

THE BELLE

Shout with joy to God, all the earth! - Psalm 66:1



Expanding our Understanding of Worship

What is it that happens when we, as finite and imperfect people, gather to worship the infinite and perfect God? What is the power that weaves its way into the fabric of our worship service, causing selfish human persons to focus their hearts on God? How is it that we leave the mundane trappings of life and become singers in a song that has been sung throughout all of eternity? These are weighty questions that I won't propose to answer in this short space, but they are worthy of our contemplation. We enter Bellefield's sanctuary each Sunday for singing and prayer and teaching, but do we stop to ponder the immensity of our privilege, the tremendous

glory we approach, the incalculable collision of the sinful and the sinless - as we worship God?

"The mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets. From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before Him, and around Him a tempest rages. He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that He may judge His people: 'Gather to Me my consecrated ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.' And the heavens proclaim His righteousness, for God Himself is judge." (Psalm 50:1-6)

C.S. Lewis wrote, "Heaven enters wherever Christ enters, even in this

life." (The Letters of C.S. Lewis to Arthur Greeves, p. 501). We know from God's word that He inhabits the praise of His people - that He is somehow present in our worship. In the very act of offering praise to Him who is most worthy, we align ourselves in that rightness of position before God - as His created people offering worship to our beloved Creator, and in that we experience a foretaste of the joys of heaven. Over the past two years, I have witnessed a steady progression in our worship at Bellefield. Consistently God-centered and faithful to the scriptures, our church has historically proclaimed

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Church Retreat Photos and Fun!



Member Spotlight: Carisa Youngman

The Reformed Presbyterian Church is serious about worship; so serious that when they worship they only sing Holy Scripture – no praise songs, no choruses, no Lord I Lift Your Name On High, not even old hymns like The Old Rugged Cross. The RPC sing the Psalms on Sunday, and without any instruments.

This was the type of worship Bellefield's new member **Carisa Youngman** was used to when she attended church as a girl in New Castle, PA. Like her home congregation, Carisa leaned more towards the conservative side.

"I was the good kid. I made pretty good decisions," she said. "I was the musical, brainy one."

But there was a whole world outside of the Reformed Presbyterian church to discover for Carisa, so she began looking into other cultures and experiences. She traveled to Bolivia, Cyprus, Israel, Ireland, Scotland, France, Germany, and Switzerland. Several of her trips were missions oriented. She still looks forward to doing more traveling.

"My favorite part is discovering the amazing creation in other parts of the world, geographically and especially culturally," she said.

In 1999 Carisa wanted to broaden her theological horizons so she enrolled at the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary in Wilkinsburg, eventually earning a 'certificate of missions.' Through theology and doctrine classes Carisa learned how to study scripture and how to see larger truths in the Word, among other things.

"I learned to think like theologians think," She said. "But it was hard. I had to evaluate deeper things."

One thing that Carisa evaluated was where God wanted to use her in a career. With a degree in elementary education and Spanish from Grove City College, she began substitute teaching at Pittsburgh Urban Christian School (PUCS). When a full-time position as a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher came up last year, she accepted that as God's will and Carisa accepted.

"I still don't know if I will stay teaching for the long term," she said, "or if God will lead me in another direction like missions or youth work. But I'm excited to see Him work!"

The decision to break from the RPC and join Bellefield was not easy, according to Carisa. Although she enjoys the contemporary praise music at Bellefield and realizes there are many ways to worship God, she still struggles with division in the Christian Church. She knows that the church is united in Christ, and therefore tries to keep her heart and mind focused on the bigger picture.

"When I sit at Bellefield, I don't think this is the only Christian church," she said. "There are believers in many other places."

HUNGER STRIKE

On Saturday March 31, the weather was improving. So as I was driving through Oakland, I had my window down, enjoying the breeze. And that's when I smelled it: it seemed like I could taste every variety of food in the air. I felt pangs of hunger, because I hadn't eaten in twenty-seven hours. Now before you all freak out and start a food drive for your starving youth leader, let me explain. On March 30 and 31, some of the Bellefield youth took part in the 30-Hour Famine- a nationwide fast aimed at raising funds and awareness to combat hunger and poverty in the world.

