



Oak Hills Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Rachael Huntley

Beloved Family,

Summer has come and, for many, that means a change in routine. Even if your own doesn't change much, the change in the routines of those around you can still affect you. It can be disorienting, but also freeing. I hope you know freedom this summer, along with hope and joy and fun. As such, I offer up this humble blessing to each one of you.

May you know the warmth of summer, and feel it as God's grace.  
May you travel to unknown destinations, even if they are simply in your own heart,

And may you find yourself welcomed there.

Allow yourself to be delighted and surprised, even by the ordinary

Especially by the ordinary.

Take rest from your toils,

Remember to daydream.

May cool breezes surprise you.

May the lightness of childhood revisit you.

If you've lost your smile, may you find it again.

If you've kept your smile, may you break into laughter.

As the sun shines,

So shall you.

I hope everyone has a delightful summer. If your travel plans take you away from your church home, remember that God is all around you.

With love,

*Pastor Rachael*



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## Sunday Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.



*On Trinity Sunday we proclaim the unfathomable mystery of our faith in the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One-in-Three and Three-in-One. In a sense, it synthesizes all we have celebrated over the past months which have centered on God's mighty acts: Christmas-Epiphany celebrating God's taking flesh and dwelling among us in Jesus Christ; Easter celebrating Christ's death and resurrection for us; Pentecost celebrating God the Holy Spirit becoming our Sanctifier, Guide, and Teacher.*

*The celebration of Trinity Sunday began among Western Christians in the 10th century and developed slowly until it was formally established on the Sunday after Pentecost by Pope John XXII (1316-1334).*

An excerpt from the [\*Companion to the Book of Common Worship\*](#) (Geneva Press, 2003, 149-150)

### Lectionary passages are listed for your reflection.

#### June 4, Trinity Sunday

[Genesis 1:1—2:4a](#)

[Psalm 8](#)

[2 Corinthians 13:11-13](#)

[Matthew 28:16-20](#)

The Word and the Spirit of God are present at the dawn of creation.

O Lord our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

A letter concludes with a blessing in the name of the triune God.

Jesus' Great Commission: Go, make disciples, baptize, and teach.



#### June 11, Second Sunday after Pentecost

[Hosea 5:15-6:6](#)

[Psalm 50:7-15](#)

[Romans 4:13-25](#)

[Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26](#)

On the third day, God will raise us up; God desires steadfast love.

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving; call on God in trouble.

The example of Abraham; righteousness comes from faith.

Jesus calls sinners; he heals a woman and raises a dead girl to life.



#### June 18, Third Sunday after Pentecost & Father's Day

[Exodus 19:2-8a](#)

[Psalm 100](#)

[Romans 5:1-8](#)

[Matthew 9:35-10:8 \(9-23\)](#)

The Lord says: Keep my covenant and you will be my holy people.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord; we are the sheep of God's pasture.

We are justified by faith; while we were sinners Christ died for us.

The harvest is plentiful; Jesus instructs and sends the twelve apostles.



#### June 25, Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 20:7-13](#)

[Psalm 69:7-10,](#)

[\(11-15\), 16-18](#)

[Romans 6:1b-11](#)

[Matthew 10:24-39](#)

Jeremiah laments the terror all around, but must speak God's word.

Zeal for your house consumes me; save me from my enemies.

Crucified with Jesus, we are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ.

Jesus says: Do not fear for your life; take up your cross and follow.



## FINANCIAL NEWS\$

First let me thank all of you who contribute to OHPC. It is very important that you maintain your pledges so we do not have to dip into reserves any more than we already have. We are planning to hold the garage sale in September; we will need the commitment from enough volunteers to ensure success. The proceeds will help cover some of our unusual expenses this year as we all work together for a common purpose.

Thank you for your support!

**P. Jack Henson, Treasurer**



## SESSION NOTES

- Children's Church will be suspended for the summer beginning in June.
- A choir appreciation luncheon will be held June 25.
- The garage sale, headed by Michael Jenson and Heather Ebert, will be held September 23.
- Session approved the Girl Scouts' use of Fellowship Hall for the next year.
- Session approved a rent increase for ISSA's use of the education wing and the library for the upcoming year.

