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Investigation Sunday School: The Next Generation of Huguenots Proves the Future Is Bright

On March 24 the church celebrated its Sunday School teachers for all they do to care for our children and teach them about the Bible and our traditions in a way that's fun and entertaining.

Apparently, teachers Laura, Debbie, and MaryCole have been going above and beyond. I recently popped into the Sunday School to see if all I'd heard about the students being so smart and happy was true, and as hard as I tried I couldn't stump them!

I started out in the older class of students aged eight to twelve and immediately tried to knock them off their game with a real doozie of a question:

Just what is a Huguenot?

Like they'd done this before, the students took a team approach.

- "A type of Christianity," one said.
- "It's special because it's the only church left in the United States," said another.



Front: Eleanor Pope, John Bagwell, Sarah Marshall, James Bagwell, George Bagwell; **Back:** Mason Pope and Bill Law Marshall



Left to right: Mason Pope, MaryCole (in the back), Auggie Pope, Eleanor Pope, and John, James, and George Bagwell

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- "A French..." one Bagwell triplet ventured before trailing off.
- "A person who came from France to America for religious freedom," said one student in a confident voice.
- "Someone from France who wanted to learn about God in a different way and the king didn't want them to, so they came to America to learn like they wanted to," another added.

I grudgingly admitted they knew their stuff.

Then I asked Mason Pope what his **favorite part of the church service** was, expecting at least a hem or a haw, but without hesitation he told me what and why. *“The sermon’s the best because it’s really good how Phil talks about stuff and tells really good stories.”*

Sarah Marshall backed him up with, *“The sermon always teaches you a lesson.”*

Unable to ruffle Mason and his allies, I turned to sister Eleanor, thinking I was taking the conversation to a controversial place. “So, Eleanor,” I asked, **“why do we dress up to go to church?”** I was digging for a response such as “My mother says so” or “Good question—I’d like to know myself.” But Eleanor’s answer was right on and her tone sincere.

“We want to look our best for God because we don’t want to look like we don’t care.” The Popes had me.

My fervor for controversy beginning to deflate, I threw out a softball question while I contemplated my strategy for this hard-hitting assignment.

“What is your favorite Bible story?”

The triplets delivered a triple, with George voting for *Creation*, James *Jonah and the Whale*, and John *the story of one man building his house “on the beach” and the other his house on the rock*. Alexandra Ewing rounded home with *Noah and the Flood*.

Hoping for some kind of chink in this well-taught bloc of knowledge and good behavior, I threw out one last attempt at provocation, certain I’d uncover at least some sign of discontent: **“So why do we even go to church and Sunday School?”**

In a serene voice, Bill Law Marshall summed it up for everyone. *“We come to learn about God, pray, and worship God.”*

I moved on to the babies and toddlers.

Determined to prove the Popes had a loose cannon among them, I sidled up to little Auggie Pope and **asked him what he liked about Sunday School**. *“Singin’. Playin’.”*

Drats. Another smart happy child. I was beginning to realize the Huguenot Sunday School really was a place of fun and learning. Any dreams of an exposé of mean teachers and bratty children began to fade away.

Little Samuel Wood even had new insight on mysteries that have plagued humankind for centuries. **On what Jesus ate at the Last Supper:** *“A feast with meat, hamburgers, and ice cream.”* **On what God looks like:** *“He’s big, but he doesn’t have lots of hair.”*

Jocelyn Wood said if she **could talk to Jesus and could say or ask him anything** she *would sing Him “God Our Father.”* I had to admit, that sounded like something Jesus would like.

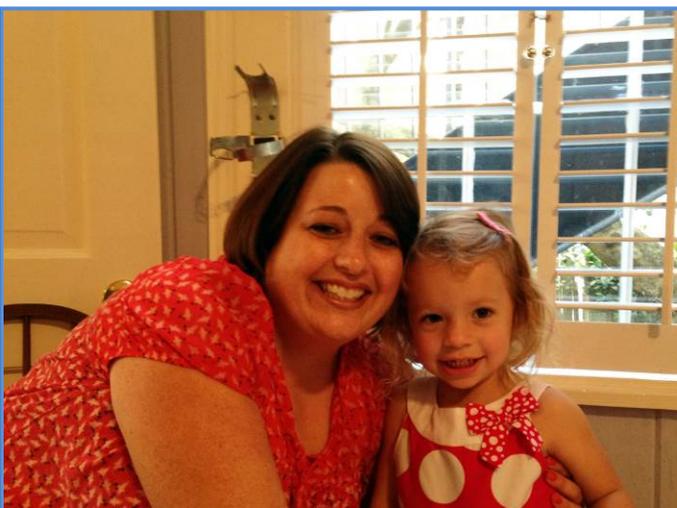
Chase Stephens held his opinions pretty close to the vest, but he gave a goo and a wink that let me know he was on board with all the happy learning Laura, Debbie, and MaryCole were busy fostering.

