

SPRING BRANCH Presbyterian Church

relationships matter
GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD



PRES PRESS

October 2018 Issue

1215 Campbell Road • Houston, Texas 77055 • 713-464-7659



As your new interim pastor, I must say that I'm delighted to be serving again in the Spring Branch area and working with the fine people already on staff here at SBPC. I look forward to meeting all of you that I have not met yet; many of you have already heard me preach and know a little about me.. I've "been around the block" as a clergyman serving Disciples of Christ, United Church of Christ, and Presbyterian churches in various capacities over the years. Most recently (2007—2012), I was the pastor at St. Peter United Church of Christ, right down the street where Campbell Road meets Long Point.

I've taught at the college level for years and travelled quite a bit. However, parish ministry is where my heart is, and I've already started my work here at SBPC. Feel free to call me at the Church during office hours, 713-464-7659, or my home phone, 713-722-9298, and leave a message. You might also reach me on my cell phone, 832-988-1609. You can contact me at anytime by email: pastor@springbranchpres.org. My author/speaker website is www.davidvmason.com. Let's get to know each other soon. My blessings upon us all!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Dave

Pastor Dave

Missions of the Month

The "Mission of the Month" for October is one of our long-term benevolences – Fair Haven Food Pantry, which is operated by Fair Haven United Methodist Church and has been serving our community since 1975. The Fair Haven Food Pantry is one of the largest private food assistance programs in the greater Houston area. They are



Help Fill Fair Haven
Food Pantry

completely dependent on the donations of congregations and groups.

Their mission is to provide emergency food assistance to persons in the Spring Branch/ Memorial Area. Before Hurricane Harvey, the Food Pantry assisted about 200 families in a typical week. The demand has gone up in the last year.

Our church gives Fair Haven Food Pantry \$3000 each year as part of our benevolences.

Cornucopia Challenge: Our church collects food for Fair Haven Food Pantry throughout the year. However, during the month of October we would like to give you a special challenge – **the Cornucopia Challenge**.

During this wonderful fall season as we celebrate the blessings we have been given, consider adding one non-perishable food item to a bag or box each day. At the end of the month, place your bag / box of food in one of the Mission Donation boxes outside of the Church Office, by the outside door of the Fellowship Hall, or under the table in the Narthex. We will arrange to have it delivered to Fair Haven Food Pantry!

The following foods would be particularly welcomed.

- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Cereal
- Mac & Cheese
- Spaghetti
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned fruits, vegetables, soups
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Baby cereal or food
- Canned evaporated milk

Thank you for your continued dedication to this important ministry!

October Mission Opportunities



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is received during the Season of Peace, which ends on World Communion Sunday, October 7. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the Church to promote

the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. This year our church's portion of the offering will go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to assist Puerto Rico overcome the devastation of Hurricane Maria. Offering envelopes will be in the church pews on that Sunday. Please give generously!

SBPC Hot Meals on Weekends – The 4th Saturday of each month we look for individuals to deliver meals to shut-ins. We have 2 routes with about 14 people on each route, so we usually need a total of 4 volunteers each month. Please contact Liz Earnest if you are interested in volunteering to deliver meals one month.



In November we will have our tenth Messy Church. It also marks one year since this one-year pilot was approved by Session, therefore, here's an update on what's happening with this community outreach worship service. God is at work!

Each month Messy Church has had 50-75 adults and kids gather to learn about God together through play and creativity, celebrate God and His love for us, and eat a fellowship meal together.

We've covered a lot of ground: "God's Love" in February. "Jesus in the Wilderness" in March. "After Easter" in April. "God's World (Creation Story)" in May. "On the Road with Jesus (Road to Emmaus)" in June. "Let Your Light Shine (Luke 11:33)" in July. "God 24/7 (Jesus on the Mountain/Great Commission)" in August. Jesus the Teacher (Parable of the Lost Sheep)" in September.

Activities are for all ages. They have involved everything from Legos to ramen, gingerbread to maps, electronics to paint. We try not to send families home with a bunch of crafts, but we do try to send them home with a touchpoint to God to continue to share with their family over the next month. Our sharing of the gospel and the Bible scriptures gets richer each month; Kathleen continues to lead with awesome music. One thing that hasn't changed: pizza and chicken tenders with salad are the fellowship meals - though now we've added tacos to the rotation.

