



Three Great Days . . . Forever! by Gerrit Dawson, Senior Pastor

One event across three days. That's how Christ's Church came to understand what happened from the Last Supper to Easter morning. This was the *Triduum*: the three great and holy days when Jesus made his passage through death into resurrection life. Every moment interlocked in meaning and significance.

In Jesus' time, days began at sunset the night before. So when we gather for the Service of Shadows on Thursday, we're beginning our remembering of Good Friday. We meditate on his agony in Gethsemane. We retell the story of Jesus' passion. Then we walk into our terraced garden where the tomb is set up. We sing "Were You There?" as the tomb, along with our hope, is sealed.

On Saturday morning, we listen quietly to psalms Jesus prayed. We enter the silence of the King's sleep between death and resurrection, his remaining under the power of death all that lonely day. We take a breath between cross and resurrection.

Then on Sunday we begin to meet at first light to rejoice that the stone is rolled away, the Savior is up—risen—having defeated death and opened eternity to us.

With the church across the world and through the ages, during the *Triduum*, we remember in a special way. The past becomes present. We remember so that what happened then can be part of our spiritual experience this moment. These real events are not lost in dusty history. They are the most potent facts in all of life, right now!

I'll be preaching Easter morning on "Three Easter Truths You Can't Live Without!" It's a great day to bring a neighbor or a friend. At 9 and 11, worship will be live in the Sanctuary and *livestreamed* to the terrace garden. We'll have a huge wall of LED screens set up outside with a live worship leader and coming forward for communion. So you can choose, inside or outside! 6.30 sunrise will be just in the garden, with room for over 200, and a light breakfast to follow. I'm so eager to keep Easter in person with you, dear church!

Later this month, we take a pause between sermon series and I will give some topical messages, including "The Questions Graduating Seniors Ask" and "Cultivating Resistant, Resilient and Renovative Christian Community."

Beloved Pastor Emeritus

Our beloved pastor emeritus, Russ Stevenson and his wife Sherill moved this January to a retirement community in Virginia. We will miss their worshiping in our Sanctuary, but his legacy will never be forgotten. If you'd like to get in touch, the church office has their new address.



continues on pg. 4 . . .

IN THIS ISSUE

- pg. 2 Lake Forest Ranch
- pg. 2 Holy Week Worship
- pg. 3 Women's Annual Picnic



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Service of Shadows	APRIL 1
Good Friday (Office Closed)	APRIL 2
Holy Saturday Worship	APRIL 3
Easter Sunday	APRIL 4
Easter Monday (Office Closed)	APRIL 5
Women's Spring Picnic	APRIL 16
Men's Skeet Shoot	APRIL 17
Discover First Dinner	APRIL 18
H.S. Senior Sunday	APRIL 18
Couples' Workshop	APRIL 23 & 24

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confirmation Service	MAY 2
----------------------	-------

BAPTISMS

March 14, 2021
 Alyce Grace Klingman
 Parents are Caitlyn and Derrick Klingman

David Michael Breard
 Parents are Caroline and Luke Breard

William "Bond" Price
 Parents are Anna and Hooper Price

Benjamin Phillips

IN MEMORIAM

March 14, 2021
 Joseph Zito, father of Dan Zito

March 18, 2021
 Betty Tubré, mother of Steve Tubré

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The Chapel and Sanctuary flowers are placed . . .

APR 4 . . . 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.

APR 11 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lamar Boydston, Ms. Martha Wilbourne Nabers and Mr. Fred Foster Nabers, Jr., parents of Nan and Herb Boydston.

APR 18 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of the parents and grandparents of Linda and Wayne Barker.

APR 25 . . . Open date.

If you would like to donate flowers for a particular Sunday, please contact Kathy Mullins at 603.4735.

We're Going to Camp! by Kendra Bremer, Kingdom Kids Coordinator



We are so excited to go to Lake Forest Ranch this summer!!

WHEN: July 18-22 (Kids Camp E)

AGES: ages 7-12

COST: \$395.00 per child

DEADLINE: Registration paid in full by May 23, 2021 (payment collected by Kendra Bremer)

Space is very limited for camp so please let us know via phone or email whether your child plans to attend. The camp registration fee will be collected by Kendra Bremer by May 23, 2021. We also need energetic adult leaders to join us at camp! Please prayerfully consider attending camp as a chaperone/leader. It is so amazing to witness God's love poured into the children during the special time at camp.

Each person registering for camp (both children and adults) will need a specific Group Hold Number (listed as GHRID when registering). This is the number that will be used when registering online to link our First Presbyterian group together. Our FPC Group Hold Number is 1138.

