## PRESPRESS SPRING BRANCH



## Presbyterian Church

1215 Campbell Rd. · Houston, TX 77055

713-464-7659



Dear Members and Friends,

I can only imagine that we are all approaching the end of the year exhausted and ready to resume something of a normal schedule. This holiday season has been really busy for us here at SBPC. We have said farewell to some really wonderful partners in the faith. And yet, it also makes the celebration of Christ's coming all the more powerful. Sometimes we are shaken from our complacency by the reality of life, and the need for our trust in God comes sharply into focus.

For some of us it has been a year of struggles...Perhaps with finances, jobs, health, relationships, bad decisions, spiritual attacks and physical threats etc. The list goes on and on. We could dwell on these things and be depressed or we could look back at the blessings we experienced this last year. While the tendency is to do the former, I think we should resolve to do the latter. This is 2020. And I am praying that God will help us all to see 20/20 this year. What do I mean?

First, those things that have seemed like curses can, in God's hands, turn out to be tremendous blessings. Sometimes we learn things through the difficult times we would not have otherwise known, and they are like adding new tools to our lives for abundant living. These things do not come easily. Few things worthwhile do. May God truly give us ears to hear and eyes to see.

While we have seen some progress in key areas, we all know that we have a long way to go in the upcoming year. So my new year's prayer for us is that we will be called into a closer relationship with our Lord, where each of us is able to discern how Christ would call us to build the church. Together I believe God has great things in store for us in the new year. May we see Christ's plan with clear vision.

Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Notice that Paul does not say all things are good. But he does affirm that God is using all of those things for our good. So in this new year, may God give us the grace to deepen our trust, the closeness to see clearly, and the courage to be a loving and obedient church in the year to come.

May this new year for you be a blessed one indeed!

In Christ's Service, Kevin Boyd, Pastor

Kum K. Boyd

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." -Jeremiah 29:11



The "Mission of the Month" for January is our support for the United Campus Ministries of Greater Houston and Aggieland. UCM of Greater Houston is an ecumenical partnership between the PCUSA, Disciples of Christ, and United Church of Christ. Currently, UCM of Aggieland is supported by members from PCUSA and United Church of Christ.

In 2019, UCM of Greater Houston students visited our congregation and participated in a Mission-and-a-Meal to make scarves and blankets for PCHAS foster care families, and enjoyed a time of

fellowship. Additionally, Reverend Tami Nelson shares that in the 2019-2020 school year, a spring break mission trip focused on Hurricane Harvey recovery was successfully held. Furthermore, approximately 200 students attend the Wednesday Lunch program that congregations sponsor to help provide a home cooked meal and time of fellowship for the students of UCM Houston.

UCM of Aggieland currently has a weekly bible study and fellowship time on Sunday evenings that welcomes students from Texas A&M and Blinn College. Along with a weekly study, the students also do an outreach program at Texas A&M and Blinn College in Brenham called Peanut Butter and Jelly Fellowship. PBJ Fellowship is an opportunity for UCM students to build relationships with their peers and share their faith. In addition to on campus activities, UCM of Aggieland also takes an annual mission trip to Quillabamba, Peru each semester. Students also participate in CWS Crop Walk each year.

We invite you to learn more about both UCM of Greater Houston and Aggieland by visiting their websites at <a href="http://www.ucmhouston.com/">http://www.ucmhouston.com/</a> and <a href="https://aggieucm.org/">https://aggieucm.org/</a>.

## **January Mission Updates & Opportunities**

Angel Tree Prison Ministry Update—Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Angel Tree Prison Ministry Christmas program this year. This charity provides gifts for children who have a parent incarcerated. We helped 17 children from 6 families this year have a blessed Christmas. A special thank you goes to Laurie Mitchell for helping coordinate this mission opportunity. We also want to thank Ken and Linda Crawford for helping put together food baskets for each of the families.

**Seafarer's Boxes Update and Thanks**—On Sunday December 1, 2019, SPBC participated in our annual packing of seafarer's boxes to share with the Seafarer's Ministry at the Port of Houston. We had 25 members help with packing boxes and we were able to deliver 117 boxes this year! A special thanks to Laurie Mitchell for helping prepare the boxes and to Margret Ford and her family for delivering them.

**MAM Encouragement Cards Update** — In 2019, Spring Branch started a new program to write notes of encouragement to our neighbors who are currently searching for a job. Through the MAM Employment Services Program, we have been able to send 76 cards to date. If you would like to participate in this new mission opportunity, feel free to see Miguel in the church office.

