

CHRISTCHURCH PRESBYTERIAN
GOOD NEWS

Volume x, Issue 3

June 2010



The river slide at Mo Ranch.

Make Your Mo-Ranch Reservation Now!

ChristChurch to Gather on August 6-8 in the Texas Hill Country

What's your favorite part of the ChristChurch annual retreat to Mo Ranch? Is it the exhilarating cascade down the Mo Slide into the Guadalupe River? Would it be relaxing in cool rapids on a hot afternoon? Could it be the inspiring vespers service sponsored by the youth on Saturday evening or the Sunday morning worship overlooking the entire ranch from the Chapel on the Hill? Or is it simply sitting on the porch of Wynn and Flato Halls with your church family, giving thanks for God's beautiful creation?

Mark your calendar for the 2010 ChristChurch Mo Ranch Retreat the weekend of August 6-8. Susan and Tim Hightower will soon be taking your reservations for rooms and meals. You may contact them at nshightower@comcast.net for more information.

And remember that the best part of our annual retreat is making memories that keep you coming back year after year.

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**Newsletter Deadline
June 21**

Vision Statement:
*Trusting in God's guidance,
ChristChurch Presbyterian
invites all to join us as we
Gather joyfully,
Grow spiritually and
Give passionately
in service to Christ,
each other and our
community.*

LISTENING FOR GOD

Locating God's True Desire for our Lives



Lacy Sellars
Co-Pastor

Last month I encouraged you to start a distraction diary. Do you remember, or did you become distracted? Distractions are the most persistent barriers we face in seeking God's direction our lives. Distractions tempt us to turn away from God's guiding presence and to surrender our focus to activities that deplete our spiritual purpose.

Similar to the Prayer of Examen, a distraction diary teaches you to pay attention to your interruptions, and other events in your day, and asks why you allow these activities to pull you away from God's purpose. Often you will discover some reward in letting the distractions pull you away from something you need to address in your life. Taking time to deal with the distractions gives you an excuse for not dealing with the real issues you need to face.

We often complain that God is absent from our sufferings or uncaring about our desires when the truth is that we do not hear God because we allow the distractions to dominate our attention. We forget that God pursue us with compassion and longs to help us in our predicaments. God is present in every moment to speak a word of redemption if we will only listen.

So, now that we know where our distractions are located, how can we locate God's true desire for our lives? I like to practice an exercise called Lectio Divina:

I first find a comfortable spot, make peace with my distraction diary, and take several cleansing breaths.

Then I read a Bible passage from the daily lectionary. The first time I read it at my normal pace; then each time following, I read it more slowly, paying attention to what catches my imagination—carefully listening for God's still small voice.

Then I reflect on the passage and those words that capture my attention. How do these words or phrases apply to my life?

I then respond to the passage, either individually or within the group who practices with me, by opening my heart to God. It is a process of surrender, allowing myself to be molded by God's Spirit.

Finally I listen to God. More than an intellectual exercise, I wait upon God. Freeing myself from my expectations, I ask what God wants to tell me.

When I practice the Lectio Divina, I must remember to place aside the presuppositions I bring to the passage. For instance, on June 6, I will preach from Luke 7: 11-17: Jesus' raising of the son of the widow of Nain. Prior to this exercise, I assumed that Jesus responded to the cries of the widow. Only when I practiced Lectio Divina did I realize that Jesus came to her aid without provocation. Without any expression of faith by the woman, God intervened to raise her son from

death. This is indeed good news to those who are so lost that they don't even know how to pray. God acts even before we ask!

How often do we assume that God is distant from us, when the Bible assures us that God pursues us, without prompting? How would our lives be different if we trusted God's initiative instead of projecting our own?

If you are seeking God's voice in your life, remember that there is no secret formula. These two exercises I have explained are classical practices that have helped many others. The key ingredients are personal time with God and a faith community and the willingness to surrender your control to God. There is no need to be afraid, for the scriptures assure us that God's steadfast loved endures forever. God knows our need more completely than we do ourselves. So take time to listen and surrender. Your gains will be amazing.

Lacy

The Already/Not Yet

Is the power of perseverance affecting your life?

