

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

March April 2023

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



March and April Lenten and Easter Highlights.....

April 2	Palm Sunday	8:30am and 11:00am Worship Services, Palm Procession both Services
April 3-8	Holy Week	Self Guided Meditations in the Prayer Garden
April 6	Maundy Thursday	Worship Service 7:00pm

April 7 Good Friday Good Friday Worship Service, 12:00pm

April 9 Easter Sunday 8:30am and 11:00am Worship Services

10:35am Butterfly Release

Worship services

available online and in

person. Additional

information inside



Dear WCPC family,

Some wonder, maybe you are one of them, why we use the liturgical calendar to order our worship life together as a community? I have been asked this question by long time members as well as new members. Maybe it's a question on your mind since we are now in the season of Lent, with Holy Week and Easter fast approaching. I found this article on the pcusa.org website. I hope you find it helpful.

The festivals and seasons of the Christian year (or liturgical calendar) offer a way to order the annual life of the church according to the life of Christ and the events of salvation history. The Revised Common Lectionary provides a set of Scripture readings from the Old and New Testaments that is both organized around the Christian year and attentive to the broad themes and narratives of the biblical story.



Rev. Dr. David F. Jones Pastor

The Risen Lord, Christ's resurrection is the center of the church's life and the Christian year.

The Directory for Worship elaborates:

As God created and appointed days, God created a rhythm of time and appointed seasons for worship. In the Old Testament, people observed seasons of fasting and feasting as occasions for festival worship of God. Jesus kept these festivals. For the Church in the New Testament, the festivals were transformed in meaning and purpose by Jesus' life and teaching, his death and resurrection, and by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and promised return give meaning to the seasons which order the annual rhythm of worship and guide the selection of lessons to be read and proclaimed in the life of the Church. (W-1.3013)

Through two millennia of Christian worship, a certain cycle of festivals and seasons has emerged and is now recognized and observed throughout the ecumenical church. Some of these events (Pentecost, Holy Week and Epiphany, e.g.) can be traced to the earliest centuries of Christian practice; others (Trinity Sunday and Christ the King, e.g.) developed later in the history of the church. The Directory for Worship provides a helpful outline of these festivals and seasons:

God's work of redemption in Jesus Christ offers the Church a central pattern for ordering worship in relationship to significant occasions in the life of Jesus and of the people of God. The Church thus has come to observe the following days and seasons:

Advent, a season to recollect the hope of the coming of Christ, and to look forward to the Lord's coming again,

Christmas, a celebration of the birth of Christ,

Epiphany, a day for commemorating God's self-manifestation to all people,

Lent, a season of spiritual discipline and preparation, beginning with Ash Wednesday, anticipating the celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ,

Holy Week, a time of remembrance and proclamation of the atoning suffering and death of Jesus Christ,

Easter, the day of the Lord's resurrection and the season of rejoicing which commemorates his ministry until his Ascension, and continues through the Day of Pentecost, the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church.

The church also observes other days such as Baptism of the Lord, Transfiguration of the Lord, Trinity Sunday, All Saints Day and Christ the King. (W-3.2002)

Personally I have found the use of the Christian Year (Liturgical Calendar) along with the lectionary (selected texts from the Scriptures for each Sunday – Old Testament/Psalm/Gospel/Epistle) -- which follows the Christian year as tools that help me in my discipleship. Certainly, my prayer, Laura's prayer and the prayers of your Session is that the same will be true for you in your journey.

Your pastor,



Rev. Laura Grice

Dear Ones,

It will come as no surprise to many of you that I have a ridiculously tall stack of books on my bedside table, that I will read or finish "someday." Right now I also have a couple of tall stacks of books for my final Doctor of Ministry project. I will share more about that with you all sometime soon. In the midst of all these books I need to read or want to read "someday," I am savoring *Poetry Unbound* by Pádraig O'Tuama. This collection of poems by a diverse group of poets, and O'Tuama's reflections on these poems has offered me an island of calm and beauty, in the midst of a chaotic season of life. You may be familiar with his work along these lines from his podcast of the same name broadcast as part of Krista Tippet's *On Being* Project.

During this season of Lent, a season of reflection, repentance, and devotion in order to draw closer to God, one of the poems in O'Tuama's anthology keeps coming to mind. Repentance is the practice of turning and returning to our God when we have turned away in sin and forgetfulness. As Presbyterians, people of the Reformed Tradition, we believe we do and can turn to God because God first loved and forgives us. O'Tuama shares the following poem about forgiveness. Perhaps I, like the speaker of the poem, need to hear forgiveness, even things others might think are unimportant or insignificant. Perhaps you need to hear a word of forgiveness, too. This is my prayer for you this Lent: With words of God's love and forgiveness echoing in your ears and in your heart, may this Lent be a season of holy re-turning to our God who turns toward us in grace. Amen.

Phase One" by Dilruba Ahmed

For leaving the fridge open Last night, I forgive you. For conjuring white curtains instead of living your life. For the seedlings that wilt, now in tiny pots, I forgive you. For saying no first but yes as an afterthought. I forgive you for hideous visions after childbirth, brought on by loss of sleep. And when the baby woke repeatedly, for your silent rebuke in the dark, 'What's your beef?' I forgive you for letting vines overtake the garden. For fearing your own propensity to love. For losing, again, your bag en route from San Francisco; for the equally heedless drive back on the caffeine-fueled return. I forgive you for leaving

windows open in rain and soaking library books again. For putting forth only revisions of yourself, with punctuation worked over, instead of the disordered truth, I forgive you. For singing mostly when the shower drowns your voice. For so admiring the drummer you failed to hear the drum. In forgotten tin cans, may forgiveness gather. Pooling in gutters. Gushing from pipes. A great steady rain of olives from branches, relieved of cruelty and petty meanness. With it, a flurry of wings, thirteen gray pigeons. Ointment reserved for healers and prophets. I forgive

I forgive you. For feeling awkward and nervous without reason.

For bearing Keats' empty vessel with such calm you worried you had, perhaps, no moral center at all. For treating your mother with contempt when she deserved compassion. I forgive you. I forgive you. I forgive you. For growing a capacity for love that is great but matched only, perhaps, by your loneliness. For being unable to forgive yourself first so you could then forgive others and at last find a way to become the love that you want in this world.

