



Volume 7, Issue 4
April 2017

The Beacon

God is still speaking, **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



Spiritually Speaking

**Rev. Dr. Ann Michele
Rogers-Brigham**

Dear Members and
Friends of Safe Harbor
Family Church,

Spring greetings
to each of you! I am
still new and learning
about Safe Harbor
Family Church as one of
your pastors, but feel
I'm making good pro-
gress. I have lots of
help and support! Thank
you church staff, BOD,
& congregation! We've
had meaningful worship,
long meetings, intense
and intentional conver-
sations, sweet birthday
recognitions and, a

highlight for me, the
lovely reception to
welcome me to the
church as a new mem-
ber and a new pastor
among you. Yes,
church life is full of
vim, vigor, hope and
promise! Aren't we
glad we are together!

On Sunday,
April 2, we sang a
song to mark the
"promise" of resur-
rection and the
"promise" of who we
are becoming as God's
loving people at Safe
Harbor. Do you know
it? Natalie Sleeth
wrote the music and
words in 1986 as a
choir anthem and
then shaped them in-
to a hymn. I know my
daughter, Martha,
was about 10 years
old when she started
singing "In a Bulb
There Is a Flower" as
a solo in church! She
loved the melody and
the words. She could
understand the words

and relate to the
message.

What about
you?

Every time
spring comes around,
I want to sing this
song because it has a
teaching about the
meaning of Easter
(spring in the church
season) that sums up
what God may want
us to remember.

Perhaps we
can read and re-read
these words whenev-
er we are feeling a
need to reaffirm
that Easter is about
the "promise" that
God is with us in eve-
ry season of life and
God sees and be-
lieves in the promise
of who we are and
who we are becom-
ing.

(Con't on page 2)

*In the bulb there is a flower; in
the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!*

*In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to
be,
Unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

*There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every dark-
ness, bringing hope to you and
me.*

*From the past will come the fu-
ture; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

*In our end is our beginning; in
our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believ-
ing; in our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.*

What does God see we
are becoming at Safe Harbor?
May we trust God to lead and
guide and shape us to be an
Easter people. Thank you for
nurturing the "promise" we
share to be God's loving family
of faith. It continues to be my

joy to get to know each of you.
Let us continue to join in worship
and service, in conversation and
in celebration of faith and life! I
look forward to seeing you each
week!

Grace, peace and God's
love,

Rev. Ann Michele

*Rev. Ann Michele will be away
April 17 - April 25 for vacation.
Please call one of our
Associate Pastors with any spe-
cial need. Thank you!*

CROSSOVER

Thank you to all who
serve delicious meals when it is
your turn and for the oppor-
tunity to gather for prayer
and study each week. We wel-
come children, youth, adults to
our mid-week services. Dinner
is at 6:30 p.m. and Service is
at 7:00 p.m. We conclude by
8:00 p.m.

Adults will begin to
study/discuss the book by
Richard J. Foster Freedom of
Simplicity.

The Easter season
(until the end of May) is a
good time to rethink our prior-
ities and to seek first God's
way to meaningful life and

relationships. Foster's book
shows us how to live in harmo-
ny with the rich complexity of
life while stressing the rela-
tion of simplicity to prayer,
solitude and other Christian
disciplines. Come and join us
for the conversation!



Donations are always appreciated and needed!

*Looking for an easy way to donate to
Safe Harbor?*

Check out the "Donate" button on the
right side of our website at:
safeharborfamilychurch.org



Birthday Bash Rescheduled!

SHFC Birthday Bash is April 9th this month! We will celebrate all birthdays for the month during our Birthday Bash!



Please bring your favorite dish or two to share.

Sweets are already provided by Sugar Magnolia Takery!

Birthday Bash is immediately following church service.

Food Pantry

Safe Harbor Food Pantry Ministry is always in need of can goods to help persons that struggle to make ends meet.

If you can help, please bring your cans of food to the church anytime that the church is open.

Any of your pastoral staff can help you find space to shelve the food.



Have a Need? Call or Text the Church Phone



601-906-8934

There is a pastoral staff member who responds to calls placed to the church phone, 601-906-8934.

If you need a pastor, please call the church phone and leave a message. Leaving a message will help to direct your call or question to the appropriate pastoral person. As we start to develop our new pastoral team, please know that the best way to contact us is to call the church phone.

Please be sure to leave a message so we can respond more appropriately to your call.

