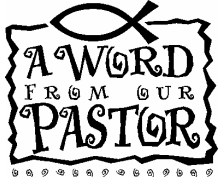




# Faith News & Notes

Sunday school for all ages: 9:30 – 10:30 AM  
Presbyterian Church USA 225-275-7393

Worship: 11 AM – noon  
www.faithpcbr.org



July/August 2007

## Worship and Music: *It's All About God!* Dr. John Blewitt

Worship is the most central and perhaps the most important activity that we engage in as Christians. We all have preferences about styles and formats, and there is nothing wrong with that. If a worshipper is uncomfortable with certain aspects of a worship service, he or she might not connect with the triune God.

On the other hand, sometimes the Holy Spirit is able to use new or unfamiliar elements to break through and open someone up more deeply to God's presence and power. Perhaps the key thing to remember in thinking about worship is this: It is not about me or you; it is about God.

Did you know that Presbyterians have a *Directory for Worship*? It is the middle section of our *Book of Order*. It does not proscribe worship, with specific prayers or orders of service. Rather it describes worship from the perspective of Reformed theology. The first paragraph provides an excellent overview:

*“Christian worship joyfully ascribes all praise and honor, glory and power to the triune God. In worship, the people of God acknowledge God present in the world and in their lives. As they respond to God’s claim and redemptive action in Jesus Christ, believers are transformed and renewed. In worship, the faithful offer themselves to God and are equipped for God’s service in the world.”*

[W-1.1001]

Worship is an encounter with the Living God in which we affirm that all of life, and our lives, belong to the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. In worship God transforms and renews us. God equips us for mission and service in the world. The seal of John Calvin (the father of the Presbyterian Church) expresses something profound about true worship. It pictures a heart on fire, willingly offered to the Lord.

Music is very important in worship! Music is a form of prayer, and may be used to express praise, lament, longing, sorrow, intercession, and commitment. Even instrumental music is a form of prayer, since prayer does not always require words. Music may function to present, interpret, or respond to scripture.

*Continued on next page*



### OF SPECIAL NOTE

Sunday, July 1 – **Independence Day Celebration / Cookout** – After Worship (pg 3)

Saturdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28 – **Summer Reading Program** (pg 5)

Saturday, July 21 – Saturday, July 28 – **Montreat Youth Retreat** (pg 5)

Sunday, July 22 – Wednesday, July 25 – **Vacation Bible School** – 5:30 – 8:15 PM @ Broadmoor (pg 5)

Sunday, July 29 – **Worship Committee Survey on Music in Worship** – During Worship

Saturdays, August 11, 18, 25 – **Presbyterian Women’s Rally** (pg )

Saturday, August 11 – **Fun & Fellowship @ Middendorf’s Seafood Restaurant** (pg 3)

Friday, August 17 – Sunday, August 19 – **Gift of Fire @ Broadmoor** (pg 4)

Saturday, August 25 – **Films & Faith – “Facing the Giants”** – 6:00 PM (pg 3)

Notes – continued from p. 1

The *Directory for Worship* instructs us to structure worship in an orderly way, “guided by the Holy Spirit speaking in Scripture, the historic experience of the Church universal, the Reformed tradition, The Book of Confessions, the needs and particular circumstances of the worshipping community” [W-31001]. This does not mean that everything must always be the same. Two more quotes are instructive:

*This directory suggests possibilities for worship, invites development in worship, and encourages continuing reform of worship.* [Preface]

*The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) acknowledges that all forms of worship are provisional and subject to reformation. In ordering worship the church is to seek openness to the creativity of the Holy Spirit, who guides the church toward worship which is orderly yet spontaneous, consistent with God’s Word and open to the newness of God’s future.* (W-3.1002)

May God use worship to transform and renew us; may we offer ourselves completely to God in our worship!

See You In Church,



- July** – Bobbie Broussard & Kathy West
- August** – Freda & Bob Knight
- September** – Retta & Lee Soileaux
- October** – Jill & James Wild

## LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

Natural Church Development Characteristic #8

### **July Birthday** congratulations to:

- 4<sup>th</sup> – Carol Easterling, Sandy Janssen, & Eric Killen
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Lizz Lyons
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Emily Rowley
- 18<sup>th</sup> – David French
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Alice Kennedy
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Mindy Krick
- 28<sup>th</sup> – Bobby Forrest
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Sally Mahaffey
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Bernice Spiess
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Denise Summerell

### **July Anniversary** congratulations to:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dona and Bob Werner
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Hilda and Bobby Forrest



### **August Birthday** congratulations to:

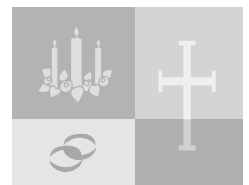
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Beverly Wallendal & James Wild, Jr.
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Kathryn Goins
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Bobbie Broussard
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Gracie Lherrison
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Jim Street
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Jill Wild
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Emma Frens
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Lee Mazzoli
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Juan Letelier

### **August Anniversary** congratulations to:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Kelly and David Surace
- 31<sup>st</sup> – Gina and Dan Magri

(We want to acknowledge everyone’s birthday and anniversary in 2007. Please let us know @ [newsletter1@bellsouth.net](mailto:newsletter1@bellsouth.net) if we have missed yours.)