Resigned to the fact that the children had proven the rumors of excellent teachers and smart, happy students in Huguenot Sunday School to be, in fact, true, I gave Auggie Pope one last chance to change my mind.

“What do you think God looks like?” I asked him.

The sweet little munchkin didn’t even hesitate. *“A sheep finder.”*

And there you have it. Even one of the smallest among them is wise beyond his years. Case closed. No need to worry about the future of the Huguenots. With teachers and children like these, our flock is filled with promise.



Laura and Jocelyn Wood



Front: Chase Stephens and Jocelyn Wood; Back: Alexandra Ewing, Eleanor Pope, Auggie Pope, Samuel Wood, and Sarah Marshall



Auggie, Eleanor, and Mason Pope



Chase Stephens

ANNOUNCEMENTS



70th Anniversary Celebrated!

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Holcombe recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married February 3, 1943. Congratulations and best wishes to the happy couple!

Spring Cocktails in the Courtyard

Please join us for "Spring Cocktails in the Courtyard" on Thursday, May 16th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at 44 Queen Street. If you would like to sign up to bring a hors d'oeuvre please contact Mackall Gantt Horres at mackallhorres@gmail.com or at (843) 513-8167. Childcare and pizza will be provided at 40 Queen Street.

Please RSVP Mackall or the church office if you will be attending. We hope to see you there.

HELPING HANDS MINISTRY

Our helping hands ministry continues to provide meals for those who need them. Don't forget to contact Vickie Guerry at vickieguerry@gmail.com if you know of a person recovering from surgery or having a need for meals for any reason. We welcome Kathy Crawford to our downtown Helping Hands group!



The French Protestant Huguenot Church is on **Facebook!**
Please "Like" us at www.facebook.com/TheFrenchChurch

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

French Huguenot Protestant Church Sermon – March 10, 2013

I don't know about you this morning, but it seems like to me that this old building where we worship God has been "Under Construction" for a long time.

Truthfully, when we started this construction, we didn't know all that we would find when we chipped away all the old stucco. We have found termites and rotten wood and have had to replace nearly 15,000 bricks.

Well, the good news is that we are near the finish line. The scaffolding in the front of our church will be taken down on Thursday and Friday of next week. When we come here Easter, we will no longer be "Under Construction."

And this is what we have done: we have saved this old Gothic structure for future generations to do exactly what we are doing this morning.

Like this old building, as individuals, it is good for us to put ourselves "Under Construction".

Frederick Buechner has provided us with some assistance to place ourselves under construction by asking ourselves some questions to become who we are meant to be. "When you look at your face in the mirror, what do you see in it you like and what do you see you don't like? If you had one last message, what would it be in 25 words or less? Of all things you have done in

your life, which is the one thing you would like to undo? Which is the one that makes you happiest to remember? If this was the last day of your life, what would you do with it?

To hear ourselves try to answer questions like these is to begin to hear something NOT ONLY OF WHO WE ARE but of both WHO we are becoming and what we are FAILING to become.

It can be kind of depressing business at the start of it, but if we do it we will be better people for it and there might be something like Easter at the end of it.

Someone said to me a couple of years ago in a discussion about churches --- and their budgets and expenses --- Religion is a big business nowadays, and indeed it is!

Look at us...We will have spent over a million dollars on our construction when it is all said and done. Now that's big business for us.

Go up King Street and St. Matthews is spending \$6 million dollars. That's big business!

But nothing compared to what I read while visiting California last year. The Roman Diocese was paying \$50 million for the former Crystal Cathedral. Now that really is big business!

Years ago, the doors to just about every church were left unlocked so some weary soul

could come in at any time and say a prayer, meditate, light a candle...BUT that is becoming rarer and rarer, because I fear sometimes that we have forgotten what true religion is all about!

Of all the number of times that I have led the services up at Punkin Hill Chapel, we have always used the 1928 version of the Book of Common Prayer Morning Prayer Service. That service has a general confession that goes like this: "We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done things which we ought not to have done."

AND each time, I read that old wonderful confession of my failures, I think about those two old reprobates who lived in a time when churches were left unlocked. They spent one Saturday night painting the town and found themselves taking shelter that night in a church. And they were sleeping it off on Sunday morning. They dozed during most of the service but woke up during the part where they heard the whole congregation saying, "O Lord, we have left undone the those things which we ought to have done and we have done those things that we ought not

to have done...AND THERE IS NO HEALTH IN US.”

One of those reprobates elbowed the other and said, “Hey, Horace, I think we have finally found our crowd!”

Years ago, I had the pleasure of serving on the state Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission with one Seth Mason of our city. Seth was a wonderful character who spent a lot of his life as a recovered alcoholic helping others to place their lives under construction.

