

4900 Kaplan Drive, Raleigh NC 27606
919-851-4713

CONTACT

Published in the Interest of
CHRIST - CHURCH - COMMUNITY
www.wbpresbyterian.org

VOLUME 52, No. 5

May 2015

“At The Table” Worship: A Vital Ministry of WBPC

Over the past year an evaluation was conducted of “At The Table” worship, our 5:00 p.m. Sunday service. It has been 7 years since we began offering a 2nd style of worship at WBPC. Although the 2nd service was evaluated when it moved from morning to afternoon in 2010, it was time for us to do a more thorough evaluation of the significance of the 2nd worship offering in our church and community, and whether it is a valuable use of our time, energy, and dollars.

The Worship Committee appointed a stellar task force to evaluate the service: Joe Burmester, Kevin Fischer, Rachel Head (led the group for 3 months prior to moving to Texas), Robert Owens, Kate Trimble, and Mac Winslow. Betty Connette and Bruce Grady served as staff resource. The task force worked faithfully through the year, collecting a wealth of information from randomized focus groups, a congregational survey, and worship/membership data from the church office.

What the task force learned is that there’s a significant return on our investment of time, energy, spirit, and dollars into this service, thanks be to God! Although small in number at this time (with an average worship attendance of 30), God is moving mightily in their midst. Of the 97 people who have joined our church since the inception of a 2nd worship service in 2007 (including confirmands), 30 entered the church through the “At The Table” service and/or primarily attend it. Also, 80% of the “At The Table” attendees are active in the life of the church, serving as church officers and on church committees, teaching Sunday School, helping with VBS, participating in youth fellowship, and serving in our community garden and other outreach endeavors. Perhaps the greatest “return on investment” in this service is that all attendees who participated in the focus groups and congregational survey indicated that the service is spiritually transformative. Here are a few of their comments:

“I have never been to @TheTable where I did not feel the presence of the Holy Spirit. Whenever I have been at this service, God has just shown up in abundance.”

“This service has applicability, practicality, accessibility, inclusivity, and above all, Jesus at the very heart of it. It is an essential part of my Christian walk.”

“It is such a blessing during our prayer circle time to see the children comfortable in offering prayers in front of others for their schoolmate, teacher, family, etc.”

Continued on next page...

Continued from front page...

The members of the task force concluded (with the Session's agreement upon receiving the report last month) that the "At The Table" service is a valuable and vital component of WBPC's ministry. As such, intentional effort will be provided to help strengthen the service based on helpful feedback received in the evaluation process. In addition, more effort will be given (pursuant to the task force's recommendation) to foster community-building between those who primarily attend morning worship and those who primarily attend afternoon worship, recognizing that though we have different preferences in worship style, we are one family.

Many thanks to all who participated in the focus groups and congregational survey for your valuable feedback...as well as to the members of the task force. "Well done, good and faithful servants!" (For any who wish to read the entire 8-page report, it can be downloaded at the following link: <https://app.box.com/worship-task-force-report>)

Easter blessings, Betty

Children's Chapel Schedule for May

May 3: No Children's Chapel

May 10: *Jesus Commissions the Disciples*

Storyteller: *Allisen Fischer*

Greeter: *Mary Todd Earnhardt*

May 17: No Children's Chapel—*Youth Sunday*

May 24: *Ascension*

Storyteller: *Carol Parker*

Greeter: *Carolyn Esbenshade*

May 31: *Pentecost*

Storyteller: *Judy Shelton*

Greeter: *Evan Barnette*

WBPC Summer Sunday School

The Christian Ed Committee has made decisions about WBPC Summer Sunday School plans and scheduling:

May 24 (Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend): Intergenerational Fellowship time during Morning Sunday School 9:30am-10:15am. Join us for juice and muffins and fellowship.

June 14: Last day of regular Sunday School

June 21-July 26: No Morning Sunday School (Parlor class excluded as they maintain their schedule in the summer.)

