

PRES PRESS



SPRING BRANCH Presbyterian Church

1215 Campbell Rd. · Houston, TX 77055

713-464-7659

March 2019

From The Pastor

Dear Friends,

On Wednesday, March 6 we begin the season of Lent. It is my experience that Presbyterians are not very sure what to make of this season. Some mistake Lent for "lint", that fuzzy stuff that comes off of our clothes in the dryer, or finds its way to interesting places. Obviously, this is not what Lent is all about.

Others observe that "lent" is the past tense of the verb "to lend". While this is not the idea behind the seasons either, that word brings up some interesting possibilities. Webster defines "lend" as: to allow the use of, on condition of the return of the same. So, something that is "lent" to us is something which we may use and enjoy on the condition that we remember who the real owner is.

Lent is a forty day (excluding Sundays) season of prayer and fasting and prayer preceding Easter. It is a time in which we focus on spiritual discipline. By observing the season of Lent, we are saying with our lives that the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is indeed serious business.

Often we hear of Christians "giving up" something for Lent. This can sometimes mean nothing more than refraining from something which was not very important to us in the first place. I am not sure how spiritual it really is for a person to go without eating a certain food for a season, although there may be health benefits.

This does not mean I am against giving up something for Lent. Yet, as I read the scriptures I am convinced that behind everything, we are called to give up ownership of all we have in light of the truth of the gospel promises. In other words, we are called to realize that this earth is not ours, but God's. We are only allowed use of it for a short time. So, perhaps it is indeed theologically accurate to equate Lent with lent. All that we have is a loan from God. Our time, our appetites, our desires, our families, our bank accounts, our new fellowship hall, even the very air we breathe is lent to us from God. The primary thing we are called to give up is self. This Lent, I invite you to consider how you can give up self. Perhaps it means setting aside special time for prayer or fasting. Maybe it means giving an extra sacrificial offering. Perhaps it means giving up your own time to be in service to someone else, or to worship God. Whatever God calls you to give up, remember that God has a way of replacing those things with something else of eternal value. May you enjoy a blessed Lenten season!

Your Pastor,
Kevin

"For every beast of the forest is Mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird of the mountains, and everything that moves in the field is Mine." Psalm 50:10

Missions of the Month

The Mission of the Month for March is a new benevolence for Spring Branch Presbyterian Church – BakerRipley. BakerRipley is one of the largest nonprofits in Houston. It has over 70 service centers across the Houston region.



SBPC initially partnered with BakerRipley as we assisted our neighbors in need after Hurricane Harvey. You may remember that FEMA and the Red Cross initially could not get to Houston to setup and run the NRG Shelter Center. Harris County Judge Ed Emmett called on BakerRipley to provide everything from food to cots to medical and pet assistance. Judge Emmett said the BakerRipley NRG Shelter Center would be the model for how to set up a welcoming shelter worldwide.

Every day BakerRipley is connecting hardworking families to opportunities to support their educational, financial, and civic aspirations. This belief extends from birth to older adults. BakerRipley Senior Services works directly with neighbors to create opportunities that honor their purpose and well-being. The Dementia Day Center provides a supportive environment where individuals with dementia can participate in purpose-filled, strength-based activities. Caregivers of older adults have the opportunity to access accurate information, education, and connect to others.

On Thursday, March 14, 2019, from 5:30-6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, we will be collaborating with BakerRipley to host a special program called:

"A Caregiver's Journey"

This program will present a hands-on experience that will provide tips caregivers can add to their toolboxes, teach community members how to assist caregivers they may encounter, and provide interactive simulation of the world through the eyes of someone with dementia. Additional information can be found in the Narthex about this program.

Our church will give \$1000/year to BakerRipley.

March Mission Opportunities

March 3 Blood Drive – The Blood Drive is Sunday, March 3, from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Ashley Powell at 972-571-2499 or by email at ashleycrawford161@gmail.com for any questions. Share the gift of life with others.

