

***Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!***

## STRUGGLES

A man found a cocoon of an emperor moth. He took it home so that he could watch the moth come out of the cocoon. On the day a small opening appeared, he sat and watched the moth for several hours as the moth struggled to force the body through that little hole. The moth seemed to be stuck and appeared to have stopped making progress. It seemed as if it had gotten as far as it could and it could go no farther. The man, in his kindness, decided to help the moth; so he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The moth then emerged easily. But its body was swollen and small, its wings wrinkled and shriveled. The man continued to watch the moth because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to and able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened! In fact, the little moth spent the rest of its life crawling around with a small, swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly. The man in his kindness and haste did not understand that the struggle required for the moth to get through the tiny opening was necessary to force fluid from the body of the moth into its wings so that it would be ready for flight upon achieving its freedom from the cocoon. Freedom and flight would only come after the struggle. By depriving the moth of a struggle, he deprived the moth of health.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If we were to go through our life without any obstacles, we would be crippled. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. Give every opportunity a chance, leave no room for regrets, and don't forget the power in the struggle.



JULY 1, 2016



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## You have a Voice! Share it!

Who are the future leaders you see? Let us know!

The Nominating Committee is requesting **your recommendations for Elders and Deacons** in our next class. "What do they do?", you ask??

**Deacons**... persons who keep in touch with other members and offer care and support in times of sickness, death, or other needs.

They might do any of the following for their assigned members: **call or email** a member to follow-up on a prayer request, **coordinate food** for a new parent or mourner, mail an **anniversary or birthday card**, honor a member during worship or **present a Bible or gift from the church**, have **lunch with a member**, arrange **holiday gifts and food baskets** for families who need them.

**In general, deacons are to be persons of spiritual character, honest repute, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies, and sound judgment.**

## You have a Voice! Share it!

Who are the future leaders you see? Let us know!

**Elders**... members of the church leadership who make decisions on behalf of the congregation, administer the church's finances and education, and lead the church in mission, evangelism and congregational life.

They might do any of the following *in accordance with their gifts*: **encourage others** in worship and service, **equip the people** for their tasks in the Church or their **mission** in the world, **visit and comfort** and care for the people (the sick, lonely, oppressed), cultivate the ability to **teach** the Bible, **exercise leadership**, and serve as commissioner to higher governing bodies when elected.

**In general, elders are to be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment.**

## I have a Voice! How do I share it?

### Three options...

(1) Fill out a nomination **form found on the back of the information table in the fellowship hall.**

(2) Tell a member of the **Nom Committee**:

Co-Chairs Elders Randy & Mary Mojica  
Elders Randy & Mary Mojica  
Elder Kathy Smith

Member-at-Large: Vi Lee  
Member-at-Large: Rey Mojica  
Ex Officio Pastor Trish Holland

OR (3) **Email** [info@ncfaustin.org](mailto:info@ncfaustin.org)

JULY 1, 2016

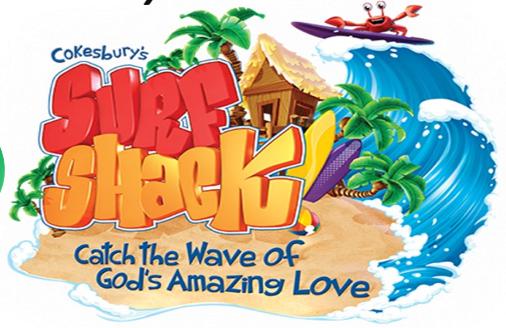


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# VBS



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# VBS



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# VBS



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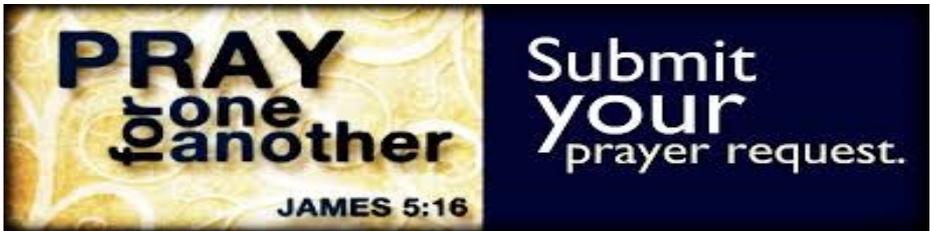


