

WEB PRESS

April, 2011



Out of the ashes...

As we continue our journey to the Celebration of Easter, there will

be many more opportunities for us to meet. Please prayerfully plan on participating and asking others to join you.

Tuesday Services & Lunches – 11:30am –12:30pm, March 15 – April 19 service, then enjoy a soup and bread lunch.

Wednesday Services – 6:30–7:00pm March 16 – April 20 Prayer service and Communion.

The Spirituality Center will be opened for you to take time to focus on your spiritual walk with Christ. The Center is open each Sunday morning and Wednesday night during April and Monday through Friday of Holy Week.

Palm/Passion Sunday, April 17, 8:30am and 11:00am Services,

The Procession of the Palms and the Passion of Christ

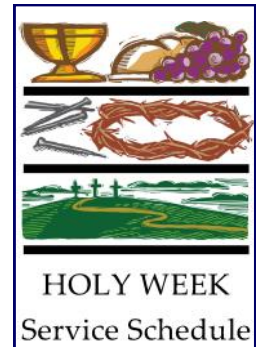
Maundy Thursday, April 21, 7:00pm, The Passover Meal portrayed in “The Living Last Supper” with Hand Washing and Communion

Good Friday April 22, 7:00pm, The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

Mozart’s “Missa Brevis” presented by WPC Faith Choir and Musicians

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 23, 7:30pm,

Begin in the Meditation Garden by the fire



Easter Sunday

Celebrate the Risen Lord!

Breakfast in Fellowship Hall –9:30am

All church family and visitors are invited to the "Church Family Easter Breakfast" between services Easter morning, April 24. Please join us at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall for a great breakfast prepared by Ed Boyer and his team of Breakfast Enthusiasts and a time together as an extended church family in fellowship and activities.



Family of Faith

FROM THE WPC LIBRARY: BOOK REVIEWS AND NEWS

“Bunnies aren’t any good to anyone,” or so Barrington Bunny thinks one lonely Christmas Eve, until he learns that being able to hop and be warm are gifts. “And every gift that is given to anyone is given for a reason,” the great silver wolf assures him. *The Way of the Wolf: The Gospel in New Images* by Martin Bell is a series of short tales, poems, and songs that present the heart of the gospel in new and challenging ways. Whether he tells of Barrington or Joggi, the porcupine who was afraid to love, or the rag tag army of the church that keeps marching in circles, Bell will “inspire you to consider and celebrate such things as love, forgiveness, acceptance, salvation and commitment” (publisher’s comment). This book, now available in the WPC library, is appropriate for youth and adult readers. Kaylin Dupree

Same Kind of Different as Me is now available in the WPC library. It is the non-fiction story of a Fort Worth international art dealer and millionaire and his socialite wife and their encounter and growing relationship with a modern-day black slave. It is so heart-wrenching and life changing that it is now being made into a movie. The three encounter many twists, turns, and changes in their lives. You cannot believe their lifestyles are so affected by things like a soup kitchen and a sculpture of cattle in downtown Fort Worth. The interaction between the millionaire couple and this homeless man evolves in many ways and is truly the main theme of the book. I do not want to reveal any details, as it does include some mystery and intrigue, so this might not be the best of reviews, but I hope each of you takes the opportunity to read a book that causes you to laugh, cry, be mad, and say, “I am going to go out and do things to help others, not because I think I should, but because I want to do something that really will help others.” I consider this to be one of the best books I have ever read. Dorothy Kennedy

LIBRARY NEWS

Work continues in the WPC Library. Thanks to the donation of a computer and money toward a software program, we are beginning to catalog our books and audio visual materials so the information will be available on the Library computer. Soon, instead of having to scour the shelves to find a book and learn whether or not it is available, you can go to the e-catalog!

This month, we have begun publishing reviews to highlight books recommended by members. See Dorothy Kennedy’s review of *The Same Kind of Different as Me*, and Kaylin Dupree’s review of *The Way of the Wolf*. Members who have favorite book(s) you would like to review or donate are encouraged to contact Kaylin Dupree, our volunteer librarian! See you in the Library!

