# HERALD



Please join us online or in person this weekend as continue our sermon series "Uphill Habits." We hope to see you soon.

**VOLUME 15, NUMBER 27** 

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025

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### Rise Against Hunger

### Communion Offering **Supports Super Saturday Event**

he White's Chapel January communion offering started the year with a big boost to help with those who are food disadvantaged throughout the world.

On Saturday, Jan. 25, the church will use the money collected to purchase food needed for a Super Saturday volunteer event, teaming with Rise Against Hunger in the packaging of 30,000 meals to help in the fight to stop hunger.

They may look like simple bags of ingredients, but Rise Against Hunger meals represent the hopes and dreams of people worldwide, as well as a growing global movement to end hunger by empowering communities, nourishing lives, and responding to emergencies. Volunteers who assemble the bags are the heart of the mission to end hunger, and the millions of meals sent around the globe each year cannot be distributed without these volunteers.

"Volunteers gather package meals of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and vitamins," said Dedra Moffat, WC Missions and Outreach Assistant. "These meals will then be shipped overseas to Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, Central America or the Caribbean. Upon adding water, these dry, packaged ingredients will then provide a nutritious meal to hungry families."

Moffat has helped coordinate seven of these events while at White's Chapel, along with others on the WC Missions

RISE cont'd on page 3



Co-Pastor

love the challenge we have given each other in this new year. Every day, we need to be mindful to PUT **GOD FIRST**. We need to find ways to remind ourselves to pray. We need to immerse ourselves in Scripture. We need to be committed to worshipping every weekend. And we need to remember that if we are really going to put God first, then we must put ourselves second. Our first thought should not be, "what do I want?" or "what do I think?" But instead, our first thought should be "what would the Lord have me do here?"

To put ourselves second, we need to remember the idea we shared in church

MUSINGS cont'd on page 2

# Pianist, Composer Craig Courtney Featured in January Music Clinic

he White's Chapel Music & Worship Department will begin 2025 with a music clinic featuring artist/composer Craig Courtney.

Scheduled for Jan. 24 & 25, the sessions are open to those currently involved in our music program, as well as those interested in becoming a part of the church's various choirs or the orchestra. Friday's session will be from 6 to 9 p.m.; Saturday's session will be 9 to 11:30 a.m. for the orchestra, and then there will be a joint session from 12:30 to 2 p.m. for both the choir and orchestra. An Indiana native with advanced piano performance degrees from the University of Cincinnati, Courtney studied piano under Raymond Dudley and chamber music under Walter Levin of the LaSalle Quartet.

Following a three-year stay in Milan, Italy, where Courtney continued his

CHOIR cont'd on page 3



### What LEGOs can teach us for 2025

### Snapping bricks are a model to connect and cooperate.

Editor's note: Scott Walters is a professor at the University of North Texas Health Science Center and a longtime member of White's Chapel. His wife, Kelli, teaches school in Southlake and their two children have been proud members of the "Rock Star" team that leads worship for children on Sunday. This article originally appeared in the Dallas Morning News and is reprinted with permission.

n 1997, nearly five million LEGO pieces were accidentally dumped into the ocean. A wave struck a container ship off the coast of Cornwall,

England, causing the ship to tilt sharply. In all, 62 shipping containers tumbled into the sea, including one packed with LEGOs bound for the US. In a curious twist, many of the pieces were nauticalthemed—octopuses, flippers, and scuba gear. Decades later, they are still washing up on English beaches, attracting locals and tourists eager to find as many as possible.

A local resident started a Facebook page where lucky beachcombers share stories about their finds. Flippers seem to be the most common discovery, while dragons and octopuses are rarer. Yellow life jackets and rafts, ironically, are the rarest finds of all.

Because of ocean currents, the tiny pieces are slowly drifting all over the world. In 2015, a piece finally washed up on a US beach, remarkably on Galveston Island. An oceanographer speculated the piece, a tiny octopus, must have become tangled in sargassum seaweed, allowing it to float across the Atlantic for many

Originally made of wood, LEGOs have become one of the most popular toys on the planet. On average, each person on Earth owns 86 LEGO bricks, and there are more LEGO minifigures on earth than humans. In fact, if all the LEGO bricks in the world were stacked on top of each other, they would reach the moon 10 times. LEGOs have inspired movies, books, and theme parks. The durability of the plastic means they can be used and reused for generations.

