As is the habit for the other 11 months, May begins on the first. No duh. But none of the other ones have such a distinctive title: “May Day.” Which is also a commonly-known reference to that distress signal, which indicates current or impending difficulty. And as we consider all of the activity for this month, both in our personal lives and the life of the church, keeping our calendars, as well as our sanity, in ‘decent and good order’ might cause some of you to declare your own ‘MayDay’ signal!

From beginning to end, there is much in this month to take our time and attention. Communion Sunday. Mother’s Day. Presbyterian Heritage Sunday. Memorial Day. The end of one school year, and in some cases, preparing to move to schools of ‘higher learning.’ Within our own church family there have been ‘graduations’ of different types… some that involve a ‘lateral move’… and others a ‘vertical’ move to that ‘institution of Highest learning’…

In all of these occasions, I would offer that there is a ‘common denominator’—and that is that they all should involve a time of reflection. In all of these ‘life events,’ we should be both ‘looking back’ and ‘looking forward.’ For instance, the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, in which we remember the sacrifice made for us that we might live in freedom… and how we honor that sacrifice moving forward. The same could be said for Memorial Day, as we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our earthly liberty.

Mother’s Day we give thanks for the love that so many of us have received from our mothers… and how we are to support those moms who are attempting to do the same today and tomorrow. Let us also celebrate the past accomplishments of those school graduates… while encouraging them in the opportunities that lie ahead. Let us celebrate, and indeed, continue to remember those who have entered the “Church Triumphant”… while also remembering the ways we are to live that enable us to follow them…

It is this importance of ‘looking back’ and ‘looking forward’ that brings me to Presbyterian Heritage Sunday. For this day will entail much more than some wistful look at some of the history, traditions, and confessions of our denomination. Not that those don’t have their place. But while we are certainly to celebrate those saints of the faith on whom we stand, it is even more important for us to consider how we are honoring them today… and tomorrow. How are we building on those foundations of faith laid for us through the years? How is God going to use this ‘faithful remnant’ who is the body of Christ known as First Presbyterian Church?

As many of you know, the bids for our ‘project’ out in MorganField came in considerably higher than expected. (I know… shocker…) We are in the process of seeing how the cost of this endeavor might be trimmed. But that alone won’t be enough. I am asking each and every one of you to PRAY. Pray that God stir the hearts of people to give sacrificially… those in our church community and outside of it. Pray that God would provide the resources, both monetary gifts and gifts ‘in-kind,’ to make this new place of worship a reality. Pray that each of us take seriously the charge of Luke 10:2: “The fields are ripe for the harvest; pray that God send workers to reap that harvest.” We must not consider that little plot on Corbina to be our ‘MorganField of Dreams’… ‘build it and they will come.’ We need those workers here… and now. And those ‘workers’ won’t get EXCITED about this ‘once-in-a-lifetime job opportunity’ unless their ‘job recruiter’ is excited… that would be YOU! An opportunity to build a new chapter of ‘future hope’ on a long-standing legacy of faithful servants… people like YOU!

(Pastor’s letter continued on page 2)
In the 5th Century B.C., a man named Nehemiah was a servant of the king. Learning that the remnant of the Jews were in distress, and that the walls of the beloved home Jerusalem were broken down, he asked permission to rebuild the city. In the opening verses of his book of writings, he wrote these words from God: “…if you return to me and obey my commands, then I will gather your exiled people and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for your Name.” He went to write this petition: “Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayers of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success…” (Nehemiah 1:9-11)

As this modern-day ‘remnant’ who are also ‘servants of the King,’ we too seek to ‘rebuild’ in a ‘dwelling place’ we also believe to have been chosen by God. As we come before that Heavenly King asking His blessing, let us continue to ‘look back’ and obey his commands… revering his name in the present…and ‘look ahead’ to the future He has in store for us, his ‘legacy of faith’ to the world. Let us remember how often it is said in Scripture to ‘fear not’… enough for every day of the year…and may the prayers of our hearts not begin with a fearful ‘Mayday’… but rather, a confident ‘My Lord’…

‘May the Fourth be with you’… joyfully in Christ,
OUR STORIES—REVISITED

BY ANGIE DILMORE

For two years beginning in February 2013, I wrote a monthly Chimes column called Our Stories. I would interview long-time members of the First Presbyterian community and share their stories. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know so many of the pillars of our church history in this way. It has occurred to me that many of these folks I wrote about 4-6 years ago have since passed on to the Church Triumphant. And I thought it might be interesting to periodically revisit some of these biographies. Annabella Gorham’s recent passing is what prompted this thought, and interestingly, Annabella was my first interviewee for the series.

Here is her story, as told to me by Annabella in 2013.