*Pastor John Blewitt and Karen Rowley announce their engagement, and plan to be married at Faith Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 29. at 2:00 p.m. The congregation is cordially invited to attend.*



## Fun & Fellowship



### **Blueberry Picking, Church Tour & Lunch**

Austin, Brightwell, Climax, Delite, Premier, Tifblue, Woodard! No, they are not names of people in the church nor special dishes concocted by the fellowship team for one of our meals. These are names of blueberry varieties that are grown just 45 minutes from Baton Rouge. Berry Sweet Orchards is Louisiana's first state-certified organic "you-pick" blueberry orchard, family owned and operated since 1990 by Cliff and Susan Muller. What's amazing is the orchard has over 1500 organically grown bushes and most of these bushes are over thirty years old. On Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup>, a group from the church took advantage of a cool summer morning and traveled to Ethel, Louisiana, a little quiet community north of Baton Rouge just past Slaughter where the orchard is located. Sandy Broussard for the second year running was "top picker" and weighed her harvest in at 42 lbs. She did get a little help from a friend but she was heard to say "I did most of the pickin".



The group then traveled about 8 miles northwest of the orchard to visit the Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Louisiana. The church is a red brick Colonial style and is on the National Register. The original building was built in 1852 but the church was started in the 1830s. Ms.

Elizabeth Acosta gave a tour and told us stories

of the history of the church. It was sobering to sit there reflecting on the past and just imagining how the service and the people looked. She showed us where the slaves were allowed to enter the church from a side entrance and could attend service but only from the loft. This is our history!

The day was topped off with a delicious lunch from The Surrey Restaurant which attracts most of the tourists visiting the historic town. It was an

opportunity for church people to enjoy each other outside of church, to break a little sweat together picking berries, to travel in time together with a look back in history and to break bread together. It don't get much better than this!

- Dwyer Broussard

### **Fourth of July Cookout Sunday, July 1 After Worship**



Invite your family and friends to Worship on July 1<sup>st</sup> - then everyone can stay and celebrate Independence Day with an old-fashioned hamburger and hotdog cookout. We will have hamburgers and hotdogs, beans, chips, drinks, watermelon and potluck homemade ice cream. Dust off your ice cream freezer and churn your family's special recipe, and bring your appetite!



### **Middendorf's Restaurant**

The Fun & Fellowship Committee invites everyone to our annual trip to Pass Manchac and Middendorf's Seafood Restaurant on August 11. Pass Manchac is a small waterway that connects Lake Ponchartrain to Lake Maurepas. We'll meet at the Hobby Lobby on O'Neal at 3:00 p.m. - we can carpool or caravan. Come enjoy great seafood and even better company!

### **Films & Faith "Facing the Giants" Saturday, August 25, 6:00 PM**



The next feature we will show is a film Bob Knight has recommended; an action-packed, family-friendly drama about a high school football coach who draws up a new game plan for his team ... and himself. An unexpected challenge helps him find a purpose bigger than just victories. Daring to trust God to do the impossible, Coach Taylor and the Eagles discover how faith plays out on the field ... and off.

We will serve hotdogs, popcorn, chips and drinks.



# Cursillo – and what it meant to me . . .

*Cursillo? What's that?*

*Spanish for "Short course," they say.*

*Short course in what?*

*Short course in joy.*

*Short course in love.*

*Short course in astonishment.*

*A glimpse of how loved we are.*

*A glimmer of God at work among us.*

*A glow of Christ in the faces of those around us.*

*Understanding how we can regain the innocence of  
little children.*

*And, remembering why we want to.*

- Jani Gage

Cursillo was an experience that I will remember for the rest of my life in a joyful manner. Cursillo is a subjective experience and because of this it cannot be fully described to people asking about the weekend. But like I said before, those four days will be a blessing for any person that wants to go. Of this, there is no doubt in my mind.

