# HERALD



Please join us online or in person this weekend as we continue our sermon series "The Elephant in the Family Room." We hope to see you soon!

**VOLUME 16, NUMBER 20** 

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2025

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#### **APEX Presents**

# Double Bass Quintet: Folk Fusion

Saturday, Nov. 16 | 6 p.m. Grace Chapel

By Debbie McKellar

hite's Chapel is honored to welcome APEX Arts League and members of the Dallas and Fort Worth Symphony Orchestras for an evening that redefines what the double bass can do. Presented in the intimate setting of Grace Chapel, this "Double Bass Quintet: Folk Fusion" program showcases the instrument's remarkable depth, range, and versatility.

Often heard as the heartbeat of orchestras, jazz ensembles, and rock bands, the double bass typically keeps a low profile—supporting the melody, grounding the rhythm, and adding the rich resonance that makes every ensemble complete. But in this special concert, the instrument steps squarely into the spotlight.

Each piece on the program is mingled with folk-inspired harmonies and rhythms, drawing from both Czech and American traditions.

The performance opens with Antonín Dvořák's String Quintet in G Major,

APEX cont'd on page 2





## **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

It was a busy Sunday last week, with 69 students making confirmation vows during the 11 a.m. service. For many, baptism followed, including first time and 'remember' baptisms.



### **Fall Reunions**

By Dr. Judy Hunt

ood, Fun, Freaky Fashions, Football
—it's FALL at last! And fall inevitably
means family—another opportunity
to prove to yourself and the world that
those Hallmark movies have nothing
on you when it comes to togetherness!

"There's no better time than right now to move toward understanding and forgiveness."

In fact, my own recent mini reunion reminded me of both the joys and the challenges of intentional gatherings.

Our first hurdle was answering a simple question—"How many?"—but it quickly escalated when the final count somehow doubled. Strict lodging rules refused to bend with us, and we were assured the on-site heat sensors (really?) would alert our host of any attempt to circumvent his guidelines.

MUSINGS cont'd on page 3

#### Packers needed!

# Thanksgiving Food Drive Culminates with Super Saturday

By Leilani Barrera

he autumn winds have arrived, bringing with them blustery gales and chilly gusts that have us pulling out our warmest jackets and coats. The change in weather not only excites us for the new attire and all the upcoming Fall festivities but also stirs a sense of gratitude and generosity within us. As Thanksgiving draws near, White's Chapel has an exciting opportunity for the entire family

to participate in an all-inclusive mission

From Sunday, Nov. 2, to Friday, Nov. 14, we will be accepting drop-off donations through the east welcome doors for our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Contributors will have the opportunity to donate items according to a detailed list available on the church website and at the Involvement Desk.

SATURDAY cont'd on page 2

## Shoebox Project

# Walks Children through Lesson in Giving

By Leilani Barrera

shepherd's staff, a wool fleece, a donkey's jawbone, and a jar of perfume—what do all these seemingly ordinary items have in common? Not only does He use people, but God also prefers to use average, everyday objects to bring Himself glory and accomplish His will in a powerful display of His strength.

Since 1993, people of all ages have been gathering every holiday season to pack and send shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies to children worldwide. The project's vision is to reach the nations and generations by spreading the gospel

# As the holidays approach, this is a perfect way to teach children about giving.

of Jesus Christ through small favors.
Often, the boxes' recipients are affected by war, poverty, natural disasters, famine, and disease. Local churches in over 100 nations distribute these shoebox gifts during festive events where the Gospel is shared in a child-friendly manner.
This year, Operation Christmas Child, in cooperation with Samaritan's Purse, celebrates 32 years of reaching over 210 million children in more than 100 countries through gift-filled shoeboxes.

"Why shoeboxes?" you might ask.
Not only are they easily accessible,
recognizable, and affordable, but
they also allow for easy packing,
shipping, and distribution of gifts that
communicate love and hope. What
once was an ordinary container is now

PROJECT cont'd on page 3

#### WC Theater 2

## Mayhem prevails in "Once Upon a Mattress"

By Debbie McKellar

he laughter, the music, and the mayhem of the medieval court will soon come to life as White's Chapel Theater 2 proudly presents "Once Upon a Mattress" in The Foundry. Performances will take place Nov. 19–21 at 7 p.m., bringing the beloved Broadway classic to the stage with a talented cast of 7th–9th grade students.

