

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

124 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08542-3224

Office (609) 924-1666 • Fax (609) 924-0365 • Church Building (609) 924-1332

E-mail: wITHERSPOON@verizon.net

Website: www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG

Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education
Christo Claassens, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director
Amy Shortt, Interim Organist
Lydie Dews, Men's Chorus Director

July 30, 2006

10:00 a.m.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Enter Reverently, Meditate Quietly, Worship Devoutly,
Leave Gratefully, Serve Christ Faithfully*

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Come, Let Us Worship the Lord

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sisters and brothers, as we gather in the welcome of God's love, as we gather in the joy of our unity in Christ, as we gather in the power of the Spirit, let us listen for the voice of God.

People: **Let us worship God, who has spoken and still speaks to those who attend to the roar or the whisper of the Holy One.**

All: *Let us worship the living, loving God!*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

All: **We have entered your chapel, O God, where there are memories of saints, messages of peace, imperatives of prophets; where death is overcome by resurrection and the pain of living turned into redemption; where sin is erased by grace, arrogance overcome by humility and despair replaced with hope. We are here, and you are waiting for us to receive these gifts. Make it possible during our time together to move closer to you and your will. Amen.**

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*HYMN OF PRAISE

To God Be the Glory

#485

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Confession is God's invitation to repentance, and authentic repentance, in turn, is the key that opens the floodgates of forgiveness. *The sacrifice acceptable to God is...a humble and repentant heart.* Let us gladly accept

the invitation to cleanse ourselves by confessing together the ways in which we have mismanaged God's gift of life and earth. Let us confess our sins in God's presence.

All: **Sometimes, O God, we do not expect too much from you; we expect too little. Our lives are not filled with "great expectations." Sometimes your promises seem outlandish, so unlikely as to be laughable. We are afraid that your promise, like our promises, may be broken and we are hesitant to be so vulnerable. And sometimes we are afraid they may come true and demand too much of us. Help us to cling to your promises and laugh with joy when impossibilities come true through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#391

**Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: In the act of suffering, Christ absorbed our sins. In unfailing love, he forgives our heartfelt failures. In Christ's resurrection, God promises acceptance, assures pardon, and affirms eternal life. *Your sins are forgiven you,* Christ says, *Go and sin no more.* Believe the good news of the Gospel;

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI (kids' pink page)

#579

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

People: **And also with you!**

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace!

*HYMN

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

#92

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 22:1-12

Pages 17-18

SPECIAL MUSIC

You Must Be Born Again

Thomas Espenshade
Soloist

SERMON

***Who Is In Control?
God and Sacrifice***

Rev. Muriel Burrows

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (kids' orange page)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,
and put your trust in the Lord.*

OFFERTORY

He Set Me Free

Jaime Escarpeta
Soloist

*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page)

#592

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Receive our best, gracious God, as we offer ourselves along with these tokens of thanks. Establish your rule in our midst so we may proclaim your reign in the world. Be to us a watchful parent, and teach us to live as sisters and brothers who find you in one another and respond in love to each other's needs. Amen.

*HYMN

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

#288

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Jesus, I Love You

* Congregation stands

** Latecomers ushered in

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office for further information if you are interested in church membership (609) 924-1666.



SUNDAY SCHOOL is on break for the summer. But Sunday school will resume on the second Sunday of September (September 11) with classes for all ages. Please plan to join us!

NURSERY CARE is provided for children 0-5 during worship (10:00). Today Edwina Hawes is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Elsie McKee.

FLOWERS - If you would like to provide flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or simply to beautify the church, please sign up on the chart located on the door of the sound room (left-hand entrance from the sanctuary to the parish house). After worship service, the donor may take the flowers home. At present, it is the responsibility of the person giving the flowers to make his/her own arrangements for preparation and delivery of the flowers for the Chancel. The next available date is August 20.

USHERS for this morning's service are Beverly Owens and Adrienne Daniels Paris. Next week's ushers are Maria Potts and Janet Dickerson Stephens.

ATTENDANCE at the service of July 23 was 104.



COFFEE HOUR - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of August is Joyce Abbott. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Joyce (609-448-4511).

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, August 6, is 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13; Psalm 51:1-12; Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35.



CHURCH CALENDAR – A copy of the WSPC calendar for August is inserted in this bulletin. Please review it and contact the Church Office with any additions or corrections **by this Wednesday, August 2.** The updated calendar will be posted in the rear hallway.

DOLLARS & CENTS **COUNTERS FOR AUGUST** are Brenda Lee (Team Leader), Jaime Escarpeta and Elsie McKee. Counters for the Deacon's Benevolence Offering are Valerie Smith, Shirley Satterfield and Vicki Meisel.

NEW VOLUNTEER POSSIBILITIES **THE USHER BOARD** needs four additional ushers. Anyone who is willing to usher three to four times a year or would like more information should contact Joan Tomlin (609-637-9646 or jotomlin@msn.com).

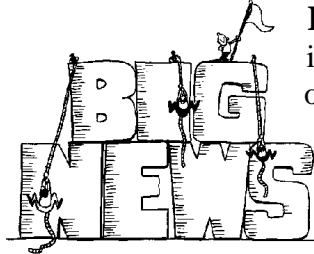


FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY – The Deacons are collecting **cereals, canned meat, fish, poultry and beans** for the Crisis Ministry. *****NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.***** Other nourishing food will also be accepted. Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome

and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



FALL SPOONER DEADLINE – The deadline for the fall edition of *The Spooner* newsletter is **Sunday, August 13**. Committee chairs and leaders of various church groups, as well as other individuals with news of special interest, are encouraged to submit articles to share with our readers.



KARA ROOT (former Director of Christian Education at WSPC) invites Witherspoon Church to celebrate in spirit with her as she is ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament next Sunday, August 6. Kara has accepted a call as Associate Pastor at Grace Trinity Community Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She writes, *Thank you Witherspoon community for your love and support through the ordination process!*



SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE – The Bayard Jordan Memorial Scholarship Fund awards a scholarship to a youth (12+ years old) who best represents the ideals of this African-American tennis player. The scholarship will allow a student to attend one week at the Princeton Tennis Program Training Camp at Princeton University. Information about Bayard Jordan and the scholarship fund as well as applications are available in the Narthex. Donations are greatly needed.



PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE
(as of May 31, 2006)

Total collection for property acquisition*	\$101,764.43
Total expenses*	80,936.24
Balance	\$20,863.19

*2004 to present