He was a big believer in Alcoholics Anonymous. And when he was preaching to me, which seemed quite often, this is what he would say, “In AA, Phil, this is what we do. We meet and we say, ‘I am Seth and I am an alcoholic. I am John and I am an alcoholic. I am Mary and I am an alcoholic.’ And we respond, ‘Hi Seth! Hi John! Hi Mary!’ We tell our stories where we went wrong and we admit where we have failed. And then we tell where we find hope, the strength and understanding to keep trying. We say a prayer together! Healing Happens! Miracles are made!”

One can’t help thinking that something like this is what church is meant to be and once was before it got to be big business.

Sinners Anonymous!

How was it St. Paul said it, “I can will what is right but I fail to do it!”

“I am me! I have failed! I am a sinner!”

“Hi You! Hi ever Sadie and Sol! Hi ever Tom, Dick, and Harry!”

It is the forgiveness of sins. Of course! It is what the church should be about; not politics!

And I am convinced that one of the main reasons a lot of people are not more spiritually and emotionally healthy is that they just can’t say for the life them, “I have FAILED! I was wrong!”

Bruce Larson summed the question that should be asked under the construction tent...He saw a sign over a mantle at a farmhouse in Canada that read, “Do you want to be right or do you want to be well?”

Is it getting any easier this morning under our construction tent to just admit...

I have been wrong!

I have failed!

In our lesson this morning, St.Peter had been told by Jesus that he was to fail.

Not me! Never! You can count on me!

And then he denied that he knew Jesus three times! Then the rooster crowed!

You have heard of the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you!” How about trying to

live by the Royal Rule this week? “Make excuses for others...they mean well...BUT NEVER FOR OURSELVES!”

This is at the very heart of understanding God’s grace. This is what Peter learned that day he failed his Lord. IT IS NOT FATAL TO FAIL!

“Ever tried? Ever failed? No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better.” Those words of Samuel Beckett have helped me in my journey.

I grew up on Michael Jordan’s “Failure” commercial for Nike. You might recall it...“I have missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I have lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times I have been trusted to take the game-winning shot and missed. I have failed over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.

Remember Charles Dickens’ *Christmas Carol*...how one day Ebenezer Scrooge, stingy old flint-headed scrooge, woke up to his future after the visit from the third spirit. To his great relief, Scrooge discovered that “the bedpost was his own, the bed was his own and best of all happened. The time before him was his own to make amends.

This is a wonderful time of the year to just look at ourselves...our own lives under construction. We have the time to make amends with others and ourselves.

AMEN

*Reverend Philip C. Bryant, Pastor
The French Protestant (Huguenot) Church
March 10, 2013*

JOHN 20:19–29

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’

²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’

²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵ So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’

²⁸ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’

²⁹ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

THIS I BELIEVE

John 20:19-29

French Huguenot Protestant Church Sermon – April 7, 2013

In the 1950s Edward R. Murrow hosted a daily five-minute radio segment called “This I Believe.” Various public figures were invited to share what they considered to be the core beliefs that governed and gave shape to their lives. We heard from such famous persons as President Truman, Albert Einstein, Jackie Robinson, and Helen Keller. In its day the program became so popular that it was published as a book that came to rest on many a shelf.

It would be an interesting exercise, and beneficial as well, for any of us to do what these folks were asked to do, that is to think about and articulate

those convictions we hold most deeply and those things we believe most fervently. Where would you go with this? Where would you begin? Perhaps you might first deal with the question, “*What does it mean to believe?*”

Some time ago I sat across the table from a man who said to me: “*I’m a churchgoer but to tell you the truth when it comes down to the words of the Creed, I can’t say that I really believe all those things. I especially struggle with the idea that a man who was dead came back to life again.*” He said this as though he saw himself as unique and different

in that regard, as though he stood alone in his skepticism.

But if he was expecting me to rise up and answer his doubts with incontrovertible proofs, I failed the test. Because I have none, I have no such proofs. But, in fact, neither did those early disciples to whom Thomas voiced his doubts.

Last Sunday we celebrated the good news that has come ringing down the ages that the Lord Christ has risen! We read again the stories and heard anew the testimonies of those who were surprised by joy at the empty tomb.

But let’s not forget that their joy was not immediate

but was preceded by fear and confusion and doubts. It was not until they themselves met the Risen Lord that their fears gave way to a joy that could not be contained.

In today's gospel lesson from John we meet the disciples huddling behind locked doors. They're afraid, still controlled by the fear that had driven them to forsake Jesus and run for their lives on the night of his arrest.

Now Jesus comes and stands among them, says John, and speaks the word that turns their fear into joy: "*Peace be with you,*" he says.

But Thomas was not with them when Jesus came. So when the other disciples eagerly tell him the news, "*We have seen the Lord!*" Thomas holds back. "*Prove it,*" he says.

