HERALD



Please join us <u>online</u> or in person this weekend as we celebrate Labor Day. We hope to see you soon.

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Medical Professionals Lead Health & Wellness Ministry

By Leilani Barrera

ealth and Wellness are two separate entities, yet stitched together in both heart and vision. To ensure that White's Chapel has all the necessary resources to effectively honor God both physically and spiritually, two passionate part-time registered nurses lead our Health and Wellness ministries.



"We
collaborate
to assist
members in
maintaining
and regaining
wholeness in
body, mind,
and spirit."

With the Health department blanketing the medical team and its operations, the Wellness department focuses on investing in the interests and needs of WC congregants and the local community.

Health

Katie Park, RN, BSN, M.A., has served as the Health Director at White's Chapel for over 10 years. Her experience as an inpatient and outpatient professional, and a career emphasis in cardiac testing, treatment, education, and cardiac rehab/health promotion, is supported by her extensive education, including a Master of Arts Degree in Gerontology from TWU-Dallas with a focus on Exercise Physiology.

Park's primary role as Health Director consists of managing the medical team's functions and activities, as well as recruiting and advocating for active volunteerism, coordinating training operations, and supervising the WC Medical Equipment Share Closet.

"As Health Director, my primary responsibilities revolve around ongoing coordination, recruitment, and training for our Volunteer Medical Team here at WC," Park says, "I focus on developing our team, which concentrates on ensuring safety and emergency first aid resources and training."

The volunteer medical team is comprised of several Texas-licensed healthcare professionals, such as physicians, nurses, APRNs, physician assistants, EMTs, and paramedics.

HEALTH cont'd on page 3







AND AWAY WE GO!

The fall semester was off and running last Wednesday as we kicked off with a great chicken dinner and comedic entertainment. Bible studies, classes, and worship opportunities were back in play this week.

New Website

Strives For Easy Navigation

uilding a new website is an overwhelming task.
For an organization like White's Chapel, it is particularly complicated. With so many areas of interest, concern, and information, as well as an enumerable variety of users, trying to organize what is needed for our website is beyond daunting.

Dr. John McKellar speaks for so many of us when he says, "I really don't understand all these trigatrons."

Thank goodness there are those who do.

"Our new website, a labor of love spanning roughly six months, began its life last year as the visionary design of our own talented Sarah Hamilton," said Sean Bogan, Press and Web Media Director. "By February, the digital blueprints were translated into tangible architecture, and once the core page layouts were solidified, we plunged into the intricate phase of implementation."

This is where the true heart of the work lay, meticulously crafting every detail.

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Public Service Can Heal Our Political Divide

By Scott Walters

Editor's note: The following editorial was written by White's Chapel's Scott Walters and was printed in the Dallas Morning News on Sunday, August 24. It is reprinted here with permission of the Dallas Morning News.

mericans don't trust one another. According to Pew Research, only about a third of Americans say that "most people can be trusted," down from 46% in 1972. Large majorities view people in the opposing political party as more

immoral and dishonest than people in their own party.

One reason for this breakdown is that we're less engaged in real life. Social media has connected us like never before, but people feel lonely. Only a quarter of people say they know most of their neighbors.

Despite our frayed connections, there's reason for hope. Americans overwhelmingly believe it's possible to improve trust—86% of Pew respondents said so. One solution, they say, is shared activities. In fact, when Pew asked about 20 different ways to improve social trust, shared projects ranked #2—behind only

the generic "being less partisan/tribal, respect others."

This idea isn't new. The U.S. has long invested in programs that promote service as a sort of civic glue. During the Great Depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps brought people together to build roads, trails and campgrounds. Peace Corps volunteers have spent decades serving abroad in the name of diplomacy and shared humanity.

Service shapes the nation, but also the individual. My father used the GI Bill to

SERVICE cont'd on page 2



By John McKellar

ne of the greatest teachers
America has ever known was
Professor Endicott Peabody,
headmaster of a preparatory school

The Upward Trend

in the East. Day after day, in the quiet hush of chapel, he reminded his boys that life would not always run smoothly. "Remember," he told them, "when things do not go well, the great fact to hold onto is this: the trend of civilization is forever upward."

Those words sank deep into the heart of a young student named Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Forty years later, in the depth of the Great Depression,

Roosevelt stood before a weary, discouraged nation. Banks had closed, bread lines stretched around city blocks, families were frightened about tomorrow. And from his lips came words that lifted the spirit of a nation: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." He was, in that moment, passing along the wisdom of his old schoolmaster.

