

WHITE'S CHAPEL HERALD

VOLUME 16, NUMBER 4

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

571870

Community Storehouse is July Offering Recipient

It certainly cannot go without notice that the cost of living has increased enormously in the past year. Every sector of life has exponentially soared in price, especially in the areas of food and everyday personal items.

The White's Chapel family has continuously been sensitive to those who are food insecure. Our congregation supports many programs that are dedicated to helping fill these needs for our community and those surrounding us.

One of the ways in which we do this is through our communion offerings, and this month is no exception. Communion offerings for

COMMUNION cont'd on page 2



More Than Fireworks

By Dr. Todd Renner

"Patriotism consists not in waving the flag, but in striving that our country shall be righteous as well as strong."
—James Bryce

This time of year, it's easy to equate patriotism with parades, fireworks, and star-spangled fanfare. And while those things have their place—and yes, I'll

MUSINGS cont'd on page 2



WC Kids VBS Points True North

By Leilani Barrera

Another incredible Vacation Bible School is in the books! As one of the largest annual events hosted by White's Chapel, this year's turnout did not disappoint. From June 9 to 12, White's Chapel swarmed with over

1,000 children and 300 volunteers.

This year, WC Kids embarked on an exploration of God's vast world, learning what it truly means to trust in Him. The week's theme was titled "True North: Trusting God in a Wild World." Trekking through the

VBS cont'd on page 3

Friendship, Purpose Experienced by First Time Mission Volunteers

By Leilani Barrera

This past Memorial Day weekend, from May 24 to 29, a group of White's Chapel adult volunteers embarked on a domestic mission trip to Española Valley, located north of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Partnering with McCurdy Ministries, a National Mission Institution of the United Methodist Church, the team addressed the needs of the Española community and supported McCurdy Ministries' mission by participating in improvement projects and program support.

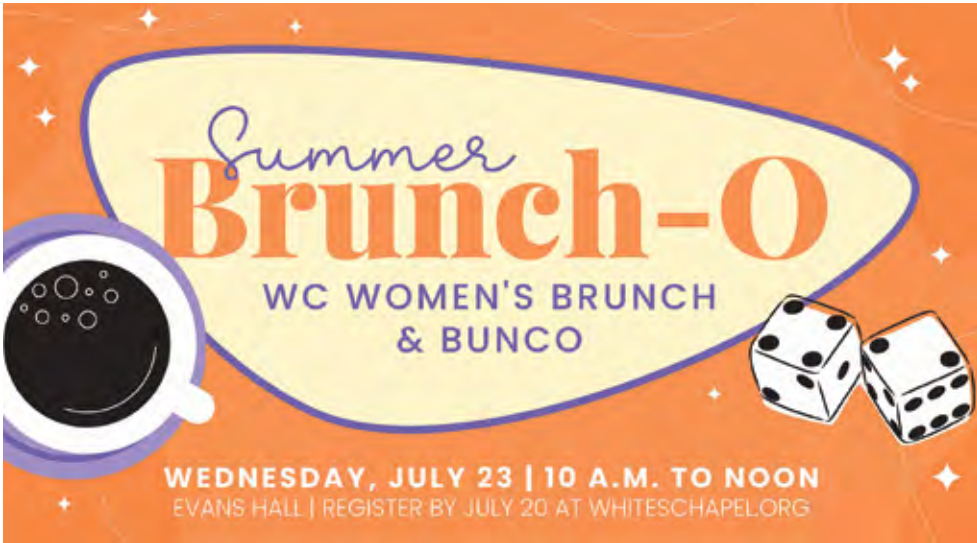
Since 1912, McCurdy Ministries has served the Española community, reopening in 2024 as a Family Resource Center. They offer faith-based programs for children and youth, as well as adult enrichment programs with emotional and behavioral health support.

"We have impacted our community by offering faith-based programs for children and youth as well as programs for adult enrichment that include emotional and behavioral health support. Our goal is to create hope and empower the lives of children, teens, and their families in the Española valley."

