

# CALVIN COMMENTARY



JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 2017

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*True Love*

For God so lo**V**ed the world,

That He g**A**ve

His on**L**y

Begott**E**n

So**N**

**T**hat whosoever

Believeth **I**n Him

Should **N**ot perish,

But have **E**verlasting life."

John 3:16

**From**



**The Study Window**

## From the Study Window

In his book The Seventh Sense Joshua Cooper Ramo argues that we are entering a profoundly new era of connected crises that are both caused by and can only be resolved by networks of networks. He suggests that we need to develop a “new instinct” to help us understand the essence of this new era. Just as Nietzsche, at the turn of the last century, suggested that people needed a “sixth sense” to navigate the changes brought on by the Industrial Revolution, Ramo argues that we need a “seventh sense” to be able to make sense of this new age of constant connection. This seventh sense is what will enable us to look at things and see the ways in which they are being changed by connection.

Ramo suggest that developing this seventh sense involves acquiring an intuitive feel for how power is being regeared. He notes that a kid with a smartphone in our world has real strength, just as do stateless terrorists who are part of powerful networks. He points to the phenomenon of the Arab spring as example of this regearing of power. I would suggest that the surprising election results in Great Britain and in our own country are further evidence of how power is being regeared by connections. As Christians, we also need to look to the surprising emergence and reversals of power we find throughout the biblical narrative, especially in the work of the Holy Spirit.

Ramo cautions that the re-gearing of power is not just about decentralizing and reversals. Indeed a key to the seventh sense is recognizing the both and characteristic of power. In this new era power will not be either concentrated or distributed; it will be both concentrated and distributed. Recognizing the complex tensions and interactions of these patterns will require a significant shift in our mindset to the extent Ramos suggest that we will need “to rewire our minds”.

As Christians developing a seventh sense will help us rediscover the power of the networks in our traditions and discover afresh how technological and other trends are transforming our world. Mechanical modes of thinking about leadership and institutions are fundamentally inadequate in an age of complexity and connections. We also need to rediscover what it means to cultivate innovation as an intrinsic part of our institution’s and their roles in society. We need to practice traditional innovation and lean into both and patterns of thinking. In short we need to be more improvisational than we typically have been, holding together both centralized and decentralized approaches to power and relationships.

Our changing world and the need to develop a seventh sense provide marvelous opportunities for ministry. First, we can lift up how a connected world can further not erode the things that we care about most. Second, we can root the development of the seventh sense in an understanding of human nature that holds together both the best and worst of human capabilities. Third and perhaps most importantly, we can point to and model the centrality of trust and the virtues and practices that nurture trust in the functioning and interaction networks. Indeed the nature of our age requires nothing less of us as Christians.

In Christ’s Service

Rev. Harry Brown

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**By: William R. Memmott, Organist/Choir Master**

## **FROM THE MUSIC CORNER**

by William R. Memmott

### **FROM THE MUSIC CORNER**

In addition to Lenten and Easter music, we are preparing for the annual Palm Sunday Concert. This year's offering is the oratorio "The Redemption" by Charles Gounod (1818-1893). I have rendered a judicious edition that includes the most famous of Gounod's great choruses: "Lovely Appear, Over the Mountains," "Unfold, Ye Portals Everlasting," and "O Divine Redeemer." Although most choirs have performed these as separate anthems, I don't believe this great oratorio has ever been performed in New Orleans. Gounod's lyrical melodies and rich accompaniments demonstrate his deep spiritual nature. Be sure to mark your calendars and invite your family and friends. Remember that the women will provide a scrumptious luncheon following the concert (10:30 a.m., Sunday, April 9).

We also remind singers that it is not too late to join the choir for this outstanding presentation. We often say the words: "Shout for Joy to the Lord." Join us as we turn the words into song: "Sing for Joy to the Lord." The great genius of the great composers needs expression in singing and playing their great works. Be a part of their voice. the JCPC Choir is one of the great choirs of New Orleans. Join us!