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Website

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True to form, White's Chapel approaches nothing timidly, and this website stands as a testament to that grand spirit.

The new website unfolds with a host of exciting features designed to elevate the user's experience. Most notably, the reimagined calendar

now shines with a cleaner, more elegant design, inviting effortless discovery and registration for desired classes and events. Beyond that, the enhanced media page now mirrors the intuitive flow of the television app, offering a beautifully consistent and immersive experience whenever

there is engagement with our content.

"While many of our refinements are understated, the navigation received our most fervent dedication. We understood this was the very threshold where user clarity often wavered," said Bogan. "Now, magnificent 'Mega Menus' descend, unfolding a swift and comprehensive gateway to every facet of our ministries. Complementing this, each individual ministry page boasts its own discerning submenu, perched at the top, offering nuanced, multi-layered guidance with graceful ease."

The website is intuitively organized around key pillars of engagement:

- "Connect" is the gateway to White's Chapel's vibrant community, offering a broad overview of ministries like WC Kids, Students, Congregational Care, and Adult Discipleship. It's also where to find essential information about the church's identity, history, mission, staff, and clear pathways to membership and involvement.
- "Media" is a comprehensive archive of spiritual nourishment. Here, an

extensive library of past sermons, enriching Podcasts, and past issues of The Herald newspaper invite you to revisit and reflect.

Finally, discover "Serve" perhaps the most expansive and empowering section. This is where countless opportunities to lend talent and heart unfold—from impactful mission trips and teaching roles to the compassionate work of our Dental Clinic and Mobile Market.





One may navigate directly to key destinations on the website using these active domain shortcuts: WCKids.org, WCStudents.com, ChandlersHope.org, and missionhealthcenter.com.

"The registration process remains consistent since our recent adoption of Realm for managing classes and events," said Bogan. "However, some individuals who signed up using 'The City' platform back in 2016 might encounter difficulties during registration if they do not recall the exact email address they used at that time. We recommend trying any previously used email addresses to ensure a smooth sign-up experience."

The new website is already live and has been active since the beginning of June. Services and Bible studies are still active through our new Media hub.



Trust isn't built

through similarity.

It's built through

shared work.

Service

Cont'd from page 1

go back to school. My own education was funded by a National Research Service Award. These programs aren't just training grounds; they're trustbuilding factories.

It's true that recent federal budget cuts have kneecapped many of these programs. Funding for AmeriCorps,

for instance, could be cut in half, threatening thousands of jobs that provide tutoring, disaster response and environmental conservation at low cost.

But this isn't about money; it's about mindset.

Conservatives value duty, discipline and honor. Progressives emphasize care, empathy and equity. Both philosophies share a core belief that we owe something to each other.

In 1854, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote: "We are all conservatives, half Whig, half Democrat... above all is the instinct of man to love and help his neighbor."

President George W. Bush echoed that idea with his call for "compassionate conservatism."

But today that logic has become frayed. Too often, we act as if people must think alike to work together, and if they don't, it's ok for one to deny the other a seat at the table.

I recently travelled with a group to San Antonio to repair homes for people in need. We spent five days working,

sharing meals and talking. I couldn't tell you who anyone voted for in the last election. There was too much work to be done on our shared project.

If you're troubled by recent cuts to food assistance, housing programs and other community initiatives, there's a way to respond—by showing up. As Congressman John Lewis put it, we can engage in "good trouble, necessary trouble." He meant it in the context of civil rights, but it applies in the trust battle too.

> When trust is low, service itself becomes a kind of good trouble. Volunteering to deliver meals or tutor a refugee becomes an act of defiance against a culture that says, "You're on your own."

Here in Texas, opportunities abound: Arc of Texas, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, the North Texas Food Bank, and the North Texas Red Cross, to name a few. When you volunteer to pack boxes or read to a child, you're doing more than filling a gap, you're mending our torn social fabric.

Trust isn't built through similarity. It's built through shared work. Public service isn't just goodwill; it's a statement of faith in each other.

Are you discouraged, overwhelmed, angry at the state of American culture? Find a neighbor and lend a hand. There's work to be done.

Scott Walters is a public health professor. researcher and educator.