As I was driving through Oakland that afternoon, I was made aware of how many choices I have, and how easy it would be to gorge myself on any number of them. I went home, where our kitchen is stocked with enough food to last a few months. I chose not to eat, but that decision was possible because I had hope: I knew I would be able to satisfy my stomach in under three hours. I could take a nap, and it would be nearly over.

When I returned to the church to debrief the last thirty hours with other fasters, (and of course to eat) we realized that many people in this world do not have that choice. They do not have the hope of a hearty meal in any near future. Why is there so much poverty in this world? I can't even begin to answer that question in this short space. This experience was intended to raise awareness that a problem does exist. It is only through awareness that these issues can begin to be addressed.

-Jeremy Sutter

HUNGER BASICS:

- More than 800 million people in the world go hungry.
- In developing countries, 6 million children die each year, mostly from hunger-related causes.
- In the United States, 12 million children live in households where people have to skip meals or eat less to make ends meet. That means one in ten households in the U.S. are living with hunger or are at risk of hunger.

Meeting Night Established

The leadership development team is excited about a major change that will happen next fall in the way Bellefield's leadership operates. Currently, the various teams and ministries within the church all have separate meeting dates and times. In order to make communication between teams easier, that will soon be changing. Beginning in October, all teams will meet on the first Tuesday of each month. Mark your calendars now!

Besides conducting all the regular business that these teams already are

doing, the common meeting night allows for a time of prayer, worship, and training for all of the leaders in our church. Our vision is that the first hour of these nights would be devoted to those things. The leadership development team is working on getting folks from outside Bellefield to come and speak on a series of topics related to leadership techniques, which would be the "training" part of these meetings. Finally, the teams would go their separate ways and conduct their own regular business.

But wait—there's more! As a prelude to this, a "Bellefield ministry fair" is being planned for September 2001. All of the teams and ministries in the church will be there to show you just exactly what it is that they do. It should be a great opportunity for those who aren't sure how to serve the Church to explore some different ways to plug in. Stay tuned for more detailed plans as they are developed over the summer.

Corie Sue's Summer Suggestions

Books,

Prayer Of Jabez, Bruce Wilkerson;
The Case for Faith, Lee Strobel; He Chose the Nails, Max Lucado.

Movies,

Pay It Forward; The Power Of One; Beaches; The Mission; Finding Forrester.

Music,

Conversations, Sara Groves; Great est Hits, Paul Simon; Transform, Rebecca St. James

Barbecued Grilled Veggies

1/4	cup chicken broth , <i>no-salt-added</i>
1/4	cup balsamic vinegar
1	teaspoon dried oregano
1	clove garlic , <i>minced</i>
1	teaspoon olive oil
1/4	teaspoon pepper
2	inches sweet onions -- <i>thick slices</i>
2	small sweet red peppers , <i>seeded and cut into small bite-size pieces</i>
2	small zucchini , <i>cut in half lengthwise</i>
1	small eggplants , <i>sliced</i>
	vegetable cooking spray

1. In a small bowl, combine first 6 ingredients and mix well using a wire whisk.
2. Spread onion slices on a baking sheet and cover with next 3 ingredients; brushing vegetables with half the broth mixture. Coat grill rack with cooking spray and spread vegetables (cut side down) on grill rack over medium-hot heat and close lid, cooking for 5 minutes.
3. Baste with remaining broth mixture and turn vegetables, grilling an additional 7 minutes or until tender.
4. Serve immediately.



Have You Heard the Four Spiritual Laws?

Have you heard the four spiritual laws?



1. God LOVES you, and offers a wonderful PLAN for your life.
2. Man is SINFUL and SEPARATED from God. Therefore, he cannot know and experience God's love and plan for his life.
3. Jesus Christ is God's only provision for Man's sin. Through Him you can

know and experience God's love and plan for your life.

4. We must individually RECEIVE Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." John 3:16

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins. I

open the door of my life and receive You as my Savior and Lord. Thank you for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of the throne of my life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be.

"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, 'Abba, Father.'"

- **Romans 8:15**

More New Members to Welcome!

Susan Bellak is a Pharmacy major at Pitt who grew up in the Presbyterian church in Inadiana, PA. She is an active member of Cornerstone, with a special interest in building discipling relationship with younger students. A point of connection for all you seamstresses out there, she is making a quilt.