Over the years, LEGOs have inspired some of the most elaborate products imaginable. Enthusiasts have built replicas of landmarks like the Taj Mahal and Eiffel Tower, and functioning machines like clocks, robots, and musical instruments. On its own, a single brick is not that useful. But in combination, the bricks can solve elaborate problems. One ambitious project involved building a full-sized house, including plumbing and furniture, entirely from LEGOs.

LEGOs show the power of cooperation. In fact, the name "LEGO" is derived from two Danish words that mean "play well," a philosophy that is central to the brand's identity. This spirit is celebrated each year in the international FIRST LEGO League, where children tackle real-world problems using LEGOs. Last year, almost 700,000 children in 110 countries participated in this competition

LEGOS cont'd on page 2

**INSIDE THIS WEEK'S ISSUE** 

**WC Missions Update** New Year Goals Word Search



**Thrive Parent Support Group** Jan. 26 | See Page 4













### WC STUDENTS ICE SKATING

We brought the winter fun indoors by hosting an ice skating event in Evans Hall.

### **FINANCIALS JANUARY**

Did you hear? We met the budget for 2024!

Thank you for all that you do, for all that you give, and for all that you are!

#### WEEKEND THE FOUNDRY PREACHING SCHEDULE SAT. 5:30 p.m. | Contemporary w/ Rev. Sam Robbins **SANCTUARY** 11 a.m. | Acoustic Contemporary w/ Rev. Sam Robbins 8:20 a.m. | Traditional SUN. w/ Drs. John McKellar & Todd Renner 9:30 a.m. | Contemporary WALTON CHAPEL w/ Drs. John McKellar & Todd Renner 9:30 a.m. | Traditional 11 a.m. | Foundation w/ Rev. Tristian Hunt w/ Drs. John McKellar & Todd Renner



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

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### **LEGOs**

Cont'd from page 1

that fosters friendly competition and mutual gain. One of their core values is Teamwork: We are stronger when we work together.

In his book Sapiens, author Yuval Harari argues that what has made humans so successful is our ability to cooperate in large numbers through the use of stories. The stories that Christians share about Jesus' life, death and resurrection, for instance, or Americans believe about democracy as a force for good are what allow strangers to trust each other, despite never having met. Stories provide a shared framework that connects people across cultures and generations.

Unfortunately, our social media, news and information silos have made us mistrustful of shared stories. Collaboration gets harder as trust dwindles. This erosion of trust is happening worldwide, but it is

particularly evident in the US, where confidence in institutions like churches, schools, and the medical system has declined sharply over the past 20 years. One way to rebuild trust is through shared activities and play.

LEGOs remind us of our human connection. We are interlocking pieces, designed to snap together. If you've set a New Year's resolution, make a point to involve other people. Start a book club. Exercise with a friend. Host a potluck. Volunteer as part of a group. Resolutions that involve a community are more likely to stick.

Or grab a handful of LEGOs and build something with a friend. After all, isn't the state motto of Texas "friendship"? If kids can do it, then we can too. You may end up with a creation that's half sea monster, half spaceship, but the pieces will fit together beautifully. My hope for this year is that we'll embrace the lesson we teach our children: Play well.

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

### Musings

Cont'd from page 1

Sunday: have confident humility. We should be confident in our abilities and the gifts God has given us, and confident that we are loved by God. But at the same time, we should admit that we don't know it all, don't have all the right answers, and may not even be asking the right questions. When we have confident humility, we are quick to say: "I'm sorry, I was wrong, I don't know." With confident humility, we find the power of truly putting God first.

A friend shared with me a wonderful example of how to do this written by Father James Martin:

#### **A New Serenity Prayer**

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, which is pretty much everyone, since I'm clearly not you, God. At least not the last time I checked.

And while you're at it, God, please give me the courage to change what I need to change about myself,

which is frankly a lot, since, once again, I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect. It's better for me to focus on changing myself

than to worry about changing other people,

who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying,

I can't change anyway. Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut

whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter than everyone else in the room, that no one knows what they're talking about except me,

or that I alone have all the answers. Basically, God, grant me the wisdom to remember that I'm not you. Amen."

Isn't that an amazing prayer? I hope it will guide us in 2025!



The White's Chapel Herald Friday, January 17, 2025





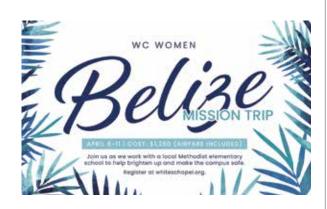
#### Filling the Gap Every Tuesday (through May) 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. | Concourse

Try to imagine a single parent working multiple jobs to support three children. This situation requires the parent to work hours when the children are at home without him/her, and as a result of financial restrictions, the children have no adult supervision. As unfortunate as this may sound, it happens more often than we wish to consider. It is one of several real-life scenarios that creates a need for a ministry such as Filling the Gap.

