

# WEB PRESS

May, 2011

*Mother's Day*

*May 8th*

Celebrate Mothers, Grandmothers, Stepmothers, "someone special" or whatever you may call the woman in your life that means so much to you.

The Women's Retreat Team is planning a special Bake Sale and Silent Auction starting at 9:30am and continuing until after 2nd service. The Bake Sale is in the Fellowship Hall.

Ed Boyer and his cooking team will be serving a special Mother's Day Breakfast in Bouton Hall from 9:30am—10:30am. "Take out" is available so you can attend Sunday School classes.

Check inside the newsletter for more important activities happening in the month of May! Have a Happy Spring!



## The Youth of Webster Presbyterian Church

will be performing their annual Spring Musical,

### "Welcome Back Billy Best"

on Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28. Written by Jody Lindh & Joe Cox, the prodigal son story is told in a delightful "Roaring 20s Setting." Aside from being a great musical experience and a whole lot of fun, this musical and dinner are a primary fundraiser for WPC youth mission work.

Tickets go on sale May 8. Ticket prices and times are:

**Dinner:** 6:30 pm — \$5

**Musical:** 7:30 pm — \$10

(Students \$7/ages 5 & under free).

Performances will be at Webster Presbyterian Church located at 201 West NASA Parkway in Webster. For more information call 281-332-1251 or visit [www.websterpresby.org](http://www.websterpresby.org).

## OPERATION PLAYGROUND

by Michelle Dupont

For my Girl Scout Gold Award Project, I have decided to lead a renovation of the Webster Presbyterian Church's children's playground area, along with Boy Scout member Marshall Godwin, who is working on his Eagle Scout Award. There are many parts of the children's playground that we hope to be able to fix. Under the play equipment there is nothing but hard ground. There are few trees, which provide little shade. Some of the benches and picnic tables have begun to rot, and the play equipment's wood needs to be re-sealed and painted. We hope to be able to create a softer ground around the play equipment by using either rubber tire ground cover or additional sod. We also plan to plant twelve Cleveland Flowering Pear trees that will grow quickly in five years to create appealing shade and be able to withstand the climate we have. We also hope to be able to build and put in four new picnic tables, along with five new benches for seating. Then with primer and sealer paint we will cover those new picnic tables and benches, as well as the playground equipment. And finally, to add some color, we will paint the playground equipment. But to do all of this, Marshall and I need some help from **YOU**, the congregation of WPC. Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup> Marshall and I will be selling pieces of a puzzle to 'Build the Playground.' We would appreciate all donations to help our project. If you would like to donate a picnic table, bench, tree, or any other part of the project, we would really appreciate that too. Our goal is to have church wide workdays on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. We need everyone from little children to adults who are children at heart to come out and help us restore our playground. There will be plenty of work to be done and many different types of skills needed. Thank you for being so supportive of our children, because the children of today are tomorrow's future! So let's join together to create a safe and fun environment for the children and their families to enjoy!

### A Note from Joyce Sens on Pictures for the Newsletter

We appreciate the pictures we have been receiving for the newsletter, but many times we cannot use them or if we do they appear "fuzzy." When we print pictures there is a difference between how they look on paper and on the Internet. Please call or email me and I can talk with you about how we can get the best pictures printed for you in the newsletter.



Webster is a caring Church! Thank you for the prayers, cards, and concerns.

Dana Strahan



Memorial Day  
*Remember Those Who  
Gave Their Lives*

In April a Dinner Club 7 group met at Regal Estates. Shown here are Ron and Julie Middaugh, Joan Crane, Pat and Pete Koester, Joan McMillan and Edna Arnold. Joan Crane and Edna Arnold both live at Regal Estates. We were welcomed by the staff and provided with linens, tableware, coffee and tea. We appreciated their wonderful hospitality.

