



Look Out! by Gerrit Dawson, Senior Pastor

As we go to press, *Ida* has passed through. Donations can be made to FPC Hurricane Relief and call the office to volunteer for clean-up teams.

Where are we going as a church? That's always a relevant question. The answer, if we are faithful, is always some form of "in and out." We're pressing *into* the person and events of Jesus. We're pushing *out* with his gospel to the world. Same old mission. Always and forever! But every season, if a church has energy and passion, that answer expresses itself in fresh ways.

This fall, we're pressing in through a worship focus on Paul's first letter to the young church in the Greek town of Thessalonica. It's a beautiful, heartfelt message of encouragement. In Sunday school, two of our adult classes are studying Gospels: Mark and John. Our children and parents will be receiving copies of *The Gospel Story Bible* and their classes will focus on learning the big story of the Triune God's redeeming work. The women's studies will take up Esther; youth will study *Gospel Foundations* in Sunday School and Hebrews in midweek studies. Confirmation students study the Greatest Bible Stories of all time. Do you see a pattern here? We're questing to meet Christ through Scripture all over the place. Meanwhile we interweave all of that with prayer and care for one another.

But I think you'll notice most a ramping up of our *looking out*.

Every week as part of worship, we will hear from our ministry and mission partners. We'll hear ways to participate, whether it's mentoring students, encouraging teachers, hosting international students or working with us on our *seventh (!)* Habitat House. That's right, once more our church will work side by side with a new homeowner to construct a dwelling. Terrence Carter is a stroke survivor, the father of two sons, and a man of faith eager to partner with us. That all begins at the end of the month.



We'll also introduce our first capital campaign in over a decade. Only it's not to raise funds for us. We will be seeking to raise \$1.5 million for building projects for four key mission partners. Imagine a whole over and above campaign to advance the gospel beyond us: an expansion at Gardere Christian School, a cottage for young women rescued from sex trafficking in Medellin, a high school and dorms in Uganda, helping Church of the Resurrection purchase a permanent site in New Orleans. We'll be hearing lots more about the Building Up campaign in the coming weeks. I'm thrilled we're daring to dream of investing so significantly in mission beyond our walls. I love to be on this journey with you, both "in" toward Christ and "out" to the world!



Gerrit

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SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Circles Resume	SEPT 1
Esther Study Begins	SEPT 1
Small Groups Begin	SEPT 1
10.30 am Worship	SEPT 5
Church Office Closed	SEPT 6
Faith & Football	SEPT 12
Games Galore	SEPT 25
Discover First Dinner	SEPT 26
Habitat Build Begins	SEPT 30

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blood Drive	OCT 10
Women's Ministry Stay-Treat	OCT 23

BAPTISMS

August 8, 2021 - Cecilia Marie Jenkins
Parents are Rebecca and Allen Jenkins

MARRIAGES

September 18, 2021
Lauren Kinchen to John Luke Charlet

IN MEMORIAM

July 22, 2021
Betty Britt Lee, mother of Mike Wampold

August 9, 2021
Jeffery Swarner, Sr., father of Jeff Swarner

August 10, 2021
Melvin Clyde Henry, father of Ross Henry

August 12, 2021
Doyle Tucker, father of Bob Tucker

August 17, 2021
Will Dixon

August 26, 2021
Jack Anderson

August 26, 2021
Betsy Guglielmo, mother of Nell Patrick

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The Chapel and Sanctuary flowers are placed . . .

SEPT 5 . . . in loving memory with thanksgiving for Van Andrew Wilson on his birthday by his parents Claire and Steve Wilson.

SEPT 12 . . . to the glory of God in loving memory of Jerry Johnson by his wife, LaNelle Johnson, and their daughters Debra Matthews, Joy Pennington and Jeri J. Cochran.

SEPT 19 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gay and Dick Barnett, Alice and Nye Barnett, Frances and J.B. Meadors and Irene Bearden Meadors; parents and grandparents of Leah Edrington, by Leah and Billy Edrington.

