



## Click the Link! by Gerrit Dawson, Senior Pastor

I know that I've rotted my brain through an overload of internet information. But it's just so fun to follow one idea to the next! Don't you love it when there's a handy link to the next topic you want to know about? I marvel at how interconnected all knowledge is, if you just know how to make the links.

But I really shouldn't be surprised. The Triune God made all there is. He made the universe with interconnections that hold at the deepest level. The more we know, the more we find there is to explore, and the more we explore, the more beautiful the cosmos is revealed to be. For creation reflects the beauty of the Mind of the Maker.

In Scripture, we see that the Holy Spirit is the great connector. *He is the link.* By the Holy Spirit, Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary. The Spirit linked up the Son of God with our humanity. The Triune God clicked the link at Christmas! By the Spirit, faith is conceived inside someone who hears the gospel. The Spirit links up the Son of God to particular believers. We click the link of faith and get joined to Jesus. By the Spirit, all believers are linked to each other. We share "one body and one Spirit . . . one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4: 4-5). We click the link of awareness to this Biblical truth and suddenly we are no longer alone. We are in fellowship with believers across continents, cultures and even centuries!

How do we click the link that makes us aware of how *linked in* all Christians are? 1) We read, trust and contemplate the truth of our communion from Scripture. 2) We pray knowing we join our

voices with "the great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12: 1) who praise Jesus. We also pray for these other believers, thanking God for them and asking him to sustain and grow Christian communities wherever they are. 3) We engage in mission with other Christians. That's the great value in short term mission trips. We begin to see the beautiful reality of the world church. We realize we are part of one great Mission.

And of course, that's the spiritual beauty of our *Building Up* campaign. While none of the money goes directly to our church, the benefits to our community of Christ are manifold! Having made and started to pay our pledge, already Rhonda and I feel like we are closer to Brian Miller in Medellin. The prayer keychain made by the women at Esther's House just breaks my heart with gratitude for that mission. I feel more connected to the work at Gardere. I feel more joyful over Peter's school in Uganda. I believe Ben when he says Church of the Resurrection gives regular thanks *for us*.



I know that *Building Up: Taking Missions to the Next Level* is not about us. But O do we get a great benefit! When we click the link to the pledge tab on our website, we click the link to joyful connection to what God is doing around the world. The one Spirit joins us to all believers engaged in Jesus' one mission. It's a powerful joy!  
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OCTOBER EVENTS

- rEcess Resumes OCT 1
Habitat for Humanity Build OCT 7-9
C4C Couples' Workshop OCT 15-16
Habitat for Humanity Build OCT 14-16
Women's Ministry Stay-Treat OCT 23
Blood Drive OCT 24
Habitat for Humanity Build OCT 28-30
Kirkin' O' the Tartans OCT 31

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Forgiveness Seminar NOV 6
Parents' Night Out NOV 7
Commitment Sunday NOV 14
Childrens' Musical NOV 14

BAPTISMS

September 12, 2021
Emery Kate Chapman (parents are Chelsey and Jacob), Sarah Gale Gold (parents are Katherine and Brooks), Mae Elizabeth Luna (parents are Maggie and Jay), Jackson Wood Mayo (parents are Sarah and Erik), Mary Clayton Stevens (parents are Maureen and Cody) and Bryson Doyle Tucker (parents are Susan and Michael).

MARRIAGES

September 18, 2021
Lauren Kinchen to John Luke Charlet

IN MEMORIAM

August 31, 2021
Calvin Schoonmaker
September 4, 2021
Donald Scott McElveen
Son of Anne and James McElveen
September 20, 2021
Mildred Miley
Mother of Jim Miley

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The Chapel and Sanctuary flowers are placed . . .

OCT 3 . . . in celebration and with thanksgiving for the 30th wedding anniversary of Tanja and Franklin Foil by their children Kathleen, Grace and Andy.

OCT 10 . . . in loving memory with thanksgiving for Jonathan David Pugsley honoring his birth date of October 17 by his parents and sister, Cathy, David and Catherine Pugsley.

OCT 17 . . . 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 24 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Don R. McAdams, Mrs. James C. McAdams, Mr. & Mrs. James S. Carr and Miss Inez McDougald by the McAdams family.

OCT 31 . . . to the glory of God by Tricia and Donovan Davis.

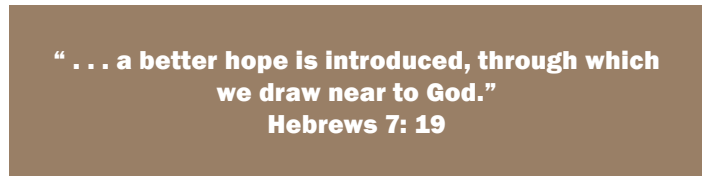
Forgiveness Seminar by Jim Solomon, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Prayer



"Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors" (Matthew 6: 12). The holidays will soon be upon us and so may some old feelings we have toward others whom we'll be seeing! Let's take care of our unfinished business! God wants you to be free from the consequences of unforgiveness as you enjoy complete forgiveness from him and grow in extending it to others.

Many of us have an incomplete view of what forgiveness is, what it isn't and how to go about it. Please join Jim Solomon on Saturday, November 6 from 10 am to noon in the Reception Room for an in-depth discussion and special forgiveness ceremony. To register please contact Laura Shaw (laura@fpabr.org or 620.0222) by Tuesday, November 2, so that we can order sufficient materials for this special time of transformation and freedom.

Draw Near: The Priesthood of Christ Women's Ministry Stay-Treat



What was the role of the high priest under the Old Covenant and what did this priestly work accomplish? How did Jesus perfectly fulfill the role of our Great High Priest during his earthly ministry and what did his work accomplish? In what ways does Jesus continue to intercede on our behalf in his heavenly ministry and how does that impact our prayer life today?

