



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

May June 2023

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

Hello Summer

Summer Sunday Schedule

8:30 and 11:00am Worship

9:45am-10:45 am Sunday School*

*Adult Sunday School and Combined Children's

Worship services available online
and in person. Additional
information inside



Follow Us....Click, Like, Share



A SMILE AND A GREETING

Needed



We are looking for
someones who
want to smile a lot!

CONTACT MARY JO CHAPMAN :

maryjo.chapman5206@gmail.com or 713-303-4443

Evangelism Team is looking for individuals to share a smile and a greeting as a Sanctuary Door Greeter or Guest Table Greeter. What a great way to see old friends, make new friends and welcome our visitors. Please join us in this important life of the church. You can volunteer on Sign-up Genius by looking for Sunday Opportunities and go to tab Greeter and Welcome Table or contact Mary Jo Chapman at maryjo.chapman5206@gmail.com or 713-303-4443.

Dear WCPC family,

We are still in the Easter season. In fact I'm pretty confident it's not just a season. It's the reality of our lives as we follow the resurrected one each and every day.

Of course it's not always easy to be Easter people. The world in which we live, well, continues as always to need our prayers. Prayers for peace. Prayers for those who suffer unjustly. Prayers for those who are marginalized. Prayers....

And prayers for ourselves and those we love. Over the last few years the congregation of WCPC has grieved often. Many still grieve. So many things that aren't the same and never will be. Some of our members are struggling with health issues. Others struggle with finances or self image, or.... I wonder what you are struggling with right now?

Yet we are Easter people. In just a few weeks we will celebrate the day of Pentecost. That day in the life of that first community of disciples, who were struggling to make sense of what it meant that the tomb was empty, that Jesus was alive. They didn't know what to do but stay together and pray. Support one another and wait.

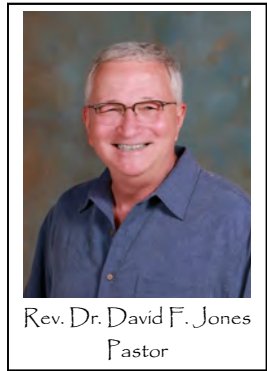
Then the Holy Spirit came into their lives in a fresh and new way. And, well their struggles didn't end. Luke in his account in Acts of those first disciples makes that pretty clear. But they faced those struggles together, with prayer and confidence that the resurrected One was with them. They didn't struggle alone.

That same Holy Spirit is still at work in your life and mine. Is still at work in the world. Jesus tells Nicodemus "...the wind blows whether it pleases." (John 3:8)

I believe the Sprit is pleased to be present in our journey, individually and as a family of faith. Pleased to strengthen use when the journey is more difficult. Pleases to give us courage to hope and also to act justly and work for justice. Pleased to use us to come alongside of others and share with them the journey.

The tomb remains empty. Always will. We are Easter people. Thanks be to God!

Your pastor,



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.



Rev. Laura Grice

Dear Ones,

As I sit to write this letter, we have just marked Earth Day, first with a fabulous Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering at Pines Presbyterian, which had an Earth Care theme, and then with our spring Creation Care Sunday here at WCPC. I think about the delight my 6.5 year-old niece had as we released her Easter butterflies (which Aunt Laura sent a little late this year) and as she described the hatching of the chicks her class at school had been incubating. I want her (and any children or grandchildren she may have someday) to be able to continue to delight in such simple things as butterflies and chicks. But I also want her to be able to delight in some of the glories of nature that have taken my breath away through the years. I want her to be in awe of the power of a late afternoon thunderstorm in August. I want her to be able to rest in the beauty of sunrise over the high desert of New Mexico. Someday, I hope she'll splash in the waters of Carper's Creek or the Blanco River which both run through the camp her mom and I went to and worked at in our youth. Someday, I hope she'll be able to gaze at the stars while laying on a bench at the Chapel on the Hill at Mo Ranch. Someday, I hope she'll be able to do something I haven't been able to do...yet and hear a wolf call or see a buffalo graze at Yellowstone. And so, I take seriously our call to tend and protect God's creation that has been entrusted into our care.

I can't tell you how long I have recycled. I don't remember when I started, but I must have been in elementary school. After getting a library card, one of the first things I've done when relocating to a new town is to find the recycling center. (I have the built-in advantage of relocating because of the church.) I drive a fuel-efficient car. I avoid single-use plastics as much as I can, although I sometimes still get confused looks when I use my reusable produce bags- go figure. But during those early months of COVID in 2020, I was appalled at how much food waste I generated. I couldn't imagine it away or ignore it by tossing it out at restaurants or at the church. Everything went into my trash at home. So after some research and some inspiration from my parents, I subscribed to a composting service in the fall of 2020. It's not the same one we're now using at WCPC, but I may switch. It took some getting used to, but I continue to be surprised at how much my household waste output has decreased. I'm more mindful about what and how much food I buy. I'm more careful about using my leftovers. And now my strawberry stems and chicken bones, my coffee grounds and that last piece of cheese that inexplicably molds regardless of my rate of cheese consumption all go into the compost bin I keep on my kitchen counter. When it's full (and at least once a week) I transfer the contents to my "big" bucket in the garage.

