

MINISTRY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2015



2015 Ministry Council

Kay Greenhaw

Worship Ministry Chair

Roy Kimble

Servant Ministry Chair

Alana Mallard

Missions Ministry Chair

Courtney Morton

Membership/Stewardship
Ministry Chair

Teresa Nuckols

Family Life and Fellowship
Ministry Chair

John Hastings

Communications and
Technology Ministry Chair

Roxanne Shelton

Christian Education Chair

Keith Cranford

Administration Ministry Chair

Nancy Osgood

Ministry Council Chair

FROM THE MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR:

The Ministry Council met on June 10th for a workshop to examine our direction for the year and we continue to make plans and goals for the remainder of the year. While we have had many successes in combining worship, missions, play and outreach, the council remains concerned about members that are not being reached or served effectively. This affects all ministries and we have made an effort to involve all eight ministries in planning events for all ages. It is our goal to meet people where their spiritual needs are. We have filled out the remainder of the summer and the early fall schedule with gatherings that include all or most of our ministries and we hope will give everyone a reason to invite someone to come and share. *(See the next page for an events calendar)*

The Council had a follow-up meeting on July 20th and received reports regarding Personnel, Finance, the organ restoration, and the Parsonage remodeling project. It was mentioned that there was not enough information getting back to the congregation about the activity of the Ministry Council. It was recommended that some information from the Council, as a whole or by individual ministry, be provided weekly or bi-weekly in one of the emails and that the Ministry Council minutes be added to the website after each meeting. It was also suggested that a link to the Alliance of Baptists website be placed on our website.

'Welcome Back Sunday' was refined and the mission project will be back-to-school supplies for Popham Elementary in Del Valle ISD. There will be a church-wide breakfast at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday School will begin for all ages at 10:00 a.m. with many in our children and youth departments promoting to new classes. Children and youth who are moving to a new class will be acknowledged during worship. Touch groups, the Council and deacons are reaching out to Touch Group Members to ask that they be in attendance on that Sunday.

The Council received wonderfully complete and exciting reports from Rev. Cheryl Kimble and Rev. Kevin Mitchell summarizing all of the summer activities.

Organ donations to the restoration projects have been coming in. We do not have totals at this time. On the other hand, we have dipped into our reserves to keep the church running while summer giving to the general fund has run \$10,000 behind budget. Can you help us turn the corner now?

We are returning to our earlier schedule of meeting after Worship on the third Sunday of the every month. Everyone is welcome to join us and hear our ideas and give us your thoughts.

On August 26 at the Quarterly Church Conference, we will be choosing our Nominating Committee. Please be thinking of your candidate for that committee and inquire if they would like to serve before the church conference.

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, Sept. 2: Ministry Meetings with dinner, 5:30p
Choir practice resumes, 7:30p

Friday, Sept. 4: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7a

Sunday, Sept. 6: Share Your Table Sunday
Sunday School, 9:30a and Worship Service, 10:55a

Wednesday, Sept. 9: Church Dinner, 5:30p and Rev. Kimble's "A Study of Prayer", 6:30p

Thursday, Sept. 10: God's Family Dinner, 4:30p

Friday, Sept. 11: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7a

Sunday, Sept. 13: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
The Breakfast Club is back, Russell's Bakery at 9:45a
Sunday School, 9:30a and Worship Service, 10:55a
Taizé Service, 7:30p church atrium

Monday, Sept. 14: S.I.S. Meeting, 7p

Wednesday, Sept. 16: Church Dinner, 5:30p with presentation from Carla Young of Far West Drive A Senior, 6:30p

Thursday, Sept. 17: God's Family Dinner, 4:30p

Friday, Sept. 18: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7a

Sunday, Sept. 20: Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday School, 9:30a and Worship Service, 10:55a
Ministry Council Meeting, 12:15p

Wednesday, Sept. 23: Church Dinner, 5:30p and "Stories from San Francisco" mission trip presentation, 6:30p

Friday, Sept. 25: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7a

Saturday, Sept. 26: Women's Book Club, 10a

Sunday, Sept. 27: Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday School, 9:30a and Worship Service, 10:55a
DeCleene Baby Shower, 12p

Wednesday, Sept. 30: Church Dinner, 5:30p, Same-Sex Marriage Discussion led by Rev. Kimble & Mitchell, 6:30p

