

CALVIN COMMENTARY

JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JUNE 2018

METAIRIE, LA 70006

504.888.1375

www.johncalvinchurch.org



**“The righteous walks in integrity;
happy are the children who follow them!”**

Proverbs 20:7

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Harry been gone for a month!



Do you remember that the Session put together an Interim Pastor Search Team? It is comprised of Julie Etland, Beverly Ross, Tony Hill, Richard Britson, and Sharon Fortin with support from Bill Bottomley and David Garland.

As of the end of May, we (the search team) have received 7 resumes from pastors interested in John Calvin Presbyterian Church and fulfilling the role of Interim Pastor. We have whittled this down to 3 top candidates and are preparing to hold “preliminary” phone interviews. While we are working toward these preliminary interviews, we will be checking references and listening to sermons.

The timing is a bit slowed, due to the Yard Sale (June 1 and 2 – come one, come all) and the fact that we are hosting the Presbytery Meeting (June 5). No rest for anyone at John Calvin! Hopefully we will complete these preliminary interviews by June 10.

If one or more of these 3 candidates work out well, the Presbytery will do an additional check and we will work toward bringing them in for a formal interview.

If none of these folks works out, we will go back to Presbytery for additional resumes and start the process again.

How does someone get hired? When the search team has settled on the right individual, and is ready to extend an offer, we will take our recommendation to the Presbytery for review, then to the Session for review and approval. At that point, we tell the congregation who we have hired and when they will start.

But what about the congregation? When do you get to weigh in on this person and this process? The truth is that you already weighed in when you elected the Session. The Presbyterian Church is a “representative government”. You elect individuals to represent you and those individuals act on your behalf. An Interim Pastor is hired by the Session just the same as an Office Professional, a Music Director, a Youth Leader, a Custodian, or anyone else, except a permanent Pastor.

But don't worry, we have a very representative group and no one is letting any one individual's opinions take over. We are working carefully and most of all prayerfully through a thoughtful process to bring in the best Interim Pastor we can find.

Please continue to pray for us and for this wonderful church. Shower thanks and blessings on Beverly Ross, and the rest of the Worship Committee, who have Worship Leaders planned out through the end of August!

***PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL NOT BE HAVING AN 8:30 WORSHIP SERVICE, UNTIL AN INTERIM PASTOR IS IN PLACE**

A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

Back when our Founding Fathers were putting together the structure of our government, they recognized that not every citizen could vote on every decision the government needed to make, yet they didn't want a dictator to decree the decision or a monarch to tell them how things should go. Many of these Founding Fathers were Presbyterian! It is in the government of the Presbyterian Church that they found the answer.

A representative government is one where the members elect individuals to represent them. We elect Senators and Representatives to go to Baton Rouge and to Washington D.C. to represent us and run the business of Government. Likewise, John Calvin Presbyterian Church elects individuals to our Session to run the business of our Church.

One definition of a "Presbyterian" church is that it has this representative form of government. There are many parts of our doctrine that create a Presbyterian church, but from an organizational standpoint, it is this representative government that is common to all. There are many different Presbyterian Church denominations within the US and around the world with different beliefs from those of Presbyterian Church (USA), or PCUSA, which we are a part of, but all have this same representative form of government.

We elect members of the Session to attend Presbytery Meetings, and members of the Presbytery to work with the Synod (Ours is the Synod of the Sun) and from there, elect members to attend the General Assembly. It is all Representative Government.

So how does this affect bringing in a new Pastor? Once we have an Interim Pastor in place and have done whatever work is necessary to truly know who we are, the Session will appoint a nominating committee to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee. Yes, you read it right, we will form a committee to elect members to a committee. It's the Presbyterian way. This small "n" nominating committee will work to find the right people to find our new pastor. You will elect the Pastor Nominating Committee from the recommendations of the small "n" nominating committee just the same way you elect members to the Session, from the group that nominates them each year. Are you still with me?

The Pastor Nominating Committee or PNC, for short, will go through a similar process to call us a new permanent Pastor that we have done for the Interim. However, while we "hire" an Interim, the permanent Pastor is "called". The PNC will nominate the person they recommend, who will then need approval from Presbytery and then our Session, and when they have passed all of these tests, you will have an opportunity to vote "yes" or "no" to call them as your new pastor. You will not have a chance to listen to them preach a sermon before you vote – that's Representative Government.

Hang in there! We'll make our way through all of this!

Stop a minute and have a chat with God about this process and the people representing you. Stop a minute and pray for our church, that we find that person out there needing to come to us and that we need to come.

You might stop a minute and say a prayer for the representative government, too!!



@ JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE MUSIC CORN ER



By: William R. Memmott, Organist/Choir Master

FROM THE MUSIC CORNER

“So this is your first organ lesson” (he said facetiously). “You may have attended the dedication of the new pipe organ in 2004. Although that was a beautiful service, little was said about what this instrument is all about. From what many have said about the organ over the years, it is obvious that organ ignorance seems to be the rule.