Unlike many previous Theater 2 productions, "Once Upon a Mattress" is not a Disney adaptation but a true Broadway gem—first performed in 1959 with Carol Burnett as the original Princess Winnifred the Woebegone. This delightful telling of "The Princess and the Pea," full of slapstick humor, physical comedy, and challenging musical numbers, gives students a chance to showcase their timing, talent, and teamwork in a story that's as witty as it is warm.

"This has been such a fun show to put together," says Director Julie Blalock. "Our students have gone above and beyond to capture both the humor and heart of this timeless fairytale. The physical comedy, the intricate choreography, and the music have been both the most fun and the most challenging—but that's what makes it so rewarding. We are very proud of each

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## Saturday

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To conclude the event, WC will also be hosting a Super Saturday Thanksgiving Mission on Saturday, Nov. 15, in Evans Hall. Volunteers are needed to help sort, pack, and deliver the

Thanksgiving boxes. WC coordinators have purposefully designed the donation items to make the boxes easy to pack.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to work alongside other friends and family members, whether it's sharing with old friends or making new ones. This event provides the perfect chance to get to know their local church family and make wonderful new memories this Thanksgiving season.

Do you like to drive? Once packed and prepared, delivery drivers are needed to take the boxes to the designated schools and organization destinations beginning at 10:30 a.m. on Nov. 15. If you have access to a vehicle and want to use it for a good cause, here is the perfect opportunity!

Lastly, if Saturday is unavailable for you and your family to participate, on Friday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., volunteers are needed for "prep work." Volunteers are needed to help organize donations and stock items for packers the following day to have easy access.

Do you want even more reasons to be thankful? Come join us at White's Chapel for our Super Saturday event, make new friends, participate in a good cause, spend time with your family, and help further the mission of God!

Registration is available on the church website starting November 2. For more information or questions, please contact Dedra Moffat.

Dedra Moffat | dmoffat@whiteschapel.org

Do you want even more reasons to be thankful?

Come join us at White's Chapel for our Super Saturday event.





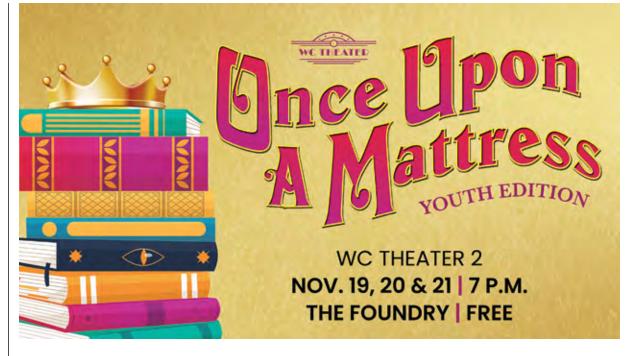
#### **WEEKEND PREACHING SCHEDULE** SANCTUARY THE FOUNDRY 8:20 a.m. | Traditional Sat. 5:30 p.m. | Contemporary Drs. John McKellar & Todd Renner Rev. Sam Robbins Sun. 9:30 a.m. | Contemporary Sun. 11 a.m. | Foundry Service Drs. John McKellar & Todd Renner Rev. Sam Robbins Sun. 11 a.m. | Foundation WALTON CHAPEL Drs. John McKellar & Todd Renner 9:30 a.m. | Traditional Rev. Steve Lallier



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### **Mattress**

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student and can't wait for opening night."
Joining Blalock at the helm are Eleni
Brooke, Music Director; Ann-Marie
Heilman, Director of Choreography;
and Christian Brooke, Lighting Design.
Together, this creative team has guided
students through weeks of rehearsals,
blending precision with playfulness to
create a visually stunning performance.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated group of adult volunteers has helped transform The Foundry stage into a whimsical medieval kingdom. Blalock and Brooke designed the costumes and aesthetics, while Lee Blalock, Eleni Brooke, and Julie Blalock collaborated on the set design. Lee hand-painted the intricate stone patterns that adorn many of the backdrops, lending an authentic medieval charm.