SEPT 26 . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. McKowen II, Mr. and Mrs. Alex C. McKowen Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Frank Woodford, Jolie Thuneman Peel, and Jolie Berry by Jeanie McKowen Thuneman, Wayne McKowen, Ann McKowen Gerald and Allie McKowen.

Faith & Football September 12 by Darin Travis, Associate Pastor for Discipleship



Men, football season is just around the corner, and this year the LSU stadium will once again be full of fans; therefore, it's time we gather for our annual "Faith and Football" event! On Sunday, September 12 at 5.30 pm, come hear an encouraging message from former LSU tight end and Super Bowl champion Brian Kinchen. With 0:09 left to play, Brian snapped the game-winning field goal in Super Bowl XXXVIII for the New England Patriots, but that isn't the biggest story of that game. His wrestling match with

the Lord that preceded his historic play is the one you'll really want to hear. Brian has tasted the glory this world has to offer, but his message of true identity found in Christ is what will genuinely encourage you. Along with plenty of football stories, we'll feast on delicious barbecue, revel in fantastic fellowship, and have the chance to walk home with some outstanding door prizes. It's a night you won't want to miss! Bring your son, bring your neighbor, bring your coworker. Location will be in either the gym or terraced garden (weather permitting). The cost is \$10/person. Please visit fpcbr.org to register by September 8.

Want to Make an Impact? by Laura Shaw

We need your help at Buchanan Elementary! There are several opportunities to serve at our adopted school this year. We have over 20 teachers hoping to be adopted by an Encourager. Encouragers support a teacher during the year through prayer, sending a note, email, call or small gift each month. Items can be left at the church for delivery. It's an easy way to make a huge impact on folks that are working the "frontline!"

Principal Britten has made a big request for help in the kindergarten and first grade classes. Last year, virtual learning took its toll on these sweet babies and, as a result, many fell behind. Ms. Britten would love to have members volunteer Monday-Thursday from 8.45 am to 10.15 am to serve as an assistant for small tutoring groups in the classroom. Let us know your availability and we can connect you with a teacher who could use your help. No training is required but a big heart for children is essential!

We have blessed the school with a lot of much needed school supplies. Thanks to all who have donated to this effort. Supplies continue to be collected at the Connection Center.

For more information or to sign up for any of these opportunities, visit the Connection Center each Sunday after service or contact Laura Shaw at laura@fpcbr.org or 387.0617. Help us make a difference in the lives of our neighbors just two miles from our church!

Joyful Noise Children's Choir Resumes! by Lauren Honea, Joyful Noise Choir Director

Happy, jubilant, and enthusiastic children will gather this fall in our Joyful Noise and Jesus and Me (JAM!) children's choirs. Join us September 12th at 5 pm as we begin a fall semester filled with fun! Children grades 2nd-5th make up the Joyful Noise Children's Choir. Children ages 4-6 are the heart of JAM! No audition is necessary. There's lots

of fun planned this fall. You won't want to miss it! Contact Lauren Honea (laura@fpcbr.org) with questions.



Habitat for Humanity Build Begins by Whitney Alexander, Assoc. Pastor for Missions



On September 30, First Presbyterian will begin work on its seventh (!) Habitat for Humanity home. This is a major commitment for our church, and we hope you will join us in this important City Ministry project!

This year's Habitat Build homeowner is Terrence Carter. Terrence is a father of 2 boys. His first is 23 years old and plays football for Southern University. His second is 16 and plays high school football.

Up until his stroke in 2016, Terrence spent a lot of his years traveling around the country driving 18-wheelers. Since then, he hasn't had a place to call his own. Terrence never thought he'd make it to this point after his stroke. There was a period of time where it was hard to get out of bed or go to therapy. Helping construct his own home has been difficult but rewarding. He is excited to apply the skills he's learned on site to the maintenance of his own his home. He particularly enjoys painting and caulking.