Thomas has a multitude of modern disciples. He is the patron saint of those who demand proofs in matters of faith. You might be surprised at the number of websites devoted to efforts to *prove* the existence of God, or to prove that the Bible is true, or to *prove* that Jesus really rose from the dead. One would be hard put to accuse the Christian martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer of being weak on belief. Yet it was he who said, "*A god who let us prove his existence would be an idol.*"

Books abound detailing archaeological proof that the stories in the Bible are true, as though, with the tangible artifacts in hand we can

therefore trust the biblical revelation. Does the truth about God and ourselves that meets us in the story of Noah remain suspect until or unless the remains of the ark are discovered? Would that truth become more true if such a discovery were made?

But religion is not about proof; it's about faith. In fact, the Bible never tries to prove the existence of God. From the beginning it affirms God's existence, celebrates it, and bears witness to it. The Bible offers testimony to what God has done, what he is doing and what he promises to do.

These are things that we believe not because they are underwritten by substantiating data, not because they can be proven, but because they arise out of the experience of faith. Still the question remains: What does it mean to believe?

There is a sense in which belief refers to the intellectual acceptance of certain propositions. Every student of science knows that. We are prepared to believe that rocks are hard, that fire is hot and that water is wet. If we choose not to believe those propositions, there may be some unpleasant consequences in our handling of rocks and fire and water.

But the Bible's perspective on belief runs along different lines than that. There is no one in the Old Testament whose faith is more celebrated than Abraham. At least four times the New Testament writers

refer to his belief. But when they do, they make no reference to his believing a set of propositions about God, or a system of doctrine, or a creed. He believed God, they say, or in other words, Abraham **trusted** God.

And this is what we discover at almost every turn in the Bible, that faith involves trust. In the best biblical sense, this is what it means to believe.

We see this in the way a child relates to his parents. He may believe that his daddy is king of the world, that there nothing his daddy cannot do; he may believe that no one is smarter than his mommy who knows everything. These kinds of beliefs eventually yield to reality as the child matures. But it is not what the child believes **about** his parents that defines the relationship but that he believes **in** them, he trusts them.

Jesus spoke to this: "*Unless you become as little children,*" he said, "*You will not see the kingdom of God.*"

Without embarrassment I admit to you that I spend time each morning reading the comic pages of the newspaper. I read them religiously, you might say.

A particular favorite is the strip called Baby Blues. A little kid is sitting there with two alphabet books open before him and he reads from one: "*A is for apple...*" and then he reads from the other, "*A is for apple.*" From the first one he

reads, “*B is for ball...*” and then from the second book, “*B is for balloon...*” He stops with a puzzled look on his face and says, “*I don’t know what to believe anymore.*”

That really *is* a problem for a lot of people, such as my friend at the dinner table. But it’s more of a problem if faith is understood only in terms of believing a set of propositions about God. The book of James reminds us that even the demons do that much.

I am not suggesting that beliefs do not matter or that our recitation of the Creed is an empty exercise. Indeed, the

things we believe translate into the way we live our lives. And our doctrines are signposts directing our attention to the heart and soul of our faith which is our relationship to God in Christ.

A short time before he was crucified Jesus was called to the home of his friends Mary and Martha. On his way there he is given the sad news that their brother, his beloved friend, Lazarus, has died. Martha comes out to meet him. “*Lord,*” she says, “*if you had been here, my brother would not have died.*”