Since I started composting, I find that I'm not only more mindful about my food and food waste, I'm also more grateful. I pray while I'm peeling my oranges. I thank God as I trim the celery- or even use those beautiful leaves for added flavor in my soup. I give thanks for the bounty which covers my table and fills my stomach each day. I pray for those who do not have enough to eat. BUT I also pray that God would grant us ALL the wisdom and the willingness to cherish the gift of this planet and care for it so that future generations can delight in all God has and continues to make. And now, when I tip my eggshells into my counter-top bin, I'll give thanks that my WCPC community can do the same.

Grace and Peace,

Laura

stephen MINISTRY®

When Easter Joy Feels Far Away

If you are smiling on the outside but full of pain on the inside, and the joy of Easter seems far away, help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, and pray with and for you. Stephen Ministers have been specially trained to meet your emotional and spiritual needs. If you or some-

one you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Pastors or Stephen Leaders. **Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!**

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

<u>Pastor:</u> Rev. Dr. David F. Jones	<u>Music Ministries:</u> Jonathan Aigner, Director of Music Sherry Hunter, Director, Bell Choirs	<u>Early Learning Program:</u> Constance Janisch, Director Chantal Porter, Administration	<u>Our Missionaries</u> Paula Cooper, Zambia Melissa Johnson, Zambia Jose Luis Clare, Peru Chenoa Stock, Peru Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar
<u>Associate Pastor</u> Rev. Laura R. Grice	<u>Mission Outreach:</u> Sonya Dias, Facilitator	<u>Administration:</u> Milton Thigpen, Financial Administrator Shirley Barclay, Dir. of Com	<u>Our Seminarians</u> Frainess Shawa
<u>Pastor Emeritus:</u> Rev. Dr. Charles Hendricks	<u>Children's Ministries:</u> Susan Duncan, Director		

SESSION MEMBERS

CLASS OF 2023	CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025
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

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 SESSION

Building and Grounds	Mark Seefeldt	mseefeldt66@gmail.com
Christian Enrichment:		
Adults	Brian Spears, Chair	bfspears7800@gmail.com
Children/Tween	Stephanie Keiser	stephaniekeiser1@gmail.com
Creation Care	Cinda Hitchcock	cchtx@att.net
Evangelism Team	Mary Jo Chapman	maryjo.chapman5206@gmail.com
Fellowship Team	Cinda Hitchcock, co-chair	cchtx@att.net
	Stephanie Keiser, co-chair	stephaniekeiser1@gmail.com
Finance Team	Andre DuBruyn	andre.j.dubruyn@gmail.com
Mission Outreach	Gary Chapman, Chair	gary.chapman5206@gmail.com
Personnel Team	Dave Watkins	dwatkinstx@gmail.com
Worship Team	Jim Holly, Chair	jim.holly@mindspring.com
Youth Team	Debi McNaught, Chair	frmcali2tex@sbcglobal.net
	Sami Whitehead	
Moderator	David Jones	djones@wcpc-tx.org
Clerk for the Session	Megan Hansen	megateer@gmail.com

BOARD OF DEACONS TEAM LEADERS

<i>Baby Ministry</i>	Donna Frederick	dbfrederick@earthlink.net
<i>Bereavement Ministry</i>	Tricia McDonald	patriciamacdonald1210@gmail.com
	Maria Paz Pickens	m_maria_paz@hotmail.com
	Linda Allwood	allwood00@aol.com
<i>Card Ministry</i>	Bonnie Graham	blygraham@hotmail.com
	Judy Bramlett	jgbramlett@gmail.com
<i>Cookie Ministry</i>	Nita Purcell	nitapurcell@yahoo.com
	Patty Ahern	pahernrd@sbcglobal.net
<i>Home Outreach Ministry</i>	Rebekah Rydarowski	rebekah.rydarowski@gmail.com
	Sarah Parker	ssnyder888@gmail.com
<i>Hospital Ministry</i>	Eleanor Stone	esstone34@gmail.com
	Deb Mason	wpcdeacondeb@aol.com
<i>Meals Ministry</i>	Peggy Harris	peggyharris44@gmail.com
	Susan Schatz	schatz4882@gmail.com
<i>New Member Ministry</i>	Nancy Hathaway	nancy.hathaway@yahoo.com
	Shelley Smith	ssmith6690@comcast.net
<i>Prayer Ministry</i>	Bruce Lee	balee5068@gmail.com
<i>Transportation Ministry</i>	Larry Copeland	msdavis5@hotmail.com
<i>Moderator</i>	Nancy Hathaway	ncpslindh@yahoo.com
<i>Co Moderator</i>	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.



