

The Good News Herald



The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church

4881 W. Panther Creek Drive

The Woodlands, TX 77381

**FEBRUARY
2018**

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

Ash Wednesday February 14

Self-Guided Prayer Stations for Ash Wednesday
Beginning at 11:30 am February 14!
Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church will offer self-guided prayer stations for all ages on Ash Wednesday February 14th. Beginning at 11:30 am and running until dusk, stations with scripture readings, activities and prayers will be available in the Prayer Garden to guide you through Ash Wednesday, including the imposition of ashes. The activities are all accessible for children of all ages and adults. This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole family or individuals to begin their Lenten journey. Start in the parking lot and follow the chalk instructions on the sidewalk. **There will be an Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.**

2018 LENTEN SERIES: GIVING UP!

2/18	<i>Giving Up Control</i>	Mark 1: 9-15
2/25	<i>Giving Up Expectations</i>	Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16
3/4	<i>Giving up Superiority</i> (Communion)	Corinthians 1: 18-31
3/11	<i>Giving Up Despair</i>	Psalms 107: 1-7, 17-22
3/18	<i>Giving Up Guilt</i>	Psalms 51: 1-12
3/25	<i>Giving Up Popularity</i>	Mark 11: 1-11
4/1	CELEBRATING LIFE!	Mark 16 : 1-8

It took the whole church to fill the Heifer Ark!



Led by the children of WCPC including those in ELP, we were able to purchase the Heifer Ark package, which includes two cows, two sheep, two oxen, two water buffalo, two pigs, two goats, two trios of ducks, two trios of rabbits, two trios of guinea pigs, two flocks of geese, two flocks of chicks, two llamas, two schools of fish, two bee-

hives and a community animal vet kit. This ark donation will help care for entire communities with milk, eggs, honey and wool. It will provide income by supplying an abundance of goods to sell and will help sustain farming by providing livestock to work the land. Above all, it improves the lives of families for generations by multiplying and Passing on the Gift. A representative from Heifer International will present the Ark award to WCPC on Children's Sabbath on February 11.



Rev. Dr. David F. Jones
Pastor

Dear WCPC family:

Last year, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) launched the 'We Choose Welcome' awareness campaign. It is an expression of personal and denominational commitment to welcome refugees and immigrants into our communities. While immigration policy and enforcement is a government responsibility, Christians recognize that the call to welcome strangers is common in the Bible.

"When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 19: 33 – 34)

As Presbyterians, we choose to welcome those fleeing terror and tyranny and those who are rejected because of their skin color or foreign dress. In the midst of debates that seek to divide us between those born here and those who are not, we choose to welcome all children of God, proclaiming one household.

WCPC currently supports the Houston-area refugee and immigrant communities in several ways. We host English as a Second Language classes, the PCUSA-affiliated Bitsarang Korean Church, and the Spanish-speaking Centi congregation. WCPC supports Interfaith's programs that provide housing assistance, cultural orientation, school enrollment and job placement. We engage in other local missions such as the Willis Parent Support Center that serve primarily immigrant families.

A portion of our Peace & Global Witness Offering went to Refugee Services of Texas, which settles refugees admitted through U.S. government programs in Southwest Houston. Our congregation's Refugee Assistance Fund has supported Sudanese refugees locally as well as in Sudan and Kenya.

You may soon notice signage around our campus that proclaims the We Choose Welcome message. You may also hear more about this subject in other forums. We encourage your participation in missions that minister to newcomers to our local area, particularly those struggling with poverty and discrimination.

Your pastor,

We Choose Welcome

Elegimos dar la bienvenida

Nous choisissons l'accueil

نحن نختار الترحيب



pcusa.org/WeChooseWelcome

#WeChooseWelcome



Rev. Laura Grice

Dear Ones,

As I write this note to you all, I am (hopefully) nearing the end of my medical leave. I hope that when you read this, I will have already been cleared by my doctors to return to work.

The last several weeks have been humbling in so many ways. I was reminded daily (especially while I was in the hospital) how fragile our bodies are, and how important a community is to our health and healing. I am not yet at 100%, but each day I get stronger and closer to that mark. *My family and I have been humbled and honored by your care and concern for me. I am grateful for those of you who reached out to my parents while I was in the hospital and offered meals or times of respite. I am grateful for all the cards, emails, texts, calls and visits that reminded me that I was not alone and that I had a whole church family hoping and praying for me as I healed. I wish I could respond to each one, but there simply are not enough hours in the day. I am grateful for the meals that you have delivered and other gestures of kindness you have shared.*

One of the things that I knew intellectually before surgery, but have now had to learn through experience is that healing is rarely as straightforward as one would hope. Last December, I had hoped that I would have been doing well enough that I would need you as walking companions this January. I would have loved to have been able to take you all up on your many offers. Especially with this ice and cold weather, this has not been a possibility yet. Even so, I am so glad that you have been willing and ready to be present with me in this way as well.