# Family of Faith

## *"Mark"ings*

For several years WPC has been experimenting with our video equipment, trying to discover how it best fits within the life of our congregation. It began to be used very quickly in the 8:30 worship service, it being well-understood from the beginning that the screens would fit well in the structure of that service. We then began to use the equipment occasionally at the 11:00 service, giving people a sense of how it could be used and how it could enhance worship for some people, if not for everyone. During Advent of last year we used it in all of the 11:00 services, and stopped using it after Christmas. It was then people began to speak up with some regularity, and insistence, saying such things as, "Hey, why aren't we getting to use the screens at 11:00 anymore?" The members of one of our Bible study groups even signed a petition asking for its regular usage at the 11:00 service. In light of the comments heard, after much discussion among the worship staff and the worship committee, it was decided to implement the video equipment at the 11:00 service on a regular basis. There would be some differences from the use of the screens at 8:30. It was thought that it might be distracting to have them on part of the time and off part of the time, so it was decided there would always be something on the screens, although it would be more subdued, and less "active" than at 8:30.

After re-starting usage of the screens, the feedback was once again very positive. One member of our church said, "Oh, thank you for using the screens at 11:00. My husband cannot see the hymnal anymore, and for the first time in a long time he can once again participate in worship." Others mentioned how arthritis had made it difficult to hold the hymnals, and how the screens had made singing the hymns pleasurable again.

Change can be difficult to handle. We on the church staff know that, and we know that adding the screens to our worship represents quite a large change. This change was not done carelessly. It represented much study and deliberation, lasting for years. (It's still going on.) The addition of the screens to our worship at the 11:00 service was not a change determined ahead of time. After these years, though, it seems as if their addition represents the wishes of the vast majority of our members and has definitely made a very positive contribution to the worship experience of at least some.

As we have always heard, it is impossible to please everyone all the time. While the feedback we have heard has been almost 100% positive, no doubt there are those who do not see the screens as a positive addition. That is very distressing to those on the worship staff. We do not wish to detract from anyone's worship experience, or disappoint or trouble anyone. For those who don't like the screens, the hymnbooks and the bulletins will always be available. No one has even suggested that we no longer use them at 11:00. Also, we hope that those who don't like the screens will take seriously the needs of some of their brothers and sisters in our family of faith. There are those for whom the screens mean a great deal, enhancing their experience of worship. Surely no one would want to take that from them.

We are certainly not finished evaluating the use of our media equipment at WPC. Perhaps they will someday be used more extensively, perhaps less. One certainty is that change will never stop coming. Two hundred years ago no one envisioned electric lights in churches. One hundred years ago perhaps no one foresaw the coming of public address systems. Fifty years ago only a few, at most, thought projectors and screens would be regular features in churches. Now, all three are here. Who knows what's coming next?

*Mark*



If you visited the church during the week of April 10 –16th you may have seen our Buildings and Grounds crew working on the lighting outside as well as in the Sanctuary. It was quite a task maneuvering this behemoth machine in tight spaces but it was an effort much appreciated to have our lights working again. Thanks guys!

# Family of Faith

## WPC and the Pentecost Offering

The WPC community of faith annually participates in the four PC(USA)-approved offerings that serve the world beyond our doors. Some of them also provide funds for our own community. We have just participated in the One Great Hour of Sharing (taken on Palm Sunday), and a report about the proceeds from that offering will appear in the June newsletter.

On Pentecost Sunday, which falls on June 12 this year, we will participate in the **Pentecost Offering**. This offering benefits children at risk; 40% of the funds are retained by our congregation for distribution by the Mission Committee, the remaining 60% will go to the PC (USA) to fund the many initiatives at the national level that provide services and ministry to children domestically and internationally and will also support youth and young adult leadership development.

Prepare yourself through understanding by going to [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org) website, type in "Pentecost Offering," and educate yourself on this opportunity; prepare yourself by being present in worship to see and read the bulletin inserts and hear the Minute for Mission; prepare yourself through prayer, asking God to help you discern what your gift should be; participate by giving generously on June 12 (if you can't be in worship on June 12, plan to make your gift early—make your check payable to Webster Presbyterian Church and write "Pentecost Offering" on the memo line).

## WPC HELPS BUILD QUALITY HOMES FOR WONDERFUL FAMILIES

The Webster Presbyterian community of faith has a long-standing partnership with the Bay Area Habitat for Humanity. We have participated in building an entire community of homes in Dickinson. Through this ministry, families have had the opportunity to step up from sub-standard housing into homes that provide a foundation from which they are better able to prepare their children for meaningful, fulfilling lives.