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 savor God's rich and endless supply of grace in Christ. This class meets in-person.

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".

Sunday Education Opportunities

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

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

HEB 301b

9:30-11:30 am

contact Ann Fleischmann

This group is studying the *Gospel of Luke* through June. All you need is your Bible. New members are always welcome! This group meets in in person. Please contact Ann Fleischmann for more information.

Moms' Group

Youth Room/ CE 200

Fourth Mondays, 9:30-11:30 am

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

Parlor

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

Contact Jane Chesney

This group is concluding 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

HEB 301b & Zoom

7:30-8:30 am

led by Rev. Dr. David Jones

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

Wednesday Study Group

HEB 301b & Zoom

10:00-11:30 am

contact Sylvia Campbell

This group is using The Great Courses study-*Understanding the Old Testament*, by Robert D. Miller II, PhD. This video lecture-based study examines the Old Testament, shedding light on the impact of one of the world's most beloved books. This group meets in "hybrid format." Please contact Sylvia Campbell for a Zoom link, if desired.

Wed. Evening Men's Study Group

Second and Fourth Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

Crust Pizza

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

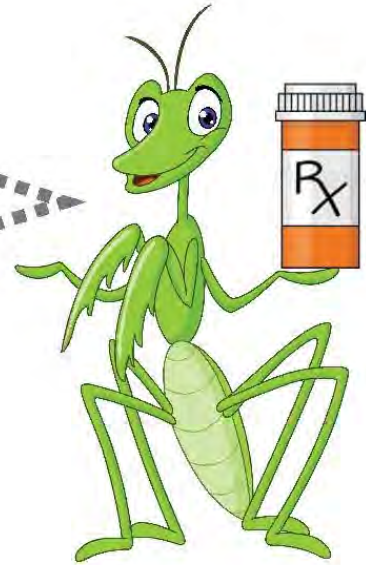
HEB 303 & Zoom

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

contact Debra Martinez

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

What do you do with expired and unused medications? That is a problem, because throwing them in the trash or down the drain can contaminate our environment and water system. I have good news for you! There are numerous drop boxes in our area. Just read the article here to find out how to responsibly dispose of unneeded drugs. Now gather 'em up, and GO!



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



Did you know you can bring your food & compostable waste from Home and drop it in the Collection container here at The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church?

1. FREE UNTIL October 10th
2. Collect your food & compostable waste at home then drop it off at WCPC.
3. After October 10th, Scan the QR Code below. Sign up for Self-Serve Subscription.

www.zerowastehouston.tx.com
832-803-2007

Food Waste & Compostables Accepted

COMPOSTABLES

Old Flowers
Paper Napkins/Towels
Tissues
Pet/Human Hair
Newspaper
Compostable Cups
Compostable Serviceware
Compostable Bags

NO

Metal Glass
Plastic Produce Stickers
Rubberbands Styrofoam

(Not Sure, Just Text 346-814-8373)

FOOD WASTE

ALL FOOD
Raw or Cooked
Fresh or Rotten
Fruits
Vegetables
Egg Shells
Breads/Grains
Pasta
Nuts/Seeds
Coffee Grounds
Filters (natural)
Tea Bags (natural)
Meat, Bones
Shellfish
Dairy



Unwanted Medicine: What to do with it?

Both expired and unwanted prescription drugs bring up questions about safe disposal. We want them out of the house to prevent accidental ingestion, and - well - we just want them out of the house. So what to do?

According to the Texas Poison Center Network, “In the past, Poison Centers have recommended just flushing those old unwanted or expired drugs down the toilet or putting them down the sink. These recommendations were made specifically to prevent accidental ingestion and poisoning of children and pets. Studies over the past several years though have shown this might not be such a good idea. Measurable amounts of some drugs such as antibiotics, hormones, cardiac medications and others are showing up in our nation’s waterways. Water treatment plants are unable to remove these compounds before they reach the environment.”



Fortunately, there are a number of Safe Drug Drop Boxes in our immediate area: The Walgreens at I-45 and Tamina Road, and the CVS at FM 1488 and Kuykendahl. The Drop Boxes are sponsored by:

- The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and
- The National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators, Inc. (NADDI).

Just use the QR codes below to find other locations near you:



DEA Locator



NADDI Locator



Monday Morning Bible Study Fun!

