDuncan@wcpc-tx.org for childcare.
Dec 11 th	Mission Monday	9:30 - 12:30	CHEB Nurseries/ Willis Parental Center	Mission Monday is an opportunity for us to fellowship together while contributing in a local outreach mission. Drop your kids at the church with a peanut-free lunch and carpool up to the Willis Parental Support Center for a day of service. *RSVP to Susan Duncan at SDuncan@wcpc-tx.org for childcare.
Dec 9 th	Parent's Night Out-Extended	4:00-8:00 PM	CHEB Nurseries	This month's theme is Christmas Fun . Kids will enjoy dinner (pizza), a movie (A Muppet Christmas Carol), and crafts right here at WCPC. Donations for pizza gratefully accepted. *RSVP to Susan Duncan (sduncan@wcpc-tx.org).
Dec 10 th	Caroling at the Forum	3:00-5:00 PM	Meet in Fellowship Hall	We will meet at WCPC and join other groups to sing Christmas Carols to neighbors at the Forum.
Dec 18 th	Book Study	9:30-11:30	Youth Room-CE 200	This year we will be reading <u>More Than Enough: How Jesus Meets our Deepest Needs</u> by Jeff Lorg. You can order a copy of the book through Amazon. Contact Marnie Bush (marniebush@gmail.com) for more information. *RSVP to Susan Duncan at SDuncan@wcpc-tx.org for childcare.



Are you wanting to brush up on your Spanish or build on the base you have? Then come to Spanish as a Second Language class! We meet on Mondays, from 10:00 - 11:30 in CHEB 302. We work in a reader, a grammar book, and practice conversational skills. Our level is advanced beginner / intermediate. If you've had Spanish before, even if it was awhile back, you'll fit in skill wise. Questions? Contact Jeanne Bonnette!



Fleece Needed

We will be making fleece blankets for the 50 boys aged 12-15 yrs. who will be attending the Love Fosters Hope camp this summer. We are specifically looking for patterns that boys in this age range would like as they get to bring these blankets with them when they leave camp. Two yards of fleece is required for each blanket. We will begin making these blankets on Love Your Neighbor Day, January 27th. For more info, contact Michele Stelter at 281-363-2040 x 7 or mstelter@wcpc-tx.org.

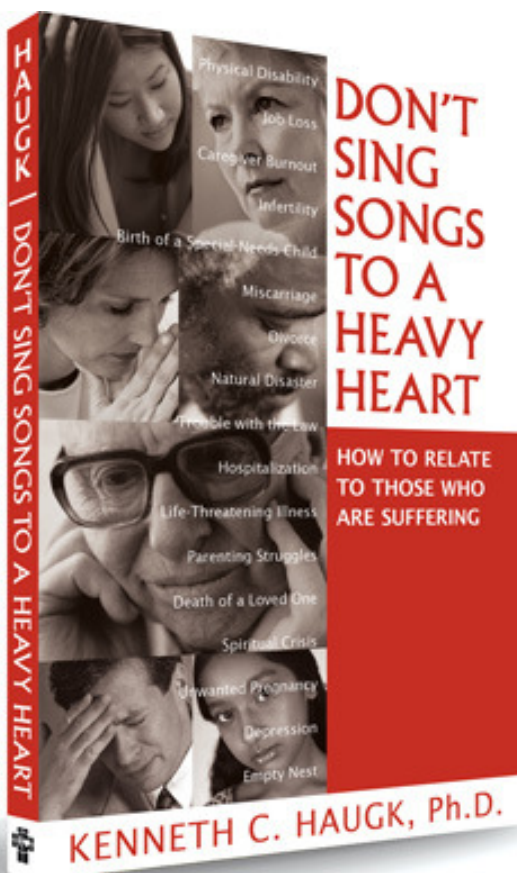
PRAYERS & SQUARES

The Prayers and Squares, quilting/ knitting/crocheting group will meet on Mondays, December 4th & 18th. Come join us for fellowship, learning, and sharing of ideas and projects as we supply quilts and shawls for caring and comfort for those in need. Meeting is from 2:00 until 5:00 p.m. on the first and third Mondays each month. Contact: Nancy Kiefer.



What do you say when someone is suffering?

Stephen Ministers at WCPC will lead a six hour study on this subject. We'll meet in the CHEB for one hour (7-8 PM) on the first and third Thursday of Feb - April. Together we'll read the book: *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart*, and share our thoughts.



How Can We Help?

Dr. Haugk's book speaks to an issue we face. We want to comfort those who are hurting. What should we say or do? Are there things we might say or do that inadvertently make the pain worse? Is it okay at times to say nothing ?