- Juan Letelier

*Cursillo is an overwhelming life-transforming experience that will live on in my life forever. During Cursillo, I felt the power of the Holy Spirit renewing my faith in so many ways. What a privilege to bask in the wonder of His presence and unconditional love! Needless to say, I nearly lost track of time and space.*

*It is my prayer that everyone at Faith is able to experience the love, joy, and peace that Cursillo brings.*

*"Taste and see the goodness of the Lord." Ps.34:8*

- Pam Letelier

Cursillo was a wonderful experience. To be with Christ-filled people for four days was inspiring.

- Bernice Spiess

The Spirit of God is using the Cursillo movement to renew and deepen faith, and to bring greater spiritual vitality to individuals and congregations! Two congregations that are receiving some of the blessings of Cursillo are Faith and Broadmoor. It is exciting and gratifying to watch!

I was blessed by attending Houston Presbyterian Cursillo # 44 in February. I was even more blessed by staffing HPC # 46 in June! All through my ministry I have sought to encourage spiritual renewal and growth. Cursillo is producing many of the results I have longed for!

I hope that you will prayerfully consider attending a Cursillo weekend, and discover what it is all about!

- Pastor John

*Stop – be quiet and listen. That's Our Lord calling you; calling you by name – calling each of us by our name. Can you hear Him? I hope so because I did and I feel so blessed by HPC #46. The love, unending and unconditional, was flowing like water. The feeling of acceptance was unbelievable and soul-filling. Everyone should experience a weekend such as this. Everything about it is about Our God's love for us and His grace. The people there, both participants and staff, are there to take you to a higher place. You just can't help but leave there with a new heart and spirit. Please listen; He is calling you by your name.*

- Dede Barton

## **"Gift of Fire" Weekend at Broadmoor August 17-19**



Broadmoor Presbyterian Church will be offering a spiritual renewal weekend from Friday, August 17, through Sunday August 19. Members of Faith Presbyterian are cordially invited to attend. Pastors Hawley Wolfe and John Blewitt will be teaming with leaders from both congregations to share some of the benefits of participating in both Cursillo and small groups. Come and join with your Presbyterian neighbors to explore opportunities for spiritual growth.

Five meals will be served during the three days. Please call 924-4271 to register for a day or the whole weekend. Watch for more details.

## NEED-ORIENTED EVANGELISM

Natural Church Development Quality Characteristic #7

This July at Faith, we have two opportunities to reach out to our community. The first is a food drive for Southeast Ministries.



**Southeast  
Ministries**

As you know, our church has supported Southeast Ministries for several years by sending monthly financial contributions from the Ladies' Mission group

and by occasional food drives. Southeast Ministries is a marvelous mission to the people in the southeastern zip codes of Baton Rouge. This ministry is located in a building at Broadmoor Methodist Church and is staffed by volunteers from 10:00 till 4:00, Monday through Thursday, and from 10:00 till 1:00 on Fridays. I urge you to go by one day and visit this ministry. It is truly amazing. Trained volunteers are interviewing clients to determine their needs. Others are filling grocery bags with food items for families. Others are shopping at Wal-Mart for needed food items. Others are delivering groceries and stocking the food pantry. Others are keeping our financial records. And others are making sure our freezers and other appliances and equipment are in good working order. We recently received a new generator.

But Southeast Ministries needs our help. In the early summer of 2006, Jefferson Baptist Church joined our ministry and brought with them three new zip codes. By that time, those helping with the immediate needs of Hurricane Katrina evacuees had gone home. The further we have gotten from the event of the storm, the greater our demand for services has grown. We are receiving a large number of referrals because we provide better service, more food, and longer hours of service than most other agencies. Our service growth rate for the first four months of 2007 is up 64% over the same period in 2006. By the end of April 2007, we had served 1,854 adults and 1,850 children this year! Our food cost is up 87%. Our overall cost of operation is up 50%. The amount of food provided to the food banks by the US Department of Agriculture has decreased drastically. The balance in our bank account has declined by \$5,000 since last October. We have no paid employees; we are staffed totally by volunteers.

So won't you please purchase some groceries for Southeast Ministries and bring them to church during July. If you want to know more about how you can help, call 924-5122 or see Carol Bell or Anne Soileau.

Our second opportunity is Faith's Christmas in July. During Christmas 2006, we participated in the **Homes of Christmas** program of the Presbytery of South Louisiana. This gives us another opportunity to help our neighbors. Won't you please make a donation to Faith's Christmas in July to help purchase the building materials so that volunteers can rebuild or rehabilitate the home of someone who hopes to move back into their home by Christmas? Our Presbytery has set a goal of rebuilding flooded homes in New Orleans and assisting homeowners across southern Louisiana so that our sisters and brothers impacted by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina can return to their homes by Christmas 2007. Priority will be given to those who are low income, uninsured, under-insured, disabled, and senior citizens. So when you see our Christmas tree, won't you please take a card from it, write a message to the family that will be receiving your gift, enclose your donation, and place it in the offering during July. You will be glad you did.