Española faced an 18.1% poverty rate in 2023, higher than the

MISSION cont'd on page 3





Communion

Cont'd from page 1

the month of July will be dedicated to the Community Storehouse.

Rising food insecurity is an expanding community challenge. It is a challenge that continues to be a critical issue affecting one in five children and impacting thousands of families in our community. Since the effects of COVID-19 in 2020, the demand for food assistance and essential personal items has skyrocketed. Requests for support have grown from 25 families per week in 2020 to approximately 208 families per week in 2024—a staggering 729% increase.

This dramatic rise underscores the urgent need for food donation programs, community food pantries, and local hunger relief efforts to ensure that children and families have access to nutritious meals and basic necessities. Our donations help join in this fight against hunger and make a lasting impact in our community.

To close the gap between opportunity and achievement, the Community Storehouse is one of several programs that provides what they call 'a snack pack program'—a consistent plan to provide nutritious, kid-friendly food to children facing

weekend food insecurity. These essential snack packs ensure that students have access to healthy food even when school meals are unavailable.

Each week, volunteers at the Community Storehouse Nutritional Center assemble and deliver snack packs to school partners where teachers and counselors identify students who may not have food over the weekend. These snack packs are then discreetly placed in their backpacks every Friday, ensuring they have the nutrition they need to thrive.

In 2024, the Community Storehouse distributed 85,637 snack packs to local schools, providing 175,374 individual snacks. This means hundreds of children were served weekly.

Additionally, many families facing economic hardships struggle to afford daily necessities which can impact health, confidence and academic success for children. The Community Storehouse provides toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, combs, soap, deodorant and personal products for distribution as needed.

Every month, 100% of the money collected in our communion offerings is dedicated to the chosen recipient. It is hoped that you will consider this as you plan your donation.



We Need You!

WC Kids is in search of volunteers for Sunday school classrooms this

summer. You don't have to be an expert, lessons and supplies are provided. All we need is you! Come solo, grab a friend, or recruit your entire Sunday School class to sign up to serve on a Sunday morning this summer. Contact WC Kids Volunteer Coordinator, Courtney Meek, to make a difference.

Courtney Meek | cmeek@whiteschapel.org

Broadway and other well known shows.

WC Kids Storytime | July 2 | 10 a.m.

Join us in the annex by the Bookstore for a morning of fun! This event is ideal for families with preschoolers through second grade. We will enjoy stories, crafts, and snacks together. Following story time, families can explore the playground or have lunch at Wesley Cafe. It's a fantastic opportunity to connect with other families and forge new friendships.

Erin Zajac | ezajac@whiteschapel.org

WC Theater 1 Performance:

"A Night of Stars" | June 27 | 7 p.m.

Join us for "A Night of Stars" as summer camp students shine bright on the stage. This free performance is the culmination of a week of hard work and fun! Students will be featured in multiple musical ensembles throughout the night. You'll recognize songs from Disney,

WC Kids Movie Day | July 16 | 10 a.m.

Escape the heat and join us in watching Disney's Frozen in Evans Hall! Don't forget to bring your blankets and pillows for extra comfort. We'll have popcorn ready for you, and there will also be a fun craft activity. The movie will start at 10 a.m. See you there!

Erin Zajac | ezajac@whiteschapel.org

Musings

Cont'd from page 1

be enjoying a grilled hot dog or two myself—Bryce's words offer us a timely reminder: true patriotism isn't performative. It's purposeful.

It's not just about celebrating our nation's strength; it's about seeking its righteousness. It's about making sure that liberty doesn't become license, and that freedom doesn't drift into self-centeredness. For we know that the greatest strength of any nation isn't measured by its military or economic might... but by the character of its people. By their honesty, their compassion, their pursuit of righteousness, and their willingness to serve.

In fact, I've recently been living with the hymn "I Vow to Thee, My Country." Written in the shadows of the First World War, it captures that tension well: a love for country that's deep and devoted—but never blind. And in its second verse, it gestures toward a higher loyalty, a deeper

allegiance: "another country" whose ways are gentler, whose paths are peace.

