



# WEB PRESS

November 2011



## *The Annual Thanksgiving Feast!* November 16<sup>th</sup>



The last year has been hard on many of us, financially and emotionally. We have lost jobs and many dear friends and family members have moved or passed away. That said, we have much to be thankful for. Look around you. See those that you love and the friends that are here. Let's give thanks to God for what we have and the time we have to share it.

**November 16th** is the date of the annual Thanksgiving Feast at WPC. Your Fellowship Committee, along with many friends, will provide

turkeys and dressings, vegetables, gravy, cranberry sauce and rolls. All that we ask from you is to bring a dessert to share. If you cannot do that—come anyway—there is always plenty of food for everyone. Family, friends and neighbors are welcome! All will be fed.

We were happy to have the First Responders from Webster join us last year. They have once more been invited so if you see a uniform, tell them "Thank you" for helping to keep our community safe for all of us.

The dinner will start at 5:30 and will continue until 7:00—thirty minutes longer than our normal WND hour. This should give all those that have to get home from work time to get in line!

All good things come from God. Let us celebrate the bounty he has given us.

And one more opportunity to celebrate friends and family. This tradition has been going on for many years. Newcomers are always invited.

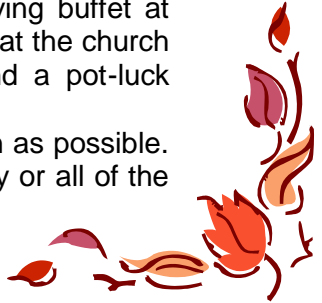
### *Thanksgiving at Brazos Bend State Park*

The Annual Thanksgiving Celebration will again be held at Brazos Bend State Park. There will be group meals on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

**Wednesday evening** is a pot-luck buffet meal available for several hours to accommodate those coming after work. Thursday is the big Thanksgiving buffet at 2p.m. sharp (Please sign up for items you will bring on the sign-up poster at the church early in November). Friday brings a group breakfast about 8a.m. and a pot-luck evening Mexican themed meal.

ANYONE planning on camping, please let Ed Boyer know as soon as possible. Non-campers are welcome to join the daytime activities and meals on any or all of the days. For more information please contact Ed Boyer.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!



# Family of Faith

## Young at



The Young at Heart trip for September was to the Museum of Fine Arts as we took advantage of their Free Admission Thursdays. Ten attendees enjoyed the permanent exhibits at a leisurely pace. We all ate lunch at the Café Express inside the museum.

Mark your calendars for **December 2** and bring your Christmas gift list when we go shopping at the expanded **Outlet Mall** on Route 290.

Young at Heart is for anyone aged 50+ and bring a friend! Call Liz Clifford or Paula Bray for information.

## Don't forget ...

The next Senior Luncheon on November 15th will have a special speaker. WPC's own Cathy Black, who is an occupational therapist, will speak on the topic "Home, Safe Home." She will discuss adaptive equipment that can help all of us get around more easily, as well as ways to make our houses safer and more functional. Please join us at 11:30 in Bouton Hall for food, fun, and fellowship! If you would like to help the Senior Ministry Team by providing food for this luncheon, please contact Jeanie Murray or Coco Motley. To reserve your place for this event, call Carolyn in the office to RSVP by Friday, November 11.

Your B&G committee has been busy trying to catch up on all of the repairs that need to be made. Ross Looney helped by putting in the new A/C in Bouton Hall. See the before and after pictures. Ken Thompson fixed all of the lights in the parking lot and the Fellowship Hall (no more candles required!) as well as repaired the water damage to the Cross wall in the Fellowship Hall. There is still much to do but that's how you eat an elephant—one bite at a time! Thanks guys!

