

# CHRISTCHURCH PRESBYTERIAN GOOD NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 07

August 2011

## John's Musings



Rev. John Hirling

As you know, later this month Drew will be leaving us. Silly boy – wants to be near his wife. Go figure. He has been a blessing to our youth and a colleague to me. We've had some interesting conversations about the state of the church (universal and particular). He will be missed.

Clearly, the only constant in the universe (next to God) is change. And you all have been through a lot of them: changes in name, changes in worship space, changes in pastoral leadership,

changes in staff, changes in polity, changes in carrying out vision, just to mention a few. I've heard a lot of people say they find change painful.

While that may be true in some cases, I think the truth of the matter is, that pain comes from trying to avoid change. Certainly there is some comfort in continuity. And change solely for the sake of change is risky. There is an axiom: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." On the other hand, some managers have found success by following Robert J Kriegel's unconventional wisdom: If it Ain't Broke...Break It! Change can be exciting, invigorating even if challenging.

The interview process for Drew's successor reminded me of one of the questions I like to ask of references: "If you could give this person one gift, what would that gift be?"

The question is designed to identify some skill or characteristic that the reference believes

would benefit the candidate and his or her ministry; something that is missing or an area in which the candidate might grow. If I recall correctly, I also asked that question of the IPNC when they interviewed me since that question can also be used to identify needs and growth edges in a congregation.

I invite you to send me your answers to this question: If you could give ChristChurch Presbyterian one gift, what would that gift

be? Your answer might be something specific and tangible. Goodness knows, we have plenty of facilities needs: new pew cushions, repairs, and the like. Your answer might be missional, perhaps

something like 'a heart for reaching out to the unchurched and under-churched' or some specific community outreach you believe would bless us and others. Your answer might have to do with worship or new worship opportunities. Your answer might have to do with Christian education, stewardship or fellowship. Maybe you can't limit your gift giving to one gift. You might want to give more than one gift.

Whatever your answer(s) might be, I'd like to know them. Please email them to me at [jhirling@ccpres.org](mailto:jhirling@ccpres.org) or call me at the church. Your voice and your ideas are important to me!

Grace & peace,  
John

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**Newsletter Deadline  
August 15**

**Vision Statement:**  
*Trusting in God's guidance,  
ChristChurch Presbyterian  
invites all to join us as we  
Gather joyfully,  
Grow spiritually and  
Give passionately  
in service to Christ,  
each other and our  
community.*

# Kick-off!

*Here we are, another year ready to begin. Please mark your calendar for kickoff Sunday (even if the NFL may not). Seriously, we are planning events and announcements for the Kickoff Sunday, which will be August 28, 2011. Please keep your eyes open for more announcements as the summer progresses*



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## Make Your Mo-Ranch Reservation Now!

ChristChurch to Gather on August 4-7 in the Texas Hill Country



The river slide at Mo-Ranch

What's your favorite part of the ChristChurch annual retreat to Mo Ranch? Is it the exhilarating cascade down the Mo Slide into the Guadalupe River? Would it be relaxing in cool rapids on a hot afternoon? Could it be the inspiring vespers service sponsored by the youth on Saturday evening or the Sunday morning worship overlooking the entire ranch from the Chapel on the Hill? Or is it simply sitting on the porch of Wynn and Flato Halls with your church family, giving thanks for God's beautiful creation?

Mark your calendar for the 2011 ChristChurch Mo Ranch Retreat the weekend of August 4-7. Susan and Tim Hightower will soon be taking your reservations for rooms and meals. You may contact them at [nshightower@comcast.net](mailto:nshightower@comcast.net) for more information.

And remember that the best part of our annual retreat is making memories that keep you coming back year after year.

## *Introducing ChristChurch's New Office Manager, Brittany Clay*

*Please give a warm welcome to our new office manager, Brittany Clay. Brittany has been with us now for three months, first as a temporary replacement for our previous office manager but has since come on board permanently.*

*Brittany graduated from the University of Houston in May of 2011 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology and a Certification for Entrepreneurship. She plans to further pursue her education with a master's degree in sport psychology, with an eye for partnering with nutritionists, agents, and other sports industry professionals to support and treat athletes.*

*Brittany is a huge sports fan but also enjoys road trips, working out, movies and shopping with friends. She spends her Sunday morning at Higher Dimension Church where she is active in the Fitness Ministry*

*and Ignite (College and Young Adult) Ministry.*

*Originally from Oklahoma, Brittany moved to Texas when she was very young, then moved to Houston three years ago.*