**Fairbees Holiday Toy Drive**— The Fairbees Square Dancing Club that meets at SPBC partnered with the congregation again this year to collect toys for the MAM Christmas Share Program. We are delighted to share that they collected 5 boxes full of toys for children to have a blessed Christmas. A special thanks to Fairbees for their support of MAM!

**Souper Bowl of Caring on February 2** – the NFL Super Bowl is in early 2020, so we wanted to remind you that we will once again be participating in the annual Souper Bowl of Caring on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bring a dollar or a canned good to drop in the soup pots. Donations will go to a local food pantry.

**SBPC Hot Meals on Weekends** – The 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month we look for individuals to deliver meals to shutins. We have 2 routes with about 14 people on each route, so we usually need a total of 4 volunteers each month. Please contact Lu Taylor if you are interested in volunteering to deliver meals one month.



## This Month at SBPC



## Join us for Food and Fellowship!

January 8 — Welcome Back Buffet

**January 15** — Hamburgers

January 22 — Panko Crusted Chicken

January 29 — PW Taco Soup

All Proceeds Benefit the Scholarship Fund





Join us for Messy Church at 5:30pm on Thursday, January 2nd. We are celebrating Epiphany this month! We hope to see you there!

## First Birthday Celebration of 2020



Join us in the breezeway, weather permitting, for our first birthday celebration of the new year on Sunday, January 12. Immediately after worship we will gather for light snacks as we honor our January birthdays!

The Presbyterian Women will ZIP to Katy Mills Mall on January 15, 2020. All who wish to carpool can meet at the church at 9:30. We will leave by 9:45. We

will return about 2:00 p.m. For those who would like to meet us at the mall, we usually park near the entrance between Sun and Ski and Burlington. Please let either Sarah Dikeman or Marguerite Priest know if you plan to join us.



## Presbyterian Women this Month

## January Unwind on TUESDAY the 7<sup>th</sup>!!

We're heading back to Fuzzy's Pizza to relax after the holidays and just take time to be with friends! Please note, we are meeting on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> this month. This is to allow those who would like to attend the Epiphany service on Monday to do so. So circle your new calendar and join us.

Monday to do so. So circle your new calendar and join us. Fuzzy's (<a href="https://www.originalfuzzyspizza.com/">https://www.originalfuzzyspizza.com/</a>) is located at 823 Antoine Houston, TX 77024, on the east bound service road of Katy Freeway. We'll gather at 6:00. Make a New Years' resolution to invite a friend, someone from church who has not joined us before, or someone we have not seen in awhile. Let Denise Wilborn know you are coming at <a href="mailto:dwilborn55@gmail.com">dwilborn55@gmail.com</a>.





## PW at a Glance

PW BIBLE MODERATORS meet 1/6 at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

PW BOARD meets 1/6 at 10:15 a.m. in Conference Room.

**UNWIND CIRCLE** meets <u>1/7</u> at 6:00 p.m. at Fuzzy's Pizza.

PW CIRCLE meets 1/8 at 9:30 a.m. at Doris Wright's House.

THE HORIZONS BIBLE study using **ZOOM** will be on Monday, **1/13**, at 8:00 p.m.

View Lesson 5 at: <a href="mailto:springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/">springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/</a>

love-carved-in-stone/

A ZIP TRIP to Kay Mills Mall 1/15 at 9:30 a.m.

**HAPPY HANDS** meets **1/22** at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

**PW DIRECTORIES** are available in the Church Office.

#### Bible Study Using Zoom: January 13th at 8:00 p.m.

Lesson 5 of *Love Carved in Stone* will be discussed by the group of women using Zoom on Monday, January 13th, at 8 p.m. All SBPC women are welcomed in this Bible study group through videoconference! Contact Carol Davis at <a href="mailto:caroldavis@entouch.net">caroldavis@entouch.net</a> to receive the Zoom invitation to join the meeting. Watch the author's overview of this lesson on the SBPC website, and study books are available at \$10 each in the church office.



## New Sunday Morning Opportunity Begins January 12, 2020

Beginning January 12, 2020 Faith Development will offer a new opportunity for families with young children. Responding to the expressed needs and desires of parents, Sunday mornings will be a blend of whole family time, fellowship time with other families, and small group faith development time. The morning is chucked up to offer families several points of entry.