Editor Debbie McKellar Managing Editor Sean Bogan **Graphics and Design** Susanna Cunningham **Graphics Consultants** Alec Hanson & Sarah Hamilton

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(WCStudents





Crave & Intersection

We are so excited that Crave and Intersection are back! Middle School students are invited to Crave, the weekly worship service for 7th and 8th grade students. Crave will be from 5:45–7 p.m. each Wednesday. High School students are invited to Intersection, the weekly worship service for students in 9th through 12th grade. Intersection will run from 7:30-8:45 p.m. on Wednesdays. Both groups will meet on the second floor of the student education building. We are so excited about what this Fall semester will look like and how it will help students better know and follow Jesus together with their peers.



Sunday School Unplugged

WC Students is now offering a Sunday School class during the 9:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday mornings for our Middle School students. The format for this Sunday School class will differ from our classes offered during the 11 a.m. service. This class will be a smaller class with a focus on a deeper study of the Bible.



Cell Group Kick Off

Cell Groups are WC Students' take on small groups—created just for 9–12th graders. We meet on Sunday afternoons or evenings during the semester in awesome host homes that open their doors for a time to hang out, dive into God's Word, and grow together. This isn't just about reading the Bible—it's about real friendships, honest conversations, sharing your story, praying for each other, and figuring out life through a Biblical lens. If you are interested in leading, offering your house as a host home, or joining a Cell Group, contact Michelle Joseph at mjoseph@whiteschapel.org for more information. Cell groups kick off Sunday, September 7.



Middle School Fall Retreat

Fall Retreat will be from November 14-16th. This year, on the Middle School Fall Retreat, campers will get an opportunity to enjoy many of the wonderful things that Sky Ranch offers. Students can play games, fly down the zip line, go fishing, play gaga ball, and so much more! There will also be time for worship and small group discussions with their cabins. WC Students will be leading the programming. It is sure to be an unforgettable weekend! Keep an eye out for more registration information. Upon opening, registration forms for this trip will be found on wcstudents.com.



Senior Bible Study

Drs. John McKellar and Todd Renner know how pivotal the senior year is as students face big decisions about their future. To help guide them, they're leading a weekly, fun, practical, noquestions-barred Bible study and fellowship time. Beginning Wednesday, September 3, the group will meet each week from 6-7 p.m. in the Pastor's Study (upper northwest corner of the Sanctuary). Our senior pastors will walk students through the core beliefs of our faith and show how they apply to this exciting and ever-changing season of life.

For more information about any of these classes, events or groups, visit wcstudents.com.

Musings

Cont'd from page 1

What strikes me is how a teacher's steady reminder, spoken again and again in an ordinary school chapel, became the seed of national hope. That's the way God often works. A word planted in youth, a line from Scripture read around a kitchen table, a Sunday School lesson, a hymn sung in church—all can come back to steady us years later when the world seems to be crumbling.

Professor Peabody was right. Civilization has its ups and downs, but the long arc points heavenward. That is also the promise of our faith. The cross gave way to an empty tomb. Defeat gave way to victory. Despair gave way to hope.

Civilization has its ups and downs, but the long arc points heavenward.

So let us remember: no matter the headlines, no matter our personal trials, the trend of God's kingdom is forever upward. As Paul wrote, "We are pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair." God is still moving history toward His good purpose. And when we forget, let us borrow a page from Roosevelt and remind each other: the only thing we have to fear is fear itself.



referrals and resources tailored to medical or situational needs.

Rivers is dedicated to meeting the health needs and interests of WC attendees. In her role, Rivers allocates resources, oversees support groups, and promotes wellness classes and presentations. For Rivers, wellness is a means of connecting with God.

"The heart behind my position is having a 'servant's heart...'" Rivers remarks, "It is being called to love and care for everyone through the utilization of my nursing knowledge and experience... I believe that to give of ourselves as we are able is the true heart behind my job here at WC."

Two existing WC wellness classes include "SAIL," a free fitness program for seniors 55+

Health

Cont'd from page 1

"Our Volunteer Medical Team is an amazing group of individuals

with a heart to serve and share their skills by providing quick assessment and early management of a first aid or medical emergency." Park said. "Nearly every week, I hear from our Pastors, leaders, and congregation, thanking us and expressing their appreciation... our medical volunteers have shared our church community for years... they have been here for falls, scrapes, dizziness, and other unexpected medical conditions..."

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and First Aid training and education opportunities are regularly provided for staff and the congregation and will be offered on a more regular basis in 2025-2026. Coordination of quarterly blood drives and flu shot administration is also provided on campus annually.