**Family Life
& Fellowship
Ministry**



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP/STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY:

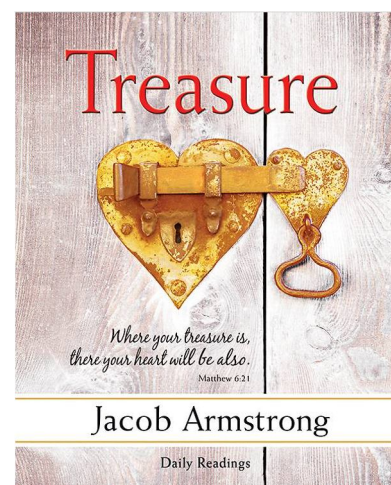
We are excited to be planning for a busy fall! We have the Youth Group Alumni event on Aug. 21 at 5:30PM at the Austin Beer Garden and Brewery. The Practical Faith small group will start back on August 29 with a social gathering at Whole Foods at the Domain at 5:00 p.m. Our study this fall will look at "When All You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough" by Harold Kushner, a classic that is always a good read, as well as the book of Ecclesiastes. Please look for the Kushner book for sale in the atrium in the next several weeks if you'd like to grab a copy. We will discuss the fall schedule and location at the Aug. 29 meeting.

The Breakfast Club will begin meeting again on Sunday September 13 at 9:45 a.m. at Russell's Bakery, just down Balcones Dr. from the church. Anyone is welcome. Please mark your calendars for the second Sunday of each month, when the Breakfast Club will always be somewhere enjoying something delicious and sharing a fun time of fellowship.

We will begin our stewardship study in October. We will use a curriculum called "Treasure" by Jacob Armstrong, which looks at the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6. Study books will be for sale in the back of the Atrium in the coming weeks if you'd like to purchase one. The study is also available for Kindle. The curriculum overall is a 4-week study that we will mostly look at during our worship services, although Sunday School classes can incorporate material as they see fit for their needs. We are hoping for a 100% response in our stewardship campaign this year, related to giving both with service and financially. HPBC wouldn't be the vibrant faith community it is without every person being involved, and we hope to have that participation reflected as we all consider how to give in the coming year.

We are working to keep up the blog, and if you are interested in contributing, please contact Rachel Stokes—rachellynnstokes@gmail.com— or Courtney Morton—courtneymorton@gmail.com.

We encourage everyone to continue with individual outreach efforts. We are so excited about the energy at HPBC right now. God is working in us and through us. Thank you for how you are being part of this body of Christ.



Please mark your calendars for these upcoming following events:

Saturday, October 3rd: Blessing of the Animals

Friday, October 30th: Fall Family Festival

November 6th-8th: Womanfest Retreat, Fredericksburg Inn and Suites

Sunday, November 15: Consecration Sunday, potluck luncheon with meat provided



SUMMER UPDATE FROM THE MISSIONS MINISTRY:

Thanks to your generosity in July and August, we delivered 12 bags of groceries to the Micah 6 Food Pantry recently. Members have also been generous with their time this summer at God's Family Dinner at UBC on Thursday evenings, 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., and new volunteers have almost committed to helping in the fall.

As always, members continue to be the hands and feet of Christ at West Austin and Far Northwest Austin Drive A Senior, River Ministry (a trip to Mexico was taken Aug. 14), Baptist Community Center, Micah 6 of Austin, Assistance League, Friendship International, Threads of Hope, and many other places outside our church walls.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP MISSION TRIP 2015 TO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA—STATS:


- Just under 2,000 hot breakfasts prepared, served, dishes done and kitchen/ dining hall cleaned up and prepped for lunch in four mornings at GLIDE's Free Breakfast.
- 21,000 lbs of pears boxed and 15,000 lbs of canned goods sorted at the San Francisco Food Bank.
- Add these hours to the time worked at the Habitat Re-Store, the 11 HPBC members on the trip gave a total of 364 volunteer hours.