The Monday Morning Bible Study (MMBS), had something very special to celebrate on Monday, February 6th, the 90th birthday of long time church member and dear friend, Pat Huck. Many of you have been on the receiving end of her delightful smiles and loving hugs. We were joined by members of the church staff and we thank Shirley Barclay who made this picture memory possible. Our group meets every Monday morning at 9:30AM in the Hendricks Building. Please consider joining us. We are currently studying the Book of Luke.



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.

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.

COME & JOIN US FOR THE FABULOUS FUN

WCPC ADULT
FELLOWSHIP

BBO

LUNCHEON



Lots of Food, Fellowship and Fun

WEDNESDAY
MAY
31



FELLOWSHIP HALL
11:30AM

LOTS OF FOOD AND FUN
INCLUDING SMOKED
BRISKET, POTATO
SALAD AND
HOMEMADE DESSERTS

**DON'T MISS THE LAST
ADULT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON
UNTIL SEPTEMBER!**

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 is Tuesday, June 6th AT 7PM. Join us!

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.



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

This year's local Pentecost donation (40%) will benefit Love Fosters Hope. This special mission partner of WCPC provides a week of camp to local kids in the foster care system ages 7-19. Your donation will be used by WCPC's Prayers and Squares Ministry to purchase material and make blankets for 120 children and youth attending summer camp with Love Fosters Hope. The kids take this gift home and cherish it along with the many memories of this life changing week.



Uniting Presbyterians in support of young people sharing their faith, ideas and gifts with the Church and the world.



Please give generously to this special offering. Donations will be accepted through June. Please mark donations Pentecost.

MARK ADAMS, MISSION CO-WORKER VISIT MAY 13 & 14



Saturday, May 13 and Sunday May 14 WCPC will welcome Mark Adams to The Woodlands. Mark along with his spouse Miriam, are mission co-workers with the Presbyterian Border Ministry in Agua Prieta, Mexico, where Mark has served since 1998. In his role as U.S. coordinator of the binational ministry Frontera de Cristo, Mark partners with Mexico coordinator, Jocabed Gallegos, of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico. Together, Mark and Jocabed coordinate the six ministry areas of Frontera de Cristo: church development, health, family counseling, the New Hope Community Center, mission education, and the Just Trade Center. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been engaged in mission in Mexico since 1872. Binational border ministries were begun in 1984 at multiple sites along the U.S.-Mexico border. Frontera de Cristo is one of five sites that are still a major focus of Presbyterian work in the border region: <https://presbyterianborder.org>. Contact Sonya Dias to get involved in welcoming Mark! sdias@wcpc-tx.org



Hope Emerging From Despair — This mural, designed by Lupita Garcia and Mary Thomason, was painted at the Migrant Resource Center as part of Frontera de Cristo's 35th Anniversary Celebration. Attendees at "Responding to an Exodus" helped to paint portions of the mural.



Please join us in welcoming Mark Adams to WCPC! We will gather in the Fellowship Hall between services May 14th for coffee and conversation.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE CENTER LEGACY AWARDS LUNCHEON

Each year the Community Assistance Center recognizes a Faith Community that has served as a champion for CAC - a group that has made significant contributions to our Montgomery County neighbors in need along with promoting the programs and services provided by this vital agency. This year WCPC will be recognized! Congratulations to all who have supported this mission. A special thank you to Shelley Smith for her leadership as the CAC mission advocate. 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 ticket there is still time! Visit <https://cac-mctx.org/legacy-luncheon/> to purchase a ticket. Be sure to mention WCPC in your reservation!



THE GATHERING PLACE



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 10:30 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 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.

To volunteer to to attend please contact
WCPC advocate, Tricia MacDonald
patriciamacdonald1210@gmail.com

*Upcoming
Gatherings*

May 8-
Theme: Cinco de Mayo
June 12-
Theme: Wedding



FAMILY PROMISE SUMMER HOSTING

WCPC will again host Family Promise during the week of June 4 through June 11. Family Promise is a program which helps homeless families going through difficult times with shelter, meals, jobs, and training. We will have a Faith In Action during our services on May 21, and will kick off SignUp Genius that day. Two people will be needed each evening to prepare a meal at home for about 4 adults and 8 children and transport it to the Family Promise Center in Conroe. You will be able to chat with the moms and play with the kids during approximately two hours you will spend there. We will also need volunteers to spend the night from 7PM to 7AM at the Center. The overnight hosts will consist of two women or a couple. There are comfortable sleeping quarters and bathroom facilities for the hosts. If you have any questions, contact Warren Evans at 713-299-7323 or email wevans36@comcast.net. Our church has participated in this mission project for about 10 years. We have met many wonderful families that have benefited from this program and our many volunteers have certainly benefited through their participation!