## SEAFARER'S SERVICE PROJECT

*"Fulfilling the Great Commission with Seafarers at our own Back Door"*

Every Christmas, our Junior High youth participate in a very special ministry – **Seafarers Christmas Boxes**. The Seafarers Center, located in downtown Houston, ministers to the thousands of men and women from every corner of the world who travel through the five major ports in this area. Most sailors spend a short time in port and the Seafarers Center offers them an opportunity to communicate with family, relax from the shipboard routine and experience American culture. Chaplains are on hand at the Seafarers Center to assist and minister to these sailors, sharing the Gospel through word and deed.

During the Christmas season, the International Seafarers' Ministry spreads the grace of hospitality and caring in the guise of colorfully wrapped cardboard boxes. These boxes are part of the **Seafarer's Christmas Box project**. Each box is filled with practical gifts – socks, soap, shoelaces, razors, toothpaste, and the like; as well as the whimsical – miniature puzzles, games, and greeting cards. **Help make a difference in the lives of hard working sailors this Christmas with simple gifts and generous hearts.**

Donation drop-off: Sundays, November 6 & 13 – Red Wagon in Narthex

## Covenant Groups:

The new year is a good time to make new commitments. We are hoping to begin a new Covenant Group. Anyone interested please contact Jane Markley or Pastor Helen DeLeon 281-332-1251.



**Join the Choir ...  
You'll Be Glad  
You Did!**

*Jane Markley says, "Thank you!"*

My health is on the mend and I want to thank the congregation for their prayers and cards. I had a close call and I know your prayers helped. My sincere thanks for your loving care.



Ken Thompson brightens the parking lot



### ITEMS NEEDED:

Shoe boxes  
Christmas wrapping paper

Soap  
Shampoo  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrushes  
Dental floss  
Disposable Razors  
Shaving cream  
Hand lotion  
Band-aids  
Aspirin  
Socks  
Handkerchiefs  
Combs  
Nail clippers  
Writing pads  
Envelopes  
Postcards  
Stamps  
Ballpoint pens

Pocket calendars  
Scissors  
Needles & Thread  
Key chains  
Bottle openers  
Playing cards  
Pocket Kleenex  
Q-tips  
Word puzzles  
Chapsticks  
Hard candy & Gum  
Deodorants  
Address Books  
Flashlights  
Disposable cameras  
Baseball caps  
T-shirts  
Texas Souvenirs  
*(All toiletry items should be travel size)*

# Family of Faith

## "Mark" ings

A phrase that has become widely used in recent times is "comfort zones." It's a good phrase. It works really well, but why do we need it? It describes places we find comfortable and therefore want to stay, but so does another word we already had – "ruts." Maybe the phrase "comfort zone" was invented because it sounds OK to stay in one of those while to stay in a "rut" sounds like something we ought not to do. Why is a comfort zone acceptable while a rut is less so?

Whether or not a "comfort zone" is better than a "rut," the point is that we tend to find places, ways of doing things, and even people that we are comfortable with and stick with them rather than those that make us feel uncomfortable. There's nothing wrong with that. It's only natural. It only becomes a problem when it might be better for us to step out of our rut or our comfort zone and willingly put up with being less comfortable for awhile in order to achieve a greater good, and therefore even greater comfort, later.

The temptation to stay in our comfort zones, or our ruts, is found in all areas of our lives. It is certainly found in the church. We do what we do here at WPC because, by and large, we like things the way they are. All of us can find areas where we would like to see things be done differently, but we generally like things the way they are or together we would change them. Or, we would leave.

A primary example is how we worship. We have two Sunday morning worship services. They are both traditional, Reformed services. The difference is that one utilizes what we tend to call "contemporary" music and at the other what we call "traditional" music. Within certain limits we have all found our level of comfort within what WPC offers, worshipping at the service we like best, whether that is because of the music or because of the time or because of the people who are there or, well, because of whatever. Our worship structure works for us, and, as with leaving all comfort zones, the thought of change causes us stress. On the other hand, can it actually be that we already have the most ideal worship structure or schedule possible? Could we not be doing anything differently in ways that would enhance our worship, increase attendance, or whatever?