The "A-Team" stage crew—Sam
Thompson, Lee Blalock, and Zoey
Heilman—repurposed old set pieces
and reimagined them with new colors
and textures, adding fresh vitality to the
world of "Mattress." Props were created
by Julie and Eleni Brooke, and Christian
Brooke's dynamic lighting design brings
depth and drama to each scene. All
technical support has been provided by
the WC Productions team, whose behindthe-scenes work ensures that every cue
shines.

This year's production also marks the return of Lee Blalock, who rejoined the theatre program to lend her many creative talents. "Lee has been such a valuable part of our team," says Julie. "She's wonderful at creating, constructing, and adding sparkle wherever it's needed!"

White's Chapel last presented *Once Upon a Mattress* fifteen years ago, but much has changed since then. "We have a slightly older cast this time—7th through 9th graders instead of 5th through 8th—and a larger budget, a refreshed Foundry stage, and a new director," Blalock shares. "It's been exciting to reimagine this classic in a fresh way."

Cast Members include Lively Baldridge, Kaci Bear, Caroline Besancon, Gracie Brannon, Eden Brannon, Brynn Cordrey, Natalie Crews, Amelia Dixon, Frankie Dillard, Christopher Elliott, Agustin Eyherabide Pons, Samantha Foreman, Lily Fiore, Martin Flight, Josh Giras, Phoenix Heilman, Ben Hedman, Blair Horsely, Catelyn Kelley, Jacob Lee, Acadia Lester, Asher Lewis, Larissa Mortimer, Lexi Ann Moyer, Julianna Nichols, Isaiah Pearson, Noah Pearson, Pierce Morgan, Levi Phifer, Maddie Pratt, Amulya Raghupatruni, Aria Parish, Jack Paschall, Emily Takala, Megan Treat, Poppy Thompson, Madelyn Zabrouski, Roxy Zimmerman.

Theater 2 students won't have long to rest after the curtain closes. Auditions for their next production will take place January 11.

The fun—and the tickets—are free!



## Apex

Cont'd from page 1

Op. 77, a rarely performed 19th-century treasure that places the double bass at the very heart of the ensemble—much like Schubert's beloved Trout Quintet, "Dvořák," who wove the spirit of his homeland into nearly every composition, and gives the bass a melodic and lyrical voice rarely heard in chamber music of his time.

Next comes Erwin Schulhoff's "Concertino," a bold and energetic work built on the pulse of Czech folk dance forms and complex mixed meters. Its four movements swirl with syncopation and surprise, including echoes of the lively "Furiant," a traditional Czech dance characterized by shifting rhythms and fiery spirit.

Rounding out the evening is Edgar Meyer's Concert "Duo," a dazzling conversation between double bass and violin. Meyer, a modern master who moves fluidly between classical, bluegrass, and jazz, crafts music that is both technically stunning and deeply human, rooted in the earthy traditions of American fiddle tunes and folk melodies.

Together, these works form a bridge between continents and centuries, blending European sophistication with American soul. The result is a concert that's as intimate as it is expansive—an exploration of tone, texture, and tradition through the eyes (and strings) of the orchestra's lowest voice.

White's Chapel is fortunate to be one of the host venues for the APEX Arts League performances, which bring world-class musicians from the Dallas and Fort Worth Symphony Orchestras into community spaces across the Metroplex. These concerts create rare opportunities for audiences to experience exceptional artistry in a warm, welcoming setting. Tickets:

General Admission—Adult: \$25 General Admission—

Seniors & APEX Members: \$20 General Admission—

Students & Children (Under 12):

Free





#### Costa Rica Adult Mission Trip Feb. 9–15, 2026 Roblealto Bible Home San Jose, Costa Rica

Here's your chance to "Be the Church" and help work for the children of the Roblealto Bible Home in Costa Rica. Roblealto's mission is to care for the children of Costa Rica who are in critical situations, at social risk or in need of specialized care. The Bible Home provides these children with a safe home they share with 10 other children and house parents. There are 10 homes and a school on site. Our mission is to provide whatever the Roblealto family needs. Participants will be assigned to work groups, with one day being allocated for having time with the children. There will also be time reserved to experience Costa Rica. For questions or more information, contact Larry and Karen Smith.

