



## Wel come BACK Kelley!

Kelley DeCleene returned to Highland Park on February 16 after three months of maternity leave. She also celebrated her 5-year anniversary here at HPBC on January 31. Kelley will be working mornings through mid-afternoon in the office Monday through Friday, and Anna will be working afternoons Monday through Thursday. Thank you for your dedication and service, Kelley!

## SCOUT SUNDAY

We were delighted to welcome  
Cub Scouts Pack 55 and Boy  
Scouts Troop 410 to worship  
with us on January 31.  
We love our scouts!



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# March

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come...

— SONG OF SOLOMON 2:12

S M T W T F S

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Share Your Table JOY & Co. Lunch Ministry Council Drop-In Center			Dinner & Wednesday Weavings Choir practice	Friendship Intl. God's Family Dinner & Micah 6 Food Pantry	Men's Prayer Breakfast	Micah 6 Food Pantry Practical Faith Small Group
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Drop-In Center Taizé Service			NO DINNER Choir practice	Friendship Intl. God's Family Dinner & Micah 6 Food Pantry	Office closed Men's Prayer Breakfast	Food Pantry Practical Faith HPBC Women's Book Club
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Drop-In Center Palm Sunday Picnic & Easter Egg Hunt	Sisters in Service at Mary Morgan's home		NO DINNER Choir practice	Thursday Missions Christian Seder & Maundy Thursday Service	Men's Prayer Breakfast Good Friday Service	Micah 6 Food Pantry
27	28	29	30	31		
Drop-In Center Easter Sunday			Dinner & History of Highland Park Choir practice	Friendship Intl. God's Family Dinner & Micah 6 Food Pantry	Christian Education Family Life & Fellowship Missions Worship Ministry Council and Church Business hpbcaustin.org for more information	

# Lenten Readings

*The following verses of Scripture help to prepare us as we journey to the cross.*

## Ash Wednesday

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Psalm 103;  
Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

## First Sunday

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8b-13;  
Luke 4:1-13; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

## Second Sunday

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1;  
Luke 13:31-35; Psalm 27

## Third Sunday

Exodus 3:1-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8

## Fourth Sunday

Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32; Psalm 32

## Fifth Sunday

Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4b-14  
John 12:1-8; Psalm 126

## Palm Sunday

Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11  
Luke 22:14-23:56; Psalm 31:9-16

## Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35; Psalm 116:1, 10-17

## Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 10:16-25  
John 18:1-19:42; Psalm 22

## Holy Saturday

Job 14:1-14; Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24  
1 Peter 4:1-8; Matthew 27:57-66  
John 19:38-42; Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16

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From Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, we enter into a time of penitence, self-evaluation, and repentance, as we reflect once again on the Passion of Christ. This season of Lent is marked by the color purple and is named for the lengthening of days as spring approaches, bringing the joy of Easter and the empty tomb.

## Special Lenten Services

**Maundy Thursday Christian Seder 6:00 p.m.**

**Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m.**

*Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross.*

*Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

*- Philippians 2:5-11*



Sisters in Service with special guest Kevin Murphy of Church World Service. The goal of CWS: building a world where there is enough-food, water, justice-for all.

Our CROP Walkers raised \$922 for Church World Service, \$230 of which will stay in Austin for Capital Area Food Bank, Casa Marianella, iACT, Refugee Services, & Austin Baptist Chapel Angel House. Thank you for faithfully supporting our walkers!



These new top-bar hives are the bee's knees!

Dwight & Barbara Bolick teach beekeeping in Chile



Great work, Silvia!



Can you find the queen?



The following letter was sent to Rev. Larry Bethune of University Baptist Church from a father whose son found the Micah 6 Street Youth Drop-In Center after years of struggling with addiction. It is rare that we get to hear such stories of how God works through us to affect lives in profound ways. Thank you for your support of Micah 6!

I wanted to pass along to you a note of thanks to your church body. I am not sure of all the details of the story, but I would like for you to know how members of your church served as Christ's hands and heart a few weeks ago.

My 26 year-old son has struggled mightily over the last six years with drug addiction. In that period of time, he has been in and out of a dozen or so rehabilitation and recovery programs. For the better part of the last fifteen months, he has been homeless in Austin, with little to no contact with any of his family. We were able to learn of his well-being and whereabouts only because of three emergency hospital admissions related to drug use and some "sightings" by some of his former rehab counselors. Needless to say, our days were filled with worry. About all we knew to do was to pray without ceasing. The prayer I continually offered up was that each day someone would see God's image when they looked upon my son, and that he in turn would see Christ's love in their eyes. After years of prayer, that is about all I knew to ask.

It is my understanding that around three weeks ago, the doors of your church were opened, allowing in some homeless individuals in order to provide shelter from the cold. My son was one of those invited inside. While within your church walls, my son requested to use a telephone. Upon his request being granted, he called one of his former counselors. A day later, he consented to entering a detox facility and after a week there, he entered into a rehabilitation facility south of Austin to begin a 90-day admission. My wife has had the opportunity to speak with my son by phone a couple of times. I can tell you that a mother's broken heart is often healed just by the sound of her child's voice.

To say the least, the journeys my wife and I have experienced with our son have been an interesting challenge. The three of us have been tested in so many ways. None of us see this recent development as a guarantee that my son will be able to free himself from the talons of addiction. We have truly learned to take each day as it comes and to be thankful now, today, that he is safe, clean (physically and from drugs) and sheltered from the hazards of the streets. We will see where God takes us now.

As you have probably experienced, God's response to prayer is a remarkable, if not miraculous, thing. I do not know what set of circumstances led my son to the door of your church, or to your church's decision to open your doors that night. What I do know is that members of your church saw someone worth saving in my son and he in turn, received and experienced Christ's loving kindness through outstretched welcoming arms.