*"And there's another country,
I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her,
most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we
may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her
pride is suffering."*

So yes, wave the flag. Celebrate well. Be grateful for all the freedoms we enjoy. But steward them well. Remember the call that comes with them: the freedom to serve, the freedom to love, the freedom to help our country become not just stronger, but more righteous.

This weekend, we hope you'll join us for our annual patriotic service: a powerful morning of worship, prayer, and music led by our 120-voice Chancel Choir and 40-piece orchestra. A full brunch will be served throughout Sunday morning. Invite a friend and come ready to give thanks—not just for what we have, but for what, by God's grace, we are still becoming!

FINANCIALS JUNE	June	2025	2024
	Week 1	\$200,463	\$220,410
	Week 2	\$221,060	\$198,631
	Week 3	\$256,378	\$217,751
	Week 4	\$205,218	\$166,313
	MTD Actual	\$883,119	\$803,105
	MTD Goal	\$897,563	\$839,154
		\$(14,444)	\$(36,049)
	YTD Actual	\$5,311,265	\$5,227,746
	YTD Goal	\$5,277,771	\$4,852,696
		\$ 33,494	\$ 375,050

VBS

Cont'd from page 1

Alaskan tundra, they discovered the dangers of losing direction and how easily truth can be lost in our wild world. The entire week pointed WC Kids to God as our True North!

In preparation, numerous eager and enthusiastic volunteers worked to create the perfect campsite for the young explorers. The once-familiar halls of White's Chapel were magically transformed into the ultimate Alaskan adventure.

Glowing northern lights, majestic mountains, rivers, and glaciers adorned the entire campus.

With the church buzzing with excitement and energy, kids and volunteers alike enjoyed a fantastic week filled with activities, crafts, games, and lessons. Over the four days, the kids were taught all the ways they could put their trust in

God, who can be trusted to direct our paths, share His wisdom, and spark everlasting joy!

Mary Beth Scott, a seasoned member of White's Chapel and a dedicated volunteer, has had the privilege of serving as a group guide alongside her 7-year-old grandson for the past three years.

"Their energy is contagious! It's fun



to witness them explore and foster a deeper relationship with God and to be a part of it," she says. "[As a volunteer], you're creating lasting memories that uncover Biblical truths that they will take with them forever."

Katie Foust, a seventh-year volunteer, served as this year's

Snacks Director, which she considered "an honor to be trusted with serving over 800 children per day, totaling more than 3,600 snacks over the four-day VBS."

As both a parent and former teacher, Foust says, "Every year my favorite highlight is watching our students make connections with how God is providing



for us, to remember to thank God for the nourishment provided and to thank the hands that have facilitated our blessings."

In response to what she loves most about VBS, she says, "The excitement on our students' faces! The decorations, the crafts, the stories, and the snacks are fun and

do such a wonderful job connecting the Bible in such meaningful ways."

To those interested in serving next summer, Scott encourages, "Step out in faith. God will equip you (as will the leaders) with all the tools you need, and maybe some caffeine as well!"

Foust also remarks, "The impact is huge!... You will be part of that impact for our students for many years to come. It takes a community to help our children's spiritual foundations. Serving our youth now means that they will, in turn,



become servants of God for others."

Reflecting on the memories of this year's Alaskan excursion, White's Chapel feels blessed to have such an incredible kids' ministry and to serve its youth alongside amazing volunteers. WC Kids sends a glacier-sized thank you to everyone who made this year's VBS possible.

Mission

Cont'd from page 1

national average. Additionally, nearly 23% have below-average literacy rates. McCurdy Ministries reports that 75% of grade 3–6 students and 80% of students in grades K–6 were not proficient in reading and language arts at the start of the 2023–24 school year.

The White's Chapel team supported the McCurdy mission by helping construct the "Enchanted Forest of Reading" Children's Library on the McCurdy Ministries campus. They painted, put up bulletin boards, organized books, hosted a Scholastic book fair, and attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony! Designed for the LEER (meaning to read) program, McCurdy's Children's Literacy Program aims to enhance children's reading proficiency by providing access to books and training adults to facilitate one-on-one reading with elementary students.



