



PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BUSTLETON



Providence Presbyterian Bustling's

Sunday, June 5, 2022 Issue No. 109

June 5, 2022 – Pentecost Sunday

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts;
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people..

– Jeremiah 31:33



This I Believe

Leslie - Plumerville, Arkansas - October 18, 2006

If I had to boil what I believe down to just one word, I could. “What would be the point of writing an essay,” one would wonder. “Why not just say the word?”

Okay.
“God.”
What is God? Sooner or later, I believe, everyone gets around to asking, and attempting answering, although I believe it’s impossible to verbalize God in whole.



I grew up like a lot of Americans, picturing God. Sometimes I imagined a huge set of feet resting on a sea of glass in front of a throne. And then, there’s the “FATHER” aspect of God. And then, there’s the ethereal force – the will – of God. And then... . I had plenty of time to think on God as a child. From Friday Sundown to Saturday Sundown. On the Day of Atonement, when I thought about what it meant to practically be “at one” with God.

Eight days every Fall, while residing in a tent, I was trained to know that no matter where I went or what I did, God would always sustain me. During the Seven Days of Unleavened Bread, I thought about how clean I was, from the inside-out, and relished my practical position of physical sinlessness. That was especially important to me, as I’d just finished The Night To Be Much Remembered, when I believe I felt the angel of death itself as my parents taught me, once again, every year, to let my God also be my way.

Every Pentecost, my faith was bolstered by the spiritual reality of God. Oh, I was a blessed, blessed child, because at Pentecost, every year, Christ was affirmed as my very real hero, one I believe was as much spiritual as he was physical. Every Feast of Trumpets, I yearned to be the one to blow the spiritual trumpet and vowed to be a spiritual soldier at every call, for the rest of my life. When we sang “Onward Christian Soldiers,” I believe I knew that I was connected to all Christian Soldiers.

All of my life identifies God for me. And I know why. I still think Paul said it best, although I had a hard time accepting Paul. Paul was one of those headstrong romantics, like me. He had a mission. He knew he came second to the mission. But I feel like he betrayed me with his politics. I still believe, though, that he said it best when he said that God was first, and then God created its own image, and then through that image created everything else.

I like the magic that I believe happens when I stand in front of a mirror and think about God creating an image and what that says about my image. But what I like most is why. All thrones. All powers. All things physical. All things spiritual. Everything, created through an image by God for one reason. Reconciliation. What a neat way to learn what I believe, that we all have to look at things in order to reconcile them.

I believe that Paul was created, just like he was, headstrong and romantic to the apex of tragedy, so that his words, which gave me God as no others could, would be passed to me. I believe he was brave and I was blessed.



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Providence Presbyterian Church

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord



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Prayer Requests

Prayer Requests will be added each week by your requests, and will run for two weeks unless a request to continue is received.



God's healing presence:

- For Jean Wainwright who suffered a stroke. She is in Cooper Medical Center and responsive.
- For Bea Ashmore, Nancy Wyatt & Steve Westmeyer
- For continued prayers for Wendy Kasper, Jack Harkins & Eleanor Hathaway
- For Fritz Wainwright, Polly Grobelny, Hayley Morris & Jean Miller
- For Dave & Barb Hammell, Joe Celkupa, and Polly's son-in-law, Donald
- For Ginny Heal's cousin Isabell, Faye & Alan Eckert, and Janet Newell
- For Maritza Chambers' sister Elba, Aiden Witte, and Carol Shore's husband, Steve
- For Nancy Wyatt & Marleigh

God's comfort:

- For Alyson Keegan and her family upon the passing of her mother, Nora Dagleish
- For those who serve as caregivers
- For Krista coping with addiction
- For the People of Ukraine

For God's guidance & understanding

- For family members in need of God's presence and fellowship

In Thanks and Praise to God:

- For good shepherds in our pulpit
- For 53 years of marriage for Chuck & Ginny Heal

For continued prayers for the PNC as they carry on their mission.



The Crafty Ladies will be taking orders for water bottles and mugs. The order sheets will be in the back of the church. You can have your bottle or mug personalized with your own saying and name or use the sayings we have. \$5.00 for either the water bottle or mug.

Colors of plastic bottles: green, blue, white and pink. The smaller bottle comes only in purple and mugs in white.

Please leave your completed order form in the back of the church or you can give them to Carol Shore or Marie Celkupa. Proceeds go to the missions.





This I Believe ...Continued

Someone has changed the Bible, and my new Concordance doesn't lead me to the scriptural reminders I sometimes seek like it used to. And yet, Paul's words, Paul's meaning, Paul's life, and Paul's death brought about what I believe is the most practical viewpoint yet, of God in me. Something I couldn't lose if I tried.

I believe I know reconciliation because I've practiced it. Every day I look at something and then look at God within my own mind, which I believe is full and heavy with the talents that God gave me to double, and redouble, for presentation back to God.

I believe I present what I know to that Image of God I have in my own mind. I believe that thing that no longer has feet unless I believe I need to see feet, accepts from me what I know. And then, every time, I am reminded that essentially, everything is God. In that, I believe, is the answer to all conflicts and all ills. In that, I believe, is the logic of reconciliation, which I believe is what every true Christian Soldier answers the call to fight for.

