

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Rev. M. Muriel Burrows, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education
Elsie McKee, Lector

Beverly Owens, Music Director
Amy Shortt, Organist
David Shedden, Seminary Intern

May 13, 2007

10:00 a.m.

Sixth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day

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

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Come Here, Jesus

Carter

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CALL TO WORSHIP: BASED ON PSALM 67

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us;

People: May God's face shine upon us.

Leader: May your ways, O God, be known throughout all the earth,

People: And your salvation experienced among all nations.

Leader: Let people of all nationalities be glad and sing for joy

People: For you judge them justly and give guidance to all nations.

Leader: Let the peoples of the world praise you, O God;

People: Let all people praise you.

Leader: Despite our careless use of the earth, it still yields its increase,

People: God, our God has truly blessed us.

Leader: May God continue to bless us;

People: Let all people praise you and worship you, O God.

All: Let us worship the living, loving God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND PRAISE

All: Gracious God, we praise you for blessing us in ways the Psalmist could only dream about. You have not only blessed our lives with Jesus, but you continue to pour blessings upon us and within us through the person of the Holy Spirit. This gracious gift of your Spirit continues to teach us about Jesus and to remind us of all he said and did. Today we rejoice over his gift to us of peace – his peace which

is beyond our human understanding. We receive this gift with thanksgiving and pray that our lives may reflect this peace and your love. May this time of worship be an offering of praise and adoration for all your gifts to us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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*OPENING HYMN

To God Be the Glory

#485

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you encouraged the disciples, and us, with the promise of the Holy Spirit, sent by God, in your name. You promised that the Spirit would continue to teach the truth about you, as well as reminding people of all you said and did. And you then promised the wonderful gift of your peace. Why is it that so often we prefer to hold on to our insecurities and fears rather than take hold of your gift of peace? You promise us so much, yet we put our faith in what we can see and touch, possess and control. We confess that our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that we forget what you have said and done and promised.

People: When we seek our identity in other than you and your teachings, forgive us, Lord.

Leader: Jesus, Teacher and Lord, out of love for us, you promise to knit together the wounded parts of our lives with your peace.

People: When our anxieties and fears are stronger than our belief in your promises, forgive us, Lord.

Leader: Jesus, Savior and Lord, through the gift of your Spirit, you give us the means to serve as you served, to love as you loved, to live as you lived.

People: When our insistence on doing our own thing stifles the promptings of your Spirit, forgive us, Lord.

Leader: Lord of every part of our lives, help us to let go of all that hinders our acceptance of your peace, your love and your very life through the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. This we pray in your name. Amen.

Congregational Response (Sung):

#322

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Words and Music by Daniel Iverson. © 1935, 1963, Moody Press. CCLI# 498673

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned (John 3:17-18a). The good news, therefore, is

this: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and we receive his peace, a peace such as the world cannot give.

All: 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!

TRIBUTE TO MOTHERS AND ALL WOMEN Kalyet Blackwood-Chirchir

*HYMN *Faith of Our Mothers* Insert

DISTRIBUTION OF MEMENTOS Junior Ushers

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 14:23-29 Page 109
Brian Yuan

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Students in grades 1-6 are dismissed for their Bible classes.**)**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Here's One* Hayes

SERMON *The Hand That Rocks the Cradle Must Rock the Boat* 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

*DOXOLOGY (kids' red page) #592

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Today we are blessed with gifts beyond our imagining. We are blessed that the Holy Spirit opens our minds and hearts anew to the teaching and presence of Jesus. We are blessed with the peace of Jesus which calms troubled and fearful hearts. Bless these gifts, O God, which we offer in response to these gracious gifts of yours. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

#398

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

Dubois

* 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 or witherspoon@verizon.net).



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGE GROUPS! Adults will meet on their own schedule each month in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. Sunday school classes for students in grades 1-6 begin immediately after the children's message during morning worship. (A nursery is available for children in preschool and kindergarten.)

NURSERY CARE is provided for children 0-5 beginning at 9:45 a.m. Today Harper Joseph is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday's nursery care will be assisted by Pam Johnson.



FLOWERS – The flowers on the pulpit are given in remembrance of our loving mother, **Geneva Bolden**, always in our thoughts and hearts. Love, **Lynda and Leroy** 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 May 20.

USHERS for this morning's service are members of the Junior Usher Ministry: Rachel Maddox and Jillian Ojeda with Ryan Velez, manager. Next week's ushers are Kim and Terry McEwen.

ATTENDANCE at the service of May 6 was 110.

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, May 20, is Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; John 17:20-26; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21.



COFFEE HOUR - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service. Host for the month of May is Barbara Brown. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Barbara (609-882-3788).



