

fpcNEWS

Deeper in Christ, further into the world.

October 2017 Volume 51-10

It's Autumn!

By Gerrit Dawson, Senior Pastor

It's autumn! At least, that's what the calendar says. John Keats began his ode to autumn, "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness." Clearly, the poet did not live in south Louisiana! Our mellow weather comes later. But we still feel the tug toward harvest. The days still grow shorter. The holidays loom. The yearning to "in-gather" loved ones grows in us as the nights lengthen.

That makes sense, then, that we do our stewardship during the fall season. We commit together as a community of believers to bring in a portion of what God has given us for his work through his church. As we harvest, we make a return to the Lord. We share with others.

There's a great season of harvest and sharing for First Presbyterians this month! This month, you'll be invited to a seminar for managing grief and also a wonderful concert by the Foto Sisters. The Joyful Noise Children's Choir will treat you to *Fish Tales*, a mini-musical. You'll see opportunity to support Gardere Community Christian School as we hear Olympic champion Mary Lou Retton speak. You'll hear testimony about stewardship and we'll celebrate our heritage at the annual Kirkin' O' the Tartans service and lunch. You'll get a chance to join our youth in making your way through a dark and scary youth-sponsored cardboard maze in our gym! We'll offer a Discover First Dinner as the Lord continues to send us wonderful new people. October is indeed a month of celebration and in-gathering.



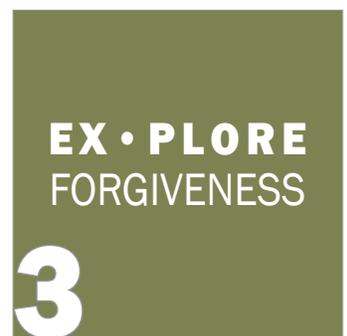
And all month long, we remember that it was a mere 500 years ago that Martin Luther began the Protestant revolution when he posted his 95 theses on the door at the church in Wittenberg, Germany. We'll celebrate by including in worship excerpts from the Heidelberg Catechism all month long.

So gather in at your church, let's raise a harvest of thanks as we do life together in this beloved community,

Gerrit

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OCTOBER CALENDAR

Open Air Ministries	Oct 1
rEcess	Oct 6
“Fish Tales” Mini-Musical	Oct 8
Gardere School Dinner	Oct 10
Discover First Dinner	Oct 15
Good Grief Seminar	Oct 21
Blood Drive	Oct 22
Foto Sisters Concert	Oct 26
Kirkin’ O’ the Tartans	Oct 29

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ex•plore Forgiveness	Nov 4
Daylight Savings Ends	Nov 5
Stewardship Sunday	Nov 5
Service of Healing	Nov 5

IN MEMORIAM:

September 2, 2017 - Royce Malone
Father of Mary Arceneaux

September 2, 2017 - Bobby McCarstle
Uncle of Mitzi Barber

Myrtle Coats
Mother of Alice Martty

September 7, 2017 - Dave “Doc” Davis
Father of D.J. Davis

September 15, 2017 - Sally Hobbs
Mother of Annie Kelly
Grandmother of Elizabeth Fourrier

BIRTHS:

September 13, 2017 - Addison Daigre Rigby
Parents are Elise and Chad Rigby
Grandparents are Jill and Nick Garner

SANCTUARY FLOWERS:

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary . . .

Oct 1 . . . with thankfulness for our grandchildren: Wilson Russ, John Russ, Corinne Boydston, James Ryan Whittington, John Boydston III and Kirby Elaine Boydston by Nan and Herb Boydston.

Oct 8 . . . in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dean Glisson and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wesley McLean by Linda and Mike Glisson and family.

Oct 15 . . . in loving memory with thanksgiving for Jonathan David Pugsley honoring his birth date of October 17 by his parents and sister, David, Cathy and Catherine Pugsley.

Oct 22 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of Kay Curry, beloved mother and grandmother, given by Mary, Ryan, David, Luke and Mary Claire Dickerson.

Oct 29 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Don R. McAdams, Mr. and Mrs. James S. Carr and Miss Inez McDougald by the McAdams family.