Annabella Gorham was born on December 11, 1918, on Ford St., about ½ block from where the church was located at the time on Broad Street. Cars were not common yet, and she remembers the hitching posts lined up outside the church, as most people in the congregation would ride horses or walk to church. She was baptized in 1919 and fondly recalls going to Sunday School. “How I loved my Sunday School teachers!” Margaret Streeater (sp) and Betty Green are two whom she recalls. When she was older, Mrs. Holman led the youth group, which was called Christian Endeavor at the time. They met Sunday evenings. “That was part of our social life,” Annabella says. They would pray and do Bible study. After youth group, all the kids, there may have been ten or so of them, would go to Annabella’s house for refreshments and recreation. They played a game called Going to Jerusalem, which was similar to musical chairs. Or they would listen to the radio. Eddy Cantor was a popular comedian of the day. Her father loved having the youth come over. He called them “wild mustangs.”

Annabella went to college at LSU and then worked for Humble Oil and Refining in New Orleans. She moved back to Lake Charles in 1942 to teach business at McNeese University. At that time, she lived again with her father. The Gorhams, Briggs, and Dees all lived on Ford St. Every Sunday night, they took turns hosting dinner. It was wartime, and there was a military base in Lake Charles. Nationwide, there was a concerted effort to support the troops. First Presbyterian families would welcome soldiers for Sunday dinner.

Annabella volunteered for the Red Cross and became a world traveler, especially to Germany. She met her husband Manfred (Max) Heinrich Feiler at a Mardi Gras Ball there in 1960. They were married in a Presbyterian church in Williamsburg, VA. Max was a lawyer in Werzburg, Germany, but they always came home to Lake Charles for Christmas. They moved to Lake Charles in 1985. Her beloved Max died in 2008. Now we find Annabella on Sundays at the 11:00 service or at Family Night Suppers. Her smiling face brings joy to all who see her.

Mission Mart

Mission Mart went to Art Walk, Friday April, 26th. Did you realize, Mission Mart has been open for one year?! Funds raised by Mission mart have been used to help pay school tuition for 3 or 4 children from our sister church in Malawi. 100% of proceeds from the sale of items will go to mission.

Mission Mart will reopen at Church on Sunday, May 12th, stop by and see what's new from Ten Thousand Villages.

Thank you for your support of Mission Mart!
The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

Memorial Day
Remember Those Who Gave Their Lives

First Presbyterian News & Announcements

CHURCH PICNIC

June – Picnic at the Park
Saturday, June 1st
Prien Lake Park, Lake Charles

We will meet at one of the picnic shelters for a BBQ - lunch
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
Bring the Whole family & friends too!
Bring a lawn chair, & side item or dessert to share
SAVE THE DATE & Watch for more information...

Heritage Sunday
May 26th at 11 am

Join us for a Special Service with Bag Pipe Music to Celebrate our Presbyterian Heritage
Wear your tartan!

Heritage Sunday
May 26th at 11 am

You are invited to join us for the Women’s Monthly Bible Study
The Horizon’s 2018-2019 Bible Study
God’s Promise: I am with You
By Amy Poling Sutherlun
Lesson 8
(copies of lessons available at usher table)
Thursday, May 9th at 1:30 p.m.
Home of Wendy Dees
NOTE: Change of Date & Place

Men’s Breakfast
May 18th at 8:00 am

Meeting at Greater St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church
1801 2nd Avenue — Fellowship Hall
GUEST SPEAKER:
Kyle Ardoin, Secretary of State
Join the men of First Presbyterian Church & Lake Area Churches for the Best Breakfast in Town!
MAY 2019 SERMON SCHEDULE

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion*
Paul was blinded by his own pride and religious zeal… until God closed his eyes and opened his heart. Peter had already opened his heart to Jesus… but it was his mind and heart that weren’t always as ‘open’ to God’s leading. We can fall into either ‘category.’ Regardless, we can learn from both Paul and Peter when it comes to the “Cost of Followship.”

A recent movie dealt with a young person who is clinically dead, yet by the power of faith and prayer was restored to life. Today’s passage from Acts also deals with a young person who was brought back to life from death by the power of faith and prayer. Such miraculous moving of God is not limited to modern movies or ancient Scriptures. Indeed, you and I are promised by our Lord Jesus that we too can be empowered to do “The Works That I Do.”

May 19 – Revelation 21:1-10, 22-22:5 - “Revelation: Revealing or Revolting?”
To borrow from a popular expression of the pastor, as Christians we can ‘be not afraid to meet our Maker, but in no hurry to do so.’ Part of that reluctance for us to stand before God can be this ‘apocalyptic’ book of Revelation. While it should be associated with the end of our earthly life and the beginning of our eternal one, we can get quite caught up in its confusing and sometimes frightening images. How do YOU see this book of… “Revelation: Revealing or Revolting?”

