



May, 2016

THE CRIER

Gather, Grow and Go, In the Name of Jesus Christ

Introduction to the Revised Common Lectionary



In a recent sermon I spoke about the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and the fact that I typically preach from it week to week. Many folks are unaware of what the lectionary is, as well as how it is used. Pastors are not required to preach from the lectionary. It is simply a matter of choice on the part of the preacher. But preachers who do follow the lectionary are pushed by the structure to fairly well cover the entire Bible over its three year cycle. Preachers are also pushed to preach on a number of difficult passages they might otherwise joyfully pass over. The lectionary readings for a given Sunday can serve as a pointer to what the pastor will be preaching on in the upcoming week. They also can serve as an excellent guide for personal devotions through the week.

You may also be interested to know that our Christian Nurture Committee has been working diligently to breathe new life into our Sunday School hour, especially thinking of the needs of our children and young people. The committee reported to the session that we are going to initiate the use of a Sunday School curriculum, *Feasting on the Word*, grounded in following the scriptural lessons of the Revised Common Lectionary. This means that the lessons studied by children, young people and adults on a given Sunday will very likely be coordinated with the service of worship and the sermon of the day. *Feasting on the Word* provides lessons written for all age groups. You will be hearing more about this in the weeks and months ahead.

In my desire to write an explanation of what the lectionary is, I have decided simply to give you a link where you can go to find the RCL on-line. I have cut and pasted the answers to two very important questions people ask about the lectionary. This information is found in the [Vanderbilt Divinity Library](#) and the [Presbyterian Church \(USA\) Mission Agency](#) websites. I hope you will enjoy exploring, researching and learning to follow the Revised Common Lectionary.

(Continued on Page two – Lectionary)

Lectionary Continued from Page One

The links to the Vanderbilt Divinity Library and the Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Agency websites are:

<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

This link will take you to the RCL. We are currently in Cycle C.

<http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/faq2.php>

This link will tell you all you could want to know about the RCL

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/revised-common-lectionary/2016/4/17/>

This link is our PCUSA denominational link to the RCL.

What is the Revised Common Lectionary?

The Revised Common Lectionary is a three-year cycle of weekly readings used to varying degrees by the vast majority of mainline Protestant churches in Canada and the United States. The RCL is built around the seasons of the Church Year, and includes four readings for each Sunday, as well as additional readings for major feast days. During most of the year, the readings are: a reading from the Old Testament, a Psalm, a reading from the Epistles, and a Gospel reading. During the season of Easter, the Old Testament reading is usually replaced with one from the Acts of the Apostles. The readings from the Old Testament are sometimes chosen from the Apocrypha, a collection of ancient books included in some bibles, usually found between the Old and New Testaments.

The seasons of the Church Year reflect the life of Christ. Consequently, the gospel readings for each Sunday provide the focus for that day. The other readings for a given day generally have a thematic relationship to the gospel reading for that day, although this is not always the case. In Ordinary Time, the season of the year stretching from Easter to Advent, the Revised Common Lectionary offers two sets of readings for the lessons from the Old Testament. One set proceeds mostly continuously, giving the story of the Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, etc.) and the Exodus in Year A, the Kings of Israel narratives in Year B, and readings from the Prophets in Year C. In the other set of readings for Ordinary Time the readings from the Old Testament are thematically related to the gospel readings. Denominations or local churches generally use either the semi continuous readings or the thematic readings during Ordinary Time. They do not typically move back and forth between the two over the course of a single season.

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NEED A RIDE?

The Deacons coordinate transportation to medical appointments and DCC church events with an advance notice for members, their spouses and Active church friends. At the present time, the Deacons drive only to local medical appointments in Diamondhead, Gulfport and Biloxi. Call one of the Transportation Coordinators if you are in need of a ride. **Deacon driver coordinators for the month of May** are Vicki Harlan 228-586-0495 and Denise Spillmann 228-380-3488.

The Visitors Challenge
Leader is:

Kay Bodamer

The Group Winner for
March is the
Youth!

FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

	March 2016		Year To Date	
	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected
Income	\$31,542	\$28,563	\$ 81,698	\$ 85,688
Expense	\$35,800	\$26,550	\$ 83,442	\$ 84,280
Bud. Bal	\$-4,258	\$ 2,013	\$ -1,744	\$ 1,408

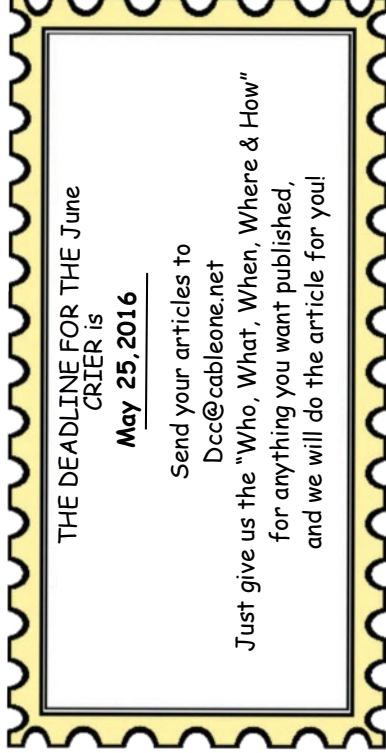
PrimeTimers Corner

The PrimeTimers had a busy April. We started off with a baseball game between the Milwaukee Brewers and our Biloxi Schuckers. It was an exciting game; 6 to 4 with 3 homers in favor of the Brewers. Then we went to see "The Rose Tattoo" at the Bay St. Louis Little Theatre. The last event for April was a tasting at the Olive Oils and Vinegars Shop in the Pass. May promises to be a good month also as we have two trips planned. We will be going to a concert at Southern Miss. Gulf Park Campus, Long Beach on Sunday, May 15. The second trip is to the World War II Museum in New Orleans on Tuesday, May 17. Our Gathering for May is Monday, May 2, at 10 a.m. Please come and enjoy the fellowship.



Diamondhead Community Church
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News From THE SESSION



The Session met on the evening of April 12 to discuss church business. One of the first orders of business was the acceptance of a new member. Belva Gillespie was welcomed as the newest member of the Diamondhead congregation. After approval of the March Financial Report the Finance and Stewardship Committee announced that they are working on a new procedure for the Policy and Procedure Manual to enable contributions to the church directly from an IRA.

The Christian Nurture Committee announced that they will be working to implement a new Sunday School Program called Feasting on the Word. The program follows the standard Lectionary so it will tie into the scripture readings that are recommended for the Sunday Service. The lesson each week will cover the same lesson for all age groups but obviously on a different level. The program will hopefully be ready for implementation on September 4. The Building and Facilities Committee received approval to spend \$1,500 to repair the leaking roof in the Sanctuary. The work will be completed by McCurdy Roofing Company. The Outreach Committee indicated that they are exploring the feasibility of continuing the annual Rummage Sale in October. The amount of work required does not seem to match the number of people volunteering so the program is being reevaluated. The Membership Committee is also reevaluating the Shepherd Program to try to make sure the program works for all members or to look for a program to better serve the congregation.

CYM announced that our youth leader for more than 11 years, Josh Lindsey, has received a new position as a principal in the Gulfport School District. While everyone is pleased and excited at this great news for the Lindsey family, it will greatly increase the work load and time needed by Josh and Kristi in properly preparing and accomplishing their professional goals. Josh and Kristi will therefore step down as the youth leaders for our church, effective May 31. A search is underway for a new youth leader, but at this time it will cause the committee to have to postpone the annual Soccer Camp and Vacation Bible School. VBS has not been cancelled as of this time but is certainly in jeopardy if a leader cannot be found and put in the position soon.

The Session will hold a one day retreat on July 9 at the church to discuss and make plans for the future of our church. The plans will include an evaluation of the current committees to determine if all these committees are truly needed and justified. There will also be a discussion regarding the future use of church facilities and what, if any changes or expansion will be required.

