



Seventh Notes

SEVENTH & JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

July 2011

A NOTE FROM BURT

Over this past year, I've been remodeling a 70-year-old building in the backyard. This structure has a story. It was a dirt floor garage, that became a garage with a cement floor, then a garage with a carport, then a workshop for a local business, then a workshop with vinyl siding, then a neglected storage facility (with vinyl siding), which has now become (I'm proud to say) a great studio for J. Burleson photography and a carport (still with vinyl siding).

I've not spoken to any previous owners about the building... I've just been hanging out in it for a year. I've spent a year of Saturdays out there getting acquainted with the place. In a year, you notice things... The changes in the lumber that was used along the way... Different concrete pours... Places where there were posts and plumbing... Old walls and shelves...

At first you don't know the meaning of what you're seeing. It takes time and a good bit of guessing to make sense of what previous owners were doing and why they had the building the way they had it. It takes seeing carefully to understand why one incarnation led to another. As I've remodeled, it's really helped to have some sense of the building's story. I've been able to create but create with continuity. (And nothing has fallen down in the process.)

I've also been at 7th a year. While I've not been remodeling (much) it's an interesting parallel process, I think... learning about a place... going slow and seeing carefully in order to understand a place and how it developed.

As a lame-duck interim... I have no plans, nor was I ever contracted, to remodel our church. But in some ways (if we can stay with the metaphor), we have called a pastor to do so... to come and to build on what has been. And we've called, by the way, an intuitive and mature "builder." Someone who knows how to see things as they are and let the stories emerge as to why. He'll be a patient and wise contractor. But, he is also a builder with an imagination for what might be... and he has an authentic passion for what our Designer has in store for Seventh & James in our next incarnation.

It's sort fun, isn't it? After all these years knowing we'll get to be in on this new thing. It won't be easy; remodeling is a real pain and very hard work. (Those of you with Advil stock can thank me for the bump in your portfolio.) But I'm just glad we get to build and build together.

*Please join us for a potluck lunch following worship on
Sunday, July 31 in honor of Burt Burleson.
We'll gather to give thanks for the
many ways Burt lead Seventh & James during the interim.*

Note cards are available in the church office and on the tables in Harper Hall for members to write a note of gratitude to Burt. The notes will be gathered and given to Burt following the lunch. The church will provide the meat for lunch. Church members (*according to last name*) are asked to contribute the following: **A-I:** Please bring a dessert to share; **J-R:** Please bring a vegetable dish to share; **S-Z:** Please bring a salad to share.

Celebrate the Conaways!

Please join us for a potluck lunch following worship on Sunday, August 14 to celebrate the arrival of the Conaway family.

The church will provide the meat for lunch.

Church members (*according to last name*) are asked to contribute the following:

A-I: Please bring salad to share;

J-R: Please bring a dessert to share;

S-Z: Please bring a vegetable dish to share.

If you would like to help the Conaway family stock their pantry, prepare their home or enjoy a meal out-on-the-town, please consider bringing a gift card to the potluck lunch. If you have any questions please see Leslie Rosencrans.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome **Kim Hagelstein** to Seventh & James! Kim joins Seventh by letter and is married to Seventh member, Paul Hagelstein. Kim teaches horn and other music classes part-time at Tarleton State University. Kim also has a private horn studio in the Midway school district. Please welcome Kim to Seventh & James when you see her.



WITH GRATITUDE

Dear Seventh & James,

Once again Pat and I have been supported through a difficult time by the prayers of faith of the Seventh family. You have now seen me through four serious medical procedures. Pat and I felt your love. Cards, calls and prayers encouraged the two of us. We will always have a deep affection for you.

Raymond Bailey

DEACON OFFERING COORDINATORS

Date	Deacon
July 24	Bill Hillis
July 31	Fred Hills
August 7	Carl Hoover
August 14	COMMUNION
August 21	Mike Jones & Pat Wilson

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6
8:30 AM

HARPER HALL
PLEASE INVITE A FRIEND!



Each summer, our regular Sunday school classes disband for the summer months and we offer a variety of short-term classes. Full Chautauqua calendars are available around the church. These are the classes offered during the July and August sessions of Chautauqua:

Why Bother with Ruth?—Rosalie Beck

July 3, 10, 17 and 24

This class will study the Book of Ruth to discover why this woman was so important to the history of the Hebrews and what her life-story might teach men and women today. Come and enjoy an in-depth look at the culture of the ancient Hebrews. Join us as we read an ancient text to see if it has anything to say to our own lives.

