

# ORANGE BEACH NEWS

ORANGE BEACH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 2016

Worship: Sunday 10:00 am

Fellowship: Sunday 11:00 am

All are welcome – please invite others!



## From the pastor's desk:

Summer is here and traffic is crazy! I ran a few errands today and the traffic was insane. Everybody is rushing around and there are many people who just aren't quite sure which way to go, adding to the confusion. It took several minutes of waiting to even get out of the church parking lot to take a left onto Canal Road. Minutes waiting at the traffic light; minutes more waiting at the construction site while some poor soul has to spend his days on the hot asphalt alternating his sign between "slow" and "stop." Almost rear-ended turning at the light; almost hit in the shopping center parking lot – is anyone paying attention???

And yet, with all of this busyness, all of this rushing around, all of the traffic – summer is thought of in churches as being the slow season.

Why is that? Why is summer considered a time for less church? Growing up in Maine, our church choir and our youth group always took the summer off, so it didn't seem weird to me as an adult here in Alabama when things got canceled in church during the summer months. But when someone asks me *why* we take the

**Orange Beach Presbyterian Church**  
26640 Canal Road

**P.O. Box 306**

**Orange Beach, AL 36561**  
251.981.4220

**[obpchurch@gulftel.com](mailto:obpchurch@gulftel.com)**  
**[www.orangebeachpresbyterian.org](http://www.orangebeachpresbyterian.org)**

**Pastor: Kim Vanbrimmer**  
251-370-5272

summer off, I have no good theological answer. Yes, God took a day of rest. But a whole summer???

I understand that people travel. My own family travels every summer - the kids go to camp, the family goes to see a Braves game in Atlanta, and if we have the chance to go to Maine, we jump on it. Summer is when the weather is nice and the kids are out of school. Multiply the number of weeks in the summer by the number of congregants and it is easy to see how quickly a ten-person Bible study that meets throughout the year becomes a one-person time of silent devotion during the summer. Practically speaking, it makes sense to let the small groups, the classes, the coffees, and the ministries have the summer off and resume everything in the fall.

But I'm stubborn. And I'm passionate about worshipping, studying, and serving our Lord. So this summer I ask you all to:

- Continue Bible study. The church may not sponsor a time of structured Bible study, but you can create your own. I'm here for you if you have any questions, need any suggestions for study guides, or if you want to stop in a day or two this summer for a great conversation about Scripture.
- Continue your prayer time. I'm here for you if you'd like to know who's on the prayer list, or you're not sure how to establish structured prayer time, or if you want to come by the church either for alone time in the sanctuary or so that you and I can pray for and with one another.
- Worship. Of course we will have worship every single Sunday – even in the summer. Come worship with us. If you're traveling, worship wherever you are! Find a church and visit. And while you're visiting, take note of the ways in which they made you feel welcome – or not – so we can learn new ways to make our own visitors welcome or know what to avoid.

Friends, my prayer for you is that your summer will be safe, enjoyable, and filled with the Spirit.

Peace,

*~Kim*

251-370-5272

[kvanbrimmer@gmail.com](mailto:kvanbrimmer@gmail.com)

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## Youth Choir from Tuscaloosa



We were blessed by the talents of the youth choir from First Presbyterian Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The seven girls beautifully sang a prelude, a Calypso Lord's Prayer, the special music, and a benediction. Thank you to our own Stephen Pearce for accompanying them.

After the service we all enjoyed a wonderful pot luck lunch of fried chicken and a variety of side dishes. The food was delicious and the opportunity to sit and eat together was fantastic. The director asked me if they could come back next year, so keep an eye out for their return!