Josh Burd has a heart for the poor. As an Urban Studies and Sociology major at Pitt, he interned at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. That experience led him to accept a job with the agency after graduation. When not actively helping people, Josh can be found cruising Schenley Park on roller blades.

Melissa Clark met God through Habitat and a spring break trip she took. As the next President of the Pitt chapter of Habitat, she is looking forward to sharing both her love for Christ and her organizational skills with all who are involved in that work. In her spare time, she enjoys playing guitar.

Fred Hummell loves everything about being a part of the Bellefield family. Fred enjoys helping the Deacons with food distribution. He has a special place in his heart for people with special needs. Fred can be found in his favorite worship seat, second row left hand side of the sanctuary. In his free time, he is a skilled knitter!

Michael Hurley is a 4th/5th grade teacher at Pittsburgh Urban School. Mike grew up in New Jersey. He began a personal relationship with Christ as a senior in high school. In keeping with his fun-loving personality, Mike is a sports guy. Tennis, anyone? See Mike!

Alycia Schaefer loves the life and realness of the people at Bellefield. She is employed at the Coalition for Christian Outreach in recruitment as well as working with Pitt students. With an "Adventure Education" background, Alycia is always up for playing in great outdoors. Her quiet time activities include reading and learning to play the guitar.

Jeremy Smith came to Christ through the outreach of Young Life while he was in high school. A Penn Hills resident, he freely professes his love for Jesus, his wife Shannon, and jazz. Jeremy is a Systems Integration Analyst/Developer at UMPC and self-described computer nerd so he has a special appreciation for Pastor Dave's Palm Pilot sermon illustrations!

Susan Smith, a Math and Finance major at Pitt, is also an active member of Cornerstone. She has a heart for mission, volunteers at Ten Thousand Villages in Squirrel Hill, and would love to go on an overseas mission trip someday. In her free time, Susan enjoys oil painting, traveling and playing tennis.

David Steck calls a lot of places "home." His Dad was in the Air Force, so his family moved often. David is a robotics student at CMU and an active member of the Graduate Christian Fellowship there. David is deeply interested in developing relationships with people, making him a great candidate for inspiring dinner conversation! He humbly describes himself as "good" at computers, too.

Most Bellefielders have seen **Jeremy Sutter** front and center as youth ministries coordinator. He is very excited about his office (where he keeps his big lego collection) as well as his ministry to college and youth.

Jeremy shares his guitar and drama skills enthusiastically. The 3rd of 4 boys, he also has an active sense of humor!

Jen and Steve Tocci are transplanted Californians in search of some sun! Steve is a medical student and Jen is employed as a sales rep for a local medical supply company. They are excited about working on the Outreach Team at Bellefield as well as participating in a young adult small group. They enjoy surfing, snowboarding when geography permits. They are always up for sharing a home-cooked meal with other Bellefielders!



SESSION NOTES

Session News from May

Session was informed that Pittsburgh Presbytery has made available several grants, and we are looking into the possibility of pursuing these.

Since there continues to be some confusion on a couple of financial matters, session has instructed the Finance Committee to hire an outside CPA consultant at the cost of \$2000 to review our financial practices.

Each month session focuses on two of the major objectives of our church. At our May meeting the first one we focused on was "Evangelize Unbelievers and Retain New Members" under the leadership of Gary Liberati and Susan George. The second one was "Develop Disciples of Christ" under the leadership of Harry Kunze.

You may have noticed the increase in the number of people worshipping with us on Sunday mornings. The attendance figures from April of 2001 were 25% higher than April of last year.

Session voted to increase the

mission budget for 2001 by \$10,000 for the purpose of development of special missions project/relationship.

The "March For Jesus" is scheduled for June 2, 2001, and session voted to approve Bellefield's involvement in this event, and also to donate \$100 to help defray the cost.

The major issue in our denomination right now is human sexuality. Session adopted the resolution regarding the Confessing Church Movement:

The session of Bellefield Presbyterian Church, meeting this sixteenth day of May, 2001, joins faithful believers throughout the Church in confession:

- That Jesus Christ alone is Lord of all and the way of salvation.
- That Holy Scripture is the triune God's revealed Word, the Church's only infallible rule of faith and life.
- That God's people are called to holiness in all aspects of life. This includes honoring the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman, the only relationship within which

sexual activity is appropriate.