“To begin with: the pipes represent many different instruments that fall into four categories: Diapasons, Flutes, Strings and Reeds (plus a few important control mechanisms that connect them). It is indeed The King of Instruments. These various drawknobs allow the organist to control its resources using Pistons (between the keyboards) which are preset in various groupings.

“Various combinations are used for separate parts of the worship service. Softer combinations are used for solo sections like Preludes and Anthem Accompaniments. Louder combinations are used for Hymn Accompaniments. Tutti (full organ combinations) are reserved for Postludes and Recital Solos. We will have to study this topic carefully. There will be those who criticize your choices, but, as many experts have noted: the organ has a voice, let it speak.

“A note about hymn accompaniments. Although many of us like to use Tutti combinations, others prefer the organist to use reduced resources. Although there are 17 different instruments available (Tutti), the organist usually uses only four ranks on the Great (lower keyboard). This combination is balanced against a softer number of ranks on the Swell (upper keyboard) together with a few ranks on the Pedal (played by the feet).

“You will need to study how to Couple these manuals together, and how to use the Swell Shades (movable louvers) that control the loudness of the Swell Division, and when to turn on the Zimbelstern (star bells recently added) – usually used during the Gloria Patri.

“A word about the Postludes. Recently a parishioner was overheard commenting that she couldn’t complain about how loud the organ was because it was so loud. Of course, she was talking during the Postlude (which is usually on a Tutti combination). Since this is part of the service, she should expect not to be heard during its interpretation (move to the Narthex if you want to be heard talking during this non-speaking portion).

“Enjoy your organ lessons as we examine how the organ is best used for service playing and solo work.”

SOLI DEO GLORIA

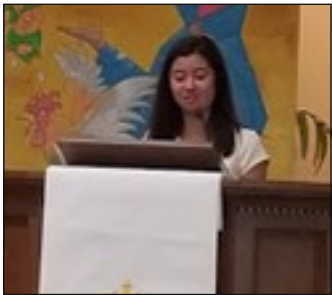


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By: Julie R. Hebert/Christian Education Leader



THE YOUTH CORNER



Another Sunday School year has come and gone. The children learned so much this year. I am already working towards fall and an upcoming confirmation class. Sunday classes resume September 9th.



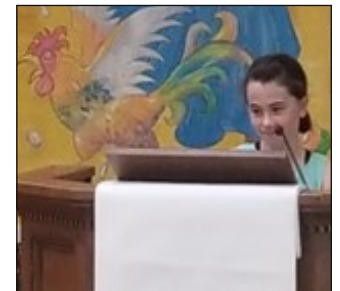
On April 28th the youth attended Second Harvest and helped package Cane's Bread for the local food bank. We had 11 youth attend and were very proud of their volunteer efforts.



May 13th the youth put on a great Mother's day worship service. I was very proud of them and their speaking in front of the church. The service went smooth and had a great message.



May 20th was our end of Sunday school party. The children enjoyed Pizza and Cupcakes. They played volleyball and ran through the sprinkler. They loved receiving their raffle prizes for Sunday School attendance.



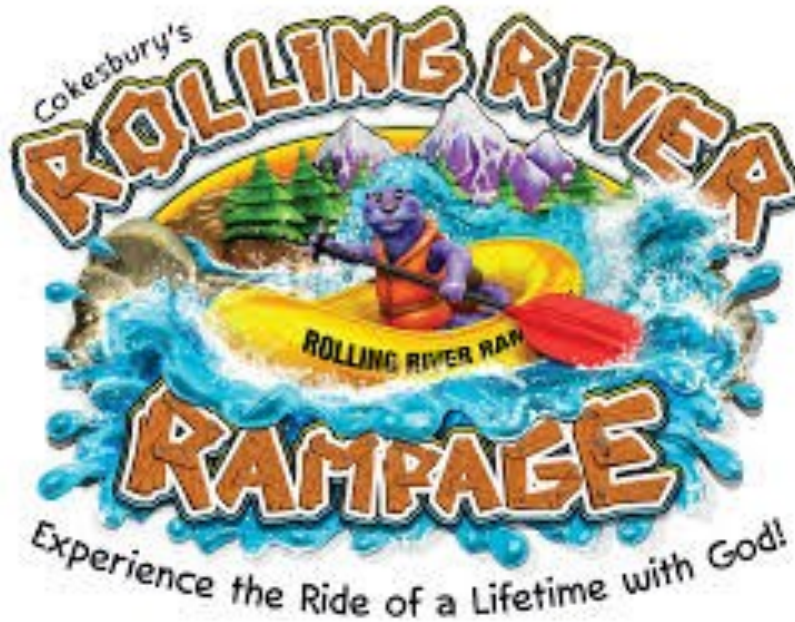
HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!!