Larry and Karen Smith smith4family@verizon.net



#### Patriot House Monthly Birthday Celebration December 4 | 4-7:30 p.m.

Patriot House in Fort Worth
Help us make birthdays special for
homeless veterans who live at the

Patriot House, a transitional housing facility offered through the Presbyterian Night Shelter system in Fort Worth. The monthly celebration, which is typically on the 4th Thursday of each month, has been changed for November due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The birthday observance offers a time to interact and converse with veterans who are in transition. Adult volunteers can meet at the church to ride the bus or drive separately and park in the gated lot behind Patriot House. The bus will return to the church around 7:30 p.m. Please register. For more information, contact Alec Knight.

Alec Knight | alec@txrestaurant.org



#### **Volunteer Tutoring Ministry** at O.H. Stowe Elementary

Times Based on Individual Schedules Have a passion for education, growing young minds and supporting educators? Come be a part of our Volunteer Tutoring Ministry at O.H. Stowe Elementary! O.H. Stowe Elementary is located at 4201 Rita Lane in Haltom City. The school is about 30 minutes from White's Chapel (off of Highway 377 just south of the 820 Loop). Volunteer tutors work oneon-one or in small groups of 2–5 kids and are guided by the teachers on content. All the necessary resources are provided. The kids are fantastic, teachers are supportive and the reward is great! Tutoring times are varied based on your schedule.

For more information or questions, contact Lauren Green.

Lauren Green | laurenwebbgreen@gmail.com



## Christians Facing Cancer Patients—Survivors—Caregivers—Friends

## Tuesday, November 11 6:30 p.m. | Evans Hall Room 2129



CFC welcomes
Michelle Clay, Attorney
at Law, as our guest
speaker. Michelle is an
experienced attorney
who focuses her practice
on estate planning and

probate law. She is passionate about helping clients protect their families, plan for the future, and navigate the often emotional process of administering a loved one's estate.

Michelle earned her undergraduate degree in Journalism from the University of Texas and went on to attend Baylor University School of Law. Michelle and her husband, Jeff, have two children, Lauren and Jackson and they have been WC members for 16 years. She takes great pride in guiding clients through every aspect of estate planning and probate.

Christians Facing Cancer provides encouragement for cancer patients, caregivers, family members, and friends whose lives have been impacted by a cancer diagnosis. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month. All are welcome and registration is not required.

For additional information, contact BJ Landers at <a href="mailto:landerscln@aol.com">landerscln@aol.com</a>, (817) 683-6088, or <a href="mailto:supportgroups@upotteschapel.org">supportgroups@upotteschapel.org</a>.



## **Project**

Cont'd from page 1

transformed into a tangible symbol of God's extraordinary love and a powerful tool that signifies the boundless reach of God's divine power, extending even to the most remote and distant corners of the globe. His love transcends all boundaries, encompassing every height, depth, and distance. These boxes communicate to their recipients that there is nowhere in this world that God's hand does not reach.

This November, White's Chapel Kids will be hosting their very first Family Mission Project, where members are invited to support Operation Christmas Child. On Sunday, November 16, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Evans Hall, this event provides an opportunity for families to fill shoeboxes with toys and other fun items as we collaborate with Samaritan Purse's National Collection Week, which runs from November 17 to 24 this year.

"The heart and soul of this event is to share the love and joy of Jesus through the spirit of gift-giving to children in need," says Erin Zajac, WC Kids Family Outreach and Event Coordinator.

With a goal to pack 120 shoeboxes, families will ensure that each box is fun, full, and personalized by selecting small gifts, personalized items, and special toys to place in each box.

"Participants will get to choose the age range and gender of the child they are packing their box for," Zajac explains. "We will have a selection of toys and items for each age range so the participant can 'shop' and fill their box."

A pizza lunch and all gift supplies will be provided. Participants should be aware that there is a \$10 registration fee per child to help cover processing and shipping costs for the shoeboxes.

"The hope is that participants will find joy in 'shopping' and packing their gift box, knowing that their selections will brighten the holidays for another child just like them!" Zajac exclaims. "We want this project to be relatable for children!"