We secured a grant from the Presbytery to support additional discipleship activities and fund Messy Church for another year. We continue to refine it. We're working to improve the connections between the activities and the scriptures, to find ways to facilitate community and growing in faith outside of the first Thursday, to get back to advertising to the school district and the neighborhood (we've found that the name is just deviant enough to get people interested and gives us a chance to explain what it is before they tune out), and to have the right amount of food every month.

We'd like to thank the Church and the Academy, especially the Messy Church volunteers and the Session, for their support in this little evangelical experiment. THANK YOU!!!!

To understand a little more about what you're supporting, here's a little bit about what folks are saying:

"It's great, my shift ends at four, but I come back." - Jessica Losoya

"I was the crazy lady that brought twins with only myself to wrangle! But they are still talking about it and begging to go again. We will be at the next one. The wet wipes were a lifesaver!" - Jen Palmer

"I'm going to start asking to leave work early so we can be here for the whole thing; Lilly and I love it." - Megan (not related to Kathleen) Holder

"This will be perfect for our friend who is a waitress and works on Sundays; she'd love to bring her son." - Larry Maple

"I get to go to Messy Church today? Yea!!!!" turning to friend, "Do you want to come to Messy Church?" - Amy Cross

"Messy Church is Matthew's favorite thing. He loves it more than anything else he gets to do, Little Gym included." - Megan Hogg

"I love being involved in this ministry!" - Carol Davis

For those of you who want to know more about Messy Church, come to participate or to volunteer. If you come October 4th, bring a stuffed animal or other inanimate creature to be blessed. You're also welcome to join us for the Messy Church training on October 13th. We'll have an outside speaker present on Messy Church values, how it got started, and you'll get to experience a low key grown-up Messy Church. Please let Kate know if you'll be there so that we have the right count for food.



Messy Church is an alternate worship experience. It is primarily for people who may not have a regular church or who feel uncomfortable in a traditional church setting. The worship is all ages together and is inclusive for those from different backgrounds and beliefs. Together both children and adults join in experiencing fun and faith-forming activities focusing on creativity, celebration, hospitality and centering ourselves in Christ.

- Messy Church is a church. It does not feed in to an existing congregation nor is it a church plant, but a congregation in its own right.
- Messy Church is an alternate worship experience for the host church.
- Messy Church is for adults and children to enjoy together. Every element is relevant and accessible to all ages.
- Messy Church uses hands on activities to explore Bible stories, to reflect a God of creativity and to give people a chance to play together.
- Messy church reflects a God of joy who wants all of God's people to have life in all its fullness.
- Messy Church reflects a God of unconditional love and is a church for people outside of a traditional church, providing an oasis of welcome and a safe place to thrive.
- Messy Church is about hospitality, expressed by eating together and sharing a table with others to help build relationships.

Training in Texas

Saturday, October 13, 2018

8:30 registration

9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

1215 Campbell Road

Houston, TX 77055

Trainer: Leyla Wagner, five year Messy Church leader, Messy Church Regional Coordinator, and founding board member of Messy Church USA

Registration includes “Getting Started with Messy Church” training, a sample mini-Messy Church experience, lunch, and a copy of Get Messy! Magazine.

Church Group registration—\$70 for 1-5 people, more than 5 is an additional \$30 each

Individual registration—\$30

Register at <https://messychurchusa.org/events/>

Current Messy Churchers are invited to a Friday Night Dinner at a local restaurant (TBD)

Questions? Contact Kate at kate@messychurchusa.org

Join us for food and fellowship

October 3—Hamburgers

October 10—Panko Crusted Chicken

October 17—Breakfast for Dinner

October 24—Taco Soup
(all proceeds benefit the scholarship fund)

October 31—TBA

(It's Halloween! Children are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and trick-or-treat among the tables of diners.)



Celebrate October's Birthdays, Sunday, October 14th



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church has a new tradition! The second Sunday of each month we will gather together to celebrate those having a birthday during that month. So mark you calendars for Sunday, October 14th, as we linger after church and enjoy each others' company.

Presbyterian Women at a Glance

PW BIBLE MODERATORS meets **10/3** at 9:30 AM. in the Conference Room.