Both campers and adult leaders are required to completely fill out the easy-to-use form. Please visit lakeforestranch.com/registration and click on the "camper and adult registration" button. There are three sections that must be fully completed before the child is actually "Registered"; the Camper Profile Section, Parental Consent Form and the Medical Information Form. Adult leaders will have a separate form to fill out. After registering online, please pay the camper registration fee in the form of a check to FPC. If you have any questions, contact Kendra Bremer (kendra@fpcbr.org or 713.829.0828).

Created for Connection Couples' Workshop

Lost some of that loving feeling? Looking to get more connected? Closer? Want to stop the bickering and the same-old-arguments? Trouble communicating? Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center is offering a couples' workshop Friday, April 23 & Saturday, April 24 based on Dr. Sue Johnson's book, "Hold Me Tight" and Emotionally Focused Therapy. Emotionally Focused Therapy is a research-proven therapy which shows significant improvements to relationships in 90% of couples who participate. Details and registration are online at brchristiancounseling.com/c4c.



SERVICE OF SHADOWS

April 1
7 pm



HOLY SATURDAY

April 3
11 am



EASTER SUNDAY

April 4
6.30, 9 and 11 am



W.M. Picnic: Growing in Christ by Jaime Carnaggio, Director of Women's Ministry

"As for that was sown on good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience" Luke 8: 15.

Join us for our annual Women's Ministry Spring Picnic, where we will gather in fellowship, enjoy an assortment of salads and sweets, and be refreshed with God's Word. May we be planted firmly in the "good soil" and GROW up in every way into Christ.



Women's Ministry Spring Picnic

Friday, April 16, 2021

12 pm-1.30 pm

At the home of Connie Miller (6665 Burden Lane)

\$10 per person

Register online

RESCHEDULED: Men's Skeet Shoot and Gumbo Competition

Saturday, April 17, 2021

10 am - 2 pm

Join us for an incredible day of fellowship, food and fun at our second annual FPC Skeet Shoot and Gumbo Competition (7016 Hwy. 419, Batchelor, LA). We'll be on a beautiful 6,000 acre working sugar cane plantation that's just an hour away from downtown Baton Rouge. Prizes will be awarded for both shooting abilities as well as gumbo cooking abilities.



Don't forget your shotgun, hearing/eye protection and a heart eager to have a good time. The cost is \$25 which covers all you need: ammo (12-gauge provided. If you are bringing any other gauge of gun, you will need to provide your own ammunition), clays, plus sides/desserts/drinks/ etc. for the meal. Teams will be organized such that experienced shooters as well as first-timers will be able to have fun and enjoy.

Last year we enjoyed your chili. Now let's see what you can do with a gumbo! Bring your gumbo already cooked in a crock-pot for our illustrious judges to name our winner.

To make this event a success, we need help. Please let us know if you are available to serve. We need safety marshals, set-up/tear-down crew and hospitality teams. We also need to borrow more skeet throwers. If you have one we can use, whether automatic or manual, please contact Darin Travis (darin@fpcbr.org or 313.574.1205).

All registered participants will receive a confirmation email from Darin Travis on April 16. Our weather can be unpredictable. The email will let you know if the shoot is still on.

Those who previously registered for the cancelled February skeet shoot will be contacted directly by Darin. You do not need to register again.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

7.45 Chapel Communion
9 am Contemporary
11 am Classic Reformed
Livestream at 9 and 11 am on YouTube and Facebook

APRIL SERMON TEXTS

Texts are subject to change.

APRIL 4, 2021
Matthew 27: 6; John 14: 19b;
2 Corinthians 5: 15

APRIL 11, 2021
Ephesians 5: 21-33

APRIL 18, 2021
Philippians 3: 12-16

APRIL 25, 2021
Philippians 2: 12-16

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

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

Three Great Days . . . Forever! *continued from pg. 1*

I'm truly energized that Christian apologist, Dr. Neil Shenvi has agreed to conduct a stay-treat for us in August. A theoretical chemist by profession and theologian by avocation, Dr. Shenvi contends for our faith with remarkable clarity. He will give three presentations taking us through the current debate on what makes for Biblical justice, exposing the fallacies of critical theory while challenging us to do the work of gospel reconciliation. Take a Google at him and get excited!



Yew A

Discover First Dinner - April 18

Our next Discover First Dinner is Sunday, April 18, 2021 from 4-7 pm. This is an opportunity for you, in a smaller setting, to learn more about how you can be part of our mission and ministry. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Meagan Greene (meagan@fpcbr.org or 225.454.2504).

Open Pews!

There's room to spread out now that all pews are open. We hope this makes it easier to maintain social distance while still being able to sit with those in your "circle." We love this move toward normalcy, even as, for a while longer, we continue to mask and limit the total number in each worship venue. And enjoy those cushions!

Give Meaning to Your Spring Cleaning

The Purple Cow Thrift Stores significantly support the work of the Christian Outreach Center. They're eager to receive donations of clothing, housewares and furniture at both the Perkins and Jones Creek stores.