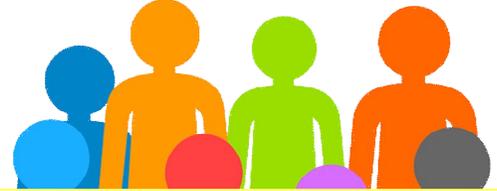
I am extremely grateful that God used the good people of your church to answer my prayer.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. - Luke 4:18-19

# Church Conference

Lynn Butler, Church Moderator  
Helen Hastings, Church Clerk

NEXT CHURCH CONFERENCE: MAY 18  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!



## Notes from the First Quarter Church Conference, February 17

### From the Ministry Council:

There is an opening on the Finance Ministry due to a resignation. If you are willing to serve, please contact Teresa Nuckols or Becky Dillard.

### From the Missions Ministry:

A Church-Wide Day of Service is tentatively scheduled for May 15, pending responses from our partner organizations. The plan is to meet at the church around 8 a.m. for a prayer circle, then head to various locations to serve through Drive a Senior, Meals on Wheels and More, Family Eldercare, or Popham Elementary School. We will meet back at the church around 11:15 for a service of worship and reflection on our morning, then have a soup and salad lunch together.

There are some changes to the Missions budget this year. The additional \$3300 to the Missions budget, a tithe from rental of the parsonage, will be allocated as follows:

- \$300 added to Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, bringing annual total to \$1800
- \$1500 designated to Austin-Refugee Services of Texas
- \$1500 designated to Church World Services

The \$1200 designated for Threads of Hope will go to Austin chapter of NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) this year, as Threads of Hope is disbanding and has requested not to receive any more donations in 2016.

*\* Full copies of the budget and the Missions budget were available at the meeting. Please contact the church office if you would like a copy.*

Our Share Your Table donations of groceries for the Micah 6 Food Pantry has been generous: 10 bags of groceries in January and 12 bags in February. This may not seem like a lot of food for a food pantry that has 200 shoppers twice a week, but those 22 bags will feed more than 10 families.

The Missions Ministry is also planning to create a Peace Group as part of our affiliation with the Baptist Peace Fellowship. If you are interested in this mission, please contact Alana Mallard.

***(See the Ministry Council notes to the right for more from our Ministry Chairs.)***

## 2016 Ministry Council:

Becky Dillard, Chair

Herb Wilson, Administration

Melissa Butler, Stewardship

Nancy Lamb, Personnel

Jim Nuckols, Property

Larry Ingerly, Finance

Kay Greenhaw, Worship

Alana Mallard, Missions

Roy Kimble, Servant

Roxanne Shelton, Christian Education

Nancy Osgood, Family Life & Fellowship

Kristin Werner, Outreach & Communications

# Ministry Council

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: MARCH 6

NEXT MINISTRY MEETINGS: MAY 1

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

## Notes from the February Ministry Council Meeting

An Inter-Generational Mission Trip to San Francisco is planned for the end of July for all members high school age and up. Anticipated costs are \$200 for high school students, \$300 for college students, and \$500-\$600 for adults. More information will be available at an informational meeting on February 28.

The Council would like to return to putting a short financial summary in the bulletin, online, and in other forms of church communication on a monthly basis.

New Building Use and Wedding Policies were adopted. They were last revised in 2011. The changes were primarily to bring the policies current with our actual practices and to increase wedding fees closer to current market rates for churches of similar size.

The Faith and Film series this spring will have the topic "Death and Life" and will feature the movies *Steel Magnolias*, *The Descendants*, and *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*.

Family Life and Fellowship has several events coming up, including an informational meeting about the upcoming J.O.Y. & Co. trip on March 6, the Palm Sunday Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt on March 20, Senior Sunday on June 5, and Vacation Bible School June 21-24.

A Church-Wide Day of Service is planned for May (see left page). Other missions events coming up include CROP Walk on Feb. 28, It's My Park Day on March 5, Katie Cook from Baptist Peace Fellowship visiting Sisters in Service on March 21, and deacons serving God's Family Dinner on April 14.

We recently collected 12 bags of groceries from our Feb. 7 Share Your Table, \$302 for God's Family Dinner from the Feb. 7 Souper Bowl of Caring, and \$337 for Friendship International from the 5th Sunday offering on Jan. 31. Alana also took a car full of Styrofoam to the City of Austin recycling center.

The choir is enjoying the leadership of Dr. Josh Miller, our new Director of Congregational Music. Josh has moved a digital piano into the choir room as the former piano was not holding tune well.

Anna Strickland spoke about Labyrinth Progressive Student Ministry, which is currently supported by University Baptist Church, University Christian Church, Congregational Church of Austin, and First Baptist Church. The primary goals of Labyrinth are to be a safe, inclusive space for all students, to pursue social justice, and to engage in interfaith dialogue.



Palm Sunday  
Picnic & Egg Hunt  
following worship

Easter Sunday  
Bring a flower to add  
to the cross!



Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 10:55 a.m.  
Taizé Service: 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Sunday of each month  
Wednesday fellowship dinner & program: 5:30 p.m.

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Rev. Cheryl Kimble, Pastor • Rev. Kevin Mitchell, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Josh Miller, Director of Congregational Music  
Hayley Kimble, Children & Young Families Ministry Coordinator  
Kelley DeCleene, Director of Church Operations • John Guerra, Church Custodian  
Anna Strickland, Administrative Assistant • Susan Hammack, Church Bookkeeper  
Dr. C. Ray Burchette, Pastor Emeritus



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