In partnership with the team's Medical Director, training sessions are conducted for qualifying incoming volunteers in health and safety measures. As training revolves around practicing doctors, session dates fluctuate. Sessions include an orientation,

overview of protocols, and Emergency Response services. Participants will also practice using the medical equipment and supplies, as well as tour the building to familiarize themselves with class location, the Medical Pew, supply storage, and more!

Park also maintains the WC Share Closet—an outreach ministry dedicated to

equipping both the WC church family and the local community by providing access to lightly used donated medical mobility equipment and supplies. The mission is to ensure that those less fortunate have access to what they need to aid in their recovery—free of charge. Contributions help ensure emergency equipment supplies are operational and up to date.

"It is a beautiful ministry, and a great opportunity to get to know, guide, and pray with people, and to link them to other community resources, classes, or support groups at our church."

Volunteers are needed and welcome to help with occasional small repairs, organization, and equipment maintenance.

Wellness

Alynne Rivers, R.N. of nearly five decades, is the Wellness Director at White's Chapel. Her primary responsibility is to serve as a healthcare resource for WC members by providing advocacy, organizing educational programs and events, overseeing support group activities, and offering

to expand the medical team to help provide coverage during events and services.

There is an ever-growing need

that incorporates endurance, strength, and balance, and Chair Yoga, a program designed for active individuals ages 65+ that combines gentle stretches, balance, and strength exercises, and breath work— both of which are great opportunities for fellowship and fun!

Rivers states, "I have been told by so many participants that it's not only the activity, but the new friendships that are made that make this class so popular."

With different areas of focus, Park and Rivers play important roles by integrating their medical knowledge with spiritual care.

"We see physical health and wellness as deeply connected to our walk with Christ. Health and Wellness seeks to promote the spirit of unity as well as connectedness within the faith. We provide safety, compassionate support, education, and [we] listen and encourage people during times of change, in health, wellness, and stress.

WC has partnered with Faith Community Nursing (FCN), a specialized field of nursing that integrates spiritual

care with traditional nursing practice in church settings. Texas Health Resources (THR) supports this nursing model as part of its community health and wellness outreach, including providing resources and support for health-related programs at WC. Nurse Cheryl Mart, MSN, RN-BC, WC member of nearly

thirty years, serves as the FCN Program Manager at THR, collaborating with Park and Rivers to offer resources and support.

Interested in getting involved?

Qualified healthcare professionals are invited to join the team! There is an evergrowing need to expand the medical team to help provide coverage during events and services. Park encourages those interested to consider volunteering as much as they can!

"If you haven't joined yet, reach out to me and we can get you started!" Park

The Health and Wellness department has much to offer, and even more to come! Stay updated by visiting the WC website and keeping your eye on additional communications for events, group announcements, and other important information.

Katie Park | Director of Health kpark@whiteschapel.org

Alynne Rivers | Director of Wellness arivers@whiteschapel.org

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Acolyte Training Sunday, Sept. 7 | Noon

Acolytes play a special role at the 11 a.m. Sanctuary worship service by symbolically bringing in and carrying out the light of Christ.

- Who: Boys and Girls—4th Grade and Older
- When: Sundays at the 11 a.m.
 Sanctuary service, and at special services (e.g., Christmas Eve, Easter)
- Training: Sunday, Sept. 7 with a pizza lunch at noon in Evans Hall followed by training in the Sanctuary.

To sign up for training or for additional information, contact Amy Janecek.

Amy Janecek | acolytewc@gmail.com

WC Kids Wednesday Each Wednesday | 6 to 7 p.m.

Join WC Kids each Wednesday for fun themed nights! Four-year-olds through sixth grade students will have 30 minutes of Bible study and then activities to go along with each night's theme. Each theme night includes fun games, crafts, and a snack or mission activity.

Wednesday Nights in The Foundry Wednesdays | 6 p.m.

Join us this fall for Wednesday Nights in The Foundry. Our pastoral staff will take turns leading short, two or three-week studies on a myriad of topics from lesser-known books of the Bible to art, women in Scripture, and more. Come find a sacred community along with challenging and relevant lessons that will help us all as we walk with Jesus.



College Care Packages Sept. 21–Nov. 2

Finals season is a stressful time, but some goodies and support from your community can go a long way. Our Young Adults will be packing Finals Care Packages for current college students. If you have or are a current college student, please register from Sept. 21 through Nov. 2.