Offering Comfort

Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart offers guidance on comforting people in their time of need. After his own experiences [Kenneth C. Haugk](#) wrote this book using research with others who had also experienced suffering in their lives. Using a biblical foundation and acknowledgement of God's grace, *Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart* suggests what to say or do—and what *not* to say or do. It will help readers bring Christ's loving care to hurting people when they need it most.

Situations Leading to Suffering

- death of a loved one
- depression
- hospitalization or illness
- physical disability
- caregiver burnout
- job loss
- infertility, miscarriage
- birth of a special needs child
- parenting struggles
- unwanted pregnancy
- divorce
- natural disaster
- relocation or empty nest

Interested?

Contact our pastors or Stephen Ministers to express an interest and we'll order a book for you.

Stephen Ministers (We're the ones wearing the blue name tags)

Becky Carlson	Linda Conner
Bruce Garthwaite	Holly Gaunt
Gordy Lentz	Pat Johnson
Sally Shu	Ray Penton
Robin Ward	

Celebrate the season with the Woodlands Concert Band for...



**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
AT 7:30PM**

**@ WOODLANDS COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

<http://www.woodlandsband.org>

We will be collecting donations for



www.toysfortots.org/



Christmas Around the World

*Holiday
Concert*

**Saturday, December 16
at 7:00 pm**



**The Woodlands Community
Presbyterian Church**
Tickets are \$15.00 in advance
\$20.00 at the door



How to have a Green Christmas

Christmas doesn't have to be a burden on the environment

With a little effort and imagination, we can reduce the environmental impact of Christmas. Some ideas to celebrate Christmas while caring for the earth—and each other:

Buy Less

Draw names among adults in family and give one thoughtful gift

Buy Smart (Green)

Locally Made Gifts—reduce transportation-related carbon emissions

Gifts from Recycled Sources—reduce the waste stream

Battery-free Gifts—reduce environmental hazards in the waste stream

Re-gifting is OK!—to keep what you can't use is wasteful

Gifts from the Alternative Market—gifts that give more than once!

Connect with Nature

Annual Christmas Day Bird Count <http://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count>

Family Nature Walk

Source: http://eartheasy.com/give_sustainchristmas.htm



Saturday, December 9th - 11:00 am—1:00 pm

WCPC Fellowship Hall

\$20/person at time of reservation - Guests Welcome!

Catered lunch by Republic Grill of Chicken Marsala or Chicken Fried Steak
(Gluten or Dairy Free accommodations made with advance notice at time of registration.)

Come be filled with JOY, share LOVE, and grow FRIENDSHIPS!

2017 Luncheon Mission Projects will include Prayer Wreaths for our Homebound members & filling stockings for the DeGeorge (stockings provided).

Contact Cindy Looney with questions or to make a reservation by Dec 3!

The perfect Christmas gift. What is it? Well, I have a great idea for you. It is called a Do Together Gift. When you replace a "thing" gift with a Do Together Gift, you have the fun of spending time with the people you love. What is something that you would like to do with a family member? Write it on a card, and give that as your gift. You cut down on clutter and more stuff. And you give the very best gift of all: YOU!



W. C. PEEZY is the official Praying Mantis for the WCPC Creation Care Team.

yoga

Join us to practice "Hatha Yoga" in the Sanctuary Narthex:

Monday: 11:30 am – 12:30 pm Gentle & Restorative Meditation

Tuesday: 9:30 am – 10:30 am Energizing Yoga Sun Salutations

Wednesday: No classes

Thursday: 9:30 am – 10:30 am Energizing Yoga Sun Salutations

Thursday: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm Gentle and Restorative Meditation

Friday: 9:30 am – 10:30 am Energizing Yoga Sun Salutations

Saturday: 10:00 am – 11:00 am Energizing Yoga Sun Salutations

Questions? Contact Rita Upadhyaya at

TheWoodlandsLady@gmail.com or (713) 377-8521.

**Holiday Schedule,
we will take three
weeks off from
December 18,
and will return on
Monday, January
8, 2018.**



A Light in the Darkness

An Advent Service of Remembrance and Healing

December 3, 5:00pm

Christmas can be a difficult time, especially when you are coping with loss or a need for healing in your life. Join us this Advent season for a service of remembrance and healing where we rest in the hope in Christ that: *"The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it."* John 1: 5

Sign Up Now • 'tis the Season!

Christmas Dinner

THE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday
December 17th
5:00 pm
Concert at 6:30 pm

Catered Dinner \$12.00
5 to 8 yrs \$6.00
4 & under \$4.00

RSVP at
<http://evite.me/n3jpkJuWXv>

Questions?
contact
Cinda Hitchcock
cchtx@att.net

Sunday
December 17
5:00 p.m.

