



Feb 1 Ministry Meetings 6:15 pm

Feb 2 WMU Morning 9:30 am

Feb 3, 10, 17, 24 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7 am

Feb 5 Java for Jesus, Communion, Share Your Table

Feb 5-12 Hosting IHN for four families

Feb 10-12 Youth MidWinter Retreat

Feb 12 Scout Sunday, Good News Goods Marketplace, Family Dessert Social

Feb 13 Sisters in Service 7pm

Feb 18 Prepare the Way Contemplative Class 9 am

Feb 19 Faith and Film Series, Ratatouille 6:30 pm

Feb 20 Ministry Council Meeting 7 pm

Feb 22 Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm

Feb 26 Faith and Film Series, Chocolat 6:30 pm

Mar 1 Morning WMU 9:30 am

Mar 3, 4 CROP Walk

Mar 4 Faith and Film Series, Babette's Feast 6:30 pm

Mar 7, 21, 28 Lenten Organ Recital Series 6:30 pm

April 8 Easter Sunday

Apr 13-15 National Alliance of Baptists meets at HPBC

Apr 28 60th Birthday Celebration by the chapel, music, birthday cake, games

Apr 29 60th Birthday Worship Celebration; catered meal after worship

From Your Pastor

This weekend was amazing!

First, I want to thank our Servant Ministry, especially the Circle of Touch. I can't thank them enough for all the hard work they did Saturday to make the service for Don Hinckley and his family very special. Dee Dee Wilson, Kristin Werner, Garrett Martin, and Kevin Mitchell were so helpful and willing to jump in and make the service a celebration of Don's life. Each member of the family thanked me over and over for all the hard work and love shown them through this hard time.

Kristin Werner was right when she said that we show our best side when we do funerals. So many of our members attended even though most of them had never met Don, many of them had only seen Hannah, his daughter, sitting up front with our youth, but you came...you came to show your love to one of our kids, and that's one of the things I love most about Highland Park...everyone really does matter! From the youngest to the oldest, we're family to one another and I get God bumps (you may call them goose bumps) when I think about how much love we show to one another, especially during hard times.

I can't thank the Council Chairs enough for making Sunday such an amazing day! Seeing all the ways in which Highland Park ministers was exciting, joyous, and moving. Being in Sapp Hall and seeing all the booths during the Sunday School hour and then moving right into Worship seemed so fitting. Perhaps the most moving for me was seeing each of you serve communion to one another. That moment, as we stood in circles at each of the ministry tables and served the body and bread of Christ to one another, we truly were being the Body of Christ!

I'm excited about the things we have planned for this year. I'm excited to see the dreaming and planning of each Council Chair and their ministry teams. I'm excited to be working with Garrett, Kevin, and Kelley as we look at ways that we as a staff can serve in new and exciting ways.

I'm excited to see the planning for the 60th anniversary. The planning committee is working hard to include the community and past members and staff to make this a celebration we won't soon forget.

Being the Body of Christ! Isn't it incredible? If you weren't here Sunday, I'm sorry you missed it! But it's not too late to find your place in the Body of Christ here at Highland Park Baptist Church. Find your place or places and sign up to begin work.

Without you, the Body is not complete.

Thanks for being Church to one another,
Cheryl

Reflections in the Mirror by Sheila Allee

The road to compassion is hard to navigate

For many years, I've struggled to come to terms with how to help people I see on the street – people who appear to be homeless and who ask for money. With unemployment still very high and the economy on shaky ground, these individuals seem to be at almost every street corner. I am troubled by them.

I feel guilty sitting in my nice car, trying not to look them in the face as I wait for the traffic light to change. For days, I'll see the same man in blue jeans and a hoodie, smiling and waving as he holds out his cardboard sign asking for 25 cents. Then he'll be gone, replaced by a man who talks to himself and paces nervously.

I've volunteered in soup kitchens and homeless shelters enough to know that many of the people we encounter on the street have problems with mental illness; just as many are substance abusers. At the same time, I've heard the stories about how these individuals are really working for someone else who drives them around town and drops them off at lucrative intersections.

It's hard to know what the real story is for the man with the hoodie. I just know he's down on his luck or he wouldn't be standing on a street corner hoping someone will give him a quarter.

The truth is, I don't want to give hoodie man or anyone else like him any money because I have serious doubts they will use it for something essential – like food. I don't want to indirectly support the illegal drug trade. And I don't want to enable someone to get wasted on a bottle of hooch. How am I helping someone if I enable them to feed an addiction?

