



Seventh Notes

SEVENTH & JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

August 2009

BETWIXT & BETWEEN

The current debate on Texas public education seems to leap hundreds of years of scientific discovery and human creativity. Quality education is being attacked from a number of directions. Right-Wing Religionists strive to turn the public schools into Sunday schools. Attempts to undermine settled science with regard to evolution argue for a new dark age. The evidence of forms of evolutionary development cannot be countered by any results of the application of scientific method accepted for hundreds of years. Creationists have in recent years re clothed their arguments in the guise of “intelligent design.” Of course one can believe in intelligent design and affirm evolutionary development. Indeed, I am one who does. I believe in intelligent design but as a faith assumption and not a scientific finding. At church we deal with such faith affirmations but not as science. Faith tenets have no place in the school classroom.

The latest attack on Texas education has taken the form of attempts to revise the social studies curriculum. Long-ago history that neglected the contributions of certain population groups and slanted history by omitting accounts of injustice and prejudice in government, law and society was rejected in favor of a record that reflected past failures and the courageous effort of reformers who sought to extend full constitutional rights to all persons. The suggestions that references to Cesar Chavez and Thurgood Marshall should be expunged from the textbooks of Texas children is clearly a political attempt to interpret history, or to purge it because certain parties find facts embarrassing or politically incorrect. Chavez played a major role in the writing of labor laws to protect the rights of agricultural workers. He exposed gross injustice in the treatment of farm workers and created an environment that produced legal and cultural changes. Thurgood Marshall was a part of what was probably the most important Supreme Court decision of the twentieth century. If he had not later become the first African-American member of the United States Supreme Court, he would have been worthy of space in any civics or social studies class for his role in *Brown versus the Board of Education of Topeka*. He led the legal team that won a decision from the court that racial segregation was discriminatory. This was a landmark in the coming of age of true democracy. One can't help but wonder if those who would omit Marshall from the roll call of American heroes were not wishing for the old days of discrimination. Baptists must be vigorous in opposing those who would deprive our schoolchildren of a part of their democratic heritage.

CHURCH CONFERENCE MINUTES—JUNE 17, 2009

Moderator Ann McGlashan called the church into conference. **A.A. Hyden** moved to accept the Known Agenda, **Tom Newsom** seconded, and the motion passed. **Jon Lindsey** moved to accept the Church Clerk's membership report, **Barbara Hills** seconded, and the motion passed. **Raymond Bailey** moved to accept the minutes from the May 2009 church conference, **Jerry Lewis** seconded, and the motion passed.

On behalf of the Administrative Council, **Sherrie Dodson** presented the Financial Report. Total income was up \$3400 over this time last year and the church will finish the year in the black. The church would have finished even more in the black, but the church paid \$6000+ more in maintenance this year than in 2008.

No Old Business was discussed.

New Business: **Tom Newsom** made a motion that Ray Deaver receive a formal "thank you" from the church for the hard work he has done to help create the green space where the Dunn House once stood. **Wally Christian** seconded the motion and it passed.

Staff Report: **Raymond Bailey** presented the Staff Report. He thanked the Bereavement Committee for the excellent work they have done and will be doing for the church as a result of the deaths of several persons associated with the church. He also thanked the staff for foregoing vacation plans and other personal plans in order to be at the church to help with the funerals and meals. Bailey reported that the south end of the Leuschner Building has sustained water damage and will require more than \$3500 to repair. Ant colonies must also be eradicated before the roof can be repaired. The pastor emphasized the need for regular church attendance during the summer months and asked members to contact visitors and encourage them to come back. He noted that the summer will be busy with the youth mission trip to South Texas; Children's Camp; VBS; Music Camp; and the Baptist Identity lecture series on Wednesday nights. Bailey emphasized the need for each Council to have a representative at the June 20th calendar-planning meeting. The pastor noted that the deacons, and other church members, have done a good job of visiting the ill and bereaved during the last month. He asked for any questions but none were forthcoming. There were no other reports.