*When you have a chance, please stop by the church office and say hello or give Brittany a call to introduce yourself. Help us let her know how happy we are to have her here at ChristChurch.*



## *Flower Dedications*



*The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Marie Toalson, she will be dearly missed.*

*From Pauletta Kay*

*The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Robert and Anne Reed's 55th Wedding Anniversary.*

*From Robert and Anne Reed*



# CONGRATULATIONS TO MATTHEW BOLE FOR EARNING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT!!



AT AN EAGLE SCOUT BOARD OF REVIEW, JULY 19TH, MATTHEW WAS EXAMINED AND THEN AWARDED THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT IN THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA. MATTHEW IS THE 89TH SCOUT TO EARN THIS RANK IN TROOP 549 OVER THE TROOP'S 50+ YEARS IN EXISTENCE. THE TROOP MEETS AT SAINT PAUL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

IN ACHIEVING THIS RANK, MATTHEW LED MEMBERS OF HIS TROOP AND OTHER FRIENDS IN A PROJECT TO ERADICATE INVASIVE PLANTS AT THE HOUSTON ARBORETUM AND NATURE CENTER, WHICH IF UNCHECKED WOULD OVERTAKE EVEN THE TALLEST TREES WITHIN TWENTY YEARS. THE BOARD REVIEWED THIS PROJECT, HIS OTHER LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES, HIS TEN YEARS AS A CUB AND BOY SCOUT ALONG WITH THE MANY RANKS

THAT EARNED ALONG THE WAY, AND MANY GLOWING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION.

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU MATTHEW ON YOUR HARD WORK, DEDICATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

## August Birthdays



1	Lucy Etse	16	Mike McMahan
2	Betty Lamb	20	Koby Scher
4	Annie Laurie Richardson	23	Pat Decker
5	John Hellings	25	KarenAnderson
7	Dick Akkerman	26	Anne Janes
8	Liz Gentry	27	Susan Materie
9	William Seward	27	Beatrice Mayadas
9	Brad Boyce	28	Keith Hopkinson
9	Frances Freeman	28	Eileen Simons
9	Patricia Harris	29	Joan Borgstedte
11	Alex Schroller	30	Terry Whaley
14	Melanie Becker	31	David Nicholson
14	Garrett Horst		
15	Rosaline Masango		
15	Ronyo Obou		
16	Karen Cook		
16	Bill Gribble		



# Growing

## Farewell to our very own, Dynamic Director of Youth and Christian Formation, Drew Harrison

We have been blessed during the last year to have Drew Harrison as the Director for Youth and Christian Formation at ChristChurch Presbyterian. His leadership and stewardship with our youth have been exemplary, and we are very appreciative of his energy and talents. He has led the youth in Sunday School, worship, confirmation class, youth fellowship, Conclaves, mission work, Wednesday evening Starbucks get togethers, and the mission trip to Daytona Beach, Florida. Unfortunately, we are going to lose Drew this August as he travels to new adventures in San Antonio. We will always remember and appreciate his intellect, his sound Presbyterian theology, his wit, his outreach to every member of the youth group, his sense of humor, and his incredible dance moves at Conclaves. We all wish Drew the best in his future endeavors and ministry. San Antonio is lucky to have him, and we will greatly miss him.

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## Director of Youth and Christian Formation

*Could God be calling someone you know? Do you know someone who would be interested or has the gifts we need?*

ChristChurch Presbyterian, an inner-suburban multicultural community in Houston, is seeking a creative, high-energy candidate who is passionate about youth ministry and educational ministry to our congregation.

We are looking for a person who has a dynamic relationship with God; a bachelor's degree preferred; experience in teaching, organizing, administering and leading church programs for children and youth ministries; and who can work effectively with people of all ages both within and outside our church community.

ChristChurch Presbyterian provides a variety of mission and ministry opportunities, as well as a competitive salary and benefits package.

The position description is posted at <http://www.ccpres.org>.

To contact us directly about this position, send email inquiries to [director-youth@ccpres.org](mailto:director-youth@ccpres.org)

# Giving

***There are many ways to participate in giving at ChristChurch Presbyterian.***

The Giving Committee is proud to announce projects for 2011. If you would like to give, participate in the committee or simply have questions, please contact Karen Persley at [krp111154@sbcglobal.net](mailto:krp111154@sbcglobal.net).