We therefore announce our commitment to the Confessing Church movement and we implore all Presbyterians who share these historic Christian convictions to:

- Renew their individual Commitments to the above confessions.
- Urge their session and presbytery to affirm these confessions and to declare that they will not ordain, install or employ in any ministry position any person who will not affirm them.
- Urge the 2001 General Assembly to instruct the General Assembly Council to require that all program personnel uphold these confessions and ensure that these confessions are followed faithfully in all programs and policies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The General Assembly is meeting in Louisville, Kentucky from June 9th through June 16th. We ask that you keep them in your prayers, asking the Lord to guide our denomination.

Summer Mission Trip to Hong Kong

This is Jonghun Lee who is an international student in Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. I greatly appreciate you and Bellefield Church, and I'm pleased to share my mission to China with you. Here I briefly explain the mission trip and myself:

Before I came here, I had worked at a branch office of Galilee World Mission (GWM) in Kwangju, South Korea for 2 years as a secretary and took a short-term mission trip in Uzbekistan in Feb. 2000. Through this work experience, God has given me insight about mission, and He has also allowed me to keep in touch with the missionary, Rev Dawei Kim (He uses this nickname because of security matters) who had work in China for 6 years and now is taking a sabbatical and studying at a seminary in LA.

This summer, I'll leave for Hong Kong on 11 June 2001 and will return to the US on 27 August 2001. In Hong Kong, there

is a branch office of GWM in Hong Kong, "Hong Kong Cheil Presbyterian Church." They are deeply involved in the mission work. They open short or long term mission school and other mission conferences which I can take while I stay there. Many missionaries visit the church for she has facilities for them where I will stay, so I can get lots of information about mission work in China through them. And Rev. Kim will guide me to his working field for two weeks with 20 members from LA (2001, 7. 8 - 2001, 7. 24). We will divide our team into small groups and each group will make research "new tribes" who never contacts Gospel before.

In Hong Kong, I will help the ministry of the church and mission work. I can help them to prepare some document as I had been doing as a secretary or teach missionaries a basic computer skills, such as email, Internet and Operating

Systems. I can also monitor what kind of mission work has been done in China that will give me the great insight of the mission in China.

In your praying please remember these:

1. For the safe trip to Hong Kong and China.
2. For maintaining good fellowship and cooperation with Hong Kong Cheil Presbyterian Church" and mission team from LA.
3. For God's guidance in each program.
4. For the works of the Holy Spirit among our team. May God pour the Holy Spirit on each members and me.
5. For the preparation of this mission trip.
6. For the finances of this trip.

God Bless You,
Jonghun Lee

Understanding Worship (continued from page one)

Jesus as redeemer and king to all who come, but recently I have sensed a new movement of energy in our church family – a desire for worship, a longing for those times when we can become wholly linked in praise with our heavenly Father. We strive to seek God in His sanctuary, acknowledging our dependence on Him and His great ownership over all of life. I believe that the Holy Spirit is guiding us at Bellefield in new paths, causing us to experience His glory as a church family in ways we haven't before, as a foretaste of the joys of heaven.

On Sunday May 6th, Bellefield welcomed Paul Cosentino's Boilermaker Jazz Band to our worship service. Paul, his wife Catherine, and their daughter Sophia have been attending our church since September 2000 and worked their way through our first new member's class of 2001. A full-time bandleader and a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, Paul founded the band in 1988 while still a student and has led the group into major jazz festivals, concert halls and clubs throughout the United States and Europe. Universally recognized

for their enthusiastic and infectious presentation of music in the real New Orleans tradition, the Boilermakers have recorded five CD's and continue their impeccable live renditions of traditional spirituals, old-time ballads, and street parade classics. Those of us who were in the sanctuary on the morning of May 6th can appreciate the tremendous joy and vitality of their music...but why include this variety of music in our Sunday morning service?

Should we, however, ask ourselves this question instead: "Why NOT include this variety of music in our Sunday morning service?" We at Bellefield are blessed to be surrounded by people of great diversity – in ethnic background, national origin, economic status, and cultural expression. We know that God is the creator of all peoples and that He has given us the great gift of music with which to express ourselves to Him in worship, whether we sing contemporary praise choruses, classic hymns, or traditional spirituals.

