

THE BEACON

Upcoming Dates

August 1

Spirit Quest Worship
6:30 PM

August 2

Senior Dinner, 6:00 PM

August 3

Community Movie Night
Dark

August 5

Youth Meeting - Noon

August 16

School Supply Store

August 24

Community Movie Night
Dark

August 26

Youth Meeting - Noon

College Student
Welcome Back Cookout
6:00-8:00 PM

August 28

Church Council - 6:30 PM

In J.B. Phillips classic book, *Your God is Too Small*, he writes that too many of us are crippled by a limited idea of God. As a people of faith, Phillips contends that often our understanding of God is too small. We limit God in who God is and what God can do. Rather than being the God who created all things, redeems all things, and sustains all things, God is boxed in by our narrow and restrictive understanding of the nature and character of God. God becomes small and thus our faith follows suit.

Jesus often spoke to the disciples saying, "O you of little faith." When Jesus expected more from his followers they often let him down by failing to trust God fully. Their "little faith" often kept them from experiencing the full possibilities of what God could do in their lives. Their faith simply came up short and the gap between their lives and what was possible in God was too great for them to overcome.

Jesus also speaks these words to us today as individuals and as the church. We too have the tendency to limit God and make God smaller than He is. We forget the power and awesomeness of God and all that God can do. Hence, we too can be a people of "little faith."

As the church, however, we are called to trust in God with every aspect of our congregational life. We must trust God with our ministries, our worship, our resources, and our mission. We must believe that with God all things are indeed possible, rather than limiting his power. The apostle Paul in offering a blessing to the church at Ephesus said these words,

"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish far more than all we can ask or imagine."

What is that you imagine for our church? What are your hopes and dreams for our congregation? Are they too small or are we stepping out in faith and believing that God can go far beyond our dreams and our imaginations? God is ready to do wonders in our midst if we are willing to trust him. There is no limit to what God can do. We must simply dream big and know that with God all things are possible. So let us live in faith believing that God is greater than our understanding of God. God's power is limitless, thus so too is our future as a church.

In Christ,

Philip

Clint's Corner

Prophet and/or Priest

Frederika Brandeis, mother of Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis, once said, "I do not believe that sins can be expiated by going to divine service and observing this or that formula; I believe that only goodness and truth and conduct that is humane and self-sacrificing towards those who need us can bring God nearer to us, and that our errors can only be atoned for by acting in a more kindly spirit." It has further been suggested by biography Melvin Urofsky that the Brandeis family "subscribed to the Judaism of the prophets, with its exalted moral teachings and idealism, and not to the Judaism of the priests, with its emphasis on rules and rituals."

If you make the distinction between prophet and priest, you are not alone. If you happen to choose to live your life as one more than the other, again, you would not be alone. Many of us will choose one over the other. One will say, "If I go to church and say all the prayers and sing all the songs, then I have fulfilled my obligation as a follower of Christ," while another will say, "I do not need the church, and the church does not really need me. I prefer to go where the real need exists, which is outside the church, where mercy and justice need to be extended with a compassionate hand."

Priests could be a bit rigid, I suppose, as they were known as ritual specialists and mediators between God and people. They were highly trained and educated, their functions including sacrifice, divination, and teaching. One would go to the temple or synagogue if they wanted to find a priest. Prophets, like priests, were religious specialists, but they worked in different arenas and possessed different qualifications. Prophets were called to speak on behalf of God, and their calling typically took them away from the temple, not inside it. One might wander in the wilderness or journey to distant lands if they wanted to find a prophet. Chances are, the prophet would find them first.

Jesus was known by some as a prophet. After he raised the son of a widow in Nain, the people responded, "A great prophet has risen among us!" Jesus was also known as a priest, for the author of Hebrews writes, "For it was fitting that we should have a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens." But the title Jesus took for himself far more than any other was "Son of Man." So simple, and yet this title contains within itself both the shame and glory of Jesus Christ. Within Jesus resides the glory of the exalted priesthood, and within him also resides the shame of a rejected prophet. In Jesus we have an image of both priest AND prophet, not priest OR prophet. So let us now reflect upon our own image, and what the image of Christ as priest and prophet means for those of us who call ourselves his followers.



The church wishes to thank everyone who help serve in our Caritas Ministry for this summer. The church wishes to especially thank Jennifer Downer for giving leadership to this important ministry. A special thanks is also given to Marie Johnstone for all her extra help.



