

*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

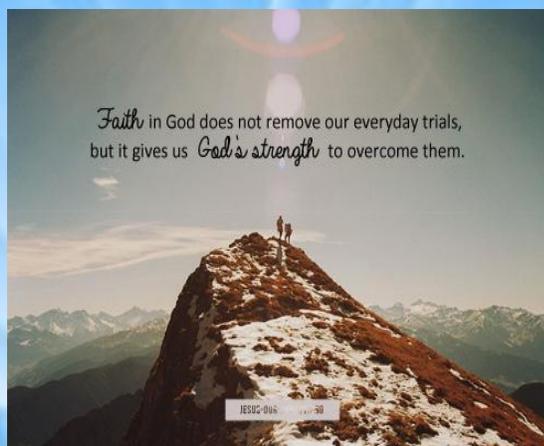
September 2021

Nanette Cagney, Pastor

Music Leader-Kate Colby

Elders on Duty for September: Craig Long and Linda Latour

Elders for October: Leah and Wade Marcantel





Pastor's Ponderings

As I write this, we are two days post Hurricane Ida. We were all struggling with PTSD as we watched this hurricane roll in.

We prayed fervently that it NOT come to Lake Charles and vicinity and then we felt guilty because we prayed it would go elsewhere. As I talked to many friends and colleagues in eastern and southeastern Louisiana, it seems their prayer was the same- "Please Lord, not Lake Charles." That prayer was answered as it veered east and we began to breathe again.

While we are extremely grateful, we now ask ourselves, how can we help our neighbors? Hurricane Ida was as strong as Hurricane Laura and just as destructive. We haven't yet been able to accurately assess the extent of the damage since many southern areas are still cut off. Communications in the entire affected area are sporadic. We will, however, be assessing this as soon as we have an accurate picture.

At the same time, the children have returned to school and many are getting sick with RSV and COVID. Wildfires are raging across the west and the southwest is experiencing severe drought.

It is hard to not be discouraged and weighed down by natural disasters, the situation in Afghanistan, and the turmoil across the world. But, the scripture that comes to mind in times like this is Hebrews 4:16 *"Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."* When we are overwhelmed and powerless, this is a good instruction. We need mercy and grace. We are certainly in a time of need. So, together, let us approach the throne of grace in fervent prayer for our city, our state, our nation and our world.

Nanette

Birthdays

9/03	Catherine Gilman
9/13	John Melton V
9/18	Ron Kaspar
9/19	Sadie Grace Bengé
9/20	Jason Miller
9/26	Zachary Simon
	Zander Simon
9/28	Alivia Shamsie
9/29	Anne Dye

Anniversaries

9/01	Mary Lou and Jerry Burke
9/07	Lucille and Pat Marshall



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, Delta, and Ida; 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.



Seeing the sacred in everyday movements

Presbyterians Today August 20, 2021

All of life dances

by Adriene Thorne | Presbyterians Today



Bodies in motion are holy — period. That's my truth and my reset button in a coronavirus world. It's Janet tottering to the Chinese restaurant

on her walker. It's the UPS man bringing the day's deliveries. It's me boogeying to Motown in my kitchen as I make the third meal of a very long day for myself and my kid who quickly learned that one way to combat the lockdown blues was to make dance parties an evening ritual. I think God approves.

As a human who has spent roughly half her life in dance studios and the other half in churches, I see sacred movement everywhere I look — on stages, in gardens, at bedsides and in last breaths. I have come to appreciate the simple beauty in bodies simply moving.

Once upon a time, though, there was just professional dance with its curtain calls and bouquets of flowers. There were blisters and pulled muscles and competition for leading roles. There was the need to jump higher, run faster, move better — be noticed. What boundary can I break? What height can I reach?

(Continued on the next page)

It wasn't until after my first semester of seminary, where I met Carla DeSola, that I began seeing all movement as holy. Carla, considered by many to be a grandmother of liturgical dance, founded the Omega Liturgical Dance Company in 1974, which was based at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. Carla dislikes the distinction between dance that is sacred and dance that is not. It's all holy. I, who traveled in elite dance circles, had to learn that. Carla wasn't sure I could. My dance formation was self-centered and competitive. Could I step back, hold back and shine less so that the holy could have center stage? Could I believe that bodies of all sizes, with varying abilities, doing simply what the Creator made them to do, were stunning? Could I see God in a raised arm, a glance, a walk? I could and I did, and I do.