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## PRAYER AND PRAISE



- ⇒ Lift up God's wisdom and guidance concerning marriage and family for Naomi and Damion.
- ⇒ A prayer of thanksgiving for the encouragement of a loving congregation and worship with good music and the Word of God presented in prayer and sermon.
- ⇒ A prayer of thanksgiving for the people who have been helping Vi with James' estate. Lift up the continuing process.
- ⇒ Lift up comfort and peace for Vera's family following her step into Glory on Friday.
- ⇒ Lift up healing for Tracey. Lift up a new living arrangement for Tim's mother who must move by the end of July.
- ⇒ Praise for the wonderful news that DJ does not have to receive any more chemo! Continue to lift up complete health and continued wellness for him.
- ⇒ Lift up Azar for the last three weeks of Greek studies.
- ⇒ Thank you for prayers for a family divided by religion. The mother will be able to see her daughter and grandchild tomorrow! Lift up healing for the family relationships.
- ⇒ Continue to lift up Kimberley for complete health. During a time of work changes and negativity lift Jimmy up for an attitude that reflects Christ's heart.
- ⇒ The Hebrew word "follow" as it is used in Psalm 23 "Surely Goodness and Mercy shall follow me" is the same word used of the Egyptian army when they followed the Hebrews as Moses lead them out of Egypt. Thus will God's Goodness and Mercy pursue us wherever we go to protect and sustain us.
- ⇒ Praise for Jeff teaching the ACTS class on Thursday evenings.
- ⇒ Praise for Rev. Bill's sermon about the cost and rewards of following Jesus. His gift of forgiveness cost him everything and we are consequently motivated to give our all.
- ⇒ Lift up a friend who is moving away from familiar surroundings and family to attend seminary. Lift up a job for his wife. Lift up the family as they make this transition.
- ⇒ Lift up Chris' cousin in Baltimore. Lift up travel mercies for Fortune and Placid. Praise for improvement in Angela's knee pain.
- ⇒ Lift up Al whose diagnosis changed from walking pneumonia to Stage IV cancer. Lift up Al and his family as they face this big challenge of life.
- ⇒ Lift up safe travel for Caly and Saul as they go to visit her mother. Lift up Aunt Eula for healing. Lift up Aunt Lulin as she travels from the Dominican Republic to New Jersey for medical treatment.
- ⇒ Lift up Robert's work situation; lift up jobs for the people who have been laid off; lift up an attitude that reflects Christ's heart as the remaining workers adjust to the changes.
- ⇒ Lift up healing for Robert's brother who was hospitalized with a bad reaction to medication.
- ⇒ Lift up the people and towns affected by the severe flooding in West Virginia, Uly and Gina's home state.
- ⇒ A prayer of thanksgiving for the blessing of loving caring people when you are hurting. Vernon has lost 12 special people within the past 18 months and NCF is helping him, Doris, and their family through.
- ⇒ Lift up God's peace throughout the world. Too many people are hurting.
- ⇒ Praise for healing from a persistent ear infection when Azar asked for relief of the cross. Give everything to Jesus and be amazed.
- ⇒ Lift up George's father who is experiencing the early stages of dementia. Lift up his mother as she contemplates having back surgery. Lift up Alex who is ill with pneumonia.

