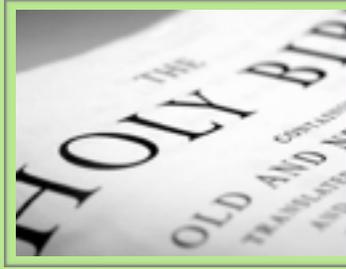


First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Newsletter



Vol. 42

July 1, 2014

No. 13

From a sermon on John 14, preached by N. T. Wright at St. Ebbe's Church in Oxford England:

Imagine a boy born blind. From his earliest years he has heard his parents' voices, and he has felt the touch of their hands. He knows them, but has never had any of the hundreds of joys of seeing them. He has never seen the look in his father's eye or the smile on his mother's face. Imagine this boy then having an operation, so that for the first time he can see them. Imagine the bandages being taken off and his eyes meeting those of his parents for the first time. That, I suggest, is something of what heaven will be like. Here we know in part, we walk by faith and not by sight. We live our lives in obedient trusting faith, hearing the Father's voice and knowing something of his love. One day the bandages will be off, and then we shall realize that this faith, focused in God's chosen signs and particularly in the Lord's Table, has been all along a real foretaste of heaven. For the moment Jesus' message to us is: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1).

We are therefore, to change the picture, like people who are trying to find their way into the center of a maze. The true path requires us very often to take what appears to be the wrong way to the middle. What looks the quickest way will get us hopelessly lost. But we have an advantage. We have a guide who has gone before, who knows the way and who has left us his footprints to follow. They lead along a difficult path, to be sure. But just in case we lose heart and begin to

imagine that there never was such a guide, or that there must surely be an easier way than this, or that there never was a middle to the maze anyway, we are given in John 14, and in the ascension of Jesus, a glimpse, a sudden sight over the hedges, of our guide himself safely arrived at his destination. And that sight, by encouraging us to press on to join him, tells us once again that it is in his footsteps that, by faith, we must walk. Our faith may be small. Jesus reveals to us the greatness of God and the certainty of his love.



*The church office will be closed Friday,
July 4, 2014.*

NEW NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

The next newsletter will be on the normal schedule in 2 weeks - July 15, 2014. After this newsletter we will begin a once-a-month newsletter. We plan for it to come out on the **third Tuesday of each month**. So, after July 15th, the next newsletter will be August 19.

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LIMON MISSION TRIP

The Limons are still in the process of support raising for their upcoming mission trip to Mexico. Currently they are lacking \$620.00. If you feel led to give, please see Ed or Lynn, or use the form hanging on the Mission bulletin board in the hallway to send gifts directly to Mission to the World. The Limons will be leaving July 12 and they request your continued prayer support.

G.I.R.L. Time

We will have a Bible study this Sunday, July 6th at 7 PM at the church. Mary Jane Glass will be leading the study. We look forward to seeing you then!

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning ladies Bible study will not meet in July. We will resume our study on August 12, 2014. Mark your calendar!

The essence of eternal life is not found in having my sins forgiven, in possessing a mansion in heaven, or in having streets of gold on which to walk forever. Rather, the essence of eternal life is intimately knowing God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent. Everything else that God gives to me in the gospel serves merely to bring me to Himself so that this great end might be achieved. Christ died for the forgiveness of my sins so that I might be brought "to God." Christ is preparing a place for me in heaven so that He might receive me "to [Him] self" and have me forever with Him where He is.

A Gospel Primer for Christians, by Milton Vincent

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Christy Gregory	7/1
Tom Childrey	7/2
Whitney Mullen	7/3
Emily Orr	7/3
Lynne Causey	7/5
Jamie Terry	7/8
Joshua Gregory	7/11
Liam Hutelmyer	7/11
Isaac Spencer	7/11
Owen Constable	7/13
McKenna Constable	7/14
Chris Hutelmyer	7/14
Kathryn Richardson	7/15
Erik Ensley	7/16
Jondeen Terry	7/16
Ferald Mann	7/18
Laurie Isley	7/30
Clay McPherson	7/30
Kevin Limon	7/31

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Tim & Betty Bessette (42)	7/1
Dick & Lillian Fuller (64)	7/1
Bill & Ellen Huffman (65)	7/23
George & Mary Lou McKinney (50)	7/26
Donald & Sandy Childrey (25)	7/29

YOUNG AT HEART

We had a wonderful year of food, fellowship, fun, and involvement with several local ministries. We are looking forward to resuming for the 2014-2015 year. See you in September!

MINISTRY REMINDERS

Nursery:

July 6: Myrleann Schwerin
Debbie McGrogan
July 13: Nicole Newton
Isaac Spencer

Children's Church:

July 6: Jan Burwell
Donna Wolff
July 13: Kristen Carter
Tammy Cobb

Counter:

July 6: None Scheduled
July 13: Jim Knox

Deacon Duty:

July 6: Doug Glass
July 13: None Scheduled

Elder Greeter:

July 6: Gene Parks
July 13: Bill Haynes