July- Sept	Back to School Drive Shoe Collection School Supply Money for CCSC School Supplies for CCP Families Needed Teaching Supplies for the Cuba Water Project in November
Oct	Spaghetti and Sauce Drive to benefit United Campus Ministries
Nov- Dec	Blankets, Warm Clothing, Towels, Soap - Star of Hope Mission Salvation Army Women's Shelter

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## FOOD for HUNGRY KIDS

By Amy Gremillion

ChristChurch has amazing givers. Over the last two weeks we have delivered over 200 lbs. of fresh produce to CCSC as well as purchasing produce and chicken for the food pantry at St. Giles from our loose plate offering. Summer is a particularly difficult time for hungry families because children are home from school. With the economy getting worse and new job layoffs by the city and school systems, this summer promises to be even more difficult for area food banks. Monday, when I delivered over 130 lbs. of fresh food CCSC was astonished, but the greater gift for me was the joy on a young mother's face as she said, "Banana for my baby!" We found out that the items which are most needed include: meat based soups, canned fruits with pop tops, macaroni and cheese, dried beans, granola bars, toilet paper, bar soap, and fresh fruit and vegetables which are not fragile such as potatoes, green bananas, carrots, onions, peppers, oranges, apples, squash, etc. CCSC also needs brown paper grocery sacks with handles and can openers. If you want to donate any of these items, please bring them to the Sanctuary and we will deliver them on Monday.



# To the Church Triumphant

*"Death is swallowed up in victory ... Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." -- 1 Cor. 15:54-57*

## Arthur Henry Snell, Jr.



Arthur Henry Snell, Jr., age 89, was born on May 31, 1922 in Houston, Texas and died peacefully on July 12, 2011 in Houston, Texas from congestive heart failure. Arthur resided in Houston for most of his life and graduated from Reagan High School. After High school he joined the U.S. Navy and became an instructor at the San Diego Naval

Base in Ca. Arthur worked for Keystone Valve Co. for about 20 years. He held several patents pertaining to the butterfly valves. He also worked for KTM & M&J valve companies. Arthur was a master Mason for more than 50 years at the Temple 4 Lodge in Houston, TX. He was also a member of the Scottish rite and active in the Shriners organization in Houston. Arthur and his wife, Vera met at The Dixie Dude Ranch and were later married on July 10, 1948. They just celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary on July 10, 2011. They enjoyed a long life together. Arthur loved to hunt and fish. His favorite past time was going to Centerville to his ranch and spending time with his family, grand children and great-grand children. His parents, Arthur Henry Snell, Sr. and Ida

McKinley Haas Snell; his only brother, James Edward Snell and his precious, lovely young granddaughter Leslie Ann Snell preceded Arthur in death. He is survived by his wife, Vera Simmons Snell of Houston, TX.; sister-in-law, Elaine R. Snell of Houston, TX.; nephews, James Edward Snell of Cedar Park, TX., Richard Arthur Snell of Houston, TX.; and many more nieces and nephews; his three sons, James Robert Snell and wife Marilyn Lehrmann Snell of College Station, TX., John Thornton Snell and wife Jan Daniel Snell of Fulshear, TX., and Arthur Henry Snell, III. and wife Linda Coulson Snell of Crowley, TX.; grandchildren, Melissa Snell Santana of Houston, TX., Courtney Snell Tarbox of San Antonio, TX., John Ryan Snell of Bedford, TX., Taylor Daniel Snell of Houston, TX., Patrick James Snell of Fulshear, TX., Travis Henry Snell of Crowley, TX., Hannah Louise Snell of Crowley, TX.; great grandchildren, Aubrey Ann Tarbox, Garrett James Tarbox, James Scott Santana, Sophie Ann Santana and Ryan Parker Snell. Serving as Pallbearers, Ryan Snell, Taylor Snell, Patrick Snell, Jason Tarbox, Scott Santana, James Edward Snell, Richard Arthur Snell and Travis Henry Snell. The Snell family would like to thank Methodist Hospital of Sugar Land and the physicians who have cared for Arthur over the years. The Solana Independent living in Katy, TX. The Home Health Resource and their staff, especially his nurse, Robin Satter for her special interest and superb care given

## 2011 Session

*ChristChurch Presbyterian*

### Class of 2011

John Becker, Amy Gremillion,  
Priscilla Kennedy, Woody Speer,  
Roger Tucker, Craig Wooten

### Class of 2012

Homer Borgstedte, Sue Cox,  
Brad Eaves, Aileen Fleming, Karen  
Persely

### Class of 2013

Richard Bell, Mylene Bole, Fred  
Cook, Anne Reed, Gretchen Sparks  
Youth Elders: Matthew Bole,  
Lubna Obou

### Clerk of Session

Janice Schessler

### Moderator

Rev. John Hirling

### CCP Good News Contributors

Barbara Buckley, Brittany Clay,  
Sue Cox, Aileen Fleming,  
Amy Gremillion, John Hirling.