The team also helped to set up an additional clothing pantry that would provide materials

and resources for individuals of all ages, organizing and preparing rooms.

Carol Martin, one of the trip's members, recalls, "We found the directors at McCurdy Mission had a very clear vision of what they wanted to do, but they needed a boost. The local staff went from overwhelmed to very hopeful because we came."

Judy Sether, another volunteer, notes, "The families in the Espanola Valley face many challenges. I was deeply moved by the commitment and love shown to them by the McCurdy Ministries' staff. The Lord [is] truly walking with them as

they worked together to provide a better life for their children."

Since 2002, the trip's leaders, Karen and Larry Smith, have participated in countless White's Chapel mission trips. Enthusiastic about the "divinely

orchestrated timing," they remarked, "when we arrived, the ministry members told us that although it was Memorial Day weekend, we picked the perfect weekend to come... a definite example of right place, right time."

Additionally, "seven out of 11 volunteers had never been on a mission trip before!" Karen commented, "They had such an energizing eagerness."

Each volunteer shared their appreciation for the surrounding history and culture, as well as the unique joys of simultaneously serving with others who were also experiencing their first mission trip.

Terri Nottoli, one of the first-time volunteers, recalls, "The first day when we were all wearing our matching T-shirts, someone passing asked if we were there for a family

reunion. I answered that it was a church mission trip, and she replied, 'That is family!' We got to know our brothers and sisters-in-Christ through working alongside them..."

Her husband, Dave Nottoli, also states, "As a first timer, I experienced great camaraderie and fellowship with new church friends, satisfaction in completing tasks to serve those less fortunate, and learning about the area through side trips and dining out."

Jay and Jana Still, another volunteering couple, shared, "There is such a need in the Española community for services that McCurdy's small staff cannot focus on repairing and organizing their aging facilities... it was satisfying to see the impact we were making... our small group started as total strangers, and after five days we had made some lifelong friends."

The team returned home confident that their presence among the community was welcomed with love and that their efforts were received with gratitude.

"I would encourage everyone to participate in a White's Chapel Mission Trip!" Dave Nottoli exclaims.

WHITE’S CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH

185 S. WHITE CHAPEL BLVD.
SOUTHLAKE, TX 76092

Finances 101 For Women

WEDNESDAYS | JULY 2, 9, & 16
6 P.M. | AE ROOM 3201

Topics include: banking, the impact of interest rates, budgeting & credit cards.
Space is limited.
Register online at whiteschapel.org.



Ladies, do you want to learn a few important things regarding your finances? Finances 101 for Women is your opportunity! Facilitated by Anna Herrera, a 25-year financial professional, this three-week course will offer a variety of financial tools that can help you in everyday life. Some of the topics this course will be covering are banking, the impact of interest rates, budgeting, and credit cards. This will be an interactive course, and participants will be able to apply these concepts to everyday life. Space is limited; register online.