Kirkin’ O’ the Tartans and Congregational Meeting



As Presbyterians, we know that our expression of faith was born in Scotland. So we celebrate our Scottish heritage on Reformation Sunday, October 29. Wear your plaids, your kilts and your tweeds as we celebrate the

Scottish roots of our Presbyterian faith. We will muster on the Sanctuary steps at 10 am. After enjoying the bagpipers, we'll follow the procession of the Bible, the tartans, the pastors and choir as we enter God's house. During the service, we will hear of the daring, sacrificial faith of the first Presbyterians. We will call the clans and invite those of Scottish descent to lead each and everyone of us in affirming our faith in Christ our Lord. We'll all thrill as the organ and the bagpipes are unleashed for the stirring “Highland Cathedral.” Bring your friends and don't miss it!

Our congregational meeting will be a part of our service as we elect new elders and deacons.

2019 Nominated Class of Elders and Deacons

The congregation has nominated the following members for the 2019 class of officers. Please pray for our leaders.

Elders: Gerry Arnold, Chuck Barber, Kyle Beall, Pat Canfield, D.J. Davis, Mike Dorman, Ross Henry, Jason Lewis, Judy McGimsey, James Slaton and Fay Woo. **Deacons:** Nick Cagley, Bobby Carnes, Rosemary Dorman, Sharon Field, David Franz, Vince Gilcrease, Charles Goebel, Laurence Lambert, Keith Morris, Rachel Scott, Paula Walker and Harold Yi.

Clan Tartans for the Kirkin’

We want your clan’s tartan to be represented at the annual Kirkin’ O’ the Tartans. Call Jaci to see about including yours, 620.0221.

Congregational Lunch

After worship stay for a congregational lunch for \$5 (\$20 per family). There will be Scottish games and tartan making for the children as well as a youth-sponsored cardboard maze in the gym. Special music on the grounds will be provided by multi-instrumentalist and songwriter James Linden Hogg.

To Be A Buchanan Encourager by Whitney Gaines



Being an encourager at Buchanan Elementary School has been such a blessing to me. This program seemed to answer the yearning from my heart to go outside of my comfort zone and utilize my spiritual gift of compassion to draw others closer to Christ. Over the course of the past year and a half, the relationships I have with the two ladies I encourage at Buchanan have drawn me closer to Christ. God is so faithful! He never ceases to take care of us, especially when we are earnestly trying to meet the needs of others. 1 Peter 3: 8 calls us to action, “Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.”

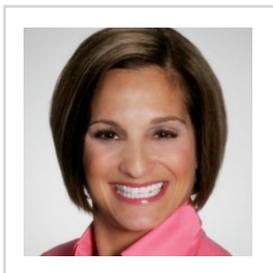
This First Presbyterian Church program is an outlet to truly connect with someone you would most likely never meet. I am calling on all members of our church who are gifted with compassion for others to consider adding adopting a teacher to pray for and support monthly. These teachers truly want to connect with a loving, praying friend. They accept us with smiling faces and open arms. If God is pulling at your heart, take this step and emotionally support a teacher at Buchanan Elementary. YOU will be blessed!

Service of Healing and Hope

There will be a special service of healing and hope for those who have lost unborn children. Join us on November 5 from 5-6 pm in the Dunham Chapel as we pray for those who grieve over their lost little ones. Jim Solomon will lead this special service with the Foto Sisters leading the music.

Living the Vision Dinner

On Tuesday, October 10 Gardere Community Christian School will hold its Living the Vision Annual Fund Kickoff Dinner at Renaissance Baton Rouge Hotel. Featured guest Mary Lou Retton will inspire and encourage as we hear her story of overcoming obstacles. Come and help the children of our community overcome their obstacles! Please visit gardereschool.org to RSVP.



Romania Mission Trip Meeting

If you are interested in learning about the Smiles Foundation Romania Mission trip, you are invited to attend a meeting at Donna and John Schwab's home (2446 June St.) on Friday, October 20 at 7 pm. RSVP to John (938.1010) or to Peter Lazar (247.6935).