On Sunday mornings infants through three-year-olds will head to the nursery. Parents and their children, pre-kindergarten and older, will head to the Gathering Place. Small group time will be developmentally appropriate for the children and engaging for their parents.

Watch for future church wide emails, announcements in our worship bulletins, and other communications for details. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to support this effort, contact Denise Wilborn at <a href="mailto:dwilborn55@gmail.com">dwilborn55@gmail.com</a>.

- Whole Group Snacks (healthy) and Fellowship
- 9:30
- Whole Group
   Opening
   Prayer and
   Energizers
- Small Groups
  - Adults
  - Children



 Whole Group Songs and Closing Prayer

10:20



## Sunday Craft Workshop with a Mission January 12, 1-3 PM



Sunday, Jan 12, we will be making Valentine Cards and bookmarks. Some are for you to share and most will be for the PW to send to PCHAS kids and our own college youth. Most of the pictures are from old-time Valentine cards. All supplies will be provided but you are welcome to bring anything you would like to use. Call Kay Craig at 713-467-7932 or 713-248-4138 or email to kay@craig-heidt.com We are hoping to have monthly craft workshops so send me your ideas for future craft projects. We need something for February!

## SBPC Annual Women's Retreat

## Listening to God

Saturday, February 22, 2020 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Spring Branch Presbyterian's Fellowship Hall with Rev. Mary D. D'Alessio

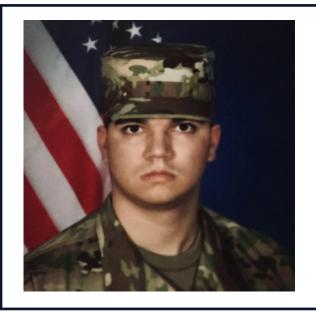
Mary is passionately interested in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, the spiritual formation of God's people, and Christian healing. After retiring from the PC(USA) in 2016, Mary continues to serve through the many opportunities God brings her way.

The retreat is sponsored by the Faith Development team.

Breakfast snacks and lunch prepared by Kay Craig and Betty

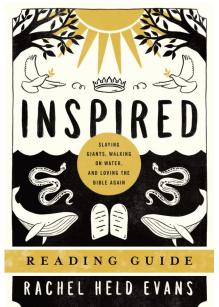
Magnuson. Cost is \$ 15. RSVP to Carol Davis by February 17; cash or checks made to Carol Davis; give to her at church or mail to her at 2515 Cezanne Circle, Missouri City, TX 77459.





Maurice has completed his first phase of training and has made it through Army Boot Camp at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He is now at Fort Lee, Virginia, attending his AIT (Advanced Individual Training) for the next 17 weeks. His class cycle is set to begin January 6th with a tentative graduation date of May 8th.

The next book discussion, sponsored by Faith Development, will be on "Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again" by Rachel Held Evans, published in 2018. "If the Bible isn't a science book or an instruction manual, then what is it? What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired? When the author found herself asking these questions, she began a quest to better understand what the Bible is and how it is meant to be read. What she discovered changed her and it will change you too. She examines some of our favorite Bible stories and



possible interpretations, retelling them through memoir, original poetry, short stories, soliloquies, and even a short screenplay. Undaunted by the Bible's most difficult passages, Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries. The Bible, she discovers, is not a static work but is a living, breathing, captivating and confounding book that is able to equip us to join God's loving and redemptive work in the world."

Discussion of this book will probably be in early April. Get 1-2 or more friends to order the book to share reading before our discussion. It's available in 225-page paperback (new or used) and on Kindle from Amazon. If you would like to be a part of a group order using Amazon Prime, contact Carol Davis.

## Reflections of Neighborhood Church

This past fall a small group of members read the book *Neighborhood Church*. Each Sunday we met at a different place in the Spring Branch area, usually for breakfast. We enjoyed breakfast tacos at Tornado Tacos and pastries, coffee at Corner Bakery Cafe, and tea at Wonderland. The reason for heading out into the community was to discuss and reflected on what we were reading with our eyes, ears, and hearts open to God's tugging to discern the real needs in Spring Branch.