Blessings,  
Anne Soileau

### Manna Givers



On Sunday, August 19, we will have another opportunity to serve dinner to and fellowship with the men at the Convention Street Shelter. Volunteers are needed to provide the entree, vegetables, salad, and dessert, as well as come to the shelter to serve and share the meal. Please sign up on the poster or call Laura Acosta at 927-0083. Meet at the church at 4:45 PM.



### New Outreach Initiative Reading Assistance for Grade Schoolers

On Saturday, June 23, Faith launched a free reading assistance program for children in grades 2 - 5. The six week long program will be held from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday mornings at the church. Volunteers will help participants to read at least one book from their summer reading list during this time. Registration forms are available at the church office. Check the church website or contact Frances Killen at 756-2609 or [fkillen@gmail.com](mailto:fkillen@gmail.com) for more information.

**Vacation Bible School  
July 22 – 25 at Broadmoor Presbyterian  
Food, Fun and Fellowship For All**

**Get ready for a mission with God!  
Broadmoor Presbyterian will be hosting Vacation Bible School for all ages from Sunday, July 22 through Wednesday, July 25. The theme this summer is “Sonforce Kids.” Dinner begins at 5:30 PM each evening, followed by classes for all ages from 6:00 – 8:15 PM. The total cost for all four nights is \$10.00 per person.**



**Registration forms are available in the vestibule, and in the church office. Broadmoor Presbyterian is located at 9340 Florida Blvd. The telephone number is 924-4271.**

**Cluster Youth Travel to Montreat  
for Youth Conference  
July 22 - 28**



Montreat is one of three national conference centers owned by the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is located in Black Mountain, North

Carolina, just east of Asheville. Montreat hosts a wide variety of gatherings and events all year long. Every summer, thousands of Presbyterian youth travel from all over the country to attend one of the youth conferences. There they participate in a week of study, worship, and recreation.

Pastor John, James Raggio, and James Wild will be heading east for **Montreat Youth Conference V**, July 22 -28. They will be joined by 9 others from the Baton Rouge Cluster – 7 from Baker, and 2 from West Baton Rouge in Port Allen. The theme of the conference is “Turning the Page.” The promotional brochure states:

*The Bible is full of stories, and those stories include us as well! We continually have opportunities to both reflect on the past and anticipate new chapters of our lives. Come join us on this adventure to renew and deepen our connections with Jesus Christ, the church, and others.*

Thanks to everyone who participated in or attended any or all of the Talent/No Talent/Variety Shows. Nearly \$900.00 was raised to help the Youth get to Montreat.

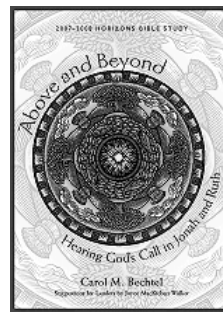
**Presbyterian Women’s  
FALL RALLY**

Saturday, August 11 – 8:30 – 3:00  
Baker PC, 3015 Groom Road



What does it mean to hear God’s call?

It is often assumed that only those who go into some kind of formal, full-time ministry have heard a “call.” In the 2007–2008 *Horizons* Bible study, *Above and Beyond: Hearing God’s Call in Jonah and Ruth*, Old Testament scholar and pastor Carol Bechtel looks at what God’s call meant for Jonah and Ruth. Not just a “fish story” or a “Cinderella tale,” these biblical books, says



Bechtel, offer us insight into what it means for each of us to hear and heed God’s call.

Join Carol Bell, Moderator, and the women of South Louisiana at the Presbyterian Women’s Fall Rally for an introduction to this bible study series, led by Edie Slaton.

One of the topics that Presbyterian Women of South Louisiana are focusing on during 2007 is domestic violence against women and children. The statistics are staggering, with 1 out of every 4 women being abused by a husband or boyfriend in her lifetime. More than 3.3 million children in the U.S. witness violence in their homes each year. To raise awareness of this issue, Paula Henderson, of Safe House for Battered Women and their Children, will be our guest speaker.

Our mission project for this rally will be the collection of items Safe House needs: towels, washcloths, blankets, diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, Ivory Snow detergent, school supplies, toothpaste, toothbrushes, Tylenol, first-aid supplies, shampoo, conditioner, and bath soap. Wal-Mart gift cards and cash donations are also welcome.