WPC IN MISSION:

Going into the World/Our Faith in Action

WPC HELPS END POVERTY HOUSING!

As members of the Webster Presbyterian community of faith, we have three opportunities this spring to help Habitat for Humanity reach the goal of ending poverty housing.

- March 26 Work to build or upgrade one of three Habitat houses

- May 14 Work on this year’s Women Build house

- May 21 Help complete a house that will soon become the home for a deserving family

WPC, as a founding member of Bay Area Habitat for Humanity, has helped to build over 50 homes in our neighboring community of Dickinson. Lots of different jobs are available, no special skills or tools necessary. Stop by the Habitat display in the narthex for more details, or call Carl Allen.


A CONGREGATION IN MISSION

The Mission Team met in retreat Sunday afternoon, March 13, at Helen’s home. We welcomed new members and continued sharing ideas about the ways the Webster community of faith might extend the love of Christ into the world through mission outreach. We identified areas of concern and passion, the ways we already are engaged, and hopes for the future.

For 2011 and beyond, the Mission Team wants to focus WPC resources of time, talent, and funds on areas of need for which members of the congregation have **energy and passion**. We would love to hear from **YOU** -- Where do the world’s needs meet your passion? How might you be willing to lead or serve? Send your ideas, suggestions, and willingness to participate to Carl Allen or Pastor Helen.

A new mission opportunity we are considering is **Family Promise**. This is a ministry that involves a network of 13 churches, each of which would provide housing on its premises for families who are without housing (about four times a year, for seven nights, Sunday evening through early Sunday morning). Jackie Allen is looking for a few volunteers to go with her to experience a host church in action to help us determine if we have the time, talent, commitment, and passion to also become a host church. If you would like to participate in this field trip, contact Jackie Allen at Jaclyn.allen-1@nasa.gov, right away! She is working to set up the trip as you are reading this! There’s only room for 6, so it’s first-come, first-served.

(MISSION NEWS continued next page)



Family of Faith

"Mark"ings

What's going on in the world? Things seem to be falling apart. The Middle East is in turmoil with revolutions and revolts, with perhaps no end in sight. Our country may be in its own revolution, with profound social and economic changes. People's rights are being taken away and large segments of the population are cheering about it. The environment and the climate are changing, and disasters seem to be happening all over. Not all that long ago Hurricane Katrina virtually destroyed New Orleans, and Hurricane Ike did a serious number on our own community. A massive oil spill in the Gulf affected things in ways we are yet to comprehend. A huge earthquake and tsunami hit Japan, killing thousands and thousands of people, and that is followed by a nuclear disaster that, at this writing is still unfolding. Some say that all this unrest and all these wars and disasters are fulfilling the biblical signs preceding the Second Coming of Christ, of the end of the world. In fact, as a billboard in our area lets us know, a major Christian organization, Family Radio, which has a vast network of radio stations in our country and around the world, says that Jesus is coming back on May 21, 2011. If they're right, time as we know it will very soon come to an end.

The Second Coming of Christ is something we Christians should welcome. It is, in fact, known as the "Glorious Hope" of the Church. Somehow, though, it sounds like bad news. If Christ comes back on May 21 that's going to mess up a lot of wedding and graduation parties and long-awaited vacations. If Jesus comes back before our lives are completed we are going to feel cheated. What should we think about all this?

First of all, we should not be afraid of the Second Coming. The fulfillment of history, of God's plan, can only mean good things for the Earth and God's children. Secondly, I am not personally expecting the world to come to an end on May 21. I don't personally have any special insight into the matter, but the Bible says that no one knows the specific time of Christ's coming. That surely includes Harold Camping, the head of Family Radio. I expect that what will happen on May 21 is that he will join the long list of people who have predicted it happening on a certain date and been proven wrong. Thirdly, I suspect that no scenario for the Second Coming that anyone has envisioned, including the fictional representations in the Left Behind series, will bear any resemblance to the actual occurrence.

