

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

Beverly Owens, Music Director

Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson, Director of Christian Education

Amy Shortt, Organist

David Shedden, Seminary Intern

Cecelia B. Hodges, Verse Speaking Choir Director

Elsie McKee, Lector

May 20, 2007

10:00 a.m.

7th Sunday of Easter

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

PRELUDE

INTROIT

I Lift Up Mine Eyes to the Mountains

Levine

**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come from scattered lives to this sanctuary

People: To seek our unity in the Spirit of God,

Leader: To seek the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

People: To seek the peace of God, our Father.

Leader: God's people have gathered.

People: Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Leader: God, our Creator, your love is at work in all you have made.

People: Son of God, in your likeness we are made new.

Leader: Holy Spirit, you touch our lives with hope.

All: Receive our worship this day, claim our service, and set us free to love and serve you and others, for we ask these things in the powerful name of Jesus, our Lord.

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*OPENING HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful

#267

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Forgive us, merciful Lord, for our transgressions against neighbors and against you.

Leader: For squandering money

People: And abusing time;

Leader: For find the faults in others

People: And ignoring the faults in ourselves;

Leader: For desiring peace

People: And promoting war;

Leader: For keeping the letter of the law

People: And distorting its spirit;

Leader: For raising important questions

People: An ignoring the answers.

Leader: Our sins wound you, loving Father, not just ourselves and others. For the casual way in which we betray your trust and abuse your grace, forgive us.

All: Lord of all, we confess that our sins number 70 times 7. Grant us the promised abundance of your grace and mercy. Forgive us for these sins we have mentioned this morning and for others like them. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may live lives of faithfulness and service. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SILENT CONFESSION

Congregational Response (Sung):

#316

**Breathe on me breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one,
To do and to endure.**

Words by Edwin Hatch. Music by Robert Jackson. CCLI# 498673

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The good news of the gospel is that it was while we were yet sinners that Christ died for us; the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring us to God. Friends, we do not have to be “good” enough or “pure” enough before God will love and pardon us. Like the father of the prodigal son, God runs to meet us as we return to God’s embrace. Let us all turn from unrighteousness, and run toward the loving, merciful arms of God. Believe the good news of the gospel, in Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.

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!

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Christian Education

READING

Psalm 1

Verse Speaking Choir

*HYMN

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise
(in honor of the birth of Maya Isabel Shaffer,
granddaughter of Pastor Muriel Burrows)

#498

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Brent Ferguson

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Just Tell Jesus

Fryson

SERMON

*In Honor of Uppity,
Faithful Women*

Rev. Dr. Louise Johnson

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: Lord of the vineyard of life, we bring your these checks and this money from the fruits of our own labors. Some of us can bring a great sum; some of us only a small sum, but we offer these resources so that the seed of your Word, once planted, may in due time produce living fruit in changed lives. Make of our gifts great things, Holy One. For we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

#343

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

- * 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 Pam Johnson is assisting with nursery care; next Sunday’s nursery care will be assisted by Elizabeth Ferguson.

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 June 10.

USHERS for next week are Robert Ellis and Curtis Johnson.



COFFEE HOUR - Please join us for a Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following this morning’s worship service. Host for the month of June is Shirley Satterfield. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the Coffee Hour should contact Shirley (609-924-2010).

ATTENDANCE at the service of May 13 was 128.



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THIS WEEK
 (Questions on Sunday’s readings for use by discussion groups, prayer groups, or for individual prayer)

- ✚ Name someone whose Christian faith is an inspiration or model for you. Is this person famous? Does that matter?
- ✚ What qualities are included in “faithfulness”? Can someone be impatient and be faithful? Questioning and be faithful? Doubting and be faithful? Outspoken and be faithful?
- ✚ What does it mean to be faithful in our day? How does our Christian faith make a difference in what we do and say?

LECTIONARY TEXT for next Sunday, May 27, is Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-35; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17.



DEEPEST SYMPATHY – The Witherspoon community expresses its deepest sympathy to *James Frederick* and his family. His mother passed away last Wednesday; he and Gloria have gone to South Carolina for the funeral.



ATTENTION GRADUATES! *Youth Sunday is June 10.* This is the time when Junior Ushers honor all graduates from middle school, high school, college, graduate school, or seminary. If you or your child has graduated/will graduate this year, please contact Shirley Satterfield by **next Sunday, May 27.**



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.

Pentecost Offering

for Children at Risk, Youth, and Young Adults

Through the Pentecost Offering, the church expresses a common commitment to provide hope for children at risk, opportunities for youth and young adults to grow in their faith, and short-term mission service options for young adults.

**Please give generously
next Sunday, May 27.**





ARE YOU READY TO SOAR? – Please save **July 16-20** for Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year will be *Lift Off! Soaring to New Heights with God*. *Lift Off!* is where “Sky Scouts” will experience the panoramic view of God’s love and launch into action serving others. More information will be forthcoming. If you are willing to help, please contact Elizabeth Ferguson (609-273-5985 or eliferg@gmail.com) or Pam Johnson (732-236-9042 or poncejoh@yahoo.com).



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!



The Finance Committee will have a special meeting at 112 Witherspoon **today** following worship.



FROM THE SECRETARY – I will begin my summer schedule on June 11, working primarily from home until school begins (September 5). Please **refer to the bulletin each week** (under “This Week at Witherspoon”) for the hours I plan to be available at my home office. You may leave

messages at the church office (609-924-1666) or call me directly at 609-581-1952. This line is dedicated to WSPC use and is equipped with an answering machine. I will check church e-mail daily (wITHERSPOON@verizon.net). Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I appreciate your flexibility as we make necessary adjustments and will work with you.



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