PW BOARD meets **10/3** at 10:15 AM in Conference Room. (*Every 1st Wed. of the month*)

PW CIRCLE meets **10/10** at 9:30 AM at Sarah Dikeman's home, 11414 S. Chestwood
(*Every 2nd Wed. of the month*)

ZIP TRIP on **10/17** at 9:30 AM to the Ship Channel with lunch at Seafarers.
RSVP to Marguerite Priest at 713-808-9888 if you plan to attend! (*ZIP Trip Every 3rd Wed. of the month*)

HAPPY HANDS meets **10/24** at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. (*Every 4th Wed. of the month*)

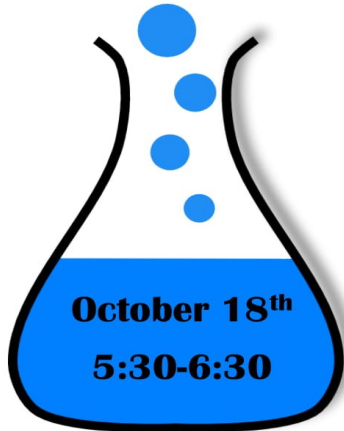
PW DIRECTORIES are now available in the Church Office.



SCIENCE NIGHT



Presented by:
Mad Science Houston



www.springbranchpres.org/ideaspring

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PW Unwind October 15 - Save the Date

You are invited to join the Unwind Dinner group on October 15th at the Chavez Mexican Café at 2557 Gessner (<http://www.chavezmexicancafe.com>). We gather at 6:00 p.m. for food, fellowship, and friendship. We meet the third Monday of each month throughout the year at 6:00 p.m. If you have missed a few Unwind dinners, come join us. If you have never joined us before, why not this month? If you want to invite a friend, please do so. If you have questions or want to RSVP contact Denise Wilborn via text (713-725-2816) or by email (dwilborn55@gmail.com). Hope to see you Monday, October 15th, at 6:00 p.m. for a time to relax and catch up with old and new friends.

Incredible Outreach Opportunity!

Pines Presbyterian Church is hosting a Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack Friday, Nov. 2nd & Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Through a FMSC MobilePack™ event, our community is responding to the cries of those in need by producing 100,000 nutritious meals for kids around the world.

We invite you to join 500 volunteers to pack meals for this MobilePack event. During a two-hour shift, adults and children five years and older will measure and scoop ingredients, seal bags, and prepare boxes for shipping. To learn more about what happens at a MobilePack click this video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ech5XOryipM&t=84s>. To register to be volunteers, check out this site <http://pinespc.org/feed-my-starving-children/>. For more information, contact Pines at 713-467-2234.



It's time to prepare to pack Seafarer's Boxes on November 25th!

On November 25, we will be packing and wrapping shoe boxes full of goodies to send to the Seafarer's Center at the Port of Houston. We need lots of boxes, so get out there and go shoe shopping! Our goal is to collect over 100 boxes to pack. One year, we packed over 120 boxes. Ladies' sized boxes are the best, but we can also accept the plastic shoe boxes with lids that you can buy at the dollar store, at Walmart, or other stores. Then, the Seafarer has a nice container to keep, as well as all the wonderful contents. If you have any questions, contact Laurie Mitchell.



Address Book	Band-Aids (fabric)	Baseball Caps	2019 Calendar
Comb	Dental floss	Deodorant	Disposable Razors
Flashlight w/ batteries	Kleenex	Lip Balm	Lotion
Nail clippers	Gold Bond Powder	Gold Bond Cream	Hot Chocolate
Q-Tips	Needle & thread	Shaving Cream	Soap & Shampoo
Toothbrush	Toothpaste	Gum & Candy	Key Chains
Pocket-size notebooks	Mechanical pencils	Pens	Playing Cards
Popcorn	Socks	Sudoku	Texas Souvenirs
T-Shirts	USB Flash Drives	Word Search Books	

Help Needed!



This year's Advent theme is "**Reflections of Love.**" Instead of purchasing an Advent devotional that only partially aligns with our theme, we decided that there is enough love in our congregation to go around. We are asking all of you to take part in creating this year's Advent devotional!

Listed on the next page are the scriptures that will be used during each day of Advent. Please choose the one that speaks to you and sign up for it on the signup sheet in the Narthex the first two Sundays in October.

Use the scripture as your guide to write about a reflection of love in your own life. It may be a time when you saw God's love; it may be a time when love was shown to you through another; or a time when you showed someone else love. Write your story and a short prayer to go along with it and submit it digitally (via e-mail) to Megan Hogg at Megan1661@yahoo.com by **Friday November 2nd**.