With deepest gratitude,
Laura

P.S.— Deacons and Stephen Ministers— I have some great ideas for continuing education from my experiences.



Show You Care with Call-a-Friend

WCPC is looking for a few members to make a short phone call every so often to someone in the congregation who can't come to church. Choose one person to contact by phone to say that the church cares. It's easy, but it makes a difference—for both of you.

Prefer to visit in person? We have a Visitation Ministry, and we need your help there, too.

Email Mignon Mabry at mwmabry@gmail.com or Tammy Rand at fromaway1958@me.com for details or a call-back.

WCPC 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.

Adult Class & Study Opportunities

SUNDAY MORNING

9:45—10:45 am

The Apocryphal Jesus HEB 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 HEB 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 HEB 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 with Love and Logic HEB 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
Mondays, 9:30-11:30 am

led by Tricia Knight

The Mon. Morning Women's Bible study group meets Mondays from 9:30-11:30am in Rm 301 in the Hendricks building. New members are always welcome! Contact Tricia Knight (281-367-0490) for more info!

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

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
Wednesdays 10:00-11:30 am in CHEB 301b

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
1st & 3rd Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 pm at Crust Pizza

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 SANCTUARY GUILD 1st Wednesday

February 7, in the WCPC Parlor

The next Sanctuary Guild meeting is on Wednesday, February 7 at Republic Grille at 11:00am and the meeting will begin at 9:30 in the parlor. For info, contact Carol Palmquist at rnpalmquist@aol.com.

DOROTHY JOHNSON CIRCLE 1st Tuesday

February 6 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. We will not meet in January but will resume our meetings on February 6.

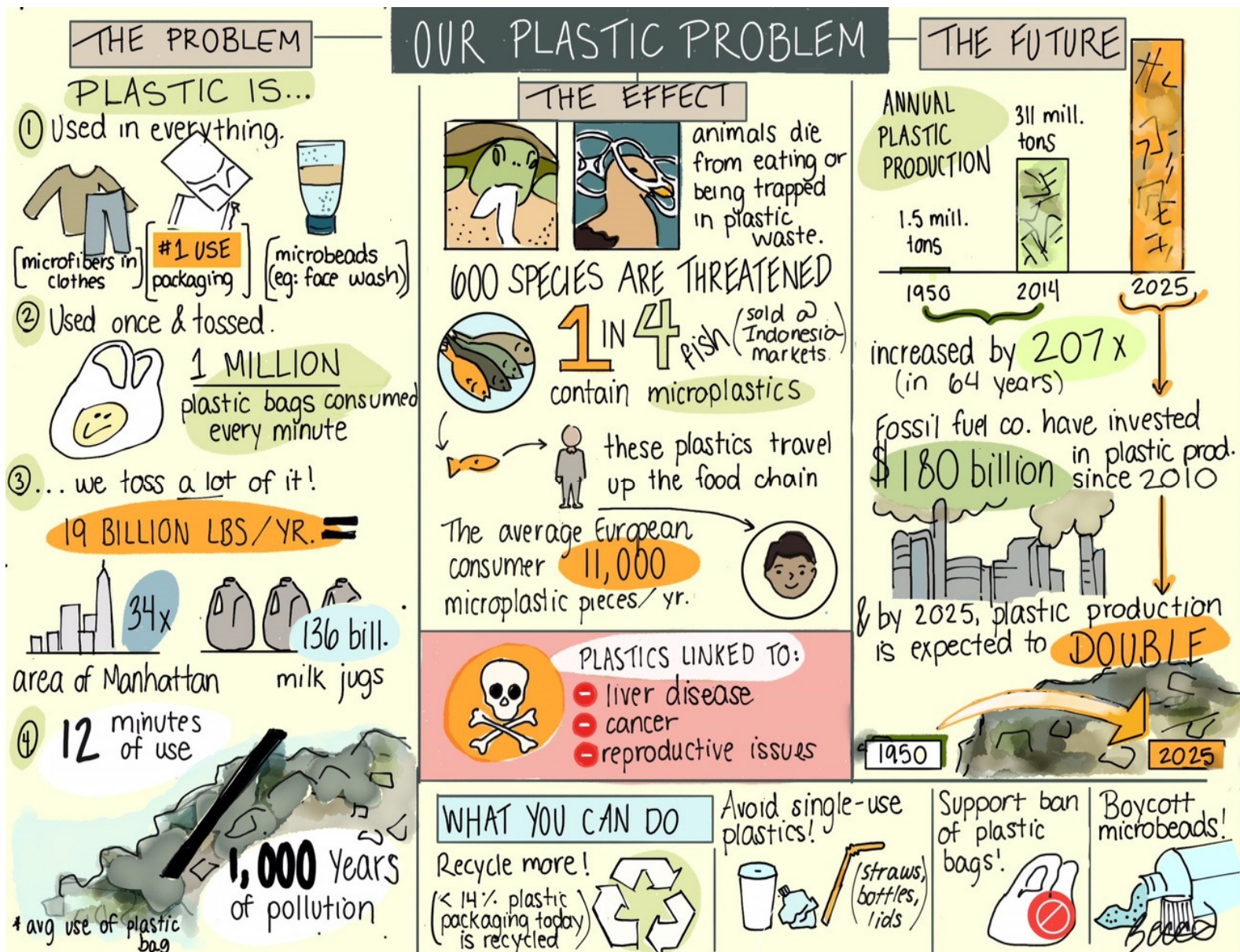
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN EVENING CIRCLE 1st Tuesday

