

SPRINGSPIRIT

Community Newsletter

May 4 - May 8



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Laura Smith

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Hey family, we miss you. We hope you are doing well, we are praying for you, always. Has it happened to you? Have you become acclimated to this new normal? It's a weird one isn't it? And yet, we feel God closer than ever.

It hasn't been easy, every day has its own little thing, but we love how Jesus had words for us, for times such as these:

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

We want to encourage you to keep trusting, keep your eyes on Jesus, know that this season will bring forth many things you didn't even know you had in you.

Leave you with this passage from James:

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

IMPORTANT

If you have any questions, prayer requests, or concerns, please call/text 713-897-1195 or message us on [Facebook](#). Also, if your teacher or principal has not reached out to you, please let us know.

IF YOU WANT TO STAY
UPDATED THROUGH
SPRINGSPIRIT, PLEASE...

Send a text to:
81010

Text
this message:
@sspitner



COVID-19 UPDATE

The COVID-19 virus continues to be an issue affecting our community. Current regulations for social distancing have been extended through April 30th. SpringSpirit is continually assessing the situation, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone in person again once it is safe to do so. For the most updated information on our response to the Coronavirus and current programming, please refer to our website at <https://www.springspirit.org/coronavirus.html>.

CORONAVIRUS RESOURCES

HOUSING

Rent:

- No evictions until April 26th. (this could be extended)
- If given a "Notice to Vacate" Call Lone Star Legal Aid (713-652-0077) or the Texas State Bar Referral Service (1-800-252-9690)
- Call 211 or 877-541-7905 for rent assistance

Utilities:

- No power and water shut offs allowed until September

Unless something changes, you will be responsible to pay your bills in the future.

FOOD

School Districts:

- Houston and Fort Bend area schools are offering free meals for students Monday - Friday.
- Students must be present.
- Visit their websites for a list of locations.

Food Banks:

- Call the Houston Food Bank helpline at 832-369-9390
- text FOOD to 855-308-2282 to find the nearest food Pantry in the area.

Government Assistance

- Call 211 or 877-541-7905 and ask how to apply for DSNAP (Food Stamps)

INCOME

Unemployment:

- If have a social security number or work permit and have lost your job or work hours, apply online at twc.texas.gov (preferred)
- Or by phone at 800-939-6631.
- Keep trying if you can't get through.
- Benefits don't start until you apply

Stimulus:

- For people who filed 2018 or 2019 tax return, you can get a \$1,200 stimulus check for each adult and \$500 per child.
- Checks will come by direct deposit or mail
- Visit <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/economic-impact-payments-what-you-need-to-know>
- If you need your Stimulus Check for current living expenses like food and rent, consider cancelling automatic withdrawals for payday loans and other expenses.

HEALTHCARE & MENTAL HEALTH

Insurance:

- Visit HarrisHealth.org to see if you qualify for a Gold Card for free or low-cost health insurance

Clinics:

- Call 211 or 877-541-7905 for info on where you can get affordable healthcare
- For free information about symptoms call Ask My Nurse Helpline: 713-634-1110 or the Memorial Hermann Nurse Health Line 713-338-7979 / 1-855-577-7979 (Available 24/7)

Mental Health:

- The Harris County COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line: 833-251-7544 (Available 24/7)

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TMO @TMO_IAF f The Metropolitan Organization - Houston TMO GCLC

For the latest information on COVID-19 cases in the U.S. and federal guidelines, please refer to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

For the most current information on the Texas specific guidelines, as well as what to do if you are sick, please refer to the Texas Health and Human Services site at <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/>.

For the most current information on the Harris County specific guidelines and local testing centers, please refer to the Harris County Public Health site at <http://publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus>.

Please follow these guidelines and stay safe!

Face Covering Order

Harris County is now requiring all people over the age of 10 to use face coverings when leaving the home. This includes homemade masks, scarves, bandanas, or handkerchiefs. Exceptions are made for anyone who is exercising alone, eating/drinking, or driving. This order will last until May 26th. For information on face coverings, including how to make your own, click [here](#).

COVID-19 Testing

The Houston Health Department's two COVID-19 drive-thru sites are now open to anyone who wants to get the test, regardless of symptoms. To get a test, you must call the department's COVID-19 call center at 832-393-4220 between 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM to receive a unique identification code and instructions on where to go for testing and how to obtain test results. You must get the identification code. People who show up at the test site without the code will not get tested.

