



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



From the desk of Pastor Mark...

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

One of the things that I struggle with is remembering everything I'm supposed to remember.

I can forget about appointments (even if I write them on my calendar!), where I put something important in my house, or what an old friend's name is that I haven't seen in a long time.

It is often embarrassing, it's sometimes funny, and it's always frustrating!

Pastor Savannah and I are already becoming famous for writing lists of things we both need to do or remember. She is MUCH better at remembering those things on her lists than I am, but we sometimes have a good laugh when we compare our lists and see the same things written on both. It ensures that we are truly partners - and also completely human in how we work.

However... there are some things that I will NEVER forget, no matter how busy I get, no matter what is going on, or no matter how old I am. Some memories are permanently drilled into my brain and will never leave. Here's a list of some of them:

- The love of my family and friends;
- The way Spring Branch PC has treated me for the past 25+ years as a member, an elder, a seminary student, and now as a co-pastor;
- The faces and laughter of the children in the Academy;
- The various missions our church sponsors and donates toward with time and treasure;
- The way it feels whenever I get the honor of preaching to our congregation;
- The thousands of blessings the Lord has given to me.

When Sargent Shriver, an American politician and member of the Kennedy family, was stricken with Alzheimer's Disease, he began to quickly lose his memories. Soon, he could not even recognize his wife or any of his children. However, during the daily Catholic masses he still attended, his family watched in wonder as this once brilliant man could still recite all the prayers in the service as he had done for his whole life.

The power of the Lord's love and the human spirit are things that not even dementia can take away completely.

Amen!



Spring Branch Presbyterian Church established the Academy in 1971 to meet the community's need for quality childcare and preschool education. The Academy is our primary mission, providing loving, Christian childcare to the youngest members of our community. The Academy currently has 219

kids and 43 faculty and staff members.

The Academy is governed by a six member board. Currently, Neal Dikeman, Ashley Powell, Jan Fitts, Carla Pace, Jim Kunkel and Jorida Vakiari serve on the board. We are excited that Lee Dudinsky and Lauren Tacchi will be rotating on as our newest board members in June!

Our congratulations go to Assistant Director, Nikki Childs, for earning her Director's License. We are so proud of her for attending classes and putting in the work to do this!



Nikki has lovingly helped to care for our Academy children since 2007.

#### **March Mission Updates and Opportunities**

*Family Movie Night* – Our next movie night will be on April 4th in The Gathering Place at 6:00pm. We will be watching the movie, *Ooops! Noah is Gone…* Please feel free to bring a camping chair or blanket to sit on during the movie. We hope you will join us for fun and pizza, too!

**Blood Drive** – A big thank you to Ashley Powell for helping coordinate the February 16th event. Also thank you to all who donate for this wonderful cause. We had a total of 6 whole blood and 3 double reds for a total of 12 units donated!

**Feed My Starving Children** – A group of 26 SBPC volunteers and Girl Scouts from Troop 124182 helped to pack meals at the Pines Presbyterian Church *Feed My Starving Children* (*FMSC*) *MobilePack*<sup>™</sup> event on Saturday, February 22nd! During our shift, we packed enough boxes of food to provide 33,000 meals for hungry children around the world. There was a job



for everyone – we had runners, packers, labelers, weighers, scoopers, and more. From the youngest to the oldest, there was something suitable for everyone's abilities. If you didn't volunteer this time around, keep it in mind for next year! We all had a great time.

**PCHAS Christmas Ornament Tree** – We collected a total of \$653 total in donations, including \$253 from our basketball men alone!

#### Join us for our Ash Wednesday Services on March 5th!



There are three service opportunities as we begin our Lenten Season together. There will be two brief services for those who are unable to attend in the evening (7:00 AM & 12:00 PM). We will have Wednesday Night

Supper in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM, and then our evening Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6:45 PM in the Sanctuary.

#### Wednesday Night Supper



Taking reservations during the pandemic helped us to reduce food waste in the kitchen and improved our meal planning. We plan to continue the reservation process, but will also take walk-ins as long as we have extra food to serve. Kay Craig has taken over the reservation process, so, if you'd like to attend, please email Kay at <u>kay@craig-heidt.com</u>. March 5 — Red Beans & Rice Jan Fitts

> March 12 — No Supper Spring Break Week

March 19 — Tacos Barbara and Don Tremble

March 26 — Beef & Noodles

Silvia Argyriou

Prices for the supper are as follows:Adults (age 13 & up)\$5.00Children (ages 1-12)\$2.00Family w/children ages 1-12\$12.00(immediate family only please)

We are now accepting credit card payments at Wednesday Night Supper!