"A Caregiver's Journey" on Thursday, March 14, 2019, from 5:30-6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall – SBPC will be partnering with Baker-Ripley on a special program to present a hands-on experience to help caregivers as well as provide information about someone with dementia. Additional information can be found in the Narthex. **RSVPs are requested to the Church Office by Monday, March 11th.**

Souper Bowl of Caring Update – We collected six big bags of food, which was taken to Fairhaven Food Pantry, plus we received \$423.55 in cash.

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

GIVE BLOOD.ORG

Spring Branch Presbyterian

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, March 3
8:30 am - 12:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

Contact Ashley Powell
(972) 571-2499
ashleycrawford161@gmail.com
sponsor code: 0324

Share your donation story
using #commitforlife



@commitforlife



BE A 
HERO



Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center
Commit for Life®





March 6th Ash Wednesday Services

There are two Ash Wednesday Service options this year as we begin our Lenten Season. There will be a brief service at noon in the Sanctuary for those who are unable to attend in the evening. Wednesday Night Supper will be at 6:00pm, featuring Red Beans and Rice, and then we will migrate to the Sanctuary at 6:30pm for the evening Ash Wednesday Service.



PW Unwind - March 4 - Save the Date



Join the ladies of the church for our monthly fellowship dinner. We will Unwind at Barnaby's Cafe located at 5750 Woodway Dr. at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 4th. Bring yourself. Bring a friend. Let Denise Wilborn know you are coming so we can save you a seat. Contact Denise by text at 713-725-2816 or by email at dwilborn55@gmail.com.

Birthdays Celebration, Sunday, March 10



March
BIRTHDAYS

You are invited to help us celebrate our church family members born in the month of March. Join us in the breezeway on Sunday, March 10 immediately after worship for light snacks.

Presbyterian Women at a Glance

PW BIBLE MODERATORS meet 3/6 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

PW BOARD meets 3/6 at 10:15 a.m. in Conference Room.

THE HORIZONS BIBLE study using **ZOOM** will be on Tuesday, March 12, at 8:00pm to discuss Lesson 7.

PW CIRCLE meets 3/13 at 9:30 a.m at Doris Wright's House.

(11422 Pecan Creek Drive, Houston, TX 77043)

A PW ZIP on 3/20 to Bayou Bend. Look for details in the Bulletin.

HAPPY HANDS meets on 3/27 at 9:30 a.m.

Happy 1st Birthday,



Q: What do you like about Messy Church?

A: *from the kids last month...*

... the food and the friends.

... the scavenger hunt!

... building a boat is fun.

... art because of the crayons.

... the skittles and the art.

... because of the food, actually the crafts,

... the tortillas because they are yummy.

... the different activities.

... how whenever we mistakes God

forgives us and lets us restart, like Noah and his family.



All Ages are invited to The Big Picnic

March 7 @ 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall

A CAREGIVER'S JOURNEY



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church and BakerRipley are partnering to present a hands on experience that will provide tips caregivers can add to their toolboxes, teach community members how to assist caregivers they may encounter and provide interactive simulation of the world through the eyes of someone with dementia.

Thursday March 14, 2019

5:30pm-6:30pm

Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
1215 Campbell Rd, Houston, TX 77055

To register: Andrea' Williams at ajwilliams@bakerripley.org 713-685-6576





NEWS YOU CAN USE



An Evening Out for Food and Fellowship

Join old friends, and perhaps meet new ones, at the Wednesday Night Suppers.

March 6 — Red Beans and Rice

March 13 — Spring Break (No Dinner)

March 20 — Breakfast for Dinner

March 27 — Italian Food
(Pasta, Meatballs, Italian Sausage and Peppers)



Don't forget to order your Easter Lily for the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday in memory or in honor of a loved one.

You can place your orders with the Church Office until April 17th! They are \$10 each. The names of those remembered or honored will be in the Easter Bulletin.



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church is hosting an Egg Dyeing Party on Good Friday, April 19th at 10:00am. Bring one dozen (or more) hard boiled eggs and a picnic lunch. We'll dye our eggs together.

A Collection of filled plastic Easter Eggs begins March 10th for our annual Easter Morning Egg Hunt. Please deposit your eggs in the box outside the church office.