All of life is a dance and inhabiting the space of holy movement sustains me when stillness, peace and hope are hiding. This trinity emerges when I notice my feet on the freshly mopped wood of my kitchen floor. They giggle and hold my heart when I pause to give thanks for a body that can still climb the stairs to my light-filled bedroom. They sip tea with me around the kitchen table when the news comes of another person going home to be with God.

In the beginning, God moved upon the face of the waters. That's straight out of Genesis. It suggests that movement was consecrated from the start. If I wanted to impress anything upon you about embracing the spirituality of movement, it would be to invite you to see holy movement as baked into you from the beginning — the ordinary act of stirring a pot to the coordinated flurry of bodies dancing the Pentecost story in church, to the caress of your cool hand on a feverish forehead and a convulsing body at a graveside ceremony bidding farewell to a loved one for now.

All of life dances. Consider that as you make your way to the pharmacy and place your crumpled dollars and jingly coins in a stranger's hand. Notice that the next time you rise and make your way down your church aisle to receive the doughy bread and pungent communion wine. The way that you make your way to the table to dance with the Christ who meets you there is pleasing to God. Can Jesus have this dance? As you strut or stride or shuffle along, trust and believe that the God who moved on the face of the waters moves still and wants nothing more than to keep dancing with you.

Adriene Thorne is the senior pastor of the [First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn](#). Thorne's performance credits include the Dance Theatre of Harlem, the Metropolitan Opera and the world-famous Radio City Rockettes, among others. When she's not parenting, pastoring, creating or mentoring, she is probably on the squash court or in the dance studio fantasizing about what is newly possible.

Put into practice

- Forget all about your "two left feet"; put on some music and simply move to the sound. Take note how your body feels and how your heart begins to lighten.
- Be mindful of the routine movements — using your hands to butter your toast or how your feet move you along to your front door as you leave for the store — and begin seeing them as holy moments.
- Turn to Scripture and ponder the many verses that lift up the sacredness of dancing: [Psalm 30:11](#); [Exodus 15:20](#); and [2 Samuel 6:14](#) are just a few citations.

Damage reports of Presbyterian churches in need from Hurricane Ida

Most of the New Orleans churches in need had minimal damage, but we can't say the same for our small bayou churches. Several of you have asked about giving to hurricane recovery. The easiest option is to go to the Presbytery of South Louisiana website. You can give there & designate "Hurricane recovery". It will be distributed to the churches in need.

Probably the most severely damaged church & greatest need is First Presbyterian, Bayou Blue. The eye wall went directly over it. We still don't have comprehensive reports. You could designate Bayou Blue on the PSL site, but Bayou Blue won't have mail or internet for quite a while. Other damaged bayou churches are: Gheens, Faith Harvey and Raceland.

Considering the severity of the storm, that it was as strong as Hurricane Laura, our presbytery has been blessed that the damage to our churches wasn't more extensive. . We have not, however, heard from many churches, including all those on the north shore of Lake Ponchartrain. We will let you know more as we learn more.



From the Mailbox

I'm just a First Presbyterian Church Lynn Haven (Florida) member, but I'm praying you through this storm. You're not alone.
- Micki L.



September Calendar

Elders on Duty: Linda Latour and Craig Long
Elders on Duty for October: Leah and Wade Marcaneil



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



Rev. Jed and Jenny Koball

Companionship facilitator, Joining Hands Against Hunger (Jed) and Young Adult Volunteer site coordinator (Jenny).

Peru

Jenny coordinates the YAV program in Peru, organizing volunteer and cultural immersion experiences for young adults from the U.S and shepherding them and the receiving organizations in a year of service, mutual learning and building Christian community. Jed accompanies the Joining Hands network, identifying and interpreting the root causes of poverty, such as mining contamination, global warming and unfair trade agreements. In this capacity, Jed facilitates the relationship between the Joining Hands network in Peru and PC(USA) congregations as together they develop strategies to address these daunting problems. Home

presbytery/church: Hudson River/Broad Street Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Ohio.