

Gathering



Sharing



Growing



Serving



ST. SIMONS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Volume 47

July 6, 2017

One friend of mine always enjoys reminding people on July 4th that if you enjoy celebrating our nation's founding then you should hug a Presbyterian. A brief brush up on some Presbyterian/U.S. history helps illustrate what he means by that:

- Presbyterian Minister John Witherspoon arrived in Philadelphia in 1768. He would be the only active clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence. There were also eleven other Presbyterians in the Continental Congress who helped to shape the Declaration of Independence.
- Nine year old Presbyterian Susan Boudinot, daughter of Elias Boudinot, protested the Stamp Act during a visit to the Governor of New Jersey (who was sympathetic to the crown). On being served a cup of tea, she raised it to her lips, but never drank a drop. She then proceeded to an open window and tossed the tea out. This was during the tea boycott, but before the Boston demonstration.
- Her father, Elias Boudinot, was a devout Presbyterian Elder. He was a lawyer by trade, served as a Colonel in the Continental Army, and served as President of the Continental Congress. When the Congress was forced to vacate Philadelphia in 1783, he moved the meeting to Princeton (founded by Presbyterians) where he served as a Trustee.
- "Cousin America has eloped with a Presbyterian Parson." Horace Walpole to the British Parliament describing the American Revolution. A British soldier described the conflict as nothing more than an "Irish-Scotch Presbyterian Rebellion." Another colonist wrote to King George III, "I fix all the blame of these extraordinary proceedings upon the Presbyterians."
- Presbyterian ministers David Caldwell and James Caldwell had bounty placed on their heads during the revolution for preaching

against the crown in sermons and publications. All but one of the colonels of the Colonial Army were Presbyterian Elders.

- Presbyterians are the reason our country has a bicameral legislature. The concept of "checks and balances" was a political/organizational attempt to recognize the dangers of human corruptibility and address power of human sinfulness. Witherspoon lectured on these reformed themes in his moral philosophy courses, where James Madison was a student. Madison would go on to make major contributions to and defenses of the new form of government in the Federalist Papers.

Most of these factoids come from a book by James Smylie called, "A Brief History of the Presbyterians," which I would encourage you to read if you would like to learn more. All that said (and regardless of whether you hugged another Presbyterian this July 4 or not) I hope that you each had a wonderful, safe, and relaxing holiday week.

Peace,

Alan



Wednesday
nights in July are
reserved for
FUN.

During the month of July on Wednesday nights we will enjoy food, fun, and fellowship together as a church family.

Each week the church will provide the main course for the meal while participants are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert. With all the fun we have planned, you will not want to miss a night! EVERYONE is invited and welcome to attend!

July 12 - Subs & Game Night

July 19 - Tacos & Human Bingo

July 26 - Salad & Art Night

Social Hall | 6 PM

Questions? Contact Nat Scott, (nat@sspres.org).

Deadline for drop off is this Sunday!