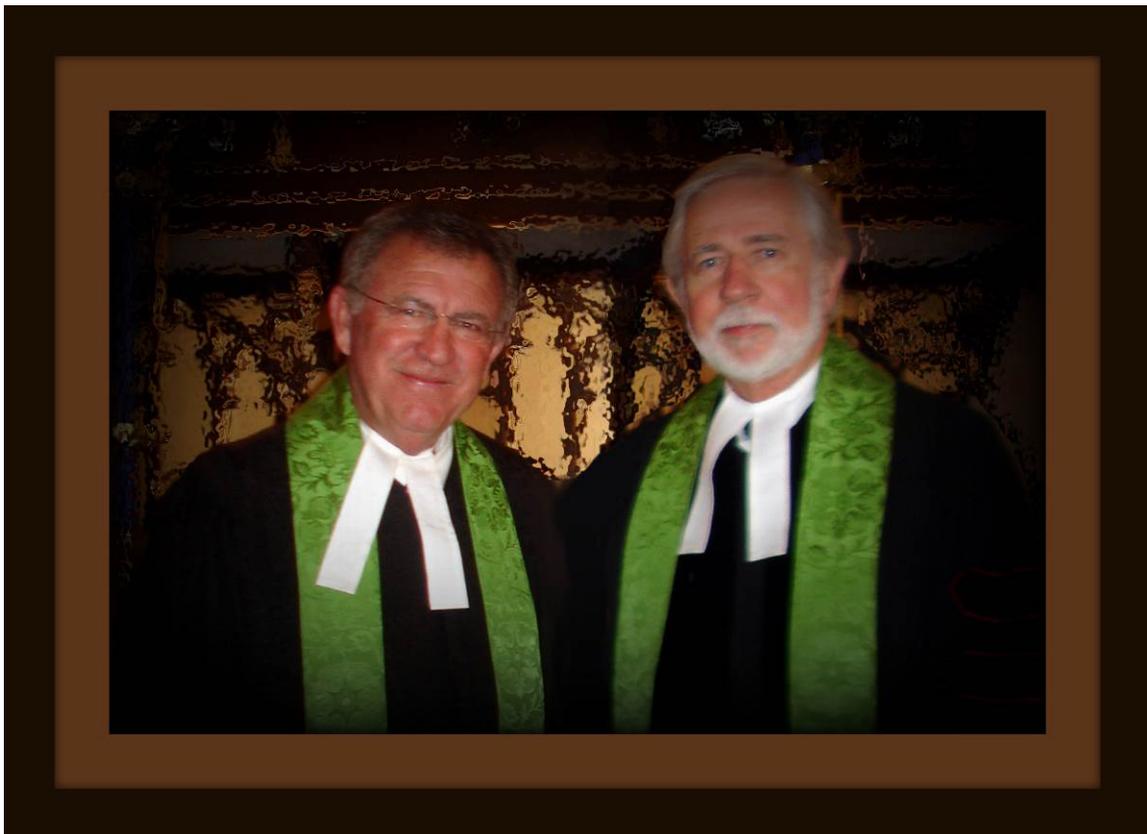
Jesus answers her, “*I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.*”

And then he asks Martha, “*Do you believe what I’m telling you?*” And without hesitation she answers: “*I believe in you.*”

“*Seeing is believing,*” so it is said. Jesus calls us beyond that bit of proverbial wisdom with his answer to the proof-seeking Thomas: “*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.*”

AMEN

*Reverend Doctor Wendell Thomas Guerry, Associate Pastor
The French Protestant (Huguenot) Church
April 7, 2013*



The Reverends Philip Bryant and Thomas Guerry

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The church will once again produce a photo directory of members and associate members with the leadership of Beth Dixon and Patra Bucher. The last church directory was created in 2002, so it is time for a new one!

Allen Anderson, a photographer, was here to take pictures in March. If you had your picture taken then, you can see your photo(s) here: www.partypics.com. (Click "Find my Pics," enter the password "huguenot" and click "Search Now.")

If you prefer, you can submit a different photograph for the directory. The Sunday church service bulletin includes a form to fill out with your current information. You may also email your information (and a preferred photograph) to postmaster@frenchchurch.org.

We appreciate everyone's help in compiling information for this directory.

CHURCH TOURS

Our Annual Spring Church Tours began Wednesday, April 3, 2013. Our guides this spring were: Jan Benson, Larry Bryant, Pat Dugan, Suzi DuRant, Eleanor Durgee, Connor Gantt, Gloria Hedden, Frances Henderson, Pat Hiott-Mason, June Iseman, Gail Jetter, Ravenel Mansfield, Maurice Thompson, Joan Middleton, and Bill and Sandra Thornton.

As always church tours are offered by a member of the congregation following each Sunday's church service. (A tour in progress is pictured at left.)



NEW WEB SITE

huguenot-church.org

We are in the process of developing a new web site for the church. The old web site "frenchchurch.org" will no longer be available starting in August 2013. You can access the new site now; however it is still a work-in-process. Please visit the new web site: huguenot-church.org. If you have feedback or suggestions, please send an email to postmaster@frenchchurch.org.

CHRISTENINGS HELD

Amelia Helene Rodgers was christened February 10, 2013. She is the daughter of Rod and Lara Rodgers and little sister to Liam.



Amelia Helene Rodgers' Christening (Pictured above) February 10, 2013

Tallulah Ashley Allen was christened February 24, 2013. She is the daughter of Jon and Tashya Riebe Allen, and the granddaughter of Lynn and Barry Riebe.



Tallulah Ashley Allen's Christening (Pictured above and left) February 24, 2013

INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

The Installation of Elders ceremony (pictured below) was held January 13, 2013. Our Elders are:

- Nat Benson: Chairman
- Mackall Gantt Horres: Vice Chairman
- Stanley Claypoole: Secretary
- Ravenel Mansfield: Rep to Board of Directors
- William Applegate
- Anne Blessing
- David Crawford
- Beth Dixon
- Suzi DuRant
- Anna Grey Hilton
- Mary McNab
- John Warren



REPAIRS AND RESTORATION UPDATE

Original Architect: Edward Brickell White (January 28, 1806-May 10, 1882)



Edward Brickell White was the architect who designed the French Huguenot Church. Born on January 23, 1806, at Chapel Hill Plantation in St. John's Parish, he later attended West Point. His Army training in engineering then led him into architecture.