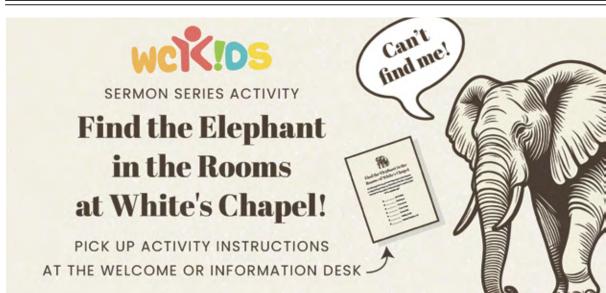
Those interested in volunteering in other ways will find there are various opportunities. Day-of-event volunteers are needed to ensure the project runs smoothly. "Shopping" table volunteers can manage the donated supplies during the event, and delivery volunteers will take the finished boxes to the drop-off location the week of November 17.

As the holidays approach, this is a perfect way to teach children about giving and using their time to serve others. Additionally, this outreach event presents an opportunity to kickstart the journey of a simple shoebox. Your "yes" could be the reason a child receives a gift this Christmas.

"We are so excited to host this event for the first time for WC Kids," shares Zajac. "I am looking forward to watching the participants make their selections and make their box with love and joy. I hope this brings families together in the spirit of serving!"

If you are interested in joining, please register <u>online</u>. For more information, please contact Erin Zajac.

Erin Zajac | ezajac@whiteschapel.org



## Musings

Cont'd from page 1

Then, came the menu planning—not for the faint of heart or the detail-averse! And did I mention the built-in rivalry between our favorite football teams, a few long-standing family dynamics, and some very different worldviews? Indeed, we had all the ingredients for a memorable weekend!

Psychologists warn that when families gather, we tend to revert to our teenage roles, no matter how smart, seasoned, or successful we've become. And, not that I was keeping tabs, but I can now attest to the accuracy of that observation. And YET, there's no better place than in the midst of family to hear about the "good ole' days," discover why mom always chopped off the end of the meatloaf, glory in Grandma's treasured sheet cake recipe, delight in a six-month old grandchild, or be encouraged by someone who is on the other side of what you're currently struggling through!

So, this year, I came prepared, armed with the wisdom of Colossians 3:13–14:

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues, put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." And I discovered that no matter how many we squeeze into a room, we can never go wrong when we pack a large dose of humility and wear the fashion that never goes out of style—selfless love.

As constant as the changing of the seasons is our need to change our attitudes toward dwelling in peace with one another. For the truth is, life is fleeting and regret is a heavy burden. There's no better time than right now to move toward understanding and forgiveness—whether with family, friends, co-workers, or neighbors.

Why not pick up the phone today and reignite that spark of friendship or kinship? There's no time like the present to take the high road, break old patterns of behavior, and begin anew—on common ground rooted in Christ's invitation to love.

Who knows? Maybe you'll schedule your own reunion—after our weekend together, we did!

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



## Thrive Respite Night Friday, Nov. 14 | 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Commons & Reboot Classroom

A Night of fun for parents that have children with additional needs and their siblings. Bring your children to The Commons area for check-in and then take some time to re-charge and refresh. Registration online is required to participate in this event.

Alyson Bator | abator@whiteschapel.org



#### Welcome to WC Orientation Wednesday, Nov. 12 6 to 7 p.m. | AE Room 3103

Have you recently become a member at White's Chapel? Are you thinking about joining or wanting to know more about WC? One of our wonderful Associate Pastors along with our Director for Involvement, Dorothea Christ, will explore topics such as core Methodist beliefs, the Methodist vows of membership, and various programs and opportunities at WC. The meeting will end with a general Q&A. Registration is not required. New members and curious guests are welcome.

Dorothea Christ | dchrist@whiteschapel.org



#### Angel Tree Forest Now until Dec. 7

The annual White's Chapel Angel
Tree Forest once again adorns the
corridors. Each tree represents angels
from specific groups in crisis, allowing
people to focus on a particular area of
outreach that they are passionate about.
This event allows people to participate in
a donation experience that is unique to
White's Chapel and has been a beloved,
long-standing tradition here for 18 years.
The virtual trees are available for those
who wish to get an early start. The Angel
Tree Forest will be set up complete with
tags for selection on Nov. 1.