*Presbyterian Heritage Sunday*
In today’s Gospel reading, Jesus speaks of a ‘new’ commandment: to “love one another.” Just how ‘new’ is that command? New enough to share it with those who are ‘different’ that you and I are… like the Gentiles were ‘different’ than the Jews? On this Sunday we will consider both our ‘founders’ of faith in the past and the ‘forgers’ of our faith in the future. This will be a time for all of us to consider the answers to the question, “What ‘Heritage’ Are You Leaving?”

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*Birthday Blessings*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/1</td>
<td>Molly Parker</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/2</td>
<td>Holly Hinton Buteau</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/3</td>
<td>Kory LeBleu</td>
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<td>Alec Landreneau</td>
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<td>Carol DeRouen</td>
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<td>Sarah Adams</td>
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<td>5/7</td>
<td>Beau LeBlanc</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/11</td>
<td>Willie Bellard</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/12</td>
<td>Joe Mize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/20</td>
<td>Charlotte White</td>
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<td>5/24</td>
<td>Edith Ausmus</td>
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<td>5/30</td>
<td>Marion White</td>
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<td>5/30</td>
<td>Jill White</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/31</td>
<td>Meghan Sylvester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/31</td>
<td>Ellyn Macpherson</td>
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*Anniversaries this Month*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name &amp; Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/2</td>
<td>George &amp; Pat Swift (1969)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/21</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Stacey James</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/24</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Christi Emanuel</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/31</td>
<td>Chester &amp; Sybil Miller (1963)</td>
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Health Concerns

Charles Bettinger
Ed Chavanne
Don Chavanne
Margaret Fontenot
Lori & Tommy Kerr
Nancy & Jimmy Hanchey (Nancy-cancer treatment)
Cleary Hinton
KB Lake
Billie Morris
Sallye Starks
Mason Broussard (Jill Zachary’s grandson)
Jim Brennan (complications following surgery)
Betsy Dennison (stroke)
Mike Dupuis—(stem cell transplant)
Annette Harlow—(cancer treatment)
Michael Jackson (and his family, friends of C. McLeod)
Larry & Sue Parker (Sue is on dialysis)
Michele Reed (pain from brittle bones)
Sharon Hanchey (recovery from multiple surgeries)
Nancy Draughn (kidney failure)
Dr. Charles Smith (cancer returned)
(friends of Virginia Gayle)
Tom Cole, Sr. who is being treated for cancer
Leslie Mansell fractured tailbone, a painful injury
Mary Beth Ferrell very ill (Leslie Mansell’s mother)
Sallie Ferrell lung cancer (Leslie Mansell’s step mother)
Ellen Macpherson
Ben Bourgeois - heart attack (friend of George Swift)
Jeffery & Catherine Simmons (daughter Sarah Kate in coma, at home now) - classmate of Mark Judson
Carol Stroderd (cancer treatment), friend of A. Knapp
Audrey Gott (8 yr old) - incurable eye disease, she is losing her sight (Carla Washburn’s family)
Marvin & Pat Thompson (Carla Washburn’s parents)
Joni & Bruce Hamilton— Breast Cancer diagnosis

Health Concerns

Melinda Christ—has PLS (sub category of ALS) - in Rehab now, it has affected her throat, speech & swallowing—(cousin of Carla Washburn)
Virginia Vance—cancer (friend of Joyce Carr)
Tracey Jackson – cancer (Joyce Carr's cousin)
Rose – Breast Cancer
(Margaret Fontenot’s Brother-in-law’s Sister)

In Sympathy

Family & Friends of Lois Ferguson, who passed into the church triumphant on March 31st.

Family & Friends of Annabella Gorham, who passed into the church triumphant on April 12th.

Family & Friends of Raven Dupre, who recently passed away. (husband of cousin of Carla Washburn)

Family & Friends of Linda Lawson, who passed away on April 21, 2019.

Family & Friends of “Bo” Huddle, who recently passed away.

Encouragement

Ellen Smith
Fran Plauche
Joyce Carr

ALL Caregivers, and Pastors

All those affected by fire, floods, storms and violence in our country and across the world

Our Sister Church—The Dora Valentin Church & Guines Church—CUBA

Ekwendeni Congregation & Rev. Isaac Malongo Students (our Sister Presbyterian Church in Malawi)

Scott Allen & family— Lori Kerr’s Son & family (prayers of hope at a difficult time)

Jeanie & Frank Catania— prison ministry in Italy (Lori Kerr’s sister)

Board of First Churches United, and FPC & FCC churches as we work toward a new Worship Center

Safety

Nick Duffel— (serving in the military, Afghanistan)

All of our Troops serving at home & abroad

“Citgo Six” & their families

Our First Responders

Joys/Praise

Carolyn Sharp for her recovery

Tiffany Dugas—Joy of healing!

