

Deeper in Christ... further into the world.

fpc NEWS



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APRIL CALENDAR

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Prayer for the Nations | Each Wed., 5.30 pm |
| Service of Shadows | April 2 |
| Good Friday - FPC Office Closed | April 3 |
| Easter | April 5 |
| FPC Office Closed | April 6 |
| rEcess | April 10 |
| FAS Crowd | April 13 |
| Family Crawfish Boil | April 19 |
| Women's Spring Luncheon | April 22 |
| Session Meeting | April 26 |
| Diaconate Meeting | April 27 |
| Hospital Visitation Workshop | April 27 |

Entering Easter

GERRIT DAWSON, SENIOR PASTOR

The greatest stories in the world come from the Bible. And there is no greater story than the epic of the Son of God's journey to our world to save us. He passed through the tomb and returned to life, defeating sin, death and the devil. The story of our redemption whereby Christ takes our sins on the cross, wresting victory out of defeat, has captivated the minds of the greatest writers and artists for two thousand years.

We love to behold these stories. We long to be part of them. And so we even re-enact them. At Christmas, hundreds of us come to participate in Live Nativity. Now during Holy Week, we have taken to the streets to wave palms and follow Jesus with his donkey.

Two more re-enactments have been steadily growing in popularity. On Maundy Thursday, we dramatically recite the story of Jesus' passion in the sanctuary. Ending in silence and darkness, we go out into our terrace garden to see Christ laid in the tomb, and the stone rolled over the entrance with a Roman guard keeping watch. Then, on Easter morning, we gather at sunrise to see the tomb opened and draped in victorious white. These simple props and re-enactments augment our songs of worship and preaching of the Word. They knit us into the sacred story at a deep level. So I hope you will join us Thursday April 2 at 7 pm and Sunday, April 5 at 6:30 am. In addition, we've got two great sanctuary services Easter morning at 9 and 11.

The Celebration Goes On

The Sunday after Easter, April 12, I will be preaching on the theme of Raising Adam. We will be exploring the enigmatic phrase of the Creed, "He descended into hell." Since I last preached on that subject in 2010, I've read dozens of books and articles on the subject and have excavated some exciting ideas. Since they are more speculative, however, I thought I'd save this sermon for after Easter when we have so many guests. But I promise you a rocking good time as we conclude our quest to discover just how far Jesus went to save us.

Then, on April 26, an orchestra will join the chancel choir for a festive Easter cantata by J. S. Bach at the 11 am sanctuary service. You won't to miss it!

Finally, later in April and throughout May Derek and I will be preaching a new series: *Forgotten Gems of the New Testament*. We will be taking up the books of Philemon, Titus, Jude and 3rd John. Never heard a sermon on those? Now's your chance to see the sparkling treasure that God gave us even in these less familiar verses.

As we prepare to proclaim the greatest truth in the universe, please know that during holidays more than ever, I love to be your pastor. Jesus is risen!



Baptisms:

March 8, 2015
Laine Elise Carter
Parents are Jill and Stuart Carter

In Memoriam:

February 26, 2015
Bob Miley, father of Jim Miley

March 5, 2015
Mort Squires

March 7, 2015
Norman Saurage

March 7, 2015
Gae Koen, sister of Jeannette Rackley

March 13, 2015
Allison Brumfield, sister of Laura Obier

March 21, 2015
Jane Ellison Quinn

Births:

February 24, 2015
Henry Lapeyrouse
Parents are Jeremy and Amelia Lapeyrouse

March 3, 2015
Emma Hardin Jones
Parents are Christy and Andy Jones
Grandparents are Sandy and Chat Kleinpeter

Marriages:

March 21, 2015
Ainsley Meredith Mills married Samuel Hardy Farris IV

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 ...

April 5 ... to the glory of God and in memory of Norman Saurage III, Maude and Norman Saurage Sr., Alma Lee and Norman Saurage Jr., and Flora and Gustave Spaht by their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

April 12 ...to the glory of God and in loving memory of Aylce and Sidney Bennett, parents of Barton, by Ruth Anne and Barton Bennett.

April 19 ... to the glory of God and in loving memory of Rev. Dellic Alphonse (Jack) Martin, father of Beverly Setliff, by Beverly and Richard Setliff.

April 26 ... the flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Susannah Stacey Richard by her parents, Karen and Ron Richard and Janice and Bob Evans.

The Music of Johann Sebastian Bach

The Chancel Choir will present Cantata 79, "God the Lord is Sun and Shield," by J.S. Bach during the 11 am Classic Reformed service on Sunday, April 26. Scored for choir, orchestra and soloists, Cantata 79 was first performed on Reformation Day, October 31, 1725 in Leipzig, Germany. The choir will sing in an English translation.

Sources for this work include 2 Thessalonians 2: 3-8, Revelation 14:6-8, Psalms 84:11, Martin Rinckart's hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God," with the closing chorale borrowing from Helmbold's hymn "Now Let Us To God, the Lord." It is a festive work, ceremonial in purpose, and offers the opportunity to collaborate with Borislava Ilcheva and the Magnolia Strings of Baton Rouge.

Other orchestral works will be programmed making this a unique worship service, revealing the beauty of God's music and the power of that universal language of mankind. Invite your family and friends to join the experience of worship through scripture, strings and song.

Following the cantata, all are welcome to stay for fellowship on the terrace. Church members are invited to bring a favorite sweet or savory appetizer.

Summer Mission Trips

The Global Mission Committee is considering the following mission trips this year. If you are interested, please speak with the contact person listed below. You will be expected to raise your own support but by deciding early you will have time to recruit both financial and prayer support. The number of team members is limited so start seeking the Lord's guidance soon. Church members will be given first consideration and will be interviewed by the GMC.

