



The Blessing of New Leadership! by Gerrit Dawson, Senior Pastor

At the end of last year, the session appointed a search committee to find an Assistant Pastor for Children, Youth and Family Ministry. We wanted to elevate and deepen our ministry to young people. Elder Will Adams led the team, along with Cheryl Broadnax, Ryan Castle, Boyd Greene and Kelly Wood: all of them parents of children and youth. It was a delight to work with them. And we believe the Spirit led us straight to one



stellar young man! Colton Underwood is nearing completion of his Master of Divinity from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson. The last two years he has been working with youth and families in his internship at First Presbyterian Church of Yazoo City. Colton is originally from Indiana. He fell

in love with a pastor's daughter and married Rachel five years ago. A graduate of Purdue University, Colton is an avid runner, adventurer, scholar and foodie. He is a delightful young man and together he and Rachel make a winsome pair. His vibrant faith, graciousness and personal discipline will energize our pastoral team and congregation. Colton and Rachel arrive in early August to begin working with our children and youth and lead those staff teams. We expect his ordination to the EPC to occur this time next year. Please pray for the Underwoods and get ready to give them a great Baton Rouge welcome.

Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center

In 1991, we asked Dee Adams to be the founding director and first therapist at our new counseling center. Dee has led this ministry for more than thirty years! BRCCC has served thousands of clients and developed a sparkling reputation in our city. This July, Dee will step aside from directing BRCCC, though she will continue to counsel part-time.



After a careful search, the board of the center was led to choose one of our current counselors to lead our center. You'll know her! Sherry Kadair has been a counselor at BRCCC since 2011 and a member of our church since 2014. Sherry is currently a deacon and serves in

both the media and music ministries. Sherry has been married to Howard since 2007. She holds an MA from Denver Theological Seminary and specializes in trauma care. Sherry also has significant experience in the business world and will bring great administrative skills, a cheery spirit, loving heart, warm comradery and a strong sense of the mission of the center and the church. Please pray for her as she steps into the huge role shaped by our founding director.

continues on page 4 . . .

IN THIS ISSUE

- pg. 2 Stepping Down
- pg. 2 Good Grief
- pg. 3 Summer Worship



JUNE AND JULY EVENTS

- Good Grief Seminar JUNE 19
- Father's Day JUNE 20
- Women's Spring Luncheon JUNE 30
- 10.30 Worship JULY 4-AUG 1
- Women's Summer Study Begins JULY 7
- Magnolia Strings Concert JULY 15
- Congregational Lunch JULY 25
- VBS JULY 26-29
- Great Escape JULY 26-31

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Stay Treat Aug 20 & 21

BAPTISMS

- May 9, 2021
Claudius Andrew Barr
Parents are Adelaide and Andrew Barr

MARRIAGES

- May 15, 2021
Jackson Ferriss to Bonnie Blair
- May 22, 2021
Logan Lott to Hanna Magoun

IN MEMORIAM

- April 30, 2021
Nicholas Schmitt
Father of Amelia Wood
- May 2, 2021
Cherry Owen
- May 4, 2021
Louise Kinney

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The Chapel and Sanctuary flowers are placed . . .

JUNE 6 . . . in memory of Sue and Bill Edrington and Mary and Emmett Edrington by Susie and Buzzy Heroman, Leah and Billy Edrington and Lynn and Mark Edwards.

JUNE 13 . . . in celebration of our daughter's christening, Claire Turner Webber, by Claire Peyton and Rawley Webber. We will lead her to Christ just as our families have done for us.

JUNE 20 . . . to the glory of God and in memory of our parents, Paul and Hazel Peters and Ned and Jerry Hickel, by Cherie and Bill Peters.

JUNE 27 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents: Joachim and Dorothy Aubert and Pete and Emma Ramos by Fé and Murphy Aubert.

Stepping Down As Director of BRCCC BY Dee Adams, PhD, LPC, LMFT



It has been the biggest honor of my life to serve as the founding director of Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center. BRCCC started July 1, 1991 and I step down on July 1, 2021; exactly 30 years to the day. I came when I was 37 with big hair and am now 67 battling gray hair. On the first of July, I will give the reins of the Center over to the very able hands of one of our counselors, Sherry Kadair, MA, LPC.

My ministry was the ministry of showing up year after year. There's something to be said for just showing up and getting to see firsthand what God had in store for YOUR Counseling Center. And he had much in store! I've witnessed the coming and going of the 17,000 clients that he brought to BRCCC. Because of Russ Stevenson's, and later Gerrit's support, the Center has been able to provide more than 145,000 client hours. And we've only just begun.

I've also witnessed the coming and going of many FPC and BRCCC staff, many gifted Christian counselors and many, many wonderful BRCCC Board of Governor members over 30 years.

I've had tremendous support from the church, this awesome church. I'm blessed to be able

to continue counseling here as I shed the administrative part of my job. And I'll continue leading the "Created for Connection" couples' workshops – with one at FPC in October. I'm so very thankful. I can't say that enough.