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# SUNDAY MORNINGS

## NCFA Sunday Schedule

**8:30am** *The Early Worship Service is expected to resume in the fall.*

10:15am - Worship Service

1507 Wilshire Blvd.

9am Adult Sunday School

10am Fellowship

10:45am - Children's Church



## NCFA SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>

*Rev. Dr. Helen Boursier will be preaching*

Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>

*CRE Estela Sifuentes will be preaching*

## NCFA SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:15am

We would love to have you and your family come share in the CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS!

We are worshiping in the Fellowship Hall of Genesis Presbyterian Church on the Wilshire Campus starting at 10:15 a.m.

Real Church...  
Real People...  
Real Simple...

New Covenant Fellowship of Austin PC(U.S.A.) is a racially diverse community informed by the Bible, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and motivated to share God's love with all. In response to God's love, we are called to equip disciples to faithfully serve, to encourage seekers to joyfully commit, and to implore all to worship our Lord, as we love our neighbors, grow in grace, and live by faith.

**JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS**

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- 4<sup>th</sup> Colton and Stephanie Sullivan
- 11<sup>th</sup> Robert and Genevieve Booth
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Richard and Nancy Tallman

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ausley Trifiro  
Grace Holland-Washington
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Aisha Adjei
- 8<sup>th</sup> Rev. Bill Harris
- 9<sup>th</sup> Ireland F. Sullivan
- 11<sup>th</sup> George Holland  
Genevieve Booth
- 13<sup>th</sup> Jayvin Mojica
- 15<sup>th</sup> Chris Unegbu
- 16<sup>th</sup> Lara Tallman  
Rachel Draper-Marion
- 18<sup>th</sup> Emily Smith  
Ericson Stumberg
- 20<sup>th</sup> Naomi Jones  
Uly Cox, Sr.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Danita Nelson  
Colton Sullivan  
Ulysses Cox, Jr.
- 29<sup>th</sup> Bonnie Lew (Jacob's Mom)

**Session Members**

- \*Rev. Trish Holland  
Interim/Moderator
- \*Elder Kathy Smith  
Clerk of Session
- \*Elder Oliver Smith  
Administration & Personnel
- \*Rev. Bill Harris  
Buildings & Grounds
- \*Elder Randy Mojica  
Children and Youth
- \*Elder Ben Hooks  
Discipleship & Men's/  
Women's Ministry
- \*Elder Mary Jo Mojica  
Finance & Stewardship
- \*Elder Robert Booth  
Congregational Life/  
Lay Ministry
- \*Elder Vernon Bailey  
Missions/Evangelism
- \*Deacon Carol Saddington  
Worship & Membership

**Deacons**

- Kathryn Aldas
- Ashley Phillips
- Scott Phillips
- Carol Saddington, Chair
- Cathy Trifiro
- Roxann Vallejo

July 2016

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
 9-10am Adult Sunday School  
 9:45m Psalm 150 Praise  
 Team Rehearsal  
 10:15am Worship at Wilshire Blvd.  
*Rev. Dr. Helen Boursier, preaching*  
 Sunday School Ages 3-5 (Rm.1);  
 Grades 1-5 (Rm. 7)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Happy Independence Day  
*The Office will be closed in observance of the holiday.*
- 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm Men's Ministry Dinner;  
 7pm Study
- 6<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm Fellowship dinner;  
 7pm First Wednesday Night  
 Ministry Meetings.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Eight Sunday after Pentecost  
 9-10am Adult Sunday School  
 9:45m Psalm 150 Praise  
 Team Rehearsal  
 10:15am Worship at Wilshire Blvd.  
*CRE Estella Sifuentes, preaching*  
 Sunday School Ages 3-5 (Rm.1);  
 Grades 1-5 (Rm. 7)

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# Latin Dance Classes

**Where:** 1507 Wilshire Blvd, Ste. 6

**When:** Each Saturday in August, Starting 8/7/2016

**Time :** 4pm – 6pm

**Who :** Adult Singles and Couples

**How :** Register on-line @ [www.ncfaustin.org](http://www.ncfaustin.org)

Come and learn the wonderful dances of Salsa/Mambo/Merengue/Bachata with former Jazzy Dance Company member Robert P. Booth

Contact: Robert Booth @ [rpbooth66@gmail.com](mailto:rpbooth66@gmail.com)



Friends,

Genesis has invited NCFA to a Hymn Sing, this Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, after worship, 12:15 p.m.