# Wrapped in Love

Fellowship Hall March 6 5pm

Feel God's love. Play Games, Enjoy crafts, and Eat.





## Book, Audio & Video Exchange

## Wednesdays, March 19th & 26th

## 6:30 PM following Dinner

The Fellowship Group will have a book exchange in March. As you do your spring cleanup, set aside all your books, CD's, movies (DVD or VCR) & magazines to exchange with others. Cookbooks are especially popular!

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 the first evening and leave them until the next week.





#### Let's Celebrate Our March Birthdays!

Join church members and friends on Sunday, March 9th, immediately after Worship as we gather to celebrate those among us born in March. Sweet treats and snacks will add to the festive spirit of the day.





## Don't forget to spring forward!

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 9th. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night.

**The Gathering Place will meet on Monday, March 17th, at 10:00 AM!** The theme for this month is *St. Patrick's Day!* Please see Jacquie Ballesteros or Sarah Dikeman if you are interested in helping out.





# **Presbyterian Women this Month**

## PW at a Glance

**PW UNWIND** will meet on <u>3/3</u> at 6:00 PM at Chicken Salad Chick.

**PW BOARD MEETING** on <u>3/5</u> at 10:15 a.m. (Conference Room).

**THE HORIZONS** Evening Bible study using **ZOOM** will be on Tuesday, <u>3/11</u> at 7:00 p.m.

**PW DAY CIRCLE** meeting on <u>3/12</u> at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. If you would like to join by Zoom, please contact Patti Nanney for an invitation.

Lesson 7 Video: <u>www.springbranchpres.org/adult-education/presbyterian-women/let-justic-roll-down</u>.

ZIP TRIP to the Blue Bell Creamery on <u>3/19</u> at 9:30 a.m.

HAPPY HANDS will meet on <u>3/26</u> at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

**BIBLE STUDY BOOKS** for 2024-2025 (*Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*) are available in the Church Office. The cost is \$10.

## Bible Study Using Zoom: March 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Lesson 7 of *Let Justice Roll Down* will be discussed by the group of women using Zoom on Tuesday, March 11th, at 7 p.m. All SBPC women are welcomed in this Bible study group through videoconference! Contact Sarah Powell at <u>mrspowelltobe@yahoo.com</u> to receive the Zoom invitation to join the meeting.



Lent

**PW Unwind Group** 

The Unwind Group is meeting for a casual dinner at Chicken Salad Chick (9406 Gaylord, 77024), at 6:00 PM on Monday, March 3rd. CSC has soups, sandwiches, and sides at a great price! Recommended to us by Betty Magnuson.

Please RSVP to Jacquie Ballesteros at <u>jballesteros1103@gmail.com</u> or text to 713-305-1114, only if you have questions or plan to attend.







The PW ZIP Trip for March is to travel to Brenham to the Blue Bell Creamery for a tour of the Visitor Center, Country Store, and Ice Cream Parlor. We will be able to observe the ice cream production line too! Reservations are requested and all are welcome to join us. We will carpool from the church, leaving Wednesday, March 19th, at 9:30 AM, and returning about 2:00 PM. Please contact Marguerite Priest at <u>mepriest@hotmail.com</u> or 281-435-3941 for more information or to reserve your name.

Happy Hands will meet on Wednesday, March 26th, at 9:30 AM in the Conference Room. We have pillows to stuff and stitch, or bring your own project. The fellowship is great!





**SBPC Scholarship applications are now available for interested students!** Completed applications are due May 1 for the year applying, and should be submitted 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 2025-2026 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 S	chool:
Level: Freshman Sopho 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:

- 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.