You, too, can be a part of helping fulfill the dream of home ownership for families who have been living on the edge. Join us for these opportunities:

Women Build                      May 14

Co-Ed Build                         May 21

Sign up in the narthex, or contact Carl Allen.

## News from the Senior Ministry Team

The Senior Ministry Team is continuing to increase its outreach to the WPC congregation. With the "**Holy Rollers**" (Parking Assistance) in full swing, and the monthly "**Luncheon and a Speaker**" series up and running, we are ready to start the "**Phone a Friend**" program. This call reassurance program pairs two members who agree to call each other daily at a designated time.

The targeted population is elderly members living at home or in independent living facilities, shut-ins, or any people who live alone. By having a daily call, people will have the security of knowing someone will check on them to be sure they are safe. At the same time they will be maintaining contact with their church family. If you are leaving town and need someone to call your loved ones (parents, spouse), temporary arrangements for calling can be made.

We need people who are willing to be callers, as well as people who would like to be called. Contact Coco Motley ([mmotley214@att.net](mailto:mmotley214@att.net) or 281-648-8034) to volunteer, or if you need more information. Wouldn't you like to be someone's special lifeline?

The next "**Luncheon and a Speaker**" meeting will be on **May 17 at 11:30am in Bouton Hall**. Our speaker, René Dennis, from the Harris County Sheriff's Department, will talk about Senior Safety. She will discuss ways to stay safe while you are out, as well as ways to keep your home more secure while you are there or away. She will also make us aware of the con games, internet frauds, and charitable scams going on in our area so that we are less likely to fall victim to them.

Please contact Carolyn in the office to reserve your place for this meeting.

"**Luncheon and a Speaker**" will be taking a break for the summer, but will resume our luncheons in September with many special speakers planned. We hope you will continue to join us for food, fellowship and fun! Your participation and support have been greatly appreciated.



# Children's Ministry

## Sunday School

During Lent we studied Holy Week. Each week we named 12 important events in the order they happened then studied on one or two specific events in more detail. We used different learning styles, from movement in games to working with interactive maps in the computer lab. To help us learn more about the Last Supper, we made matzos and "wine" (grape juice with Sprite). On Palm Sunday we learned more about Jesus' journey to the cross. We used our senses of touch and smell to examine objects that remind us of that journey, then made crosses of wood, nails, paper or beads.



We worked as a team to make and cook matzos.

We found and named the disciples at the Last Supper.



The matzos tasted better if we dipped them in "wine."

I helped!!!



## Let's Shake It Up at Vacation Bible School

June 12 – June 16, 2011

## Coming Up & Important Fall Dates!

### Sunday School in May

"Jesus Appears to his Followers"

Mary's surprise, the disciples' surprise,

Thomas' surprise

May 29: Memorial Day weekend

**June 5: Teacher appreciation**

June 12: Father's Day; Pentecost; VBS starts

June 19: VBS picnic, games, fun!

### Summer Sunday School

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

August 21: Move Up Day

Kids move up to their new classes & meet the teachers!

Sept. 4: Labor Day weekend

Sept. 11: "Prayer-full Fall" Sunday School begins



Jesus calls us to "Shake Up" our lives and become his followers and the Bible gives us the recipe: be ready for God's call, give happily to God and to others, believe fully in Jesus as God's Son, remember Jesus' life and teachings and celebrate God forever.

Come join the fun and learn the stories of biblical festivals that reveal the ingredients that link our lives today to the Old and New Testaments. Dinner at 5:30pm, \$4 adults, \$1 kids (6 to 12), under 5 free, \$12 maximum for family. VBS from 6:15pm-8:30pm. Child care is available with VBS participants ages 3 years-Adult. You can also join the fun by volunteering; Contact Laura Shipman or Nina Moede to help out.

# Youth Ministry

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> our congregation will recognize all the graduates in our church family, whether they are completing their studies in High School, a University, Jr. College, or Business/Technical School. They will be acknowledged at both worship services and with a cake reception following the 11:00 service in the Fellowship Hall foyer. Please send a brief biography with a few words on your future plans and two pictures (one recent and one from childhood) to Rev. Caressa Murray by e-mail no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>. These will be used to produce a Graduate Brochure as well as for projection slides in the services. After the Graduates' Reception, the Sr. High sponsors and Sr. High youth will take our High School graduates to lunch.