David Pennington moved that the June Church Business Meeting be adjourned, **Katie Cook** seconded, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosalie Beck

WITH GRATITUDE

Dear Seventh Family,

Another year of Children's Music Camp has come and gone and, once again, your support, encouragement and presence has given over 40 children a tangible reminder of what the "family of God" looks like. Your willingness to host the music camp and share in our Sunday night program and reception provided the campers a safe, exciting place to learn more about God, music and the gifts with which we are all blessed. Special thanks and appreciation to the **camp staff**: Julianne Best, Lorie Crowder, Rebecca Hartberg, Leslie Rosencrans, Matt Rosencrans, Amanda Sturgill, David Sturgill; our AMAZING **Youth CITs**: Natalie Belew, Lincoln Crowder, Kelsey Dodson, Hallie Hoover, Helen Hoover, Hannah Kittner, Megan Kittner, Victoria Kuykendall, Catriona Long, April Scales, Talj Tatum, Tane Tatum; our camp **support staff**: Sally Askins, Raymond Bailey, Donnie Balmos, Scott Davidsen, Ray Deaver, David DeLoach, Derek Dodson, Becky Griffin, Missy Kittner, Cosme Lozano, Pat Strother, Terry Sutcliffe, Lynn Tatum, Valerie Willis, Bert Wilson. A special thanks to our **Inreach Council**, who, once again, provided a beautiful, child-friendly reception!

With great appreciation,
Paula Hoover

**Writing Women Out of the Bible:
The Diminishing Role of Women in Early
Christianity and New Testament Manuscripts**

Derek Dodson

Most of us are aware that as early Christianity began to attain more of a public character in the Roman Empire, the leadership roles of women in the church became more limited. What is surprising – and often unknown – is that this ecclesiastical trend is actually reflected in the early transmission and production of New Testament manuscripts. Come explore the various aspects of this process.

Baptist Distinctives

Rosalie Beck

Baptists have always been a “peculiar people.” For three weeks we will study the historical Baptist positions on baptism, religious liberty and local church autonomy. Join us as we try to understand the “peculiar people” of whom we are a part.

Creating Abundance in the Midst of Want

Katie Cook

The nation and the world are experiencing the most significant food crisis we have seen in decades. We will spend three weeks looking at new ways people are responding to the food crisis.

Children’s Literature:

The Best and Children’s Favorites

Pat Sharp

These sessions focus on choosing outstanding books for children. A variety of books at many levels of childhood reading and listening will be discussed, and some examples will be included on video. Come share your favorites with us: religious books, humorous books, character-development books, and just fun reads.

DEACON
OFFERING COORDINATORS

DATE	DEACON
August 9:	COMMUNION
August 16:	Jonathan Lindsey
August 23:	Mike Long
August 30:	Carol Lowe
September 6:	Frank Mathis
September 13:	COMMUNION

WELCOME, MARY ANN JORDAN!



We are delighted to welcome Mary Ann Jordan who joined Seventh & James on Sunday, July 26. Mary Ann joins Seventh by transfer of letter. She is on the faculty of the School of Education at Baylor University and is the Principal Certification Program Coordinator. Welcome to Seventh & James, Mary Ann!

**BAYLOR FRESHMEN
MOVE-IN**

If you would be available to help freshmen move in to the dorms on Wednesday morning, August 19, or Thursday morning, August 20, please contact Matt Rosencrans (matt@seventhandjames.org) by Monday, August 10.

**Sunday, August 23rd
Promotion Sunday**

**Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Fellowship
9:15-9:45**

Join us in Harper Hall to celebrate and thank our Sunday school teachers for their hard work and dedication during the 2008-2009 year.

New Sunday School classes begin for children, youth and adults at 9:45.

XYZ

August 27, 11:00 a.m.
Lu Treadwell's House
3630 Chateau Avenue
Please bring a salad to share.



**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
8:30 AM**

**HARPER HALL
PLEASE INVITE A FRIEND!**

CHILDREN'S CHECKPOINT

Parents of Children Meeting

Please join us on Sunday, August 30 at 4:00 for our fall parents meeting. We'll meet in Harper Hall to discuss children's ministry plans for the fall. If you have questions, please see Leslie.

Fall Schedule Begins Soon!

Mini Singers will resume
Wednesday, September 2nd.

Choristers will resume
Wednesday, September 2nd.

Children's Handbells will resume
Wednesday, September 9th.

Worship Training (ages4-5):
Wednesdays, September 9, 23

Worship Training (Grades 1-2):
Sundays, August 30—October 4

Mission Friends will resume
Wednesday, October 7th.

Worship Care Volunteers

Date	WORSHIP CARE
August 9:	Paula Hoover
August 16:	Keri Hodson
August 23:	Mike Jones
August 30:	Linda McManness

Extended Session Volunteers

Date	EXTENDED SESSION
August 9:	Wade and Tammy Rowatt
August 16:	Jeanne Ryden and Beverly Walker
August 23:	Derek and Sherrie Dodson
August 30:	Paula Hoover and Mike Jones