Why do families experience homelessness?

Fact vs. Fiction

More than 50%
of homelessness
in our area!

Loss of Income
Increased Cost of
Living
Economic Crisis
Lack of Affordable
Housing

Drug Use
Criminal Behavior
Mental Illness
Laziness

Less than 10% of cases in
Harris County!

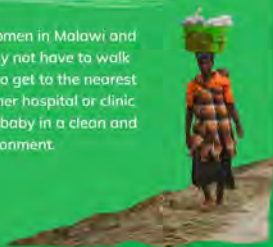
MEDICAL BENEVOLENCE FOUNDATION - IMPROVING HEALTH CARE IN MALAWI



Making Health Care Accessible

means women in Malawi and Kenya may not have to walk for miles to get to the nearest MBF partner hospital or clinic to have a baby in a clean and safe environment.

MBF



Dr. Jens Vaylann, Surgical Residency Program Director at the Nkhoma Hospital in Malawi visited WCPC on April 17 along with Patrick Coughlin, Vice President of Partner Engagement for the Medical Benevolence Foundation. They provided an update on the MBF 21st Century Medical Mission Model implementation in Malawi. See the April 2023 video on the Mission Outreach Team Meeting Guest Speakers webpage for the presentation slides and photos from their visit.



The Mission Outreach Team is in the beginning stages of trip planning to visit Malawi and Zambia in 2024. If you are interested in being involved, contact Gary Chapman, John Hathaway or Sonya Dias.



COMMEMORATING World Fair Trade Day 2023 Sunday, May 14

Visit the Fellowship Hall between services for coffee and conversation!

May 14th meet visitor Mark Adams, Mission Co-Worker and representative for Frontera de Cristo/Just Coffee.

Enjoy Fair Trade Coffee!

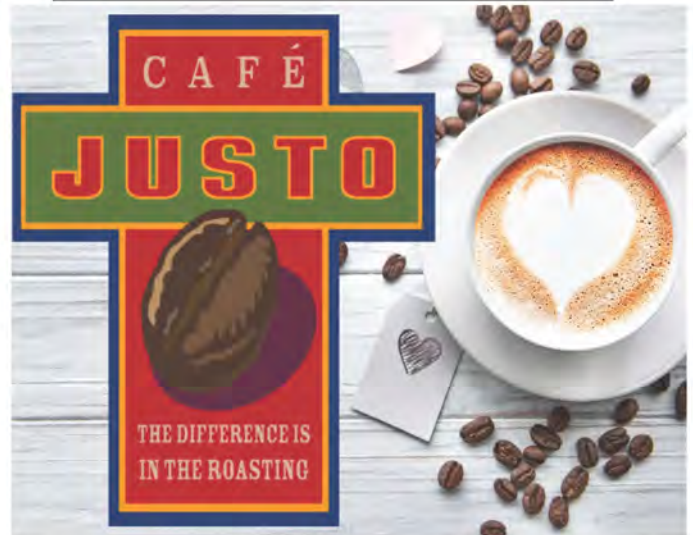
Order a pound of JUST COFFEE to brew at home.

Browse cooperative items made by partners including: textiles and pottery.

World Fair Trade Day is an inclusive global celebration of fair trade's contribution to the fight against poverty, exploitation, and climate change.



JUST COFFEE SALES MAY 12-28



All of the following varieties are available **WHOLE BEAN** or **GROUND** for \$10 per 1lb bag. Orders can be picked up in the church office in early June.

100% Pure Organic Arabica
100% Pure Organic Arabica DECAF
100% Pure Organic Robusta
Mixed: 50% Pure Arabica-50% Pure Robusta
Mixed: 50% Arabica DECAF & 50% Pure Arabica

You can also choose to donate coffee to Compassion United or DeGeorge Veterans Home for \$45.00 per 5 pound bag.

**VISIT THE
WEBSITE TO
ORDER May
12-28!**
www.wcpc-tx.org

Peru 2023 Mission



Donate Eyeglasses:

Give the gift of sight! The First Presbyterian Church of Kingwood Peru Mission Team is collecting new and used eyeglasses for our upcoming mission trip to Lima in July, 2023.

- New and Used Readers (+0.25 to +4.75)
- Used, contemporary eyeglass frames with prescription lenses. These will be used for new prescription lenses. NOTE: We cannot accept broken or invisible (string) frame eyeglasses.
- Prescription/Non-Prescription Sunglasses
- Small, compact, soft-sided eyeglass cases that can be packed easily.
- Hand-sewn eyeglass cases – for further instructions or other questions, contact Lisa Ryan (Atascocita Presbyterian Church) or Carol McCollough (Kingwood First Presbyterian Church), Gary Chapman (Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church)



In-country Eye Specialist



Example cases and donations

TO DONATE EYEGLASSES: You may deliver to Gary Chapman or Sonya Dias.
Or you may leave them in the WCPC church office marked "GLASSES FOR PERU."