May 29 will be Remembrance Sunday.

There will be a Memorial Service for Bettisue Hendrix at 2:00 PM on July 17. Dr. Dwight Ramsey will be officiating at the service.

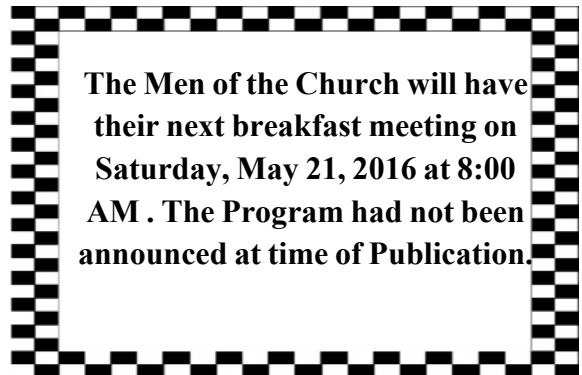
May Birthdays

Riley Mitchell	May 01
Bill Lingsch	May 03
Tay Guilmino	May 04
Monta Lucas	May 04
Dot Hoskins	May 05
Stan Raffa	May 05
Cherie Ramseyer	May 05
Jack Badeaux	May 07
Brody Coats	May 07
Ed Streeter	May 07
Allison Cullom	May 08
Hayden Brewer	May 10
Bruce Bradley	May 11
Ken Bluett	May 12
Justin Daniels	May 13
Nita Hensley	May 13
Carolyn Yarbrough	May 13
Joe Stivers	May 16
Marilyn Sloan	May 20
Fletcher Coker Jr.	May 21
Del Rowe	May 21
Rachel Stewart	May 22
Matthew Geistfeld	May 23
Newt Hanson Jr.	May 23
Mary Ann Manchester	May 24
Kindan Harris	May 25
Betty Marshall	May 26
Drew Mitchell	May 26
Kurt Braun	May 29
Lindsay Liljedahl	May 29



May Anniversaries

Myrna & Hugh Burney	05/12/1957
Bonnie & Felix Lopez	05/12/1990
Kelly & Matt Faul	05/15/2010
Amelia & Joe Stivers	05/22/2000
Julie & Matthew Geistfeld	05/27/2007
Karen & L M Rice	05/27/1989
Beryl & Pat Laird	05/28/1994
Linda & Bob Olds	05/28/2008
Kim & Bill Case	05/29/1977
Alison & Jamie Kingston	05/29/1999
Brenda & Patrick Cuty	05/31/2014



National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer will be observed on May 5, 2016. A Service of directed prayer will take place in the Sanctuary at Noon until 12:45 PM on that day. We ask you come and spend some time in prayer with us. Come for 10 minutes, 30 minutes or the entire 45 minutes. Join us as we pray for your concerns, the nation's concerns, the church, our families and the world. There are plenty of reasons to ask for God's help.

News from Presbyterian Women

The Woman of the Year luncheon previously scheduled on the first Tuesday of May has been rescheduled as a dinner on Tuesday, May 31, at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Fellowship Hall on May 1. The dinner cost will be \$8.00. You can pay in advance by placing your cash or check payable to the church, designated for PW dinner, in the envelope beside the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. So that PW can plan the meal, please make your reservation by May 22. Please watch your bulletins for further details and plan to attend this dinner where the Woman of the Year will be recognized and PW Coordinating Team leaders will be elected and installed for the 2016/17 PW year.

As stated in DCC PW Bylaws, the PW Coordinating Team positions of Co-Moderator, Secretary, and Communicator will be elected at PW's May meeting to serve for a period of two years. Nominees are Co-Moderator, Nita Hensley; Secretary, Jeannine Stone; and Communicator, Linda Naron. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at the Woman of the Year Dinner on May 31.