Manfred von Richthofen, the legendary World War I ace, was the pilot we know as The Red Baron. The Red Baron was a careful fighter who achieved 80 kills, more than any other World War I pilot. But he suffered a traumatic brain injury in a dogfight nine months before his death, and researchers now believe that this caused a dysfunction to develop.

In 1918, he suffered from headaches, airsickness and fatigue, and the symptoms were ignored. The Red Baron kept on flying, until that April day when he drove himself straight to his death. On April 21, 1918, he flew his red Fokker triplane straight into enemy airspace, allowing aircraft and ground fire to shred his plane to ribbons and kill him with a bullet to the chest.

It's clear that The Red Baron flew into a shooting gallery and was blown apart because he couldn't see anything but his target. He had a fatal fixation, one that prevented him from saving his own life by simply turning around.

Its called Perseveration.

It's a brain condition that causes people to get stuck in a particular pattern of behavior, to persist in a task — to carry on in a completely illogical way, even when the chosen strategy is doomed and could lead to death..

Perseveration can be a problem for us as well, even without the dogfights. Fatal fixations can pop up in our work, our parenting, our friendships and our faith lives, causing us to pursue strategies that are doomed and even disastrous.

It was like the man I heard about who was driving on a winding road when he saw a "Road Closed" sign up ahead.

Not seeing any construction taking place, he ignored the sign and drove

on.

He discovered the construction around the next bend and had to turn around and go back to follow the detour.

As he approached the blockade, he saw on the back of the "Road Closed" sign, in hand-scrawled letters, a message: "Told you so!"

Perseveration! — patterns of behavior that are so easy to get stuck in.

Think of fathers who work slavishly to provide for their families, only to put in such long and exhausting hours that they end up with little of themselves to give to their family members. It's a fatal fixation.

Or women who put tremendous time and energy into their children's activities, only to become so immersed in kid-stuff that they fail to be good adult role models.

Or friends who talk endlessly about themselves and others — analyzing, criticizing and ultimately destroying the very friendships that are the subject of their conversations.

Or Christians who put such effort into being right that they end up being self-righteous. Do you know Oscar Wilde's definition of being self-righteous? A person who airs their clean laundry in public! Nothing is a bigger turn-off.

So what can we do to avoid these fatal fixations?

In his letter to the Romans, the apostle Paul is aware that many of us are still stuck in doomed and dangerous patterns, so he begins with the question, "How can we who died to sin go on living in it?"

It's a good question.

Paul is enough of a realist to see that we are not completely free of sin. Paul is still looking to the future, knowing that the full glory of resurrection life is



Mark Cooper
Co-Pastor

not a present reality — it still lies off in the distance, like a beautiful oasis on the horizon.

Theologians call this the "Already / Not Yet." We're on the road to the resurrection, for sure, but we haven't quite reached the point where we can put the car in park and relax, knowing that we've finally arrived.

A person asked Socrates why it was that Alcibiades, who was so rich, so brilliant and so able a statesman and general, who had traveled so much, and seen so much of the world, was nevertheless so unhappy a man.

Socrates replied, "Because wherever he goes Alcibiades takes himself with him."

In other words, the root problem is in us.

The good news for us today is that we're moving in the right direction. In fact, we've already crossed the border, and have left the world of death and sin behind us.

Folks in recovery talk about this reality, using the phrase "fake it til you make it." In other words, "pretend" that you have been changed and live in the world in that reality. It is a question of how we perceive ourselves. Are you aware that there is a New Spirit within us? Are you living that way?

The good news is that the power of perseverance has been broken by Jesus, and he invites us to join him on resurrection ground, on that place where sin and death have been replaced by grace and new life.

We need not fixate on anything else.

ChristChurch Presbyterian Women Conclude the Year with a Renewal of Baptismal Vows

In September of 2009, the ChristChurch Presbyterian Women began their Horizons Bible Study on the Book of Joshua.

Their teacher, Pam Stoops, asked them to place stones into a fabric River of Jordan that she had created to help them understand the significance of the Hebrews crossing the Jordan River into the Promised Land. "When you see these stones, you will remember that God allowed you to cross the river on dry land."