Note: Extra eyeglass donations we don't have room to pack will be donated to HAAM or The Lions Club. Unused eyeglass donations left in Peru will be stored for future Mission trips or donated to other in-country mission efforts.

School Supply DRIVE

WCPC SUPPORTING local Children & Youth served by:
Community Assistance Center,
Montgomery County Women's Center and
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services

Items requested:



YOUTH LOCKER ROOM

body wash, shampoo and deodorant (for after sports!)



BACK PACKS!



CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

Gift cards

Pencil Sharpener

Backpacks

Index Cards

Pencil pouch

Scissors

School box

Pencil Boxes

2" 3-ring binders

Ear buds or headphones

1" 3-ring binders

Copy paper

Composition Notebooks

Erasers

Spiral notebooks

Post its

Pocket folders (assorted colors)

Dry Erase markers

Wide rule loose-leaf paper
graph paper

College rule loose-leaf paper
hand sanitizers

Construction paper (assorted
colors)

Kleenex

Manila paper

Pens (blue, black and red)

Pencils

Rulers

Colored pencils

Crayons

Markers

Gluesticks

Highlighters

Dividers for binders



Get involved! We need your help to fulfill the needs of our partner agencies. Contact the Mission Outreach Team for more details: sdias@wcpc-tx.org. Donations will be collected in the sanctuary pantry and the fellowship hall. Items can be left in the church office during the week.



**MISSION & A MEAL:
Wednesday Night Dinner
open to all ages.**

Bring the family!

**June 28: Creation Care
& July 26: Mission Outreach
Menu and other details TBA.
Info will be posted in the church
bulletin closer to the date.**

Mission & A Meal



**Save the
Dates!**

June 28

July 26

Volunteers Needed



We are looking for volunteers to help prepare meals for The Montgomery County Women's Center EMERGENCY SHELTER

Want-to-be Chefs needed to slice, dice, chop, stir, whip, blend, bake, sauté and prepare a meal for the Montgomery County Women's Center emergency shelter. The shelter has no kitchen staff on the weekends and they rely on food donations from area churches and organizations to fill that void. We will need 6 budding chefs to help prepare a meal for around 50 people four Saturdays in 2023. The group will meet at 10:30 a.m. at the WCPC kitchen. The shelter will pick up the meal at the church at 1 p.m. It should take 2-2.5 hours to complete our task. If you are unable to sign up for this date but are open to helping in the future, please submit your name for future events. We will compile a list of names and generate future staffing with SignUp Genius.

**QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT SUSAN SCHATZ, MOT ADVOCATE
FOR MCWC, 281-797-0433 (C), OR SCHATZ4882@GMAIL.COM.**



WE NEED YOUR
HELP

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAM

ESL classes hosted on WCPC's campus for the 2023 spring session will conclude this May. Throughout 2022 and 2023 three language levels were offered. The basic- intro to English "Foundations" class, "Level 1" and "Level 2." Six teachers and one substitute volunteered their teaching skills. Through the year 45 students attended 2-hour classes twice a week. Students enrolled came from far and wide- Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Mexico, Korea, China, Ghana and Turkey. Students come committed and ready to learn- looking to improve their employment potential.

Interfaith is currently compiling the list of interested applicants as well as looking for teachers for 2023-2024 programs. Interfaith hopes to expand the "Foundation" level class to two sections as this is where they are seeing the most demand. Interfaith will offer a placement test in the end of August. The fall session will begin the second week of September and run through November. For more information about the ESL classes reach out to Mignon Mabry, WCPC advocate for ESL or contact Vickey Wilson, Program Coordinator, Family Services, Interfaith of the Woodlands at (281) 367-1230 or vwilson@woodlandsinterfaith.org





Hearing for All!

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
BETTER HEARING & SPEECH MONTH

COME GET YOUR HEARING CHECKED AND LEARN MORE FROM THE EXPERTS

What: Complimentary hearing & speech screenings, petting zoo, vendor booths, expert panel, and more.

Where: 4881 W. Panther Creek Dr.

Who: ALL AGES

When: May 20, 11am - 2 pm
Expert Panel Discussion about hearing aids and cochlear implants at 12pm

Panel Moderator: Susan Langlois, children's book author, cochlear implant recipient and AE! patient

Experts include: Dr. Cordell, audiologist, Allison Haggerty, speech pathologist/AVT, Dr. Traboulsi, ENT & cochlear implant surgeon, Paula Moore & Austin Zindler and family, adult cochlear implant recipient

Vendors/Sponsors:



THE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Scan here!