UPCOMING EVENTS WITH THE MISSIONS MINISTRY:

- **School supply collection on Welcome Back Sunday, Aug. 23**, for Del Valle ISD's Popham Elementary, a low-income school where students are in need of dry-erase markers, spiral notebooks, three-ring binders, pencils, pens, back packs, and composition books. Dry-erase markers in colors are a big need because students use a small white-board at their desks for quick answers. Look for a donation cart in the lower Atrium.
- **Salad lunch and dessert on Thursday, Aug. 27**, for Far Northwest Drive A Senior's Senior Day Out at Anderson Mill Baptist Church, Sisters in Service will take the lead, and all are invited to participate -- even our men - with salads, brownies, and as servers that day as we carpool out north.
- **Fifth Sunday Aug. 30 missions collection for Popham Elementary**, to purchase gift cards as incentives for student attendance and for family grocery needs.
- **Share Your Table on Sept. 6 for the Micah 6 Food Pantry.** Please let Alana Mallard—alanasuzy@earthlink.net—know if you would be interested in joining a small group to serve at Micah 6 Food Pantry in September or October, on Thursday evening or Saturday morning.
- **God's Family Dinner, on Thursdays at University Baptist Church.** Please let Alana Mallard know if you are interested in serving dinner once a month or even once a quarter.
- **Sisters in Service on Sept. 14 at Jeanie Petrie's home**, we'll plan our monthly meeting locations, missions topics, and projects through next May. Mallory Marcone, from Refugee Services of Texas, will be with us on Sept. 14. During the school year, S.I.S. meets every 2nd Monday.

Worship Ministry



**"Worship the Lord in holy splendor" -
Chronicles 16:29 "God is spirit, and
those who worship him must worship
in spirit and truth." - John 4:24**

There are several chances for service within the Worship Ministry: If you are interested in performing for a Sunday service or a Wednesday evening, please contact Rachel Stokes at rachellynnstokes@gmail.com. If you would like to be involved with decorating the sanctuary for Sundays in the fall or Advent/Christmas, contact Kay Greenhaw at kaygreenhaw@yahoo.com. If you are interested in singing in our choir, also contact Kay Greenhaw. Choir practice will resume from our summer break on Wednesday, September 2 at 7:30 p.m. We are always ready to welcome new members! If you have another special talent you would like to share or a worship idea that might prove meaningful for our congregation, contact Kristin Werner —kwerner1@austin.rr.com— or Kay Greenhaw.

- Sustain meaningful worship opportunities that meet the needs of our diverse congregation
- Expand and substantiate the music element of worship
- Provide a venue for congregational and children to participate in worship
- Support our staff as they lead us in worship.

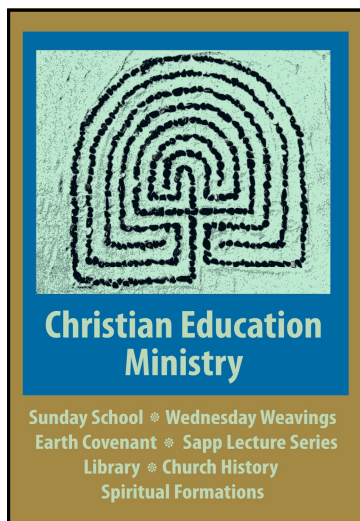
On Wednesday, August 5, 2015, those in attendance at the Called Church Conference voted unanimously to move forward with restoring our pipe organ. The vote was followed by applause and joy, as members expressed excitement and support for rebuilding such an important part of our music program and a valuable part of our history.

A contract with C. Bobsin Organs has been signed and work will take place in August and September. It will take some time for parts to be ordered and work to be completed, but according to the builder, the organ will only be out of commission two or three weeks during the process. By Advent, we will have a fully functioning, reliable, valuable pipe organ!

This project will substitute the previous organ project of replacing the pipe organ with a digital organ, which was voted into place at the August 10, 2014 Called Church Conference. With the expert consultation of Father Larry Covington, renowned organist and consultant, it was discovered that we can replace the insides of the console and make other suggested cleaning and repairs to bring our existing organ up to or better than its original state.

Money in Highland Park's current Organ Fund will be put toward the first phase of the restoration, which is 80% of the entire project. We will continue to raise the last 20% of required funds (approx. \$14,000.00) over the next few months. Thank you to all who have donated to this project. Phase 2 will begin after the 1st of the year and will include re-scaling the principals and re-voicing the organ, both of which will enrich the sound of the organ.