**Donna Amonett, Clerk of Session**



*A heart-felt thank-you to Vanessa Nussel, who has lovingly refreshed the silk flower arrangements used when we do not have fresh flowers.*



**Save the Date!**

**The garage sale is returning  
Saturday, September 23!  
Volunteers will be needed.**



**ISSA**

International School  
of San Antonio



## Cinco de Mayo

We were cordially invited by the General Consulate of Mexico to the ceremony of La Batalla de Puebla - Cinco de Mayo. Caroline Olivares, School Director, had the great opportunity to meet the Mexican Consul, Ruben Minutti.

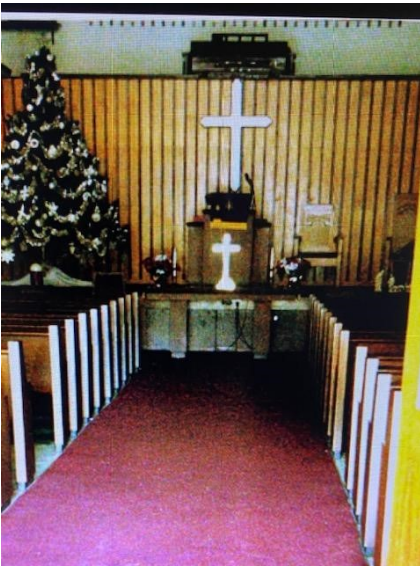
## Summer Camps

We still have spots available for our incredible Summer Camps! Please visit our website: <https://issatx.org/programs/language-camps/> to read about our camp descriptions.

## AN ENTOMBED PIPE ORGAN

Many pipe organs are enclosed in specific rooms known as “pipe chambers.” Gazing at the chancel of Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, one sees a façade of 50 pipes, but behind it resides another 1500 pipes encased in wooden racks atop wind chests. This room was specially designed by John Lile and beloved charter member Cy Betts to contain a pipe organ. It is double-lined with sheetrock designed to project the sound into the church, with vibrancy. The room, very tight, would be the perfect refuge in the event of a tornado.

As a previous resident of New Orleans and survivor of Hurricane Katrina, I witnessed many churches’ after-effects of the storm, along with the loss of several notable pipe organs. One of those great losses to the Synod of the Sun was the suburban congregation known as Peace Presbyterian Church. Its origins predating the Civil War, the Congregation was known as the Claiborne Avenue Presbyterian Church, located three miles east of the French Quarter. By the early 1980’s, most members had moved, and the Session voted to move to the eastern suburb of New Orleans. They built a new sanctuary in traditional Presbyterian style, merged with another congregation, and renamed themselves to be Peace Presbyterian Church.



They also moved their significant circa-1922 Moller pipe organ to the new sanctuary in 1984. That organ had two manuals and more than 900 pipes, plus a beautiful chime set (like OHPC’s). All pipes were encased in a prepared second floor chamber above the chancel, but none were visible. According to the local organ tuner in 2005, the instrument was fully workable but had not been played in many years.

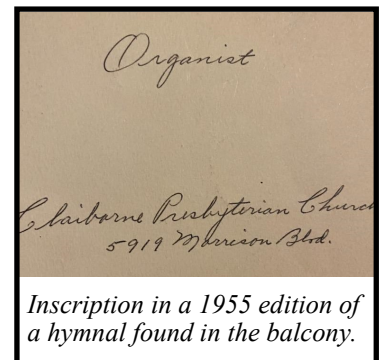


Hurricane Katrina’s August 2005 entry into the city was not kind to Peace Presbyterian Church, located one mile from the breach of the city’s levee system. Peace was devastated, its windows blown out and the interior flooded with nine feet of putrid flood water. The sanctuary was devastated and the entire contents, including the communion table, wiped out! Curiously, the roof held, so the elevated pipe chamber was undamaged, and its precious contents completely preserved.