We will start in the kitchen/fellowship hall with some light snacks - finger sandwiches, chips and dip, fruit and veggies, and so on, and then Carol Combs will provide us all a list of songs from the Glory to God hymnal for us to choose from.

(We'll bring the Hymnals.) Hope to see you all there! –

\*If you plan to attend, please bring a snack to share!



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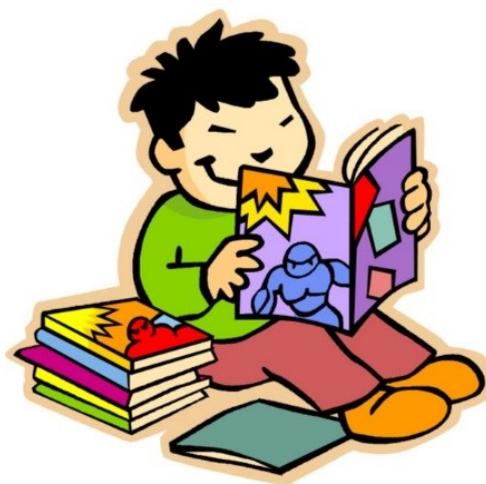
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New Covenant Fellowship of  
Austin

Is partnering to help  
First Presbyterian Church of  
McAllen

Collect Books for  
A Children's Library at  
Fields Elementary School  
McAllen, Texas

Please donate New or Gently Used  
Children's Books



A Collection Box will be  
placed at the Back Table  
For more Information please see  
Elder Caly

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**Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!**

# *“Something for Nothing”*

*Luke 9:51-62*

**Rev. Bill Harris**

**New Covenant Fellowship of Austin**

**June 26, 2016**

## Luke 9:51-62

*<sup>51</sup>When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; <sup>53</sup>but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup>When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” <sup>55</sup>But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup>Then they went on to another village. <sup>57</sup>As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” <sup>58</sup>And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” <sup>59</sup>To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” <sup>60</sup>But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” <sup>61</sup>Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” <sup>62</sup>Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”*

One day a woman was driving down the highway and she saw a billboard that said “Play the lottery and win \$200 million dollars.” So she went to the corner store and bought a lottery ticket for one dollar. The night of the lottery, she was watching TV and saw her lottery ticket number on the screen. She went to the lottery office the next morning, put her ticket down on the counter and said, “I’m here to pick up my \$200 million dollars.” And the lottery people said, “Well, you know, the way this lottery works is, you don’t get all the money at once. You get some money every week, but the payments are stretched out over 20 years.” And the woman said, “That’s not what your sign says. It says, ‘Play the lottery and win \$200 million.’ So I’m here to get my 200 million. Where is it?” And the lottery people said, “You don’t understand. It’s better to get a little bit at a time because the taxes are lower.” And the woman said, “No, I want my 200 million right now.” And the lottery people said, “We can’t give it you right now.” And she said, “If you won’t give me my 200 million, then give me my dollar back!”

Everybody wants something for nothing. Or at least as little as they can pay. We don’t call it greed, we call it consumerism. And we reward people for being diligent consumers. We give them coupons, we give them discount clubs, we give them sales, “50 percent off,” “75 percent off.” I’m still waiting for that “100 percent off” sale. Haven’t seen it yet. My wife will come in the front door with piles of clothes that she bought at the store and tell me, “You know how much money I saved you today?” She’s so proud of herself. And like an idiot, I’ll say, “No, how much?” And she’ll say, “More than I spent.” Now, I have to say, that kind of mathematics eludes me. I’m not sure how you can save money by spending money, but there it is.