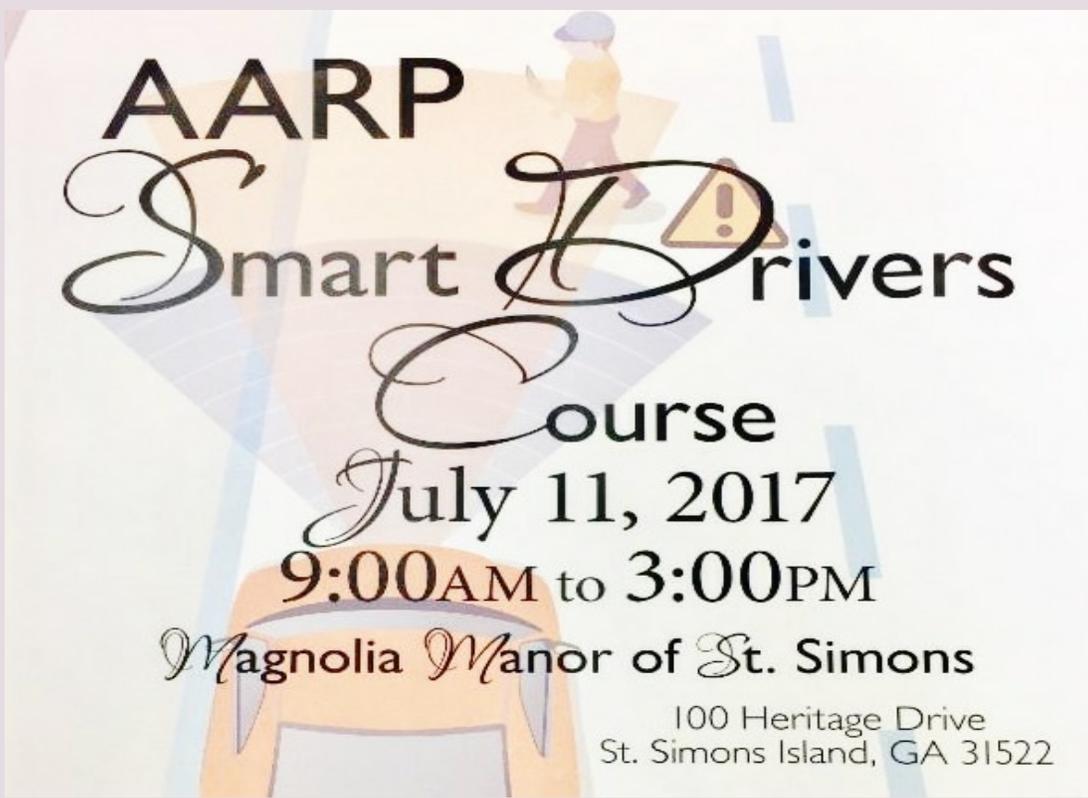
Wish List for Honduras Mission Trip

As our mission trip approaches, we are asking for donations of supplies and toiletries that we will be taking to Honduras with us. This "wish list" of items has been provided to us by Montaña de Luz and are described as urgent needs for the children in this program. For any questions about this list or items you would like to donate, please contact Nat Scott at nat@sspres.org.

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Hair gel
- Toothpaste
- Baby wipes
- Deodorant for girls & boys
- Body cream for men & women
- Feminine pads
- Razors for girls & boys
- Body Soap
- Shower gel
- Hand sanitizer
- Bug repellent
- Saucepans of all sizes
- Round tablecloths (red, green, orange, and yellow)
- Dishes in beige
- Glasses in beige

We will be collecting these items in the large **RED** buckets in the Back Hallway!

Thank you for your consistent and significant support of our global and local missions at St. Simons Presbyterian Church!



AARP Smart Drivers Course

July 11, 2017

9:00AM to 3:00PM

Magnolia Manor of St. Simons

100 Heritage Drive
St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Lunch & Refreshments provided. RSVP by July 10. Call Kevin (912) 266-8848.

The Week Ahead

calendar

2017

Sunday, July 9

- 8:30 am - Morning Prayer - Sanctuary
- 9:00 am - Breakfast/ Joint Sunday School - Social Hall
- 10:00 am - Worship - Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm - Marsh's Edge Worship - Marsh's Edge

Monday, July 10

- 9:00 am - Worship & Art Camp Begins - Playground Veranda
- 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - John Law Room
- 8:00 pm - AA Meeting - Britt Room

Wednesday, July 12

- 3:00 am - Honduras Mission Trip Group Departs
- 6:00 pm - Family Fun Game Night - Social Hall

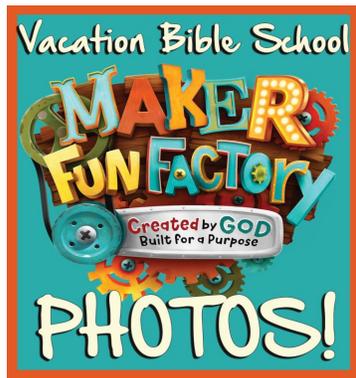
Thursday, July 13

- 7:15 am - Men's Breakfast Bible Study - Britt Room
- 10:00 am - Instrumental Ensemble - Social Hall
- 4:00 pm - Free Flow Yoga - Youth Suite
- 6:30 pm - Stephen Ministry - Parlor
- 8:00 pm - Al-Anon Meeting - John Law Room
- 8:00 pm - AA Meeting - Britt Room