In the early 1840s, White had already designed buildings in Charleston such as the market Hall, the high school on Society Street, the German Lutheran Church, the Second Baptist Church and the United States Arsenal. In 1844, he became one of the first architects in America to take an interest in the Gothic style of architecture. The French Huguenot Church was the first Gothic Revival building he designed, and certainly the first of that style in Charleston. He continued this design structure with Trinity Episcopal Church in Columbia in 1847 and Grace Episcopal Church in Charleston in 1847-1848.

Although White took a brief hiatus from the Gothic style when he designed the steeple of St. Philip's Episcopal Church in 1847, he continued that influence in his designs of the Walterboro Episcopal congregation's wooden church, the Chapel of the Cross in Bluffton, and the enlargement of The Old Citadel. His work continued in Charleston after the Civil War.

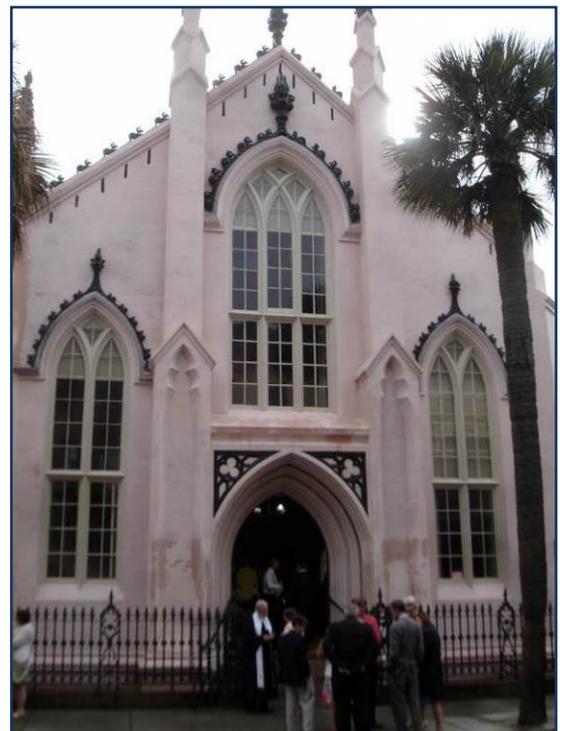
E.B. White died in New York City on May 10, 1882. He is buried in Charleston in the cemetery of St. Michael's Church.

The people listed below were instrumental in the restoration of our church.

- Glenn Keyes Architect
- Palmetto Craftsmen, Inc.
 - Bud Hay, Vice President
 - Dominic Volpe, Project Manager
 - Manuel Camarillo, Foreman
 - Boyd Chubb
 - Justin Davis
 - Stan laRoche
 - Chris Sioma
 - Doug Butler
- Plantation Masonry
- Steve Coffin, Chris Coffin and Joe Marchione
- Historic Restoration and Hardscapes

To read more about our church restoration, please read the Post and Courier article, *Huguenot Church ready for next 150 years* by Robert Behre at

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130414/PC12/130419719/1018/huguenot-church-ready-for-the-next-150-years>
or by clicking [HERE](#).



EASTER

On March 31, 2013, the morning services of the Day of Resurrection (commonly called Easter) were held at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., as adapted from the Liturgies of Neufchatel and Vallangin dated 1737 and 1772.



A prelude was performed by guest pianist Michele Sheely followed by our Call to Worship.

Tray Stephenson, choirmaster and organist, accompanied hymns for the day from the French Huguenot Hymnal. The hymns included *Psaume 68* (sung in French), *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*, *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*, *Thine is the Glory*, and *My Country 'Tis of Thee* (verses 1, 4). The choir sang two anthems, *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!* by Melchior Vulpius and *Psalm 150* by Lewis Lewandowski.



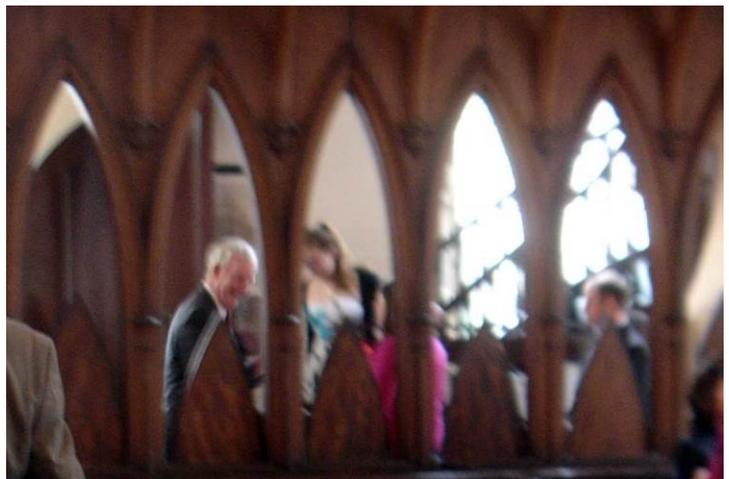
Lessons included: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 and John 20:1-18

The Reverend Phillip C. Bryant, Pastor, presented the sermon.