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# *“Something for Nothing”*

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**New Covenant Fellowship of Austin**

**June 26, 2016**

As Christians, we can have this same “consumerist” attitude towards God. We want the maximum amount of blessing for the minimum amount of devotion. We might go to church on Sunday, if it’s not too far, if it’s not too hot, if it’s not too long. We might go to Sunday School, if they serve breakfast. We’re willing to put a little in the collection tray, but not too much. And if we can get the blessing without paying a thing, that’s all right.

It’s part of the human condition to want something for nothing. Even the disciples were not immune to this kind of thinking. They were sitting around arguing over which one of them was the greatest, which one was going to sit on Jesus’ left and which one on the right, when he came into His kingdom. They were thinking that when they get to Jerusalem, we’re going to declare Jesus King of Israel, He’s going to sit on the throne of His father, David, and we’re going to be right there with Him. On His left and on His right. And we’re going to rule with Him. And He’s going to call down angels from heaven and they’re going to defeat the Romans and run them out of town. This thing is in the bag, it’s a done deal, and it won’t cost us a thing, they thought. They wanted something for nothing, or for as little as they could pay. The never imagined what the cost of their discipleship might be.

Some passages of the Bible stand out because of their lyric beauty, their theological profundity or their soaring praise. This is not one of those passages. Sometimes a text in the Scripture is important not only for what it says but where it is in relation to the rest of the chapter or the book. This text is at the very end of the ninth chapter, and the ninth chapter is sort of like “Jesus’ Greatest Hits.” It starts with Jesus sending out the twelve disciples into the world to proclaim the gospel and heal the sick. The first ever evangelistic mission of the church. Then comes the miracle of the loaves and fishes, the feeding of the five thousand. Jesus takes the bread and the fish and feeds five thousand people. Then he asks Peter, “Who do the people say that I am?” and Peter answers, “You are the Christ. The Son of the living God.” Then, later in the chapter, Jesus says, “Anyone who wants to be my disciple has to pick up their cross and follow me.” Then there’s the transfiguration, where Jesus goes up on a mountain, and there’s a light surrounding Him, and the voice of the Lord says, “This is my Son.” This is all in the ninth chapter. Those are some “heavyweight” moments.

But then, at the end of all this greatness, comes the 51<sup>st</sup> verse, “As the time grew near for him to be received up to heaven, Jesus set His face towards Jerusalem.” It’s easy to run right over that verse without thinking about it, but when you look at what happened before and what happened after you can see that this is a pivotal moment for Jesus, the disciples and the church. Up until now, Jesus’ mission has been all about reaching out, about healing, about getting the “good news” out there, about teaching people that the kingdom of God is near. But now, where His ministry had been focused on expanding and growing, it was focused on the cross. Did you ever put an important event on the calendar and start marking off the days as they went by, to that day? On the first day of Passover, Jesus had to be in Jerusalem. Nothing gets you focused like being on a deadline, and Jesus had the greatest deadline of all time, on the cross.

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The message hadn't changed, but He had changed. Death has a marvelous way of grabbing your attention. Jesus kept telling the disciples, "I'm going to Jerusalem, I'm going to be betrayed and it's going to get bad." But the disciples don't get it. Only Jesus realizes what this means but it changes his demeanor, literally, his face.

The scripture says, "He set His face towards Jerusalem." If I set my face toward a particular location, no matter which way I turn or where I am, I'm always looking at my destination. For Jesus, everything now is in the shadow of the cross. His direction has changed, and His priorities have change. He had to "up His game" and it changes His face, how He looks. In other words, Jesus had to put on His "game face." Pastor Lee knew what it means to put on your "game face." Before the game you can be all smiles, everything is cool, I'm your friend. But once the whistle blows, then you gotta look serious, you gotta look intense, you gotta look focused. No more "Mr. Nice Jesus." He's got a date with the cross. So you might forgive Him for being a little bit cranky. Now He has to do everything he can to get the disciples ready for what's about to happen, to get them ready for flying solo, to do ministry without him, and they're not ready.