February 6 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 February 8 at 7:00 pm in the parlor

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



Graphic artist Becca Barad is Jeri & Russ Simpkins granddaughter.

I don't know how old I am. But I do know that I am likely to be jumping around and eating bugs for a year or so. That's NOTHING compared to plastic! Did you know that plastic stays around for up to a thousand years! Wow! That means every plastic bottle or cup that we throw away just stays and stays. No wonder our landfills are getting full and our oceans are filling with plastic debris. Something to think about.



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

LENT AND THE BOTTLE THAT NEVER DIES

Fasting is about transformation. About adopting a discipline that makes such a physical impact on our lives for 40 days, that we pay attention. We reflect on our lives and our routine way of living. We see the world more thoughtfully. This year, the WCPC Creation Care Team encourages you to accept a different sort of challenge for Lent. From Ash Wednesday (February 14) until Easter (April 1), avoid single-use plastic drink bottles. That's it. The lifecycle of a piece of plastic is considerable. One particular bit of plastic started as a tiny animal floating about in the ocean. Its death is followed by millions of years of being squashed and cooked by the weight of the world, and it turns into crude oil, before it is sucked up in a pipe by humans and transformed into plastic. Given its origins in the seas, it is somewhat ironic that a vast amount of the plastic produced by humans to use for a few brief moments ends up back in the same place. And unfortunately, that's become a major problem. That is because plastic breaks a fundamental law of nature – it fails to go away. It can hang around for up to a thousand years. A million plastic bottles are bought around the world every minute. Won't you join in a fast to reduce that number for 40 days? Not only will it benefit our world and the oceans that nurture life, but it will leave a mark on your life.

February 14 ß Single-use Plastic Bottle Fast à April 1

PRAYERS & SQUARES

The Prayers and Squares, quilting/knitting/crocheting group will meet on Mondays, February 5 and 19. 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.



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: 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.



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, February 6th. At this meeting we will set the 201 Benevolence budget. If you are interested in being involved in this budgeting process, please plan to attend this meeting.** 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.



WCPC Blood Drive

Sunday, February 18, 2018

8:30 AM to 12:30pm

Fellowship Hall

Walk-ins Welcome

Questions? Contact Gordy Lentz at

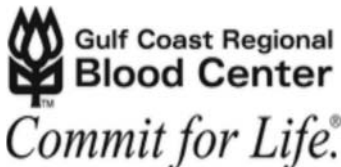
281-298-7134 or gordon.lentz@yahoo.com

Click below to sign up online

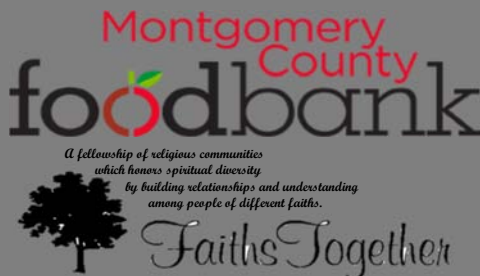
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4aaba92ea5fb6-wcpc2>

Donor Requirements

- Donors must be at least 17 years old, 16 with parental consent
- You must bring a valid picture ID prior to donation
- Donors must weigh at least 110 pounds, 16 year old donors must weigh 122 pounds
- Potential donors must be in general good health, without any cold or flu symptoms



Help save lives by participating in the WCPC Blood Drive!