Your worship committee has been struggling with these questions for some time now. We would love to hear your thoughts and feelings on these matters. And, should changes be proposed at any time in the future, please listen to those proposals prayerfully and with an open mind. Who knows? They might lead us to a place that is far better than any of us would have dared dream.

## Mark

### IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT CHRISTMAS!! 2 WAYS YOU CAN OPEN YOUR HEART TO OTHERS: GIFTS OF JOY AND ICM CHRISTMAS STORE

Yes, dear friends, it *is* time to start thinking about Christmas - how you'll celebrate—how you and your family will mark and honor the anniversary of the greatest gift the world has ever been given—the birth of Christ.

Webster Presbyterian Church has two honored traditions for celebrating Christ in our lives at this time of year. Both give us opportunities to share the gracious generosity with which we have been blessed with others.

**Gifts of Joy** There are families that do not have the resources to provide for basic needs, and the Christmas season poses special challenges for these families. The WPC community of faith has traditionally opened its heart wide to help ensure that the children in these families are not left out at Christmas. Beginning Sunday, Nov 20, you will have the opportunity to select a child, either from McWhirter Elementary or from Brookside Intermediate School. You will receive your child's "wish list" and clothing sizes so you may provide gifts and perhaps an item or two of clothing. These will be brought to the church, with a numbered tag provided in your packet no later than Monday, Dec 5 so they can be delivered to the schools. Wrapping paper for the parents is a welcome addition to your gifts.

Volunteers are need to help organize this year's Gifts of Joy and to sort and deliver the gifts. Watch the bulletin for more information.

**ICM Christmas Store** ICM provides for the special needs of those living on the margins during the Christmas Season. We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages (though ICM tells us that the greatest need is for children ages 10 and up). We will also be collecting new, unwrapped household items. On "shopping days," families are given the opportunity to go to Clear Lake Presbyterian Church to shop for their children's presents. They are allowed to choose one or two gifts for each child in their household and one gift for their home. You may bring your contributions for the ICM Christmas Store to the church no later than 12:00 noon, Sunday, Dec 11. Our contributions will be delivered to ICM after worship that day. ICM also appreciates the donation of wrapping paper.

There is another way you can help with the ICM Christmas Store: by volunteering to help out with the Christmas Store. Opportunities to help are for setting up on Monday, December 12 or to assist the shoppers on December 13 or 14, either the morning shift, beginning at 8:30 or the afternoon shift, beginning at 12:30. To volunteer, call Janey Nelson at ICM, 281-332-3881, ext. 1105.

# Mission Ministry

## AND SO BEGINS A NEW MINISTRY AND PARTNERSHIP

On October 14, fourteen volunteers gathered to learn more about mentoring at McWhirter Elementary School! This is a three-way partnership between McWhirter Elementary, Communities-in-Schools, and WPC. The goal is to bring friendship, interest, tutoring, and encouragement to kids at McWhirter who can use a little boost to help them grow into the potential they were given by God at birth.

Our mentors will be matched with a third grade student from Ms. Kyle's classroom. Each mentor will meet weekly with their student to talk, interact, listen, care, and, as needed, help with school work. Our first day "on the job" will be Tuesday, November 1, at 1:45 p.m., when Hillary Gramm will give us training for working with our students. On following Tuesdays, we will gather with our students at McWhirter at 1:45 p.m., and will spend the last hour of their school day with them. So far, 17 volunteers have signed up to participate! There is always room for more, so if you are still thinking about sharing yourself and your time this way, come on down! Kaylin Dupree is our organizer and has done a find job of spreading the word.

Thanks to everyone who has agreed to participate, and to the many who are still considering this as a way to give back to the community.

## FAMILY PROMISE: MOVING FORWARD

Family Promise of Clear Creek Update

- Nine of the needed thirteen churches are on board.
- Family Promise of Clear Creek hired a new Director.
- The Day Center at Clear Lake United Methodist is ready for guests.