Lama

stephen

It's Okay to be Human

Jesus experienced times of loneliness, sadness, hurt, anger, disappointment, grief, and abandonment. That is part of being human. Another part of being human is needing help from each other. God never intended us to be completely self-sufficient. Part of God's plan is for each of us to turn to others for help when we need it. You don't need to struggle alone through diffinance provide

cult times. Our Stephen Ministers will walk with you, listen to you, encourage you, pray with you, and provide confidential care to help you through tough times. To learn more about Stephen Ministry, talk to one of our Stephen Leaders or Pastors. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

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

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. David F. Jones

Associate Pastor

Rev. Laura R. Grice

Pastor Emeritus:

Rev. Dr. Charles Hendricks

Music Ministries:

Jonathan Aigner, Director of Music Sherry Hunter, Director, Bell Choirs

Mission Outreach:

Sonya Dias, Facilitator

Children's Ministries:

Susan Duncan, Director

Early Learning Program:

Constance Janisch, Director Chantal Porter, Administration

Administration:

Milton Thigpen, Financial Administrator Shirley Barclay, Dir. of Com Our Missionaries

Paula Cooper, Zambia Melissa Johnson, Zambia Jose Luis Clare, Peru Chenoa Stock, Peru

Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar

Our Seminarians

Frainess Shawa

SESSI		

CLASS OF 2023

Mary Jo Chapman

Andre DuBruyn

Jane Chesney

Jim Holly

Cinda Hitchcock

Jane Harding

Debi McNaught

Stephanie Keiser

David Martinez

Mark Seefeldt

David Watkins

Brian Spears

Sami Whitehead Youth Elder

BOARD OF DEACONS

	O7 11 12 O1 2 27 10 0	
CLASS OF 2023	CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025
Linda Allwood	Patty Ahern	Larry Copeland
Donna Frederick	Judy Bramlett	Bruce Lee
Bonnie Graham	Sue Davis	Sarah Parker
Nancy Hathaway	Peggy Harris	Rebekah Rydarowski
Maria Paz Pickens	Deb Mason	Susan Schatz
	Nita Purcell	Shelley Smith
	Eleanor Stone	

	TEAMS OF THE SE	SSION	BOARD OF DEACONS TEAM LEADERS			
Building and Grounds	s Mark Seefeldt	mseefeldt66@gmail.com	Baby Ministry	Donna Frederick	dbfrederick@earthlink.net	
Christian Enrichme	ent:					
Adults	Brian Spears, Chair	bfspears7800@gmail.com	Bereavement Ministry	Tricia McDonald	patriciamacdonald1210@gmail.com	
Children/Tween	Stephanie Keiser	stephaniekeiser1@gmail.com		Maria Paz Pickens	m_maria_paz@hotmail.com	
Creation Care	Cinda Hitchcock	cchtx@att.net		Linda Allwood	allwood00@aol.com	
Evangelism Team	Mary Jo Chapman	maryjo.chapman5206@gmail.com	Card Ministry	Bonnie Graham	blygraham@hotmail.com	
Fellowship Team	Cinda Hitchcock, co-chair	cchtx@att.net		Judy Bramlett	<u>Jgbramlett@gmail.com</u>	
r r	Stephanie Keiser, co-chair	stephaniekeiser1@gmail.com	Cookie Ministry	Nita Purcell	nitapurcell@yahoo.com	
Finance Team	Andre DuBruyn	andre.j.dubruyn@gmail.com		Patty Ahern	pahernrd@sbcglobal.net	
Mission Outreach	Gary Chapman, Chair	gary.chapman5206@gmail.com	Home Outreach Ministry	Rebekah Rydarowski	rebekah.rydarowski@gmail.com	
		0, 1		Sarah Parker	ssnyder888@gmail.com	
Personnel Team	Dave Watkins	dwatkinstx@gmail.com	Hospital Ministry	Eleanor Stone	esstone34@gmail.com	
Worship Team	Jim Holly, Chair	jim.holly@mindspring.com		Shelley Smith	ssmith6690@comcast.net	
Youth Team	Debi McNaught, Chair	frmcali2tex@sbcglobal.net	Meals Ministry	Peggy Harris	peggyharris44@gmail.com	
	Sami Whitehead			Susan Schatz	schatz4882@gmail.com	
Moderator	David Jones	djones@wcpc-tx.org	New Member Ministr	Nancy Hathaway	nancy.hathaway@yahoo.com	
Clerk for the Session	Megan Hansen	megateer@gmail.com	Prayer Ministry	Bruce Lee	balee5068@gmail.com	
	O		Transportation Ministr	y Sue Davis	msdavis5@hotmail.com	
				Larry Copeland	lcopeland1@gmail.com	
			Moderator	Nancy Hathaway	nancy.hathaway@yahoo.com	
			Co Moderator	Nita Purcell	nitapurcell@yahoo.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.

- Members are asked to send prayer requests by email or comments on our worship livestream. 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.wcpc-tx.org). 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@wcpc-tx.org). Please obtain permission from the person prior to adding their name to the prayer list.



Sunday Education Opportunities

We offer a variety of Sunday School classes for adults each week. We

encourage you to try out several to find one that fits your spiritual formation needs.

If a formal Sunday School class is not what you are looking for, consider spending time in fellowship in the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, 9:45-10:45 am

Connecting Through the Bible

HEB 301b & Zoom

led by Sue and Dave Watkins and Neville Walker A fun, interactive discussion of ways we can connect with God. Using the N.T. Wright For Everyone series, this class is studying John. Great for those new or well-versed in Bible Study. This class meets in "hybrid" format. Please contact Dave Watkins for a Zoom link, if desired.

Women Living In Faith Together (L.I.F.T)

Parlor

contact Patty Ahern

This group is using the study *Living a Chocolate Life* by Deb Burma. This study invites participants to to savor God's rich and endless supply of grace in Christ. This class meets "inperson".

Texts in Context

HEB 303 & Zoom

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. This class meets in a "hybrid" format. Please contact Bob Campbell for a Zoom link, if desired.