Friday, July 14

- 10:00 am - Book Discussion & Prayer - Jann's Office

Click for More Information About Upcoming Events



[Prayers and Thanksgivings](#)

[Click here for the Weekly Prayer & Meditation](#)

Worship This Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 107:1-22 | Luke 4:1-13

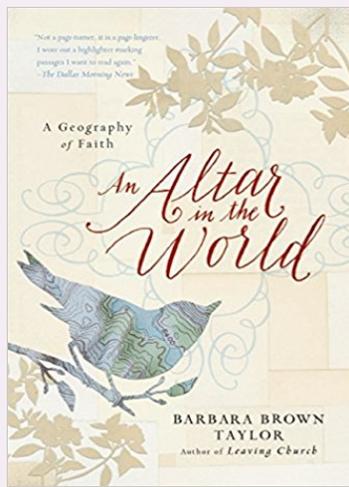
Hymns: 649 - Amazing Grace

543 - God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

Preacher: Rev. Bob Brearley

Summer Sermon Series:

"An Altar In The World"



Throughout the summer, our pastors are leading a summer sermon series called, "An Altar In The World." Barbara Brown Taylor's book by the same title - An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith - is our guide as we explore how and where God is at work far beyond the four walls of the church. This book will also guide our joint summer Sunday School classes. If you would like to read the book along with us please feel free to buy a copy online ([click here](#)) or pick up one of the copies that are available to purchase in the church office.

This Sunday: Wilderness - "The Practice of Getting Lost"

Musical Notes

Much gratitude and thanks go to our Chancel Choir and Instrumental Ensemble for their generous offering of music last week. We squeezed in a quick rehearsal between services to get our bearings since choir practice did not occur for two weeks. However, Anne Marie Stirewalt gathered the ensemble at their usual time (10:00 am on Thursdays) for the past two weeks. One of those weeks found the group playing for "Arts Week" at the Preschool. Children and Players alike were delighted with one another. Members of the group have a choice about playing for worship, etc. Some just like to come to the rehearsals and "play." And that is great! Join us sometime!

At Montreat, there were lots of ensembles for instruments - a brass choir, a string ensemble, a middle school band, an early music group, and a full band for adult, high school, and college players. I played viola in the string group and Annika Hauser-Brydon played in the middle school band. On the last day of rehearsal, there was a man with a saw in our rehearsal room. Yes, he was sitting there in the dark with a rusty saw! I carefully asked him if he was teaching a class. He said that the leaders had sent him to the string group because he needed a bow to play the saw. He had gotten a saw from the maintenance shed, so he was all set. We worked him into "For the Beauty of the Earth" that night at the concert and it was quite eerie and beautiful at the same time. You never know! Again, thank you for allowing me this experience.

Stacy Quiros, clarinetist, has been coming to this area for many years during the summer and sometimes during Spring Break. She is the Fine Arts Director for the Middle and Upper School at Whitefield School in Atlanta, a Christ-centered preparatory school and has brought her Jazz Band on

tour to this area. This Sunday, she will play *If With All Your Heart* from the oratorio *Elijah* on clarinet. This particular aria is sung by the tenor (Obadiah) and is the fourth piece in the work. Other familiar pieces in *Elijah* are *O Rest in the Lord*; *Lift Thine Eyes*; *He, Watching Over Israel*; and *Hear Ye, Israel*. The adult choir of about 450 people at the Montreat music conference sang *Behold! God the Lord passeth by!* from *Elijah*. Check out our conference conductor Tom Trenney on the organ with his choir in Lincoln, Nebraska by clicking this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wU3kNWbacrw> *Elijah*, with text taken from 1 Kings and 2 Kings of the Old Testament, is a powerful work by Felix Mendelssohn containing 42 pieces that are in the form of arias, recitatives, solos, and choruses.

The Chancel Choir will return in August, renewing their commitment as worship leaders. As the summer schedules settle in for those who will be singing or playing, I'll be able to share with you upcoming offerings for each Sunday. Like I said, you never know who will show up!

Hymns for Sunday: Are you ready to learn another new hymn? For the Introit, I will share with you 543 God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (O Christ Surround Me) and we will sing it as the final hymn. For the first hymn, we will sing 649 Amazing Grace. "I once was lost, but now am found."

Love & Gratitude,

Rhonda