•
Concert
at 6:30 p.m.

•
Catered
Dinner

\$12.00

•
\$8.00
age 5 to 8

•
\$4.00
4 & under



Children's Chimes (Grades 2-6) at 4:15 in the Narthex

Jonathan Aigner, director

CHOIRS AT 4:45 IN CHEB

Cherubs (Age 2-3) Rm 302

Tricia MacDonald, director

Angel Voices (Age 4-1st Grade) Rm 301B

Bonnie Graham, director

Alleluia Choir (Grades 2-6) Rm 305

Jonathan Aigner, director

Sanctuary Choir at 7:30 in Choir Room

Jonathan Aigner, director

Email jaigner@wcpc-tx.org for more info

JUBILATE BELLS - (advanced adult bell choir). Please join us on Wednesday evenings **in the sanctuary narthex from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.**

This group rings music designated by the Handbell Musicians of America as Level 3 and above. Jubilate Bells require a serious commitment to rehearsals and ringing in worship. We ring at both services on the third Sunday of every month. Contact Sherry Hunter at sherryhunter@comcast.net or 713-253-2483 for more info. Come join us for laughter, fun and lots of hard work!

HEAVENLY METAL - (7th through 12th grades plus beginning/intermediate level adult ringers). Please join us on Wednesday evenings **in the sanctuary narthex from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm.** This group rings music designated by the Handbell Musicians of America as Level 1 and 2. This group spends time learning music theory, proper handbell technique and learning to read notes and note values. We ring 4-5 times per school calendar year. Contact Sherry Hunter at sherryhunter@comcast.net or 713-253-2483 for more information. We would love to have you as part of our group. ***Our motto: ring loud, ring proud, ring strong, ring long.***

Sanctuary Choir, Alleluia, Chimes -

Jonathan Aigner
jaigner@wcpc-tx.org

Handbell Choirs -

Sherry Hunter
sherryhunter@comcast.net

Angel Voices -

Bonnie Graham
bgraham@conroeisd.net

Cherubs -

Tricia MacDonald
pmacdonald@consolidated.net



Save the Date!

Game Night- Through the Decades

Saturday, February 24, 2018

5:30-8:00 PM

Cost: \$20/seat

Pasta dinner will be served.

*Childcare will be provided for grades 2nd and under. RSVP to Susan Duncan required.

Gather together your cleverest friends or come and make new friends at our annual Game Night fundraiser. All monies raised will help defer costs of attending summer camps for children and youth. Sign-ups will begin in January. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Stephanie Keiser at stephaniekeiser1@gmail.com or Marnie Bush at marniebush@gmail.com.

Dear WCPC,

Thank you so much for all of the love and support to help our families rebuild after hurricane Harvey. Through prayers, donations, volunteering with tearing out/construction/rebuilding, meals, encouraging words, hugs, the chili cook off fundraiser and so many other countless ways that this congregation has been there for each of our families, you have shown the love and compassion of Christ! We are so grateful! We appreciate it all! Every kindness, every little, and every big thing you have done for us, has touched our hearts and allowed us to experience the good side of a bad situation. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your kindness and generosity!

Much Love and Gratitude,

Hurricane Harvey Fundraiser Recipients

WCPC,
Thank you for all your love and Support! I'll be graduating Texas A&M Kingsville with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. Love you all and will see you soon. I will be working for Snow Glass following graduation.
- Andrew Duncan



Mission Outreach Team (MOT)

The Mission Outreach Team's mission statement reads:

Because God's love knows no bounds, the Mission Outreach Team encourages the congregation of WCPC to be a servant people, witnessing to the light of Christ through actions and words so that the world might know the grace, peace, and love of God.

WCPC has a long history of mission outreach, whether locally, globally or in our own church family. We don't have to look very far to find people who are in need of our love and care. Each one of us has unique gifts and can make a contribution for the glory of God. We are called to reach out to our neighbors, whether across the street, across town, across the country, or across the ocean. That is because God's love knows no boundaries.

MOT meets at 7 pm on the first Tuesday of each month in Room 301B to discuss current mission outreach programs and consider new outreach opportunities. **The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 5th. New members as well as new ideas to engage in caring for each other and for others throughout our community, nation and the world are always welcome.** For more information about MOT or mission outreach opportunities, please look on our website, www.wcpc-tx.org or contact Michele Stelter at mstelter@wcpc-tx.org or 281-363-2040 x 7.