The Postlude, *Postlude in E-flat Major* (based upon a hymn-tune) was performed by Tray Stephenson.

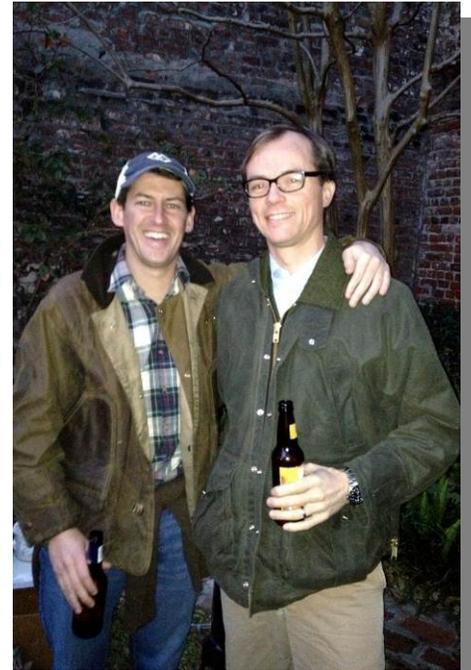
The lilies on the altar were given to the Glory of God by members of our congregation in memory and honor of our loved ones.

There was no collation.



OYSTER ROAST IN THE COURTYARD

The French Protestant Huguenot Church welcomed all members to an oyster roast Thursday, March 7, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. The event was held in the 44 Queen Street courtyard.



ANNUAL FRENCH SERVICE – APRIL 14, 2013

The French Huguenot Protestant Church's annual French Service was held April 14, 2013, with more than three hundred members and guests in attendance.

Our guest pastor for the French Service this year was Dr. James Franklin Kay, the Dean of Academic Affairs at Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. He has been a professor of homiletics and liturgics at the seminary since 1988. Born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1948, he earned a B.A. degree at Pasadena College in California, a master's in divinity at Harvard University, a master's in philosophy and a Ph.D. at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He also studied for a year at St. Andrews University in Scotland. Dr. Kay has written several books and articles on preaching and theology. He also has a deep interest in genealogy and family history, and made significant contributions to a book on the Kay family.

Don Kay, a member of our congregation and Dr. Kay's cousin, was our lay reader for the service.

Our French Service liturgist was Suzi DuRant, a member and Elder of our church. She was born in Bossier City, Louisiana, and has lived all over the world, including France for three years. She earned a B.A. degree in international relations with a minor in communications at The American University in Washington, D.C. She is a monthly columnist for *Southern Boating Magazine*, writes for several other magazines, serves as the executive director of the SC Marine Association, and, with her husband Nelson, owns Palmetto Props in Ravenel.

Robert Dickson, baritone, honored us with a solo performance of "Jerusalem" from The Holy City.

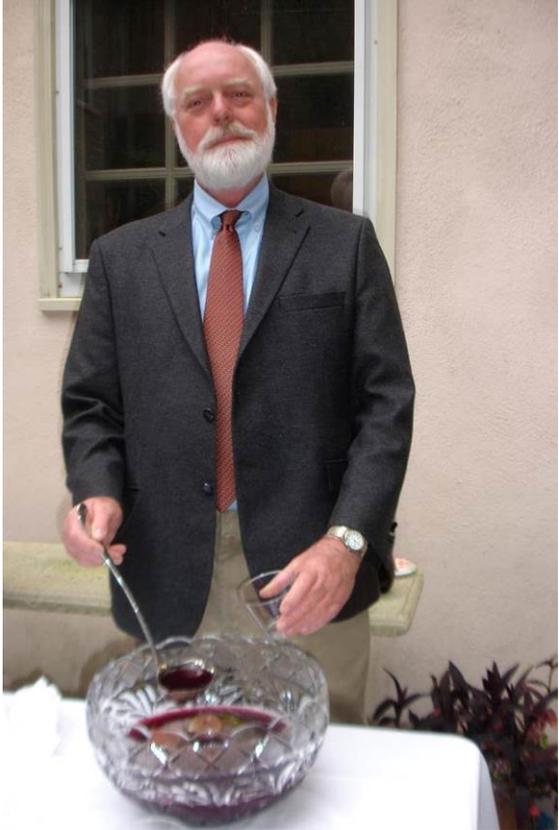
A collation in the courtyard of 44 Queen Street followed (pictured below).



