

*And Jesus said to them,
"Follow me and I will make
You fish for people."
Mark 1:17*

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Anita Duhon, Secretary/Newsletter Editor

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Nanette Cagney, Pastor

Parish Associate, Rev. Constance McIntosh

Music Leader-Kate Colby

Elders on Duty for August: Debbie Serra and Jan Laird

Elders for September: Craig Long and Linda Latour



*The halls are rocking at
SAPC!*



We continue to receive donations in the form of money and actual items from all over the United States. Someone will hear a story having to do with Lake Charles and the continuing need here. This will spur them to activity and they have found us as a place to send items. We are most grateful for the care and concern being shown to Southwest Louisiana. Representatives from our national Presbyterian offices were here recently to see what we are doing as a church community and the community as a whole. It's always interesting to see their surprise when things are still quite obviously destroyed from the storm that happened nearly a year ago. They left with a clearer understanding of the red tape and slow nature of recovery.

The Vessel Project has a few more weeks for their summer feeding program which takes place Fridays and Saturdays in our kitchen. The summer activities will culminate with a back to school extravaganza in the Fellowship Hall, August 7th. There will be quite a few vendors who will be providing backpacks, school supplies, and vouchers for shoes. There will also be games and prizes for children who attend. We will closely monitor the Covid situation and plan to require that masks be worn by everyone. All are welcome. If you want to come be part of the fun you will be most welcome.



The SAPC college ministry program is about to relaunch. Plans are underway with our church liaisons which will involve weekly and monthly programs plus special events geared to McNeese and Sowela students. The schedule and Covid protocols are still being formalized but if things improve we may have a few dinners for the students. We will let you know when that happens so you can shower them with some home cooked food.



Natalia Cherie Breaux was baptized on Sunday, July 11. She is the daughter of Darrius Breaux and Kamryn Lopez; great granddaughter of Edna and Larry Breaux.



Pastor's Corner

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over and students are soon returning to school. Considering this, we are going to try to establish our college ministry again. We are in discussions to have a "United Campus Ministry" in lieu of a "Presbyterian Campus Ministry" with St Paul Lutheran and perhaps some Methodist churches joining us. This would be a united Protestant ministry. We have some funds left from monies given to us by the Presbytery and with that we have hired two campus liaisons: Connor Couvillion (freshman) and Roichetta Ozane (Senior) to represent us on campus. Because the Wesley Center has been storm damaged and defunded and St Paul's is on Prien Lake Road, this United Campus Ministry will be centered at St. Andrew.

We are continuing our summer sermon series featuring Paul's coworkers. So far we have learned about the courage and commitment of Priscilla and Aquila; the perseverance of Aristarchus; the differences of Euodia and Syntyche; and the trustworthiness of Titus. We have so much to learn from those who have gone before us.

At the same time, the work on rebuilding the fellowship hall has continued. Joe Dye is to be commended for his faithfulness. He has spent endless hours with contractors, engineers, inspectors and architects. We have been waiting for windows since Hurricane Laura and some have finally come in. We are making progress, but we are all tired, especially Joe. If you have time or skills to use to help, please contact him to ask if there is anything you can do.

There are many things that we would like to do, but once again, we are on hold. I hope every one of you who is able has gotten the vaccine. In the meanwhile, we must protect our children and those more vulnerable by wearing our masks.

Nanette

COVID UPDATE

After much soul-searching, the Session and I have decided that it will be best if we go back to Zoom ONLY worship until we see the COVID numbers in Calcasieu Parish decline. The Delta variant is very transmissible and there have been breakthrough cases among the fully vaccinated. Hospitals are filling up again. We have had no COVID cases transmitted through church activities in the past year and a half and that is because of the precautions that were taken. Now isn't the time to start spreading Delta. Let's all pray that this surge is quickly over and we can soon come together again.

Birthdays

8/04 Terri Estes
 8/07 Constance McIntosh
 8/14 Jennifer Couvillion
 Codie Gilman
 8/16 Joe Dye
 8/17 Diana Lewis
 8/18 Layken Kral
 8/20 Jerry Burke

Anniversaries

8/19 Susan and Stephanie Bengé

Prayers and Concerns

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for those who visited this past month.

