

Long Beach Presbyterian

BEACON

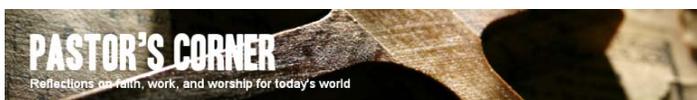
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Keeping It Simple

Most of us have endless to-do lists and with the start of school the lists get longer not shorter. The fact that most of us live at such a fast pace makes the idea of Sabbath even more important. I was reminded of this when we were on our family vacation recently. To have a day with slack is a blessing. Think of that slack as white space on a page. An attractive printed page has white space. It is spots of quietness so the story or the photograph can be highlighted. A life with no "white space" is exhausting on every level. An intentional, regularly practiced, no excuses permitted Sabbath puts the white spaces back in our lives.



Sabbath stands in opposition to the frantic screaming for attention surrounding us. It invites the joy of a book, a long story, a meandering walk, a simple meal shared with friends and family. Sabbath can be games around the table with those we love.

Sabbath also welcomes others to share a meal, to tell their stories, to play and to worship. Sabbath gives both yourself and others permission to take a nap. Sabbath rekindles love and care of one's body and soul. Sabbath is able to say I have enough and offers thanks to God for that gift.

Sabbath can also be about forgiveness. What resentments have you and I been carrying that should have been given up already? Perhaps the offer of forgiveness will lighten our souls. For some it may even offer a new freedom and, given the circumstances, it may offer a new freedom to others as well.

Sabbath also can make us aware of our interdependence as a Western culture that is too much about carrying the whole load of life by ourselves. Sabbath is a time to practice gratitude. Gratitude is a way of approaching life that will serve you extremely well. Enjoy the life God has given you. Remember that God loves you in spite of your failures or dark secrets.

While you remember God loves you also remember God loves everyone else as well...every person of every religion, every culture and every color. And because God loves everyone during Sabbath we can think of ways to help others, even those different from us when we reenter the "doing" part of life.

As Jesus said: *"The Sabbath was made for man; not man for the Sabbath."*

A SPECIAL NOTE:

Special prayers for all of our students, their parents and our teachers as they enter a new school year. Education is a wonderful gift. Blessings on you all!

Faithfully,
Pastor Jim



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Billie Holzweissig - 2 nd | Frances Favre - 22 nd |
| Lucy Braud - 4 th | Sarah Hill - 23 rd |
| Keli Paniku - 14 th | Steve See - 24 th |
| Jeffrey Lyons - 18 th | Keith Cox - 25 th |
| Johnny Lackey - 20 th | Lauren Falks - 25 th |
| Eric Niemann - 21 st | Ruth Lewis - 25 th |



We thank everyone who has been bringing food donations on Sundays in support of the Long Beach Community Food Pantry. Our ongoing food drive is greatly appreciated by the organization which helps to eliminate hunger in our community.



Thank you to all who cooked for and attended our annual Hot Dog/Potluck Fellowship last month. We have included several pictures of the event on the next page. Please also join us after worship today (July 30th) and on August 27th for our monthly after-worship Fellowships.



Our readers for
the month of July will be:



6th - Steve Dees
13th - Tal Flurry

20th - Keith Cox
27th - Bill Blackman



Downstage Productions Presents
Legally Blonde - The Musical
 With our very own Lauren Falks as Chutney.

5003 Lawson Ave • Gulfport, MS 39507
 July 28-30 and August 4-6 at 8:00pm

Tickets available online at
<http://www.downstagestore.com/>



We are asked to please remember the following in our prayers:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Barnett Family | Tom, Regina |
| Boswell Family | & Isaac McCarty |
| Cono Caranna | Jamie |
| & Family | Peterman Family |
| Corcoran Family | Ramsay Family |
| Art Holzweissig | Stacey Stone |
| Matthew | Mary Westmoreland |



Session

- In July we collected \$289.15 in donations for Long Beach Outreach which was forwarded to the group.
- **Correction** - Last month's Beacon incorrectly reported that \$274.00 was collected in May for Long Beach Outreach. The month should have been listed as June.
- Eleven Oaks Forge has completed fabrication of our new front railings and will be installing them shortly.
- We have selected a Trahern Plumbing to replace the water line from the meter box to the church. Work should begin soon with weather permitting.
- Due to Rev. Hightower's vacation there was no monthly Session meeting in July.

Treasurer's Report

	Income	Expenses	Difference
June 2017	\$ 5,560.46	\$ 4,086.64	\$ 1,473.82
YTD 2017	\$ 31,535.74	\$ 23,627.24	\$ 7,908.50

Visit Our Website

Find us online at
<http://LBPCUSA.org>

Find us on Facebook

And our Facebook page at
<http://Facebook.com/LBPCUSA>.

You can view our Facebook page even if you don't have a Facebook account but, if you do have one, click the Like button to be notified when we post updates.

The following photographs are from the worship service and Hot Dog/Potluck Fellowship on July 2, 2017.



Send us information to include in the Beacon

We would love to share any family pictures or news that you have with others in the congregation. Not everyone has Facebook! Please send anything you would like us to include by one of the methods below.

By email: Lbpcusa@outlook.com

By hand: Give to Keith Cox, Ruth Lewis or place in the collection plate at Sunday Worship.

By phone: Leave a message on the church answering machine at 228-863-7633.

(Phone messages are checked on Saturdays)

To receive the Beacon by email, please send a request including your name and email address to Lbpcusa@outlook.com. Please note that this will be maintained as a private email list and only used for Long Beach Presbyterian Church communications.