MCFB Food Fair Sponsored by FaithsTogether

Saturday, March 12th 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Woodforest Stadium Parking Lot near Press Box

19115 David Memorial Drive, Conroe, TX 77385

Ages 7 and over (under 13 accompanied by adult)

The FaithsTogether sponsored Food Fair organized by the Montgomery County Food Bank brings a pantry of delicious food, including fresh produce and refrigerated items directly to a location close to those in high need. MCFB provides the food, technical assistance, and marketing for each food fair. Food from their warehouse is loaded onto a truck and delivered to the host site to feed approximately 500 families. FaithsTogether will provide the volunteers to unload, set-up and distribute the food directly to the clients in an outside setting similar to a farmers market. Come join us for a day of service in our community. Help make a difference in the lives of those in need! Sign up with Michele Stelter in the church office or email her at mstelter@wcpc-tx.org.

Come Cheer for Team USA



At The Gathering Place

**Friday, February 16th
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.

The Interfaith Food Pantry

Interfaith values our support of their Food Pantry. In 2017, Interfaith provided food assistance to over 8,000 families or almost 20,000 on an individual basis. In addition, Veggie Village donated over 4,000 pounds of vegetables during the year. Please continue to remember our neighbors in need when you go grocery shopping.

Special Pantry Needs for February:
canned fruit & vegetables
dried beans & fruit
laundry detergent & dryer sheets

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



Help build our 8th Habitat House!

WCPC is partnering with The Woodlands United Methodist Church to build a three-bedroom Habitat House at 1210 Cedar Creek in Conroe. **The next work day will be Saturday, February 17th.** Not handy? There are many other ways you can help with our Habitat House 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 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 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 to assure we take advantage of this great opportunity to help with our WCPC Habitat House.



Our 2017-18 Habitat House



Sicuani Bible Seminary Graduation

December 17, 2017

WCPC has funded annual scholarships for seminarians at the Sicuani Bible Seminary (SEBIS) in Peru since 2014. These funds have been equally distributed each year to ten or more 2nd through 4th year students based on character, merit and need. On December 17, 2017, four of the five graduates were recipients of WCPC scholarships. Those graduates with a secular degree or technical training will seek a call to a local congregation or mission. Those graduates without a degree or technical training will obtain such first before seeking a call since it is necessary for pastors in Peru to earn a living outside the call. The 2017 SEBIS graduating class includes the following WCPC scholarship recipients:



Anec Condori Marcavillaca



Abel Mamani Mamani



Celia Quispe Condori

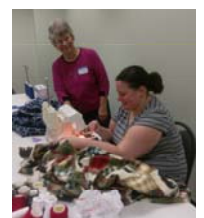
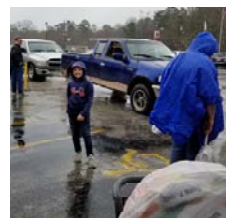


Silvia Cusiuhuman Mamani

Love Your Neighbor Day



Despite the rain, approximately 130 people of all ages participated in Love Your Neighbor Day on Saturday, January 27th. Our projects varied from distributing food at a Food Fair in New Caney to assembling intake folders at the Women's Resource Center to sewing dresses for girls in Africa and Peru and blankets for foster boys in Montgomery County to counting, sorting and packing donated medical supplies at Project C.U.R.E. to assembling and delivering breakfast bags to clients in the Meals on Wheels program to the children making door hangers and singing for our neighbors in the Memory Care Unit of the Forum. Thanks to all who helped make this year a success!





News From Our Friends & Partners in Africa

Update from Siavonga

In November, 2017, our Mission Outreach Team (MOT) sent \$5,000 to our partner, United Church of Zambia (UCZ)- Siavonga Main congregation, to be used as follows: \$1,000 for their outreach programs such as the Katulumba School, \$1,000 for their congregation wherever they wanted and \$3,000, which came from our capital campaign tithe, for their building project.