Maybe it is human ego, but it seems human beings have a great propensity to see their particular time as special, the time towards which all history has been pointing. There may be nothing special about our times at all, other than that our higher population numbers and greater technology make our problems seem larger than those faced by our ancestors. I also doubt that there is anything special about our disasters. Disasters have been happening pretty regularly all along, for millions of years. What is new about our time is that we have an incredible news machine that makes sure we know all the details of all the disasters all the time.

I think we need to live not expecting that there will be a great supernatural event that will end the world. I think we should be more concerned about how we might bring the world to an end rather than how God might do it. I think we should live as if Jesus is already here, ready to enlighten us, strengthen us, and encourage us in the most difficult of times. Jesus said, "In this world you will have tribulations, but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world." (John 16:33) Whatever troubles we face, as individuals or as a nation or as a world family, we can be assured that God is there with us and will be there on the other side – whatever that "other side" might look like.

Mark

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – WOMEN WALK AND BUILD

Building a house, even through Habitat for Humanity, is expensive. Dedicated WPC women (plus a few good men) joined sisters and brothers from across the Bay Area in late February to walk and raise funds for the next Women Build House. So far they have raised over half of the house's cost, and funds are still coming in. The Women Build Project is an initiative to increase the involvement of women in the advocacy and construction of decent, affordable housing. Bay Area Habitat started its Women Build program in 2008 and has completed two houses so far. The 2011 house will be under construction soon, and WPC members will be building on Saturday May 14. Check the Habitat display in the Narthex to learn more and sign up to help. If you would like to contribute to the building of this house, please make your check payable to WPC, and write "Habitat Women Build" in the memo line.



OUTREACH

Outreach deals with spreading the message outside the congregation. The goal is to build the Kingdom of God. The objective is to let people know WPC is here, it's open and welcoming, and they are invited! We'll mobilize the congregation for outreach and educate people on inviting guests; after all, most people come to a different church simply because they were asked. A great icebreaker is to wear sporty attire that identifies you as a member of WPC. Before now, this was a bit hard to do. Today you can go to WPC's Cafepress shop and select from a wide variety of clothing and other items to show your pride in your church. Visit the WPC shop here today <http://www.cafepress.com/WebsterPresby> and start your new outreach role.

Andy Posluszny –Elder chair—Outreach Committee

Family of Faith



Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center **Blood Drive, Palm Sunday, April 17th!** We're kicking off the 2011 series of blood drives at WPC on Palm Sunday, April 17th. This year we're trying something a little different. The April 17th blood drive will take place in the Gallery Room. Please stop by and consider sharing the gift of life with others. Your donation can help save up to 3 lives. Watch for the sign-up lists in the Narthex. Also, if you donate at one of the local Gulf Coast Regional Centers, please ask that your donation be credited to the Webster Presbyterian Church, account #1953. For information, contact David Bolon.



Womens Retreat Bake Sale

Bake Sale

WPC's Women's Retreat Committee is holding monthly bake sales to raise funds to help defer the cost of the annual retreat. The bake sales are scheduled for the first Sunday of each month (except May) between the 8:30am and 11:00am service and after the second service in Wholy Grounds.

We would be delighted if you would be willing to bake up something wonderful and donate it to our sale. Cakes, pies, cookies, bread, cupcakes or whatever you create will be welcome. We even had homemade biscotti, apple tarts and cake balls last month! So have fun and be creative.

In May, the bake sale will be held on Mother's Day, May 8, and will be in the form of a silent auction. We are planning to have some magnificent masterpieces to present for the auction. If you have a special recipe, this would be the time to bake it!

If you would like to participate in this endeavor or have questions, please email or call me, so we can keep track of who is bringing what each month.

If you would rather eat it than bake it, be sure to stop by and take home some of our goodies.