### **SOLI DEO GLORIA**

#### **SPECIAL FOOTNOTE FROM THE MUSIC CORNER:**

Say it three times: Zimbelstern, Zimbelstern, Zimbelstern. What is it? Literally it means Star Bells. Our previous organ (the one that was destroyed by fire in 2000) had a stop called the Zimbelstern. So, what is it? It is a set of bells that are used to highlight the full organ sound. They are the "sprinkles" on top of the palate that is full organ. This stop is coming from Germany and will soon be installed. Watch for it (literally "listen for it").





# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By: Julie R. Hebert/Christian Education Leader



## THE YOUTH CORNER

January was a fun month to be a youth at John Calvin Presbyterian Church. With the start of the New Year, I have started to prepare a calendar of fun events for the children of the church. The events consist of a combination of service days, fun group events, and bible study.

The children had a great time on January 21<sup>st</sup> at Sector 6 (indoor trampoline park). We had a total of 12 youth and 4 chaperones. Thank you so much to Jeremy Moore, Wayne Tracy, and Arnold Zea for your help. After the event, we gathered in the library for devotional and pizza. We discussed the importance of the meaning of being a Christian. We talked about how to be a Christian on all days and not just Sunday. Also that being a Christian must come from within us by our actions and not just our words. The children finished with a game of heads-up and charades.



January 28<sup>th</sup> we will have a youth service day in the fellowship hall, cleaning out and decorating the Sunday school classrooms. This is important to the growth of our Sunday school program and the children will get service hours if needed.

I look forward to another fun month in February with Souper Bowl for Caring February 5<sup>th</sup> and the Mardi Gras parade event on February 12<sup>th</sup>.







Please join us in watching the  
Little Rascals Parade  
February 12 @ 12:30



Barnes and Nobles Parking Lot

**All children and congregation welcome**

## UPCOMING YOUTH CORNER EVENTS

The Children are collecting money for the hungry  
following the 10:30 service  
Super Bowl Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>



They can wear their favorite team's shirt in celebration

All proceeds will go to JCPC pantry to help feed the  
local homeless community

# Welcome JCPC's



## 2017 SESSION COMMITTEE ELDERS

On Sunday, January 15th, John Calvin Presbyterian Church Ordained and/or Installed the Class of 2019 Session Elders. The Elders of the Session not only work in conjunction with appointed volunteers for the betterment of the church, church family, outreach missions and playschool, they have taken a vow to provide spiritual oversight for members of the congregation, and are available to assist the Pastor in meeting such needs.

### **Resource/ Facilities**

**Co-Chair:** Sharon Kirk

**Co-Chair/Volunteer Clerk:** Bill Bottomley

**Facilities:** Mike Isham – Chair

#### **Finance Volunteers:**

David Garland – Treasurer / Executive Assistant

Evelyn Tobey - Offering Counter

### **Worship/Hospitality**

Danny Cain – Chair

Lorraine Hicks

Beverly Ross

Jeanette Spiess

### **Christian Education/Training**

Greg Freudenthal – Chair

Julie Hébert

Jeremy Moore

Wayne Tracy

### **Outreach/Congregational Life**

Sharon Fortin, Chairs

Richard Britson

Jananne Lankard

Barbara Remmelts

Suzanne Wooderson

### **Playschool**

Julie Etland – Co-Chair

Sheryl Wise – Co-Chair

Barbara Taylor

**Presbyterian Women:** Sandy Cranfill



## PROGRAM OF HOPE SCHEDULE 2017

In 2017, John Calvin will be responsible for providing lunches on the Wednesdays during the months of March and August. Both these months have 5 Wednesdays enabling us to serve 10 weeks during the year. We have planned for a special offering on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays in March – to cover our expenses for the year (\$200/wk.)