“I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer.”

Psalm 17:6 (NIV)
APRIL SESSION UPDATE

1. The Nurture Committee reported on the planning for Maundy Thursday and Easter brunch and egg hunt. The Committee is also thinking about the possibility of having a barbeque with First Christian this summer.

2. A second bequest from the Evalyn Fuller estate will be put in an Edward Jones Money Market when it is received until the Session determines its disbursement.

3. The Outreach Committee stated that there will be a Bunny Run on Saturday, April 13, at MorganField. Church volunteers will pass out information about our church and the Harvest Community Center.

4. Tutors and Lunch Buddies are still helping at Oak Park Elementary and Fairview Schools.

5. A report from First Churches United stated that bids will be received on April 18. First Churches Board is scheduled to meet on April 23 to review the bids.

6. An ad publicizing our Maundy Thursday service and Easter morning celebration will be run on April 18 and 20.

7. The following is the prayer John Hood offered at our April 8 Session meeting (perfect for all of us, I believe):

   Dear Lord, help us to filter out the many complexities and distractions in our lives that take us away from the simple path that you have promised, to accept your presence in our lives now and not tomorrow. Amen.

Submitted by Dorothy Strait, Clerk of Session

“Calling Christians to a deliberate and a joyous living of their faith."

**Louisiana Presbyterian Pilgrimage #15**

**June 20 -23, 2019**

The Wesley Center - Woodworth, LA

Cost: $275

For more info, please speak with Pastor Chan

(brochures also available on table in room on South side of the Sanctuary, or online at www.lppilgrimage.org)

A Pilgrimage is 3 days long,
   but it lasts a lifetime...
## First Presbyterian Church
Lake Charles, Louisiana

Office: 337-433-4667  
Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday  
9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.  
2525 Second Avenue  
Lake Charles, LA 70601

Mailing Address:  
Post Office Box 4665  
Lake Charles, LA 70606 –4665  
E-mail: Office: secretary@1stpreslc.com  
Website: www.firstpres-lc.org

### May 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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</table>
| 2nd Sunday of Easter  
9:30 AM Christian Education  
10:30 AM FCC Worship Service - Fellowship Hall  
11:00 AM FPC Worship Service in the Sanctuary | 9:30 AM Master’s Men (FCC) | 5:00 PM FCC Praise Team Practice in Fellowship Hall | National Day of Prayer  
7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study  
4:30 PM FCC Bible Study | Church Office Closed | 11:00 AM Memorial Service  
Annabell Gorham |
| 5            | 6            | 7             | 8             | 9             | 10          | 11           |
| Communion Sunday  
9:30 AM Christian Education  
10:30 AM FCC Worship Service - Fellowship Hall  
11:00 AM FPC Worship Service in the Sanctuary | 9:30 AM Master’s Men (FCC) | 5:00 PM FCC Praise Team Practice in Fellowship Hall | 7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study  
1:30 PM Woman’s Bible Study  
4:30 PM FCC Bible Study | Church Office Closed | 1:00 PM Use of Building  
FCC church member |
| 12           | 13           | 14            | 15            | 16            | 17          | 18           |
|              | Mother’s Day | 5:30 PM Session Meeting  
9:30 AM Master’s Men (FCC) | CHIMES deadline for June-July Issue  
5:00 PM FCC Praise Team Practice in Fellowship Hall | 7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study  
4:30 PM FCC Bible Study | Church Office Closed | 8:00 AM Men’s Breakfast |
| 19           | 20           | 21            | 22            | 23            | 24          | 25           |
| 9:30 AM Christian Education  
10:30 AM FCC Worship Service - Fellowship Hall  
11:00 AM FPC Worship Service in the Sanctuary |            | 9:30 AM Master’s Men (FCC) | 5:00 PM FCC Praise Team Practice in Fellowship Hall | 7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study  
2:00 PM Building reserved for Wedding Rehearsal - FCC by Pastor Vince (2 pm - 11 pm)  
4:30 PM FCC Bible Study | Church Office Closed | 11:30 AM Picnic at Prien Lake Park |
| 26           | 27           | 28            | 29            | 30            | 31          |              |
| Presbyterian Heritage Sunday  
9:30 AM Christian Education  
10:30 AM FCC Worship Service - Fellowship Hall  
11:00 AM FPC Worship Service in the Sanctuary | Memorial Day  
Church Office Closed  
Jill on vacation this week | 9:30 AM Master’s Men (FCC)  
2:00 PM NFB General Meeting | 6:00 PM FCC Praise Team Practice in Fellowship Hall | 7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study  
4:30 PM FCC Bible Study | Church Office Closed |
| 31           |              | 32            | 33            | 34            | 35          | 36           |
|              |              |              |              |              |             |              |