Many thanks and blessings,
Julie Middaugh



Campus Ministry

On February 26th our Carol Bell Choir participated in the 2nd Annual Gala Dinner at First Presbyterian Church in Houston benefiting the Robert and Margaret Tucker Endowment for Campus Ministry. The honorees were celebrated for their work in the Ministry of the Word all over the world and here in Houston, mostly through the United Church of Christ. The Carol Bells played "For the Beauty of the Earth." Our director was Eric Late filling in for James Kidwell. Carol Bell performers that night were: Liz Clifford, Judy Wilson, Janette Johnson, Char Ingram, Nancy Spivey, Cynthia Wood, Nina Moede, Allyne Ratliff, Wilma Wood, Stephanie Moore and Debbie Kidwell. Their gift of music enhanced the event and was very well received. Thanks to those who filled in for regular players who could not attend.

Webster Presbyterian was very generous in donating items for the silent auction and other gifts totaling more than \$700. United Campus Ministries is always accepting donations. Please speak with Nancy Spivey if you would like to donate your gift of time or money. All gifts, great or small are appreciated.

Young at



The Young at Heart trip to the Museum of Fine Arts took place on February 25 with 22 people attending. We all enjoyed seeing the special exhibit of Impressionist Art.

The committee is planning bus trips for the following dates:

Monday, July 11; Friday, August 19; and Thursday, September 22. We are planning a trip to an Astros game, but are waiting for the bus company to give us a date. We would appreciate your suggestions for places to go.

If you have any ideas for local trips for driving/carpooling together, we can do that for the months we don't have a bus available.

Young at Heart is open to anyone aged 50+ and would like you to join us. Please contact Liz Clifford or Paula Bray.

Thank you! From Jeannette Booher

Over the last two years, I have seen firsthand, not only what prayers can do, but when you relax how they can lift you to your goal. The verse from Isaiah 40:31 "They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint" comes to mind; that is exactly what your prayers have done for me these last two years while I have been in school. I finished my classes; now we can celebrate! I invite all you all to attend my graduation:

Date: Friday, April 29, 2011 (the Friday after Easter)

Place: Pasadena Convention Center,
7902 Fairmont Parkway

Time: 7pm, but please arrive by 6:40pm



Children's Ministry

Children's Calendar

Lent Sunday School: The Road to the Cross, Sundays, 9:45-10:45am

Worship: Sundays, 8:30 & 11am

Children's Chapel: Sundays, after the Children's Sermon at the 11am service

J.A.M. (Jesus And Me): Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm, room 105, for K-5th grade

Child Care: Sundays, 8am-noon; Wednesdays, 6-9pm

SAVE THE DATE: WPC Vacation Bible School, June 12 – 16, featuring "Shake It Up Café!"



Playground Project

Two of our senior high youth will be orchestrating improvements to our children's playground for their final Scout project. Marshall Godwin is working on his Eagle Scout and Michelle Dupont is working on her Girl Scout Gold Award. The focus of their projects is ensuring the safety and enjoyment of our children. As part of their project, they are responsible for leading a work day, organizing the project, raising funds for the improvements, obtaining supplies, and recruiting people to help. The improvements will include: flooring for both playgrounds, additional seating (benches, picnic tables), additional shade, securing and repairing existing play equipment and fences. We are excited that they have chosen WPC for their projects and ask for your encouragement and support as they plan the details. We anticipate a work day in late April / early May and hope you will join in the hard work and fun!

Active Parenting Sunday School Class

During Lent, the Active Parenting class will study Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails." Martin Luther is quoted as saying, "This is the mystery of the riches of divine grace for sinners; for by a wonderful exchange, our sins are now not ours but Christ's, and Christ's righteousness is not Christ's but ours." "He Chose the Nails" is a sometimes humorous and always thoughtful study of how Christ loved and loves us enough to facilitate this exchange.

After Lent, we'll finish our interactive DVD and book study of "Boundaries for Kids." The class meets Sundays, 9:45 -10:45am in room 101.