Alternative Market & Advent Festival

The Mission Outreach Team (MOT) and Children's Ministry Team will sponsor the Alternative Market and Advent Festival on Sunday, Dec. 3rd. There will be activities for everyone. Not only will you be able to make holiday decorations for your home, but you will also be able to purchase holiday gifts that **give more than once**. There will be a wider variety of items at the market this year. Soup mix jars made by the Sunday School children, the recently published children's book *The Seagoing Cowboy* about the history of Heifer International and three other Heifer children's books: *Beatrice's Goat*, *Faith the Cow* and *One Hen* will be available for sale with all proceeds going to support Heifer International. You will have the opportunity to help the Montgomery County Homeless Coalition by purchasing handcrafted ceramic bowls made by the Lone Star College-Montgomery Ceramics Club. As always, there will be handmade craft items from both Peru and Africa brought back by our mission trip teams. We will even have gift baskets full of Just Coffee, Fair Trade chocolate, tea or hot cocoa mix ready for you to give as a gift. Cub Scout Pack 1774, which is sponsored by WCPC, will be selling wreaths, little Christmas trees, centerpieces and sprays. **So, please plan to stop by Fellowship Hall between services or after the 11:00 service on Sunday, December 3rd to pick up some Christmas gifts that keep on giving and to make holiday decorations for your home.**

Recycle Christmas Tree Lights for Habitat

Christmas lights not working? Don't throw them away! Bring them to church. We will turn them into money that goes directly to Habitat. Please deposit your light strands in the specially marked bin located in the courtyard on Sunday mornings or in the Fellowship Hall on weekdays. **This program will run from Sun. Nov. 26th through Sun. Jan. 15th.**

The Interfaith Food Pantry

Interfaith values our support of their Food Pantry. Since the beginning of the year, Interfaith has provided food assistance to approximately 7000 families through mid-November. Please continue to remember our neighbors in need when you go grocery shopping.

Special Pantry Needs for December:
cake mixes & canned frosting
chocolate chips & chopped nuts
baby wipes

In addition to the specific items listed above, the pantry always needs peanut butter, jam, personal hygiene items, diapers, cleaning supplies (no spray bottles) and laundry detergent. Bring your donations to the pantry in the narthex anytime.

Come Celebrate Christmas



**With Us At
The Gathering Place
Friday, December 15th
10:00am to 1:00pm
(Lunch is provided)
WCPC Fellowship Hall**

The Gathering Place of The Woodlands at WCPC is a ministry for those who are living with memory loss and the people who love and care for them at home. The Gathering Place seeks to help both the care partner and the caregiver. If you or someone you know are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's, stroke, Parkinson's, or other dementia, you know that caregivers often find it difficult to do things such as run errands, visit friends, or just have free time alone. The Gathering Place provides the caregiver a few hours of free time or they may choose to participate along with their care partner or they may attend Common Ground, a caregiver support group which meets in the WCPC Parlor from 10:30am to noon.

The Gathering Place provides a time of fun activities and fellowship in a safe, caring environment for the care partner during a time where it may be difficult for a caregiver to find appropriate social activities for their loved one with memory loss. The monthly programs will vary, often featuring a festive theme to help the care partner identify with the current season, event or holiday. In a fun, interactive atmosphere, our volunteers offer music, games, chair exercises, crafts, reminiscing, guest performers, and a light lunch.

A representative from InterFaith CarePartners or our care team helps determine if we can meet the family's need with our program. This is done by arranging for the caregiver and the care partner to attend The Gathering Place together for the first visit. We welcome the opportunity to speak with you. For information, call WCPC coordinator Kathy Bray at 281-419-0373.

Christmas Boxes for Seafarers



Share a little joy this holiday season by packing a Christmas Box for an international seafarer. A Port of Houston Chaplain will personally deliver your package and best wishes to a seaman when his ship docks at Houston.



Start with a shoe box and fill it **FULL** with some of the "suggested items" listed below. Then add some personal and fun items to make your box unique. You may want to enclose a personal greeting or photograph. Securely wrap the box in Christmas paper (**as a single unit, no bows**), and place it under the Christmas tree in the narthex no later than December 17th.

SUGGESTED ITEMS

address book, bandages, baseball caps, comb, dental floss, deodorant, disposable razors, flashlight, gum, hard candy, key chains, kleenex, lip balm, lotion, nail clippers, needle & thread, pocket-size notebooks, pens, playing cards, puzzles & games, Q-Tips, socks, flash drives and Texas souvenirs



At the Alternative Market & Advent Festival, the youth will be selling starter kits containing many of the suggested items, fun items to add to your box, gift wrapping and then will put your box under the tree in the narthex. The youth will also be selling starter kits in the courtyard after services on Sundays, December 11th and 17th. Proceeds from the sale of starter kits, fun items and wrapping will go to the purchase of gifts for the Angel Tree program.