CLOSER TO HOME

The Gathering Place—Some of the Fun We Have Had Lately

The Gathering Place (TGP) celebrated the Chinese New Year with a wonderful Tai Chi class, and our Chinese zodiac wreaths and Chinese lanterns. We played Chinese trivia and had a wonderful stir fry, eggrolls, Asian slaw and lovely sweet pigs in a blanket.

Next month on March 18th, we are celebrating Rodeo and St. Patrick's Day with the Irish Cowboy and Rodeo crafts. Our guests will have a great time because they love music!!

WANTED: A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN to give a few hours to those with dementia issues so their caregivers can have a day off. The Gathering Place program has been growing as we begin our third year at SBPC. We have 10-11 guests each month. We need more volunteers to meet and greet and interact with the guests. Come join us for fun, games, crafts, entertainment, and a wonderful lunch on the third Monday of the month.



Parlor Design



The Property Group is looking for of a dynamic group of people willing and able to help give the parlor a face lift! If you are interested, and it is right up your alley, please contact Lisa Merritt at fake_momm@yahoo.com or 713-775-0033.

“LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY”



PALM SUNDAY

April 14th - 10:50a.m.

Gospel Mass

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 18th

Seder Service & Dinner

Fellowship Hall



GOOD FRIDAY

April 19th—10:00a.m.

“Egg Dyeing Party”

Picnic in the Garden

April 19th— 7:45p.m.
Good Friday Tenebrae Service

EASTER VIGIL ON EASTER SATURDAY

April 20th

More details to follow

EASTER—April 21st

7:00a.m. Sunrise Service in the Park Pavilion
(Rain or Shine)

9:00a.m. Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:00a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

10:50a.m. A Celebration of the Resurrection





SMALL TALK



March - SPRING BRANCH PRESBYTERIAN ACADEMY - 2019



Yeehaw! Go Texas Round-up was a fun filled day this past February at the Academy. Our Academy Little Partners were all decked out in their fabulous western attire. The only thing missing were their galloping horses. They all participated in a round of exciting and fun games.



Balloon Stampede!



Chicken Coop!



Horse Races!



Rope the Donkey!



Most of the Academy School Kids will be roaming our halls throughout the day with a smile on their faces on March 11th through the 15th. It is their school Spring Break and the Academy has lots of fun plans to keep them busy and happy. Pray for their well being, and for those kids that are off on fun trips with their friends and families.



Campfire!

Mr. Miguel cheerfully helped with our festivities and was in charge of tending to our campfire.

Daylight Savings Time
BEGINS!
March 10th - Spring 1 hr.

Hello Spring



Presbyterian Women
invite ALL WOMEN to

New Covenant Presbytery Spring Gathering



HEALING JUSTICE

Speakers:

Rev. Emilee Whitehurst, Houston Area Women's Center

Phoebe Lake, New Leaf Nursery, "Plants in the Bible"

Worship: Rev. Dr. Rose Niles, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Development Officer

Mission Opportunities:

Faith Mission and Help Center is a multi-campus, faith-based community working to help people become self-sufficient through emergency assistance and paths to long-term improvement in Washington County. faithmission.us Please consider bringing full sized toiletries for distribution to their clients.

- shampoo
- deodorant
- toothbrushes & toothpaste
- soap
- or canned meat, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, and fruit for the pantry.

Go to www.pbynewcovenant.org (under Ministries tab) for complete information and registration form.

Saturday, March 30, 2019

9:30am-2:15pm

Breakfast and Lunch included

Brenham Presbyterian Church

900 S. Jackson Street

Brenham, Texas 77833

Office: 979-836-7632

Register by March 23rd- \$16

Walk-in Registration- \$20

Benefit Drawings

Other reasons to visit Brenham

- Worship in Brenham PC's historic sanctuary built in 1913
- Wild flower season
- Lovely boutique shops in downtown Brenham
- Visit Bluebell Creamery's new Visitor Center and Gift Shop



SBPC Scholarship applications are now available for interested students. Completed applications are due May 1 for the year applying and should be turned in to Sarah Dikeman for the women's scholarship and Ken Crawford for the men's scholarship.

**Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
Women's/ Men's Scholarship Application
2019-2020 Academic Year**

Name: _____ DOB _____

Permanent Address: _____

School Address: _____

Phone cell: _____ home: _____

Are you employed: FT____ PT____ Work Study____ N/A _____

Name of College, University, or Technical School: _____

Level: Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____
Senior _____ Post- Grad _____

Degree Program: _____

Years Attended: _____ FT/ PT student _____

GPA: _____ Honors Program: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

On a separate piece of paper, in paragraph form, please describe:

1. Your goals
2. Extracurricular activities
3. Community service
4. How your faith and belief in God affects your studies
5. Your membership and involvement in Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
6. Use of Scholarship money
7. Any other information you'd like to share
8. Optional Photograph

**Applications are due the 1st of May for the year applying and should be turned in to Sarah Dikeman for the Women's Scholarship and Ken Crawford for the Men's Scholarship. Applicant must be enrolled or accepted at a college, university, technical school, or certification program. Scholarships will be awarded in the summer of the year applying. Recipient must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0/C average. Applicant must be an active member in good standing of Spring Branch Presbyterian Church. Reapplication may be made each year beginning January 1.

BITS & PIECES

Donate Fabric and Yarn to Happy Hands



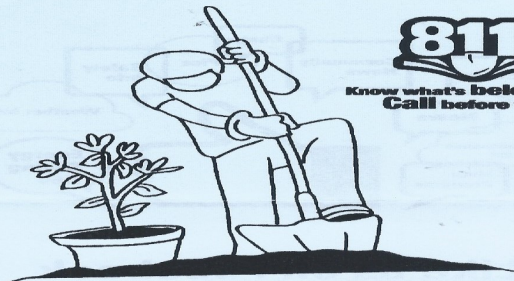
If you are starting the new year by sorting through drawers and closets, look for extra fabric and yarn to donate to our Happy Hands group. We make heart shaped pillows, lap blankets, baby caps, and scarves to give to hospital patients. We can use any washable fabric and yarn. This past year our group made 859 items that were given away to 859 people! To make a donation, contact Doris Wright at (doriswright66@gmail.com).

In the event you are cleaning out closets and come across gently used toys, such as puzzles, blocks, large Legos or other stacking blocks or toys, cars, trucks, animals too large to be swallowed, or other manipulative play toys, please donate them in the box at the Church office for use in either the Prayground or Free Play Zone (Wednesday Night Suppers).



Thank You!!

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Always call 811 before digging

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Call811.com

No-spin laundry tips that lower energy use

- Use your washer's cold cycle. Heating water uses more energy and today's detergents work well in cold temps.
- Wash full but not packed loads. Water circulation helps cleaning and rinsing actions.
- Do laundry during morning or night hours. Appliances heat up the rooms where they are located.
- Frequently clean your dryer's lint screen to cut drying time and prevent lint-trap fires.



CenterPointEnergy.com/LaundryTips

IMPORTANT PRES PRESS & BULLETIN REMINDER

ALL **PRES PRESS** articles are DUE no later than the 20th of this month! Please email your articles to Kathy Cash at secretary@springbranchpres.org no later than the 20th.

FRIDAY EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

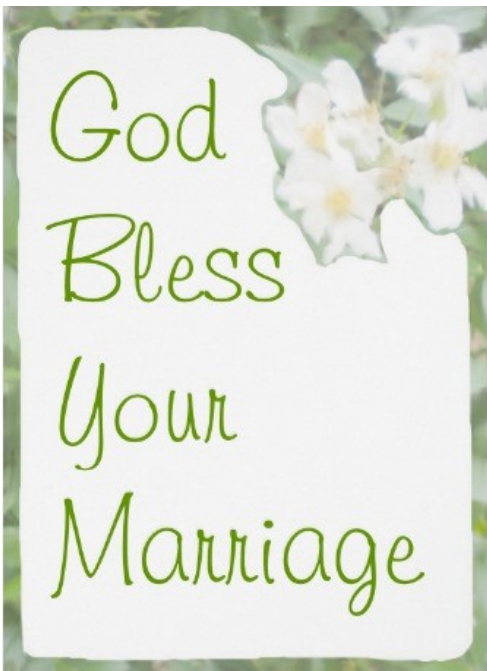
Would you like to receive our weekly announcements via email every Friday? Sign-up by visiting our Church website, www.springbranchpres.org.