On May 11, the Presbyterian women

met in the Gathering Space for their last class of the year and to eat a delicious lunch. Rev. Sellars led them in a service of the Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant.

When the women came forward, they retrieved a stone out of the baptismal water, as Rev. Sellars charged them to "Remember your baptism!" Each woman took the stone with her as a remembrance of God's continuing covenant as we now part to enter new lands and new opportunities.



Presbyterian women renewing their baptismal covenant.

With our hands dripping in baptismal water, we promised to hold fast to God's promises in Jesus Christ.

We thank Pam Stoops for again teaching our Horizons Bible Study, and the Presbyterian Women for their devotion to carry God's Word into the world. Their next meeting will be in September.

Congratulations to Matthew and Melissa Call Wandell Card's Grandson and His Wife Receive New Position

Wandell Card wants the church family to celebrate that her grandson and his wife, Drs. Matthew and Melissa Call, have been named to positions as joint laboratory heads for the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne, Australia.

Matthew earned his Ph.D. in Immunology from Harvard Medical School, and Melissa completed her Ph.D. in Molecular Medicine at the University of Auckland in New Zealand.

Both Matthew and Melissa are concluding their postdoctoral work at

Harvard and will relocate to Melbourne late this year.

Congratulations Wandell!

Search Underway for Director of Youth and Christian Formation

The Youth Director Search Committee has recently posted the following ad in a number of online ministry job banks:

Seeking Dynamic Director of Youth and Christian Formation

ChristChurch Presbyterian, an inner-suburban community in Houston, is seeking a creative, high-energy candidate who is passionate about youth ministry and educational ministry to our congregation.

We are looking for a person who has a dynamic relationship with God; a bachelor's degree preferred; experience in teaching, administering and leading church programs for children and youth ministries; and who can work effectively with people of all ages both within and outside our church community.

ChristChurch Presbyterian provides a variety of mission and ministry opportunities, as well as a competitive salary and benefits package.

The position description is posted at

<http://ccpres.org/wp/about-us/job-openings/>.

To contact us directly about this position, send email inquiries to director-youth@ccpres.org.

Could God be calling someone you know?

Do you know someone who would be interested or has the gifts we need? Please make sure they see our ad and contact information.

How the work will get done

The Search Committee has organized itself and divided the responsibilities to accomplish this task. Mylene Bole will take on the roles of Communication/Convening and also Organizational Leadership. She'll check for e-mail responses from applicants and will forward applications to the Search Committee as well as organize the interviews.



Brad Eaves will be charge of advertising. Plans are to advertise with the above descriptive paragraph online and through Presbytery and other church related sites/publications, referring interested persons to our church web page for the full description. Arrangements are being made for resumes to be submitted online to a CCP e-mail address.

For further information or questions contact: Mylene Bole, Brad Eaves, Josh Persley, Kiah Townsend, and Jamie Townsend. Representatives from Education Committee include Priscilla Kennedy and Pam Stoops.

Your prayerful support of the task is essential as we engage in this important search.



Too Many Wheels?

Refugee Ministry Looking for Reliable Transportation

Do you have an extra car that you would be willing to part with? We do have an urgent need in our work with Refugee Ministry for safe and reliable transportation.

If you are aware of a friend, neighbor, or family member that might be willing to donate it to the church, or to sell it for a modest price, we would love to talk with you.

Please contact Mark or Betty about the possibilities, mcooper@ccpres.org, or bettyeyh@yahoo.com.

Thank you very much.

Music Notes

Great Expectations



I just got back home this week from a little trip. Just between you and me, I had been privately dreading this trip. Roger and I met our son Ben in Russellville, Arkansas, and spent a few days riding motorcycles in the Ozarks.

I am more of a toodling-around-town-on-a-Saturday-morning kind of rider, so the vision of being out on mountain highways for hours and hours at a stretch, negotiating hairpin turns and steep ascents had me more than a little worried. But Roger and Ben were so excited about it that I pasted on a smile and tried not to fret too much.