Brighten up your holidays by providing a Christmas present for the Child and Family program run by the Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services or for the Gifts for Seniors Program run by Interfaith of The Woodlands. An angel tree filled with ornament tags will be set out on **Sundays through December 3rd**. Each tag will contain a brief description of a needy child, family or senior and a gift idea. If you would like to participate, please take an ornament tag from the tree and then purchase a gift for the child, family or senior listed.

Only gifts for seniors should be **wrapped**. All other gifts should be returned **unwrapped**. Please read the tag carefully as gifts for the program run by Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services should be returned with ornament tags attached by **Sunday, Dec. 10th** while gifts for the program run by Interfaith of The Woodlands should be returned with ornament tags attached by **Wednesday, Nov. 29th**. Please return gifts to the specially marked table that will be in the courtyard on Sunday mornings or to the church office

during the week. Contact Michele Stelter at 281-363-2040 x 7 or mstelter@wcpc-tx.org or Bonnie Graham at 281-367-9910 or blygraham@hotmail.com if you have any questions. If you would like to participate by donating a monetary amount to be used toward the purchase of a gift, please make your check payable to WCPC and mark it for Angel Tree.



Stocking Stuffers Needed

Through **Friday, December 8th**, the Mission Outreach Team is collecting unused travel-size toiletries (shampoo, conditioner and lotion), recent magazines, disposable razors, deodorant, playing cards and individually packaged toothbrushes. These items will be used to fill over 100 stockings for the residents of the DeGeorge and Haven of Hope (primarily male veterans in transition). Please mark donations for DeGeorge/Haven of Hope and put in the specially marked basket located in the courtyard on Sunday mornings or in the office during the week. If you have questions, please contact Michele Stelter at mstelter@wcpc-tx.org or 281-363-2040.



WCPC is partnering with The Woodlands United Methodist Church to build a three-bedroom Habitat House at 1210 Cedar Creek in Conroe. **The work days for this month are Saturday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 16th**. Not handy? There are many other jobs to be done besides construction such as painting, providing lunches for the work crew, helping plan the dedication, etc. You don't have to swing a hammer to help out with our Habitat House. Everyone is invited to participate whether you have experience or not. Please contact Bill Bray at bill.bray@sbcglobal.net or 832-702-6227 or if you would like to become involved.

Did You Know that Employer Matching Funds Can Be Used for Our Habitat House?

Some employers have programs where they match employees and retirees charitable donations and/or hours to 501c3 organizations like Habitat for Humanity (H4H). ExxonMobil and Chevron will donate \$500 to the charity if you volunteer 20 hours for the same charity. In the past, Chevron retirees have donated funds to WCPC's H4H project which their company matches 1:1. These matching funds are also credited to WCPC's project if the proper instructions are given. If your employer has these or similar benefits, please investigate and discuss with Michele Stelter or Bill Bray so we can take advantage of this great opportunity to help with our WCPC Habitat House.

Love Your Neighbor Day

Save the date now!

Saturday, Jan 27th beginning with breakfast at 8:00am

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Brochures will be available next month at The Welcome Table, in the church office, or on our website at www.wcpc-tx.org.





Christmas Offering 2017

The Christmas Offering is a combination of the Christmas Joy and Christmas Eve offerings. That is, twenty-five percent of the Christmas Offering will go to the PC(USA) Special Christmas Joy Offering, which is split evenly between the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and scholarship funds for Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. The remaining seventy-five percent will go to purchase textbooks for the CCAP (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian) Synod of Zambia community schools.

Textbooks for CCAP Synod of Zambia Community Schools

Since 2004 CCAP (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian) Synod of Zambia, which is in partnership with PC(USA), has been providing education to orphans and vulnerable children who would not have otherwise gone to school due to financial constraints. The CCAP community school program is church-run with volunteer teachers and is a category recognized and monitored by Zambia's Ministry of Education. The number of CCAP community schools has been increasing and now there are 30 community schools, 10 in Lusaka and 20 in the Lundazi area of Eastern Zambia, that serve over 5,000 students.

Recently the Zambian Ministry of Education changed the curriculum and textbooks to be used in the schools. Consequently, the CCAP Community Schools Coordinator, Mrs. Mabuchi Dokowi, is trying to acquire at least one copy of each textbook for every grade level in all of the 30 community schools. It is estimated that it will cost \$4,000 to purchase these books. PC(USA) through the efforts of Nancy Collins, the Regional Liaison for East Central Africa, is trying to help raise money for these textbooks. After hearing from Nancy when she was on campus in October about the dire need for these textbooks in the CCAP Community Schools, the Mission Outreach Team (MOT) voted at its November meeting to have 75% of the Christmas Offering go to help offset the cost of these necessary textbooks.