We recently received a summary along with pictures from Rev. Machisa, the pastor of UCZ - Siavonga Main Congregation, informing us as to how the money has been spent to date. On December 29, 2017, Rev Machisa and several members of his congregation visited the Katulumba school and made a \$500 donation to the school based upon the budget submitted by the school director. They also used another \$300 from the outreach funds to supplement the college fees for one of their youth who is a double orphan and then donated \$70 to buy iron sheets for a small house of a widow from one of their sub congregations. And finally, they covered the transportation costs for a mission outreach trip to Nakaunga UCZ, where they distributed secondhand clothes to congregation members. Rev. Machisa said they used the \$1,000 meant for their congregation to purchase a desktop computer, sound speakers, a fan and Wi-Fi connection for the congregation. As for their building project, he stated that a separate report would be sent at a later date, but added that they have made steady progress.

UCZ - Siavonga Main church building project



Rev. Machisa visiting the Katulumba School



Thank you, Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Christmas Offering. As a result of your generosity, we collected almost \$11,500, of which approximately \$8,500 will be sent to Zambia. These funds will allow the CCAP Community Schools Coordinator, Mabuchi Dokowe, to purchase 2 sets of textbooks instead of 1 set for each grade in all 30 CCAP Community Schools in Lusaka and the Lundazi area of Eastern Zambia.

Note from Nancy Collins PCUSA Regional Liaison in Eastern Africa

I gave the dresses and short pants made by members of WCPC to the CCAP Synod office in Zambia and they were then distributed to the John Lainge Community School on Dec. 12, 2017. According to Mabuchi Dokowe, the CCAP Community Schools Coordinator, they added smiles on the children who benefited. Along with her thanks, she sent the photo below of the children who benefited.





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.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 11:30 AM**

Come and celebrate the wonderful fellowship we have at WCPC. Enjoy a Mardi Gras themed menu! Don't have beads...that's ok we have plenty! Bring a neighbor or a co- worker, the more the merrier! Don't miss out on all the fun catching up with your friends and church family!



The Early Learning Program

of the Woodlands Community
Presbyterian Church



Dear WCPC Members,

Our monthly Bible verse is "Love One Another." 1 John 4:7. At ELP we not only feel that it is an honor to teach, but we feel that it is a calling and a blessing! What better "job" is there in the world than to get to model, share, and foster the LOVE of Jesus? It is a true joy to be the *first* teachers for young children outside of their homes. At ELP we strive to grow and develop our children socially and emotionally. Teaching scripture offers us the foundation for this and we eagerly integrate Jesus' Love for us and Loving Each Other in everything we say and do. This month we are praying for each of our children by name and praying very specifically each morning for our children. As we name our children and lift them in prayer we are reminded that we too are children of God and that God is named: *Friend of Children, Redeemer, Wonderful Counselor, Provider, and Healer.*

Later this month our children will celebrate Love and Friendships with Valentine's festivities, followed by a Go Texan Rodeo event filled with laughter, cowboy hats, and boots! YEE HAW!

Mark Your Calendar for Feb. 11 & 12. This is the WCPC Early Preschool Registration. Our doors open at 9:00 and we will be here until 4:00 to accept your registration. If you are unable to come in, please call us at 281.298-2464 to make arrangements.

Thursday, Feb. 15, at 6:30 p.m., will be our Public Registration for the 2018-2019 school year. Please tell your friends and neighbors about ELP. We happily offer morning tours!

Thank you for your support. We are honored to be WCPC's Preschool Ministry!

Cindy Mountain

PRAISING GOD FOR MANY BLESSINGS FOR ALL EARS! IN 2018.

SHELLEY MATHAY, FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR
ALL EARS! LISTENING AND LANGUAGE CENTER
281-615-5475. ALLEARSCENTER.ORG
P.O. BOX 131602, THE WOODLANDS, TX 77393



TEACHING DEAF CHILDREN TO LISTEN AND SPEAK!



YOU ARE INVITED TO FAMILY NIGHT

FOR FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS

COME AND CONNECT WITH MEMBERS OF THE ALL EARS! FAMILY
ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AND LISTEN TO
GUEST SPEAKERS ON ALL THINGS HEARING LOSS.