Thank you for your commitment to worship at Highland Park Baptist Church.



FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY:

We are looking forward to a new school year with our children's Sunday School classes filling up with newly promoted children. Nancy Osgood will be teaching the preschool class again this year. Roxanne Shelton will be teaching K-2nd and Meredith Bewley will be teaching grades 3rd-5th. Courtney Morton will be teaching the High School class. Lynn and Melissa Butler will take the lead for Middle School with several substitutes, including Sue Fowler. In our adult department, there continues to be six active classes who meet upstairs. All Sunday School classes begin at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

The Saturday Women's Book Club meets on fourth Saturdays in the upstairs parlor at 10:00 a.m. for about an hour and a half as we discuss books, life, our own selves, community, grace, and whatever else captures our fancy. We've chosen

books through the fall, and would love new members in our group. Women of all ages are welcome, please join us. Aug. 22: "The Nightengale" by Kristin Hannah; Sept. 26: "All the Light You Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr; October 24: "God Help the Child" by Toni Morrison; November 28: "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes.

Our Wednesday Night Weaving schedule is also being filled for the fall. After the delicious meal at 5:30 p.m., there will be a different focus each week. On the first Wednesday night, we will have our Ministry Meetings. The second Wednesday night will be focused on a Bible, book, or topic study. A speaker will visit us on the third Wednesday night and social/game night will round out the month on the fourth Wednesday. Everyone is welcome at our Wednesday fellowship nights, even if you cannot make it each week. Please contact Roxanne Shelton at roxanneshelton@gmail.com with any questions or to contribute to the work of this ministry.

A note about "A Study on Prayer" from Rev. Kimble:

Robert Law said that "prayer is a mighty instrument, not for getting man's will done in Heaven, but for getting God's will done on earth." Sometimes I'm afraid we get that the other way around.

As we strive to discern God's will for us as individuals and as a church the first step is prayer. While we like to think prayer is an easy thing, often we get caught up in trying to pray "right".

Our Bible study time this fall will be looking at prayer, how we're called to pray, and what it means for our lives and the life of our church.

"A Study of Prayer" on the 2nd Wednesdays this fall.



THE COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY has been working on several projects including:

- Assisting Kelley with improving the signage for the church
- Completed the updating of the phone/Internet service for greater speed and reliability at a reduced cost.
- Supporting the worship service with sound and video management. Anyone interested in joining this effort is asked to please contact John Hastings at hhouse99@gmail.com.
- Special need: someone willing to update the church's street sign on a bi-weekly or once-a-month basis.



THE SERVANT MINISTRY

Our Highland Park has acknowledged that all Christians are called by God. But what are we called to do? We are called to Love! Love can be expressed in a variety of ways. Through missions, through service, through caring, by telling others what our relationship with God has done for us.

The Servant Ministry has been doing some exploring! We have focused on possible service including respite care, providing transportation needs, and through our On Call Ministry. We have also talked about what it means to be a deacon for Highland Park. We will be hosting a conference with Dr. Vernon Davis, on Thursday, September 24, to discuss how deacons can serve our church. All deacons are invited.

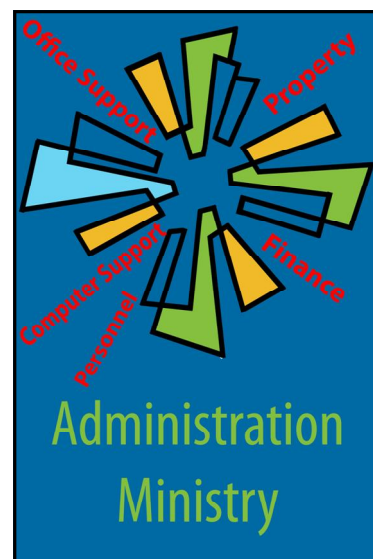
If you are looking for a means to express your love, look no further... our ministries are the perfect place to do that!!!

Special thanks from THE PROPERTY MINISTRY to the Boy Scouts, Don Hartman, and Suzanne & John Lowe for maintaining the grounds and building exterior. Another special thanks to John Osgood Sr., Abby and Ben Osgood, Helen and John Hastings, Herb Wilson, Sue Fowler, Jessica, Nadia, and Gabe Zamarripa, and Kevin Mitchell for their help with cleaning, repairing, and painting in the Parsonage house. as we prepare it to be leased.