I could write a short story about all the homeless people I've encountered over the years – the blind man who was walking in the middle of the street who wouldn't let me pay for a cab ride for him. All he wanted was cash. The woman at the grocery store who told me she was new in town and needed \$9 so she and her child could eat (I gave her the money.) The man on the side of the road who held up a sign saying he was hungry, so I gave him a granola bar. I thought he would tear the wrapper off and start eating, but he put it in his backpack.

Our God calls on us to help those who are less fortunate. I'm just not sure how to do it in a way that is truly helpful.

A couple of years ago at Christmas time, I passed a homeless man in a wheelchair at an intersection outside a big box store. When I got to the store entrance, there was a Salvation Army collection kettle and a man ringing a bell. As I slipped some money into the red kettle, I told the man that he had some competition out on the street corner. I said I felt more comfortable giving him a contribution. The Salvation Army man said he always gave the homeless a little cash and didn't worry about how they spent it. He spoke as if he had once been in their same shoes.

I still have no good answers. I welcome your thoughts, readers, on how you obey the command to help the poor when you pass them on the street. Please send your ideas to Sheila.allee@gmail.com. If I get enough feedback, it may spark another column on the issue.



S.I.S. makes song cards for blind infants

Sue Fowler hosted our S.I.S. group last month when we made colorful song cards for parents of vision-impaired infants. It was "Twinkle, Twinkle," and "Wheels on the Bus," and "Itsy Bitsy Spider" all over the place.

Everyone is welcome to come to Barbara Worley's on Feb. 13, when we will make bookmarks for one of Barbara Bolick's ministries in Chile and put together Valentine's Day treats for our Open Door Ministry members.

February Worship

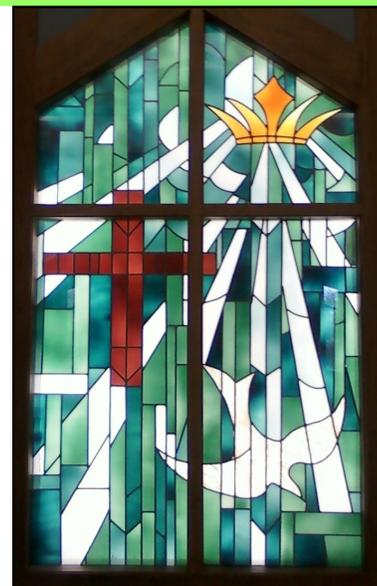
Feb 5 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Rev. Cheryl Kimble preaches at 10:55 a.m., "Have You Not Heard?" Celebration of Communion, Share Your Table food in-gathering.

Feb. 12 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany Rev. Cheryl Kimble preaches at 10:55 a.m., "The Unclean Christ," Scouts usher, Austin Children's Choir sings.

Feb. 19 Transfiguration Sunday Rev. Cheryl Kimble preaches at 10:55 a.m., "Open Me." Taize Service at 7:30 p.m. of music, prayer, meditation, communion.

Feb. 26 First Sunday of Lent Rev. Cheryl Kimble preaches at 10:55 a.m., "Promises."

☞ We Are Called ☞



February Wednesday Weavings: Fellowship meal, Bible study

Join us in Sapp Hall on Wednesdays for a family meal and programs for all ages. We'll eat together at 5:30 p.m.; and adult programming begins at 6:30. Children and teens meet at 6:15 p.m. for a time of learning about God's grace. We'll make a place for you if you'll join us. Meals are \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids or adult half-plates, and families pay a max of \$18. Come check it out.

Feb. 1 Ministry Meetings Our first Ministry Meetings after our Ministry Fair. If you haven't already, now's your chance to join a ministry for planning, developing, dreaming, doing, serving., answering a call.

Feb. 8, 15, and 29 Acts: A Bible Study Series Rev. Cheryl Kimble will lead us in a study of the book of Acts.

Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday Worship Service After our meal in Sapp Hall and a time of prayer, we will gather in the sanctuary in observance of the Season of Lent.



Mark Thallander Feb. 5

You won't want to miss the music and message of organist, composer, and author Mark Thallander on Feb. 5.

Mark is an adjunct professor of organ at Glendale Community College in California and president of the honorary board of the National Children's Chorus.

He served as organist at The Crystal Cathedral in California for 18 years. He is president of the Mark Thallander Foundation, whose vision is to affirm and inspire church musicians, choirs, clergy and congregations.