The PW Coordinating Team thanks Rachel Coker, Phyllis Dowell, Dean Farrow, Belva Gillespie, Shelia Pace, Karen Rice and Gail Seliga for volunteering to join our PW Coordinating Team as members at large for the 2016/17 PW year. As members at large, they will support PW activities as voting members of the team. Others who would like to volunteer are welcome.

At PW's April Mary/Martha Day approximately 50 handbags were filled with personal care items for distribution through the Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence. PW would like to thank all of you for your generous donations toward this project. Those who took packets of Operation Christmas Child dresses to sew are encouraged to return them in their sized packets to the PW table in the Fellowship Hall by June 30.

Circles will meet during May as follows:

Dorcas – May 10 at Jackie's at 1:00 p.m.

Lydia – May 17 at the church at 6:30 p.m.

Anna – May 19 at the church at 10:00 a.m.

2016 Graduates

Please congratulate DCC 2016 High School graduates. This year **Grant Cullom** and **Rebecca Jenkins** are graduating from their respective high schools. Please take a moment to wish Grant and Rebecca well on their future endeavors.

Church Library News

A Severe Mercy

A DCC Library Book Review by Carol Benzing

Published 20 years after the death of Jean "Davy" Parker Vanauken, *A Severe Mercy*, a National Book Award Winner, written by Sheldon "Van" Vanauken recounts the love story of two self-described agnostics their conversion to Christianity, Davy's death and Van's grief. *A Severe Mercy*, a memoir, is a gift to DCC Library from the collection of Harold Winters and contains more than 15 original letters from C. S. Lewis to Davy and Van. *A Severe Mercy* is shelved in the biography section.

For Automotive Lovers — Two Book Reviews by Bob Benzing

Just added to our library are two new books that I have read and are outstanding reading material, ***Wheels for the World*** by Douglas Brinkley and ***Engines of Change*** by Paul Ingrassia.

Wheels for the World

Few endeavors in history can match Ford Motor Company's impact on human civilization. It all began more than a century ago by Henry Ford whose parents thought would never accomplish anything, since he hated school and was an early dropout. The author reveals the riveting details about the Ford Motor Company's epic achievements from the unbelievable success of the Tin Lizzie, the beloved Model A and the V8 engine. *Wheels for the World* is located in the Biography Section: B For.

Engines of Change

A narrative-like no other. A cultural history that explores how cars have both propelled and reflects the "American Experience" from the Model T to today's Prius. I found this to be very easy reading and discovered how some car models from the 30's-60's had engineering features currently in today's modern cars. *Engines of Change* is shelved in the Non-Fiction Section: 388.3 Ing.

For your summer time reading adult, youth and children's books from your DCC Library are on display in the Fellowship Hall. To checkout books, please complete the card found in each book and place in the basket. You are invited to borrow as many books as you like. There is no due date for borrowed books.

If you are donating books, CDs or DVDs to the DCC Library, please attach a note with your name to the materials so that your gift may be acknowledged. For questions concerning donations, contact Carol Benzing at 228-254-5240 or Barbara Smith at 228-255-4412.

Administration & Communication Committee

As the new A&C Committee Chair, I have been frantically trying to educate myself in the many facets that impact just how our Presbyterian Church operates. From time to time, I plan to share my discoveries with you in this forum.

At its heart, our church is more than a place of worship and spiritual enrichment. It also has buildings, equipment, land, programs, members and personnel. All these require various degrees of management and record keeping. The Board of a church (Session/Trustees) has the fiduciary responsibility of governing, overseeing and verifying the operations of these various component parts. The staff of a church, both paid and volunteer, has the obligation to implement properly the policies of the board and you, the church membership which it represents.

The Presbyterian Church is a connectional church which means that the local governing board (Session) not only reports to you, the members of the church but also acts as an agent for higher levels of the Presbyterian Church. These are, in ascending order, the Presbytery, the Synod, and finally, the General Assembly. A further description of this polity as defined by the Book of Order will await another day.

