

Deeper in Christ... further into the world.

fpc NEWS



Volume 49-05 May 2015

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MAY CALENDAR

Prayer for the Nations	Each Wed., 5.30 pm
rEcess	May 1
Confirmation Service & Reception	May 3
Community Outreach Meal	May 3
Bereavement Workshops	May 4
Mother's Day	May 10
FAS Crowd	May 11
Combined 10.30 Worship/ Josh Maddin Ordination Service	May 24
Church Office Closed	May 25

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Men's Promise Keepers	June 5-6
Blood Drive	June 14
Reception for Lindy Weiner	June 21
VBS	July 7-10
Buddy Greene Concert	August 23
Habitat for Humanity Build	Sept 24-Oct 10

May Milestones

GERRIT DAWSON, SENIOR PASTOR

May is the month of milestones!

May 3, more than 20 students complete a year long journey of confirmation class.

At a special 4 pm service, they make a public profession of faith in Christ and become members of our church.

May 10, we remember our mothers. As the majestic hymn says, "Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices... who from our mother's arms, has blessed us on our way, with countless gifts of love and still is ours today."

May 14, we mark the ascension of Jesus to heaven. Now the destiny of man is heavenward, for Christ, in our name and still in our flesh, has returned to his Father.

May 24, we have a triple milestone. As Pentecost Sunday, we remember the gift of the blessed Holy Spirit, God's love poured into our hearts, joining us to Christ. We also, pray for the Spirit to come upon Josh Maddin in a mighty way as he is ordained to Presbyterian ministry. And of course, we remember those who gave their lives defending our country.

Three of our members will remember May, 2015 as their wedding month, and may of us will mark the graduations of loved ones from high school and college. (That includes my own baby girl finishing her BA at Samford University).

One of the joys of being part of a church community is that we mark milestones together. We celebrate the life events of Jesus in his days among us. We celebrate milestones of faith and life in our

members. And in every way, we rejoice that we belong together in Christ.

What Will We Do Without Lindy Lou?

Next month will be a bittersweet milestone. Our longest tenured current staff member will be retiring. Lindy Weiner has served more than three decades at our church, doing everything from children's ministry to wedding coordinator to event facilitator. There are so many things that Lindy does so well and so effortlessly that I don't think we'll even realize she was doing them until they stop getting done. She retires at the end of June. We will celebrate her service to us on June 21, between services with a brunch, and during her usual worship service at 9 am, where she'll be joined by family. I know you'll want to send her your blessings, memories and thanks between now and June 30.

Whitney's Sabbatical

As you may have heard in worship, the session has granted Whitney Alexander an 8 week sabbatical. In addition to daily spiritual practices, specific reading and times of reflection, Whitney has been resting and traveling to visit family and friends. He and Phyllis are, as you read, on a long dreamed of trip to Ireland. He'll report more of his reflections in a future issue. Do pray that God would refresh him for years and years of ministry with us.



Baptisms:

April 5, 2015
William Weldon Cotton
Parents are Lindsey and Neal Cotton

April 19, 2015
Allyson Claire and Matthew Ryan Johnson
Parents are Courtney and Josh Johnson

In Memoriam:

April 9, 2015
Sara Barrow

April 17, 2017
David White, father of Laurie Adams

April 18, 2015
Troy Spencer, brother of Nancy Fogelman

April 20, 2015
Connie Harper, cousin of Cathy Pugsley

Births:

March 12, 2015
Caleb Edward Yoes
Parents are Ashley and Brandon Yoes
Grandparents are Nancy and Rick Spiller

April 17, 2015
Reagan Nicole Guidry
Parents are Sarah and Dave Guidry

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Sanctuary Flowers serve to honor a departed loved one or celebrate with thanksgiving cherished people or events. The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary ...

May 3 ... to the glory of God in loving memory of Mary Crosby McDuff by Ann and Michael McDuff.

May 10 ...to the glory of God and in loving memory of my mom, Claudia Lee Tisdale, and Kristen's mom, Becky Richardson, by Jackie Lee Airhart and family.

May 17 ... to the glory of God and in loving memory of Peggy Smith (Mimi) by Ashley, Laurence, Trey, Foster and John Rodgers Lambert.

May 24 ... in memory of Emogene and Howard Elliott - Happy Birthday Mama! On this Memorial Day weekend, we especially want to give a special thank you to all our servicemen and women who have kept and are keeping our country safe. Dr. and Mrs. Louis Cenac, Jr.

