



First Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Church School: 9:15 a.m.
Worship 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
110 North Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Phone (850) 222-4504 Fax (850) 222-2215
email: office@oldfirstchurch.org
website: www.oldfirstchurch.org
June 15, 2010

If you missed our
Ode to Bertha
you may access it on our
website www.oldfirstchurch.org.
It is worth a listen.



A Paraphrase of Psalm 149 from *The Psalter*, 1912
altered and expanded by Michael Corzine
The Day of Pentecost, May 23, 2010

Ode to Bertha

Give praise to the LORD, and sing a new song!
Amid all the saints Big Bertha belongs!
A song to her service and coolness now raise,
All balcony dwellers, rejoice and give praise!

With loudest of roar, to life she still comes;
With dimming of lights, she faithfully runs.
Although for God's faithful cold air she does blow,
To "green" our envir'nment: Big Bertha must go!

In glory exult, all saints of the LORD;
Your praise and some fright Big Bertha accord.
We'll miss you, dear Bertha, but this is our song:
"Your cooling has blessed us; O servant: Well done!"

[LAUDATE DOMINUM: 10.10.11.11.
Presbyterian Hymnal 257]

Sanctuary Renovations Continue



**Sunday,
June 20, 2010
To All
FPC
Dads!**



Pastor's Column

Brant S. Copeland

Worship in the Westminster Room has a different "feel," doesn't it? Those of you in the "body of the kirk" are in close proximity to one another. You might also find yourself next to someone you have seen from a distance for years, but have seldom conversed with. Not only can you hear the people around you sing. You can also hear them cough, sneeze and comment. (I heard some comments myself. I'm not very far away, remember?)

As for me, a sermon written to be preached from a tall pulpit won't work well in a small room. I'm having to make adjustments. I haven't preached in such an intimate setting since my days as a seminary intern.

I imagine worship in the early days of the church was a bit like this. It took place in homes. There were no padded folding chairs, but I imagine intimacy was the prevailing aesthetic. By the fourth century or so, worship was taking place in public buildings. The move to basilicas provided acoustical and architectural space, but also put some distance between members of the assembly. I can imagine that some people longed for the "good old days" of house churches while others were glad to have the space.

Here are suggestions for worship this summer, based on three Sunday's worth of experience:

1. Dress cool. The air conditioning system struggles to keep up when the outside temperature is 90 degrees and there are a hundred people in the room. It's a heat pump, not Big Bertha. This week we'll have the system checked to make sure it's functioning to full capacity. Ceiling fans are also being considered. Don't give up! It should be a bit cooler this Sunday.
2. Come to the 9:00 a.m. service. We're averaging 50 at 9:00 and close to 100 at 10:45. The more who come at 9:00, the less the pressure at 10:45.
3. PLEASE sit toward the front – especially at the 10:45 service. I know this goes against the grain, but you can do it!
4. USHERS – please welcome people, keep an eye out for empty seats, and direct people to the seats toward the front. Ushering in Westminster isn't like ushering in the sanctuary. This summer, ushers really have to ush.
5. Go with the flow! I challenge you to "go bulletinless" this summer. The order of service follows the classic "ordo" which Christians have been using from the earliest days of the church. You don't really need that piece of paper. You already know how to worship. Relax and let the service flow.

Some history: The pulpit we're using in the Westminster Room came from the former chapel, now the Calvin Room. The Florida Archives have a 1922 photo of the interior of the sanctuary which shows the same pulpit in the sanctuary. I assume it was saved after the 1932 renovation and installed in the Education Building chapel when it was built in the early 1950's. I suppose it could date back to the 1840's, but I doubt it's as old as that. Somewhere along the line, the marble top was badly chipped. I don't think a preacher could have done that from pounding on the pulpit for emphasis, but no one can be sure. There's no underestimating the effects of vigorous preaching.

Dogwood Acres Summer Camp

We have children and youth from our church attending our Presbytery's camp, Dogwood Acres during the following weeks: Week 4 (June 27-July 2), Week 6 (July 18-23), Week 7 (July 15-30) and Week 8 (August 1-6). If you haven't signed up your second through twelfth grader there are still spaces available during several weeks of camp. You can go to www.dogwoodacres.org and see what other weeks are being offered and fill out a registration form. Our own Lynne Harman will be the assistant director at the camp for the whole summer. If you are an adult who would like to volunteer to help with Sunday afternoon check-in at the camp, or spend a week there being the camp nurse, please contact Christy Williams for more information.

First Presbyterian Church Summer Camp Program

June 28 – July 23
8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

We are filling up!!

Register soon for us to hold a spot for your child.

Every weekday we gather with children who have finished Kindergarten – finished 7th grade for a faith-based, activity filled day.

Brochures can be downloaded from the church website.

Our Middle School Track is almost full.

Help Needed!

We will be needing two sets of ushers, readers, and communion servers through the summer.

If you are willing to help out, please e-mail Diana McAda at office@oldfirstchurch.org.

LECTIONARY READINGS

June 20, 2010

(12th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

1 Kings 19:1-4 (5-7)6-15a; Ps. 42 and 43; Gal. 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

9:00 a.m. Service

Our **Usher** will be Helen Walsh.

Elders to serving communion will be Margaret and Bob Stakenas.

Our **Reader** will be Dani Ebaugh.

10:45 a.m. Service

Ushers will be Jean and Tom Souter.

Elders serving communion will be Peggy West, Pat Johnson, Bill and Elaine Swain.

Our **Reader** will be Marion Moore.

June 27, 2010

(13th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Ps. 77:1-2, 11-20; Gal. 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

9:00 a.m. Service

Ushers will be Davis and Virginia Thomas.

Our **Reader** will be Davis Thomas.

10:45 a.m. Service

Ushers will be Margaret Allen and Elaine Swain.

Our **Reader** will be Douglass Seaton.

Summer Church School and Childcare

We are on our Summer Schedule which means that no church school classes will meet. Childcare will begin just before 9:00 a.m. through Noon in the main floor nursery for infants through preschoolers. Church School classes will resume on Sunday, August 22 at 9:15 a.m.

Summer Newsletter Dates

June 29

July 13

July 27

Have any information you wish included into the church office at noon on the Monday prior to mailing.

Summer Worship Hours

During the Sanctuary remodeling, we will be worshipping in the Westminster Room each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Please join us.



Thank you to all the **Friends** of First Presbyterian Preschool who have contributed to the recent Friends' Campaign. All gifts support the *Belinda Kelly Way Scholarship Fund* of the Preschool and benefit several families with partial scholarships for the coming school year. We are grateful for all recent gifts to the Fund. We are also aware that the current need for help with tuition is bigger than the Scholarship Fund can presently supply. Several of our families have an unemployed or underemployed parent and in such circumstances we work hard to make it possible for the child to continue to attend Preschool.

The Scholarship Fund is open all year and memorial gifts or special gifts can be made at any time. Monthly pledges are another way to contribute. Through the years generous **Friends of the Preschool** have helped many children attend the Preschool and benefit from the love and learning that are part of the First Presbyterian Preschool family.

Andra Copeland, Director