## Saturday, March 22 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Houston Center for Contemporary Craft 4848 Main Street



Each \$25 bowl purchased provides 75 meals for our neighbors in need!

www.EmptyBowlsHouston.org



2025 Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering

Cultivating A Well-Balanced Life Ecclesiastes 3:1 -To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven

> April 5, 2025 | 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. St. Philip Presbyterian Church 4807 San Felipe St. Houston, TX 77056

Speakers for the Spring Gathering

Mahlon Hight Director of Congregational Care and Senior Adult Ministry Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church Dallas Meg Scott-Johnson Member of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance National Response Team St. Philip Presbyterian Church Houston

#### **Presbytery of New Covenant Presbyterian Women**

#### 2025 Spring Gathering

St. Philip Presbyterian Church

4807 San Felipe St., Houston, Texas

#### Saturday, April 5, 2025

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Registration and continental breakfast
10:00 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	Welcome & Presbytery PW Business Meeting
10:40 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Mahlon Hight, Cultivating a Well Balance Life
	Break
11:40 c m 12:20 c m	Meg Scott-Johnson, RE - Essential Tips for being prepared for Natural
11:40 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Disasters
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Fellowship
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Worship Service Led by Rev. Keatan King, Communion
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Fellowship

#### Registration Deadline: Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

#### Make your check payable to: PW - Presbytery of New Covenant

----- Print, then detach registration form and mail with your check ------

Send your registration form and payment to:	
Cynthia Rogan, Treasure	Registration Fee: \$18
2410 Colby Bend Drive	First – Time Attendee: \$15
Katy, Texas 77450	Late/Walk In: \$20
cynthia.rogan@hotmail.com / (281) 630-1136	

Namo

Name	
Address	
City	Zip Code
Phone #	E-Mail
Church	City
Emergency Contact Name	Phone #
Will you Attend Breakfast? Yes No	Will you attend lunch? Yes No
Special Dietary Needs:	

Please send questions or concerns to Mary Ann Thomas, Co-Moderator ma.thomas48@yahoo.com / (713) 594-1872

#### Attention all young adults! All college-aged to mid-thirties, up and coming professionals are welcome!

You are invited to the Young Adult Breakfast Club with Pastor Savannah Goodman at Island Grill (979 Bunker Hill Rd, 77024) on Sunday, 3/16, at 9:00 AM. The Young Adult Breakfast Club meets monthly for a time of fellowship and connection. Childcare is available at the church. We will meet at the church at 9:00 AM to carpool. Bring \$5 and the church will cover the rest! We look forward to connecting with you then! Please email Pastor Savannah Goodman (savannah@springbranchpres.org) with any questions.

# Easter Egg Hunt!

On Easter morning, April 20<sup>th</sup>, after breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, we will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt for all children who would like to participate.

We need donations of the following:

- Small, individually wrapped candies
- small toys
- stickers
- plastic eggs

Please bring these to the church office.



After church on Palm Sunday, we will stuff the eggs for the Hunt. Many hands make light and quick work. Come to help if you can! Some volunteers last year stuffed eggs at home and brought them to the office the week before. That is a great idea as well and thank you all for your help in making this a success!



Children's Sunday School Class meets 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at 9:30am in the Children's classroom in The Gathering Place.





MARCH - SPRING BRANCH PRESBYTERIAN ACADEMY - 2025





In perfect color.



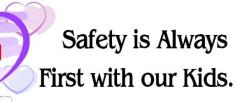
CONGRATULATIONS! to the "BEARS CLASSROOM" "WINNERS" of the BULLETIN BOARD COMPETITION.

Don't get pinched! Wear the color green on St. Patricks Day, March 17th.



The Academy is gearing up for... SBISD SPITTOR BREAK WEEK

### MARCH 10TH THRU 14TH



he Academy is always making sure that our teachers are trained and ready to protect our children at a moments notice. We have monthly drills in case of fire, weather alerts and evacuation. Teachers know specifically where to take their classroom for protection during an alert. In February, our teachers did an excellent job evacuating in a timely manner.



## **Idea Spring Presents**







Thursday, April 10th 5:00 PM 1215 Campbell Road (Dinner at 6:00 PM)

Questions? Contact Ethan Mitchell at ideaspring@springbranchpres.org.

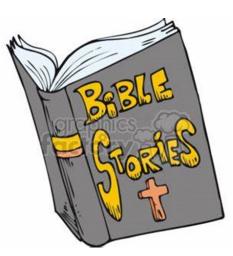
The Wonders Down Under – G'Day Mate! This program is an exciting look at some of Australia's most interesting creatures like the blue tongued skink, bearded dragon, sugar glider, wallaby, and Jaxx, the big red kangaroo.