And you know what, it turned out to be a lot of fun! The vistas were stunning, and the smells of honeysuckle, cut hay and grass, and wood smoke were delightful. The sun was warm, but the air was pleasantly cool. The roads were great: from famous Highway 7 which was smooth and open, to Highway 23, (known as "The Pig Trail" because it was a main route to my old alma mater the University of Arkansas,)

which twisted through a primeval forest and challenged my modest riding skills,

I came away from that trip with a renewed appreciation for the beauty of the state I was born in, and with fond memories of a precious time spent with my guys.

Back at ChristChurch we are facing some of the same uncertain feelings about the upcoming transition in leadership. Maybe some of us are dreading this next phase of our church life, There are lots of unknowns.

On Pentecost, Mark preached about remembering the former great days of a church, but do you know what? I believe that ChristChurch Presbyterian's greatest days are ahead of us. I'll say it again: I believe that ChristChurch Presbyterian's greatest days are ahead of us.

I am excited about the things we will experience together. I am excited about the things we will learn. I am excited about all those

unknowns. I trust in the Bible verse that says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jer. 29.11).

I believe that God has a plan for ChristChurch as a whole and for us individually as well. There will be a job for every member of our church during this transition, and I will pray that everyone will find joy in their tasks.

We are hard at work with summer worship themes, and already we have slots filled for visiting preachers. We are making progress on orders of worship, service music, and anthems. We are going to hear a lot about God's unswerving love for us this summer. We are going to sing and pray that love. There are great days ahead. Bank on it!

Sondra Tucker

Director of Music



Celebrate the 4th of July

With your friends at

ChristChurch Presbyterian

Worship - 10:15 am

Special Luncheon - 11:30 am

Say "Fare-thee-well" to

Reverend Mark Cooper & Reverend Lacy Sellars

Please RSVP to the church office

@ 713-667-6574

Or sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, June 27th

Education Notes

Summer Time Is Here! Mark Your Summer Calendars for these Education Offerings

"As long as the earth remains, there will be planting and harvest, cold and heat; winter and summer, day and night. "

- Genesis 8:22

Summer Church School meets Sundays, 9-10 am June 6 – August 1, excluding July 4.

Children's Sunday School

Keep your child/children connected with their CCP friends and their growing faith as they explore the underground church during Nero's time and hear the stories of Jesus told by courageous teachers. Children will enjoy an action-packed video plus activities to reinforce each lesson. Better still, they will be inspired to become storykeepers too, like Ben the baker and Helena, his wife.

The class is designed for children 5-12 years old, so parents, add this class to the calendar for your child!

Where: Educ. Building, Rm 206-208

Youth Sunday School

Youth will meet in Room 211 with David Rudd and Susan Hightower. Substitute teacher: Gretchen Sparks. As they seek answers to questions

of their faith and Christianity, they will be exploring the writings of Lee Strobel, Atheist-turned-Christian, a former award-winning legal editor of The Chicago Tribune, and a New York Times best-selling author of nearly twenty books.

Adult Sunday School THE WIRED WORD

A new Class begins June 6, utilizing an internet based curriculum that focuses on a weekly news headline with related Scriptures followed by discussion questions. Even if you are not wired arrangements for receiving the study will be made.

Where: West Wing, Room 6

Teacher: Fred Cook

MENTAL GYMNASTICS

The Voice New Testament and annotated Bible

Previously most Bibles and biblical reference works were produced by professional scholars writing in academic settings. The Voice uniquely represents collaboration among scholars, pastors, writers, musicians, poets, and other artists.

The goal is to help believers experience the joy and wonder of God's revelation Instead of furthering the division over culture and theology.

Writers include Chris Seay, Lauren Winner, Brian McLaren, Greg Garrett, David B. Capes, and others. Class currently studying the Book of Acts

Where: West Wing, Room 1

Teacher: Homer Borgstedte

Childcare

Childcare is always available for infants to age 4 on the first floor of the Education Building

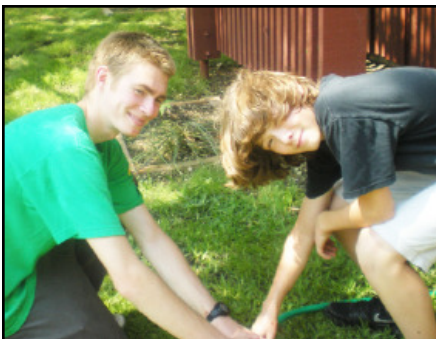
Story Keepers

Have you wanted a short term opportunity to nurture the faith of our children or to have a chance to get know our future church leaders or to engage in an activity with your partner or older child/grandchild ?? Plan to join the STORY KEEPERS!!!