Tracy Christensen | tchristensen@whiteschapel.org



Prayer List

Ivy Nell Alspaw, Sandi Attwood, Ken Bache, Jerry Barron, Kait Rhone Batts, Gregg Belcher, Eddie Bob Black, Sherry Bobbit, Cheryl Brashear, Dan Buckhart, Carol Burns, Joe Burns, Bobbie Cameron, Georgia Carbone, Connie Center, “The Chosen” Cast and Crew, Kyle Clark, Carolyn Cockerell, JP Cottingim, Cliff Courtney, Barbara Cross, Joe Culpepper, Nevin Cunningham, Janice Davis, Steve Dowd, Margie Duffy, Mary Duncan, Wilma Dykman, Miles Elder, Ralph Evans, Mark Fidler, Brandon Foltz, Billie Jean Garner, The George Family, Jeanne Gerlach, Shelly Gillette, Patricia Goodman, Nancy Guerry, John Guthrie, Coty Herron, Dixie Hubbard, Barb Idol, Jody Irwin, Kirk Johnson, Floyd Joseph, Lynn Joseph, Bob Lamons, Ashley Barret Leder, Jay Lewis, Sue McNutt, Katie Meek, Elizabeth Miller, Dennis Minder, Marjorie Mock, Neveah Montejano, Dan Moody, Terri Moore, Nelda Morrow-Winblood, Robin Murphy, Ellie Grace Nadeau, Bob Ohlendorf, Bill Park, Karen Parrish, Lizzy Paschall, Johnna Payne, Becky Preston, Bill Preston, Jon Reeves, Jim and Mary Renner, Dan Reynolds, Karla and Robert Rincon, The Rindler Family, Alynne Rivers, Kathryn Robbins, Lauren Sands, Paige Shuman, Allison Simmons, Lexi Spustack, Shalini Stewart, Orville Summey, Steve Swanston, Kimmie Thomason, Eileen Thrash, U.S. Soldiers, Carol Venable, Walker Whalen, Christopher White, Charles and Melissa Williams, Kimberly Windsor, Vicki Winn, Josh Withers, Mark Wolfe. Recent deaths: The Family of Gregory Ankeney, The Family of Evelyn Clark, The Family of Raymond Daly, The Family of David Darnell, The Family of Wanda Davey, The Family of Erich DeZoeten, The Family of Sam Fryer, The Family of Wesley Gray, The Family of Edward Grondahl, The Family of Sarah Hale, The Family of Heinrich Hertzog, The Family of Elyse Huettl, The Family of Sheryl Jones, The Family of Tony Joseph, The Family of David Leslie, The Family of Jesse Matthews, The Family of Sherry McLean, The Family of Jerry Owen, The Family of Christopher Elkins Portillo, The Family of Travis Pride, The Family of Lisa Vickory.

Submit names via QR code or www.whiteschapel.org/prayers.html.
(Names will remain on this prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise notified via QR code or www.whiteschapel.org/prayers.html.)



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



WC Presents: JOY!
Interactive Concert for Seniors
Thursday, July 17 | 2 p.m.
Grace Chapel
This is a special invitation to join seniors throughout the Fort Worth area for a “JOY” concert featuring Pastor Ja and The Texas BootScooters! It will be a fun, interactive afternoon for all who attend, and it is FREE.
Arnold Rawls | arawls@whiteschapel.org

WC Young Adults Trivia Night at Third Rail in Harvest Hall
Tuesday, July 22 | 6:30 p.m.
Instead of our usual Tuesday Night Worship, we’re heading to Third Rail at Harvest Hall for a night of fun, laughter, and friendly

competition at Trivia Night! Come ready to test your knowledge, enjoy some great food and drinks, and hang out with other young adults.
Logan deGroot | ldegroot@whiteschapel.org

Open Doors Sunday School Class
9:30 a.m. | Age 40+
Center for Spiritual Care
Welcome to a place where faith meets fun and questions are always encouraged! Many Sundays feature engaging speakers who share real life journeys and fresh perspectives on spirituality, social justice and everyday life. We dive into thought provoking book studies that challenge and inspire, from modern Christian authors to interfaith voices! We take field trips and enjoy discussing current events, along with brunch! It’s a progressive, inclusive group where everyone has a voice and a place, whether you are exploring your faith or deepening a lifelong journey.
Tracy Christensen | tchristensen@whiteschapel.org

WHITE’S CHAPEL

HERALD

Church office—(817) 481-4147

Editor Debbie McKellar

Managing Editor Sean Bogan

Graphics and Design Susanna Cunningham

Graphics Consultants Alec Hanson & Sarah Hamilton

White’s Chapel Herald USPS 25541 is published weekly except for the second week of March and the week of Thanksgiving, and then changes to alternate weeks beginning the Friday after Memorial Day, changing back to weekly in mid-August, and skips the week between Christmas and New Year, by White’s Chapel Methodist Church, 185 S. White Chapel Blvd, Southlake TX 76092-7308. Periodicals Postage is paid at Grapevine, TX and additional mailing offices. Subscription rate: \$10 for one year.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to White’s Chapel, 185 S. White Chapel Blvd, Southlake, TX 76092-7308