

The Bell Tower

NEDERLAND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

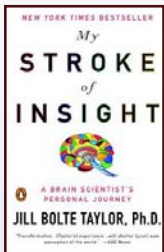
August 2017 Volume 17, Issue 8



Gatherings



Book Club



We begin our next book, *My Stroke of Insight*, on Tuesday, 1 August, 5:30 in the sanctuary. This is the account of Jill Bolte Taylor, Harvard-trained neuroscientist,

and her experience with a major stroke. In the midst of that event, her right brain had a sense of euphoric well-being and peace, while her left brain told her with fearful logic that something was very wrong. After 8 years of recovery, she can lead us through the same balancing of blessing and pain. Come any Tuesday to enjoy the conversation and laughs with a great group of readers!

Men's & Women's Groups

Men's Group meets this month on 13 August 4 pm at Salto. This is a simple chance for men of the church to get to know each other better, with or without a beer. Guys of all ages are welcome.

Women's Group is coming!
Watch for details coming up...

Why I Love NCPC

Jim Reis, Elder for Property & Rocky Mountain Mission Work Coordinator

Alisha and I began attending NCPC on 12 September 2010. We had just moved to Nederland the weekend before so Alisha could begin her new job as Town Administrator. Alisha spent her first very long week managing emergency operations and serving families who were displaced by the Fourmile Canyon Fire. I was a Soldier stationed at Fort Carson having just returned from my 2nd tour in Iraq 9 months prior and wasn't too sure about living in this hippie mountain town with a wild reputation.

That day I felt a strong calling to come to church to pray for our community in time of crisis and the families of those who died in defense of our nation after the 9/11 anniversary.

Our first Sunday at NCPC the musical anthem blew me away and I felt God speaking to me through glorious music. Don Dexter then gave an emotional message related to 9/11, asking for blessings for families of the fallen and those defending our nation. He also asked for prayers of safety for the firefighters working to save our mountain from the Fourmile Canyon Fire. At the end of the service, Alisha and I

were warmly greeted by NCPC members and asked to return. As we drove home I felt a sense of peace, belonging and acceptance from the little brown church and knew we had found our spiritual home. Over the months that followed we were embraced by the NCPC congregation and I felt a sense of God and community that had been missing in my life. Over the years this feeling has only grown stronger and I have stepped forward to serve as a church leader. I have tried my best to emulate the many other church leaders that have come before me to serve NCPC and the

entire community in selfless service. It has not been entirely selfless because it is through our church, our Pastor and its members that I have found deeper meaning in worshiping God as well as enduring friendships with people I can count on. I Love that our church continues to be a welcoming and accepting place to worship God that serves the entire community while living up to our motto "Open Doors, Open Minds, Open Hearts".



Alisha and Jim Reis

Church Anniversary

Nederland area folks had been meeting in homes throughout the turn of that bygone century, to worship, for children and adults to learn about the Bible, and to do good things for their neighbors. Lore has it that women held it together before anything was official—as is always the case, with anything that lasts. Then, probably after a formal Sunday meeting, maybe with celebratory hymns and a pot luck lunch, paperwork was signed on Monday 19 August 1912, establishing Nederland Presbyterian Church, with 17 hearty members.

That very day, somewhere far away, Orville Wright was blowing out 41 candles on a birthday cake. Farther away, Peru was voting on a new president, just days after Teddy Roosevelt announced his own candidacy in this country. And much farther away, Tibet and China were hammering out details for a cease-fire. Within that next week, Gene Kelley was born, Alaska became a US territory, and the Rev Wayne Shoddy gave the first sermon for this newest congregation in the denomination.

Each year we celebrate our anniversary and give thanks to God for shining on us through the dark and prosperous days. Join us on 20 August to honor 105 years of good people of faith. Of course, we'll sing Little Brown Church in the Vale and pray that our 102 year old building continues to serve this community. Stick around afterwards for the...

Back-to-School Community Pot Luck!

Somehow, we're already thinking about school again. To soften the blow, once again this year, NCPC will host a lunch, on 20 August, 11:15-1:00. We'll have a bouncy castle for the kids, plenty of space for adults to connect with friends in the community, and prayers for our teachers. Whether you come to 10 am worship first, or just to the potluck, everyone is welcome. Bring your dish to the Guyer Garden and invite your neighbors—especially those who might never want to set foot in the sanctuary, but might join for a simple, fun meal.