Aug.2-Aug.30: Intergenerational Sunday School Series

Sept.13: Rally Day

Sunday, May 17 is Youth Sunday!

WBPC Youth will lead both 10:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. worship services. Don't miss this chance to enjoy the creativity and inspiration of our youth as we worship together. The theme this year is "Shaped". We will be exploring how we are all shaped by God's Love!

Car Wash!

Mark your calendars for a Youth Led Car Wash on Saturday, May 16! Details to come in our Purple Update and weekly email!

Breakfast Takes a Summer Break!

The Men of the Church have served breakfast each month, since September. **There will not be a church breakfast in May!** Thank you Men of the Church for serving us so many delicious meals this year!



Join Us @The Table

Sundays at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Grab a cup of Java and feast with us in this coffee-house style worship.

Suitcases are Waiting to be Filled!

We Need Your Help!

Once again, members of our church family are going to Haiti. The mission team will go June 18-26. WBPC would like to send the children of Yahve Jire Orphanage some bath supplies. We need at least 30 new bath towels and washcloths. In addition, the team would like to take some supplies that are not easily purchased in Haiti, such as hair products, body soap, moisturizing lotions and some shower curtains/hooks. For a detailed list of items that can be purchased, pick up a Bath House Supplies List in the narthex or the fellowship hall. Items will need to be dropped off in designated bins by May 29. Anyone needing a personal shopper, contact Suzanne Smith: suzanneosmith64@gmail.com or 919-858-9331. *This is the 5th year WBPC has sent a mission team to Haiti, and the children and staff of Yahve Jire Children's Foundation truly feel our love. Thank you in advance for supporting this ministry.*



We Welcome Our New Members!



I am **Louis Alexander** and I was born and raised in Raleigh NC. I am a graduate of NC State and Broughton High School. I have too many hobbies to list, but my main interests are ham radio (for over 60 years), woodworking, and golf. I am a proud papa of 3 children and 6 perfect grandchildren. My work career has ended as I am now retired so remaining healthy is top priority, both physically and spiritually. Praise God for all blessings.



I am **Julian Bradley** and I was born in Raleigh and have lived here ever since. I graduated from Broughton High School and UNC-Chapel Hill. I participated in post graduate studies at Duke. I practiced pharmacy in the retail setting as well as health administration in the public sector. One of my grandfathers was a Methodist minister and the other a Baptist preacher. I am excited to be part of this church with my wife and high-school friend Louis Alexander, and I look forward to meeting all of my new church family.

My name is **Liz Clay Bradley** (wife of Julian Bradley); I am originally from central Kentucky and a graduate of the University of Kentucky. I attended Kansas State University for graduate studies. I moved to Cary in 1984 as a financial planner and feel that NC is my home. I have always been a member of the Presbyterian Church, am excited to be a new member of WBPC, and look forward to meeting my new church family. I am gratefully retired and spend my time with Julian, D.W., friends, couture sewing, as well as appreciating art and traveling.



I am **Libby Burton**, and am a native of Salisbury, N.C. but I have lived in Raleigh for forty nine years. I am the mother of a daughter and a son, and I am the proud grandmother of two eagle scouts. White Memorial Presbyterian Church was my church home for more than twenty five years. Having been raised in the United Church of Christ, my husband and I moved our membership to become charter members of Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Cary, N.C. For the past eight years, I have attended the First Reformed Church of Cary. My hobbies include enjoying musical theater, ACC basketball, "southern cooking" traveling, and walking the beach. I also love collecting antiques, especially "cut glass". I am a retired teacher with the Wake County School System and I currently teach "substitute effective teaching"

for Wake Technical College preparing teachers for Wake County schools. God has led me to WBPC, and I look forward to bible study, small group activities, and possibly Stephen Ministry, as well as worshipping with this congregation.

We Welcome Our New Members!, cont'd.