Please give generously to the Christmas Offering. Kindly make your check payable to WCPC and mark it for the Christmas Offering, as only checks designated as such as well as cash collected at the two Christmas Eve services will go toward this offering. Specially marked envelopes will also be available in the pew racks for your convenience. When we give out of the abundance of God's blessings in our lives, the light of Christ shines through us and illuminates those in need of help and hope. Thank you for your willingness to help support those in their hour of great need and hour of great promise.

Deng's Computer



Deng receiving his new computer!

About 2 years after Abraham Wei, a Lost Boy from Sudan, came to the U.S. and joined WCPC in 2001, he learned that he had a brother named Deng that he had never met. Deng and another brother, Agot, were stuck in a refugee camp in Kenya, unable to return to their home country of Sudan. In 2004, several members of WCPC expressed interest in providing funds to pay for boarding school for Agot and Deng. These faithful "school sponsors" saw the boys through to attaining their high school certificates. About a year ago, Deng notified us that he had been accepted to medical training in South Sudan. He requested financial support once again, so that he could fulfill his dream to become a medical worker in his home country.

After one year of preliminary training, Deng's school now requires online research and written papers. He has neither smart phone nor computer, and the school computers are usually monopolized by the lecturers. That is where we come in!

We located a Presbyterian mission worker for South Sudan who offered to transport a small laptop from the U.S. to Deng in Juba. Now Deng will be able to complete his assignments. The goal is that someday the people of South Sudan will have another skilled person to offer medical care.

If you would like to participate in funding Deng's medical education, you are invited to contribute to the Refugee Assistance Fund. Just make your check payable to WCPC and mark it "for Refugee Assistance Fund." We will put it to good use! Questions? Contact Sylvia Campbell at bobnsyl@gmail.com



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Tween First Friday Fun 6-8 pm in FH – Making Candy	2
3 1st Sunday of Advent <u>Festival & Alternative Market</u> <u>9:30–11 and after</u> <u>11 am worship!</u> Worship 8:30 & 11:00	4 Mom's Mtg 9:30-12:00 in 204 nursery CHEB rms. 307-309	5	6 WAM 4:15-5:15 chimes 4:45-5:30 choirs 5:30 dinner FH ELP Night Tree	7	8	9 <u>Women's Luncheon</u> <u>11-1 pm FH</u> Parent Night Out 4-8 pm childcare reservations to sduncan@wcpc-tx.org
10 2nd Sunday of Advent Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Sun Sch. 9:45 Caroling 3-5 pm 	11 Mission Monday 9:30-12:30 nursery CHEB rms. 307-9 ELP Staff Party 12-2:30 pm	12 ELP Live Nativity Dec 12, 13 & 14	13 WAM 4:15-5:15 chimes 4:45-5:30 choirs 5:30 dinner FH by Under 18 Team,	14 Woodlands Concert Band 7:30 pm	15 Parent of Preschoolers Fellowship 6:30-9 pm	16 Woodlands Chorale Concert 7 pm
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Sunday Sch. 9:45 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 All Choirs Music 	18 Mom's Book Study 9:30-11:30	19	20 No WAM ELP Last Day CISD Half Day	21 First Day of 	22 Children's Team set up risers, stable & costumes in FH 9:30 am	23
24 4th Sunday of Advent Worship 8:30 & 11 am Children's Sun Sch. & Pageant Re- hearsal 9:45 am	25  Church Office closed for Christmas Holiday	26	27	28	29	30
31 1st Sunday after Christmas Worship 8:30 & 11 am Children's SS com- bined 9:45 am			<h2>Christmas Worship Schedule</h2> <p>Sunday, Dec 24th (Christmas Eve) 8 :30 & 11 am 4th Sunday of Advent Worship 9:45 am Sunday School & Children Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 5 pm Family Service with candle lighting 7 pm Service of Carols with candle lighting, communion Sunday, Dec. 31st 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship 9:45 am Combined Children's Sunday School</p> 			



Children's Sunday School 9:45-10:50 drop off and pick up in CE building rooms 204, 106 and 101. 5th and 6th grade SS classroom in 205. Childcare for worship and under 3 Sunday school in Charles Hendricks Ed. Building rooms 307-309.



"HERE WE COME A-CAROLING!"