We would like to acknowledge and thank everyone for their continuing donations of clean clothes, toiletries, backpacks, etc. during the calendar year. For a complete list, please see the poster in the Narthex.

We will have additional to report after our Advisory Council Meeting on February 11. We would like to bring to your attention the many other services that are provided beyond those which are traditionally highlighted. Stay tuned.

Most Importantly, we wish to present our enthusiastic thanks to the Playschool Parents, Director and Staff for the huge donation of winter coats for those whom we serve. We so look forward to this contribution each year. The feedback from First Presbyterian has been outstanding.

# New JCPC Shirts!

Embroidered



Silk Screened



Embroidered

Embroidered



**Order your new shirt**

**February 12 or February 19 after worship**

for delivery before the Play School Fair

Is your blue John Calvin Presbyterian Church t-shirt

Too small?    **Too large?**    *Too worn?*

Do you prefer something with a collar? Or something a little more updated?

**We have choices!**

Come check out the choices after worship on the 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> and order the shirt for you.

We will have new baseball shirts, polo shirts and / or regular button down shirts.

**Don't like any of these options?**

Bring your own shirt and we will embroidery or silk screen it!



# Playschool News

We are WILD about learning through PLAY at John Calvin Presbyterian Playschool. This month we are learning about winter, Grandparents, Valentine's Day, and Mardi Gras.

## A COUPLE IMPORTANT PLAYSCHOOL DATES TO NOTE:

JANUARY 30: CHURCH MEMBER REGISTRATION

FEBRUARY 1: CURRENT STUDENTS/ SIBLINGS REGISTRATION

FEBRUARY 6: ALUMNI/ WAIT LIST REGISTRATION

FEBRUARY 6-10: GRANDPARENT'S WEEK & SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

FEBRUARY 13: OPEN REGISTRATION

FEBRUARY 15-16: GROUP PICTURES

FEBRUARY 27-MAR 3: MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS





READY... SET... GO! TIME TO GET READY FOR THE...  
**ANNUAL KID'S ART & FUN FESTIVAL**

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**MARCH 25, 2017**

**10:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & PLAYSCHOOL

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LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

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We are seeking volunteers to help with set up and take down, food and beverages, entertainment, vending, donations, and the silent auction. This is a wonderful outreach for our church and the playschool. Please plan to be a part of it. Be on the lookout for more details soon. We hope to see you there.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: JULIE ETLAND @ 504-329-3897



# **Snippets**

## **From Presbyterian Women**



Every year the Presbyterian Women of John Calvin Church select a worldwide mission to support. This year we have again selected Heifer International.

For more than 70 years Heifer International has partnered with and helped communities in 125 countries (including the USA) to attain sustainable livelihoods through community-owned interventions.

Heifer International empowers families to turn hunger and poverty into hope and prosperity....but their approach is more than just giving them a handout. Heifer links communities and helps bring sustainable agriculture and commerce to areas with a long history of poverty. The animals provide partners with both food and reliable income, as agricultural products such as milk, eggs and honey can be traded or sold at market.

When many families gain this new sustainable income, it brings new opportunities for building schools, creating agricultural cooperatives, forming community savings and funding small businesses.

### ***PASSING ON THE GIFT***

Families share the training they receive, and pass on the first female offspring of their livestock to another family. This extends the impact of the original gift, allowing a once impoverished family to become donors and full participants in improving their communities.

The goal of every Heifer project is to help families achieve self-reliance. Heifer does this by providing them the tools they need to sustain themselves.

You have the power to give a hungry family the training it takes to feed themselves and their children; to give a young girl a chance at an education; to empower a woman to have a voice in her community. Together, we can change the world, one family, one community at a time.

And it all starts with your gift.

The Heifer offering will take place on Sunday, February 12 and February 19, or you can send your donation to the church office. Please make your donation payable to JCPC and note Heifer on the memo line. Each donation made will be part of a matching fund program.