UNEMPLOYMENT

If you have become unemployed, or are a contractor/self-employed who is out of work due to COVID-19, you may be eligible for unemployment benefits. These benefits include state benefits plus an additional \$600 a week from the federal government. **It is important that you file for unemployment benefits as soon as possible.** To apply, go to [this website](#) or call 800-939-6631. Both the website and phone number are very busy so you may have to try many times.

EDUCATION

Join us for SpringSpirit Storytime on Zoom TONIGHT (Monday, May 4th) at 6pm. Come ready to listen, answer a few questions and have fun! Use this Zoom link to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83309879888>

SpringSpirit Writing Challenge is back! Submit your responses on social media each day to have a chance to win a free pizza dinner for your family!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>Share the newsletter with friends/family</p> <p>Storytime @ 6:00 pm https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83309879888</p> <p>Writing Challenge:</p> <p>What's the best way to celebrate a birthday if you can't leave your house?</p>	<p>TikTok Challenge.</p> <p>Recreate your favorite TikTok (or create your own!) and share with the staff through text or social media!</p> <p>Writing Challenge:</p> <p>What is your favorite song and why? (Extra points if you make a video of yourself singing or dancing to the song!)</p>	<p>Game Night @ 7:00 pm with Juan Ramirez (https://zoom.us/j/398196452)</p> <p>Writing Challenge:</p> <p>Pretend you just graduated from college. What would be the best job for you and why?</p>	<p>Pray Room @ 9:30 am with Ana Mendoza (https://zoom.us/j/528138335)</p> <p>Writing Challenge:</p> <p>Mother's Day is this Sunday. Tell us why your mother is the best!</p>	<p>Ministry Message with David Balyeat (Instagram and Facebook)</p> <p>Writing Challenge:</p> <p>Tell us a joke! Write the joke out, try to memorize it, and then make a video of yourself telling it!</p>	<p>Let the Kids Play Challenge. Send us a picture/video or tag us on social media of your kids playing their favorite sport.</p>	<p>Parents Challenge. Send us a picture/video or tag us on social media of you either pitching, batting, throwing, catching, or kicking a ball with your kids.</p>

CONGRATULATIONS!



Abby Berkman
Winner of our Scategories Challenge



Pricilla Garza
Winner of our Writing Challenge

MISC.

SBISD is proud to announce a pilot program by placing a Wi-Fi enabled bus at SpringSpirit. SBISD students can access the Wi-Fi from their SBISD issued device (directions linked). Wi-Fi will be available from 9am to 2pm, Monday through Friday. Check your Remind messages for instructions.

The Spring Branch Community Health Center clinics are still serving the community. Click [here](#) for more information.

Iglesia Generaciones are distributing food to families in urgent need in Spring Branch Monday-Friday 10am - 2pm 1330 Gessner Rd Houston Texas 77055. Click [here](#) to listen to Pastor Joseph Rios' message

Click [here](#) to see the SBISD food distribution schedule and pickup locations.

MEET THE STAFF

Laura Smith



Biggest pet peeve: talking with your mouth full of food
 Famous person that I'd like to meet: Barefoot Contessa (Ina Garten)
 Favorite hometown activity: I'm from Houston, so I'd say you have to go to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo!
 Favorite moment from HS/College: Attending all the games of the Texas Longhorns' National Championship-winning season in 2005 while I was in college at UT.
 Favorite Spring Spirit memory: Watching the kids play softball, baseball and soccer games



Q: What's the most addicted to a game you've ever been?

A: Dr. Mario & Tetris - I started seeing the blocks falling when I wasn't even playing! :)

Q: What is the longest trip in hours you've been on?

A: I got to go to school for one semester in Spain. So I was on a trip from January through June.

Q: If you could possess any superpower, what would it be and why?

A: Teleportation. Get places FAST!

Q: What artist or band do you always recommend when someone asks for a music recommendation?

A: Jason Isbell



Q: If you suddenly woke up one morning and were the most gifted athlete in the world, what sport would you play and why?

A: Tennis - I enjoy playing it but am not good at all. If I were good, I would have a lot more fun playing it! :)

Q: What is the story behind your most gnarly scar?

A: Tripped and hit the corner of my head on the counter. Big scar. Probably should have gotten stitches. No hair grows in that spot.