The Filling the Gap food ministry provides weekend food to at-risk students at O. H. Stowe, Van Zandt-Guinn, Bellaire, Grace E. Hardeman and T.A. Sims.

Every Friday during the school year, Filling the Gap provides backpacks filled with food for approximately 435 children who qualify for the program. The food is bought locally, packed by volunteers, and then delivered to the designated schools. Nutritious items are included and packaged in a way that children can prepare the food themselves. Volunteers are needed to pack and distribute the backpacks each week. Those wanting to assist may contact Rev. Lori Cotton.

price includes all transportation costs, lodging and meals, special activities, construction materials, and a t-shirt for each individual. Registration opens in November. If you would like additional information, please contact Jenny McNew (jennylmcnew@gmail.com) or Tim McNew (tmcnew2020@gmail.com), or Jared Smith (jsmith@whiteschapel. org). No prior experience is necessary, just a willing heart!



#### WC Women's Belize Mission Trip April 6-11, 2025

WC Women are headed back to Belize! Join this group as they work with a local Methodist elementary school to brighten up the campus and make it a little safer. The dates for the trip are April 6-11, and the cost is \$1,250 (airfare is included). The group will stay at a local hotel in Belize City and work with the delightful teachers and school staff there each day. Everyone will then end the trip with a fun outing to an island off the coast! Registration will be available online. Contact Rev. Joy Roberson for more information.

Rev. Joy Roberson jroberson@whiteschapel.org



#### Spring Break Family Mission Trip March 15-21 | Hot Springs, Arkansas Cost: \$475

Family Mission Trip

Come enjoy a week of service, music, games, worship, and Christian fellowship with other White's Chapel families during Spring Break. Working with Ozark Mission Project (www. ozarkmissionproject.org), the group will work on construction-based restorations to existing homes of elderly individuals and low-income families in the Hot Springs area. This trip is multigenerational and open to all families with children six years old and up, as well as singles or couples wanting to serve the Lord. We will be staying in air-conditioned accommodations at Camp Tanako in Hot Springs. The cost of the trip is \$475 per person with a \$50 deposit due upon registration. The

#### Serving Dinner with Love Third Saturday of the Month 4:15 to 7 p.m.

The Morris Foundation Women & Children's Center in Fort Worth provides immediate shelter to families in need and helps them find a place to call home.

Each month, volunteers may meet at White's Chapel by the concourse "Welcome" doors at 4:15 p.m. to ride the church bus or meet the group at the shelter at 5 p.m. Parking spots are provided in a gated lot.

At the shelter, volunteers will serve dinner while providing love, encouragement, and fellowship. This is a family-friendly opportunity. Children must be at least 12 years old and accompanied by a parent to participate.

For additional information, please contact Robin Cassell at rcassell53@att. net or (281) 682-0492.

### Choir

#### Cont'd from page 1

studies of the piano with Illonka Deckers, performed for the Accademia Musicale "Gustav Mahler," and worked extensively as a vocal coach, he was invited to join the music faculty of the famed Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, serving as a piano teacher and accompanist for the woodwind and brass department.

It was during this six-year period, while also serving in the music ministry of the Salzburg International Baptist Church, that Courtney began directing a church choir and composing sacred choral music, due to the unavailability of English language music. In 1985, his compositions came to the attention of John Ness Beck, through the publication of his octavo, "Thy Will Be Done," initiating a close working relationship between the two men, which continued until Beck's death in 1987. In making plans for the ongoing of Beckenhorst Press, Beck appointed Courtney to assume responsibilities as staff composer and editor. Courtney's portfolio includes over 160 works that reflect his diverse musical expertise.

Registration is not required. The clinic is free.



### Rise

#### Cont'd from page 1

team: Kim Stinson, Jared Smith, and Missions Pastor Joy Roberson.

"Our volunteers work in an assemblyline format to package nutritious meals," Moffat explained. "The process is highly efficient, with volunteers able to package thousands of meals in just a few hours."

Meal-packing events, such as the one planned at White's Chapel next weekend, are staged to create fortified, dehydrated, shelf-stable meals that are transported to areas identified as being food insecure. Rise Against Hunger has worked to serve 78 countries packaging over 543 million meals. In 2020 alone, the organization impacted 2.8 million lives.

