



LEOH Fall Program – our 46th Year!



Fellowship Hall, Bellaire UMC | October 1, 2026

WELCOME to our newest LEOH members!

Joan Johnson, Cheryl Richards, Robert Riquelmy, and Eileen Singleton

Morning Activities – Beginning at 9:30 a.m.

REGISTRATION – Coordinator Jane Shinn

Pick up your name tag at the registration table in the Welcome Center, just outside Fellowship Hall, and return it when leaving (for safekeeping until the next meeting). Our most recent new members should receive permanent name tags to replace their temporary tags at the next meeting.

REFRESHMENTS (Coffee, Tea, Water, Snacks)

Snacks and beverages are available to everyone prior to lunch.

THIS WEEK'S SPEAKERS

Provided by speaker committee members Kelly Cervenka and Heide Vukovic.

10:00-11:00 a.m. WHAT'S UP HOUSTON

PORT OF HOUSTON

Garrett Berg, Manager of Community Relations for the *Port of Houston Authority*, provides an overview of the Port and discusses the Ship Channel and global trade.

11:15-12:15 p.m. TOWN HALL

BRINGING BUTTERFLIES HOME

Elizabeth White Olsen, Co-founder of *GO Native Landscaping*, and a certified Texas Master Naturalist, creates sustainable bird-and-butterfly-friendly landscapes for clients, and shares her tips with us. Her book *Bringing Butterflies Home: Gardening to Heal our Yards and Ourselves*, will be available for purchase at the conclusion of her talk. (Paperback: \$19.47; Hardcover \$41.12.) Pay by credit card (preferred), Zelle, Venmo, or cash.



Attention Members and Guests:
Please silence your phones (and yourselves)
during the speaker presentations!



Lunch & Afternoon Activities – Fellowship Hall, unless otherwise noted

12:15 p.m. ANNOUNCEMENTS, WEEKLY LUNCH DRAWING, INSPIRING THOUGHTS/PRAYER

> Vice-President **Kelly Cervenka** welcomed everyone, particularly our newest members!
> Add your name to the LEOH bowl the first time you attend (just once only, not each week thereafter)! Each Thursday, a name will be drawn, and the lucky winner will enjoy a free lunch that day. **Angela Hennebery** was last week's winner!

> **Tom Williams** announced upcoming 2-hr *Monday Movie Matinees* sponsored by the Bellaire UMC on the 2nd Monday of October and November, beginning at 1:30 p.m. He described September's very meaningful movie that reimagined Noah's Ark with the audience feeling they were inside it at one point. **NOTE:** this is a BUMC activity, not a LEOH-sponsored event; however, all are welcome to attend. Enjoy FREE POPCORN!

> **Ann Fairchild** described the upcoming monthly trips (see p. 4 for trip destinations) including the special Holiday lunch at Escalante's in Meyerland. This lunch requires your gift for a needy child as entrance fee. Look forward to delicious food, while giving to a great cause!

> **Susan Downs** mentioned a home building project in Mexico (similar to *Habitat for Humanity*). **NOTE:** the home-building project was informational only; it is not a LEOH-supported fund-raising event and members are not obligated to donate.

> **Maryann Barthelemy** shared an **Apache Prayer** prior to lunch (see newsletter insert).

LUNCH – Coordinators Bill Grimes and Julie Larson, Treasurer Rosalie Thurbon

Enjoy a poboy from **Paulie's Poboy's**, plus chips, drink, and dessert! All for \$8 – a bargain! You may pay anytime except during speaker presentations. Receive a lunch "ticket" in exchange, which you will then give to a "kitchen crew" member before picking up your food.

12:30-3:30 p.m. YEAR-ROUND BRIDGE (Room 131)

Coordinator: Pat Roberts

12:45 p.m. SOCIAL BRIDGE (Fellowship Hall)

Coordinator: Paula Koehn

1:00-2:00 p.m. SPANISH CLASS (Room 123)

Instructor: Ana Moore

1:00-3:00 p.m. WATERCOLOR PAINTING (Room 122)

Instructor: Marie Schaer

1:00-3:00 p.m. EVERYTHING YARN & THREAD (Fellowship Hall)

Instructor: Mary Mahon

Enjoy working on an individual needlework project. If you want to learn a new skill or just observe, you are welcome to join them!