**John Calvin Presbyterian Church
Vacation Bible School
July 23-27, 2018**

9:00-Noon

Ages 3(by 1/1/17 and potty-trained) – Age 10



You may register online at

<https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/johncalvinpresbyterianchurch>

Fees: \$30.00 Church Members_____ \$35.00 Non-Members_____

Child's Name_____Child's gender_____

Child's Age_____ Date of birth_____

JCPC Playschool Student _____ Grade completed_____

Mother's Name _____ Cell#_____

Father's Name _____ Cell#_____

Address_____

Email Address_____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone:_____ Relationship to child:_____

Interested in volunteering...please contact: Julie Hebert 504-888-1375

THE JOY OF SECOND HARVEST



Second Harvest Food Bank
Greater New Orleans and Acadiana

When sorting food at Second Harvest, invariably one is faced with a twist. Take the most recent activity faced by our volunteers, on the morning of Saturday, April 28. The allotted task: to re-package the “end pieces” of bread loaves – not used by Canes – packing 4 ends to a package. Regardless of the seemingly mundane aspect of the assigned task, it never falls short of providing fun and joy for the volunteers – youth or adult. It must be the challenge for the volunteer to respond with efficiency and speed – with the end game in sight – to help others.

Canes must be doing something right with its chicken business – 1200 pounds of bread were repackaged by the joint effort of the volunteers from John Calvin and Country Day School. 21 volunteers participated from John Calvin: 11 youth and 10 adults. Thanks to Julie Hebert for her work with the youth. Your volunteers: **Sebastian, Jonathan, and Arnold Zea, Caleb and Julie Hebert. Megan, Mia, and Nancy Lauland, Greg and Matthew Freudenthal, Josh Bush, Travis Fish, Eli Lagraize, Layne Corcoran, Laurie and Portia Robinson, Buddy Haw, Barbara Eagan, Sharon and Mike Fortin, James Brown, and Richard Britson.**



TEN YEARS! That's how long John Calvin has been helping second graders from Alice Birney improve their reading skills. Congratulations to our six 2018 graduates!

This year's tutors from John Calvin were: Sue Crawford, Sandy Cranfill, Jananne Lankard, and Linda Lowry. Previous years' tutors have included Richard Britson, Lenny Nelson, and Beverly Ross.

You too can serve! STAIR (Start the Adventure in Reading) begins in September and ends in May. Tutors volunteer on either Monday or Wednesday from 3:15 – 5:00 PM. Tutors attend a brief training then follow the STAIR curriculum. No experience necessary!



Playschool Art & Fun Fair Update



The results are in . . . This year's Playschool Art & Fun Fair earned over \$17,000! The money will go to much needed drainage improvements to the Playground.

Again, many thanks to the John Calvin congregation for your help and support in making our Playschool such a success!

**Jonathan
Zea
06/01**

*Cindy
Freudenthal
06/02*

**Jane
Malsbary
06/18**

**Dennis
Price
06/17**

**William
Fernandez
06/11**

**Ann
Miller
06/30**

*Kai
Magri
06/12*

**Sabastian
Trail Zea
06/24**

**Kate
Russo
06/10**

HAPPY
June
BIRTHDAY

**Brock
Moore
06/18**

**Mary Lou
Janoe
06/09**

**Gregory
Freudenthal
06/16**

**Kelly
Trail Zea
06/25**

**Freddie
Marler
06/18**

**Paul
Palermo
06/13**

**Sarah
Springler
06/04**

**Connie
Casey
06/09**

EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar



June

July

1st-2nd: Youth/Project Hope Garage Sale 8am-noon



5th: Presbytry Stated Mtg @ JCPC - All Day
>Worship CM 5:30p/CR



10th: C/E CM after Worship

11th: P/S Summer Camp Wk-1
>Outreach CM @ 6:30p (Lbry)

12th: Resource @ 7:00p (CR)

16th: 23rd Genr'l Assembly Convenes



17th: Father's Day



18th: P/S Summer Camp Wk-2
>Session Mtg @ 7:00p (Lib)

20th: American Eagle Day



21st: Summer Begins

22nd: 23rd Genr'l Assembly Ends



27th: Last Choir Practice Before Summer

2nd: Worship CM @ 5:30p (CR)

4th: Independence Day
>Church Office Holiday



8th: C/E CM after Worship

9th: P/S Summer Camp Wk-3
>Outreach CM @ 6:30p (Lbry)
>JCPC Youth Week @ Mo Ranch

10th: Resource @ 7:00p (CR)

18th: P/S Summer Camp Wk-4
>Session Mtg @ 7:00p (Lib)

23rd: JCPC VBS
>JCPC Youth Week @ Montreat

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"