Our Graduating High School Seniors are:

Sarah Cravens, Michelle Dupont, Sarah Fixel, Marshall Godwin, Colleen Grady, Trevor Grunden, Hannah Haws, Lance Kelley, Shelby McNeill, Graham Montgomery, Elizabeth Noriega, Robert Noriega, Rudy Noriega, and Michael Tobia

## CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION – MAY 15<sup>th</sup>

Confirmation Class is an important milestone in one's journey of faith for it helps discern and articulate what someone believes and affirms about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Church, and themselves. Our five Confirmands are wrapping up their class this month and will be examined before session on Sunday, May 8, during the Sunday school hour. During worship on Sunday, May 15, we will recognize these Confirmands for their hard work and completion of WPC's Confirmation Class, and welcome our new church members. You are invited to join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall during the All-Church potluck to meet and congratulate these amazing young people! Then on Sunday, May 22, after second service, the Confirmands and the rest of our junior high youth will go out to lunch to celebrate.

**2011 Confirmation students:** Marco Balletto, Jamie Marley, Alexis McNeill, Nadia Posluszny, Jonathan Snowden.

A special thank you to our Confirmation mentors, teachers and the parents of these students for their love, support and guidance. We also thank YOU, the congregation, for your prayers and encouragement of these young people.

## SUMMER TIME

**Sunday School:** Our Junior and Senior high youth will combine classes for the summer and meet in the Senior high room. They will take a look at how our faith informs everyday decisions like money, friends, media, body image, etc.

**CHILLAX:** We will take a break for the summer. No Wednesday night activities this summer.

**PYC Sunday Nights:** We have some out-of-the-ordinary activities and outings planned that you won't want to miss! Keep a look out for what's coming up! Schedule can be found online, as well as the usual email updates and bulletin announcements.

On the road again...Our youth have some amazing trips and opportunities planned for the summer. If you have not signed

up for mission trips and church camps, there is still time! See Pastor Caressa ASAP!

## Sr. High Mission Trip

From June 24<sup>th</sup> through July 3<sup>rd</sup> the Sr. High youth (30) and adult sponsors (11) of our church will be driving to Gallup, New Mexico for our annual Youth Mission Trip. And this year we will be joined by 4 youth and their 2 adult sponsors from St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Needville, TX, who have not been on a mission trip such as this before. We have planned several service projects such as sheet rocking, painting, building a covered walkway, digging, replacing flooring and other work for the Navajo Nation. This will be a unique opportunity for us all to experience a different part of the United States and different culture. We are looking forward to a time of worship, fellowship, and service as we build relationships among our groups and with those we meet. The youth and their leaders greatly appreciate the support, encouragement, and prayers you have provided thus far. There will be upcoming chances to support the mission trip, including the annual Youth Musical in May. In addition, direct donations to defray the costs of building materials, paint, food or transportation costs are welcome. Please see Pastor Caressa Murray or Kevin Snowden, Youth Elder for more information. And we give thanks for our wonderful family of faith as we seek to follow the Lord.

## VBS AfterHours: JUNE 12-16

YOUTH, come join us for some after hours fun during VBS week! AfterHours VBS is a time for our youth to fellowship, play games, enjoy snacks, help clean and set up for the next day, and study God's Word. All youth 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up are welcome!

**ADULTS –** We need 2 adults to help lead our AfterHours: one person to lead games and one to lead an evening devotional. Contact Pastor Caressa to help.