Christianity and History

HEB 306

led by Bill McCleary & Joe Christoffel

This class explores & discusses faith related topics using video courses. Their current study is *The Fall of the Pagans and the Origins of Medieval Christianity* led by Dr. Kenneth W. Harl. This class meets "in-person".

Weekday Education Opportunities

Much like Sunday, we encourage you to explore the variety of spiritual formation opportunities that occur during the week.

MONDAYS

Women's Bible Study

9:30-11:30 am

HEB 301b & Zoom

contact Ann Fleischmann
This group is studying the Gospel of Luke this spring. All you need is your Bible. New members are always welcome! This group meets in "hybrid" by request. Please contact Ann Fleischmann for more

Moms' Group

Fourth Mondays, 9:30-11:30 am

Youth Room/CE 200

Contact Stephanie Keiser

This group meets regularly for fellowship, mission (The Gathering Place) and for a Bible study. Their Bible study is *The No-Homework Bible Study: Group Hug* by Christine Tate and meets on the 4th Monday of the month. Please contact Stephanie Keiser for more information.

TUESDAYS

Presbyterian Women Morning Circle

information or Laura Grice for a Zoom link.

First Tuesdays (Sept.-May), 10:00 am

Parlor

Contact Jane Chesney

This group is using the Horizons Bible Study "Celebrating Sabbath" by Carol M. Bechtel. Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us with the gift of a day to reset our pace, priorities, and lives. This study explores Sabbath through-out scripture. This group meets "in-person". Please contact Jane Chesney for more information.

WEDNESDAYS

Wed. Morning Men's Bible Study Group

7:30-8:30 am

HEB 301b & Zoom

led by Rev. Dr. David Jones

The focus of the study is the text for the upcoming sermon our pastor will be delivering. This group meets in "hybrid format." Please contact David Jones for information or a Zoom link.

Wednesday Study Group

10:00-11:30 am

HEB 301b & Zoom

contact Sylvia Campbell

This group is using The Great Courses study—The Triumph of Christianity, by Bart D. Ehrman, PhD, M.Div. This video lecture-based study is a multi-faceted look at Christianity's past and its influence in the present as it continues to thrive in the world today. This group meets in "hybrid format." Please contact Sylvia Campbell for a Zoom link, if desired.

Wed. Evening Men's Study Group

Crust Pizza

<u>Twice each month on Wednesday – please email djones@wcpc-tx.org</u> to be added to email sending list 6:30 pm

led by Rev. Dr. David Jones

The focus of the study is the text for the upcoming Sunday sermon. Please contact David Jones for more information.

THURSDAYS

Circle of Blessings-Women's Circle

HEB 303 & Zoom

Third Thursdays (Sept.-May),7:00 pm

contact Debra Martinez

This group is also using the Horizons Bible Study Celebrating Sabbath by Carol M. Bechtel. This group meets in "hybrid" by request. Please contact Debra Martinez for more information.

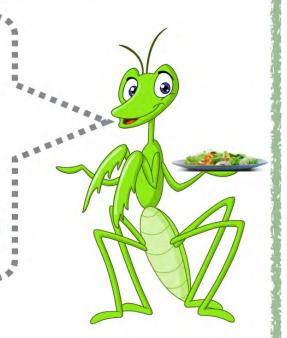








Did you know that over 1/3 of the food produced in the US is never eaten? It is true, and food waste is the single most common material landfilled and incinerated in the country. Wow! That means reducing food waste will not only promote resource and energy conservation but also address the biggie - climate change! I'm going to keep that in mind when I plan meals, purchase food, and when I have leftovers.





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

A Thought for Food

Most of us at WCPC don't have to worry about food insecurity – we have plenty of food available to us. In fact, we often have too much food, and that food ends up in the garbage when it spoils or is otherwise not consumed. Sadly, in the U.S. half of fruits and vegetables are thrown away by grocery stores due to appearance – the food was simply too ugly to eat. When food is on sale, we often purchase more than we need because we are getting a great bargain, only to throw it away because it spoiled before we could consume it. Furthermore, studies have shown that consumers are often confused by the terms "use by and "best before" that are stamped on packaging. Foods with "use by" dates are perishable and must be eaten before the given date. Foods with "best before" dates can be eaten after the given date, but they won't be of the best quality. Between the agricultural practices used to produce food and the methane that is released to the atmosphere from food decomposition, discarded food results in billions of gallons of wasted water and greenhouse emissions that contribute to climate change. There are many great ideas to reduce food waste, such as creating meal plans, properly storing leftovers, and finding creative ways for using leftovers – like making a delicious homemade soup!

It's Time to Order Ferns and Hydrangeas



In the courtyard, during the month of March, The Sanctuary Guild will be taking orders for Boston ferns and white hydrangeas for enhancing the beauty of the Sanctuary and expressing our joy and celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. All donors of ferns and flowers will be acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin, as well as to whom the donation is dedicated. Ferns - \$20. Hydrangeas - \$15. Contact: Nancy Kiefer 832-515-0711, or email nlklou@comcast.net.



ELP is busily planning for the 2023-24 school year. We are looking to add 1 teacher and 1 substitute to our staff. If you know someone with energy, love for children who would like to work 2-4 days/week in the sweetest preschool in

The Woodlands. Please contact the Director, Corky Janisch, at cjanisch@wcpc-tx.org. Previous experience with children required. Teaching degrees and credentials are not required.



PRAYER QUILTS

The Prayer Quilters are getting organized again which means there will be more prayer quilts to select from the quilt album in the church office. We will meet at 1 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month. All needle workers are welcome. Please consider joining us for creative fellowship in our mission for giving comfort and assurance of God's love. Contact: Nancy Kiefer 832-515-0711

Sanctuary Guild meetings are on the first Monday of each month at 1:00 pm. Please join us, questions? Contact Sarah Schlacks at sarahschlacks@aol.com.

CALLING ALL KITCHEN ANGELS

It's time for the first semi annual 2023 "Kitchen Angels Brigade" to deep clean and organize the WCPC community kitchen and pantry!! Saturday morning 9:30 - Noon, March 4th and/or March 11th. I'll be there BOTH Saturdays! Contact/Text: Tammy Rand (281)615-4900. With name, phone number & preferred date. God Bless Kitchen Angels!