Mark is a graduate of Central Bible College, Evangel University and Vanguard University.

Disciple Now Weekend



You have searched me, Lord,
 and You know me.
 You know when I sit
 and when I rise;
 You perceive my thoughts
 from afar.
 You discern my going out
 and my lying down;
 You are familiar with
 all my ways.
 Before a word is
 on my tongue
 You, Lord, know it
 completely.
 You hem me in behind
 and before,
 And You lay Your hand
 upon me.
 Such knowledge is too won-
 derful for me,
 Too lofty for me to attain.
 How precious to me are Your
 thoughts, God!
 How vast is the sum of
 them!



From Psalm 139

Silent Service

Next time we celebrate the Lord's Supper in the sanctuary, thank **Brenda Nelson** and **Gwyndolyn Jones** for their silent service: preparing the elements. They buy bread and juice, prepare cups and plates, and whisk away leftovers.

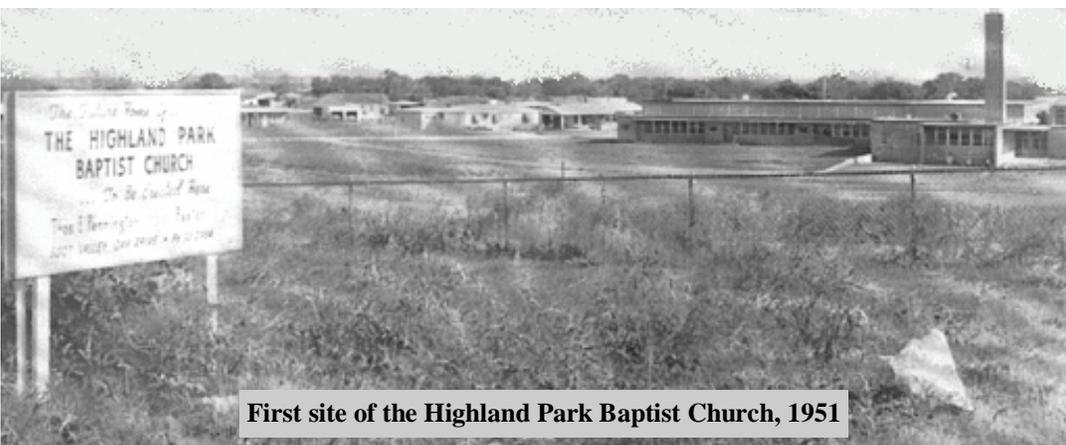
HPBC Barnabas People: Faithful servants who do what Jesus would do.

In the Beginning . . . was the Dream

Let me tell you a tale, a bit of oral history, if you please. Back when there was no Highland Park Baptist Church, no Highland Park Elementary School, no Highland Park shopping center, no Randall's or other businesses. There was a tall radio tower with its long guy wires for stability in front of where Randall's is today and a horse and riding stable where Randall's is currently. There was a bait shop and a beer joint on the opposite sides of Balcones Road about where the fire station is today. Balcones was a narrow rural road, part of Bull Creek Rd., running along the base of a cedar and oak covered hillside, leading out to 2222.

Dr. Caryle Marney, First Baptist Church pastor and Jim Sapp, education director at First Baptist, were conferencing on a horseback ride one afternoon. They paused on high ground to rest the horses and look at the beauty of the area. Marney turned to Jim and made the observation, "This area needs a church!" It turned out to be a prophetic observation.

Edgar H. "Commodore" Perry conceived of Highland Park West shortly after World War II, and laid out the sub-division in 1948, his friends telling him, "Edgar, are you crazy, no one will ever move out that far."



First site of the Highland Park Baptist Church, 1951

As houses started to go up, Mr. Perry realized the neighborhood lacked a church, so he offered land above the old quarry behind Highland Park School to First Baptist Church in Austin. Because the tract was too small, there was subsequently a trade for the present site of Highland Park Baptist Church.

April 27, 1952 The first worship service was held at Camp Mabry Armory with approximately 100 in attendance. Sermon topic was "Upon This Rock," using the scripture from Matthew 16:18. Twenty-five placed their membership with the church.

The National Guard Armory proved a busy place at the height the Korean War, and services had to compete with military meetings. In 1953, the church relocated to facilities at the Highland Park Elementary School with worship services in the school cafeteria. By April 1953, the church had grown to seventy-six members.