In addition to meal distribution, Rise Against Hunger supports projects aimed at addressing the root causes of hunger. They provide resources and training to help communities grow their own food. They also provide programs to create sustainable livelihoods and increase income. Additionally, emergency food aid is provided during natural disasters or humanitarian crises. Many meals are used in school feeding programs to encourage education and improve health outcomes.

"Rise Against Hunger is such an amazing event, and there are so many reasons I love it," said Moffat. "Their team is incredibly dedicated to making every volunteer feel supported and truly involved. One unique and exciting feature is the gong, struck every time 1,000 meals are packaged—such a fun and celebratory touch! But my absolute favorite part is seeing children and families working together, having fun, and knowing their efforts are making a global impact by feeding people in need around the world. There are over 150 volunteers actively involved, and people love this event!"

Setup volunteers will meet from 8 to 9 a.m. in Evans Hall to help unload the supplies from trucks and set up packing stations. Starting at 9 a.m., volunteers will actively participate in the fight against hunger by measuring and packaging meals for those in need. Approximately 30,000 meals will be packaged and shipped globally just from this one day of service.

Registration for this Super Saturday event is available on the church website. Families, friends and church groups are encouraged to attend. Children four years old and older are welcome to help their parents serve. All participants must wear closed-toed shoes.

For more information, contact Moffat. **Dedra Moffat | dmoffat@whiteschapelumc.com** 



## In Step with Dedra Moffat

Dedra Moffat has been with WC for nearly four years, focusing on outreach and mission events. "In my role, I collaborate with both on-campus and off-campus ministry leaders to support their efforts by providing resources, coordinating supplies, managing expenses, and ensuring the success of monthly outreach initiatives."

During that time, she has earned a Master of Arts in Counseling (graduating Dec. 20) by completing a rigorous 90-hour degree program. The program included 60 hours of counseling curriculum, 30 hours of Bible and theology coursework, and a year-long practicum at a clinical site.

"My goal is to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Texas," Moffat explained. "I plan to take the National Counseling Exam within the next three months. Upon passing, I will begin working as an associate under the supervision of a licensed professional, completing 3,000 clinical hours to achieve full licensure."

"I am deeply passionate about the field of addiction counseling and aspire to help individuals struggling with substance use disorders and cooccurring mental health challenges."

Moffat and the Missions team plans and helps with all the Super Saturday events. "We have developed a few new ones since I have been onboard with the mission team," she said. "I came up with the Easter blessings (2022) and Ukraine events (2023) and Kim (Stinson) helped organize and execute. We partnered with WC Kids for an Easter egg hunt at Grace in 2024. The other Super Saturday events I help coordinate and carry responsibilities for have been in place since I started at White's Chapel, some of which include

the school supply and the Thanksgiving Mission events."

While at White's Chapel, other key responsibilities have been to help organize events such as teacher appreciation for O.H. Stowe and Van Zandt Elementary, and order and coordinate pick-up for food for Filling the Gap. She also assists in engaging new members and volunteers in identifying service opportunities that align with their interests and skills. She also oversees volunteer registrations, (which is in itself a full time job!) and keeps the records of our weekly volunteers. If one is interested in knowing people receiving White's Chapel services, Moffat is the one to ask.

Moffat has also played an integral role in the work of Chandler's Hope.

"I have had the honor and privilege of contributing to the new direction of Chandler's Hope as part of the leadership team. This has allowed me to connect with off-site addiction recovery resources and build relationships that support individuals seeking help. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to walk alongside two young women battling addiction, offering them my experience, hope, and resources."

"I am encouraged by the incredible work God is doing through this ministry. Addiction impacts people across all demographics and socioeconomic levels, often leaving them to struggle in silence. Chandler's Hope is breaking the silence, openly addressing addiction, and working to reduce the shame and stigma surrounding it. By doing so, we hope to encourage others to seek healing and restoration."

"All the programs and ministries are deeply meaningful to me. We are blessed with committed and dedicated lead volunteers whose passion is truly incredible and inspiring. WC's ministries address a wide range of needs, and it is a joy and profound privilege to be part of this mission, serving as the hands and feet of Jesus."

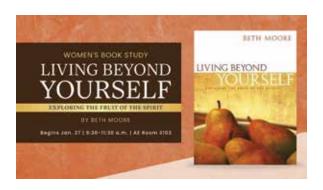
# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



### Ready to Get Involved? Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, April 30, May 28 | 6 p.m. | AE Room 3103

God gives us gifts, talents and passions that make us unique – and uniquely qualified to reach out to others! Come explore opportunities at White's Chapel to find your niche to serve others. Register online.