The WCPC Finance Committee is seeking individuals who would be willing to spend 30 minutes after the 11:00 AM worship service to assist with counting the weekly offering. No special skills are required, and instructions/training will be provided. You would be asked to serve 1 or 2 Sundays every quarter. Please contact Louise Crider at 832-257-1700 or email her at lcrider houston1@comcast.net

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund was established to provide financial assistance to those in need who make requests to the pastors of WCPC. Primarily it is used to assist non-members, but on occasion funds are used to assist members with short-term needs. Individuals and families in the past have been helped with rent, utilities, car repair, and prescriptions. A person requesting aid meets with one of our pastors. Their needs are assessed and typically referrals are provided. As an example, if someone lives in the area supported by Interfaith of The Woodlands they are encouraged to contact Interfaith. Your pastors have the discretion to assist those requesting financial help if they believe the need is legitimate and other avenues of help have been explored and are either not available or have been exhausted. If you would like to make a contribution to this fund you are invited to prayerfully consider doing so. Please make certain that your check to WCPC notes that it is for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact either of our pastors.



Register by April 14th

Fee - \$18
First-Time Attendee - \$15
Walk-In Registration - \$20
Breakfast and Lunch included

Speakers include: Jean Zophy and Phyllis Koenig, Webster Presbyterian Earth Care Team
Debra Caldwell, Master Gardner

The Spa Girls

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Retzloff, Houston

Silent Auction and

Benefit Drawing--Tickets 3 for \$10 or \$5 each

Mission Opportunity: Mission of Yahweh, a faith-based shelter for homeless women and children Please consider bringing personal care items to be donated to Mission of Yahweh.





PRESBYTERY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

SPRING GATHERING

Pines Presbyterian Church 12751 Kimberley Lane Saturday, April 22, 2023

9:30 am-10:00 am Registration, continental breakfast; sale of benefit drawing tickets, Book Sale

10:00 am-10:35 am Welcome and Presbytery PW Business Meeting

10:40 am-11:30 am Speakers—Jean Zophy and Phyllis Koenig, Webster Earth Care Team

11:30 an-11:40 am Break

11:40 am12:30 pm Speaker—Debra Caldwell, Master Gardner Lunch/Spa Girls/sale of benefit drawing tickets

1:40 pm-1:45 pm Benefit drawings

1:50 pm -2:30 pm Worship Service led by Barbara Retzloff, Communion and Installation of Officers

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

Mary Ann Thomas, Co-Moderator ma.thomas48@yahoo.com 713-594-1872

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO

Cynthia Rogan, Treasurer 2410 Colby Bend Drive Katy, TX 77450 cynthia.rogan@gmail.com 281-630-1136

Please send the form below and your check to Cynthia Rogan at the above address

Registration Fee: \$18

First-Time Attendee Registration Fee: - \$15
Late and Walk-in Registration Fee \$20.00

Make your check payable to: PW—Presbytery of New Covenant

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 14, 2023

×××× Please PRINT; the	n detach registration form &	mail with your check	×××××	
Name:				
Address				
City		Zip		
Telephone	Email			
Church Name City				
Will you attend breakfast? Will you attend lunch?				
Special dietary needs?	4			
Do you need childcare?	Ages of child(rem)		

^{*}Registration deadline for childcare is April 12. Please provide snacks, lunch, and drinks for child(ren).

MISSION OUTREACH TEAM

Because God's love knows no bounds, the Mission Outreach Team (MOT) 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 and does not have to look very far to find people who are in need of love and care especially during these uncertain times. Now more than ever, it is important to share God's love, grace and mercy with neighbors, whether across the street, across town, across the country, or across the ocean.

That is because God's love knows no boundaries.

The Mission Outreach Team (MOT) will meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm via ZOOM. All are welcome! For more information, please contact Gary Chapman, Committee Chairperson at gary.chapman5206@gmail.com.

The next meeting on Tuesday, March 7th Mark Adams of Frontera De Cristo will join us we will discuss and plan his upcoming visit to WCPC May 12-14, 2023.



Frontera de Cristo is a Presbyterian border ministry located in the sister cities of Agua Prieta, Sonora, and Douglas, Arizona, they work to extend welcome and support to migrants and the surrounding communities.

Frontera de Cristo engages in a broad range of ministries that include partnering with a drug and alcohol rehab center, a women's co-operative, and a fair-trade coffee co-operative (Café Justo); providing health services and a children's enrichment ministry; hosting binational internships and mission delegations; and building relationships with law enforcement, elected officials, business persons, other faith organizations, academics, and human rights groups to work toward a healthier border for all. They also partner in ministry with Lirio de los Valles (Lily of the Valley) Presbyterian Church in Agua Prieta. Together with Café Justo and the drug rehabilitation center called CATPSIC, Frontera de Cristo helped to sponsor and build Café Justo y Mas, a neighborhood coffee shop that offers a safe haven from the drug culture.

To view past presentations by speakers and Mission Outreach partners visit the WCPC website. Click the drop-down menu under Mission Outreach and select Mission Outreach Team Meeting Guest Speakers.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Restoring Hope, Feeding the Hungry, Empowering the Oppressed

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Your gifts to this offering provide core funding for the work of PDA, enabling immediate response to national and international disasters and strengthening ongoing work such as training and development, refugee ministry, and response to disasters that do not receive media attention.

Kintsugi, the 15th-century Japanese art of repairing broken pottery by mending the broken areas with lacquer dusted or mixed with powdered gold or other precious metal, reminds us that when repaired, formerly broken places reveal new lines of character and beauty.

But what of God's world? The world God entrusted to our care? So many parts are broken, damaged by cruelty to each other, misuse of Creation or refusal to take God's commands seriously.

In Isaiah 58, the prophet reminds us, "You shall be called repairers of the breach." Repairers. And as we question the breaches that may have resulted from our own actions, we ponder how to repair them, creating something unique, beautiful and resilient. Which ones get attention first? How can we repair a breach that may have existed for decades or one that has only recently emerged? Where can we work for repair to reveal beautiful new veins of gold?