Terrence is so thankful to First Presbyterian Church for making this dream a reality and cannot wait to work beside everyone on the construction site building his very own home.

When? Thursday, September 30 through Saturday, October 23. No work on Sundays and Mondays. We will work from approximately 8 am to 3.30 pm. The house dedication is set for October 23 at 2 pm.

Where? The house site is 845 North 31st Street, 70802.

Who can help? YOU! Although building skills are welcome, no experience is necessary! The Habitat staff is skilled and extremely patient in training volunteers for tasks. Youth must be 16 or older to work on site. Alternatively, you can be a "hospitality" volunteer on site to serve beverages and food or you can provide snacks or meals.

How can I sign up? Register on the church web site: fpcbr.org. Contact Meagan Greene to volunteer to bring food (meagan@fpcbr.org).

Games Galore by Valerie Gastinel

Games Galore is an afternoon of fun, games and friendship for the whole family! Help us warmly welcome and connect with internationals. We had a blast at our last Games Galore with lots of laughter, new friendships and some serious, but friendly, competition. Come with your game hat on!! This is a great way to get to know internationals.

Bring your favorite game to play (please put your name on any games you bring) as well as individually wrapped savory or sweet snacks to share.

Pray for God to bring new internationals to us, and for them to feel welcomed and loved.

Please be sure to register online at fpcbr.org to let us know you're coming. You can also let us know which game and/or snack you'll bring to share.

DATE: Saturday, September 25, 2-5 pm in the FPC gym.

Contact Valerie Gastinel for additional information: vgastinel@yahoo.com.



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sept. 5:
10.30 am

All other Sundays:
7.45 Chapel Communion
9 am Contemporary
11 am Classic Reformed

Livestream:
9 and 11 am on YouTube and Facebook

SEPTEMBER SERMON TEXTS

Texts are subject to change.

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021
James 2: 14-26

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021
1 Thessalonians 1: 6-10

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021
1 Thessalonians 2: 1-12

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
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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

Women's Ministry Fall Kick Off by Jaime Carnaggio, Director of Women's Ministry

CIRCLES

Our Women's Ministry Circle book for 2021-2022 is *The Envy of Eve: Finding Contentment in A Covetous World*, by Melissa Kruger. We'll expose the reality of our covetousness, examine its ugly roots and explore the depth of this common sin in our lives. In turn, we are drawn toward true joy in a life of gratitude and service that more fully honors and glorifies our Heavenly Father, who has given each of us a cup that truly runs over, if only we have the eyes to see.

Women's Circles meet monthly for study, prayer and fellowship from September through May. Contact Jaime Carnaggio (jaime@fpabr.org) if you are interested in either joining or leading a Circle.

ESTHER STUDY

Our Esther fall study begins the week of September 8 and concludes November 18. Esther's story teaches us that God's sovereignty does not negate human responsibility. He has set us apart, to live in this world with courage and integrity, to carry out the responsibilities before us and to trust him to protect and provide for us even when we cannot feel or see him. In fact, God is never mentioned in the book, revealing that even when he is most conspicuously absent, he is all-powerfully present.

Meeting times: Wednesdays @ 6.30 pm via Zoom (link online at fpabr.org) and Thursdays @ 9.30 am in FPC Room 202. Childcare is available by contacting Jaime Carnaggio (jaime@fpabr.org).

Discover First Dinner

Senior Pastor Gerrit Dawson and Director of Community Life Meagan Greene are hosting a Discover First Dinner on Sunday, September 26 at 4 pm. This is a great opportunity, in a smaller setting,



to learn more about how to be part of our mission and ministry. You'll get to meet the church program staff and ask questions.

Our next Discover First Dinner is Sunday, September 26 from 4 - 7 pm. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Meagan Greene (meagan@fpabr.org or 225.454.2504).