ANNUAL FRENCH SERVICE AND COLLATION - APRIL 14, 2013



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THE HUGUENOT CHURCH CHOIR

We are pleased to announce that the Henry Erban organ will be used more than once each month. Choir director Tray Stephenson will play the organ, located above the chancel, on the first and third Sundays of each month. Our church choir continues to provide beautiful music for our services. In addition to our professional singers (many from the College of Charleston's Department of Music), we are fortunate to have several church members who volunteer to sing with us each Sunday: Barbara Claypoole, Betsy Veronee Demos, Beth Dixon, Dick Donohoe, and Ford Menefee. We've spotlighted two of these volunteers below.



Dick Donohoe

Dick, who sings bass, joined our choir in 2006. He has been singing in church choirs, community choral societies and small ensembles for nearly sixty years. This has included choral tours of Italy, Spain, Germany, and Austria, singing in some of the great cathedrals of Europe, including a mass in St. Peter's. He has served on, and chaired, music committees and for five years was a volunteer choir director in a Connecticut church. Dick is also a trustee of the Welsh North American Association, which sponsors and organizes a festival each year in a different US or Canadian city involving four days of singing Welsh hymns — in English and in Welsh! A native Midwesterner, he is a retired architect who retired, once again seven years ago, from harsh winters on the Maine coast to Charleston. He is an associate member of the Huguenot Church and maintains a membership in the Southwest Harbor Congregational Church. Dick enjoys singing in our choir and is often seen walking around downtown Charleston admiring — what else — the architecture!

Ford Menefee

Ford joined the choir in the fall of 2012 and sings tenor. He was born in Charleston, raised on Wadmalaw Island, and graduated from the Porter-Gaud School. He began singing at an early age and has studied classical piano (but never practiced much!). In high school, he sang with the school chorus and coed ensemble and performed in various musicals. During college and later, he sang and performed (drums, keyboards, harmonica) with some rock-and-roll bands — and even recorded with one band. Ford spent one summer during college performing at Six Flags Over Georgia as a cast member in the Crystal Pistol Show (a Broadway review). After completing a Bachelor of Science degree in clinical psychology at Vanderbilt, Ford joined the US Navy as a commissioned officer. Upon completing his military service in various locations, including a stint at the US Embassy in Bolivia, he returned to Atlanta, Georgia, to work in software publishing. He moved back to Charleston in 1997 and is currently a vice president of commercial lending for the Bank of South Carolina. He and his wife Deidre have one son, Ford Prioleau Menefee, Jr., born in 1998. Ford has been an associate member of the Huguenot Church since 1997. He loves spending time with family on Wadmalaw Island, hunting, fishing, and pretty much anything associated with the water. Ford enjoys singing with our choir and comments that "I am absolutely amazed by the talent and dedication of the college singers in our choir. It is inspirational for me to sing with them as it has forced me to try to 'lift' my game. Also, a huge amount of fun!"



CHOIR MEMBERS



Louise Carraway and Renee Blankenship



Fernando Troche, Brian Ross, and Ford Menefee



Tatiana Hoover, Cat Richmond, and their guest, Billy Miller



Fernando Troche, Brian Ross, Ford Menefee, and Dick Donohoe

HUGUENOT CLASSIFIEDS

"Therefore by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matt. 7:20 Geneva Bible 1560)

- 1) Crisis Ministries service days: Contact: William Applegate william@yarboroughapplegate.com 972-0150.
- 2) Fellowship/Social Events Committee: Interested? Join a committee to look into having a new quarterly congregational social supper. Contact: postmaster@frenchchurch.org 722-4385.
- 3) Worship/Altar Guild: Communion Silver Polish four times per year. Communion Linens as needed. Contact: postmaster@frenchchurch.org 722-4385.
- 4) Newsletter: Contact: Anne Blessing anneandbo@yahoo.com 860-4556.
- 5) Collation (Ongoing): Pick a Sunday soon. Just sign up to bring a dish. Contact: postmaster@frenchchurch.org or 722-4385.
- 6) Ushers: Contact Bill Thornton sandwthornton@comcast.net 722-7630.
- 7) Lay Reader: Contact Bill Thornton sandwthornton@comcast.net 722-7630.
- 8) Interested in the history of the church? Volunteer to lead a tour for visitors after normal Sunday worship. Contact Gloria Hedden 881-8831.
- 9) Louise Carraway is available to teach beginner to intermediate piano lessons to children and adults. Anyone interested should contact her at 803-236-7249 or louisecarraway@gmail.com.
- 10) Allen Anderson, a photographer, was here to take pictures in March. If you had your picture taken then, you can see and/or purchase your photo(s) here: www.partypics.com. (Click "Find my Pics," enter the password "huguenot" and click "Search Now.")



The youth of our congregation are learning what to wear to church from Betty Anne Bryant.

Pictured at left:
Betty Anne Bryant with Jane Blessing and Amelia Helene Rodgers

Pictured at right:
Amelia Helene Rodgers