School Supply Store: August 16th 6-8 PM

Donations needed as well as volunteers

Contact Jennifer if you would like to volunteer.

Place in box outside of Baptist Center Office by August 15th

Items Needed:

Black & Blue Ink Pens
 3x5 lined white index cards
 Zipper Pencil Pouches (to fit into notebooks)
 High Lighters (yellow)
 Magic Markers (thick & thin)
 Crayons (pack of 24)
 "Big 8" basic crayons
 Colored Pencils
 Portfolio Pocket Folders w/prongs
 3 ring binder notebooks (2 inch & 1 ½ inch)
 Divider Tabs for 3 ring binders (8 subject)

1-subject spiral notebooks
 Glue Sticks (lots & lots)
 Scissors (blunt & pointed – Fiskar brand or similar type)
 Children's watercolor paint set (Plastic box w/ paint & brush)
 Ruler (with inches & centimeters) clear plastic is best.
 Erasers (pencil top & block)
 Regular sized bottles of Hand Sanitizer (for class-rooms)
 Zip Lock Bags (gallon & quart)

July 31, 2012

Dear VBS Volunteers:



What a great adventure we had on Promise Island learning about the various ways God stands by us. The children, averaging forty in attendance each night, had a wonderful experience at Vacation Bible School again this year, and so much of the credit goes to you. One of the things that always contributes to a great Vacation Bible School experience is the energy and creativity that goes in to making a time of fun-filled learning for the children. Vacation Bible School was made possible again by the energetic and creative efforts of over thirty dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers like yourself. With deep appreciation I offer my gratitude to you for sharing your time, energy, gifts, and talents that contributed to making this year's Vacation Bible School a success.

Sincerely,

Clint

Coming in September

SpiritQuest

from sparks to flames

Wednesday

Nights begin-

ning September 5

New Dinner Time - 6:00 PM

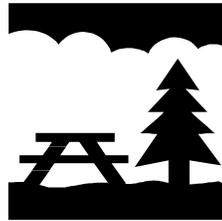
Small Group - Bible Study - 6:45 PM

Annual Church Picnic

Sunday, September 9, 3:00-7:00 PM

Roslyn Conference Center

**Annual
Business Meeting**



Church Busi-

Wednesday, September 19

6:45 PM

Budget and nominations reports

Budget Report Through July

Budget : **\$152,108**
Given to Date: **\$141,046**
Variance: **-\$11,046**

**Contributions were made to the
Properties Endowment in memory of:**

Marion McCook, Billy Wells

**Contributions were made to the Ministries Endow-
ment in memory of:**

Marion McCook, Groome and Riggleman families

**Contributions were made to the
General Fund in honor of:**

Ted Hairfield, Robert and Clara Hagan

My Church Family,

Thank you for all the love and support you have given us over the last few months. Your prayers, cards, and visits meant a lot to Ted and his family. No words can express the full measure of our appreciation.



God Bless You,
Judy Hairfield and
family

Dear Pine Street Family,

With a grateful heart I want to thank you for the cards, prayers, and visits during my recent illness. Your kind words and deeds brought me much comfort, support, and encouragement during this time in my life. You are special, and I am so happy to be a part of the Pine Street family.

Sincerely,

Jean Neisz

August Birthdays

1: Charles Clark
3: Alex McRae
4: Waverly Ann Jackson
6: Margaret Gibson
Susan Walker
Lindsey Greenstreet
7: Tiffany Rowe
8: Joyce Inge
9: Jennifer Turner
10: Mark Thacker
11: Wayne Floyd
Virginia Rickman
12: Marie Johnstone
15: Hannah Turner
19: Hilda Groome
20: Rob Johnston
21: Maxine Hill
28: Betty West
Lisa Crigger
30: Leslie McCauley
31: Susie St. John
Bessie Wharam

Anniversaries

4: Richard and Margaret Lacy
12: Tony and Karen Lawson
21: Larry and Betty Thomas

**Pine Street Baptist Church
A Steadfast Fellowship of Grace**

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**We're on the web at:
www.pinestbaptist.com**



***Welcome Back Cookout for our
College Neighbors***

**Sunday, August 26
6:00 - 8:00 PM
Pleasants Park**

Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs provided.
Music, door prizes, and more.

Church members will be needed to provide the side items:
baked beans, potato salad, chips, cookies
Sign up to bring a dish on Sundays and Wednesdays