My name is **Kathy Davis** and I have lived in the Raleigh/Cary area since 2000. I am the daughter of a Presbyterian minister. I am blessed to have a wonderful husband (Ron) who attends WBPC with my mother, Blanche Jarrett (who lives about 10 minutes from me). Ron and I are “parents” to two beagles, Daisy and Izzy. I retired this past August from 15 years of teaching special education. I continue to tutor students in Braille and I volunteer with special education students and their families.



I am **June Fulton** and I was born and grew up in Akron Ohio. I was the youngest of three children. Our family lived right across the street from West Congregational Church. My parents did not attend church, but my older brother did. When I was almost five, I saw girls my age going into church on Sunday mornings all dressed up, and I wanted to do that too. I convinced my mother to make my brother take me with him, and that was the beginning of my attending church on a regular basis – which I still do. I graduated from the University of Akron on a Tuesday and was married the following Saturday to Robert Fulton. Ours was a wonderful marriage that lasted over fifty years and included the adoption of three children: Robert, Holly, and David. In 1981 I felt called to ministry and began attending Ashland Theological Seminary in Ohio. I graduated in 1986 and

have pastored churches in Hudson OH, Beaumont TX, and Cary NC. My life has been filled with blessings from God and I look forward to membership here at WBPC.



I am **Peggy Nystrom**. Richard and I came to North Carolina (where our son and family live) to retire after 40 years in active ministry in the Presbyterian Church. Our ministry took us to Ohio, Tenn. N.J., Florida, and West Virginia, where we worked as a team. Our family of four children are all married, and have gifted us with nine grandchildren. My role has been wife, mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, mother-in-law, preacher’s wife, medical office manager, volunteer, and activist. I love to read, hear music, cook, and be a member of Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church.

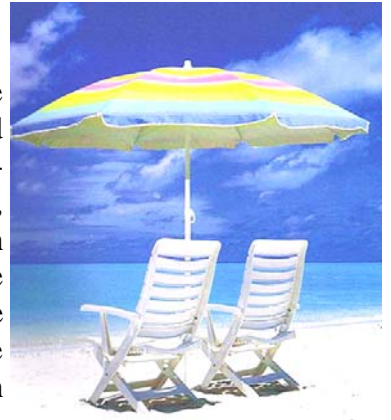
I am **Janet Rakes**, and I joined Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church in December 2014. I work as a career coach for undergraduate students in the Poole College of Management at NC State University. I have two daughters, Lauren and Kristin Rakes, who are both students at NC State. (Sorry, no photo available.)

Mark Your Calendars: Day At The Lake!

Saturday June 13, 2015

Location: Falls Lake, Riverview Area, Lot 13

Mark your calendars for a fun time with your church family. Come to Falls Lake Riverview area Lot 13 for a time of fun and fellowship. This lot has a wide beach and paved walking and driving access. The morning begins with games led by Betty Connette followed by a short devotional time and then a delicious lunch of hamburgers, etc. The afternoon is free for swimming, hiking, boating, meeting and chatting with others. More details will be in the June CONTACT and weekly bulletins but make plans to be present for this special time with your church family. Directions to the site which is off of Highway 98 along with information on what you need to bring will be in the June CONTACT. Save this date for a very special fun time with your church family.



Vacation Bible School, G-Force: God's Love in Action!

It's time to get moving and prepare for VBS! Join us for Vacation Bible School 2015, June 15-19, from 9:00-12:00. At G-Force VBS, kids explore how to put their faith into action. In this mission-focused VBS, kids experience God's unstoppable love and discover how to fuel up and move in and through life with God! Your "navigators" will learn how God is at work around the world.

Please call Allisen Fischer (919-455-6147) or Blythe Clifford (919-244-6227) to volunteer. We will need many adults and youth to make this camp a success!



VBS! "G-Force: God's Love in Action!"

June 15-June 19, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Please fill out a separate form for each child;
additional forms available by the church office.

Children must be 4 years old by August 31, 2015

(Registration must be received in the church office by June 5.)