## Prayer Requests

**Nancy Potter**

**Myrna Cattlett**

**Larry Hill**

**Margaret Walker**

**Wally Lindenmuth**

**Terry Waldron**

**Debbie Myers**

**Martha Heins**

**Jim Grace**

**Brenda Stricklin**

**Jody Cantwell**

**Marion Collins**

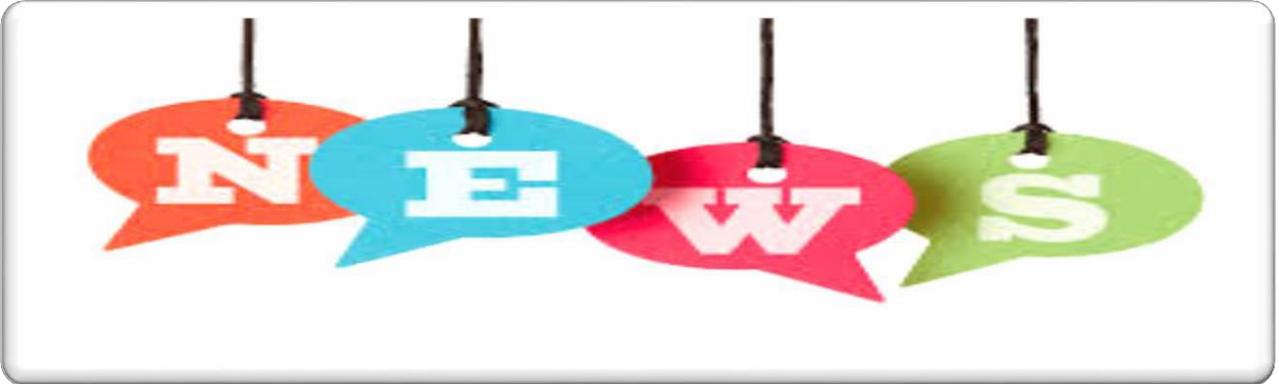
**Ron Hill**

**Bill Grace**

**Sam Pampel**

**Bill West**

If you have any additions or updates to the prayer list, please email Pastor Kim at [obpchurch@gulftel.com](mailto:obpchurch@gulftel.com)



## Giving

Thank you to our winter visitors who continue to support OBPC with tithes and offerings throughout the year. Winter visitor or year-round regular, any time you are not here and would like to mail in your offering, our address is:

P.O. Box 306  
Orange Beach, AL 36561

## Orange Beach Presbyterian Church is on Facebook!

If you have a Facebook page, please “like” us and share any and every post you’d like. Facebook is a great way to be seen by the community and attract visitors!

Thank you, Jessica Reid, for supplying photos and posting regularly!

## Christian Service Center

July is Orange Beach Presbyterian Church’s month to provide for the Christian Service Center. Please help this wonderful ministry by providing items such as:

Canned meat, Ramen Noodles, Saltine Crackers, Cereal, Mac and Cheese, Oatmeal/Grits (individual packets), Hamburger Helper – any variety, Jelly – any flavor, Peanut Butter  
Toothbrushes / Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Disposable Diapers, Baby Wipes, Misc. Toiletries, Clothes Detergent, Dishwashing Detergent, Feminine Hygiene Products  
Adult Bicycles

All help is appreciated. Please drop off goods at Orange Beach Presbyterian Church.

The Christian Service Center can also use monetary donations to purchase food at low cost from the Bay Area Food Bank. For more information about this ministry, visit their website at [www.cscgs.com](http://www.cscgs.com) or call at (251) 968-5256

# Winter Visitor News

If you are one of our winter visitors, please feel free to email me any news, updates, birthdays, anniversaries, summer parties, travels, pictures, or anything else you'd like to share.

The article below appeared in *Alabama Living*. You might just see a couple of familiar faces!

## Museum highlights Gulf Coast nautical history and heritage

*By John Felsher*

Heading north on the Mobile Ship Channel, one might spot what looks like a large ship docked at the old cruise terminal

– only this “ship” sits on land and contains another “ship” inside of it.



More than a museum, the GulfQuest National Maritime Museum of the Gulf of Mexico opened at 155 South Water St. in Mobile in September 2015. Built to look like a ship docked on the Mobile River, the facility highlights the vibrant sea life, culture, maritime history and industry along the entire Gulf of Mexico.