Authors Tatenhove and Mueller challenge readers to turn from the mentality of scarcity to one of abundance and plenty. "A conversion from paucity to plenty must begin in the hearts and minds of each member," they state. The authors continue, "Rooted in the soil of gratitude for our faith and calling, it grows into new hope and vision." Dick Slover shares his reflection:

My thoughts are colored by the stewardship message of light and basket. I think SBPC needs to be known as an active community participant so people's curiosity is raised to the point of wanting to be a participant in Christ's message that is shinning forth. The book speaks to that effort but seems to be on a missionary basis. Find an itch and scratch it. My bent is more to find a program and become known by enlarging it and be known.

How easy is it for you to actively listen? The authors share the thought that maybe in America "we are losing both the ability and desire to listen." Yet, philosopher and theologian Paul Tillich stated, "The first duty of love is to listen." Carol Davis reflects on art of listening:

This book discussion confirmed my belief in LISTENING to those in need in the neighborhood of our church---and then have discussions of how to have creative plans to help meet these needs---not decide on our own what is "best" for the situations. The authors gave good examples of how this could be done. I recommend this book to all adult church members!

You will notice several lists outside the church office. You are invited to stop, read, reflect, and listen to the words on each chart. You are also welcomed to add your own thoughts and discernments. The lists were generated by class members at our last meeting. We blended the practice of listening and observing with the discipline of gratitude as we brainstormed the plenty and sufficiency we are blessed with at Spring Branch Presbyterian Church and our surrounding community.





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 Kan Crawford for the men's scholarship.

#### Spring Branch Presbyterian Church Women's/ Men's Scholarship Application 2020-2021 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 Soph Senior	omore Junior 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:

- 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.



\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

米

米

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## Nant to Learn Square Dancing?

COME DANCE WITH US



Visit Fairbees Square Dance Club

Thursday, January 16th, 2020 7:30-9:30pm

**Spring Branch Presbyterian Church** 1215 Campbell Road, Houston, 77055

Caller: Bill Varley



No experience necessary; no dance partner necessary Contact information: Keiko Horton, 713-271-0313; keikohorton@gmail.com www.facebook.com/FairbeesSquareDanceClub

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*





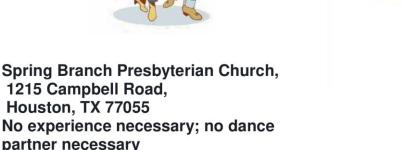
# FAIRBEES SQUARE DANCE CLUB MAINSTREAM LESSONS Starting Thursday JANUARY 23rd, 2020

6:30-7:45 pm

Free 1st dance lesson on Jan.23rd

Caller/Instructor: Bill Varley





Contact information: Keiko Horton, 713-271-0313; keikohorton@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/FairbeesSquareDance

Club



## Behind the Scenes...

Helpers are needed for compiling the lovely Sunday morning **PowerPoint** presentations we use in worship! Plenty of spots are available, training is provided, and it can be done from home, as it is not an overly difficult process. Please contact Patty Blome if you have any questions or are willing to help out!



If you are cleaning out closets and come across gently used toys, such as puzzles, blocks, large Legos or other stacking blocks, 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 (for suppers in the Fellowship Hall)! Thank You!!



#### **PARLOR DESIGN**

The Property Group is looking for a dynamic group of people who are 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.

## Handbells

Do you have hands for a joyful noise rather than a voice - then Handbells wants YOU! Our Handbell Choir rehearsals are after the Sunday Worship service. Please see Megan Hogg if you would like to join. Nursery care is provided.

#### FRIDAY EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would you like to receive our weekly announcements via email every Friday? Sign-up by visiting our Church website: <a href="www.springbranchpres.org">www.springbranchpres.org</a> —

CLICK on "sign up for our Mailing List"

**Church's Prayer Chain List?** 

A Prayer Chain Email is sent to our "prayer warriors" when we receive word about someone in need.



Calling all Members, Friends, and Academy Parents

Please join us for a Pastor's Bible Study every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.

As part of our time together, we will be exploring the passages that will be used in Worship on the following Sunday morning.

#### **Additional Church T-shirts have arrived!**



There are two color options available: Columbia Blue with Navy Text, or Royal Blue with White Text. Get both shirts in your size, or pick the color that you would prefer! The cost of the shirts are only \$10.00/each. Find Ethan on Sunday mornings, at Wednesday Night Supper, or by email at <a href="mailto:ethan@springbranchpres.org">ethan@springbranchpres.org</a> to reserve and/or receive your shirt(s).

Payments can be given to Jorida in the Church Office, or placed in the offering plate on Sundays, and notated for T-shirts.