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.

Birth^{day} Blessings

Noah Fake	3/1	Gwendolyn Dikeman	3/14
Andrew Blair	3/2	Linda Crawford	3/15
Al Russell	3/3	Patty Blome	3/17
Patti Walsh	3/3	Edda Chirwa	3/17
Beverly Cook	3/6	Patti Nanney	3/18
David Fuller	3/6	Matthew Lassiter	3/20
Gary Mitchell	3/7	Amber Murphy	3/22
Amy Cross	3/7	Aubrey Galbreath	3/23
Yolanda Martinez	3/8	Barbara Lanan	3/28
C. Richard Nix	3/9	Ethan Mitchell	3/29
Sam Wright	3/9		
Mike Aden	3/11		

Happy Anniversary!



Manuel and Melissa Rendon	3/1
Nick and Cyndi Ballesteros	3/27
Steve and Patti Nanney	3/30



Church Calendar

Mar 2019 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
					Session Retreat	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am - Blood drive 9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	4pm - WOW 6pm - Basketball 6pm - PW Unwind 6pm - Yoga (CR)	9am - Cong. Care 10am - Flexercise (GP)	9:30am - PW Moderator 10:15am - PW Board 12pm - Ash Wed. Service 6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 6:30pm - Ash Wed. Service 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - Messy Church @ 6pm - Yoga (CR)		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - BakerRipley 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 12:30pm - Monthly 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	4pm - WOW 5pm - Academy Board 6pm - Yoga (CR)	10am - Flexercise (GP) 8pm - Horizons Bible Study	9:30am - PW Circle 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:30pm - BakerRipley 6pm - Yoga (CR)		8am - Presb. Men
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	10am - The Gathering Place 4pm - WOW 6pm - Yoga (CR)	10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Finance Group Mtg 6:30pm - Worship Meeting	PresPress Articles DUE 9:30am - Zip Trip 6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Yoga (CR)		11am - Hot Meals
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts	4pm - WOW 6pm - Yoga (CR)	10am - Flexercise (GP) 7pm - Session (CR)	9:30am - Happy Hands (CR) 6pm - WNS @ Fellowship 7pm - Choir	10am - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Yoga (CR)		PW Spring Gathering @
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 5:30pm - Boy Scouts						



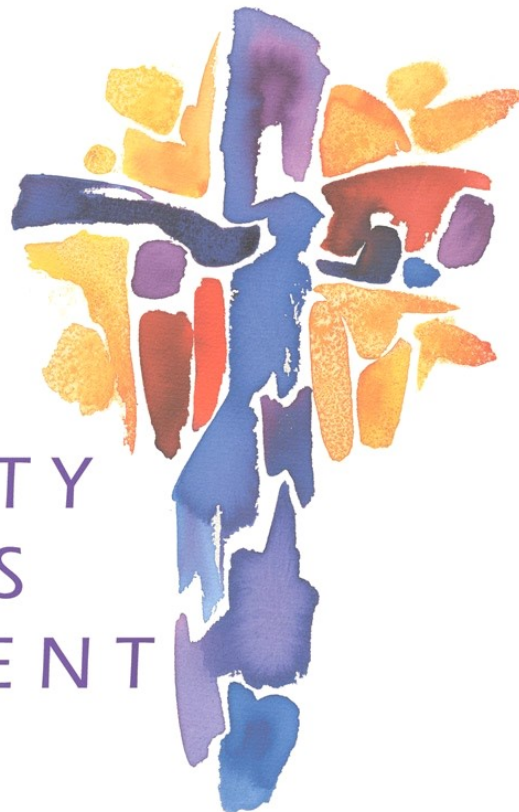
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Spring Branch Presbyterian Church
1215 Campbell Road
Houston, Texas 77055
(713) 464-7659
www.springbranchpres.org

relationships matter 

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD

THE
FORTY
DAYS
of LENT



RETURN
to the
LORD
YOUR
GOD