If you can help with set up or clean up, or if you want to ensure that we have a good spread, please get in touch with BG Brooks (303-748-9172, bbrooksrmn@aol.com), our Elder for Fellowship.



2016 Community Pot Luck

The Sanctuary Swells All Summer!

It's been great to see our summer friends come back and take part in worship, choir, book club, mission programs, and more! Welcome to...

Linda & Robert Bennet from Forth Worth, Texas

Michelle Bolin, with her sons Ayden & Jonah, from Wichita, Kansas

Ed & Eleanor Busch, from Englewood, Colorado

Bob & Suzanne Busch, from Albuquerque, New Mexico

Betty Campbell and Margaret Davidson, from Emporia, Kansas

Donna Collier, from Bellingham, Washington

Sue Evans, from Shawnee, Oklahoma

Sibyl Goerner, from faraway Longmont, Colorado

Charles & Martha Ann Hogrefe, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Jan & Jim Kimble, from Birmingham, Alabama

Charlene Morrison, from Midwest City, Oklahoma

Bob & Carol Rhoads, newly located in Clemmons, North Carolina

Sally & Esther Rings, from Phoenix, Arizona

Genette & Jim Sizer, from Riverside, California

Becky & Mark Smart, from Avon, Indiana

Barbara & Bill Stiefer, from The Colony, Texas

Ann Thompson, from Ames, Iowa

Jeff & Margie Yansura, from West Palm Beach, Florida

And to all the friends and family you bring with you, we're so glad you come to worship with us!!!

You might also want to wish a good summer to some of our summer friends who we haven't been able to see (yet, we hope).

Crystal Epperson, in Owasso, Oklahoma

Linda Groves, in Arlington, Texas

Sherry & Tom Hill, in Austin, Texas

John Stinton, in Seymour, Tennessee

Joyce & Doug Trostle, in Rogers, Arkansas



Just about every Thursday, 9 am, at *The Train Cars*, everyone is invited for coffee and conversation about life, faith, church and everything in between.

Fellowship Time

Have you been looking for a way to serve at church, but can't make a long term commitment? Arranging the fellowship time after worship is for you! Sign up on the sheet outside the kitchen, or contact BG with any questions. (303-748-9172, bbrooksrnm@aol.com).



Vacation Bible School

Our day camp partnership program with Highlands Presbyterian Camp, St. Rita's, and Calvary Chapel completed another successful week of VBS! This year it was hosted at Calvary on July 17-21. We had a total of 35 kids in and out with an average of 21 kids per day! We want to thank our Highlands summer staff, James, Alyssa, and Ella, who were here all week leading the kids in awesome crafts, Bible studies, and song and dance. Each day after VBS they went into the community to do mission work. We are so blessed to have these great young people lead our children in camp every year. Thanks also to the many volunteers from our three churches, who helped with registration, snacks, and making sure the kids had a fun, educational opportunity!

CHURCH ONLINE.....

Check out the church website (www.nederlandcpc.org) and our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/nederlandcpc) for recorded sermons, videos of special worship music, pictures and stories about the life of the church, articles about religion, & plenty more!

Congratulations

to Jaydene Morrison, who was elected as the newest Deacon of NCPCC! At our summer congregational meeting on 23 July, we promoted this compassionate care of our community, gave an update on the state of the church, and reviewed our financial health. Thanks to all our leaders, who keep our church pointed toward the Kin'dom of Heaven!



What is a Deacon?

The Bible describes that the first mission program of Jesus' followers, maybe as early as 34 CE, was to distribute food to poor widows. Unfortunately, it didn't start very smoothly. So, the congregation got together and elected seven guys to distribute more efficiently. They were called 'diakonos', which is Greek for 'waiter' or 'server'. The guys must have done a good job, because soon enough, Deacons became a formal role in the early church, alongside bishops and teachers. Within a generation women were serving as Deacons. And since it was culturally normal that women were in charge of caring for the sick and preparing the dead for burial, within a century or so wealthy Christian widows were creating the world's first hospitals, and Deacons were expanding their outreach to food to the sick, dying, and grieving families, which naturally gave rise to prayer and other types of compassion for the same.