All Church Fellowship December 10th Caroling

Everyone is invited to gather in the WCPC courtyard to spread some Christmas cheer with our neighbors at the Forum on **Sunday December 10th from 3-5 pm**. We will form groups here at church and walk over to Regent Care and the Forum caroling in the hallways as we search for our member's apartments to sing a special song for each of them. Children, youth, tweens and adults, single or in groups all are welcome to join us and no special music talent is necessary either! Jingle bells and the combination of lots of voices makes it beautiful! Please dress warmly for outside walking between the buildings. We will have song sheets and building maps for each group. We will return to the Fellowship Hall Welcome Center for hot chocolate and cookies!



Epiphany Ice Skating Party!

Join us on **January 7th** for Ice Skating from **3-5 pm** at Woodlands Town Center Rink. It is located at **2005 Lake Robbins Drive**, The Woodlands, 77380, near the north gate entry of **The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion** and the intersection of Lake Robbins Drive and Six Pines Drive. Bring \$5 for children 5 and under, everyone else is \$10.50 for admission including skate rental (scholarship funds are always available!) Children's Ministry will provide water and snacks and rent a table for home base. Helmets and walkers are available to rent for a fee or you can bring your own helmet and safety pads; wear layers, bring socks and expect to get wet and have fun!



DECEMBER

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School
Rotation Bible Topic this month:
Advent & Christmas

Matthew 1:18-25; 2:1-12; Luke 2:26-58;
2:1-20



December 24th During Sunday School at 9:45 the children will rehearse for the 5 pm Family Christmas Eve Service. Every child is invited to participate in the retelling of the Christmas story on Christmas Eve at 5 pm!



The Children's Sunday School offering goes Heifer International. Children and Tweens will sell items to support these at the Alternative Market on Dec 3rd during the Sunday school hour. The 3rd & 4th grade working on their Soup Jar display is pictured below.



No Children's Worship
Class in December
so families can enjoy
the special time of



Advent Worship together!

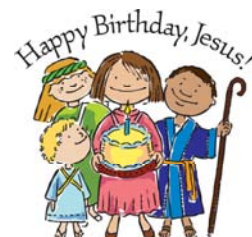
Dec 3rd Children meet in Fellowship Hall for the Advent Festival, during Sunday school time.

Dec 17th Worship4Kids (3rd-5th graders) is after the children's message 11 am service only.



Parent Night Out December 9th 4-8 p.m.

Join us for **Christmas Fun** from **4-8 pm** on **Saturday Dec. 9th** in the Hendricks Building nursery rooms 307-309. We are extending the time this month to allow for some shopping. Bring the kids in their pajamas! We will be serving pizza and a healthy side for dinner. *You may also bring a sack lunch for any non-pizza eaters.* We will explore the true meaning of Christmas while we make Christmas crafts, play holiday games, decorate cupcakes and sing songs. Meanwhile, you can shop and have dinner in peace! We will finish by watching selections from **A Muppet Christmas Carol!**



Children's Ministry Mission Statement: To nurture all to experience the unique joy of being a "child" of God.

... You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign to your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorpost of your house and on your gates.

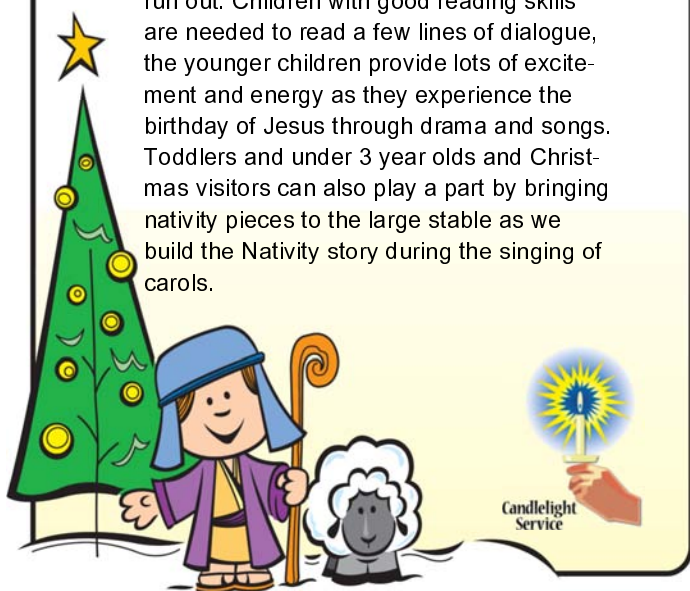
Deuteronomy 6:4-8

Children's Ministry Continued

SIGN UP FOR 5 PM CHRISTMAS EVE!