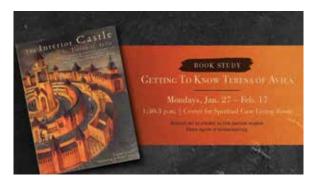
Dorothea Christ dchrist@whiteschapel.org



# Women's Bible Study: "Living Beyond Yourself Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit" Jan. 27 | 9:30 a.m. | AE Room 3103

Through this study by Beth Moore, you will come to appreciate the supernatural aspects of the fruit and that you cannot grow, learn, or produce the fruit on your

own. Join facilitator, Susann Smith for this 11-week class and be challenged to develop the fruit of the spirit by maintaining an intimate relationship with the God. A Spirit-filled life truly results in living beyond yourself. Register online.



#### Book Study: Getting to Know Teresa of Avila Begins Jan. 27 | 1:30 p.m. Center for Spiritual Care

Join tahe group for four weeks to start an exploration of the work of Saint Teresa of Avila through her book "The Interior Castle." She is recognized among the greatest teachers of prayer and spiritual growth in the Christian tradition. Her writings on the spiritual life have guided those who are seeking a deeper connection to their prayer experience over centuries. This class is dynamic with discussion and reflection, and it offers a deepening of our grasp of the contemplative path. All are welcome to join this class. Materials will be provided. Register online.

Rev. Dr. Larry Duggins Iduggins@whiteschapel.org Rev. Victor Resendiz vresendiz@whiteschapel.org





Young.

## **Prayer List**

Marcia Allen, Jack Bair, Joe Baldwin, Jerry Barron, Mindy Bogan, Cheryl Brashear, Wyatt Buddin, Carol Burns, California Fires, Tom Campagna, Connie Center, Charles Cicchetti, Jim Clancy, Judy Clancy, Carolyn Cockerell, Kennedy Joy Coke, Andrea Collins, Leslie Craig, Dennis D., Stacey Ditchley, Margie Duffy, Bobbi Dunbar, Wilma Dykman, Miles Elder, Ralph Evans, Doug Faries, Will Fogle, Frank Forcelli, Shelly Gillette, Carolyn Gillum, Chris Gruenewald, Zaida Guerra, Jeanette Haddox, Buddy Hall, Tiffany Hall, Betsy Hay, Debbee Heldoorn, Marc Howland, Maria Huang, Dixie Hubbard, Jody Irwin, Tiffany Job, Betsy Jones, Richard Jump, Sherri Kaufmann, Trudee Kelly, Robert Koronka, Bob Kulikauskas, Connie Lamb, Ashley Barret Leder, David Leslie, Jovita Maldonado, Rusty T. Martinez, Doyle McAda, Rusty McCabe, Tim McCracken Jr., Massinissa and Massissilia Mehrazi, Andrea Rawlins Meyers, Mary Miller, Roland Moore, Bob Morgan, Thomas W. Morris, Jeff Nadeau, Kayla and James Oliver, Josh Palma, Jerry Palon, Aria Parish, Dee Perkins, Raul Rangel, Jim and Mary Renner, Johnnie Ruth Rogillio, Laurie Rosenblatt, Valerie Schmidt, Elayne Segal, Lisa Shin, Paul Sikes, Pat Skinner, Sandra Smith, Joyce Smoot, Julie Stapleton, Ashton Stephenson, Betty Stinson, Scott Stutler, Carol and Gary Turner, Lyla Waterstreet, Dick Williams, Linda Winant, Vicki Winn, Leigh Winzeler, Doug Yett, Richard, Julie, Andrew and Kaitlin. Recent Deaths: The Family of Katie Carnes, The Family of Ralph Choppy, The Family of Lynn DeWitt, The Family of Dennis Eaton, The Family of Connie Ellis, The Family of Elijah Hayes, The Family of Bernhard Lehder, The Family of Kathy Pierce, The Family of Art

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.)

Veenendaal, The Family of Michael Wenger, The Family of Russell



Do you ever feel overwhelmed by challenges and wonder why God allowed them to happen? This parent support group is for families with children who have additional needs. Everyone should be welcome in the church and know the love of Jesus regardless of abilities or disabilities. By providing necessary support and modifications, we are opening the door for people with additional needs and their families to experience Christ's love. Families can come early to eat the lunch provided.

