

# Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Website: [www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG](http://www.wITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG)

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 27, 2007

10:00 a.m.

## Pentecost Sunday

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

### PRELUDE

### INTROIT

*A Wise Man*

Young Voices  
of Faith

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### CALL TO WORSHIP BASED ON ACTS 2:1-4

Readers: When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

### \*HYMN

*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

#417

Leader: Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

One Reader: *And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?*

All Assigned Readers: *“Parthians”, “Medes”, “Elamites”, “I’m from Mesopotamia”, “from Judea”, “and Cappadocia”, “Pontus”, “and Asia”, “Phrygia”, “and Pamphylia”, “from Egypt”, “and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene”, “we’re visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes”, “from Crete”, “and Arabia – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.”*

One Reader: All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, *What does this mean?* But others sneered and said, *They are filled with new wine.* But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them,

Peter: *Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.*

*"Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."*

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\* HYMN

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

#316

#### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Leader: Holy God, across the ages, the breath of your Spirit has been understood as the creative power which moved over the face of the waters and brought a world to life.

**People:** **Today we celebrate the continuing activity of your Spirit – how the breath of your Spirit swept into the lives of a fearful, but faithful group of people and transformed them into powerful and joyful witnesses of Jesus Christ as Lord of their lives.**

**All:** *As the Holy Spirit blessed and renewed their lives, filling them with power and hope, bless and renew our lives, we pray, O God. Fill us anew with the Holy Spirit so that we live from the gift, as energized and joyous witnesses of Jesus Christ as Lord of our lives. Amen.*

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Merciful God, the gift of Jesus' life in us is visible in the way we witness to the fruitfulness of that gift. We know that the fruit of the Spirit consists of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Yet, so often we put conditions on our love – and joy and peace are difficult to discern when our words and actions deny their presence.

**People:** *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 Bible Institute. CCLI# 498673

Leader: By desiring instant results to pretty well everything, we confess that we forget what it's like to be patient. We find ourselves neglecting the needs of others because we run out of time to be kind to other than ourselves.

**People:** *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.*

Leader: When we persistently make self-centered decisions rather than Christ-centered ones, our understanding of your goodness and faithfulness is weakened and our discipleship lacks credibility.

**People:** *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.*

Leader: In this aggressive world, it's easy to believe one can't get anywhere by exercising a spirit of gentleness or even self-control.

**People:** *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.*

Leader: Gracious and merciful God, grant us your forgiveness and your love so that we may truly care for one another.

**All:** **Refresh and renew us with the Holy Spirit so that we are fruitful and vital disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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## GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the risen Christ be with you all!

**People:** **And also with you!**

Leader: Let us greet each other with the words and signs of peace.

\*HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* #376

SCRIPTURE LESSON Joel 2:28-32 Page 848

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *I Am His Child* Young Voices of Faith

SERMON *Look, What Blew into Town* 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

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**All:** Bless these gifts, O God, and bless us as we offer ourselves to serve you in different ways and to praise you in many voices. Send your Spirit upon us, that when we speak the word of your love, people may hear and understand as on that Pentecost Day so long ago. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

#326

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

**Leader:** Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!

**People:** We go, giving thanks to God. Alleluia!

**Leader:** The blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be with you this day and forever.

**People:** Amen! Alleluia!

CHORAL BENEDICTION

*Thy Will, Thy Way*

Fryson

\* Congregation stands

\*\* Latecomers ushered in

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**WELCOME** - The Pastor, Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon welcome most warmly all worshippers. 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** will be on break for the summer beginning **next Sunday, June 3**. Sunday school will resume on Sunday, September 9, with classes for all ages. Please plan to join us!

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



**FLOWERS** – Flowers for today's service were given by *William and Carol Allen in thanks to Witherspoon for being a church home away from home for this past year.* 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 24.

**USHERS** for this morning's service are Robert Ellis and Curtis Johnson. Next week's ushers are Rebecca Campbell and Victor Richards.



**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 20 was 88.

**LECTIONARY TEXT** for next Sunday, June 3, is Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15.



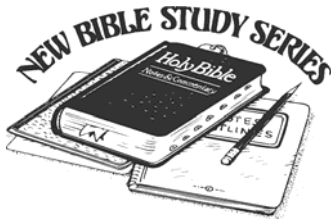
**FOOD DONATIONS FOR CRISIS MINISTRY** – The Deacons are collecting nourishing food for the Crisis Ministry. **\*\*\*NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE.\*\*\*** Checks made payable to the Crisis Ministry are always welcome and may be placed in the offering plate or given to a deacon. Please consider an extra purchase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



**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.



**CHURCH CALENDAR** – A copy of the WSPC calendar for June is inserted in this bulletin. Please review it and contact the church office with any additions or corrections **by this Wednesday, May 30.** The updated calendar will be posted in the rear hallway.



**COME TO THE BIBLE STUDY!** – The WSPC Presbyterian Women’s Association is sponsoring a Bible study. The group will meet on **Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.** at the church. They will be using Horizon Bible study materials, curriculum developed by the Presbyterian Women’s Group PC(USA): *Above and Beyond: Hearing God’s Call in Jonah and Ruth*. The

authors of this study are Carol M. Bechtel, Western Theological Seminary, and Joyce MacKichan Walker, Nassau Presbyterian Church. The first meeting was last Wednesday, May 23. There are nine lessons for the study, and the group has decided to meet through the summer months. Group discussion leaders will rotate. Bible study materials will be ordered for interested participants and copies will be available at the meetings. People interested in joining may begin by reading the Books of Jonah and Ruth in the Old Testament. For other details, contact Norma Wilson (732-398-0840).



**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 **today**.



**MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will immediately follow the service on **Sunday, June 24**. Everyone is urged to attend. **\*Please note\*** that committee chairs and group leaders should have their reports to the church office **by Sunday, June 10**, to allow adequate time to prepare mid-year reports for distribution. Your assistance is appreciated.



**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).



**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 ([witerspoon@verizon.net](mailto:witerspoon@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 April 30, 2007)

Total collection for property acquisition* .....	\$176,043
Total expenses* .....	<u>123,477</u>
<b>Balance</b> .....	<b>\$ 52,566</b>

\*2004-2007