May 31 ... to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dean Glisson, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wesley McLean by Linda & Mike Glisson and family.

Connecting with Our Partners in the Middle East

by Dick Gates

The Global Mission Committee sent me and Deacon Steve Tubré to the Middle East to visit with our partners in the area. Our first stop was at the KDEC conference in Egypt where we met with Macgregor Magruder serving with Open Eyes in Nairobi, Kenya. The report from Macgregor is encouraging in light of the terror caused by ISIS. The Holy Spirit is moving powerfully in spite of the horrors we hear on the news. The Magruders are doing very well and appreciate the support of FPC.



After the conference, Steve and I went to Beirut, Lebanon staying with Rebecca and Nour Botros along with their newborn, Julia! While there, we worshiped with the congregation where Nour is worship leader then followed with an afternoon service with 40 Syrians - most of them Muslims. I had an opportunity to preach, while Nour translated, receiving a wonderful response from a Muslim woman who we believe prayed to ask Jesus into her heart.

We were able to meet with Mike and Stephanie Kuhn, missionaries with EPC World Outreach, and toured the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary where they work. The trip was well worth the 10 days away to be able to spend time with four of our GMC Partners.

Steve and I are available to speak with your group if desired.

City Ministry Community Outreach Meal

Our next City Ministry Community Outreach Meal for the needy will be Sunday, May 3 from 4 to 5.30 pm in the gym. Volunteers are always welcome. For questions, contact Mike Salassi (msalassi@agcenter.lsu.edu).

Bereavement Workshop

Dick Gates is offering a class on bereavement, including funeral planning, at two different times on Monday, May 4 -2 pm and 6.30 pm. EB 202 (Education Building)
Sign-up by calling 387.0617.

Please contact Dick Gates if you have any questions (573.9149 or dick@fpcbr.org).

All Women Mother's Day Choir, May 10

Only one rehearsal is required on Wednesday, May 6 at 6.15 for the May 10, 9 am Mother's Day worship service. Daughters and mothers are all welcome!! Please email Nancy at nancy@fpcbr.org or call 387.0617 if you have questions.

F.A.S. Crowd Is Having a Spring Garden Party!

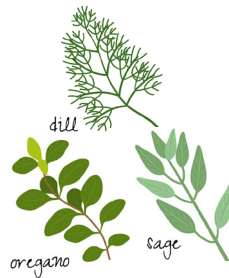
Melinda Winans, 20-yr. member and past president of local chapter of Herb Society of America, will present a program on growing, using and enjoying herbs.

When: Monday, May 11 at 11.30 am

Where: Reception Room, First Presbyterian Church

Cost: \$15 per person - Guests welcome

RSVP to the church office, 387.0617, by Wednesday, May 6.



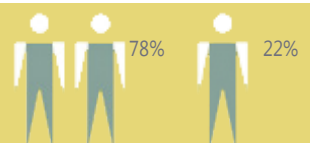
Remembering Those Who Gave Their Lives, Remembering the One Who Gave His All

On Sunday, May 24, First Presbyterian will have just one combined 10.30 am worship in the Sanctuary. Adult and children's Sunday school will take place at 9.30 am.



The Barna Group (barna.org) polled a group of 18-29 year olds (millennials) and asked them to describe their "ideal" church. Here are some results.

78% choose to worship in a community vs 22% privately



Men's Promise Keepers

The 2015 Promise Keeper's conference is coming to Baton Rouge this June 5-6. The event will be held at Healing Place Church and tickets are only \$10 for a limited time. More information can be found at promisekeepers.org.

Blood Drive Sunday, June 14

First Presbyterian Church is having a blood drive on Sunday, June 14. Beginning at 8 am the Our Lady of the Lake Blood Bus will be in the Convention Street parking lot. Visit fpcbr.org to make your reservation or call the church office, 387.0617. Early morning slots will fill up fast so register early.

Memorial College Scholarship Applications Being Considered

College scholarships are available for entering or continuing students through the First Presbyterian Church Memorial Scholarship Fund. Applications are available online or in the church office and are due by June 15, 2015. Criteria considered are need, academics and First Presbyterian membership. Contact Sherry McKinley at 387.0617 or sherry@fpcbr.org.

July Worship Schedule

First Presbyterian Church will have just one 10.30 worship service in the sanctuary for each Sunday in the month of July. Sunday School for all ages will take place at 9.30 am.