CHILDREN'S SABBATH



Children's Sabbath 8:30am Service



Children's Sabbath 11am Service

Youth Ministry

2011 Confirmation Class – IN SESSION

This spring, five eighth graders have embarked on a milestone in their journey of faith – Confirmation Class. At WPC, a Confirmation Class is offered each spring and is designed to educate young people on the Christian Faith and Presbyterian Tradition, while equipping them to discern and articulate their own affirmation of faith. Classes are already underway on Friday evenings from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., and will last through May 6. The classes are led by Rev. Caressa Murray and adults of our church. Confirmation students also have an adult mentor that serves as a support and guide for them through this class. We ask that you would encourage and pray for these young people as they grow in their faith and deepen their involvement in the Church. **Confirmands:** Nadia Posluszny, Alexis McNeill, Marco Balletto, Jonathan Snowden, Jamie Marley.

Easter Baskets for Nursing Home

On April 10, our Junior High youth will have a “stuffin” good time making Easter baskets for the residents of Regency Village nursing home. We need everyone to bring items for the baskets: travel-size toiletries, playing cards, sugar free candy, pocket tissue, etc. The Junior High youth will deliver the baskets on Palm Sunday afternoon and then return to the church for a delicious dessert.

April PYC plans

Spirituality Center (created and designed by our youth) will be open Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings in April.



Sunday, April 3 JR: Lunch & Movie SR: Couch Wars

Sunday, April 10 JR: Stuffin' Party (Easter Baskets) SR: Backyard Project

Wednesday, April 13 - CHILLAX

Sunday, April 17 JR: Delivering Easter Baskets SR: “The TED thing...”

Sunday, April 24 WPC Easter Breakfast No PYC or Youth Music

Senior High Mission Trip follow-up Meeting for Parents & Youth participants will be held on **Sunday, May 1**, from 6:00 – 7:00pm. Mark your calendars!

Youth Summer Trip List

Vacation Bible School at WPC

June 12 – 16

Youth needed as helpers. Training sessions will be held prior to event.

Youth “After Hours” VBS at 8:30 – 10:00pm

Senior High Mission Trip to work with the Navajo Nation at Gallup, New Mexico

June 24 – July 3

Cost is \$200. Verbal Commitment due by Sunday, April 3; Payment due by Sunday, May 15

Junior High Jubilee at Mo-Ranch near Hunt, Texas

July 10 – 14

Cost is \$250. Balance due by April 3.

Synod Youth Workshop at Tulsa, Oklahoma (University of Tulsa)

July 10 – 16

Cost is \$275. Sign up & payment deadline is Sunday, May 1.

Junior High Mission Trip to Lampasas, TX

July 31 – August 6

Cost is \$200. Payment deadline is June 6.

One MO Trip to Mo-Ranch

September 4 - 6

Cost is \$100. Sign up & payment deadline is Sunday, August 8.



Lenten Spirituality Center

Family of Faith

Calling All Cookie Bakers



Many of you have expressed interest in helping the United Campus Ministries and their outreach to students. There is an opportunity for you to help that is needed now. On April 10th please bring a dozen or two of your favorite home baked cookies to Bouton Hall marked UCM and the Fellowship Committee will bag and get them to Guinn at the U of H campus. We need any amount of cookies you are willing to bake at home. This is a great way to provide something home baked for students who otherwise would not have any and everyone knows home baked cookies are fabulous! Our

Fellowship team will label the bags with a scripture and indicate that this is a gift from the WPC congregation. Thank you for your help!

Fellowship Team, Nancy Spivey—UCM Board Member



Please join us for Early Risers' Breakfast on Sunday, April 10. It will be a buffet style breakfast in Bouton Hall from 9:30-10:30am and everyone is welcome. Select from a Special Menu and enjoy good food and fellowship there or get some breakfast tacos on your way to Sunday School class. Come hungry and bring a friend.