Volunteers are needed to teach 2 or more of the eight summer sessions with a user friendly curriculum. Currently Marti Speer and Betsy Barclay are among the teachers.

For further information contact:

Janice Schessler at 713-666-3209 or jschessler@pbyofnewcovenant.org



Contact Kayleen Townsend
to sign up for the
YouthWorks Camp
Birmingham, Alabama -
July 25-30, 2010

PRAISE BAND HEATS UP WORSHIP

Graduates Thank Church for Support and Encouragement

Worship on May 16 was literally the rainbow after the storm. A thunderstorm on Friday evening burnt-out circuits in the Sanctuary air conditioning and the Power Point projection system, but the Praise Band and Bell Choirs brought joy and harmony to our worship as we celebrated our High School graduating Seniors and the Sunday School teachers for the past school year.

David Rudd, Josh Persely, Jamie Townsend, and David McMahan brought heart and soul into our worship with the Praise Band's rendition of Martin Smith's "I Could Sing of Your Love Forever" and Matt Redman's "Better Is One Day." Because the words could not be projected on the Power Point, Jamie Townsend led the singing and joined with Orijei Oji in the Prayer of Confession. Orijei, Josh, and Alex Lasu each took the microphone to thank the church for years of support and to encourage ChristChurch to continue to provide learning opportunities for our youth.

Following the children's sermon, Pam Stoops introduced our Sunday School teachers who taught classes since last fall as the children personally delivered thank-you cards to their seat in worship.

ChristChurch Presbyterian thanked the following people for expressing their faith and God's love, while they shared their time and spiritual gifts during the past year.

Preschool:

- Aileen Fleming
- Ross Spence
- Alice Moore

Elementary:

- Karen Anderson
- Robert Blome
- Mylene Bole
- Geoff Carlton
- Julia Cook
- Janette Hearne
- Priscilla Kennedy
- Pamela Lemoine
- Rebecca McMahan
- Lucy Seward

Youth:

- Susan Hightower
- David Rudd
- Lacy Sellars

Adults:

- Jay Bole
- Homer Borgstedte
- Burnette Boyett
- Fred Cook
- Mark Cooper
- Amy Gremillion
- Betty Harrison
- Janette Hearne
- Doug Kennedy
- Sam McKinney
- Coby Scher
- Lacy Sellars
- Lucy Seward
- Bill Sparks
- Craig Wooten

In honor of the above teachers and shepherds, a donation was made to the Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services. This organization provides group or foster homes to children who have suffered abuse, neglect or abandonment: and offer also programs to families in crises,



single parents and children. Spiritual guidance and Christian nurture are offered in all settings.

Education Committee: Jay Bole (2009 Moderator), Pam Stoops (2010 Moderator), Susan Hightower, Priscilla Kennedy, and Janice Schessler

Then, as the air conditioning sprang back into action—thanks to the quick work of John Dubec and Mike Wiley—the Chewy Atomic Fireballs inspired our tithes and offerings by ringing out "Creation's Dawn: A Prairie Hymn," a tune created by our own Sondra Tucker.

The entire service was crowned with the closing hymn, "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry," which is a beautiful hymn expressing God's love that watches over us at all mile posts of our lives. As the day began in such confusion following the storm, God's Word was truly evident in the faith and music that filled our worship. Thank you Worship and Education Committees for a marvelous worship service!

Summer Fun at the Child Development Center

Graduation Day

A sea of blue emerged from the Child Development Center at 4:00 pm on May 20 and flowed across Third Street toward the Fellowship Hall. Twenty four-year-olds, donned in robes and mortar boards, marched solemnly into the hallway and, at their teacher's signal, processed down the center aisle, turned to face their proud parents who waved, snapped pictures, and dabbed wet eyes as they saw their child's future flash before their eyes.