Going Deeper—Alex Geovanni

July 3, 10, and 24

This study will follow the revised common lectionary focusing on the sermon text that morning. The purpose is to break down the text in context of the passage, the chapter, book and Canon; look at the culture and issues related to the original audience to bring the text to life. This should prepare your heart and mind for the morning message, enriching the fullness of the life-transforming Word.

A New Christianity? What Are They Talking About?—Gayland Sims

July 3, 10, 17 and 24

There are a number of people writing about what they see as a major change in Christianity--change on the scale of the Reformation! We'll see what they mean, and where they think Christianity is going.

The Brownings: A Story of Love and Faith – Carol Lowe

July 31, August 7, 14

Session One will present the biographical love story of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Browning against the background of the Victorian controversy between faith and doubt. Session Two will discuss Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poetry, and Session Three, Robert Browning's poetry (no homework reading required!). All three sessions will include multi-media presentations.

Jewish Interpretation of Scripture – Rabbi Mordechai Rotem

July 31, August 7, 14

Rabbi Rotem is in his seventh year at Temple Rodef Sholom. He was the first Reform Rabbi to be ordained in Israel and served as a Rabbi there for more than 30 years.

Dining on Scripture: Markan Sandwiches – David Wilkinson

July 31, August 7, 14

Engaging several stories in the Gospel of Mark through the writer's creative use of bracketing -- inserting one story into another story -- as a literary device that serves a theological purpose.

Won't you be my neighbor?

seventh & james baptist church

This summer our children will be learning about area agencies that help people who are in need. Each evening the children will participate in a simulation of the agency and then we'll discuss ways our children can help. At the end of each evening, each child will receive a shopping list of items that agency is in need of. Children will then have the opportunity to shop in our VBS General Store for these items. At the end of the summer we'll take a field trip to deliver the items to each agency. The agencies we are focusing on this summer are:

- Caritas
- Mission Waco
- The Gospel Café
- Talitha Koum
- Habitat for Humanity
- Compassion Ministries

We are asking for your help to stock the shelves of our General Store. There are three ways you can help:

1. Take a shopping list (see next page) and go shopping!
2. Buy a reusable grocery bag for \$5 each.
3. "Buy a Bag to Stock a Shelf" - If you would like us to do your shopping for you, you can buy a reusable bag for \$25 and we'll shop for the groceries. The bag is yours to keep.

I would like to buy a reusable grocery bag. Number of bags: _____

I would like to "Buy a Bag to Stock a Shelf." Number of bags: _____

Name: _____

Please return this form to Leslie Rosencrans. Items may be dropped off at the church.
Please make checks out to "Seventh & James Baptist Church"
and include "VBS" in the Memo Line.



Help Us Stock Our Shelves!

Food Items

- Spaghetti, Ziti
- Large bags of noodles
- Macaroni and cheese
- Spaghetti sauce, other pasta sauces
- Chef Boyardee or pop-tab cans of food
- Canned vegetables
- Large or small can of cream of mushroom soup
- Large or small can of cream of chicken soup
- Large or small can of cream of celery soup
- Gallon cans of green beans
- Gallon cans of Bush's Baked Beans
- Cans of chili without beans
- Velveeta or house-brand boxed cheeses
- Sugar
- Pam-type spray for baking pans
- Graham cracker crusts
- Oreo cookies crusts
- Prepared snack items

School Supplies

- Acrylic Paint
- Paint Brushes
- Water Colors
- Water Color Pencils
- Canvas Pads
- Pastels
- Thin Sharpies/Pens
- Markers
- Art Paper



Won't you be my neighbor?
seventh & james baptist church

Toiletry Items

- Shampoo and conditioner
- Hair products
- Disposable razors
- Mouthwash
- Deodorant
- Chapstick or lip balm
- Sunscreen
- All-purpose lotion
- Comb/brush
- Band-Aids

Miscellaneous

- Diapers, especially large sizes (4,5,6)
- Baby wipes
- Pacifiers
- Washcloths
- One-size-fits-all visors
- Small totes (backpacks)
- Bar towels
- 9x9 Pyrex-type cake/casserole containers
- Large dispensers of hand sanitizer
- Paper towels
- Clorox wipes
- Dixie cups
- Dinner plates and silverware
- Small deck playing cards
- Small size crossword puzzle books
- Small size word-find books
- Sugarless gum
- Sugarless mints/peppermints



Thank you for supporting the
Children's Ministry at Seventh & James.
These items will be donated to area agencies
as part of our summer Vacation Bible School.
Items may be dropped off at the church.
Questions? Please see Leslie Rosencrans.