**f** @SBPC.Idea.Spring www.springbranchpres.org/ideaspring



*Stories & Songs* occurs during Worship, with stories from *Growing in God's Love*, songs, coloring pages, and crafts. Pastor Savannah has chosen the stories to coincide with the Sermons. This program is during the Worship Service for ages 3-6 years old. Children leave the Sanctuary right after Children's Moment and are returned to their parents during the last hymn.



Volunteers are needed weekly to help with this program. Please call Pastor Savannah in the church office or Jacquie Ballesteros at 713-305-1114.



**Children's Chime Choir:** The Chime Choir meets in the Sanctuary at 9:30 AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. This is a chance for elementary aged children to get to ring chimes as part of Worship. We are excited to continue this new adventure! Please contact Megan Hogg (megan1661@yahoo.com) for additional details.

## Calling all Youth!!

The Youth meet in the Youth Room for Bible Study, Fellowship, and Mission work with the Pastors. Meetings are at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. Other volunteers for the program are Jordan Goodman, Carla Pace, and Riley Fairchild.



If you would like to volunteer for a segment, please call Jacquie Ballesteros (713-305-1114), or Pastor Savannah Goodman at the church office. Please come and join in the fun!!





We will have **Easter Lilies** again this year! Place your order now through Friday, April 18th. You can order by using the form in the Narthex or Church Office, contacting Ethan Mitchell at <u>ethan@springbranchpres.org</u>, calling the Church Office (713-464-7659), or using this <u>Google Form</u>.

The cost is \$10 each, and the payment can be mailed to the church office or placed in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. The names of those being honored or remembered will be shared with the congregation on Easter Sunday morning.



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SPECIAL OFFERINGS HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

#### Ways to Give:

- Through your congregation (Easter Sunday, April 20th)
- Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- Text OGHS to 91999 to give

This Lenten season, please give generously to *One Great Hour of Sharing*. Our gifts help to improve the lives of people in challenging situations through these three impactful programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.

## BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH



Would you like to beautify the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings while honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion? The 2025 Flower Sign-Up Calendar is located in the Narthex. If you are currently worshiping from home, but would still like to sponsor flowers for a Worship Service, you may signup digitally by using this form: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/30E084CABAC2BA1FA7-54170716-2025, or email

jorida.vakiari@springbranchpres.org. The cost per arrangement is \$65.00. Special arrangements vary and should be requested EARLY! Checks should be written to SBPC and mailed to the Church Office



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, 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. Or go to this LINK to sign-up online!

#### FRIDAY EMAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would you like to receive our weekly announcements via email every Friday? Sign-up by visiting our Church website, <u>www.springbranchpres.org.</u> sign up for our Mailing List

#### **Church's Prayer Chain List?**

The email prayer chain is open all who would like to pray for those individuals in need of prayer. If you would like to be included in the email prayer chain as a prayer warrior or if you have a prayer request for an individual, contact <u>swdmmd@dikeman.net</u>. It is requested that prayers be for your family members, or extended families and friends who are in need of prayer.

# Saturday, March 22 10am-2pm

#### FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

on Knoż

Spring

Market Dan

JOIN US FOR SHOPPING, VISITING WITH NEIGHBORS, AND GETTING OUT IN THE SPRING WEATHER UNDER OUR BEAUTIFUL OAK TREES. THERE WILL BE A VARIETY OF VENDORS WITH HOMEMADE ITEMS AS WELL AS ESTATE SALE ITEMS.

21,

JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2525 N.GESSNER RD. HOUSTON, TX 77080 JOHNKNOXEVENTS@GMAIL.COM 713-462-5448 WWW.JOHNKNOXHOUSTON.ORG



Noah Fake	3/1	Madeline Powell	3/14
Andrew Blair	3/2	James Qualls	3/14
Patti Walsh	3/3	Linda Crawford	3/15
Beverly Cook	3/6	Austin Smith	3/15
David Fuller	3/6	Patty Blome	3/17
Amy Cross	3/7	Edda Chirwa	3/17
Gary Mitchell	3/7	Patti Nanney	3/18
Yolanda Martinez	3/8	Matthew Lassiter	3/20
Richard Nix	3/9	Amber Murphy	3/22
Sam Wright	3/9	Barbara Lanan	3/28
Floyd Christopher	3/12	Ethan Mitchell	3/29
Piper Dikeman	3/14		