It was graduation day at the Child Development Center! As Jameslynn Jones called out each student's full name without a script and Kelly Fisher shook their hand and gave them a diploma, our children suddenly matured into Kindergarteners. They sang the National Anthem and led the audience in The Lord's Prayer. They counted to 100 by 10s



and 5s and 1s and sung "The Days of the Week" to the tune of the Adams Family. Then the mortar boards flew off and everybody ran to eat cupcakes and punch. In the joy of the day, the parents applauded our teachers and gave them gifts to remember the day.

The Shade Sails are In!

Walking by the playground the next day, you could see these same children dancing along the pathway and digging in the enormous sand box that is now covered by the shade sails recently erected by John Dubec, Mark Cooper, and the Building and Grounds Committee. Soon the sails will be connected to water sprinklers so that every day can be a water day.

The Summer Safari Begin's

But summer waits for no one. On June 1, Summer Safari officially opens. Upwards of ninety elementary students, wearing red T-Shirts with a roaring lion image on the front, will take over the second floor of the Education Building for the largest summer camp in five years. Parents rave about the quality of the program and the field trips that



not only keep the kids occupied, but teach them about God's wide world of creation.

Credit for all these wonders goes to Linda Weise and her staff at the CDC along with the CDC committee, moderated by Amy Gremillion. Stop by and see the amazing happenings at the Summer Safari!



Adult Ministry

2010 Session

ChristChurch Presbyterian

Class of 2010

Jay Bole, Judy Bucher, Liz Gentry, Karen Persely, Pam Stoops, Remi Van Campenolle

Class of 2011

John Becker, Amy Gremillion, Priscilla Kennedy, Woody Speer, Roger Tucker, Craig Wooten

Class of 2012

Homer Borgstedte, Sue Cox, Brad Eaves, Aileen Fleming, Rebecca McMahan

Clerk of Session

Sidney Holderness

Co-Moderators

Mark Cooper & Lacy Sellars

Visioning Transformation Team

Fred Cook, Aileen Fleming, Keith Cox, Anita Bettis, Betty Harrison, Robert Reed, Laura Shely, Priscilla Kennedy, Pam Stoops, Dick Akkerman, Amy Gremillion, Craig Wooten, Jay Bole, Dana Barkley, Gretchen Sparks

Facilitators

Diane Prevary & Jim Bushong

Building & Renovation Task Force

John Becker
Sue Cox
Ed Janes
Amy Gremillion
Bill Harrison
Dick Akkerman
Robert Reed, Chair
Woody Speer
Mark Cooper & Lacy Sellars

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast will be on June 5 at 8 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Eggs will be cooked to perfection because you cook them yourselves! Biscuits, sausage, and coffee will be ready when you arrive. Keith says there will not be a Men's breakfast in July or August.

Thank Goodness It's Friday

TGIF is being hosted by Susan and Tim Hightower on Friday, June 11, from 7:00 – 10:00 pm at their home. Free child care is provided at our Child Development Center starting at 6:45 pm. Grab a friend and join us for the fun!

Friday Night Bridge

The church bridge group will meet on Friday, June 18 in the home of Lowell Heinz at 7:00pm. Contact Sue Cox for info at 713-774-6915.

Book Club

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 8th at 7:00pm at Dorothy Nelson's. We will discuss the *Two Rivers* by T. Greenwood. If you have any question please contact Lucy Seward at lucyseward@msn.com or Mylene Bole mbole@swbell.net

NO PARENT'S NIGHT OUT FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE/JULY/AUGUST

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6	Aileen Fleming
7	Linda Dyson
8	Glen Risley
9	Emily McMahan
11	Harriet Ward
12	Amy Speer
14	Kevin Watson
14	Mark Cooper
15	Kathy Snyder
16	Valerie Okoro
17	Louise Kelly
17	Lizzie Bettis
18	Hakeem Obou
19	Bryanna Mananga
20	John Becker
20	Peter Nigong
22	Audrey Hightower
22	David Phillips
23	Tommy Fleming
23	Sondra Tucker
24	Becki Van Compennolle
25	Sandy Levesque
26	Virginia Husband
26	Priscilla Kennedy
27	Bill Snyder
28	Allison Shely
29	Barbara Buckley
30	Yohannes Kegi

Youth Ministry

CCP YOUTH PREPARE FOR SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Our Youth are Discovering Christ's Mission to the World

When Jesus charged his disciples and sent them on a mission trip to spread God's Word, they returned from their journey amazed at the power of the Holy Spirit and all they had accomplished in God's name. This same experience awaits twenty of our Junior and Senior High youth as they depart on July 25 on their mission trip to Birmingham, Alabama.