1:00-3:00 p.m. GAMES/TABLE TALK (Fellowship Hall)

Bring your favorite game (Scrabble, Rummikub, etc.) to play with fellow members or join others to relax and enjoy a round-table discussion on topics of interest.

LAST WEEK'S SPEAKERS PROVIDED MEMBERS WITH A LOT OF GREAT INFORMATION!



Mabel Menefee
Community Relations
Administrator, Harris
Central Appraisal
District (HCAD)

Bobby Chukwu, ND
Houston Holistic
Health Clinic



Ms. Menefee gave an in-depth description and explanation of the recent changes to the Texas property tax system and HCAD's role. Learn more on their website hcad.org. You may also contact them via hcad.org/contact-us-form.

Dr. Chukwu provided an illuminating review of healthy vs. toxic foods. So many factors affect nutrition, including stress, illness, and food sensitivity. Visit their website for more information. houstonholistichealthclinic.com

Property Taxes
Support Critical Local Services

Texas has no state income tax
Local taxing units use tax revenue to provide local services including schools, streets and roads, police and fire protection, etc.

Over 600 taxing entities in Harris County
1.9 million parcels
Third largest county
No zoning challenges

Property tax law originates with the Texas State Legislature.

State Oversight:
Texas Comptroller



Comparing various snack foods plus presweetened cereal, animal crackers were much lower in sugar!



Watercolor artists were hard at work following lunch.



Bridge players were also hard at work!

TRIPS Ann Fairchild, Coordinator – fairann@sbcglobal.net; 281-686-1325

Details as they become available will be on our website; sign-up will be closer to the trip dates. We continue to have interesting, informative, and entertaining trips, thanks to Ann! Lunch at an area restaurant always follows a trip, unless otherwise noted. We are grateful for our bus drivers and free Precinct One bus use; however, if you have a complaint about the bus service or driver, please let Ann know. Or scan a QR code at the front of the bus.

- Wednesday, October 14 – Rice University walking tour**, followed by lunch in Rice Village.
- Thursday, November 12 – Bayou Wildlife Zoo** – lots to see on this train ride in Alvin.
- Thursday, December 3 – Holiday lunch** – restaurant admission fee is a toy donation!

CARING CORNER Kelly Cervenka, Coordinator – kcervenka39@gmail.com; 281-686-1325
Kelly will gladly send an appropriate card on LEOH's behalf to someone upon your request.

BOOK CARTS & DISPLAY TABLES Vickie Fella, Coordinator - vickiesue.fella@gmail.com
Display table items are free to keep (except books). Borrow a book and return it when done for others to enjoy. Please keep the carted books in strict alphabetical order to assist everyone in finding books by author.

SERVICE PROJECTS allow us to assist those in need in our surrounding communities. Projects are selected based on needs identified by a non-profit organization. LEOH members may then donate designated items. Monetary donations are always an option and can be received by LEOH treasurer Rosalie Thurbon. Our Fall project is a continuation of the Spring project, *The Women's Home*, a residential treatment and housing program to enable women to reenter society empowered and valued. Project coordinator is Nina Quartaro. Look for a collection bin and take-home copies of the list of needs at the meetings. **NOTE: Please, no toothbrushes/toothpaste at this time.**

- Unopened makeup
- Gum and mints
- Unopened lotions
- Reading glasses
- Sample-sized cosmetics
- Bath sponges/brushes
- Tampons
- Daily devotional materials

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT LEOH? There are several options!

- Contact LEOH President David Martin through the Bellaire UMC Office: 713-666-216
- Take advantage of our *Suggestion Box* – cards and pens are available at each table. Jot down your thoughts (anonymously if desired) and drop a card in the Box on the display table.
- What can we do to make LEOH better?