The Presbyterian Women’s Coordinating Team is attending a Synod of the Sun Gathering of Presbyterian Women, July 12-15, in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The team will attend Leadership Training, and share ideas, both general and job-specific, for women in their local congregations.

Registration begins at 8:30 AM. The cost for the rally is \$10.00, including lunch. Please see Carol Bell for more information and a registration form.

## Our Elders

*Clerk of Session:*

Carol Bell

*Treasurer:*

Dan Magri

*Class of 2007*

Carol Bell

Dwyer Broussard

Dan Magri

*Class of 2008*

Robert Knight

Juan Letelier

Jack Summerell

Kathy West

*Class of 2009*

Art Frens

Donna Janky

Lee Soileaux

## Our Deacons

*Moderator:*

Freda Knight

*Secretary:*

Jill Wild

*Class of 2007*

Sharon Gautreau

Paul Lherisson

Marian Moore

Jill Wild

*Class of 2008*

Bobbie Broussard

Freda Knight

Jani Gage

Connie Raggio

*Class of 2009*

Nancy Welch

Sandy Broussard



### April Finances

\$ 11,539.68

\$ 36,501.99\*

\$-24,962.31

### May Finances

Income \$ 12,919.65

Expenses \$ 13,236.87

Net Income \$ -317.22

### Year-to-Date (Jan – May)

Income \$ 56,007.68

Expenses \$101,862.01\*

Net Income \$-45,854.33\*

\*Includes repairs to buildings



Wednesday, August 29 (1:30 PM) – Friday, August 31 (11:30 AM)  
Nashville Convention Center and Renaissance Hotel Nashville

The Office of the General Assembly and the General Assembly Council are sponsoring this first national training and networking event for some of the most important leaders in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) – the elders in our congregations.

Join with up to 500 other elders at this event, featuring opportunities for worship, education, and fellowship. In order to encourage participation from as many of the 11,000 congregations as possible, two elders from each church may register (through June 30). After the conference, you may plan to stay in Nashville and attend the National Presbyterian Evangelism Conference, starting Friday afternoon, August 31.

Registration for the conference is \$250.00 and includes five meals (Wednesday dinner – Friday breakfast). Lodging is available at the Renaissance Hotel at a special conference rate of \$99 per night, plus tax.

All elders, whether or not you are currently serving on the Session, are eligible to attend this conference. Prayerfully consider whether God is calling YOU to attend! If you would like more information, please see Pastor John for details or log on to [www.pcusa.org/eldersconference](http://www.pcusa.org/eldersconference).

## Sanctuary Temperatures

The air conditioner capacity in the Sanctuary is limited! The thermostats are programmed for 69° F for Sunday mornings. This may seem a little uncomfortable at first, but as the Sanctuary fills up and the outside temperature climbs, you can expect the temperature inside to rise 4-5° to a comfortable 73-74° F. Please do not make adjustments to the current programming as the AC will not be able to catch up and the Sanctuary may become quite warm.

Thanks,  
Building and Grounds Committee

Faith Presbyterian Church  
12855 Old Hammond Highway  
Baton Rouge, LA 70816  
(225) 275-7393



If anyone has any suggestions or comments about the newsletter, please contact Karen Rowley at [newsletter1@bellsouth.net](mailto:newsletter1@bellsouth.net). Deadline for submissions is the Saturday following the Session meeting. You may also view the newsletter online at [www.faithpcbr.org](http://www.faithpcbr.org).

## Summer Blueberry – Peach Coffee Cake



1¾ c. all-purpose unsifted flour, divided  
1 c. sugar, divided  
¼ t. grated nutmeg  
½ c. butter or margarine, melted, divided  
1 t. baking powder  
1 t. baking soda  
¼ t. salt

½ c. milk  
1 egg, beaten  
1 t. grated lemon rind  
3 medium fresh ripe peaches,  
peeled & thinly sliced  
2 c. fresh or frozen blueberries

1. Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease and flour a 9” square baking dish.
2. To prepare crumb mixture, combine ½ c. flour, ¼ c. sugar, nutmeg and 2 T. butter; set aside.
3. To prepare batter, mix remaining 1¼ c. flour, ½ c. sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a large bowl. Add remaining melted butter, milk, egg, and lemon rind; stir just until blended. Pour batter into prepared pan. Top with half of the crumb mixture.
4. Gently mix peaches, blueberries, and remaining ¼ c. sugar in bowl; spoon evenly over crumb mixture. Sprinkle remaining crumb mixture over fruit. Bake 45-50 minutes; serve warm or cool.

Serves 6-8