Name _____ Date of Birth _____ If in school, grade completed _____

Address _____

Emergency contact (please give two):

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Food allergies _____ Other allergies _____

Epipen or other medication needs (left on site) _____

Other special needs/ information _____

Parent's Signature _____

May Social Justice Forum Schedule

Sundays in the WBPC Library

3:30 p.m. action, 4:00 p.m. program

In May we will continue to study the Walter Brueggemann lectures from Pullen:

www.pullen.org/category/publications/podcast/
scroll down to lectures (1/3 of the way down). We will also be studying David LaMotte's book: World Changing 101.

Magdalene Circle's Birthday Luncheon

Please join us to celebrate Presbyterian Women's Annual Birthday Celebration on Tuesday, May 12, at 11:00 a.m. at the restaurant *Toast* at Waverly Place on Tryon Road. All PW women are invited to join us. Please call Marcia Bennett, 919-851-3992 to reserve your spot at this luncheon.

Recycle Your Egg Cartons

The Inter-Faith Food Shuttle needs clean egg cartons to deliver donated eggs to their soup kitchens. Please bring your used egg cartons to the fellowship hall, Magdalene Circle will deliver them.



Recently Your Session.

- Approved the baptism of Arezou Bennett Assa, daughter of Arman and Susan Assa, on April 19.
- Approved joining the Earth Care Congregational Group for one year to learn if this group membership would be fruitful for WBPC.
- Approved suspension of the no smoking policy for the WIHN guests during their stay. The temporary exterior smoking area will be established for the use of the WIHN guests during their stay. The no smoking policy will still apply to all other groups and facility users.
- Support the addition of curb and gutter and sidewalk on the west side of Lorimer Road by signing the neighborhood petition provided that the majority of the other property owners support the petition.
- Accepted the report of the Worship Task Force. Additional information on this report will be forthcoming.

Please contact an Elder with any questions.

Betty Connette Scholarship Fund

A scholarship fund has been initiated with a \$5,000 contribution with the scholarship named in honor of Betty Connette. The goal is to endow the scholarship fund with minimum of \$20,000 and use the income (earnings) on the principal for the scholarship(s). The scholarship will provide financial assistance to church members or active youth fellowship participants to attend a University, College, or Community College. Criteria include church participation, community service, academic achievement, and financial need. Goal is to provide one or more deserving persons with financial assistance each year, with possible renewal if money is available. Please help make this fund reach \$20,000. If you would like to donate to this scholarship fund, please mark your check "Scholarship Fund".

Community Concert

Monday, May 4, 7:30PM

No Injustice Will Last Forever

One Day the Wall Will Fall

Featuring Garth Hewitt, world renowned Anglican priest, peace activist, singer-songwriter. St Mark's Episcopal Church, 1725 N. New Hope Rd. Raleigh. For more info go to: www.peace-with-justice.org, call: 919-914-9881, or email: cpwj.contact@gmail.com.

Invitation to Youth and Young Adults!

Can you create a video (YouTube) to highlight a peace effort in your community? If you don't know of one to highlight, we invite you to create one to video, prioritizing efforts that reduce the influence of war in our world. How do you solve problems non-violently, through negotiations without weapons? North Carolina Peace Action, NCPA is hosting an event to highlight peaceful efforts in our communities. We invite youth and young adults (up to age 25) to create a 3 minute video showing a peace effort in action. A small monetary award will be given to the one felt most helpful in furthering peace in our community. This can be an individual or group effort. We invite you to post the video and send the link (contact name, phone number, and email address must be provided) to NCPA Executive Director, David Harris at harrisdl2003@yahoo.com by May 15. See the following for examples: worldBeyondWar.org, peacealliance.org/, ncpeaceaction.org/, studentpeacealliance.org/, mettacenter.org/.