Right away, there are problems. He sends them into a village in Samaria to tell them that He is coming, The disciples come back and say, "They don't want you." The disciples were humiliated, insulted and angry. They ask Jesus, "Do you want us to rain down fire on those no-good creeps?" But instead of telling off the Samaritans, Jesus tells off his own disciples, and moves on to another city. When was the last time you wanted to rain down fire on somebody? Maybe that politician you don't like? Maybe those folks who disagree with you about your most cherished beliefs? Those new folks down the block who look like they must have come from a long, long way? But once you start raining fire on people, isn't it very difficult to stop?

Then the text tells us that Jesus encounters three people, each one of them a "wannabe" follower of Jesus. Each one wants to follow Jesus, but has some sort of obstacle. The first says, "I'll follow you wherever you go." And Jesus comes back with a woefully lyric response. "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head." Sounds like a country-and-western song. Jesus is not trying to put this person off but to point out an inconvenient truth about what ministry with Him is like – "I don't even know where I'm sleeping tonight" – pointing out the wonderful uncertainty of following Jesus. Ministry will take you out of your comfort zone into your uncomfot zone, and you need to be ready for it. The next person says, "First, let me bury my father." And Jesus response is kind of flippant, "Let the dead bury their dead", until you realize that this person can no longer help their father, but they can help the living by preaching a living word. Ministry is always immediate, because need is immediate. The last person says, "I'll go with you, but let me say goodbye to my family first." And Jesus drops the mike on him and says, "If you're ploughing a field, you can only look forward, not backward." Once you start ministry, there's no going back.

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Each one of the responses is so short, it’s almost like a proverb. And all three predict what will happen to Jesus when he gets to Jerusalem – that He will be homeless, that His family will have to bury him, and that He can only go forward on His way to the cross, and the resurrection. These “wanna bes” had three perfectly good excuses, but they’re still excuses. It’s clear that Jesus is raising the bar and warning His disciples that, from here on in, you need to raise your game. He’s not trying to one-up them, he’s showing compassion for them, he’s trying to get them ready. Compassion compels us to be real. To have real caring in times of suffering, and to find real solutions to that suffering, if we can. And if we cannot, to make sure that suffering is shared. Jesus showed compassion both for those who accepted him and those who did not.

Where do we find compassion? I was reading a story about a young woman named Sumeja Tulic, who is a graduate student in New York City. She’s a Muslim, she moved to New York a year ago. This spring, she’s walking in downtown New York, and although the weather’s beautiful, she’s depressed. All the news about terrorism, and violence, and bad politics and bad religion, all the ugliness of the world, made her depressed and angry. So she went for a walk in the city, and she thought “Please God, just send something nice, I want to see something nice, not all this craziness.” She’s at an underground train station near City Hall on the platform, waiting for the train. And it’s very quiet. If you’ve never gotten on a subway in a large city, it’s a little strange. When you’re at street level, it’s noisy, there are cars and sirens and it’s really loud. And you go down this stairway under the street, and it’s quiet down there. You’ve got this long platform you stand on, and then it drops down about 5 feet to where the tracks are. And she’s sitting there waiting, and there are other people standing around. And she hears the announcement that the train is about two minutes away. She hears this noise, and she sees that this man who had been standing on the platform has passed out, and fallen off the platform onto the train tracks. And before she can even get up, someone jumps down off the platform on the tracks, and then two more people, trying to help this man. And he’s a big guy, over 6 feet, and he’s out cold, they can’t wake him up. And his body is kind of jammed into the tracks. And the young woman is recording all this on her phone. So they’re trying to get him loose from the track and keeping one eye open for the train. Some people run to the end of the platform and try to flag down the train, and others just stood and watched. Finally, they get him loose and they lift him up so the people on the platform can grab him and pull him up. Then they have to pull the rescuers up from the tracks. So the guy is laying on the platform. And as they’re trying to help him, the train pulls in, the doors open up and people getting off the train are walking around this man as he’s lying on the ground. But two of the people who jumped down on the tracks were still with him, holding him by the hand and telling him that everything was going to be alright.