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK: JOHN 14:23-29

(Questions on Sunday's readings for use by discussion groups, prayer groups, or for individual prayer)

- ✠ When you love someone you want to be with that person. How does this fact relate with "Whoever loves me, we will come to him and make our dwelling with him." How do you feel about a God who talks like this? What does this tell you about God?
- ✠ The second great gift in this reading is the promise of the Holy Spirit who will teach us everything. Do you think there could be a direct proportion between how much a person loves and how much the Holy Spirit teaches that person?
- ✠ The third gift is peace. Compare the peace the world gives to the peace Christ gives. What kinds of things does the peace of Christ allow you to do, to withstand, and to be?



OUR VERY OWN "VALIANT WOMAN" – Congratulations to *Connie Campbell* who was honored as a *Valiant Woman* by Church Women United on May 4 during their May Friendship Day service at All Saints Church.



SUMMER SPOONER DEADLINE – Deadline for the summer issue of *The Spooner* newsletter is **today**. Committee chairs and leaders of church groups, as well as other individuals with news of special interest, are encouraged to submit articles to share with our readers.



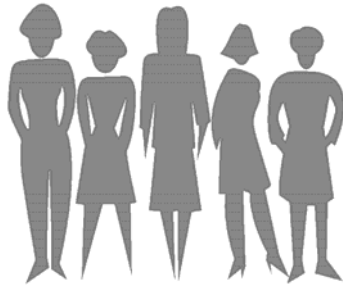
FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY – The Deacons are collecting nourishing food for the Crisis Ministry. *****NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.***** Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase during your next grocery shopping trip and place items in the wooden box in the Narthex.



BIBLE STUDY GROUP PLANNED – Several WSPC members have expressed an interest in organizing a Bible study group to meet weekly at the church on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. The first meeting to organize this group is scheduled for **this Wednesday, May 16**, at 10:30 a.m. If you are interested and want to help to plan and participate in this group, please come to the first meeting **this Wednesday**.



FAREWELL PARTY FOR THE BLOUNT FAMILY – The Church Life Committee is sponsoring a farewell party for the Blount family on **Thursday, May 24**, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Main Lounge at Princeton Theological Seminary Campus Center. Tickets (\$12 for adults, \$8 senior and children under twelve) are available from committee members. There will be food, fun and more. Come help us celebrate the Blounts!



THE INSTITUTE OF WONDERFUL WOMEN WORKING FOR EMPOWERMENT is set to change the appalling statistics on economic well-being and African-American women with the unveiling of its Career Paths: A Bridge to Economic Stability for African-American Women. The program is designed to create stepping stones to more skilled, high-demand employment in the healthcare field, one of the fastest growing industry sectors in the country. Join us at

the press conference **this Wednesday, May 16**, at 1:30 p.m. at the State House, Room 109. Our speakers include Tony Mack, Freeholder, Mercer County, Rev. Alice Parker, Founder, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, and representative of the Isle microlending program. For more information, contact Gloria Frederick (609-466-2819).



ARTS WEEK FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS, JUNE 25-29 – Arts Week will celebrate the creative gifts God has given us and is designed for youth who have completed grades 6-8. Participants will select a “major” track: photography, journalism, music composition, handicrafts and kitchen arts, and sample the other tracks. The cost is \$35. Contact Sue Ellen Page (609-924-0103, x105 or sep@nassauchurch.org) for more information.



HABITAT PARTNER FAMILY UPDATE! – Our Habitat for Humanity house will be completed sometime in May. Now, it is time to help prepare our partner family for home ownership and help them make their new house a

home. Jackie Collier, the mother of our family, and her three children currently live with Jackie’s mother. She is very excited about the prospect of owning her own home. She needs help with many household items. With Jackie, we have created a “wish list” gift registry at three local stores: Target, Linens and Things, and Home Depot. If you would like to contribute to our Habitat Family, you can do one of the following:

1. Go to one of the three stores. Ask customer service for the Jackie Collier Wish List and purchase an item which you may bring to WSPC by May 25.
2. For online ordering, go to: www.target.com; www.lnt.com; www.homedepot.com. Select gift registry for Jackie Collier and have gift shipped to you. Deliver to the church by May 25.
3. Purchase a gift card at one of these stores and bring to the church.

There will also be an opportunity to give the gift to the Collier family at the House Dedication Ceremony (date to be determined). We thank you in advance for your

support. We also offer a special “thank you” to all Habitat volunteers who helped with the house. We will be planning a special “thank you” event for all of you at a future date!



PROPERTY ACQUISITION UPDATE

(as of January 31, 2007)

Total collection for property acquisition*	\$154,655
Total expenses*	<u>109,155</u>
Balance	\$ 45,500

*2004-2007