Please give generously to this special offering.

Donations will be accepted through April.

Please mark donations OGHS.

LAUNDRIT

CHIMETS and

WCPC COLLECTION BE A BLESSING TO SOMEONE TODAY

Mission Outreach Team is always looking for ways to support our mission partners in their most pressing needs. We invite members to consider giving to the WCPC Pantry.

Donations can be brought at any time and left either in the Sanctuary pantry (the white armoire in the Narthex) or near the coffee bar in the Fellowship Hall in the marked bins.



COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE CENTER Serving Montgomery County



Now collecting laundry DETERGENT (liquid or powder) to help our partners, Community Assistance Center, serve seniors in Montgomery County. CAC delivers groceries and needed staples to homebound seniors.



Please consider donating TOWELS and SHEETS to be used by the Montgomery County Women's Center. The sheets may be gently used or new- sized twin or queen. Towels should be bath towel and washcloth sets.



THE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIANS SHOW UP TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS RAIN OR SHINE!



On Saturday, January 28th WCPC volunteers gathered together for service projects throughout the area. The weather was gloomy, but that didn't stop our teams from sharing God's love and blessings upon our neighbors! Here is what was accomplished:

100 Valentines were decorated and giftbags assembled for DeGeorge Veterans,

192 Breakfast bags for Meals on Wheels Seniors- packed and delivered to their doors, 50 Kids' Meals packed,

Donation Drop off - we packed the truck with gently used clothing and housewares for the Community Assistance Center, 100 hot meals prepared and served to neighbors in need of a hot breakfast,

Toiletry caddies were packed and delivered to Family Promise,

8 Volunteers packed medical supplies to send overseas,

Special thanks to our team leaders and volunteers (85+!) as well as all those who donated supplies towards the efforts.

TWEENS AND YOUTH WORK TOGETHER TO TACKLE CHILD HUNGER

On Super Bowl Sunday the Tweens and Youth worked together to collect donations as part of a nationwide campaign to bring awareness to hunger. In one day the kids collected \$1,432 for Kids' Meals Montgomery County. The funds will be to purchase milk and juice for much needed meals for local children facing poverty.



OF THE YEAR AWARD



Each year the Community Assistance
Center recognizes a Faith Partner that
has been instrumental to their success.
Congratulations to all who have supported
this mission. A special thank you to Shelley
Smith for her leadership as the CAC
mission advocate for making it happen.
Shelley has been working hard to identify
the most pressing needs and work on
ways to fill them.

This year's award will be presented at the Legacy Luncheon on May 12th at the Margaritaville Resort in Conroe. If you would like to purchase a seat (\$125) or a table for ten (\$1200) please contact Shelley Smith ssmith6690@comcast.net

THE GATHERING PLACE

Upcoming Gatherings March 13th St. Patrick's Day April 10th **Spring Fling** aring Place of The Woodlands at WCPC is a ministry for those who are with memory loss and the people who love and care for them at home. thering Place seeks to help both the care partner and the caregiver. If someone you know are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's, stroke, Inson's, or other dementia, you know that caregivers often find it difficult things such as run errands, visit friends, or just have free time alone. The thering 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 10:30 am 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 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 CarePartners or our care team helps determine if we can meet the family's nee 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 welcom the opportunity to speak with you. To volunteer to to attend please contact WCPC advocate, Tricia MacDonald patriciamacdonald1210@gmail.com



Hear and Be Heard

All Ears! Pre-School Teachers

Our exceptional program is growing! We need nurturing and talented pre-school teachers who are eager to help us expand. No more than 6:1 student teacher ratios, flexible working hours, competitive salary and benefits. Master's degree preferred, undergraduate degree and minimum two years of experience required. If you are interested in joining our dynamic and one-of-akind program, please contact Rosie Hirschfeld, Education Coordinator, at

rosie.hirschfeld@allearscenter.org.

All Ears! Accounting Associate

All Ears! is hiring a part time accounting associate to work in clinic office 20 hours per week. Accounting degree preferred and minimum of two years of experience required. If you would like more information about how to join our growing team, please contact All Ears! Accounting Manager, Tracy Piontek at tracy.piontek@allearscenter.org.



PERU- MISSION PARTNERS IMPACTED BY ANTI-GOVERNMENT PROTESTS

The situation in the country is becoming increasingly difficult. More than 60 people have died in riots. This political and social crisis has affected the work of many people who have lost their jobs or have had to close their small businesses. Protestors have taken control of various points on the highways and won't let trucks transporting food pass through. The has led to raising costs of all foods.

2023 Peru Mission Trip – First Presbyterian Church Kingwood is working on a tentative plan for a mission trip to the Lima area this summer, departing Houston July 21st and returning on July 29th. Early planning includes a medical mission and Vacation Bible School, at a suitable location in the outskirts of Lima. The mission trip is contingent on the end of the current political crisis.



Sicuani Bible Seminary – The construction, closure and graduation plans were either postponed or suspended due to the political crisis. Construction on the men's dormitory resumed the end of December with some help from the local churches.



WCPC scholarship recipients Jaime Lara, Jacob Acharyaj, and Flavio Quips graduated in December. The vacation program is currently underway with 40 students. The Bachelor of Theology residential program for 2023 will begin on February 27th. Construction of the men's dormitory will continue through the year as resources are available



7000 MEALS TO BE PREPARED IN 2023

Each year WCPC prepares more than 7000 breakfast and lunch bags to be delivered around Montgomery County. These meals are much needed lifelines to preschool age children and seniors who otherwise have no access to get food for themselves. Two times per month a small team of volunteers gather to assemble measl out of the donations received for Kids' Meals, Compassion United and Meals on Wheels. The second Tuesday of the month the team meets at the Kids' Meals Montgomery County Warehouse. The team prepares lunches – sandwiches, assembles snacks and gets the food bagged and ready for delivery.

The fourth Monday of the month the team meets at WCPC kitchen to assemble meals for Compassion United's Breakfast in the Park and Meals on Wheels.

Can you help out? You can help as an individual or as a team at the Kids' Meals MC Warehouse! It takes hundreds of volunteers each week to prepare and pack thousands of meals. Kids ages 8 and above are welcome to volunteer! All children under 18 must be supervised by an adult at all times. If you would like to help out contact Ingrid Fowler or Sonya Dias.