Stay tuned – in the next few months WPC will be hosting guests!!



November 11th



## WALKIN' IN THE RAIN TO END HUNGER!!

What a stalwart bunch of Presbyterians showed up for the Bay Area CROP Walk October 9<sup>th</sup>! While Houston received almost 4" of rain, more than 20 people from WPC, as well as many from other churches, showed up to walk in the fight against hunger and poverty. Through rain from above, monster puddles below, and the occasional threat of thunder, our WPC adults and youth walked, waded, and ran the 5K (3.2 mile) route, starting at Clear Lake Park and winding through the Taylor Lake Village subdivision. At the end of an hour or so, we had all returned safely, if substantially soggy, to the Landolt Pavilion for water, cookies, and the hearty thanks of the walk organizers.



We collected a substantial table full of non-perishable foods which went directly to the food banks at ICM, M.I. Lewis in Dickinson, Lighthouse Christian Ministries, and Bay Area Turning Point. Additionally, WPC has so far collected \$1,503; 75% of this will go to Church World Services to combat hunger and poverty worldwide, while 25% will return to these local agencies to be put to use in our local communities.

Way to go, CROP Walkers! And many thanks to all the CROP Walk sponsors at Webster Presbyterian Church. You did it again in 2011!



# Children's Ministry



Ready to call us to  
Worship October 16.



Chiming the anthem in  
Worship October 16.



## MINUTE FOR MISSION: PLAYGROUND SPRUCE-UP

Last summer we asked you to support our Children's Ministry by giving to the "Playground Spruce Up Project," coordinated by Michelle Dupont and Marshall Godwin. Thanks to your generosity, incredible leadership by Michelle and Marshall, and lots of hard work by church members and friends, we're enjoying our newly planted and manicured playground!

Marshall and Michelle split the work, creating the plans, coordinating the purchase of needed supplies and greenery and finding volunteers to help. Marshall's project helped to support his Eagle Scout aspirations, while Michelle's was inspired to fulfill requirements for the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Each of these projects required plenty of time and talent to complete. New picnic tables and comfortable benches were built and stained, ground was evened out surrounding the playsets, splintering railroad ties were removed, new sod was planted and young trees were added that will grow to provide much needed shade. Now that the weather has cooled off, we'll be outside enjoying all the great things the Lord has given us. Thank you Marshall, Michelle & everyone who volunteered and supported the playground project!



We love our new spruced up playground

## November Happenings

### Sunday School, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Class with Parents:

Oct. 30 – "Let God's Light Shine in You"

Nov. 20 – "Prayers of Thanksgiving"

- Preschool-PreK, ages 3-5, Room 102
- Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> grades, Room 201
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades, Room 203
- Preteens, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades, Room 210

### Chimes Practice

Wednesdays, 6:15-7 p.m., Room 206

For 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders

### Choir Practice

Wednesdays, 7-7:30 p.m., Room 206

For 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders

### Children's Chapel

11 a.m. Worship Service following the Children's Sermon, Room 206

## "Pray with Me" Sunday School with Parents



## Coming in 2012—Godly Play! Crafters Needed!

In Godly Play children *discover who God is*. We use special materials to tell and respond to the Bible stories while following the rhythm of Worship.

Do you sew, craft, paint or woodwork? We need you to help us make the materials that we'll use. From cutting out a large piece of green felt, "grass," to painting simple faces and clothes on wooden "people sticks," to building small shelves or cutting out "parts of a temple," no help will be turned away!

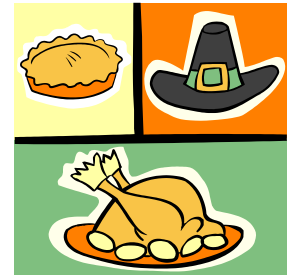
We'll use these special materials to tell the Bible story. Then kids will be able to use them to respond to the story in their own ways.