Happy Birthday

April

Emily Bennett	2
Kaye Byrd	4
Lindsay Simpson	8
Catesby Partin	10
DeWayne Taylor	12
Braxton Rush	13
Jack Tierney	13
James Hemphill	15
Cody Nance	16
Brad Chard	17
Michael Clark	17
James Craven	17
Jim Overcash	17
Valerie Guzzo	18
April Goodman	19
Sarah Odum	20
Lisa Lentz	23
Beth Milchuck	23
David Reynolds	23
Annie Tucker	27
Helvina Ndepkeu	29
April Ruble	29
Erin Bennett	30
Morgan Herrin	30



May

Mike Reese	1
Larry Shelton	3
Celeste Stuckey	5
Jim Totten	6
Becky Burmester	8
Ned Johnson	8
Joette Steger	9
Henry Whitehurst	9
Yvonne Brannon	11
John Emerson	12
Susan Smith	13
Christine Thomson	13
Christina Rush	16
David Parker	17
Katherine Anh Clapp	19
Bill Stuckey	19
Steven Kotnik	21
Margo Totten	22
Peggy Holshouser	24
Katie Parker	26
Marcia Bennett	27
Mary Williams-Kotnik	27
Bonnie Carter	28
Jacob Clark	29
Beth Bennett	30
Joseph Burmester	30
Callie Orilio	31

PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS: John Aldridge, Joyce Barbour, Linda Bradley, Madison Barnette, Elaine Buckmaster, Kaye Byrd, Bonnie and Jeanne Carter, Margaret Cox, Russell Crawford, Blanche Jarrett, Daisy Lowery, Gwen Orilio, Robert Owens, Dot and Jimmie Smith, Mavis Stott

FAMILY/FRIENDS: Mary Cummings (mother of Harris Cummings), Debra Falkner (cousin of Peggy Stevens), Ben Glasgow (brother of Lori Grippo), Lauren Snyder (granddaughter of LouGene and Jim Hemphill), Beth Vanderkin (friend of Peggy Stevens)

ABBOTSWOOD: Margaret Pittman

UNIHEALTH/THE OAKS: Betsy Roberts

BRIGHTON GARDENS: Jo Gilmore

SUNRISE REHAB: Dot Gebbie

Sympathy extended to the family of Louise Beck upon her death on April 15.

Thank You!

Dear Friends at Western Blvd.,
Leo and I have been as blessed by your many cards, emails, phone calls, caring concern, visits, cassettes of the church services, food, and prayers for healing, since my two surgeries! What a wonderful congregation of ministry in action! We thank you so much! It will be sometime before we are able to be with you. Your continued prayers mean so much!

—Elaine and Leo Buckmaster

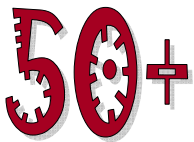
Dear Church Family,

It's hard to put into words how thankful I am for all you did during my mother's extended illness and recent death. Your cards, calls, and the food sent our way meant more than I can say. And your thoughts and prayers were what we appreciated the most. Thank you for being such a caring and loving church family.

—Linda Bradley
(daughter of Louise Beck)

Thank you so much for the thoughts, prayers, cards, and food, given to us after the passing of our dear "Pa Pa T". The love and support of our church family means so much.

—The T.C. Lindsay Family



Friday, May 22
(one week later
than our usual 3rd Friday)
D&S, South Hills, 11:30 a.m.

Christian Marriage

In the Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church (USA) has recently made changes to the definition of marriage in the constitution. There are two remaining classes in a series of classes at Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian Church, 200 High Meadow Dr, Cary, where experts are consulted about sexuality, marriage, and the Bible.

May 5 (Tue), 6:30-8 p.m.: **Joel Marcus**, professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at Duke Divinity School will offer his perspective from his teachings about sexuality and the New Testament.

May 14 (Thur), 6:30-8 p.m. - Pastors of the Kirk discuss homosexuality, marriage, and the church, offering a pastoral perspective.



Graduates in the House?

We're recognizing graduates in worship on Sunday, May 31. Please contact the church office by May 17, with information on those graduating from high school or college. Please include full name, school of graduation, degree, and future plans.