

The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

An Inclusive Church Family Loving, Sharing, and Serving Christ

CHILDREN:

Sleepers & Creepers (Baby nursery)	Rm 309
Explorer Nursery (18 mos—3 years)	Rm 308
Preschool (3-6 yrs)	Rm 307

FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICES TODAY
Find 4 & 5 year-olds in Rm 307

No Sunday School Today
Children Meet in the Sanctuary
at 9:45 am
for the Pageant Rehearsal

Stephen Ministry Is Your Ministry...

All Alone? Don't be. God doesn't want us to be all alone. God wants us to turn to others when things are bothering us. Stephen Ministers will walk with you through your troubles and be there for you when you need them. Need prayer? We'll be there for you. Following worship, Stephen Ministers are available for those in need of prayer. If you have questions or would like to request a Stephen Minister please contact Rev. Dr. David F. Jones at 281-363-2040 ext 1.



DOROTHY JOHNSON CIRCLE **1st Tuesday**

January 2 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 Tuesday**

January 2 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 Thursday**

January 11 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 Wednesday**

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.

YOUTH MISSION OVERNIGHT LOCK-IN JANUARY 4-5 TIME: 2PM



Meet in the WCPC Youth Room at 2pm on Thursday. We will head to the Seafarers Center, followed by dinner, movies, fellowship and a lock-in. Pick up at 7am on Friday morning. Contact Sally Bowers to reserve your spot!



Welcome Guests!

- New members are regularly received by the Session. If interested, contact one of our pastors.
- Stop by the Welcome Table in the Narthex of the Sanctuary for information about the ongoing work, worship and fellowship of this congregation and how you can get involved!
- For more information speak with one of our staff or elders or go to www.wcpc-tx.org.

Christmas Eve Worship

5:00 pm Christmas Pageant and Candle Lighting

7:00 pm Communion and Candle Lighting



COFFEEHOUSE Saturday, December 30 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall

The youth will be hosting an open mic night, bring your talents and join us for a fun night of shared entertainment, and refreshments. Contact Sally Bowers with questions at sally_bowers@comcast.net

MISSION OUTREACH

- **Recycle Christmas Tree Lights for Habitat through Sunday, January 14th.** Please deposit your light strands in the specially marked bucket located in the courtyard on Sundays or in Fellowship Hall during the week.
- **Habitat for Humanity** - 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. These matching funds can also be 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 in the church office or Bill Bray at 832-702-6227 or bill.bray@scbglobal.net to assure we take advantage of this great opportunity to help with our WCPC Habitat House.
- **DeGeorge and Haven of Hope Transitional Housing for Veterans**- Thanks to everyone who donated stocking stuffers and to the women attending the Christmas Luncheon for stuffing the stockings. We were able to provide stockings for all the residents in both facilities, which totaled 109. We also gave a total of 50 new bath towels purchased using donations received at the Alternative Market to the directors of both facilities to distribute to those residents in need.
- **Angel Tree** - Thanks to everyone who participated in the Angel Tree Mission Project. We were able to provide presents to 20 families through the Child and Family program run by the Presbyterian Children's Homes & Services, 2 needy families from the surrounding community and five senior citizens in need through Interfaith of The Woodlands.
- **Food Pantry - Special needs for December:** cake mixes, canned frosting, chocolate chips, chopped nuts and baby wipes
Ongoing needs: peanut butter, jam, cleaning products (no spray bottles), laundry detergent, personal hygiene items and diapers. Bring donations to the pantry in the narthex anytime.

Christmas Offering

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.

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.

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.

On the CALENDAR for this week...

Sunday, December 24

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

5:00 pm Christmas Pageant and Candle Lighting

7:00 pm Christmas Lessons and Carols, Communion & Candle Lighting

Monday, December 25

(Church Office Closed)



Tuesday, December 26

(Church Office Closed)

Wednesday, December 27

Thursday, December 28

Friday, December 29

Saturday, December 30

6:00 pm Coffeehouse, Fellowship Hall

***Scheduled nursery care.** Contact Susan Duncan, 281.363.2040, Ext 6 or sduncan@wcpc-tx.org to confirm time and RSVP for ages & # of children.

Moms in Mission will be on holiday break until our next lunch outing on Wed., Jan 10 to Zoe's Kitchen in Sterling Ridge. For more information, email mimswcpc@gmail.com.

WCPC HOSTS A WEEKLY AA MEETING. Monday night at 7:00 pm in Rm 306 in the Hendricks Building a local AA group is meeting. If you know of anyone who would like to attend please share this info.

Please contact Shirley Barclay at sbarclay@wcpc-tx.org to request the newsletter be mailed to your home. The newsletter is always available online at www.wcpc-tx.org and there are printed copies available in the church office and at the Welcome Table Sanctuary narthex.

Automatic Tithing

If you would like to meet your tithe through an automatic transfer of funds from your bank account, forms are at the office or at www.wcpc-tx.org.

Contributions received on or before Sunday January 7, 2018 and dated Dec 31, 2017, will be considered as 2017 contributions.

Treasurer's Report Thru NOVEMBER 2017			Worship Attendance	
Receipts	\$79,097	\$ 875,173	December 17, 2017	306
Expenses	\$(94,598)	\$(956,584)	December 18, 2016	318
Over/(Under)	\$ (15,501)	\$(81,411)		

The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church Prayer List "Be merciful to me, and hear my prayer." Psalm 4:1c

The WCPC Prayer List may be found at the Welcome table. Prayer requests may be added or removed by contacting the church office, Rev. Laura Grice (281.363.2040, Ext 2 or lgrice@wcpc-tx.org) or Kim Petrie at petrie_kim@msn.com.