Once they arrive, they will join forces with youth from churches across the country to discover God's Mighty Acts as they repair houses, teach Vacation Bible School, and remind shut-ins of God's presence in their lives. Mission trips are an integral part of faith formation in young adults. Faith comes alive when you leave your daily routines and see God at work in new experiences.

Won't you help pave the way for our youth by purchasing stock in their mission trip? For just \$10 per share, you can guarantee a successful return on this summer's mission trip and make a difference in their faith development. Bright orange stock forms are located in the pew racks as you worship, or you may send your tax-deductible gifts in care of the Financial Administrator at the church.

In addition, we are also recruiting "Secret Saints." A Secret Saint is a person who prays for an assigned youth every day on the trip and surprises them with messages of support. You will remain anonymous until your identity is celebrated at the Mission Trip Worship Report in August. If you want to be a Secret Saint, ask Kayleen or Kiah Townsend, and they will give you specific instructions.

You may also support the mission trip by coming early on Sunday, June 6, to the Pancake Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from 8:00 am – 10:00 am. In addition to the delicious meal, there will be time to visit with our youth and congregation members and catch up on our summer activities. Come early and come hungry and drop your donations in the "Love Offering" bowl.



CHRISTCHURCH
Presbyterian

Good News is a monthly publication of ChristChurch Presbyterian, and is sent to members, visitors, and friends.

POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to:

ChristChurch Presbyterian
5001 Bellaire Boulevard
Bellaire, TX 77401

Bulk mail postage paid at Bellaire, TX
USPS #105.

All articles for submission should be sent to churchadmin@ccpres.org. Issue deadlines are the 20th of the month. All material is subject to editing for space and content; every effort will be made to include all articles.

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Fax 713-667-6583

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713-668-9869

VIC-SW

Volunteer Interfaith
Caregivers SW
713-772-8181

Website

www.ccpres.org

Presbytery of New Covenant

713-526-2585
www.pbyofnewcovenant.org

Presbytery's 2nd Annual Day of Service

Make plans for this year's Days of Service and Celebration!

This year's Days of Service and Celebration, scheduled for Saturday, August 7 and Sunday, August 15, in place of the usual presbytery meeting that weekend.

The Day of Service is an effort to get our 105 communities of faith (congregations) in southeast Texas out of the buildings in which we gather to worship to engage in a service project in the community.

Call it "service evangelism," the label used by our February presbytery keynote speaker, Eric Hoey. The connectedness of our Presbyterian tradition encourages us to do this on the same day so that at least, in spirit, it is a large community of faith spread across southeast Texas working on a common theme.

Last year, First PC, Pasadena, adopted a slogan which has come to epitomize the day: "The church has left the building."

This year the goals are the same; have all our congregations participate in day of service. It may not take place on August 7 but at another time more convenient to the congregation or those engaging the community.

The second part is a time set aside to celebrate our service in thankful worship and provide an opportunity that strengthens our communities of faith through the sharing of service stories with one another.

Last year the Day of Celebration took place the day after the Day of

Service. It was a joy-filled occasion of thanksgiving and shared stories.

This year, rather than a centralized celebration, we are encouraging the celebrations to take place in numerous regional settings, most preferably in your Cluster. While Cluster celebrations would be good, at a minimum, please partner with another church on August 15 to give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve together and to celebrate the Presbyterian community of faith across southeast Texas.

CHRISTCHURCH *Presbyterian*
5001 Bellaire Boulevard
Bellaire, TX 77401

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Join us on Sunday!
Christian Education 9:00 am
Worship 10:15 am

Address Label