Editors: Aileen Fleming and  
Brittany Clay

# Christian Education

## *Pre-school to High School Sunday School*

### Pre-school to 5th Grade

**Where:** Education Bldg. Room 205

### Middle School

**Where:** Education Bldg. Room 222

### High School

**Where:** Education Bldg. Room 211

## *Adult Sunday School*

### Wired Word

**Where:** Library

**When:** Every Sunday at 9am

**Teacher:** Fred Cook

### Women's Bible Study.

**Where:** West Wing, Room 5

**When:** Every Sunday at 9am

**Teacher:** Burnette Boyett

### Mental Gymnastics

#### The Voice New Testament and annotated Bible

**Where:** West Wing, Room 1

**When:** Every Sunday at 9am

**Teacher:** Homer Borgstedte

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## Summer Sunday School Programs

Puppet characters from the creator of Veggie Tales will teach elementary school children about the bible

Our Elementary School class will be trying out a new curriculum titled, "What's in the Bible" from Veggie Tales creator Phil Vischer. This technology-friendly curriculum is designed around puppet characters Buck Denver, Chuck Wiggin, Sunday School Lady, Brother Louie, Captain Pete, and more, who take turns sharing a variety of Bible Stories with the students.

Summer Sunday School will take a brief break over Fourth of July Weekend, and then resume to study stories and characters from the book of Exodus. Everyone in kindergarten to fifth grade is invited to come and learn and play with us in room 201.

Over the summer we will combine the Middle School and High School aged youth classes, which will meet in Room 207 to talk about current issues and voices of our generation.

# Adult Ministry



## Wednesday Night Dinner

Join us each Wednesday evening for dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy an evening meal with your church family and friends.

## Ladies' Book Club

The Ladies' Book Club meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Join us August 23rd at the home of Marty Speer. We will discuss *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. If you have any questions, please contact Lucy Seward at [lucyseward@msn.com](mailto:lucyseward@msn.com) or Mylene Bole at [mbole@swbell.net](mailto:mbole@swbell.net).

## Friday Night Bridge

Friday Night Bridge is back. Join us Friday, August 19th at 7:00pm at the home of Ed and Anne Janes. Contact Sue for more information.

## Better Bunch

Sign up forms will be in the Gathering Space or contact Barbara Buckley at 281.498.0483 or [wtbuckley@juno.com](mailto:wtbuckley@juno.com).

Mark your calendars for the Thursday-September 8. If you have somewhere you would like to go/do/see or to eat, please let Barbara Buckley know.

*Good News* is a monthly publication of Christ-Church Presbyterian, and is sent to members, visitors, and friends.

**POSTMASTER:** Send changes of address to:

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5001 Bellaire Boulevard  
Bellaire, TX 77401

Bulk mail postage paid at Bellaire, TX  
USPS #105.

All articles for submission should be sent to [church-admin@ccpres.org](mailto:church-admin@ccpres.org). Issue deadlines are the 20th of the month.

All material is subject to editing for space and content; every effort will be made to include all articles.

## STAFF DIRECTORY

### John Hirling

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Financial Director  
[dlee@ccpres.org](mailto:dlee@ccpres.org)

### Brittany Clay

Office Administrator  
[bclay@ccpres.org](mailto:bclay@ccpres.org)

### Church Office

Phone 713-667-6574  
Fax 713-667-6583

### Child Development Center (CDC)

713-668-9869

### VIC-SW

Volunteer Interfaith  
Caregivers SW  
713-772-8181

### Website

[www.ccpres.org](http://www.ccpres.org)

### Presbytery of New Covenant

713-526-2585  
[www.pbyofnewcovenant.org](http://www.pbyofnewcovenant.org)



It's never too early to starting thinking about what you can donate to the  
October 1, 2011 Garage Sale.

Donations are being accepted and can be dropped off in the West  
Wing room 4.  
Brittany has the key to let you in.



CHRISTCHURCH *Presbyterian*  
5001 Bellaire Boulevard  
Bellaire, TX 77401

**Address Service Requested**

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Permit #105

**Join us on Sunday!**  
*Christian Education 9:00 am*  
*Worship 10:15 am*

Address Label