“The Board of Trustees determined that the museum would have a much larger draw if it was a regional museum rather than just focus on Mobile,” says Tony Zodrow, GulfQuest executive director. “That prompted the board to expand the mission to encompass the entire Gulf of Mexico, not just the United States part. Our mission is to inspire people of all ages and backgrounds to understand and appreciate the Gulf Coast’s rich maritime heritage through exhibits, programs and activities. There’s nothing like this anywhere in the Gulf Region.” The city of Mobile put up \$28 million of the \$43 million needed just to build the unique 120,000-square-foot structure, with the rest coming from federal grants to the

city. The architecture itself incorporates a maritime image. Hemmed in by the river and railroad, the designers flared the building outward as it rises, just like a ship, to create more space. Even the fire escapes resemble lifeboats.

With the building complete, the museum staff packed it with \$20 million worth of interactive exhibits in 90 themes that run the gamut of topics such as nature, exploration and settlement, shipping and shipbuilding and energy exploration, among others. Visitors can explore exhibits on five decks resembling a life-size container ship and three levels inside containers. Each exhibit, with more planned for the future, might contain several hundred parts, offering such varied “hands on” interactive experiences as navigating a ship with a sextant, exploring the depths or loading cargo containers with a crane.

“We’re more than a museum,” says Diana Brewer, GulfQuest director of marketing and public relations. “We’re really an education center. Our exhibits are multi-sensory with a lot of technology. People often learn by doing. When people hear ‘interactive,’ they automatically think ‘children’s museum.’ We’re kid friendly, but we are not a children’s museum. It’s almost like a ‘land of make believe’ for adults.”

Each interactive exhibit tries to re-create the real experience as completely as possible without actually doing it. For example, in the “bridge,” or pilothouse, of the building, mariners of all ages can drive a tugboat pushing barges, a speedy U.S. Coast Guard patrol vessel or other ships on the Mobile River in the “Take the Helm” exhibit. Just like in a real channel pilot simulator, the helmsman must navigate through traffic, day or night in all kinds of weather. People familiar with the actual river would spot many landmarks in the simulator screens, such as the building housing GulfQuest.

Although children can “pilot” a vessel at the helm simulator, the museum also offers some interactive exhibits just for the little ones. Children can learn while they play. Anna Nameniuk, a school nurse from Mobile, brought her children, ages 11 and 12, to GulfQuest.

“We loved the first-floor exhibits because it has lots of hands-on experiments for the kids to try,” Nameniuk says. “They really enjoyed it. I had them try some of the things having to do with navigating by the stars. We lay in the yard at home and look at the stars at night. We also loved the movie. It was very informational.”

Even “Treasures,” the museum gift shop, reminds people of the sea. For a class project, senior Auburn University industrial design students divided into teams. Each team designed part of Treasures. The museum staff used the students’ designs, complete with a floor resembling an ocean bottom littered with pirate treasure and seashells. Large wooden “ship ribs” hold merchandise shelves.

“We wanted to design a compelling store that people would want to go in and explore,” Zodrow says. “The students designed the store to look and feel like a sunken Spanish galleon. The contractors built it exactly as the students designed it.”

People can enter the gift shop or dine in the Galley, the riverfront restaurant at museum, without paying the admission fee. With a spectacular view of the Mobile River, GulfQuest also hosts weddings, corporate functions and other special events.

Maureen and Frank Bianchi of Detroit, Mich., enjoyed the view on the deck one day. Frank, a retired research engineer, and Maureen, a retired kindergarten teacher, spend their winters in Orange Beach.

“The museum was awesome,” Frank says. “I came because I’m interested in submarines and they have an excellent display on the Hunley, the Confederate submarine that was the first in history to sink a warship. I didn’t realize that Mobile had such a boat-building industry.”

“I think it’s great,” Maureen adds. “The museum exceeded my expectations. I especially liked the interactive displays.”

Don’t leave without watching the multi-media presentation in the GulfQuest Theater. The video documents the nature, maritime history and culture of the Gulf of Mexico and Mobile Bay from its earliest days to the present. The museum opens seven days a week. People can buy various levels of memberships so they can visit frequently. ¢

Admission is \$18 for adults, \$16 for ages 13-17, \$14 for ages 5-12 and \$16 for seniors and active military. Children under 5 are free. Groups qualify for discounted prices. For more information, call 251-436-8901 or see [www.gulfquest.org](http://www.gulfquest.org).