SOUND THE TRUMPETS! VBS 2015, July 7-10

Register online at fpcbr.org

APRIL CIRCLES

1ST MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015

Circle 15 Francois Café @ 7 pm
Zachary, LA (892.3212, Jess Conciene)

2ND MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015

Circle 13 C-P Apts. @ 2 pm
Circle 14 Kristen Carney's @ 9.30 am
3161 Svendson Dr. (921.0030)

1ST TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015

Circle 1 Sharon Dixon's @ 10 am
Lake Rosemound (389.9698)
Circle 2 FPC Parlor @ 9.45 am
Circle 3 Eugenie Burglass' @ 10 am
12221 Myers Park Ave. (767.6407)

2ND TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015

Circle 4 Amanda Boggs' @ 6.30 pm
6136 Chandler (338.9455)
Circle 5 Rachel Williams' @ 11 am
2142 Oleander St. (344.7015)
Circle 6 Baton Rouge C.C. @ 10 am
8551 Jefferson Hwy (926.0717, Winnie Gill)
Circle 8 Gerry Arnold's @ 6.30 pm
2244 Glendale Ave. (344.6567)
Circle 9 Please contact Ann Gregorie for
Circle location. (937.0488)

3RD WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015

Circle 10 Bistro Byronz @ 5 pm
5412 Government St.
Circle 16 Ingrid Medford's @ 9.30 am
7662 Seven Oaks (329.5662)

1ST THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015

Circle 11 Church Library @ Noon

1ST FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2015

Circle 7 Peggy Anderson's @ 2 pm
322 Wiltz Dr. (344.0127)

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Come Worship with Us!

7.45 am Chapel Communion Service
9 am Contemporary Service
11 am Classic Reformed Service
11 am Acoustic Communion Service

May 3, AD 2015

Titus 2

May 10, AD 2015

Titus 3

May 17, AD 2015

3 John

May 24, AD 2015

Jude 1-16

May 31, AD 2015

Jude 17-25

PASTORAL STAFF

Gerrit S. Dawson

Senior Pastor

Richard "Dick" Gates

Associate Pastor for Global Missions
and Pastoral Care

M. Whitney Alexander

Associate Pastor of City Ministry

Derek McCollum

Associate Pastor for Discipleship
and Young Adults

Barry Phillips

Ministry Executive

Josh Maddin

Director of Student Ministry



PH: 225.387.0617
FAX: 225.338.1010

www.fpcbr.org

763 North Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Mother's Day Out and Preschool:
225-620-0245

Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center:
225-387-2287
www.brchristiancounseling.com

77% prefer
worshipping in a
sanctuary
vs 22% in an
auditorium



77%



22%

64% prefer
casual attire vs
36% "dignified"
attire



64%



36%

Mother's Day, May 10

From the First Presbyterian Archives

December 26, 2005

Dear Dick,

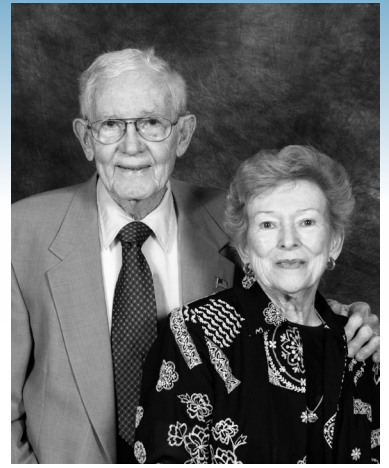
As one of my pastors, I want to thank you for the great honor of being named Elder Emeritus. This great church has been a major part of my and my family's life through the years.

I was elected a Deacon here while a student at LSU in 1938 and elected an Elder in 1948. I met Yvonne on the third floor of our sanctuary and we were married in the sanctuary in 1942. Our two children, one grand-daughter and one great-grandson were baptized in our sanctuary. Our son Selser III and Jane and later our daughter Margene and Joe were married in our sanctuary. Our granddaughter Sarah and Craft were married in our Chapel. Our church through the years has been a strong spiritual influence on our family as it has to the community, strong Biblical teachings and preachings. It serves our members from cradle to the eldest, especially strong in missions, children and youth work. Our congregation has always been very supportive of us and our members, especially in times of trouble and in happy times.

I wanted you to know about our life in our church and to express my deep appreciation to you for this humbling and surprising honor.

In Christ's name,

Selser Pickett



Selser and Yvonne Pickett