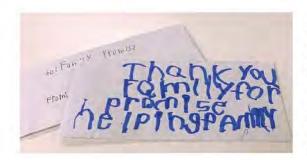
Currently we are in need of jars of JELLY (any size or variety) to make PB& J Sandwiches for Kids' Meals. We continue to collect items needed for breakfast and lunch bags including individual containers / packages of any brand of: Juice or Milk (Shelf Stable ONLY), Peanut Butter Crackers, Boxes of Raisins, Packets of Instant Oatmeal, Nutrigrain/Cereal Bars and ENSURE (Vanilla, Strawberry or Chocolate). Donations can be left in the Sanctuary Pantry (white armoire) or in the marked bins in the Fellowship Hall.

VOLUNTEERS BRING SUPPORT TO FAMILY PROMISE CENTER

WCPC has had a very successful Family Promise week of volunteering and fellowship with the four families (four moms and 9 kids all under 8 years old) that are currently in the program. About 30 members have stepped up to prepare and serve evening meals or to stay overnight at the Family Promise Guest Center in Conroe. Stories of their interactions with the families abound. In addition, a project during LYND resulted in a number of shower cadies being filled with much needed toiletries for the Family Promise guests.

Two families will be completing the program soon and will be graduating with jobs, an apartment, transportation, and renewed hope for the future. A signup Wish List for incidentals will be published as the families graduates. Michel'le will be the first. She is a single Mom of 3 children ages 2–7 years old. Her wish list can be found on Amazon by clicking here. But remember as one family graduates there is always a waiting list for families needing assistance. Keep all the families in your prayers!





"Families are the backbone of this country. They're actually the backbone of mankind. If families are torn apart or not supported so they can stay intact, that has a direct impact on our economy and our communities. Family Promise of Montgomery County, Texas keeps families together while they transition from homelessness to long term stability. That takes determination and courage to step into a brighter future. With workforce development for a job to sustain a family, budget counseling, good tenancy, trauma counseling, and building belief are some of the components to long term success. It takes all of us working together. YOU are helping us create generational change to break the poverty cycle."

NEW YEAR'S FUN AT THE GATHERING PLACE

January's meeting included a festive New Year's celebration. The parachute was used during exercise, for crafts they made sparkler bottles (oil and water with glitter added in) and they worked puzzles. At the end there was a countdown to the New Year!



PRAYER FOR OUR SIBLINGS AND PARTNERS AFFECTED BY THE EARTHQUAKE IN SYRIA AND TURKEY

God of mercy, we join in prayer for our siblings in Syria and Turkey, and all other regions affected. In the face of the terrible images that come to us, we ask that your Spirit, O God, once again move in the midst of chaos and destruction. May your Spirit be with the first responders, neighbors putting their lives at risk to help those around them, and anyone assisting during this time of emergency. May you provide protection, energy and strength through your presence. Be with them as they search for loved ones, guide them during the long hours and allow them to find hope through your Spirit. Dear God, as the days go by, provide wisdom and discernment to the local government agencies. May they be instruments of your grace as they care for the people affected. That they may receive help and support from countries near and far, and that, as they provide assistance, may there be enough for everyone.

As the stories are shared, and the recovery process begins, may your Spirit be with those who will be called to listen and

to be agents of peace and hope.

Dear God, be with those
who weep,
who are angry,
who have lost hope,
who mourn out loud and in silence,
who don't know what the future will bring.
May the prayers of your children rise to you.
May they feel your presence and comfort in the embrace of a stranger,
your love in the care of their neighbors and loved ones,
your grace in every word and every silence,
and may your Spirit mourn with them and bring healing.

We pray that you may guide us as we look for ways to share your compassion and hope with those who suffer.

That we may be ambassadors of your peace, your mercy, and your abundant love.

Through Jesus, who weeps with those who weep and heals every heart, amen.

-Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and World Mission rely on long-term partnerships to quickly provide aid when disaster strikes around the world. (Photo courtesy of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance) Pray without ceasing.

1st Thessalonians 5:17 encourages us to
pray continually. Following a disaster, our
best response is first to seek God's presence
on behalf of those in need.

The Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, PDA's Director, said, "As we continue to receive information from our partners about the needs and best ways for us to respond, we are inviting churches and everyone interested in helping to donate.... Through your generosity, we are able to attend to the immediate needs (that have) been identified by our partners and (believe there will be) long-term projects that will develop during the recovery stages."

To give to the is effort you may give to WCPC and detail "Disaster Relief" in the memo line of your donation.







Adult Fellowship Luncheon

Wednesday, March 29 and Wednesday, April 26

> at 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall

If you have a favorite dessert that you would like to request or to bring please email sbarclay@wcpc-tx.org to sign up.

WCPC Transportation Ministry



You don't drive at night? Car is in the shop? No transportation? The Transportation Ministry is here to help.

We are taking requests for WCPC adult church members needing a ride to and from church services and other special church events. We can only drive minor children if they are accompanied by their parent/guardian. The drivers are volunteer WCPC members. For your safety, the drivers have had a motor vehicle report and a background check.

We would like to thank the members who have already volunteered for this ministry! We are still in need of additional church volunteer drivers to make this important ministry a success. Please consider volunteering on the wcpc-tx.org website under SignUp Genius. To find Transportation Ministry sign up, chose the Groups drop down and you will find our sign up under On-going Opportunities, then click Transportation Ministry. There is no charge for the background check/motor vehicle report. Of course, you are always free to decline driving when the request does not fit your schedule.

Please feel free to contact Sue Davis at msdavis5@hotmail.com or 713-992-5655 or Larry Copeland at lcopeland1@gmail.com for any driving requests, to volunteer, or any other questions.



ELP is registering students for the 2023-24 school year! There are a few spaces available in our 3 year old and toddler classes. Call the ELP office at 281-298-2464 for more information. We look forward to welcoming our new families to ELP and WCPC!