APRIL

Birthdays

Whole Lotta Stuffin' Going On!!!

Donations needed for Nursing Home Easter Baskets

In the spirit of Easter, our Junior High youth will participate in a "Stuffin" service project. And they need YOUR HELP! The youth will be stuffing over 100 Easter baskets for the residents at Regency Village nursing home. We need the following items to make sure the baskets are nice and full: travel-size toiletries, pocket tissue, sugar free candy, playing cards, stationary, etc. A donation basket will be available in the sanctuary narthex on Sundays, April 3 & 10. On Palm Sunday afternoon, our Junior High youth will deliver these Easter baskets and home-made cards. Help them brighten someone's Easter with a basket of goodies from their friends at Webster Presbyterian!

Lenten Spirituality Center

During this season of Lent, our WPC youth will host a **Lenten Spirituality Center** for our church members, friends and community. What is a spirituality center, you might ask? A Spirituality Center is a place for people to seek solitude, quiet and peace. It is a sacred space created to help you escape from the harried pace of everyday life and openly receive, reflect, and respond to God's Spirit.

Our youth have designed and created a Spirituality Center for the season of Lent, which will be held in our Fellowship Hall. **The Center will be open Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings from April 3 through April 22.** The Spirituality Center will contain an indoor labyrinth and several prayer stations. This will be a wonderful opportunity for you to learn, reflect, and explore different spiritual practices during this contemplative time.

Backyard Project

WPC's youth are looking for a "Backyard Project." Do you have a fence that needs repairing? Do you have bushes and debris to clear from your yard? Do you need assistance with small repairs in your house? Then call on our young people (and their adult sponsors)! These talented and skilled youth are ready to help! If you or someone you know is in need of help with yard work or small projects, then please contact Elder Kevin Snowden or Rev. Caressa Murray. We are looking for a project for April 10.

04/01: Evelyn Timmins	04/16: Elaine Haycraft
Jim Sulivant	Brenda Faxel
David Thames	Nathan Grunden
Kelli Yeamans	04/18: Sonya Wilson
Walker Little	Hollie Bailey
04/02: Frank McMillan	04/20: Ruben Trono
Michele Ferguson Talplacido	04/22: Wendy Peters
Robert Hunter	John (Jack) Frey
04/05: David Owens	Michael (Hagan) Frey
John Grady	04/23: Juanita Schaefer
04/06: Pearl Anderson	Timothy Murray
04/07: Paul Cianchetti	Gregory Wilson
04/08: Catherine Gragg	Crystal Smith
Evelyn Dye	Ryan Fletcher
Christopher LeBlanc	04/24: Daniel Montgomery
04/09: Q. J. (John) Vandervort	04/25: Jace Frey
Travis Peevey	04/26: Nathan Douglas
Gabiella Rodriguez	Karen Bihm
04/10: Richard Brackett	04/27: Ryan Noriega
Heather Frank	Kevin Galvan
04/11: Ashley Rodgers	04/28: Aaliyah Faith Bigueras
04/13: Ronald Peugh	04/29: Thomas Porter
Joanna Baleson	Kellen Gregory
David Snowden	Catherine Spivey
04/14: Henry Hughes	Rachel Lopez
Zane Januhowski	Audrey Looney
04/15: Crystal Rorrer	04/30: Barbara Barlow
	Elaine Lapka



**NEWS OF THE
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PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH FAMILY**
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Fax: 281-557-9552

Website: www.websterpresby.org
Office Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm M-F

To encounter the loving God,
To nurture followers of Jesus Christ,
And to meet human needs.



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Or Current Resident

Holy Week



MAUNDY
Thursday Service
April 21st - 7 PM



**GOOD FRIDAY
SERVICE**
April 22nd 7:00PM




**Easter Vigil
Saturday**
April 23rd, 7:30PM




**Palm
Sunday**
April 17th

Celebrate Easter!



April 24th
8:30 and 11:00



**Easter Breakfast
Between Services**