Guidelines for the writing:

- This is about **heart**, not perfection. Please participate and know that you are bringing the Word of God into someone's heart and home.
- **Each reflection should fit on a 5X7 sheet of paper with a 12 point font, and should include the scripture, the story and a short prayer.**
- Pages will be formatted to make them similar, but the content will not be altered.
- Please submit your reflection on or before **Friday, November 2nd**. It will take time to format everything and we would like to have these available the first Sunday in Advent.

Thank you for helping make this Advent Season special!

Advent Bible Reading

Dec. 1: John 1:1-5	Dec. 13: Luke 2: 1-5
Dec. 2: Isaiah 9:2-7	Dec. 14: Luke 2: 6-7
Dec. 3: Isaiah 11:1-10	Dec. 15: Luke 2: 8-12
Dec. 4: Jeremiah 33:14-16	Dec. 16: Luke 2: 13-14
Dec. 5: Luke 1: 5-10	Dec. 17: Luke 2: 15 -18
Dec. 6: Luke 1:11-17	Dec. 18: Luke 2: 19-20
Dec. 7: Luke 1:18-25	Dec. 19: Micah 5: 2-5
Dec. 8: Luke 1: 26 - 30	Dec. 20: Matthew 2:1-2
Dec. 9: Matthew 1:18 - 21	Dec. 21: Matthew 2:3-6
Dec. 10: Matthew 1: 22- 26	Dec. 22: Matthew 2:7-8
Dec. 11: Luke 1: 39-45	Dec. 23: Matthew 2:9-12
Dec. 12: Luke 1: 46-56	Dec. 24: John 1:14



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

Presents an offering of Solo Piano

November 18, 2018

4:00 PM

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church

1215 Campbell Rd

Houston, TX 77055

Featuring

Eanju Lee-Davis, piano

*Donations will be greatly appreciated in order to help with
the purchase of new Glory to God Hymnals.*





Book, Audio & Video Exchange

Wed., Nov. 14, 2018

6:30 PM following Dinner



The Fellowship Group will have a book exchange in November. As you do your fall/winter clean up, set aside all your books, CD's, movies (DVD or VCR) & magazines to exchange with others.

Everything must be appropriate for ALL ages as there will be children and youth choosing books.

This is a great way to get rid of some things in your home and get some new literature for free!

You may bring your items that evening, or if you prefer, you may bring them on Sunday, Nov. 11 and place them in the Fellowship Hall against the wall.



Calling all runners and walkers to support PCHAS!

Run in the **Chevron Houston Marathon** or the **Aramco Houston Half Marathon** (*Sunday, January 20, 2019*) or the **We Are Houston 5K Race** (*Saturday, January 19, 2019*) and support our PCHAS children and families! Those runners interested in the marathon or half marathon will fundraise \$500 to support PCHAS clients, while 5K runners will fundraise \$175 to support PCHAS clients. All runners will be invited to a Pasta Dinner on Saturday evening to celebrate their 5K finish or to get carb-loaded for their half or full marathon. Contact Lisa Johnson



Presbyterian Children's
Homes and Services

AV Training

A full-scale AV crash course will be held on Saturday, November 10, at 9:00 a.m. This in-depth class will include the Fellowship Hall, the Gathering Place, and the Sanctuary equipment, as well as anything else you would like to learn. We employ several part time AV technicians, but if they are unavailable, it's always good to have a backup! Please RSVP to ethan@springbranchpres.org. if you plan to attend.



BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH

INTERESTED in beautifying the sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? The Flowers Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex! **The cost per arrangement is 65.00. Special arrangements vary and should be requested EARLY!** Checks should be written to SBPC and given to Jorida in the Church Office.



IMPORTANT PRESPRESS & BULLETIN REMINDER

ALL PRESPRESS articles are DUE no later than the 20th of this month! Please email your articles to churchoffice@springbranchpres.org no later than the 20th. **BULLETIN** information is DUE no later than the Wednesday before the service.



FRIDAY EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would you like to receive our weekly announcements via email every Friday? Sign-up by visiting our Church website, www.springbranchpres.org.

Church's Prayer Chain List?

A Prayer Chain Email is sent to our "prayer warriors" when we receive word about someone in need. Contact the Church Office or Sarah Dikeman if you'd like to be added.