Hope for Your Grieving Journey

by Jim Solomon, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care and Prayer

It has been quite a year for First Presbyterian! We have enjoyed many triumphs but we also have faced many trials. In particular, we have suffered loss. Some have lost jobs, some have lost relationships to breakup, divorce or death, some continue to grieve the loss of homes due to flooding, some have lost their status of good health, while others grieve the loss of how things used to be.

Regardless of the type of loss you have experienced, whether seemingly "big" or "small" to others, it is significant to your Savior who loves you like none other. Yet, even with something as life-shattering as losing someone to death, we still grieve even though our faith tells us that we can grieve with hope (John 11: 25-26, 1 Thessalonians 4: 13). Someone you love may be in a better place but are YOU? You see, grief cannot be avoided and is something we can merely go through or grow through.

On Saturday, October 21 at 10 am, we will have our third Good Grief Seminar. In this special two-hour seminar, insight will be shared regarding not only the psychological but also the emotional, physical, relational and spiritual effects of grief in our lives. We will focus on steps that can be taken to rise above what would hold us below in how we deal with loss in our lives. There will be time for Q & A.

The seminar is free of charge and open to the entire community. To register, please contact Laura Shaw (laura@fpcbr.org or 620.0222). Coffee and light refreshments will be served. Won't you join us? Childcare will be available.

Perspectives Ice Cream Social

On Sunday, October 8 the Perspectives Course is having an ice cream social at Christ Covenant Church on Lee Drive. This is a great opportunity for those who have taken a Perspectives course to mingle with those who are exploring the idea

Ex • plore Forgiveness

ex • plore = *To travel in or through (an unfamiliar area) in order to familiarize oneself with it.*

Join us for a new series where we will ex • plore different topics critical to living everyday life as empowered Christ followers in a broken world. Each session will be a two-hour teaching discussion and application on a specific topic. We will incorporate formational prayer and experiential exercises into our time together. Come ex • plore with us!

Ex • plore Forgiveness will be the first topic we tackle. Many of us have grappled with forgiveness in our relationships with others, ourselves and even God. Some of us have an incomplete view of what forgiveness is, what it isn't, and just how to go about it. Join teachers Jim Solomon and Katie Forsthoff on Saturday, November 4 from 10 am to noon in the Reception Room. To register please contact Laura Shaw (laura@fpcbr.org or 620.0222).



of taking the course. Some unique stories will be shared of seeing the gospel take root in an unreached people group. Attendance is free.

**Details: Sunday, October 8, 2-4 pm
Christ Covenant Church, 1700 Lee Dr.**

SUNDAY WORSHIP @ FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

COME WORSHIP WITH US!

7.45 am Chapel Communion
9 am Contemporary
11 am Classic Reformed

OCTOBER SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Texts are subject to change.

October 1

2 Corinthians 5: 1-7

October 8

2 Corinthians 5: 11-17

October 15

2 Corinthians 8: 1-15

October 22

2 Corinthians 9: 5-15

October 29

2 Corinthians 5: 18-21

PASTORAL STAFF

Gerrit Dawson
Senior Pastor

Whitney Alexander
Associate Pastor of Missions

Josh Maddin
Assistant Pastor of Student Ministry

Barry Phillips
Ministry Executive

Jim Solomon
Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Prayer

Darin Travis
Director for Discipleship,
Men's Ministry & Young Adults



PH: 225.387.0617
FAX: 225.338.1010

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

What Lies Beyond Concert



String and vocal trio, the Foto Sisters, are celebrating their latest CD release with a free concert at First Presbyterian.

Join us in the

Sanctuary on Thursday, October 26 at 7 pm. A reception will follow.

Discover First Dinner

The next Discover First Dinner is Sunday, October 15 from 4-7. This is an opportunity for you, in a smaller setting, to learn more about how you can be part of our mission and ministry. For more information or to sign up, please contact Meagan Greene (387.0617 or meagan@fpibr.org).

BAILEY THE THERAPY DOG



Jim and his dog Bailey completed all requirements for their status as a Human Animal Therapy Service team through LSU's vet school Tiger H.A.T.S. program and nationally through Pet Partners.

Mini-Musical
Sunday, October 8
5 pm
\$5 Tickets at
the Connection
Center

BLOOD DRIVE

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 22

7.30 am to 1 pm

Convention St. Lot