I've seen ahead all my life. I believe my foresight comes from the force of God, that flowing, all-knowing, all-powerful, ever-present thing that I believe is the source of my soul and my intellect. So, seeing ahead, please believe me when I say that I believe one day we Christians in this Nation will look at the world of people and know that we Americans are not the chosen ones, but the ones who finally get it... that we're all chosen, and we all reconcile, to God.

When we as a Nation get that, well then, I believe that will be the greatest reconciliation to date. The Great Turning Back To God.

I believe we all have one, collective question to answer, collectively. I believe until we humble ourselves, we will not collectively ask, nor answer that question. I believe it's a question which could very well be answered with a sum. I believe the answer to that question, in part, will be the collective amount of others, Christians, Jews, Muslims, and all others who had to wait and put up with our haughtiness while we looked around at our 230 years of revelry before eventually asking, "Where is God in all this?" I believe another part of the answer that we won't even know to search for until we humble ourselves, is how much love was shared by those, for us, whom were waited on.

I believe once sought, God presents. I just want to make sure that I've done my part. I believe, when the time comes and God becomes collectively as convenient to touch as a thought can allow, then we'll be grateful that God can count better than us, and humbled that we are loved right out of our own sin. I believe, and that belief excites me with utter joy.

This, I believe. God.





The Past, Present and Future of our Historical Country Church “The Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton”

Part 1 *The Past*

~ continuing with the history of Louis Rodman Fox
~ Our Little House of Worship

Barb Hammell

Rev. Louis Rodman Fox was a missionary for the Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton for one year from November 1863 to October 1864. Shortly after his period with the Providence Presbyterian Church, Mr. Fox entered the service of the “Christian Commission” as a special delegate for one month. He was busily engaged in doing what he could for the wounded, the sick, and the dying among the soldiers of his country.



Pictures of the “Christian Commission” during the Civil War

After serving the Christian Commission for a year, Mr. Fox was asked if he would be interested and consider taking a responsibility to service two churches that were six miles apart in New Jersey. Being that Mr. Fox was religiously devoted and loyal, he accepted the position. The people / congregation needed guidance and to restore the faith of God to the area. One church was at Tuckerton and the other at Bass River (now known New Gretna). He only spent one year 1864 – 1865 going between the two churches. With much regret, he found the task was too great for his physical strength. Back in those days 6 miles was a long haul. During his tenure there, he endeared himself greatly to the people whom he ministered, and formed delightful friendships. He cherished it all faithfully through the years that followed to other scenes of labor and love that he would pursue to serve the Lord.

Mr. Louis Rodman Fox served as pastor for the North Church of Washington, DC from 1865 – 1871. There he gained new experiences and widened his already large list of friends, and made himself a blessing to the community.

He served as assistant pastor to the Tenth Church in Philadelphia, Pa. 1872-1874. He resigned in 1874 and went to Europe with his friend Dr. Alfred Kellogg.

* The United States Christian Commission was an organization that furnished supplies, medical services, and religious literature to Union troops during the American Civil War. It combined religious support with social services and recreational activities. Members of the Commission were all volunteers and included men, women, and children who volunteered their time making supplies for the soldiers.



Providence Presbyterian Church

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During his time in Europe, it was a very interesting time for our little church, Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton. The services were conducted largely by students of the theological seminary of Princeton, New Jersey. A deep religious interest seemed to pervade the community, and a good number of both older and younger people appeared to be ready to make a public confession of Christ as their Lord and Master. The church was in dire need and of utmost importance to have someone to visit the converts in their homes that could instruct them and made ready for the solemn step which they had in mind; but did not know how to accomplish it. The Providence Presbyterian Church needed someone to do this. A letter was sent to Mr. Fox from one of his friends explaining the situation and asking for his help. It was here where Mr. Fox reaped in the field where he had years before so laboriously and faithfully sowed. He came promptly from Europe as soon as he could without any hesitation. He visited from house to house of those that wanted to serve the Lord catechizing and giving instruction in the most systematic manner. He took careful notes and used his judgment about each case. The session met with Mr. Fox and the candidates between 29 -30 individuals were examined. On the Sabbath morning those who were not baptized received the sacred rite, and in the evening the sacrament of Lord's Supper was administered. Mr. Fox engaged with such joy in these holy services and with thankfulness to God in the kindness and love of God towards the Providence Presbyterian Church of Bustleton. Mr. Fox returned to Europe but only to get his belongings.

When Mr. Fox came home from Europe after getting his possessions, he was hungry for the privilege of preaching again the gospel of the Christ. He noted such feelings in his letters to his friend, Edward Hodge. In a reply to one of his letters, Mr. Hodge, begged Mr. Fox if he would consider moving and living in Burlington, New Jersey and gratify his desire by preaching to the people of Burlington and Jacksonville as he once did. The person that Mr. Fox was, he graciously consented to this proposition.

We can never be too grateful to God for his goodness in giving us Mr. Louis Rodman Fox. We were a poor area and our property was inadequate. The question how to provide for the proper care of the people was so perplexing that he hardly knew what to do but to call upon God to solve the problem for us. Mr. Fox would walk around the grounds of the "Little House of Worship", and with his help and the blessings from the Lord the building of the "New House of Worship" will begin....



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"Your blood test came back 80% propane and barbecue sauce. May I ask just how often you grill out."



"He smelled my barbecue from over 12.5 light-years away. That's a new record for me."