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**New Covenant Fellowship of Austin**

**June 26, 2016**

They took him to the hospital, he was released a few hours later, and had no memory of being on the platform, passing out, or being rescued. And the young woman said, “It was a beautiful thing to see. That’s what the city is all about. You have all these millions of people providing, being there for others, without even knowing that person, where they’re from, what denomination they are. It was a beautiful thing to see.” Now, I can’t say that God provided this outpouring of humanity as an answer to Sumeja’s prayer for “something nice,” but, it made me think, if I were on the train platform, what would I do? Would I be one of the heroes who jumps down on the tracks to rescue the helpless man? One of the people who didn’t even have time to think about what they were doing, but were seized by an uncontrollable impulse of compassion? Would I be one of the well-meaning cowards standing around on the platform, watching? Would I be like the people on the train who stepped around the man, completely oblivious to this everyday miracle? Would I be like the man who passed out, who received compassion, and caring, and blessing after blessing and didn’t even know it? Or would I be the grateful witness to this act of compassion, for whom it came as an answered prayer?

The cost of discipleship is compassion. That’s what it costs us to follow Christ. Compassion for those who need it, and even for those who show no compassion for us. The same compassion that took Jesus to the cross. Compassion which is the sole necessity for all ministry. We owe it to Christ, and to each and every one of our brothers and sisters.

That does not mean that there will not be pain. Part of us knows that compassion is good but another part of us knows that it’s risky. Compassion is dangerous. Compassion makes us vulnerable. It can give you scars. The word compassion literally means “to suffer with.” So if you have compassion on someone, you are suffering with them. Jeff Goins, the writer, says that if you’re trying to serve someone who’s hurting and it doesn’t hurt you in the process, you’re doing it wrong. Because the cost of compassion isn’t money, it’s comfort. That’s what it cost you, your comfort. He said “It feels bad to do good... If you want to live more compassionately, pain is inevitable.” If you have compassion on someone, you are stepping into a place where you say, “Even though you may be far away, even though I don’t know who you are, even though I may not be willing to actually help you, I am willing to feel pain with you. I am willing to suffer with you even if there is no good reason for it. Even though we aren’t the same color, the same religion, or from the same side of town. Even though I don’t completely understand your situation, even if I don’t know the history or the culture, I’m no longer just going to turn away from it, to drive by it, to ignore it. I’m going to open myself to the pain that you are feeling. That is the beginning of compassion. I saw a blog post from a caregiver who said, “There is a feeling I get when I am helping someone in need. It’s not my own sadness but the sadness of the person I am helping. I am able to feel the void which I am trying to fill.” Compassion gets me out of myself and into the life of another and into the eternal life promised by God. We have a noble calling to ignoble service.

JULY 1, 2016



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*Being Real, Relevant, and Racially Diverse!*

# *“Something for Nothing”*

*Luke 9:51-62*

**Rev. Bill Harris**

**New Covenant Fellowship of Austin**

**June 26, 2016**

God gave us something when we had nothing. God gave us a deliverer, a savior and a compassionate friend. God gave us compassion, when we were unable to cry. You can't get something for nothing, but if you are willing to pay the price of compassion, you can have much, much more. More than you spent. I think Max Lucado said it best, "I choose kindness... I will be kind to the poor, for they are alone. Kind to the rich, for they are afraid. And kind to the unkind, for such is how God has treated me."

JULY 1, 2016



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## **Info: Caregiver-Responsible Party Support Group (CRPSG)**

This will be an open / on-going group for persons who are

- 1. The direct primary contact for adults who live in a nursing home, assisted living or skilled nursing facility or**
- 2. The primary caregiver for an elderly person or for an adult with a disability.**

Members (Participants) will be able to come and go with no obligations to attend regularly.

