

Mission Statement: "To Know Christ, and Make Christ Known"



2023

www.firstpres-lc.org

Chan's Corner

I began this monthly exercise in 'concise creative writing' (the former adjective much harder for me than the latter) by consulting with Carla what monthly events we had coming up. Mission Mart event. Reading Buddies recruitment. Monthly/weekly study groups. Session meeting. (hold the applause, please... :). All very noteworthy aspects of our life as a community of faith. And then she mentioned one last word that has been on the hearts and minds of many lately: "Wildfires."

This is a word that in recent weeks we have associated with the devastation experienced by our countrymen and women in Hawaii, on the island of Maui. But, in the last week or so, that distant situation has become quite real to us right here in our own area of south Louisiana, with wildfires breaking out as close as the outskirts of DeRidder.

With images of charred homes, businesses, and countless acres of timberland flashing into my head from watching the morning news just minutes before, my mind also went to the suffering and unrest in other parts of the country: from preparation in Florida for the landfall of Hurricane Idalia, to the shooting death of a college professor at UNC, to senseless racially motivated murders in Jacksonville, FL. This against the backdrop of the previous day's observance of the 60th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

And as I thought about what events of our local church to lift up, instead I thought of the need to lift up a need of our larger, global church: to PRAY! I 'happened' upon words of Psalm 107:2-3 which say "Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story... those he gathered from east and west, from north and south." We are not some small 'holy huddle,' a 'remnant' of believers past, but a worldwide fellowship of the Lord's redeemed... a global community of Christians who need to be mindful every day of the pain and suffering in our world.

Whether it's through the tangible efforts of our local Presbytery and larger church to bring relief to fire-stricken areas, or in the ways that we ourselves can pray and give and serve to bring justice and reconciliation to a divided nation and world, may we never give up on the dream of Dr. King... that "the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together." May our daily lives bear witness to further words of David in that Psalm: "Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. (vss. 6, 13, 19, 28). You and I have a story to tell the nations... one person at a time... of how Jesus our Lord saves us from all of our 'distress.'

Hope-fully yours, in Christ,

Chan



The Ice Cream Social held on August 20th was a great success...a welcomed way of cooling off from the heat!



09/02 Carla Washburn
 09/09 Sally Taylor
 09/22 David LeBlanc
 09/22 Christine Wellington
 09/25 Sarah Washburn
 09/28 Sara Dennison

09/05 Bob & Angie Dilmore (1992)

09/24 Tommy & Lori Kerr



Calendar Events

Did you KNOW? - You can check the **Church Calendar** on the website... <http://www.firstpres-lc.org/> . Click on the Calendar tab on the top, third tab to the right of the FPC logo on the home page. Once on the calendar page you can use arrows to look at next month or previous month. You can also click an event on the calendar for more details...

PLEASE JOIN US IN FELLOWSHIP, FUN, and FOOD!

Saturday, September 2nd, 8am...100 Men's Breakfast at American Legion Hall #1, 2nd Avenue

Wednesday, September 13th, Noon...PW Bible Study & Bag Lunch, Wendy Dees moderator

Friday, September 29th... Gallery Promenade, Ten Thousand Villages Mission Mart. **To order ahead**, go to the Ten Thousand Villages website and write down the **SKU#**, and **let Angie Dilmore know by**

September 1st. [Ten Thousand Villages | Fair Trade Handcrafted Goods & Gifts](#)

Please consider being a tutor for our **Reading Buddies Mission**. It will soon be time to sign up!

If you need more information please **contact Paul Brown**.

Joys & Concerns



Prayers for Joyce Carr's family...her stepmother passed away and Joyce is having cataract surgery tomorrow (Thursday, August 31)

Families devastated by fires in Beauregard Parish. FPC-Deridder need donation of funds for temporary housing, etc. you can send your donation to FPC – Lake Charles & we will send your donation along with others.

Families impacted by Hurricane Idalia

**Families grieving for loved ones killed in recent shootings in North Carolina & Florida
 Congratulations to David & Laura Landreneau on the renewal of their wedding vows...**

A match made in heaven! Much love and best wishes for another

Worship, Sundays @ 11:00am

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Lake Charles, Louisiana
 4590 Corbina Road, Lake Charles, LA 70607

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 4665, Lake Charles, LA 70606 –4665

Office: 337-433-4667 **Office Hours** 9am – 12pm Tue, Wed, Thurs



Website: www.firstpres-lc.org

E-mail *Office:* secretary@1stpreslc.com