Join us for our Women's Ministry Fall Stay-Treat, where we will take an in-depth look at the significance of the priesthood of Christ through which we draw near to the Father with a better hope.

Saturday, October 23
First Presbyterian Church Reception Room
8.30 am - 1 pm
Register online (\$20)
Contact Jaime Carnaggio if childcare is required (jaime@fpabr.org)

Couples' Workshop: October 15 & 16



All couples have arguments but they don't have to go on and on. Learn how to resolve things faster for more peace and closeness. The "Created for Connection" workshop will help you recognize the causes of disconnection and help you learn to repair, heal and reconnect with your spouse.

Dee and Pete Adams lead this two-day workshop Friday, October 15 and Saturday, October 16 based on the therapy model developed by Dr. Sue Johnson.

Visit c4abr.com to learn more or to register. Contact Dee for details on the early-bird special extended for First Presbyterian Church members (dee@brchristiancounseling.com).

## Loving On Our rEcess Families by Jess Concienne

We are finally able to get back at it: loving on our rEcess families!! Once a month for 8 months of the year, our volunteers spend a few hours playing with the children of families affected by disability. Families drive in from Baton Rouge, Prairieville and Zachary for parents to get a much needed night out and the kiddos—those with disabilities as well as their siblings—hang out with friends and volunteers.

The beauty of the rEcess ministry is how each role is so crucial and also so very rewarding! There are many opportunities to serve our rEcess ministry!

First, of course we need prayer! Our families are a vulnerable population who often lead high-stress lives raising children with disabilities as well as all the other parenting things everyone else experiences. Also, we feed our volunteers every rEcess night. We need those willing to cook or order a meal to bless our volunteers!

Finally, this year especially, we need hands on volunteers! With extra Covid protocols, our goal is to have a volunteer for each child. While that is not normally a problem, we have asked our volunteers who work in jobs where they are in regular contact with Covid patients, to skip out this year so our vulnerable population remains safe. Because of this, we need more people willing to come to the church once a month to play with kids for a few hours!

It is a blessing to see tired, weary parents look refreshed after a night out. Our families are thankful for the respite and volunteers always look forward to a fun-filled night of themed games, crafts and movies! What's not to love about rEcess?!

Please contact me if you'd like more information about how to get involved ([jess.concienne@gmail.com](mailto:jess.concienne@gmail.com) or 225.892.3212).



### New Build Dates for H4H

Up until a stroke in 2016, Terrence Carter spent many years traveling driving 18-wheelers. Since then he has not had a home to call his own. He is excited to build his own house with Habitat for Humanity and have a bedroom for each of his two sons.



Whether you paint, sling a hammer, cook or pray, volunteers are needed to help build our seventh Habitat for Humanity home. More than likely, you'll see Terrence working beside you painting or caulking! He is so thankful to First Presbyterian Church for making this dream a reality.

**Our build dates have been changed.** New dates are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 7-9, October 14-16 and October 28-30 from 8 am to 2.30 pm each day.

Register to work or bring food online at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org).

### Blood Drive October 24

Helping others just feels good. We will have the LifeShare blood mobile on campus in the Convention Street parking lot on Sunday, October 24 from 8 am until 1 pm. Please stop by anytime to donate blood. You do not have to register in advance. Save a life! Donate blood!

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

7.45 Chapel Communion  
9 am Contemporary  
11 am Classic Reformed  
October 31: 10 am Worship

Livestream:  
9 and 11 am on YouTube and Facebook

### OCTOBER SERMON TEXTS

*Texts are subject to change.*

OCTOBER 3, 2021  
I Thessalonians 2: 13-16

OCTOBER 10, 2021  
I Thessalonians 2: 17-3: 7

OCTOBER 17, 2021  
I Thessalonians 3: 8-13

OCTOBER 24, 2021  
I Thessalonians 4: 1-12

OCTOBER 31, 2021  
I Thessalonians 4: 13-18

### PASTORAL STAFF

GERRIT DAWSON  
Senior Pastor

WHITNEY ALEXANDER  
Associate Pastor of Missions

BARRY PHILLIPS  
Ministry Executive

JIM SOLOMON  
Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Prayer

DARIN TRAVIS  
Associate Pastor for Discipleship



PH: 225.387.0617  
FAX: 225.338.1010

[fpcbr.org](http://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  
[brchristiancounseling.com](http://brchristiancounseling.com)

**Calling All Artists** by Chris Phillips

Calling all artists! We want you to be a part of the celebration of the Advent season here at First Presbyterian.

For more than a thousand years the Church has used a series of texts known as the "O" Antiphons in her celebration of the Advent season. This year the "O" Antiphons will shape our Advent worship experiences. We are commissioning the visual artists in our congregation to create works inspired by these ancient texts. Artists will submit their works to be displayed in a curated space Friday, December 3 through Sunday, December 26. Congregants and visitors will be encouraged each week to make browsing the gallery a part of their weekly worship experience. Join us Sunday, October 10, in the Reception Room immediately following the 11 am service for a brief informational meeting.

**Click the Link!** *continued from pg. 1*

**Kirkin' Time October 31**

Wear your plaids, your kilts and your tweeds as we celebrate the Scottish roots of our Presbyterian faith on Reformation Sunday with one 10 am service October 31. We'll also have our fall congregational meeting to vote on the slate of new elders and deacons presented by the Nominating Committee. After worship, all are invited to enjoy brunch (love offering will be taken). Face painting, a balloon artist and games will be offered for the children. Registration not required.

**Clan Tartans for the Kirkin'**

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



I'm so grateful to be in mission with you, and even more so, I love being your pastor,