John Guerra and his son have made the floors in the Underground and the Sapp Hall corridor sparkle. Let John know how much you appreciate the transformation. You can also thank him for painting the metal window frames on the chapel earlier this summer.

The Underground has been transformed into a revenue generating study center. Thanks to the church staff, Edward and Adrian Rapier, and John and Nancy Osgood for their hard work with clearing the Underground for that transformation. Now, in addition to the Huntington-Surrey students each weekday, we will have another group of young people studying here every Wednesday. Make them and their parents welcome.

Do you see something else outside that would make our property more appealing or a repair inside that needs attention? If so, call Joe Stafford with your suggestions: 512-589-9698.



THE PERSONNEL MINISTRY has met recently and is focused on the following:

- Cooperation with the Worship Ministry in modifying and expanding the music program as part of our worship services
- Plans for a baby shower celebrating the upcoming birth of Baby DeCleene
- Clarification of dates for Kelley DeCleene's maternity leave and the plans for temporary employment during Kelley's leave



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Summer Spotlight: From our Associate Pastor, Rev. Kevin Mitchell

At Youth Camp this summer our own Rev. Cheryl Kimble was our Camp Pastor with the theme, "Your One Wild and Precious Life." Our crew, while not as big as we've been in the past, hung out together more than any group I've been with since my first SWBYC in 1998. Our conversations were real and deep as was our laughter. Thanks to Andrew and Emma we brought back the foosball trophy, continuing HP's dynasty. Cheryl did a terrific job in worship. She put together a great team of worship leaders who gave us some of the most meaningful camp worship experiences I can remember. No senior pastor gives more of themselves to their kids than ours. None.

Children's Camp was also a great week of camp. We took 13, the most we've taken since y'all called the Mitchells here. Our adult team was incredible—Annie Cranford, Kyle Nelson and Wesley Russell. They all used humor to correct rowdiness. The kids were often unaware that their behavior had been curbed until afterwards, if even then. Their grace and love was beautiful to watch and receive. Rev. Larry Bethune from UBC was our Camp Pastor. He encouraged us to "get in the game" with regard to church and our faith. Our crew got it. They are bright, funny and I can't wait for our next adventure together. What a bright, fun future we have.

Vacation Bible School was another full week—48 campers, 32 volunteers, 4 days of energy, a lifetime of friendships and faith. First, THANKS to everyone who's fingerprints were on our week. Our theme HEROES gave us a look at our faith's ancient heroes, our everyday heroes, and the ways we can be heroes too, by living the Fruits of the Spirit. Ask any of the kids who spent the week with us to name the Fruits of the Spirit and they will tell you, or I'll buy you a Dr Pepper. You can be proud of how our church loved those kids at VBS and taught them. Thanks also for inviting your friends! We have six kids, three families, seriously interested in getting to know our faith family. How great would it be to see more fruit from this adventure.

Mission Trip 2015 took us to San Francisco to serve the under resourced, to give away God's love with our own hands, to worship in two wildly different churches and out in the haunting beauty of the Bay Area. We stayed downtown in a hostel two blocks from the soup kitchen where we served breakfast at 6:45 a.m. every morning but Thursday. Living in the neighborhood, called the Tenderloin by locals, let us begin to feel more like neighbors with the people we came to serve. That small shift in thinking and feeling has been profound and we didn't leave what we learned there in the Tenderloin. That impression is with us still. Working at Glide's free breakfast ministry, at Habitat for Humanity's Re-Store, at the biggest darn Food Bank I've ever been in and all over town, our crew, working 13 hours two of our days there, gave their whole heart to our work for Love's sake. Highland Park, please ask our kids to tell you a story or two about this adventure. Or come on Wednesday, Sept. 23 as we share more stories and pictures. We are still unpacking what God gave us there and plenty of what we brought back is for you too. Thanks again for letting us do church this way.

On Welcome Back Sunday the youth group will welcome SIX new sixth graders into our fold: Carter Brown, Alyssa Coltharp, Alexander Rapier, Sarah Longoria, Chase Osgood, and Lily Wilson. We can't wait to welcome you. YAHOO!