Today Deacons do all sorts of different tasks in different churches. For Presbyterians, they often help Pastors offer care for anyone in need, within a particular congregation or community. Our own Deacons manage a fund to offer financial support. They welcome newcomers and manage a prayer list. And they reach out to people with acute issues of health or sadness, maybe with cards or calls, sometimes with food, just like their forbearers 2000 years ago. If you ever have a problem and want to talk to a Deacon, Nancy, David or Jaydene are there for you.

ONLINE GIVING.....

Sure, there is an offering plate every Sunday. But if you can't come to worship, or don't carry cash, now you can also give to NCPCC on-line! Try it out at: www.nederlandcpc.org, with the obvious "Give Now" button. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to support the great things God is doing in this community!

Mid-Year Financial Update

At the NCPC mid-year congregational meeting on Sunday, July 23, 2017, I updated the church community on our current financial picture. Basically, as of the 50% point in the year, which is June 30, 2017, we have received approximately 43% of our expected income. Don't panic, though, because at this point every year we are always behind our expected income. July, August, and September are our strongest months for income so I will be watching the bottom line between now and then.

Below, you will find more details on our current NCPC numbers.

If you have any questions, give me a call at 303.258.3432 or send me an email.

Thanks for your support. Marylou Harrison, Elder for Finance

Budgeted Income 2017	Income as of 6-30-17	% of 2017 Budget
\$93,794.00	\$40,238.00	42.90%
Budgeted Expenses 2017	Expenses as of 6-30-17	% of 2017 Budget
\$132,046.00	\$55,510.00	42%
Total Checking/Savings=	\$146,092.00	
Pledges for 2017	Pledges Rec'd thru 6-30-17	% of 2017 Budget
\$54,036.00	\$17,280.00	32%
Unpledged Budget 2017	Unpledged Rec'd thru 6-30-17	% of 2017 Budget
\$18,000.00	\$8,805.00	49%
Loose Giving Budget 2017	Loose Rec'd thru 6-30-17	% of 2017 Budget
\$4,500.00	\$2,030.00	45.10%

Welcome to Cindy Hauser!

Cindy is our new Director of Finances. She takes over handling the day-to-day finances of the congregation, including the tracking of offerings and pledges, paying all the church bills, processing payroll and benefits, and managing taxes. (Marylou Harrison, Elder for Finance, continues to lead the Stewardship campaign and annual budget, along with the Finance Team.)

Cindy has been a resident of the area for over 50 years, residing in Black Hawk now. She has a degree in accounting, and has been employed in finance for over 35 years. She is currently working for Dillon Developers in Nederland, and is a member of the Nederland Food Pantry Board of Directors. Cindy is married, and her hobbies include chasing after her 4 grandchildren and riding motorcycles. You can reach her at ncpc467@gmail.com.



Judy Anderson
Willi & John Brocklehurst
Rich Deubel
Crystal Epperson
Linda Groves
Greta Habak
Mike Smith
Pat Strawn
Vince Suich
Kent Waltermire
Town of Nederland Police & Fire Depts.,
Our great summer congregation that is traveling from around the country to their thin place where heaven and earth feel a little closer,
All those serving now in the military,
Our friends who have moved to the plains: the Ennors, O'Neills, and Jack Filer
And our down-the-mountain friends who still come up: the Harrisons and the Lutzes!



Do you have questions or comments about NCPC?

In the Presbyterian denomination, the ministry of administration for each congregation is handled by its Session of Elders (like a spiritual Board of Trustees), and the ministry of compassion is directed by the Deacons.

Here are your church leaders and staff:

Elder for Christian Ed, Aimee Tomlinson
Elder for Cultural Engagement, Will Ford
Elder for Fellowship, BG Brooks
Elder for Finance, Marylou Harrison
Elder for Property, Jim Reis
Elder for Worship, Dean Rundle
Deacon, David Ford
Deacon, Jaydene Morrison
Deacon, Nancy Waldron
Custodian, John Callahan
Director of Childcare, Sara Sandstrom-Kobi
Director of Finances, Cindy Hauser
Choir Leader, Emily Haynes
Pastor, Rev Hansen Wendlandt
Pianist, Daniel Herman
Rocky Mtn. Mission Work Coordinator, Jim Reis

Open Doors, Open Minds, Open Hearts.