Although I'm not a member, given my 30 years, my husband Pete and I have been granted special permission to be buried in the FPC Columbarium, which sits just below the window where I counsel. For now I will continue to be a part-time counselor at BRCCC and I will one day be buried there—so I will be at First Presbyterian for a long time!

Grieving Well

Loss is a part of life. Some have lost jobs, some have lost relationships to breakup, divorce or death, some have lost their good health, while others grieve the loss of how things used to be.

Regardless of the type of loss you have experienced, it is significant to your Savior who loves you like none other. Someone you love may be in a better place but are you? Grief cannot be avoided and is something we can go through or grow through.



On Saturday, June 19 from 10 am - 12 pm, we are hosting a Good Grief Seminar. During this time, insight will be shared regarding the psychological, as well as 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 anyone. Please contact Laura Shaw (laura@fpcbr.org or 620.0222) to register. Coffee and light refreshments will be served. Childcare will be available.



VBS and Great Escape Dates

The Great Escape (for rising 6th-8th graders) is July 26-31. Registration and more information is available on the church website until July 19.

Vacation Bible School is July 26-29. Details and registration will soon be available at fpcbr.org soon.

Women's Ministry Luncheon, Summer Study and Intern

Summer Luncheon

So I have a question . . . Why did an all-loving God create evil? What happens to those who never hear the gospel? How are we to wrestle with Deuteronomy 28? What's the relationship between God's sovereignty and free will? What are we to make of the 144,000 from Revelation 7?

If you have questions like this, join us for our Women's Ministry Summer Luncheon, where you can ask a panel of our pastors any questions you have about the Bible or what we believe.

Wednesday, June 30

11.30 am-1 pm

FPC Reception Room

Lunch provided by Chicken Salad Chick

Register online, \$10



Women's Ministry 2021 Summer Study

Rest: Genesis to Revelation

Rest. An elusive term for so many of us. And yet deep down we long for rest . . . God created us in his image, to rest in him. But what does that look like, to rest in the Lord? Is it a command? An invitation? A gift? All of the above? And what are we resting *for*?



Join us for a four-week summer study as we explore God's vision for rest from Genesis to Revelation, and may we allow him to restore us and lead us into his divine rest.

Wednesdays in July, beginning July 7

6.30 pm in Dunham Chapel

Childcare will be offered.

Meet Maggie: Women's Ministry Summer Intern

I'm Maggie Westbrook, soon to be Mrs. Evan Jackson on May 29! I just graduated from Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University in Biology and will be applying to Physician Assistant school. I started attending Jaime Carnaggio's Bible study at FPC almost a year ago. I am so excited to intern with Women's Ministry this summer and could not have dreamed of a more perfect opportunity to get further plugged into the church!



Summer Combined Worship: Single 10.30 am Services

First Presbyterian Church invites you to attend its combined 10.30 am services each Sunday in July and again Sunday, August 1. These single services replace our typical worship schedule blending the styles of Classic Reformed, Contemporary and Chapel Communion worship. We encourage you to invite a friend. There will be no Sunday school.



10th Annual S.T.A.R.S. Soccer Camp

July 6-9 are the dates of the 10th annual S.T.A.R.S. soccer camp at Abounding Love Ministries. Consider volunteering to coach the children and share the gospel with kids in inner city Baton Rouge. Contact Whitney Alexander to volunteer (225.810.2607).

SUNDAY WORSHIP

7.45 Chapel Communion

9 am Contemporary

11 am Classic Reformed

Livestream at 9 and 11 am on

YouTube and Facebook

10.30 am worship July 4-Aug. 1

JUNE SERMON TEXTS

Texts are subject to change.

JUNE 6, 2021

Proverbs 3: 1-8

JUNE 13, 2021

Proverbs 8: 12-35; 9: 10

JUNE 20, 2021

To be determined

JUNE 27, 2021

Proverbs 30: 29

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

brcounseling.com

New Leadership *cont. from page 1*

July 4 falls on a Sunday this year and I'm already at work on a message called "American Privilege: Gospel Imperative." I hope you'll be there for this important topic as we begin a month of single services at 10.30. We'll enjoy some great guests this summer as well with Ben Cunningham from our daughter church, Church of the Resurrection, and Albert White from Abounding Love Ministries. I hope you'll get some refreshment and precious time with family this summer. We're looking forward to a few weeks in the mountains, but know that you will always be on our minds and hearts.



I remain delighted to be your pastor,

Gent

JULY NEWSLETTER NOTICE:

FPCnews will not be published this July. Stay up to date with all the church news by visiting our app and website this summer. Of course, we are always just a phone call away if you need to reach any staff member.



**SWING DANCE
LESSONS**

Swing dance lessons
resume on Mondays
beginning June 7 @ 6 pm.
Call Sherry McKinley
for details (225.772.0226).