Calls will be responded to as quickly as possible but because staff members also work outside of church, we pledge to reply to calls within 24-hours (or sooner).

Thank you from your pastoral staff team. Love and peace: Alan, Pastor Ann Michele, Cindy, Glenn, and Julia

Don't Forget!

SHEPHERD'S TASK FORCE

Meets at 6:30 p.m. on 2nd Tuesdays. Come join us and serve with us. Next meeting is April 11.

Please feel free to bring your supper and something to share if you'd like! If you are running late, still come. We can eat, meet, prepare for service to our congregation.

If you have taken a break from serving on Shepherd's Task Force but want to return, just speak to Rev. Ann—she's grateful for you to return and give your service/leadership to SHFC!

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Sundays at 4:45 p.m.

SHFC GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

April 14, 7:00 p.m.

Remember no services on Wednesday during Holy Week.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children/Youth and Adult
Sundays at 5:15 p.m.

We'd love to have you join us!!

Worship thoughts by Alan

Grace

During this time, isn't it wonderful to know that God is a God full of grace?

Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;

Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin.

God's grace forgives us of all things; overlooks all that we do

or that we have done. But what about us. Do we show the same grace to each other? If our partner does something that we feel offends us, do we show him/her grace? What if our friend or our family does something that hurts us? Are we able to look past those things and still love them, or do we hold grudges against them and show them no grace? It is time that we cast off our judging,

critical attitudes and love people as they are. Is that easy? No. But we must do that or we will be lost forever in our own pride. This week, I learned the importance of showing grace and giving grace. None of us is perfect, so we must all be willing to love, even when it hurts.

Grace knows no limits.

Card Ministry

The Card Ministry group is in need of Postcard Stamps. This group meets at 6:00 p.m. every first Tuesday of the month at Cups in the Quarter on Lakeland. There are five or six of us that meet regularly.



Join this Ministry!

If you would like to come and be a part of reaching out to others, come - we will see you there!

Find the words below in our
puzzle!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Volunteer Meeting TBA

Sundays 5:15 - 5:45-
Sunday School in Kidz
Harbor (drop off begins at
5:10)

Sundays @ 6 for kidz 6 &
younger-Kidz Harbor

Wednesdays after dinner
- Kidz Harbor

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thank you to all Kidz
Harbor volunteers who
make all of this possible!

ACTIVITY:

Spring has Sprung!
Find words relating to
S P R I N G!!!



Spring Word Search



April
April Fool's Day
bloom
bud
Buddha's Birthday
cherry blossom
crops
daffodil
Earth Day

Easter
farmer
flower
grow
June
May
melt
Mother's Day
new leaves

plant
plow
seed
shower
sprout
thaw
tulip
wake up
warm

YACHT Club

Spring has sprung and the beauty of the season is evident of God's handiwork. Just as He has made all things around us beautiful, He is creating that same beauty in you. No matter how tough or scary life can get, remember the beauty and the love of God.

I am thankful for each of you and hopeful for the future. We have lots of exciting things in the works.



You each bring so much to this group and to Safe Harbor.

Look forward to seeing each of you on Wednesday nights after supper as we continue to grow and share our journeys!

You guys are AMAZING and loved more than you know!

Love and blessings,
Julia

Craft Group

Rumor has it that the Craft Group is meeting on April 21st at 7:00 p.m..



Craft and location to be determined. Listen for announcements!

A Night of Old Time Singin'

Mark your calendars!

It's a Gospel Singin', Auctionin',
Dinner Eatin' event!

Inspired by the music of
Bill and Gloria Gaither.

Saturday, June 10
6:00 - 10:00 p.m.



Glimpses of God from Glenn...

Have you heard the story about a newly appointed young preacher? He was contacted to hold a graveside service. Being new to the area, the preacher started early to the cemetery, but soon lost his way. After making several wrong turns, he finally arrived a half-hour late. The hearse was nowhere in sight, and the work-crew was relaxing under a nearby tree, eating their lunch. The pastor went to the open grave and found that the vault lid was already in place. Not to be deterred, he took out his book and read the service in its entirety. As he returned to his car, he overheard one of the work-crew say: "Maybe we'd better tell him that's the septic tank."

Well, sometimes stuff just happens! We think we know what it is that we are looking at - motivation and effort are not understood or even appreciated. Sometimes just showing up is what matters. Even if we don't understand all of the reasons or have all the answers to the many "why-questions" of life, we keep showing up to do what God has

asked us to do. We use our God-given gifts and talents.