Cyndi and Nick Ballesteros	3/27
Patti and Steve Nanney	3/30
Mario and Lauren Tacchi	3/30

Church Calendar, Outside SBPC Reservations						Mar 2025 (Central Time - Chicago)
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	E	Sat
23	24	25	26	27	28	-
						6pm - CENTI Church Service (GP)
2	e	4	2 L	9	2	8
Transfiguration of the Lord	6pm - PW Unwind	10am - Flexercise (GP)	Ash Wednesday	10am - Flexercise (GP)	7pm - CENTI: Youth Program (YR)	6pm - CENTI Church Service (GP)
9:15am - Nursery	7pm - Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)	10:30am - Staff Meeting (P)	7am - Ash Wed. Service (Foyer)	1pm - Pastor Mark's Bible Study		
9:30am - Children's SS Class (GP		6pm - Basketball (GP)	10:15am - PW Board Meeting (CR)	5pm - Messy Church (FH)		
9:30am - Sunday School		7pm - CENTI Bible Study &	12pm - Ash Wed. Service (S)	6pm - Cub Scouts Blue & Gold		
9:45am - Choir Practice			3:30pm - WOW (S)	6pm - Fairbees (GP)		
10:50am - Worship			6pm - WNS			
			6:45pm - Ash Wed. Service (S)			
σ	10	11	12	13	14	15
1st Sunday in Lent	5:30pm - Academy Board Meeting	10am - Flexercise (GP)	9:30am - PW Circle	10am - Flexercise (GP)	6pm - SBM Arc Meeting (CR)	8am - Presbyterian Men (CR)
Daylight Savings Time Begins	7pm - Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)	6pm - Basketball (GP)	3:30pm - WOW (S)	1pm - Pastor Mark's Bible Study	7pm - CENTI: Youth Program (YR)	6pm - CENTI Church Service (GP)
9:15am - Nursery		6:30pm - Fellowship Meeting (CR)	5pm - Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)	6pm - Fairbees (GP)		
9:30am - Chime Choir		7pm - CENTI Bible Study &	7pm - Handbell Choir (S)			
9:30am - Sunday School		7pm - Horizon's Bible Study on				
9:45am - Choir Practice						
10:50am - Worship						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
2nd Sunday in Lent	10am - The Gathering Place (FH)	10am - Flexercise (GP)	9:30am - ZIP Trip: Blue Bell	PresPress Articles DUE	7pm - CENTI: Youth Program (YR)	11am - Hot Meals
9am - Young Adult Breakfast Club	7pm - Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)	10:30am - Staff Meeting (P)	3:30pm - WOW (S)	10am - Flexercise (GP)		2pm - Memorial Service: Leo
9:15am - Nurserv	7pm - Mission Team Meeting	6pm - Basketball (GP)	6pm - WNS	1pm - Pastor Mark's Bible Study		6pm - CENTI Church Service (GP)
0.30am - Childran's SS Class (GD		Zom - CENTI Rible Study &	6-30nm - Rook Evchanda (EH)	6nm - Eairheae (CD)		
9:30am - Sunday School			7pm - Handbell Choir (S)			
9:45am - Choir Practice						
10:50am - Worship						
12:15pm - Cong. Care Mtg. (CR)						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
3rd Sunday in Lent	7pm - Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)	10am - Flexercise (GP)	9:30am - Happy Hands (CR)	10am - Flexercise (GP)	6pm - SBM Arc Meeting (FH)	6pm - CENTI Church Service (GP)
Scout Sunday		6pm - Basketball (GP)	3:30pm - WOW (S)	1pm - Pastor Mark's Bible Study	7pm - CENTI: Youth Program (YR)	
9:15am - Nursery		7pm - CENTI Bible Study &	5pm - Girl Scouts (GP 1, 2, 3, 4)	6pm - Fairbees (GP)		
9:30am - Chime Choir		7pm - Session (CR)	6pm - WNS			
9:30am - Sunday School			6:30pm - Book Exchange (FH)			
9:45am - Choir Practice			7pm - Handbell Choir (S)			
10:50am - Worship						
30	31	F	2	3	4	2
4th Sunday in Lent	7pm - Boy Scouts (Scout Hut)					
9:15am - Nursery						
9:30am - Sunday School						
9:45am - Choir Practice						
10:50am - Worship						
	-			-	-	



Sponsored By:

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

relationships matter

GOD • ONE ANOTHER • WORLD