## MAY Schedule

Sunday, May 1	SR Mission Trip meeting for Parents and Youth JR Scavenger Hunt & Bring-A-Friend Night
Friday, May 6 – Saturday, May 7	Youth Musical Lock-in at WPC
Sunday, May 8	No PYC or Youth Music
Sunday, May 15	Confirmation Celebration Youth Musical prep
Sunday, May 22	Graduate Recognition JR take Confirmands to lunch SR take Graduates to lunch
Thursday, May 26	Dress Rehearsal for Youth Musical
Friday, May 27 – Saturday, May 28	Youth Musical Dinner & Show
Sunday, May 29	No PYC



# Family of Faith



- 05/01: [April Stanley](#)  
[Frank Little](#)
- 05/03: [Betty Montgomery](#)
- 05/04: [Nancy Spivey](#)
- 05/05: [Kimberly Merritt](#)  
[Blaize Hartig](#)
- 05/07: [Annabelle Andler](#)  
[David Steele](#)  
[Melissa Refford](#)  
[Kristin Smith](#)  
[Matthew Davis](#)
- 05/08: [Evelyn Paden](#)  
[Andrew Hart](#)
- 05/09: [Kyle Steele](#)  
[Garrett Allen](#)
- 05/10: [Thomas Kloves](#)  
[Alan Wylie](#)  
[Robert Davis](#)  
[Christopher Seiter](#)  
[Cole Anderson](#)
- 05/11: [Joe LeCour](#)  
[Olivia Bihm](#)
- 05/12: [Mary Shaw Motley](#)  
[William Knowles](#)  
[Patricia Brackett](#)  
[David Floyd](#)  
[Timothy Briggs](#)  
[Jenny Hays](#)
- 05/13: [Diana Hill](#)

- 05/14: [Rae Gillespie](#)  
[Tom Camp](#)  
[Thomas Hays](#)  
[Caleb Kidwell](#)
- 05/15: [D'chelle Miller](#)
- 05/16: [Janet Davis](#)  
[Patrick McLellan](#)
- 05/17: [Priscilla Manson](#)  
[Michael Bradley](#)  
[Mandy Becker](#)  
[Amy Waehner](#)
- 05/19: [Thomas Laity](#)  
[Molly Blakeslee](#)  
[Melisa Ferguson](#)
- 05/20: [Jonathan Rodgers](#)
- 05/21: [Adella Jones](#)
- 05/22: [Kimberly Kinzler](#)  
[Wade Barclay](#)  
[Alicia Ruiz](#)
- 05/23: [Carolyn Bolon](#)  
[Logan Hermstein](#)
- 05/25: [Lois Letson](#)  
[Ian Russell](#)
- 05/26: [James East](#)  
[Wendy Noriega](#)  
[Clayton Schulz](#)
- 05/27: [Sandra McAfee](#)  
[Kathryn Braeuer](#)  
[Ron Middaugh](#)  
[Michael Brennan](#)
- 05/28: [Scott Douglas](#)
- 05/29: [George Koenig](#)  
[Melinda Refford](#)  
[Cynthia Bowen](#)  
[Ariana Cowan](#)



The Fellowship Committee is planning a potluck that is sure to please! On May 15th we are going "back to the islands" with a Caribbean themed potluck luncheon after 2nd service. Paula Walter is providing us with authentic recipes from her native country.

For our last luncheon we used "Perfect Potluck" to allow folks to sign up for different dishes. That worked so well, we are going to try again. Watch for the email notices. If you have trouble with email—you can still sign up by calling Jennifer Carr (or let us know after church in Wholy Grounds). Plan on wearing your tropical attire that Sunday so you will be comfortable!



The LAST Early Risers' Breakfast for the school year will be on May 8th in Bouton Hall from 9:30-10:30am. This is Mothers' Day and we are planning a "special" menu in their honor. As usual we will feature take-out items for those heading to Sunday School as well as the sit-down buffet items. Please come hungry and bring your mother to start her special day off right.



**NEWS OF THE  
WEBSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH FAMILY**  
201 W. NASA PARKWAY  
Webster, Texas 77598  
Phone: 281-332-1251  
Fax: 281-557-9552

Website: [www.websterpresby.org](http://www.websterpresby.org)  
Office Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm M-F

For pastor emergencies, please call  
281-322-0015

A pastor will return your call.

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



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Or Current Resident

## Dates to Remember this Month

- May 8 Mother's Day – Breakfast in Bouton Hall  
Bake sale and silent auction – Fellowship Hall
- May 14 Playground workday
- May 15 Confirmation Class Recognition  
Caribbean Potluck Luncheon
- May 17 Senior Luncheon and Speaker
- May 22 Graduate's Recognition
- May 27-28 Welcome Back Billy Best" Youth Dinner and Musical