— John C. Miller

And Now . . . Celebrating 60 Years of Caring

April 28, 2012 We will kick off our 60th birthday year with a birthday party in the front parking lot, complete with friends and neighbors, cake, music, and a birthday blessing.

April 29, 2012 Come to Sapp Hall during the Sunday School hour for breakfast and see displays of photos and items from over the years. After worship, we will have a catered meal in Sapp Hall.

Take A Walk Down Memory Lane

The Steering Committee for the 60th Birthday Celebration is excited to offer the opportunity to purchase personalized bricks for the courtyard area by Teague Chapel. Inscribing a brick is a special way to memorialize or honor a loved one, a family, and/or an important date. Brochures will be available on Sunday mornings and at Wednesday Weavings, and proceeds of the brick sale will help fund our 60th Birthday Celebration, April 27-29.

Donations for the 60th Birthday Celebration are welcome: maybe one dollar for each birthday you've had or for every year that you have been at HPBC. Just write "60th Birthday" on your check or online choose "Other" fund and specify "60th Birthday." Talk to Lynn Evans at 694-1963 if you have questions.

Ministry Fair Sunday — Come and See

Being church. That is what we did superbly on Jan. 29 as we came together in community for the Ministry Fair. We came together with **PURPOSE**, to “take our everyday, ordinary lives — our sleeping, eating, going-to-work and walking around lives — and place them before God as an offering.”

We found our individual purposes as we committed our time and talent to the work of the various ministries. We were **EMPOWERED** by our ministry chairs to go forth to build the “Commonwealth of God.”

We demonstrated our **TRUST** in each other to get it all done. We pledged our **SUPPORT** of each other as we share in the responsibilities of being church. What joy we get from our **PETS!** —Joe Stafford



More Ministry Fair Sunday — We are Called



From Romans 12, The Message

Love from the center of who you are.
 Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.
 Keep yourselves fueled and aflame.
 Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant.
 Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder.
 Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath.
 Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good.



We've been called to be a
Worshipping
Learning
Practicing
Missional
Community of Faith

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The Mirror
February 2012

Life of the Church

Kelley and Susan have been here a year! Warmest thanks and congratulations to Kelley Reeder DeCleene, our Church Secretary, and Susan Hammock, our part-time Church Bookkeeper, who celebrate a year with us.

Share Your Table We will collect food on Sunday, Feb. 5, for Leander Middle School Food Pantry, and here's what they need: specific, kid-friendly food, small, light-weight and individually wrapped: such as 16-oz peanut butter, jelly in a small non-glass container, canned Spaghetti-o and ravioli, canned soup and chili, fruit and applesauce cups, Vienna sausages, Pop Tarts, individually wrapped snacks (granola bars, beef jerky, snack crackers, popcorn, pretzels, nuts, etc.), ramen noodles, instant oatmeal, individual boxes of cereal, instant mac and cheese, tuna or chicken salad kits, instant meals such as Hormel Compleats. Kristin Foster heads the school's food pantry, and every Friday the food pantry sends home 32 backpacks filled with food. Students return empty backpacks the following week so that they can be filled again and sent home with kids who need them. Thanks again for your donations, and thanks to Kristin for being the hands and feet of Jesus for hungry kids at Leander Middle School.

Oh, those Touch cards David Turner says: "Thank all of you so much for your cards, phone calls and personal inquiries into my recovery from pneumonia. As always, you have nurtured and cared for Mo and I."

From the Administration Ministry Don't want reimbursement? Did you know that you can get credit for your gift to the church when you buy something for the church and pay for it out of your pocket? Just fill out the normal reimbursement voucher, mark it as an "in-kind contribution," attach the receipt and your next contribution report will show the amount of your "in-kind contribution." It is a convenient way to document your tax deductible charitable contributions.

Interfaith Hospitality Network We are hosting four families from Feb. 5-12, and there are still places to fill in with a helping hand during the week as we help these families who are experiencing temporary homelessness.

Sisters in Service SIS meets on Monday, Feb. 13 at Barbara Worley's house, and we'll hear from Fred about Engineering Ministries International and Fred and Barbara's upcoming trip to South America. Bring thin ribbon for bookmarks for Barbara Bolick's ministry and treats, small gifts, goodies for Valentines bags for Open Door Ministry.

Please join us for worship.
Sunday Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:55 a.m.
Taize Worship on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 7:30 p.m.
All are welcome