Happy Birthday!	
-----------------	--

Barbara Tremble	1/9	Byron Goodrum	1/23
Alexandria Balli	1/10	Dr. Denise Wilborn 1/24	
Susan Heitshusen	1/11	Marc Bik 1/25	
Lucile Pringle	1/12	Virginia Miller	1/26
Kaitlynn Turney	1/12	Hazen Ballesteros	1/27
Nora Wright	1/16	Ben Dethloff	1/27
Adam Tutt	1/19	Dori Holder	1/27
Lauralai Caldera	1/20	Derek Dees	1/29
Gerald Fitts	1/20	Delia Nix	1/30
William Stockton	1/20	Paul H. Laverty Jr.	1/31
Bunnie Lezon	1/21		



Happy Anniversary!

Kip and Margaret Rouse

1/29

_	
-	
0	
_	
-	
_	
ര	
-	
_	
-	
(D)	
S	
a	
w	
$\sim$	
Section.	
()	
_	
0	
_	
m	
-	
SBP	
3,	
41	
a	
73	
0	
S	
S	
ıts	
uts	
Outs	
Outs	
Outs	
Outs	
r, Outs	
ar, Outs	
lar, Outs	
dar, Outs	
idar, Outs	
ndar, Outs	
endar, Outs	
endar, Outs	
lendar, Outs	
alendar, Outs	
alendar, Outs	
Calendar, Outs	
Calendar, Outs	
Calendar, Outs	
h Calendar, Outs	
ch Calend	
Church Calendar, Outs	
ch Calend	

Sat	8am - Presbyterian Men 1;30pm - Spec. Olympics - 6pm - CENTI Church Service	1:30pm - Spec. Olympics - 2:30pm - City of Spring 6pm - CENTI Church Service 1:30pm - Spec. Olympics - 6pm - CENTI Church Service 1:30pm - Spec. Olympics - 2:30pm - Eagle Scout Court 6pm - CENTI Church Service	
Fri	6	24	
Thu	5:30pm - Messy Church 5:45pm - Yoga (CR) 6pm - Fairbees Square	6pm - Flexercise (GP) 6pm - Fairbees Square 10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:45pm - Voga (CR) 6pm - Fairbees Square 5:45pm - Voga (CR) 6pm - Fairbees Square 6pm - Fairbees Square 10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:45pm - Voga (CR) 6pm - Fairbees Square 10am - Flexercise (GP) 5:45pm - Voga (CR)	6pm - Fairbees Square
Wed	Church & Academy Closed	9:30am - PW Circle 6pm - Wed. Night Supper 6:30pm - Arc of SB/M Board 7pm - Choir 7pm - Choir 7pm - Wed. Night Supper 7pm - Choir	
Tue	<u>e</u>	9:15am - Cong. Care Mtg. 10am - Flexercise (GP) 11am - Pastor's Bible Study 6pm - PW Unwind 6:30pm - Spec. Olympics - 10am - Flexercise (GP) 11am - Pastor's Bible Study 6:30pm - Fellowship Grp 6:30pm - Flexercise (GP) 11am - Pastor's Bible Study 6pm - Finance Group Mtg 6:30pm - Spec. Olympics - 10am - Flexercise (GP) 11am - Pastor's Bible Study 11am - Pastor's Bible Study	7 pm - Session @
Mon	08	9:30am - PW Moderator 10:15am - PW Board 3:30pm - WOW (S) 5:45pm - Yoga (CR) 6pm - Basketball (GP) 6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - Boy Scouts 7:30pm - Roy Scouts 6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - WOW (S) 8pm - Horizon's Bible Study 8pm - Horizon's Bible Study 6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - WOW (S) 6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - WOW (S) 6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - WOW (S) 5:45pm - Yoga (CR) 6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - WOW (S) 5:45pm - Yoga (CR) 6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - WOW (S) 5:45pm - Yoga (CR)	6pm - Basketball (GP) 7:30pm - Boy Scouts
Sun	59	9:30am - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 12:15pm - Handbells 12:15pm - Worship 12:15pm - Monthly 12:30pm - Monthly 1pm - Sunday School 10:50am - Worship 12:15pm - Handbells 12:30pm - Morthly 1pm - Sunday School 10:50am - Sunday School 10:50am - Sunday School	12:15pm - Handbells



Sponsored By:

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





"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

2 Corinthians 5:17