Our church is also a civil entity chartered under the State of Mississippi Nonprofit Corporation Act. (Coincidentally, this is the same law under which the Diamondhead Property Owners Association is chartered and is governed.) A primary benefit of this arrangement is that we are exempted from property tax, a significant plus. On the other hand, such a charter requires our Church to adhere to State and Federal laws and regulations such as OSHA, Fair Labor Act, the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), Equal Opportunity Employment Act, etc. We are also required to have a set of Bylaws. Tay Guilmino is currently leading our effort to update the Bylaws which were last updated in 1999. Compliance will obviously be one of the A&C Committee duties/activities going forward.

In a future article, I will provide more detail of the Duties and Responsibilities of the A&C Committee. The A&C Committee is composed of Karen Rice, Vice Chair and members Mike Skeen, Pat Laird and Tay Guilmino. Anyone having questions, suggestions, or issues are certainly welcome to contact anyone on the Committee.

In His Joy,
Lloyd Ramirez

Mission Committee News

AMAZON.Com

Do you shop at Amazon.com? If you do, look into subscribing to their program entitled Amazon Smile. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from each of your Amazon Smile Shop purchases to your favorite charity. It is a simple and automatic way of supporting your favorite charity every time you shop at Amazon.com. Simply sign up at [Smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and designate an eligible 501(c)(3) charitable organization. It is an easy way to continue the support of the charities already being supported by our church and at no extra cost. Sign up today!

Wondering Where Donations to the Mission Committee Go?

Since January 1, the Mission Committee has made the following donations with their share of the church budget. The funds they used are those you have contributed to the General Fund or to a specific cause through your use of your weekly envelopes.

Unified Benevolence Fund for Presbyterian USA Causes	\$ 900.00
Hancock County Food Pantry	\$1,000.00
Living Waters	\$700.00
Presbyterian World Missions	\$660.00
Hope Haven	\$500.00
Navajo Water Project (\$800 matching donation)	\$800.00
Rivers of the World	\$500.00
Natchez Children's Home	\$500.00
Red Cross Fire Family	\$500.00
USM Campus Ministry	\$270.00

Thanks to all who came out for the **Blood Drive**. We were able to make our goal of 20 participants and 15 of those were eligible to donate. Thanks to Beryl Laird for organizing this event and to the Building and Facilities Committee for setting everything up. We will have another blood drive in the Fall with a more ambitious goal.

2016 Annual Family Ministries Crawfish Boil



Sunday School Is Returning!

Sunday School is returning to the Diamondhead Community Church on September 4, 2016. The new Sunday School will be based on a John Knox Press program called 'Feasting on the Word.' Each Sunday the lesson taught will come from one of the recommended scripture readings in the Lectionary. This will mean that often the Sunday School lesson used will coordinate with the sermon on that Sunday. You will be able to drop your son or daughter off at their class and then walk down the hall to your class so we will all learn about the same scripture at different levels. Watch for more information in the months to come.

Continued from Page 2 – Lectionary

The gospel readings for each year come from one of the synoptic (similar) gospels (Matthew, Mark or Luke) according to the following pattern:

- Year A - Matthew
- Year B - Mark
- Year C – Luke

Readings from the Gospel of John can be found throughout the RCL.

Who compiled the Revised Common Lectionary?

The Revised Common Lectionary was produced by The Consultation on Common Texts (CCT). At the time the RCL was compiled, the CCT was composed of representatives from the following denominations (taken from Consultation on Common Texts. *The Revised Common Lectionary*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992):

- The Anglican Church of Canada
- Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- Christian Reformed Church in North America
- The Episcopal Church
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- Free Methodist Church in Canada
- International Commission on English in the Liturgy (an Agency of 26 Roman Catholic National or International Conferences of Bishops)
- The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
- Polish National Catholic Church
- Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- The Presbyterian Church in Canada
- Reformed Church in America
- Roman Catholic Church in the United States
- Roman Catholic Church in Canada
- Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship
- The United Church of Canada
- United Church of Christ
- The United Methodist Church

Follow the links and enjoy. If you would like a printed copy of the lessons in the RCL, give me a call and I will provide one for you. – Dr. G.