STATEWIDE
OUTREACH
CENTER



Or visit www.allearscenter.org/allears-events

All Ears! is a 501c3 non-profit organization teaching children who are deaf/hard of hearing how to listen and speak, and is an outreach mission of the Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church.



ALL EARS! PEDIATRIC & ADULT AUDIOLOGY CLINIC

CONVENIENT LOCATION • APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE • ALL AGES

DID YOU KNOW?

Even slight hearing loss can lead to cognitive decline. It impacts your quality of life *and* your health - so get your hearing checked today!

Book your appointment: 936.251.3021
Located at 4840 W. Panther Creek Dr. #208

www.allearscenter.org @allearscenter

**An estimated 23% of Americans
12+ years old have hearing loss.**

Gather your family and friends for
free speech and hearing screenings,
an expert discussion panel, a petting
zoo and more.

May 20, 11am - 2pm in the parking lot
of the Woodlands Community
Presbyterian Church

EARLY Learning PROGram

In March and April, ELP has been discovering God's world and His awesome power to renew! We learned about Easter and the resurrection with the annual resurrection eggs each child made at chapel. They can take these home and share all the Good News with their families. Such a special moment to share. Our April bible verse, "Behold, I make all things new!" fits well with all the butterflies, ladybugs, worms, crickets and ants we have been observing as they grow and transform right before our eyes. Amazing!

Such a joy it is to have the most AMAZING playground in Texas! Our playground teachers have created the most inviting space for our children to learn, create, and connect with each other. Some of our students are just learning English and these shared moments build language and friendships.

ELP is winding down the school year, but we still have a lot of fun ahead! We will be celebrating our Pre-Kindergarten and Transition students with a very special Growing Up Chapel on May 9th and May 11th at 9:30am and 11:30am on both days. This fits in well with our bible verse, "Look at the wonderful things God made!" Indeed! We will continue celebrating with a fun and wet Noah's Ark Chapel and Art in the Park the last week of school. We will be welcoming all of our families to join in for all the wet and messy play.

Our school year ends on May 19th, but we will have a 3 day science camp (STREAM - Science, Technology, Religion, Art, Math) on May 31st - June 2nd. So nice to have an opportunity to spend a few ore days with our little ones before summer takes over!

Constance (Corky) Janisch - Director
The Early Learning Program

<http://www.earlylearningprogramtx.org>

cjanisch@wcpc-tx.org

281-298-2464





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 Worship 8:30 & 11 am <i>Sunday School</i> 9:45 Tween Pool Party 6-8 pm at Marnie's house,	1 <i>No Monday childcare</i> 	2 <i>ELP mtg 1- 2:30 pm</i>	3	4	5	6 <i>MoRanch Men's Re- treat</i>
7 Worship 8:30 & 11 am <i>Sunday School</i> 9:45 	8 Drop & Go childcare 9- 11:30 HEB 307 & 308 RSVP to Susan VBS MTG 12-1 pm	9 <i>ELP Grow- ing Up 9:30 & 11 am</i>	10	11 <i>ELP Growing Up 9:30 & 11 am</i>	12	13
14 Worship 8:30 & 11 am <i>Sunday School</i> 9:45	15 Drop & Go childcare 9- 11:30 HEB 307 & 308 RSVP to Susan VBS MTG 12-1 pm	16	17	18	19 <i>ELP's Last Day</i>	20
21 <u>Senior Sun- day</u> Worship 8:30 & 11 <i>Last</i> <i>Regular Sunday</i> <i>School 9:45</i> Worship Class	22 <i>ELP Cleanup and luncheon</i>	23 <i>ELP Cleanup</i>	24	25 <i>Last ESL class</i>	26	27
28 Pentecost Worship 8:30 & 11 am <i>Sunday School</i> combined clas- ses 9:45 am in	29 	30	31 <i>Adult Fel- lowship Lunch 11:30</i>			
<i>Pick up and Drop off for Sunday school in rooms 106, 204 & 205 youth & chil- dren's building, ex- cept 5/28</i>						