*Palermo, Joseph* 02/03

*Bone, Mark* 02/05

*Thomas, Ginny* 02/06

*Nelson, Lenny* 02/08

*Isham, Michael* 02/09

*Fish, Travis Michael* 02/12

*Morrell, Brenda* 02/14

*Corley, Gina* 02/19

*Boan, David* 02/22

*Etland, Ms. Juliana* 02/23

*Britson, Richard* 02/24

*Cox, Jan* 02/25

*Mullins, Gus* 02/25

*Price, Ernestine* 02/28

*Begg, Kathy Reish* 02/28











# EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar



## February

## March

- 1st: P/S Current Student & Sibling Reg.
- 2nd: Ground Hog's Day   
> PW Fun & Games 10:00-noon (Lbry)
- 5th: "Soup"erbowl Sunday in Narthex   
>C/E CM after Worship
- 6th: P/S Alumni / Waitlist Registration  
>Worship CM @ 7:00p (CR)
- 6th-10th: P/S Grandparents Week & Scholastic Book Fair
- 7th: PW CM 10:00-noon (Lbry)
- 12th: C/E: YG—Little Rascals Parade 
- 13th: P/S CM @ noon  
P/S Open Registration  
>Outreach CM @ 6:30p (Lbry)
- 14th: Valentine's Day   
>Lydia Circle Mtg @ 7:00p (Lbry)  
>Resource CM @ 7:00p (CR)
- 15th-16th: P/S Group Pictures (FH)
- 16th: PW Fun & Games 10:00-noon (Lbry)
- 20th: President's Day   
>Session Mtg @ 7:00p (Lbry)
- 21st: Grace Circle CM @ 9:30 (Lbry)
- 23rd-24th:  P/S Parades in FH
- 27th : Lundi Gras 
- 27th-28th: Church Office and Playschool closed for MG Holiday
- 28th: Mardi Gras 

**Note:** Committee Mtg. time changes may not be reflected.  
above times are based on a reoccurring schedule only.

- 1st: Ash + Wednesday  
> POH @ 1st Presbyterian  
>Wednesday Night Live @ 6:00p (FH)
- 2nd: PW Fun & Games 10:00-noon (Lbry)
- 5th: C/E: Youth Service Day/SPCA @ 1:00p
- 6th: Worship CM @ 7:00p (CR)
- 7th: PW CM 10:00-noon (Lbry)  
> POH Sandwiches (FH)
- 8th: POH @ 1st Presbyterian  
>Wednesday Night Live @ 6:00p (FH)
- 12th: Daylight Savings Time Begins   
>C/E CM after Worship
- 13th: P/S CM @ noon  
>Outreach CM @ 6:30p (Lbry)
- 14th: POH Sandwiches (FH)  
>Lydia Circle Mtg @ 7:00p (Lbry)  
>Resource CM @ 7:00p (CR)
- 15th: POH @ 1st Presbyterian  
>Wednesday Night Live @ 6:00p (FH)
- 16th: PW Fun & Games 10:00-noon (Lbry)
- 17th: St. Patrick's Day 
- 20th: Spring   
>Session Mtg @ 7:00p (Lbry)
- 21st: POH Sandwiches (FH)  
>Grace Circle CM @ 9:30 (Lbry)
- 22nd: POH @ 1st Presbyterian  
>Wednesday Night Live @ 6:00p (FH)
- 24th: A&FF Set-up (FH)  
>C/E: YG Service Hours—A&FF set-up
- 25th: Art & Fun Fest @ 9:00—3:00p  
>C/E: YG Service Hours—A&FF break-down
- 28th: > POH Sandwiches (FH)
- 29th: POH @ 1st Presbyterian  
>Wednesday Night Live @ 6:00p (FH)

**Note:** Committee Mtg. time changes may not be reflected.  
above times are based on a reoccurring schedule only.



# **John Calvin Presbyterian Church**



*“Freed by the Fire, Renewed by the Flood, and Empowered by the Spirit”*