Happy
Birthday
To you

Atkinson Faith Ballesteros	10/1	Neal M. Dikeman	10/13
Nolan Rouse	10/1	Robert Deutsch	10/13
Stephanie Williams	10/1	Rachel Wright	10/13
Jacquelyn Dillard	10/3	Renaë Oswald	10/14
Jay Holder	10/4	Elaine Hall	10/16
Joan Belk	10/4	Jessica Albert	10/16
Stephanie Premer	10/4	Kathleen Holder	10/16
Nicholas "Nick" Ballesteros	10/5	Codie Jo Hill	10/17
Catherine Daley	10/6	Gertrude Cooksey	10/17
Jan Fitts	10/6	Caroline Humphrey	10/19
Ravisse Massamba	10/6	Megan Hogg	10/21
Miguel Carlin	10/7	Blair Ballard	10/25
Todd Miller	10/9	Jorida Vakiari	10/29
Amena Chehade	10/12	Regan Oswald	10/29
Ludovic Massamba	10/12	James Humphrey	10/31
Harriett Riley	10/13	Kelly Lezon	10/31
		Margaret Rouse	10/31

Ruden and Jorida Vakiari	10/1
Marc Bik and Nina Rach	10/2
Matthew and Jessica Albert	10/11
Dr. Eanju and Brian Davis	10/20
Colleen Lanan and Phillip Rust	10/25



Church Calendar, Outside SBPC Reservations

Oct 2018 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	9:30am - Adult Community 4pm - WOW 6pm - Basketball 6pm - Yoga	9:15am - Cong. Care 10am - Flexercise (GP)	9:30am - PW Moderator 10:15am - PW Board 6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Bocce Practice 5:30pm - Messy Church @ 6pm - Yoga (CR) 6:30pm - Fairbees Square		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
World Communion Sunday 9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 12:30pm - Home 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	9:30am - Adult Community 4pm - WOW 5pm - Academy Board 6pm - Basketball 6pm - Yoga (CR)	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Volleyball	9:30am - PW Circle 6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Bocce Practice 5:45pm - Mission Ministry 6pm - Yoga (CR) 6:30pm - Fairbees Square		8am - Messy Church
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 12:15pm - Pop-Up Birthday 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	9:30am - Adult Community 10am - The Gathering Place 4pm - WOW 6pm - Unwind Circle 6pm - Yoga (CR)	8am - Academy Picture Day 10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Volleyball 6pm - Finance Meeting	8am - Academy Picture Day 9:30am - Zip Trip 6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Idea Spring @ 6pm - Yoga (CR) 6:30pm - Fairbees Square		PresPress Articles DUE 8am - Presb. Men
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
WOW Worship @ Sanctuary 9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	9:30am - Adult Community 4pm - WOW 6pm - Yoga (CR)	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Volleyball 7pm - Session (CR)	9:30am - Happy Hands (CR) 6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Yoga (CR) 6:30pm - Fairbees Square		11am - Hot Meals @ Spring
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Reformation Sunday @ 9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 4pm - Girl Scouts 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	9:30am - Adult Community 4pm - WOW 6pm - Yoga (CR)	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Volleyball	6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 7pm - Choir			

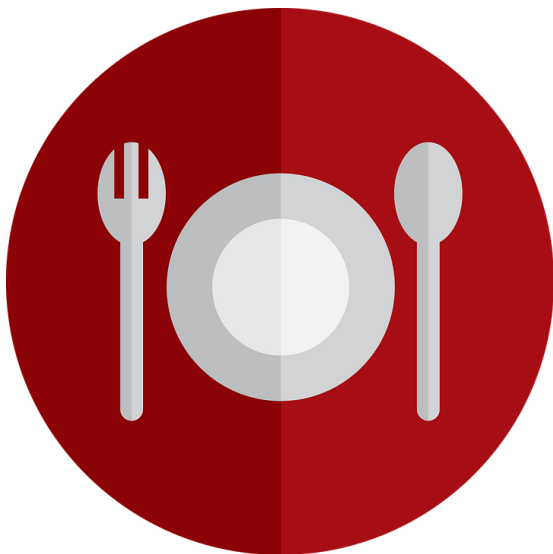


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www.springbranchpres.org

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**A special THANK YOU to
everyone that has delivered Hot
Meals on behalf of SBPC!**

***Contact Liz Earnest if you are
interested in delivering meals.***

**The Presbyterian Women will
deliver this month. Thanks to all for
your continued support of this
important ministry!**