Linda Smith-Gregory, children's ministry coordinator, completed certification training in August and is looking for folks who will help us get ready. Please contact Linda, [lindasg@websterpresby.org](mailto:lindasg@websterpresby.org), for more information.

# Youth Ministry

## Happenings in November:

- Nov 6 – Reception for Pastor Caressa after second service; no afternoon PYC
- Nov 9 – CHILLAX
- Nov 13 – Backyard Projects: JR & SR will help our congregation members with home and yard projects
- Nov 20 – SR: HOGing (Hanging of the Green); JR: packing Seafarers' Boxes
- Nov 27 – No PYC (Happy Thanksgiving!)



## Looking Ahead to December:

- Dec 4 – SR: AD Players outing; JR: Deliver Seafarers boxes
- Dec 10 – Youth Christmas Parties and Progressive Dinners (5-9pm)
- Dec 11 – NO PYC
- Dec 14 – CHILLAX
- Dec 18 – Jan1 – No Youth activities (Enjoy your Christmas break!)

## **HOSTS needed for Youth Christmas Parties and Progressive Dinners**



Homes are needed to host our Youth Christmas parties and progressive dinners on Sunday, December 10. We need three homes for the Junior High group and three homes for the Senior High group. Host homes are asked to provide either the appetizer (stop # 1), the main course (stop # 2), or dessert (stop # 3, where the gift exchange will take place). If you would like to host one of these groups, please contact Kevin Snowden at [snowpotter@att.net](mailto:snowpotter@att.net). Thank you!

## **COLLEGE MISSION TRIP**

**College students and parents** – We are planning our annual college age mission trip to New Orleans, Monday, January 2 – Saturday, January 7, 2012! We will be working with Project Homecoming, which is a rebuilding effort of [The Presbytery of South Louisiana](http://www.presbyteryofsouthlouisiana.org) in partnership with [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](http://www.presbyteriandisasterassistance.org). We will rebuild homes devastated by Hurricane Katrina that belong to families who are low-income, uninsured, underinsured, disabled, and elderly. <http://projecthomecoming.net>

Total cost for the trip is \$150 per person and includes transportation, room, board and work materials. Scholarships are available. Project Homecoming requires a deposit for each participant 6 weeks prior to their trip, so we are asking for a commitment and \$50 for each participant by Sunday, November 13, to Kevin Snowden, Elder for Youth Ministry. Please make your check payable to “Webster Presbyterian Church” and write “College Mission Trip” in the memo line. As in the past the couple of years, the college age from First Presbyterian Church, Grapevine will be joining us in New Orleans!

## **SR YOUTH ADVENT STUDY:**

“Walking and Waiting with Biblical Figures” *November 27 – December 18*

For youth, the Advent season can be easily overtaken by the festivities and gifts of Christmas. One of the greatest gifts the church can offer youth is the chance to explore and reclaim the season of Advent as a time of preparation and watchful hope for the coming of Jesus Christ. This year's four-session youth Advent study pack is focused on the study of biblical characters experiencing spiritual growth in their own times of waiting: Paul, Isaiah, John the Baptist and Mary.



## **ADVENT STUDY for SPOT ON Class:**

“Advent Through the Eyes of Those Who Waited” *November 27 – December 18*

The SPOT ON class will echo the Advent Study of the SR Youth by looking at the Biblical Figures of Isaiah, John the Baptist, Mary and Elizabeth.

Our JR Youth will continue their study of the lectionary texts during Advent.