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Pick up and Drop off for Sunday school in rooms 106 & 105 youth & children's building for</i>  Summer Childcare		<i>Summer Children's Sunday School This Is My Story, This Is My Song: Learning Our Hymns of</i>		1	2	3
4 Worship 8:30 & 11 am 9:45 Sunday school Pre-K-6th <i>Hosting Family Promise all Week WCPC</i>	5 ELP STEAM Camp 9am-1pm Drop & Go 9-11:30 HEB 307 & 308 RSVP to Susan VBS Prep 12-1 pm	6 ELP STEAM Camp 9am-1pm at ELP rooms	7 ELP STEAM Camp 9am-1pm at ELP rooms	8 ELP STEAM Camp 9am-1pm at ELP rooms	9 ELP STEAM Camp 9am-1pm PNO 5:30-8 pm Hendricks nurseries rsvp only to Susan sduncan@wcpc-	10
11 Worship 8:30 & 11 am 9:45 Sunday school Pre-K-6th	12 All Ears Camp at ELP Drop & Go 9-11:30 HEB 307 & 308 RSVP to Susan VBS Prep 12-1 pm	13 All Ears Camp at ELP  <— 6/12	14 All Ears Camp at ELP	15 All Ears Camp at ELP	16 All Ears Camp at ELP	17
18 Worship 8:30 & 11 am 9:45 Sunday school Pre-K-6th	19 Monumental VBS 9am-12pm in Children's Building & Sanctuary	20 Monumental VBS 9am-12pm	21 Monumental VBS 9am-12pm	22 Monumental VBS 9am-12pm Last Day	23 VBS Day of Rest!	24
25 Monumental VBS Worship 8:30 & 11 am 9:45 Sunday school Pre-K-6th	26	27	28 All Church <u>Mission & A Meal</u> 6-8 pm Fellowship Hall Potato Bar, Creation Care Issues	29	30	

Youth Group Updates and Information



May /June Schedule

Sun, May 7	9:45 am Sunday School 6-7:30pm-Youth Group
Sat, May 13	Dinner with Mission Partners (rsvp/info_sdias@wcpc-tx.org)
Sun May 14 (Mother's Day)	9:45 am Sunday School / Help with Fair Trade Coffee Sales No Evening Youth Group
Sat May 20	Youth/Senior Sunday Rehearsal
Sun May 21	8:30 /11:00am Worship includes Youth/Senior Sunday 9:45 am Sunday School and Senior Celebration No Evening Youth Group
June 25-30	Youth Celebration
June 28	Mission and a Meal
July 9-13	Jr. High Jubilee
July 26	Mission and a Meal

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!



YOUTH and SENIOR Sunday May 21

If you are a 2023 graduate and would like to speak during worship please email sbarclay@wcpc-tx.org to sign up. The WCPC congregation would love to share this special time with you.

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 end of May and then break for the summer.





MO RANCH

**25-30
JUNE
9-13
JULY**



Mo Ranch
Summer Conferences
Hunt Texas

More Information and for Registration
sbarclay@wcpc-tx.org

YOUTH CELEBRATION **\$350**

June 25-30, 2023

Sr. High- Completed 9-12 grade

JR. HIGH JUBILEE **\$350**

July 9-13, 2023

Jr. High- Completed 7-8 grade

Registration Deadline 45
days prior to Conference.

WCPC YOUTH

BEACH RETREAT

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!



..... JOIN US FOR

JESUS, FELLOWSHIP AND MISSION

.....

AUG

25-27 2023

GALVESTON

FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY

TO REGISTER EMAIL
[SBARCLAY@WCPC-TX.ORG](mailto:sbarclay@wcpc-tx.org)

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:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

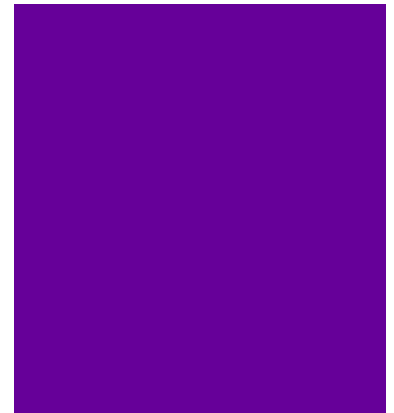
On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/wcpcsr

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



Smartphone screen showing the sign-up form for WCPC SR HIGH YOUTH. The form includes a header with the Remind logo and URL, a title 'Join WCPC SR HIGH YOUTH', and two input fields: 'Full Name' (with a sub-label 'First and Last Name') and 'Phone Number or Email Address'.



B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message [@wcpcsr](#) to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting [@wcpcsr](#) to (832) 850-2617.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Smartphone screen showing a text message interface. The 'To' field contains the number 81010. The 'Message' field contains the text '@wcpcsr'.

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

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

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/wcpcjr

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



Smartphone screen showing the sign-up form for WCPC JR HIGH YOUTH. The form includes a header with the Remind logo and URL, a title 'Join WCPC JR HIGH YOUTH', and two input fields: 'Full Name' (with a sub-label 'First and Last Name') and 'Phone Number or Email Address'.



B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message [@wcpcjr](#) to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting [@wcpcjr](#) to (832) 850-2617.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Smartphone screen showing a text message interface. The 'To' field contains the number 81010. The 'Message' field contains the text '@wcpcjr'.

Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/wcpcjr 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 in May, 2023.