



# Long Beach Presbyterian **BEACON**

LONG BEACH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)  
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## Keeping Track of Time

The Psalmist prays "Teach us Lord to number our days." The Social Security Administration sends you a letter to remind you that your days are numbered and now, if you choose to do so, you can begin full Social Security benefits. I know because I got my letter on July 5. Both the Psalmist and the Social Security Administration are saying similar things. Be mindful of the time that you have because it is not an infinite number of days left to any of us and even tomorrow is not promised. Often in the clutter of life we lose count of our days. It is hard to keep before us the reality that each day is a precious gift. So I want to first thank you for vacation time. It was great being away for a while from the daily responsibilities and being able to focus on family before the school year starts back.



Even though it is hard to keep before us the preciousness of time, we are a very time conscious people. We have all manner of clocks and watches to indicate the importance of the flow of time. From ancient times we have invented dates, days and years to measure it in its own way. Even with that said, a physicist will quickly tell you that time is indivisible and immeasurable. We humans are prone to trying to keep track of time because it makes us feel a little more in control. People say "Time is money." I am saying time is more precious than money. Money lost can be recovered but time lost is forever gone. That is one reason why planning our lives as wisely as we can is so important. Likewise it is important to remember that change is the law of nature and sometimes our plans simply do not work out.

What this all says to me is postponing doing good and important things is not the best plan. And that leads me to my second thank you. Over the last eighteen months many of you have jumped in and used your time wisely on behalf of our church. Churches most often survive on volunteers as ours surely does. You have jumped in so many times to better our church and I want to say, "thank you." You have used your time wisely here in prayer, support, encouragement for the Elders and myself, giving faithfully, a lot of hands-on activity and attendance at weekly worship. My family and I are grateful to spend our time with you.

So let us all number our days and not just do that which is good but do that which is best!

Faithfully,  
Jim



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Billie Holzweissig – August 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Frances Favre – August 22 <sup>nd</sup> |
| Lucy Braud – August 4 <sup>th</sup>         | Steve See – August 24 <sup>th</sup>     |
| Jeffrey Lyons – August 18 <sup>th</sup>     | Keith Cox – August 25 <sup>th</sup>     |
| Johnny Lackey – August 20 <sup>th</sup>     | Lauren Falks – August 25 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Eric Niemann – August 21 <sup>st</sup>      | Ruth Lewis – August 25 <sup>th</sup>    |



For the month of August 2016, the members of the Long Beach Presbyterian Church are joining with the Knights of Columbus, Ladies Auxiliary 11995 in their support of veterans moving from homelessness to having stable housing.

Providing these veterans with housing is only the first step since they lack the simple necessities many of us take for granted which make that house a home.

Please help us support this worthy cause by bringing one or more of the items on the list below with you to church on any of the Sundays in August and placing them in the designated area at the front of the sanctuary.

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Air Mattresses (Queen)  | Sponges & Dish Towels   |
| Sheets for Mattresses   | Dish Detergent          |
| Blankets                | Shower Curtains & Hooks |
| Pots & Pans             | Bath & Hand Towels      |
| Small Crock Pots        | Deodorant (Personal)    |
| Cutlery                 | Alarm Clocks            |
| Dish Sets               | Laundry Baskets         |
| Salt/Pepper Shakers     | Laundry Detergent       |
| Food Storage Containers | Brooms & Mops           |
| Paper Towels            |                         |



# we can help

Do you know of an organization that you'd like to see our church partner with and support as a special or ongoing project? Just bring your ideas to the pastor or any of the elders and we will do our best to make it happen.



## Jesus loves You... and He approves this message!

Our readers for the month of August will be:

7<sup>th</sup> Steve Dees                      21<sup>st</sup> Keith Cox  
14<sup>th</sup> Tal Flurry                        28<sup>th</sup> Terry Dill



We offer our congratulations to David Braud, Sr. for his new position as a Pre Planning Counselor with Riemann Family Funeral Homes.

No one enjoys thinking about funerals whether it is their own or a loved one's. It just makes sense to deal with many of the details ahead of time rather than wait until those surviving are under the emotional stress and pressure of their loved one's passing.

Contact David for more details on how Riemann can help with arrangements including available financing for up to 10 years at 0% interest. David can be reached by phone at 228-326-6140 or email [dbraud@riemannfamily.com](mailto:dbraud@riemannfamily.com).

**Editor's Note:** When my mother passed I already knew that she had made arrangements for cremation and a vault but when my sister and I went to Riemann, we discovered that mom had even selected her own urn in advance. The entire process was much less stressful and we were certain that mom got what she wanted.



**Food Drive**



The Long Beach Community Food Pantry has again expressed their extreme gratitude for our continued donations. Our dedication continues to fill the basket every week and the ladies of the church thank you for your

participation. Please continue bringing items on Sundays and place them in the basket at the front of the Sanctuary or by the door in McInnis-Wharton Hall. A small act of kindness can go a very long way.



Please remember the following in your prayers:

Barnett Family                      Matthew  
Boswell Family                    Tom, Regina & Isaac McCarty  
Clara Cupp                            Mary Westmoreland  
Jamie                                    Tommie Wilson  
Louise Ramsay



There was no regular meeting of the Session in July. The next Stated Session Meeting will be on Sunday, August 21, 2016 in the lounge immediately following the worship service.

The next Presbytery meeting will be on August 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> at the Fondren Presbyterian Church in Jackson, MS. Elder Bobby Thomas will attend the meeting as our commissioner.



**Treasurer's Report**

	Income	Expenses	Difference
June 2016	\$ 6,231.93	\$ 2,593.60	\$ 3,638.33
YTD 2016	\$ 29,286.72	\$ 17,985.17	\$ 11,301.55



My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
Nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that  
I think I am following Your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please You  
does in fact please You.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.

And I know that, if I do this,  
You will lead me by the right road,  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore I will trust You always  
though I may seem to be lost  
and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear,

for

**You**  
**are**  
**ever**  
**with**  
**me,**  
and  
You will never leave me  
to face my perils alone.

—Thomas Merton



Submit your content for future issues of the Beacon by any of the following methods:

- By email: [KCox2@cableone.net](mailto:KCox2@cableone.net)
- By hand: Give to Keith Cox, Ruth Lewis or place in the offering plate at Sunday Worship.
- By phone: Leave a message on the church answering machine at 228-863-7633.  
(Phone messages are checked on Saturdays)

The deadline for submissions to the September 2016 Beacon will be:  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**AUGUST 31, 2016**

To have the Beacon emailed to you, please send a request including your name and email address to [KCox2@cableone.net](mailto:KCox2@cableone.net). Please note that this will be maintained as a private email list and only used for Long Beach Presbyterian Church communications.