Regular tours are on Tuesday and Fridays at 9:30am. Tours are not just for prospective students, but we welcome anyone who wishes to know what a developmentally appropriate, playful learning, Christian preschool is. March begins out transportation units. We will culminate the theme with one of our favorite days of the year - Road Rally! Our little ones love to bring their bikes up to school and ride the loop through the parking lot and "car wash" with their friends.

For Easter, our children will make their own "Resurrection Eggs" at Chapel. They carefully fill each egg with special items to help them tell and retell the Easter story. Egg 1 has flowers to represent creation. Egg 2 is filled dirt to represent sin in the world. Egg 3 will contain a cross. Egg 4 holds a small rock to represent the rock closing the tomb. Egg 5 is empty because Jesus wasn't there! He is risen! The last egg, number 6, has a photo of the child to remind them that Jesus did all this for us. They are so precious as they tell the story to each other and their families.

We continue our celebration of new life with our annual Spring Fling! We will invite the families to join us for games and activities. The highlight is always observing the insects and planting a garden! We get to enter the tent full of live ladybugs, watch the ants create their tunnels, and release some newly emerged butterflies. It is so important for a young child to learn about nature and our very important role in caring for the wonderful world God has created for us!









Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pickup & Drop off for Sunday school in rooms 100, 106, 204, 205 youth & children's build- ing	Childcare for Sunday school (for under 3 yo) & 8:30 am worship rm 100 Children's Building	Childcare for 11:00 am wor- ship in Hen- dricks nurse- ries	1	ELP Staff Mtg 1:15-2:30 pm	3	4
Sunday school 9:45-10:50 Children's Sabbath Worship 8:30 & 11:00	6 Drop & Go childcare 9:00-11:30 am Hendricks nurseries rsvp to Susan 11:30 CM MTG rm 200	7	8	9	10	Tonight we move the clocks ah one hour and spring forward After the winter we've had I'm all for anything with the word "spring" in it!
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sunday school 9:45-10:50 Worship 8:30 &11:00 am		ELP, CISD	Spring Brea	ak Week	St. Patruck's	
19	20 ELP,	21	22	23	24	25
Sunday school 9:45-10:50	CISD Spring Break		ELP Staff Mtg 1:15-2:30 pm			
Worship 8:30 &11 am	SIRST DAY OF MARCH 20					
26 Sunday school 9:45-10:50 Worship 8:30 &11:00 am VBS Registration starts online	Drop & Go ELP Moms Mtg 9:00-11:30 am Hendricks nurseries rsvp to Susan	28	29	30	Parent Night Out 5:30-8:00 pm Hendricks nurseries rsvp required to Susan	



Palm Sunday Procession

Sunday April 2nd

The **children**, **youth** and adults are invited to join us Palm Sunday at either Service 8:30 or 11 am for a Palm Processional. Parents with children younger than three are encouraged to process into the Sanctuary together. We will line up **VERY QUIETLY** outside in the courtyard in back of the Sanctuary to hand out palms about 5 minutes before the service times. After the Processional please meet your younger children in the Narthex area to retrieve them for Worship.

Children may take a palm home after the service!



Important Summer Dates & Camp Dates for 2022!

March 26th Deadline for all ages Camp Scholarship Paperwork if fundraising is successful

Cho Yeh Summer Dates:

for 1-6th grade:

Core 2

June 4-10

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 sign up their children those weeks for camp.

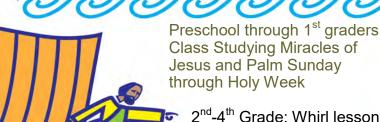
(Cho-Yeh also grants a sibling discount when they attend the same week)

Friends in Faith

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







 2nd-4th Grade: Whirl lessons on texts used in worship

Godly Play: Journey to Jerusalem Stories

OOOOO

VBS Monumental Celebrating God's Greatness June 19-22 Registration starts March 26th online on www.wcpc-tx.org



Tweens March and April

Tweens Sunday school meeting in room 206 will be studying New Testament Unit 8 on Jesus as Savior and Unit 9 The Apostles. Tweens Fellowship Mar 26th going to Shankz & lunch. April 30th will be the End of the Year Pool Party details will be announced by email.

Contact Susan to get on the list for reminders.

April 9th is Easter Sunday

The Children's Sunday school classes will be outdoors for crafts, games and a story at 9:45-10:50 am. The classes will hear an Easter Godly Play story, The Empty Tomb in room 101 at 10:15 am.

Then (if the caterpillars cooperate!) we will have a **<u>Butterfly</u> <u>Release</u>** in the courtyard outside the Fellowship Hall at 10:35.

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

Т





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pick up and Drop off for Sunday school in rooms 100, 106 & 205 youth & chil- dren's building	Childcare for Sunday school (for under 3 yo) & 8:30 am worship rm 100 Children's Building	Childcare for 11:00 am worship in Hendricks nurseries				1
2 Palm Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11 am Sunday School 9:45	3 Drop & Go childcare 9-11:30 HEB 307 & 308 RSVP to Susan	4 Charter of WCPC 42nd Anniversary	5	6 Maundy Thursday service 7 pm	7 Good Friday 12pm Service	8
9 Easter Worship 8:30 & 11 am Sunday School 9:45 Happy EASTER	10 Church office closed for Easter holiday No Drop & Go	11	12	13	14	15
16 Worship 8:30 & 11 am Sunday School Easter Festival 9:45	Drop & Go childcare 9- 11:30 HEB 307 & 308 RSVP to	18	19	20	PNO 5:30- 8:00 pm RSVP required to Susan	22
23 Worship 8:30 & 11 am Sunday School 9:45 30 Worship 8:30 & 11 am Sunday School 9:45	24 Drop & Go childcare 9-11:30 HEB 307 & 308 RSVP to Susan	25	26	27 ELP Staff Mtg 1:15-2:30 pm	28	29



2023 CONCLAVES REGISTRATION FORM



March 17-19, 2023

6pm Friday - 1pm Sunday

Youth 7th -12th Grade

Registration Fee: \$100 per person

<u>Cost</u>: The registration fee is \$100 per person and includes: Lodging; Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner on Saturday; Breakfast on Sunday. Scholarships are available.