Active at the time with First Presbyterian Church of New Orleans, my beloved Pastor alerted me to the situation at Peace Presbyterian Church, saying “*There may even be a pipe organ extant in the building. We should check it out. The church has been gutted, but I think the organ is still intact.*”

In October 2005, the Pastor and I, along with others, drove to New Orleans East and assessed the situation. There we found the 1922 Moller console intact and the pipe chamber in dry, immaculate condition. We entered a trap door and crawled into the perfectly preserved pipe chamber – seeing the 900 pipes set on three separate wind chests, all in perfect order, without damage. The chime set remained silent on the adjacent wall, and the blower motor sat on the floor awaiting power. Of course, without electricity, assessing the operation of the organ was impossible. But to see this survivor of the great storm was truly remarkable. The chamber was completely dry, mold-free, and clean.

Peace Presbyterian Church was disbanded by the Session and the Synod of the Sun immediately following Hurricane Katrina. The Synod sold the gutted building in 2006 to a Baptist Congregation that had lost its sanctuary in the storm. The building was sold with the entombed pipe organ, where it remains to this date, inoperative and waiting for its next life. The cost of removing, rebuilding, and reinstalling the vintage, hundred-year-old organ surely exceeds its value. I oft schemed of a way to save this significant piece of organ art, but economic realities prevented any solution.



Gregory A. Nussel  
Organist and Music Director  
May 18, 2023

## Let's Get to Know One Another

*This month the Membership Committee is highlighting OHPC's newest members, Esther and Roger Hughes.*

The Hughes moved to San Antonio in 2022 from Harlingen, TX where they lived for 42 years. Esther is a Certified Lay Pastor with the Presbyterian Church and is now retired. Roger is an attorney and works mostly from home. They have three daughters.

Esther was born in New York State, but the family moved to Houston where she graduated from high school. Roger is from Topeka, KS. They met in Austin where Roger was attending law school. Following graduation, Roger joined the army and served as a JAG attorney. After completing his service, Roger accepted a position with a firm in Harlingen. Esther was a fulltime mom while her daughters were growing up but was able to finish her college studies in Sociology at UT Rio Grande Valley.

Esther had a call to ministry, but seminary "wasn't in the plan," so she became a Certified Lay Pastor through Mission Presbytery. She served at the First Presbyterian Church in Mercedes for 12 years where the Mission Presbytery Resource Center is located.

Their oldest daughter lives in Towson, MD and is Assistant Director for Foreign Exchange Students at the State University. Their middle daughter is married and lives in Kansas City. She manages a family-owned turquoise business. Their youngest is in San Antonio and is a professional hair stylist.

The Hughes enjoy living in San Antonio where they have access to more cultural activities. They love opera and the symphony. They often attend the SA Philharmonic. Esther enjoys gardening and hopes to make more time for crafting.

The Hughes visited a number of churches in San Antonio before choosing to join Oak Hills. They found it was a good fit, and said they felt welcomed when they visited.

We're so glad you're here!



## Departures →

On May 7, Pastor Rachael blessed the Young family as they prepare for the next chapter in their lives. Will has completed his medical degree at UT Health and will begin his residency in neurology at Wake Forest University. Will's aunt and his father's family live nearby.

For the past four years, we have been blessed by their presence and their service, and especially delighted by Naomi! Hannah says they will miss us all. While we will also miss them, we wish them all the best in their new home. Godspeed, Will, Hannah and Naomi!

4433 Eagles Nest Dr  
Winston-Salem, NC 27127



## “A hand up, not a hand out”

That’s the motto for Habitat for Humanity. The original concept was started prior to 1973 by Clarence Jordan from Americus, Georgia. From this biblical scholar and farmer, Millard and Linda Fuller developed the idea of “partnership housing”. By working with volunteers, those needing adequate housing could be built at no profit. The first family to benefit from this concept were Beau and Emma.



In 1973, the Fullers took this concept to Zaire, Africa. Three years later, they returned to the United States and founded Habitat for Humanity International. Jimmy Carter, with his wife Rosalynn, became involved and started working with volunteers in New York in 1984.