**The purpose of this group is to provide a place where Members can share concerns, helpful resources & ideas; or simply provide one another with moral support. Confidentiality will be stressed.**

Group Members will only be known by first names in group, for registration and on sign-in sheet.

Contact information requested will consist of information needed for Member contact or grants:

- First Name Only of Member
- Contact phone number of Member
- Dates of birth (Member and Care receiver)
- Genders (Member and Care receiver)
- Races (Member and Care receiver)
- Ethnicity or Heritage (Member and Care receiver)
- Zip code (Member and Care receiver)
- Income (Member and Care receiver) Optional

Group will meet once a month, with Elizabeth Smith facilitating, on the **4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 1 pm** at St. James' Episcopal Church, 1941 Webberville Road, Austin, TX 78721. The meeting will be in the Orange Building - Room A.

Group size should ideally consist of 6 – 8 members.

**There will be no cost to group members.**

Please contact Elizabeth Smith at 512-417-7166 or [DElizabeth.Smith@yahoo.com](mailto:DElizabeth.Smith@yahoo.com) to register or for more information.

First meeting was held in June.

**D Elizabeth Smith, M.S.E., LPC  
512-417-7166 (iPhone)  
PO Box 201118  
Austin, TX 78720-1118**

JULY 1, 2016



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# Group Lifestyle Balance



**Eat Healthy**

**Be Active**

**Lose Weight**

## Lose Weight and be Energized!

Meet others who are on a similar journey, learn how to cook healthy food with cooking classes, get active with exercise classes, and receive awards every class for achieving milestones towards your goals!

*Program: 6 weeks group classes and 6 weeks of weight loss support*

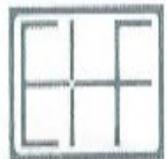
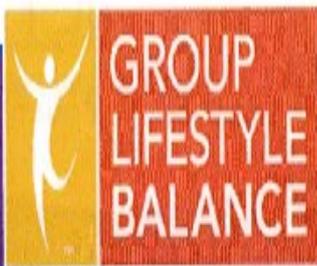
New Covenant

Fellowship of Austin

1507 Wilshire Blvd.

Austin, TX 78722

Friday: 5:00-7:00pm (Spanish)



EPISCOPAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

For more Information please contact:

Caly Fernández at (512) 228-4712

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## We Care Kits

*"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." 1 Peter 3:15*

**We are currently accepting the following donations**

**Food/Drink Items:**

- Granola Bars, Trail mix, or peanut butter and crackers
- Vienna sausage – 5 ounce size cans
- Water bottles – 8 ounce size

**Hygiene/Personal Items:**

- Travel Size Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Travel size hand sanitizer or hotel size bar soap
- Men's size small crew ankle length white or black socks
- Quart size freezer bags

Please note: this is a smaller kit with fewer items. All donated items should be placed in the donations box located on the back table by the AV equipment. If you have any questions, please email me: [calyflower2020@yahoo.com](mailto:calyflower2020@yahoo.com) or call me at (512) 228-4712.

JULY 1, 2016



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## Café Justo

**Café Justo** is a coffee grower cooperative based in Salvador Urbina, Chiapas, Mexico. They market a pure, organic coffee which is grown, harvested and marketed in the spirit of justice. Our goal is to provide incentives for people to remain on their family lands.

**Orders** will be arranged through NCFA's Evangelism Committee. Please see Caly Fernández to place an order. Coffee is available in 1 and 5 pound bags. The cost of a 1 pound bag is **\$10.00** and a 5 pound bag is **\$ 40.00**. Dark roast, medium roast and decaf are available in ground or whole beans. Coffee will be delivered biweekly to NCFA.

**Contact Caly to make your purchase today!**  
**(512)228-4712**