Remember some can go, some can send, all can pray. Which would you like to be?

Uganda Bethany

Center:
Dates TBD
Contact Claire Wilson,
225.767.6690

Romania Smiles:

May 29-June 7, 2015
Contact John or Donna
Schwab, 225.379.3518

Belize:

June 9-16, 2015
Contact Josh Maddin,
214.293.2011

Upcoming Workshops

Hospital Visitation Workshop:

A class on what is expected when you become a hospital or shut-in visitation volunteer.

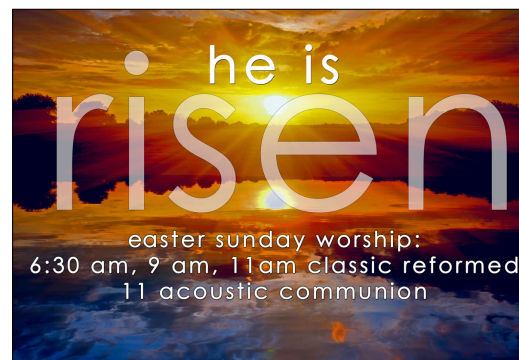
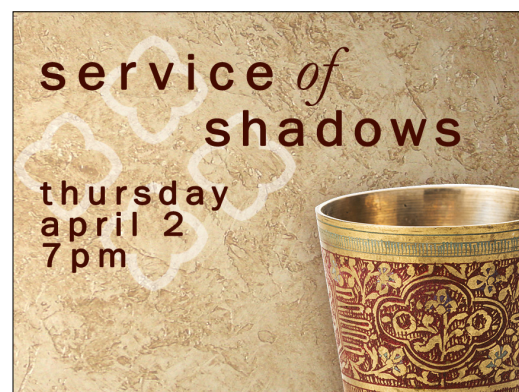
April 27 at 7 pm
EB 202 (Education Building)
Sign-up by calling 387.0617.

Bereavement Workshop:

A class on bereavement including funeral planning.

Monday, May 4 at 2 pm and 6.30 pm
EB 202 (Education Building)
Sign-up by calling 387.0617.

If you have any questions about either of the workshops, please contact Dick Gates (573.9149 or dick@fpcbr.org).



Women in Ministry Spring Luncheon



Mark your calendars for the church-wide ladies' Spring luncheon on Wednesday, April 22 in the FPC reception room. We will enjoy one another's company and hear

Nancy Zito share what is happening at Gardere Community Christian School. Elizabeth Parker will share what is happening in Women's Ministry. Please RSVP by calling 387.0617. There is no charge to attend.

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@fpabr.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.

FAMILY CRAWFISH BOIL



Sunday
April 19
5-7 pm
FREE!

No Childcare provided.
Food for children will be available.

MARCH CIRCLES

1ST MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2015

Circle 15 Jess Conciencie's @ 7 pm
22721 Hickey Ct. (892.3212)

2ND MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015

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

1ST TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015

Circle 1 Linda Glisson's @ 9.45 am
3451 Gladden (389.9698)
Circle 2 FPC Parlor @ 9.45 am
Circle 3 FPC Room EB 301 @ 10 am

2ND TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

Circle 4 Amanda Boggs' @ 6.30 pm
6136 Chandler (338.9455)
Circle 5 Rachel Williams' @ 10 am
2142 Oleander St. (344.7015)
Circle 6 Suzanne Kennon's @ 10 am
5087 Sweetbriar (924.2222)
Circle 8 Marianne Theriot's @ 6.30 pm
387 Kenwood (924.10503)
Circle 9 Please contact Ann Gregorie for
Circle location. (937.0488)

3RD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 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, APRIL 2, 2015

Circle 11 Church Library @ Noon

1ST FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2015

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

He Is Risen Signs. "He Is Risen" yard signs are available for purchase at the Connection Center. Before Easter turn the blank side toward your street. After Easter turn it around to reveal "He Is Risen." The \$5 per sign covers the cost of this Children's Ministry project.

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

April 5, AD 2015

Psalm 116: 1-9; Acts 10: 3-43

April 12, AD 2015

Psalm 16: 7-11; Acts 2: 22-24, 31-32

April 19, AD 2015

Philemon 8-21

April 26, AD 2015

Titus 1: 1-9

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.fpabr.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

Youth Trips and Retreats

A \$100 deposit received by May 1 secures your spot for one of the many Student Ministry trips or retreats coming up this Summer. Registration is online at fpcbr.org.



Belize

June 9-16
Multi-generational trip



The Great Escape

June 14-19
Cleveland, TN



H.S. Backpacking

June 28-July 4
Durango, CO



Fun in the Sun

July 11-17
Padre Island, TX



NOLA Mission Trip

July 12-18
New Orleans, LA

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

We have 11 new members of First Presbyterian! Be sure to seek them out and welcome them to our body.

Amelia and James Wood, Arralee Hays, Kathy and Robert Howerton, Erin and Lance King, Judy Landry, Sherry McHarg, Ellen Murphy and Samear Zaitoon,



SOUND THE TRUMPETS! VBS 2015, July 7-10

Register online at fpcbr.org

DID I SING TOO LOUD?

A Collection of American Art Songs,
Musical Theater and Fun

April FAS Crowd Monday, April 13

Selected works of Copland,
Bernstein, Rodgers & Hammerstein and
folk songs featuring
Lauren Honea (soprano) and
Melvin Hale (piano)

Lunch at 11.30 am in the
FPC Reception Room

Cost is \$15 per person.
Please RSVP to the church office by
April 9 (387.0617).