### ***The first Habitat for Humanity home in the US was built in San Antonio!***

Who gets a house? In general, it’s based on level of need, the person’s willingness to become partners in the program, and their ability to repay the loan. An extensive background check is done for character references. Employer interviews and a financial audit is also conducted. There are normally a first and second mortgage. The second mortgage is to cover any equity not covered in the first mortgage. It is usually forgiven if the house is paid down by homeowners within a certain period that varies by affiliate.



Up to 500 hours of sweat equity (working on a future homeowner’s house or other houses being constructed) is required. Once the sweat equity is done, the homeowner purchases the home with a 0% - 2% interest rate. The monthly payment, inclusive of taxes and homeowners’ insurance, will not exceed 30% of the homeowner’s monthly income.

Mortgage payments go to Habitat to build future homes. Until the mortgage is paid in full, there is no equity and the home can only be sold back to Habitat for Humanity.

Since 1976, over one million homes have been built or repaired, serving five million people.

San Antonio Habitat for Humanity requires a minimum of 300 hours of sweat equity. Applicants are chosen on basis of need, ability to pay a 0% interest mortgage, and willingness to partner. In addition, they must be a resident of Bexar County. Once accepted, the homeowner can buy a home with 20–25-year 0% interest. The loan default rate is less than 1%.

Currently, over 150,000 families in San Antonio need affordable housing. 100% of the donations go to home building.

### **Presbyterian Cluster**

There are over 20 Presbyterian churches in San Antonio. At least 15 are part of the Presbyterian Cluster. Each year, the cluster raises the current \$60,000 to sponsor a home and donates volunteers to build a home and supply lunch to the hungry volunteers. This year, we were blessed with a \$100,000 donation from a property sale. This was used to complete the sponsorship and allowed 2 homes to be built.

Currently, the build site is south of San Antonio at Rancho Carlota. When finished, 250 homes will have been built!

*The current cost to build a house is \$135,000, so all donations are welcome! Checks can be made out to Presbyterian Cluster Habitat and can be handed to Connie Durocher or sent to;*

*Covenant Presbyterian Church  
S.A. Presbyterian Cluster Housing Committee  
ATTN: Martha Flores  
211 Roletto Dr.  
San Antonio, TX 78213*










Connie will give you a receipt and Martha will send a letter for tax purposes.



Martha Flores, Presbyterian Cluster volunteer and Habitat home recipient, with 2022 benefactor.



# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12:30 pm Bridge 	2	3 1-3 pm Girl Scouts
4 10:30 am Worship  4-6 pm Guide Dogs	5	6	7 7 pm Choir 7 pm AA	8 12:30 pm Bridge 	9	10
11 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Session	12	13	14 <b>FLAG DAY</b>  7 pm Choir 7 pm AA	15 12:30 pm Bridge 	16	17 1-3 pm Girl Scouts
18 10:30 am Worship 4-6 pm Guide Dogs  <b>FATHER'S DAY</b>	19	20	21  7 pm Choir 7 pm AA	22 12:30 pm Bridge 	23	24
25 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Choir Appreciation Luncheon 	26	27	28 7 pm Choir 7 pm AA	29 12:30 pm Bridge 	30	

## Birthday blessings to:

- 6/2 Ethel Tero
- 6/7 Kathy Petitt
- 6/8 LaVunn Mims
- 6/11 Kathleen Payne
- 6/14 Enih Chi
- 6/23 Jimmie Jean Johnson
- 6/24 Mary Lee Hale
- 6/29 Vanessa Nussel



To all of our OHPC dads and grandpas...



6/14 Mark & Cindy Tschirhart  
6/16 Greg & Vanessa Nussel

Happy Anniversary!!!  
CommentsYard.com



**Oak Hills Presbyterian Church**

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Return Service Requested

*Oak Branch June 2023*



*Keep your face  
towards the sunshine  
and shadows will fall  
behind you.*

~Walt Whitman