JOIN US FOR DINNER AT 6 PM · PROGRAM AT 6:30 PM
CHILDCARE WILL BE PROVIDED

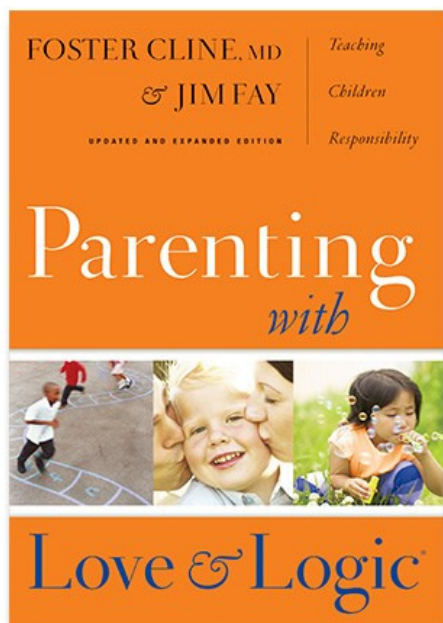
TO RSVP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
SHELLEY@ALLEARSCENTER.ORG OR 281-615-5475 · WWW.ALLEARSCENTER.ORG

LOCATION: ELP (EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM) AT THE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADDRESS: 4881 W. PANTHER CREEK DR., THE WOODLANDS, TX 77381

PARENTING CLASSES

For Parents of Children 0-12 yrs



New Sunday Morning Study
9:45-10:50 am
Parenting with Love and Logic
starting Feb 18th

Are you the parent of one or more children? 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 meet on Sunday mornings starting Feb 18th in HEB room 306. The books will be provided, please email Susan at sduncan@wcpc-tx.org so she can order it for you.

Please contact Mike or Tara Devoley with questions tdevoley@yahoo.com

ALL EARS! LISTENING & LANGUAGE CENTER 4TH ANNUAL TOAST & TASTE DINNER



SAVE THE DATE • APRIL 13, 2018
HONORING BE AN ANGEL

Guest Speaker, Melanie Bush, Conroe ISD Board President
 The Woodlands Country Club, Palmer Course

ABOVE THE CLOUDS DISCOUNT:

Table of 10 for \$1,500 if purchased before 12/31/17

Details at www.allearscenter.org



ALL EARS!
 LISTENING & LANGUAGE CENTER

Teaching deaf children to talk!

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

Feb 5 th	Moms Meeting	9:30 - 11:30	CHEB Nurseries	Join us as we have fun celebrating the month of love by sharing your wedding album with the group. Bring a favorite brunch dish to share as we enjoy each other's fellowship and friendship sharing memories of our special day. *RSVP to Susan Duncan at SDuncan@wcpc-tx.org for childcare.
Feb 12 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 Parenting Support Center for a day of service. *RSVP to Susan Duncan at SDuncan@wcpc-tx.org for childcare.
Feb 17 th	Parent's Night Out	5:00-8:00 PM	CHEB Nurseries	The Theme is Winter Olympics!! Kids will enjoy dinner (pizza), a movie, and crafts right here at WCPC. Suggested donation for the cost of pizza. *RSVP to Susan Duncan (sduncan@wcpc-tx.org).
Feb 26 th	Book Study	9:30-11:30	Youth Room-CE 200	Join us for chapter 5 of <i>More Than Enough: How Jesus Meets our Deepest Needs</i> 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.

Moms in Mission

Share your heart with a friend this month! Join us for an extra heart pillow workday in the CHEB Library area Wednesday, Feb. 7, from 12:30 - 2:30. We'll meet again on Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 12:30 - 2:30 in the CHEB Library area to make heart pillows for women undergoing breast cancer treatment. All supplies are provided; light hand sewing skills are helpful, but not required. Questions? Email mimswcpc@gmail.com



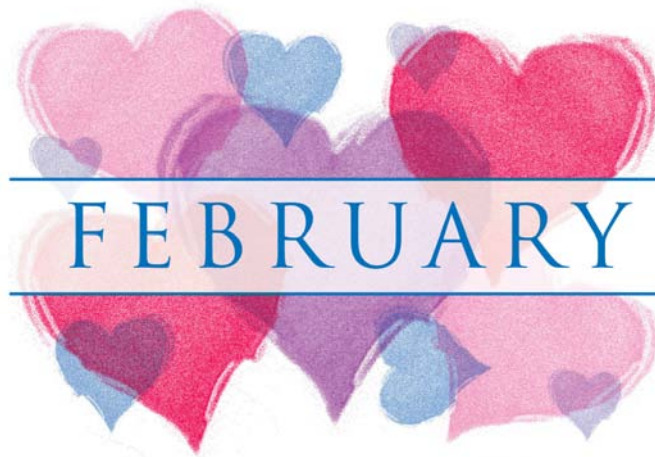
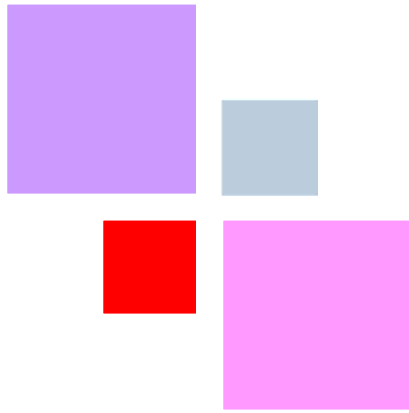
Friday
FEBRUARY 2
New Fellowship
Group for
Parents of
Preschool
Children