Regardless of whether the songs communicate complex theology or profound simplicity, our chief con-

cern should be this: is our worship directed toward God, or is it directed toward the congregation? The scriptures clearly teach that God is the audience in worship – we are not. We are the actors in each service, the participants in a tribute to the God who saved us. Whether we lead from the front or sit in the back, we all come to the sanctuary to bless the Lord, to sing of His wonders and tell of His goodness. Those who stand up front are not there to entertain us, but instead to lead us as we join together in praise, worship and celebration. So let us not be limited by the music we know or the style with which we are comfortable, but let us open our minds to the many and varied ways that God's people express themselves in worship.

Let us participate fully, knowing that we come to church not to be entertained, but to join with our leaders as we celebrate the grace of God together. And whether we hear Mozart, a drum set or a gospel choir, let us hear and do all to the glory of God.

*Kathy Emmons,
Director of Contemporary Music*

Poetry Corner

Generations

wisdom
many voices
recalling the past
pulsating with the present
linking and curving
through time
where no voice
is too still
to hear

-Corie Sue Sunderhaus



Summer Ideas for the "I'm Bored" Blues!

Ride on the rails-to-trails
Picnic in the park (go fly a kite!)
Sidewalk chalk and, of course, bubbles!!!
Write a letter to a friend
Look for shapes (and animals) in the clouds
Read a book
Bake some cookies
Volunteer
Go to the zoo! Lions & tigers & bears...oh my!
Tent out in your back yard

Summer Calendar

June 2001

6/3 Pentecost Sunday – Communion
 6/6 Cornerstone Hot Summertime kickoff
 6/9-12 PC(USA) General Assembly in Louisville
 --the Van Dykes and Tom McIntire will attend
 6/13-15 Dave's study leave
 6/16 Belle Deadline for July/August
 6/17 Father's Day
 6/20 Cornerstone Sizzlin' Hot BBQ

July 2001

7/1 Summer Worship Schedule begins, 10:00 a.m. – Communion
 7/17 7-8:30 p.m. Parents' Meeting – for parents of Jr. and Sr. High kids
 7/27-8/11 Sr. High Backpack trip to Colorado
 (Remember, we only have 10 spots, so sign up soon if you plan to go!
 Talk to Jeremy Sutter for details.)

August 2001

8/25 Great Garage Giveaway

June Birthdays

1 Matt Gormley
 2 Helen Katrin
 2 Fred Hummell
 5 Gene Puskar
 7 Erick Fox
 7 Emily Griffith
 13 Tina Bruns
 14 Kyle Balliet
 17 Ken Wagoner
 18 Stephanie Moulas
 19 Christy Zolko
 19 Taro Sekikawa
 21 Diana Williams
 21 Jen Stein
 23 Susan Bellak
 23 Susan George
 25 Katy Samuels
 25 John Zolko
 26 Lauren Pruszynski
 27 Kristin Wagoner
 29 Ruth Mashev Rogers

Treasurer Tom's Budget Talk

	Giving	Budget	Difference
Feb 2001	\$18,334	\$19,725	-\$1,391
Mar 2001	\$21,659	\$19,725	\$1,934
Apr 2001	\$22,957	\$19,725	\$3,232
Year to Date	\$83,788	\$78,900	\$4,888



Upcoming Sermons

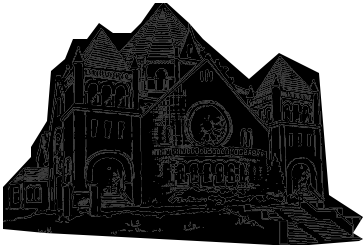
As you may notice, the Belle is currently undergoing a facelift! We are experimenting with new layout styles & designs. We would love some feedback and future contributions!
 - Layout Staff,
 Cori Shea and Corie Sue

June 10: Guest Speaker, Rev. Doug Ronsheim (Director of Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute)
June 17: Prayer of Jabez I, Also: Recognition of Graduating High School Seniors
June 24: Prayer of Jabez II
July 1: Communion; begin summer Schedule: **NO Sunday school, Worship Begins at 10 a.m.**



"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today."
 -- Malcolm X

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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Belle Mission Statement

Honoring God through faithful writings and artwork, the illuminating the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and encouraging biblical principles in both print and production