To donate goodies (store bought snacks, candy, gift cards, stress relief toys, etc.), bring boxes marked young adult care packages to the concourse or the front of the administration building.

Logan de Groot | Idegroot@whiteschapel.org





Prayer List

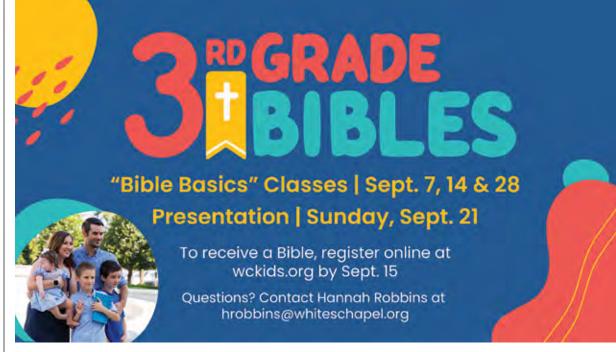
Gadney Adkins, Edarlina Villaruel, Kait Rhone Batts, Karen Black, Cheryl Brashear, Stephen Brischke, Sarah Brown, Tony Buono, Carol Burns, Joe Burns, Jamie Cadiz, Bobbie Cameron, Jill Carter, Connie Center, Charlie Company 1st Battalion, Carolyn Cockerell, John Colvin, JP Cottingim, Leslie Craig, Barbara Cross, Barton Davis, Janice Davis, Pam Dountas, Steve Dowd, Carson Dunlap and Marilyn Weaver, Wilma Dykman, Betsy Epps, Ralph Evans, Mike Farney, Tommy Flynn, Dorothy Fontana, Emmy Gaarder, Shelly Gillette, Betsy Godbold, Patricia Goodman, Sherry Groce, Tiffany Hall, Leon Hardman, Carol Hebert, Charles Hendricks, Lynn Joseph, Christine Kane, Martha Kelske, Connor Kenney, Danny King, Joe King, Michael Lee, Shane Lewis, Becky Liewer, Chris and Erica Lucas, Michael Lucas, Reba Madera, Sharon Martin, Susan McCann, Courtney McCaw, Debbie McKellar, Sue McNutt, Kylie Mcvannan, Wayne Meckley, Jack Millisor, Brayden Mozingo, Jeff Nadeau, Ken Nelson, Debbie Nightingale, Jerry Orler, Christopher Owen, Karen Parrish, Michael Partin, Raynelle Perkins, Terry Rauschuber, Jon Reeves, Norma Resendiz, Martha Reukema, Doug Rhone, Jane Robertson, Clovis Robinson, Johnnie Ruth Rogillio, Dean Scott, Kathy Seoane, Terri Shannon, Joe Steadham, Jamieson Stewart, Luke Strain, Orville Summey, Mick Sweat, Kaelib J.T. Thomas, Karoline Thomas, R.J. Thomas II, Carolyn Thompson, Carley West, Lisa Westervelt, Doug Will, John Will, Linda Winant, Kimberly Windsor, Vicki Winn, Fran Wood, Charles Y., Kasey Young, Kay Young, Larry. Recent deaths: The Family of Vickie Elms Blalack, The Family of Ken Cochran, The Family of Clarence Dowdy, The Family of Joan Fuller, The Family of Mike Holtzman, The Family of Jody Irwin, The Family of Nancy Vazquez Jimenez, The Family of Jerry Lee, The Family of James McNutt, The Family of Dennis Minder, The Family of Shane Nichols, The Family of Ana Palma, The Family of David Ricciardi, The Family of Kathleen Hartman Shrivedecker, The Family

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

Amanda, Kami and Nick, The Family of David Baldwin.

of Pat Skinner, The Family of James VanAntwerp, The Families of Jeff,





This year, third graders will attend three "Bible Basic" classes on how to read and study their Bible. The classes will be on Sept. 7, 14 and 28 during the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services. You may choose which time work bests for your family. Students attending both hours will attend the Rock for one service.

Third graders will be presented their Bibles on Sunday, Sept. 21. The Bible presentation will be at 9:30 a.m. in The Foundry, and they will also be recognized at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary.

In order to receive a Bible, parents must register their student by Sept. 15.

Hannah Robbins | <u>hrobbins@whiteschapelumc.com</u>