First Friday of the Month 6:30-9 pm

WCPC is offering childcare for a new Fellowship Group for Parents with Preschoolers. This new fellowship group is just for parents whose youngest children are age 0-4 years old! We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors who also have preschool or younger children the fellowship. The parents with preschoolers group will meet once a month at a local restaurant TBA by email. Upcoming dates are **Feb 2, March 2, Apr 6 and May 4.**

Please contact Tara or Mike Devoley for the meeting location at tdevoley@yahoo.com and to reserve childcare or questions contact Susan Duncan at sduncan@wcpc-tx.org



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2  Preschool Parents Fellowship, childcare by rsvp 6:30-9 pm	3
4 Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday school 9:45 Worship 8:30 & 11:00	5 Mom's Mtg 9:30-11:30 childcare by rsvp to Susan in CHEB 307	6	7 WAM 4:15-4:45 chimes 4:45 choirs 5:30 dinner Fellowship Hall 6 pm CE Team Mtg	8	9	10
11 Children's Sabbath Sunday school Open House FH 9:45-10:50 Worship 8:30 & 11:00	12 Mom's in Mission 9:30-12:30 childcare by rsvp in CHEB 307	13	14  WAM 4:15-4:45 chimes 4:45 choirs 5:30 dinner 7 Ash Wed service	15  Ash Wednesday	16	17 Parent Night Out 5-8 pm childcare by reservation to sduncan@wpcp-tx.org
18  Sunday school 9:45 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 4Kids	19 CISD & ELP off 	20	21 WAM 4:15-4:45 chimes 4:45 choirs 5:30 dinner Fellowship Hall	22	23	24
25  Sunday school 9:45 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Class	26 Mom's Book Study 9:30-11:30 childcare by rsvp to Susan in CHEB 307	27	28 WAM 4:15-4:45 chimes 4:45 choirs 5:30 dinner Fellowship Hall			





Children's
Sabbath &
Open House Feb 11th

Children will take the lead and the choirs will sing Feb 11th at the 11 am service. Children and tweens 1st-6th grade are needed to acolyte, read parts of the service, hand out bulletins and pass the offering plates. Send an email to sduncan@wpcp-tx.org if your child is interested in participating.

During the Sunday school hour Feb 11th the children, tweens and youth will present things they have been learning to parents and adult Sunday school classes. We will also present information about all the youth camps and the fundraisers for those summer camps along with breakfast refreshments.



Important Summer Dates & Camp Dates for 2018!

Feb 24th Game Night Fundraiser for children and youth camp scholarships

March 11th Deadline for all ages
Camp Scholarship Paperwork

Cho Yeh Summer Dates: for 1-6th grade:
Core 2 June 10-16

Check the Cho Yeh website for other camp date weeks and let Susan know what dates you are signing up for so other parents can also send their children those weeks for camp. (Reminder **July 16th-20th is VBS Week** and **Aug 6-8th** is the week of **Servin' Safari** for 6th-8th graders)

(Cho-Yeh also grants a sibling discount when they attend the same week)

**CAMP
CHO-YEH**

Contact Children's Ministry Director Susan Duncan at 281-363-2040 ext. 6 or sduncan@wpcp-tx.org for information about Children's programs.



Sunday School



Children's Sunday School
Rotation Bible Topic this month:
Love Is... 1 Corinthians 13

Godly Play classes on Sunday mornings will be hearing about Jesus during Lent with the



LENT BEGINS

FEB 14th We will have Prayer Stations for all ages in the Prayer Garden 11:30-6 pm. Then the Ash Wed Worship Service will be at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.



Children's Worship Class

Worship2kids (3rd-5th): Feb. 18th at 11:00 service sermon time
Worship Class (K-2nd): Feb. 25th at 11:00 sermon time



Scout Sunday is Feb 11th! Wear your uniforms to church.