But what makes a person a person? Is there some magical formula that makes a person? The old nursery rhymes once taught us that 'little girls are made of sugar and spice, and everything nice.' While 'little boys are made of snips and snails and puppy-dogs' tails.' For the record, other versions of the rhyme include additional items that little boys are made of - 'Snaps, Frogs, Snakes, or Slugs'.

While you may not be made of sugar or snails, you are made of something. Consider - what makes you? Is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, or self-control to be found within you? What about the seven virtues? Does faith, hope, charity, fortitude, justice, prudence, or temperance have a place with you? What gives you strength when life is easy or when life is difficult?

Michael Jordan once said, "I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." Michael kept using his talents; he didn't let difficulty, trials, or failures stop him.

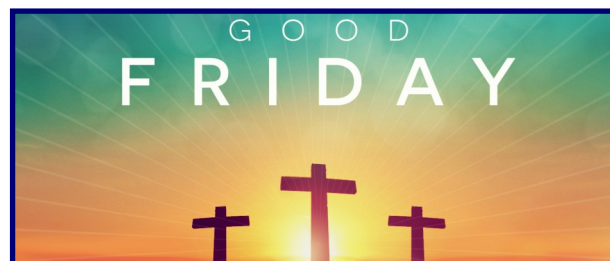
Remember the song, "We fall down, but we get up"? We get up again and again because God works through all things. As Lent draws toward an end, we rise together with Christ - forgiven, loved, and provided with an example to follow - Jesus! May every day be a little Easter in your life - Celebrating the bad with the good - Celebrating Good Friday AND Easter Sunday. May God always be found in the midst of all life - the good and the bad - to lead each of us toward the way of Christ! Peace and Amen.

Love you all,
Glenn

SHFC Good Friday Worship Service

Good Friday Worship Service is April 14, 7:00 p.m.

Remember no services on Wednesday during Holy Week.





Safe Harbor Family Church

An Open & Affirming (ONA) congregation of the United Church of Christ

1345 Flowood Dr.






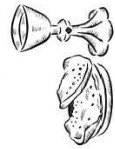


APRIL 2017

Flowood, Mississippi 39232-2702



601-923-2728

www.safeharborfamilychurch.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
	<i>His perfection, for our imperfection, His blessing for our cursing, and His life for our death.</i>	You may not be <i>perfect</i> , but Jesus thinks you're to die for.	1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given	<u>Benefits of the Resurrection:</u> Our illnesses don't seem nearly so final Our fears fade and lose their grip Our grief over those who have gone on is diminished.		1 April Fools' Day 																																																																																				
2 5th Sunday in Lent 	3	4	5 5:30p - Dance, Drama, & Sign group 6:30p - Crossover 7p - service & YACHT	6	7	8																																																																																				
6 PM - Praise Service Birthday Bash after service <i>Bring a dish to share</i>																																																																																										
9 Palm Sunday 	10	11  6:30p - PFLAG Fondren Presbyterian Church 6:30p- Shepherd's Task Force	12 No Crossover	13 Maunday Thursday 	14 Good Friday  7p - Tenebrae Service	15																																																																																				
6 PM- Praise Service	17	18  6p - Card Ministry Meeting (at Cups in the Quarter on Lakeland Dr.)	19 5:30p - Dance, Drama, & Sign group 6:30p - Crossover 7p - service & YACHT	20	21	22																																																																																				
6 PM- Praise Service																																																																																										
23 2nd Sunday of Easter	24	25	26 5:30p - Dance, Drama, & Sign group 6:30p - Crossover 7p - service & YACHT	27	28	29																																																																																				
6 PM - Praise Service																																																																																										
30 3rd Sunday of Easter																																																																																										
6 PM - Praise Service																																																																																										
<p>"Let the resurrection joy lift us from loneliness and weakness and despair to strength and beauty and happiness." ~ Floyd W. Tomkins</p>																																																																																										
					<p>MARCH</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<p>MAY</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
		1	2	3	4																																																																																					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11																																																																																				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18																																																																																				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25																																																																																				
26	27	28	29	30	31																																																																																					
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																				
1	2	3	4	5	6																																																																																					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13																																																																																				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20																																																																																				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27																																																																																				
28	29	30	31																																																																																							