Send Registration Form and payment to WCPC Office ATTN: Youth/Conclaves (deposit check made payable to WCPC for \$50 per person) Attn: CONCLAVES Once this registration form is received the Cho Yeh health and release forms will be emailed with a confirmation of receipt of payment and registration.

Email sbarclay@wcpc-tx.org with questions.

Student Name:					
Address:					
Contact Person/					
Guardian					
Contact Work/Ho	ome Pho	one:			Contact Cell Phone
Contact Email:	_				
T-shirt Size S	М	L	XL	XXL	
Dietary Restrict	ions:				
Gluten Free		Dai	ry Free	-	Vegetarian



Youth Group Updates and Information



March / April **Schedule**

9:45 am Sunday School Sun, Mar 5

6-7:30pm-9 Square Competition

Sun Mar 12 9:45 am Sunday School

(Spring Break) **No Evening Youth Group**

Fri Mar 17 **5pm Conclaves Weekend Begins**

Sun Mar 19 9:45 am Sunday School

No Evening Youth Group

Sat Mar 26 9:45 am Sunday School

6-7:30pm-Pickle Ball Tourney

Sun Apr 2 9:45 am Sunday School,

6-7:30pm Youth Group

Sun Apr 9 9:45 am Sunday School

HAPPY EASTER

Sun Apr 16 9:45 am Sunday School,

6-7:30pm Youth Group

Sun Apr 23 9:45 am Sunday School,

6-7:30pm Youth Group

Please sign up to receive emails and remind notices, changes, and up to date information.

Youth Celebration

June 25-30, 2023—\$350 Sr high- completed 9-12 grade

A conference for high school age students to explore their faith, make friends, and do some fun recreational activities!

Youth Celebration is a conference for high school students that have completed 9th-12th grade that is a week filled with exploration of faith, worship, new friends and recreation. This conference begins on Sunday evening with the "big hello" and closes with the "big goodbye" on Friday morning. Conference activities include energizers, keynote presentations, worship and music, small groups, afternoon recreation and evening vespers.

Jr. High Jubilee July 9-13, 2023—\$350

Jr High- completed 7-8 grade

A week-long conference where students can come out and worship, make friends, and spend time doing fun recreational activities!

During Jr. High Jubilee, youth who have completed 7th through 8th grade come together to be inspired to grow in their faith by learning and living the words and deeds of our Lord Jesus Christ. Hundreds of youth participants will gather together in the Hill Country for an unforgettable Mo-Ranch experience that's filled with new friends, spiritual enrichment, worship, study and recreation. Activities and recreation will include everything from taking a challenge on the Mo ropes course, dancing, games, energizers, vespers and popsicle parties, to aquathons, sports, evening movies, swimming in the beautiful Guadalupe, singing God's praises and more!

Mo Ranch- Forms will be available in March

Youth Group Bible Study Got Game? (the competition)

Sunday Evenings Fellowship Hall/Youth Room 6-7:30pm Dinner, Bible Study, Fellowship

Jr and Sr High

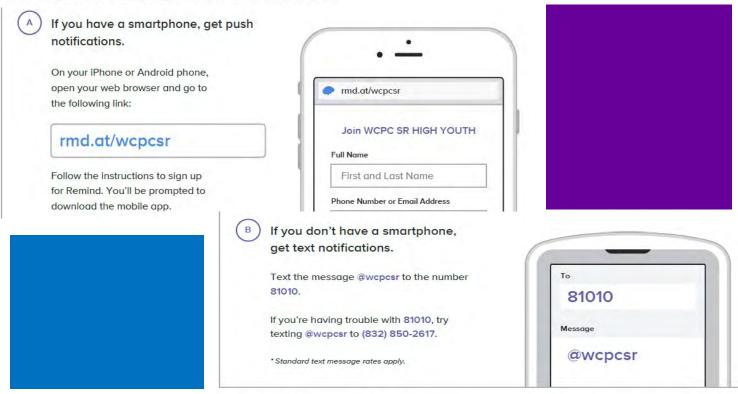
(9:45-10:35am) in the youth room

The Sunday School class for 7th-12th graders is held in the Youth Room. Leaders this year are Rebekah Rydarowski and Nancy Hathaway. Classes will continue through the summer. Please join us!

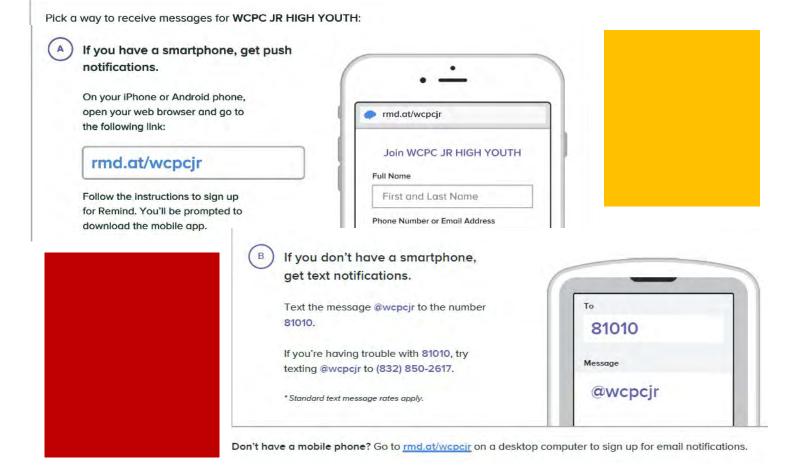


Sign up for important updates from Youth Group. Questions? Email sbarclay@wcpc-tx.org for assistance.

Pick a way to receive messages for WCPC SR HIGH YOUTH:



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/wcpcsr on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.







WCPC Columbarium Purchasing Packets Available

Columbarium Niche Sales Progressing!

- Obtain a Columbarium Purchasing Packet (and an updated Niche Locator Map)
 - a. either in-person in the Columbarium box in WCPC's Workroom
 - b. or online through WCPC's website www.wcpc-tx.org/columbarium/
- Read the packet.
- Find and follow the instructions for purchasing a niche
 - a. either in the packet you pick up at church
 - b. or on WCPC's website.
- Consider making a donation to the Columbarium Fund if you're not purchasing a niche.
- Look for completion of WCPC's Columbarium MAYBE near April 1, 2023.