Signup sheets are available in Sunday school if your child is interested in being a part of the Christmas Eve retelling of the Nativity Story. Some of the parts will be picked by a drawing, but there are lots of others left. We try to accommodate every child and will make more costumes if we run out. Children with good reading skills are needed to read a few lines of dialogue, the younger children provide lots of excitement and energy as they experience the birthday of Jesus through drama and songs. Toddlers and under 3 year olds and Christmas visitors can also play a part by bringing nativity pieces to the large stable as we build the Nativity story during the singing of carols.

Godly Play classes on Sundays will be hearing about the beginning of the church year, called Advent. They will light the purple, rose and white candles as they journey to Bethlehem with the prophets, shepherds, Mary and Joseph and the Magi.



Candlelight Service

The Beginning of the Church Year



Advent

Preparing for Christmas



Advent Festival & Alternative Market December 3rd

An Intergenerational event for entire church family!

Join us in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday school and after the 11 am worship service on Dec. 3rd for shopping and crafts. We will have supplies to make ornaments & clay pot nativity figures. Advent devotional books will also be available along with taper candles to refresh our Advent wreaths. Children's classes will be offering Merry Minestrone Soup Jars and Christmas Pretzels to benefit Heifer International the children's offering this year. Other mission teams will offer gifts ideas that also give back to some of the missions of our church.



Nursery News

Preschool children's nurseries will be making lots of Christmas crafts this month to prepare for Jesus' Birthday.



Filling jars for the 3rd & 4th grade Soup Jar sale at Alternative Market.



Tweens last month at First Friday Fun at Game Stop.

Youth Christmas Party

**Wednesday Evening
December 20**

6:00pm

**Meet in the Youth Room and please
bring a gift for the White Elephant
Gift Exchange that costs \$10 or less.**

YOUTH MISSION OVERNIGHT

SAVE THE DATES:

JANUARY 4-5

TIME TBD

**DETAILS: WE'LL SEND OUT
MORE INFORMATION LATER,
BUT PLAN TO HEAD TO THE
SEAFARERS CENTER DURING
THE DAY ON THE 4TH,
FOLLOWED BY FELLOWSHIP
AND A LOCK-IN.**



All,
We have been having a great fall season with our Youth group. Our Main Event bowl n' games was a fun time. On November 12th our Youth went to the Youth Rally held at the First Presbyterian Church in Conroe. It was a wonderful event and PYCC did an outstanding job with planning and facilitating. Be sure to come out for our Christmas Party on December 20th as well as the Coffee House on December 30th. We are looking forward to seeing the talents of our Youth as well as interested members of the church. We will need some yummy treats and desserts for both of these upcoming events! Contact us if you are interested in helping out!
The Youth Team

YOUTH WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

6:00 pm in the Youth Room
(CE Rm 200)

Come early at 5:30 for dinner in
Fellowship Hall!

YOUTH WEDNESDAY NIGHT JAM SESSION



**Youth Jam Session will meet
in Youth room 7:30pm
Text Sally Bowers to RSVP
(713-823-2824)**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 6-8PM

Tweens meet in WCPC Fellowship Hall from 6 –8 pm, Friday Dec 1st to make cookies/Christmas Pretzels for Heifer International, our children and tween mission project. We will sell them at the Alternative Market Sunday Dec 3rd. We will also have dinner here and a Christmas Party after the cooking project.

*Contact marniebush@gmail.com
to sign up to help with dinner.*



Director of Children's Ministry:

Susan Duncan

sduncan@wcpc-tx.org

Elder for Children & Tweens:

Jen Conner

jenniferconner79@gmail.com

Youth Team Chairs:

Sally Bowers

sally_bowers@comcast.net

Megan Hansen

megateer@gmail.com

Please support the Youth & Tweens ministries of WCPC with your prayers, your time, and your talents.

Contact Sally Bowers or Megan Hansen with questions, to donate, and to volunteer.

JR and SR High Sunday School 7-12th Grades 9:45am Youth Room CE 200

NOOMA Series by Rob Bell

Nooma is a series of 24 short films on everyday topics, like rain, that use the topic as a platform to understand a Biblical truth about God or our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Jesus lived with the awareness that God is doing something, right here, right now, and anybody can be a part of it. He encouraged his listeners to search, to question, to wrestle with the implications of what he was saying and doing. He inspired, challenged, provoked, comforted, and invited people to be open to God's work in this world. Wherever he went, whatever he did, Jesus started discussions about what matters most, because for Jesus, God is always inviting us to open our eyes and join in. NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. NOOMA is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion.



THEOCADEMY CONFIRMATION



September 2017 through May 2018

7th and 8th grade

17 lessons

Led by Megan Hansen



Coffee House

Saturday, December 30

6:30pm

The youth will be hosting an open mic night, so bring your talents and join us for a fun night of shared entertainment, accompanied by refreshments.