For more information, visit our <u>website</u> or scan the above QR code.





## **Prayer List**

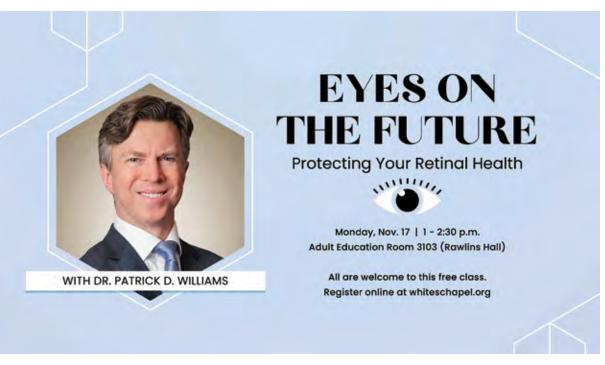
Patti Ackley, Charlie Anderson, Andrew Balson, Chuck Banta, Carol Barret, Jerry Barron, David Baxley, Carolyn Betty, Mike Bradley, Cade Bradshaw, Cheryl Brashear, Sarah Brown, Zach Bruton, David Buddin, Mark Burdette, Lillian Cabla, Bobbie Cameron, Pat Carpenter, Jesse Cobb, Lola Cobb, Ruth Cochran, Carolyn Cockerell, Cliff Courtney, Nevin Cunningham, Barton Davis, Rick Davis, Amy DeGray, Tom and Nancy Delaney, John and Amy Duckworth, Bill Ellermeyer, Laurie Evans, Ralph Evans, Dorothy Fontana, Brandi Yellock Frugé, Emmy Gaarder, Landon Gaspari, Janice Gauntt, Marcelle Ghattas, Shelly Gillette, Betsy Godbold, Tiffany Hall, Maxie Hays, Raymond Hebert, Al Hermansen, Karen Hodges, Mary Howry, Evelyn Iszak, Logan Jeffiers, Annette Keller, Lynda Knorpp, LaJuana Knott, Cooper Kohan, Debi Lamarr, Connie Lamb, Michael Lee, Robert Lott, Lisa Louks, Michael Lucas, Luke Lunday, Steven Mart, Sharon Martin, Chance McCarthy, April McCartney, Sue McNutt, Barb Mundis, Jenny Murphy, Kayla and James Oliver, Beth Paschall, Ray Payne, Lee Penney, Azul Picazo, Tom Powers, Bill Preston, Jon Reeves, Norma Resendiz, Jane Robertson, Ethan Robinson, Jim Rupe, Scott Sabre, Jim Sanders, Kim Schlitter, Sandy and Deetz Shepherd, Kathy Skinner, John Sloan, Clint Smith, Mike Smith, Patsy Smith, Keri Galyean Snider, Kris Sorowasz, Marshall Sorowasz, LeGrand Spradley, April Stafford, Nancy Steffel, Jamieson Stewart, Orville Summey, Steve Swanston, Paul Termin, Keller Trent, Linda Wallace, Rick Warner, Carley West, Jackson Widaman, Ken Williams, Linda Winant, Vicki Winn, Leigh Winzeler, Jana Woodruff. Recent deaths: Misty Anderson and Family, The Family of Judy Faulkner Bostick, The Family of Roger Claybaugh, The Family of Steve Dowd, The Family of Gerrye Frantz, The Family of Wayne Meckley, The Family of Cile Steward, The Family of Myra Taunton, The Family of Glen

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

Wahrmund, The Family of Gladys Zrake.







#### Eyes on the Future: Protecting Your Retinal Health Monday, Nov. 17 | 1 to 2:30 p.m. | AE Room 3103 (Rawlins Hall)

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Patrick D. Williams, a 17 year White's Chapel member and 2001 graduate from Texas Tech University of Health Sciences Center School of Medicine. He will discuss retinal eye diseases, their diagnosis and cutting-edge treatments. As a specialist with Texas Retina Associates, Dr. Williams will provide valuable insights into macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and more. He will also be available for Q&A. All are welcome to this free class, please register online.

Alynne Rivers, RN | WC Wellness Director | arivers@whiteschapel.org