# Family of Faith



## November

- 11/02: [Inge Dyrved](#)
- 11/03: [Dennis Rohlfing](#)  
[Gene Fisseler](#)  
[Becky Scott](#)
- 11/04: [Scott McNeill](#)
- 11/05: [Bjarne Dyrved](#)
- 11/06: [Joe Halloin](#)  
[Chloe Smith](#)
- 11/07: [Elizabeth Spivey](#)  
[Aaron Frey](#)
- 11/08: [Fay Leach](#)  
[Carole Kloves](#)
- 11/09: [Donovan Teegarden](#)  
[Janis Edwards](#)
- 11/10: [Bob Hill](#)  
[Mark Cooper](#)  
[Judd Smith](#)
- 11/11: [William Dixon](#)  
[Kristine Ota](#)  
[Lance Kelley](#)
- 11/12: [Carolyn Cowan](#)  
[Catherine Black](#)
- 11/13: [Mary Coldwell](#)  
[Peter Koester](#)  
[Maudie Fogle](#)



- 11/16: [Ed Tobia](#)  
[Jimmy Spivey](#)  
[Jamie Marley](#)  
[Gabriel Cummings](#)  
[Kaleigh Magnant](#)
- 11/18: [Tina Looney](#)  
[Clint Scott](#)
- 11/19: [Anthony Le Cara, Jr.](#)  
[Allison Fisseler](#)
- 11/20: [Tyler Morris](#)
- 11/21: [Jeanie Murray](#)  
[Justice Rodgers](#)
- 11/22: [Al Barboza](#)  
[Ellen Shipman](#)  
[Taylor Wilson](#)
- 11/23: [Connie Forde](#)  
[Daniel Parraz](#)  
[Erich Late](#)
- 11/24: [Jeanne Allison](#)
- 11/25: [Jim Young](#)  
[Aresha Bagheri](#)
- 11/26: [Irene Case](#)
- 11/27: [Tye Cowan](#)  
[Sarah Cowan](#)
- 11/28: [Janette Johnson](#)  
[Scott Allen](#)  
[Robin Owens](#)  
[Kathryn Hindman](#)
- 11/30: [Joan Crane](#)  
[John Dewey](#)  
[Missy Rorrer](#)  
[Julie Middaugh](#)



### Lost and found:

Have you seen some tablecloths? After church dinners, people often help (and we are very grateful for it) by taking home a few tablecloths to wash. It has happened that folks forget to bring them back right away and the cloths get stuck in a closet and forgotten. If you remember borrowing or washing some black or white tablecloths in past months and forgot to return them—please bring them back! We are missing 3 of our black rounds and a couple of white ones. Don't feel bad about it—just rejoice with us that they have been found! - Carole and Joan

**Pick up stray dishes from the Fellowship Hall by November 15 before they go to ICM.**

Sunday, November 6th will be Pastor Caressa's last day with us. We will be having a special dinner after second service to wish her the best as she embarks on a new journey. Join us as we say "farewell" to the Murrays.

The Early Risers' Breakfast will be on **Nov13th** in Bouton Hall from 9:30-10:30 and will be a breakfast buffet with items included that you can take along to Sunday school. **EVERYONE** is invited so please plan to come and bring a friend or guest.

Coffee, Lemonade and Cookies served every Sunday between services and for 30 minutes after 2nd service.





**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)

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



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Or Current Resident

# What Child is This?

Join us each Sunday in Advent as we discover **More about What Child is This?**



- |                  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|
| Sunday, 11/27    | Who do Joseph and the Angel say this Child is? |  |
| Sunday, 12/4     | Who do Elizabeth and Mary say this Child is?   |  |
| Sunday, 12/11    | Who do Isaiah and the Magi say this Child is?  |  |
| Sunday, 12/18    | Who does John the Baptist say this Child is?   |  |
| Saturday, 12/24  | Who do the Shepherds say this Child is?        | (Christmas Eve services at 5:30p.m. & 11:00p.m.) |
| Sunday, 12/25    | Who does Jesus say He is?                      | (Christmas Day, one service at 10:00 a.m.)       |
| Sunday, 1/1/2012 | Who do Simeon and Anna say this Child is?      | (New Year's Day, one service at 10:00 a.m.)      |

### Other Advent Opportunities

- Sunday, 11/20 - Hanging of the Greens (HOG'ing)
- Sunday, 12/11 - An Evening of Music (4:00 p.m.)
- Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> - Purchase a Poinsettia (\$10.00 each)