February 17th Parent Night Out 5-8 pm Theme Winter Olympics

Bring your children for a night of fun playing games and enjoying Olympic style games with the youth! We will also be eating pizza for dinner and making crafts. We will watch *Happy Feet* at the end of our time. Children can come in their P.J.'s!

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

PYCC Conclaves* Mission Project

Pups Emergency Toys and Supplies (PETS) Initiative

Donations needed:

Old, clean T-shirts

Wet dog and cat food

Dry dog and cat food (yellow Pedigree preferred)

Non-clumping cat litter

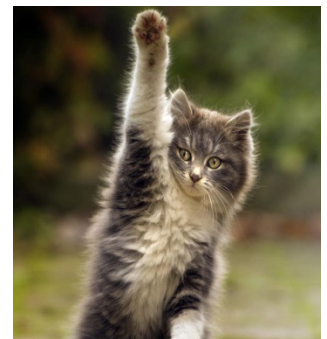
Small blankets

Old towels

Bleach

Blue Dawn dish soap

Please bring donations to the church before March 1st.
Deposit in the marked box in the youth room or the church
office. Donations will be given to local animal shelters for
animals who were displaced during Hurricane Harvey.

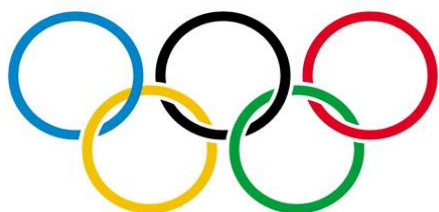


*If you are a youth between 7th and 12th grade and have not signed up for Conclaves, but would like to go, then please contact a youth team leader ASAP! There is a slight chance we can get you in, but we need to know right away!!



SM Since 1990, youth groups all over the U.S. have collected food and money to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around Super Bowl Sunday. The youth will be doing their part by collecting money after both services on February 4 for the Montgomery County Food Bank's Buddy Backpack Program. If you want to contribute by check, please make your check payable to WCPC and mark it for Souper Bowl of Caring.

Youth Fellowship At Parent Night Out Feb 17th



This month's theme is Winter Olympics and we need help from you in leading the Olympic style games. We will be playing snow ball throwing and relay games along with shoe box shalom, paper plate figure skating and luge and bobsled races in cardboard boxes! This is a great way to help out and get to know some of the younger kids and have fun together too. The date is Feb 17th starting at 5-8 pm. If you want to stay for dinner, we will all have pizza and will finish the winter fun by watching the movie, *Happy Feet!*

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.



YOUTH WEDNESDAY NIGHT JAM SESSION

Youth Jam Session will meet
in

Youth room 7:30pm
Text Sally Bowers to RSVP
(713-823-2824)



YOUTH WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for our **"Who is Jesus?"**
Study at 6:00 pm in the Youth Room (CE Rm 200)
Come early at 5:30 for dinner in Fellowship Hall!

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

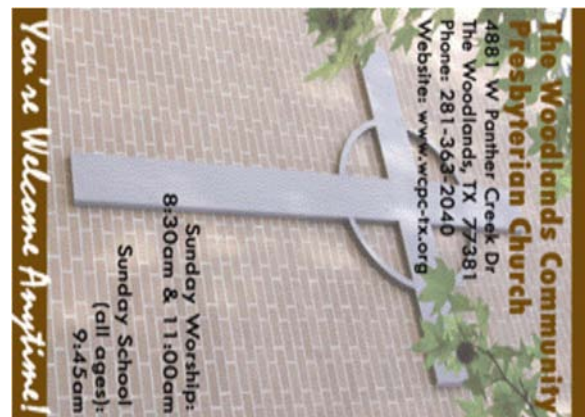
sally_bowers@comcast.net

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.



SAVE THE DATE!

Heifer International Mission Trip June 10-15, 2018 Rising 9th - Graduating Seniors

Details TBA soon! There are a limited number of spots available. Please contact a youth team leader or Shirley Barclay in the church office to sign up or for more information.

This trip is designed to increase our group's understanding of the global hunger and poverty issues that Heifer International encounters in the field. By experiencing activities such as learning to milk a goat, working in the garden, learning how to bee-keep and about animal husbandry, living in a village and learning to make cheese, not only will our group **grow and develop together**, but they will gain a greater understanding of how Heifer creates lasting change in communities around the world.