Also, remember in your prayers the many members and friends in need of support during the trying times of their lives. Norman Andrews (Mary Davis' uncle); Susan Bengé's father; Sandy Brister, the pastor at St. Andrew Leesville, her husband, and her mother; Nani Cagney; Phyllis Cagney; Edward Chavanne; Margy Clawson; Keith Conrad; Virginia Conrad; Nancy Crncic; Jody Flanagan; Sue Kantorczyk; David Laird; Barbara Lobue; William Ludwick; Laura Ludwick; Cullen Nolan; Judy Robertson; Thomas Schwab; Anne Dye's mother; Lucille and Pat Marshall's grandson, Ryder; Carol Bell's son, Patrick; and baby Liam.

Prayers for all those affected by COVID.

Prayers for those impacted by Hurricanes Laura and Delta; all educators/school administrators.

Prayers for our country and our leadership.

Contact the church office to add or remove a name from the Prayers and Concerns.

From Anita's Desk

There is a daily devotional that sits on my office desk, "Hearing from God Each Morning", by Joyce Meyer. Today's devotional was read on July 30. Now how it could have been written and published in 2010 and be read on July 30, today, and have meaning to the reader? Hmmmm. Below is the entire devotional for the day.



Take Time, Make Time

Stand still and consider the wondrous works of God. (JOB 37:14)

I have heard numerous people say, "God never talks to me." But I am convinced it is more likely that they never listen to Him, don't know how to hear from Him, or have become desensitized to His voice. God makes many attempts to speak to us through His Word, natural signs, supernatural revelation, and internal confirmation, all of which I have written about in this devotional.

Sometimes we think we cannot hear God's voice because there are certain obstacles in our hearts or in our lives that prevent us from hearing Him clearly. One of these things is simply being too busy. We get so busy that we have no time to wait on God or listen to His voice. We can even become so busy with spiritual activities, such as church or ministering to others, that we don't have a place in our schedules for God. I can remember a time when I was working so hard *for* God that I had no time to spend *with* Him; this happens to a lot of people.

What we do for God should always be secondary to our personal relationship with Him. Time is ours to do with as we please so we should choose what we do with it wisely. Every person has the same amount of it daily and once it is used we cannot get it back. Work your schedule around God instead of trying to work Him into it.

GOD'S WORD FOR YOU TODAY: Use your time wisely because once you spend it, you can never get it back.

Meyer, Joyce. (2010) *Hearing From God Each Morning*. New York, NY: Hachette Book Group. p. 211





What is unique about the Presbyterian Church?

Presbyterians are distinctive in two major ways. They adhere to a pattern of religious thought known as Reformed theology and a form of government that stresses the active, representational leadership of both ministers and church members.

Reformed theology

What are human beings created to do? Reformed theology says that human beings are to “know God and enjoy [God] forever.” Theology is a way of thinking about God and God’s relation to the world. Reformed theology evolved during the 16th century religious movement known as the Protestant Reformation.

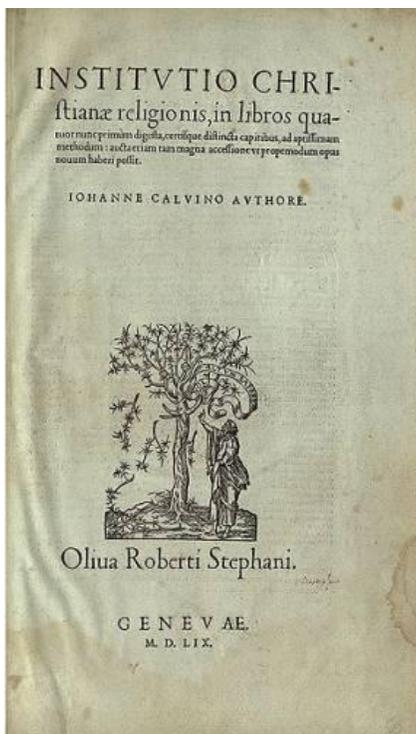
In its confessions, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) expresses the faith of the Reformed tradition. Central to this tradition is the affirmation of the majesty, holiness and providence of God who creates, sustains, rules and redeems the world in the freedom of sovereign righteousness and love. Related to this central affirmation of God’s sovereignty are other great themes of the Reformed tradition:

- The election of the people of God for service as well as for salvation.
- Covenant life marked by a disciplined concern for order in the church according to the Word of God.
- A faithful stewardship that shuns ostentation and seeks proper use of the gifts of God’s creation.
- The recognition of the human tendency to idolatry and tyranny, which calls the people of God to work for the transformation of society by seeking justice and living in obedience to the Word of God. (*Book of Order*, G-2.0500)

Church government

A major contributor to Reformed theology was John Calvin, who converted from Roman Catholicism after training for the priesthood and in the law. In exile in Geneva, Switzerland, Calvin developed the Presbyterian pattern of church government, which vests governing authority primarily in elected members known as elders.

The word Presbyterian comes from the Greek word for elder.



Elders are chosen by the people. Together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament, they exercise leadership, government, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a particular church as well as the church at large, including ecumenical relationships. They shall serve faithfully as members of the session (*Book of Order*, G-10.0102). When elected as commissioners to higher governing bodies, elders participate and vote with the same authority as ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and they are eligible for any office (*Book of Order*, G-6.0302).

The body of elders elected to govern a particular congregation is called a session. They are elected by the congregation and in one sense are representatives of the other members of the congregation. On the other hand, their primary charge is to seek to discover and represent the will of Christ as they govern. Presbyterian elders are both elected and ordained. Through ordination they are officially set apart for service. They retain their ordination beyond their term in office. Ministers who serve the congregation are also part of the session. The session is the smallest, most local governing body. The other governing bodies are presbyteries, which are composed of several churches; synods, which are composed of several presbyteries; and

the General Assembly, which represents the entire denomination. Elders and ministers who serve on these governing bodies are also called presbyters. Presbyteries and synods are also collectively referred to as mid councils.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/what-makes-us-unique>

The Vessel Project of Louisiana, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Healthy Gulf, and Synod of the Sun present “*Back to School Resource Fair Extravaganza*” on Saturday, August 7, 10AM - 2PM. The event will be held at 4020 Hodges St, Lake Charles, LA. Masks are required.

Some of the items that will be provided are school supplies, hygiene kits, cleaning buckets, backpacks, baby items, blankets, socks, hair bows, non-perishable food, and free COVID vaccines.



August Calendar

Elders on Duty: Jan Laird and Debbie Serra
Elders on Duty for September: Linda Latour and Craig Long

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11:00am Worship Service on ZOOM	2	3 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)	4 6:00 pm AI Anon mtg	5 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	6	7 Back to School Extrava- ganza
8 11:00am Worship Service on ZOOM	9 	10 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)	11 6:00 pm AI Anon mtg	12 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	13	14
15 11:00am Worship Service on ZOOM	16	17 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)	18 6:00 pm AI Anon mtg	19 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	20 	21
22 11:00am Worship Service on ZOOM	23	24 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)	25 6:00 pm AI Anon mtg	26 12:30pm Mission Stitchers	27	28
29 11:00am Worship Service on ZOOM	30	31 6:00pm Into Action AA mtg (open)				

Rev. Kurt Esslinger and Hyeyoung Lee are Mission Co-Workers with the Presbyterian World Mission. Kurt and Hyeyoung will mentor Presbyterian Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs) who spend one year living and serving in Korea. Their goal is to help the YAVs have a clear sense of their call to promote social justice, reconciliation, and evangelism as people of faith. As they guide young adults to reflect on their experience, Kurt and Hyeyoung will seek to prepare them to return to the United States to lead the church in working for God's shalom throughout the global community. They will also work to enhance the fruitful relationship between the ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Korean church communities. Kurt and Hyeyoung say their call to this work stems in part from their relationship with each other, which they believe reflects the value of working together across different cultures.

