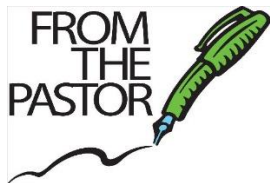


MAY MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

E-Connect Newsletter Printed Edition 9-15-20

Reaching...Teaching...Touching...in the Heart of Powhatan

3922 Old Buckingham Rd. In the heart of the Courthouse Village
(804) 598-3098



A Hard Sunday to Come to Church

When I was a college religion major on my way to seminary, I relished the idea of contemplating the hard questions of our faith. I loved Biblical and theological discussions, especially about difficult topics that many would think are “deep” or difficult or somehow hidden in scripture.

As I became a pastor, those same conversations became questions that I am often asked about when someone thinks they are getting “down to business” with scripture and what God wants us to know and do. “I’m really trying to ‘dig deep’ in scripture, I really want to understand the Bible, what do you think about *this*?”

When someone says something like that, more often than not they are wanting to talk about End Times. This normally involves the Book of Revelation, a verse that refers to something like a rapture, and the book *Left Behind*. Some people really get into this type of thing, especially when they can find a Facebook story that says something like “Corona Virus Vaccine is Secretly Implanting Microchip that is the Mark of the Beast.” To some people, this is important, and it is *hard stuff*.

For others, it is predestination. Calvinism and the T-U-L-I-P. For others, it may be the Trinity. How can One be Three and Three be One? These are hard things, and some like to think that the mental acuity mixed with Biblical information required to grasp them is a feat of faithful strength. (Please note I’m not comparing the importance of Trinitarian Theology with Dispensational “Left Behind” thinking.)

These may be important (The Trinity), and they may be difficult. But nothing compared to this coming Sunday.

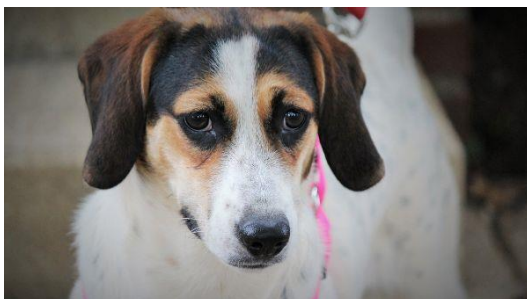
“Okay, Jesus, how often should I forgive someone? Let’s see, how about seven times?” “No, not seven times, but...seven times seventy times.” Let’s do the math on that one. That could be 490 times. Or, it could be forgiveness without end. Seven times is a lot, but to keep forgiving, over and over and over, well, that may be a little much. Except it is what Jesus tells us to do.

The “pre-millennial-pre-tribulation-raptured-dispensationalism” idea that has become popular with its pieced together verses from Revelation and Daniel is complicated to understand. But harder to understand is how a gunman can walk into an Amish schoolhouse, shooting, injuring, and killing children, and how that Christian Amish community can offer forgiveness. How that community offers love and support to that shooter’s family. Now that is hard to understand. If we are honest, we are less shocked about the shooting than we are the forgiveness.

I love to understand ideas and important concepts about our faith. We should be informed Christians about what we believe. But more than being an informed Christian I want to be a forgiving Christian.

In a way it is a “hard Sunday” to come to church. But I expect there are some who want this. Jesus’ hard words come as good news, that we are called, empowered, and equipped to be the people who offer unending forgiveness.

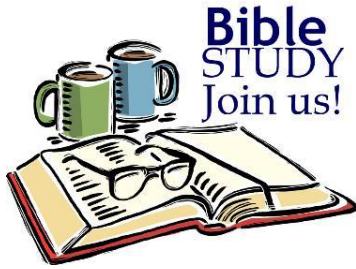
Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship



Blessing of the Animals Sunday, Oct. 11

Join us at 2 p.m. on the
front steps of the
sanctuary with your pet!





Bible study on Zoom Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

You can read the passages that we will focus on each week:

Wednesday, September 16 -- Matthew 10:24-39

"Solidarity with the Suffering"

Wednesday, September 23 -- Matthew 10:40-42

"Choosing a Braver Faith"

Wednesday, September 30 -- Genesis 24:34-67

"A Love that Makes Neighbors"

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799 Enter this code: 286 978 612



Lighthouse Parade - October 25

Join us as each family will make a cardboard box jack-o-lantern and we will "light" them. Kids will wear costumes and parade through Powhatan.

More Information to follow.



Kingdom Kids meeting on ZOOM!!

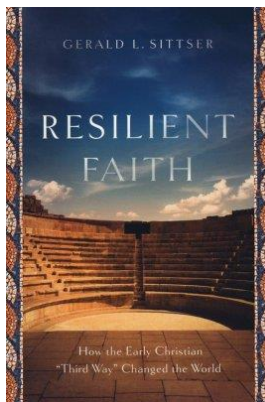
Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting by clicking this link, then follow the directions by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2770321474>

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799

Enter the meeting code: 277 032 1474



Church Wide Zoom Sunday School:

Sunday Morning at 9:15 a.m.

Zoom Sunday School class has begun a series of lessons based on the early Christian church. Mr. Bob Kruschwitz will be leading us in a discussion centered around the book *Resilient Faith: How the Early Christian "Third Way" Changed the World* by Gerald L. Sittser.

To join by phone: Call (312) 626-6799 Enter: 871 7487 0259

Connecting to the World...Missions

Small Mission Project for This Week:

Powhatan and Blessed Sacrament School Leaders



If you would like to be included in a small mission project this week to join us as we write to encourage and thank our school principals, teachers, superintendent and school board members. Please see last the page of this *Newsletter* for school addresses and suggested teachers.



Backpacks of Love leader Jesse Bilthuis has announced they will NOT be packing in September. They will likely begin the 2nd Tuesday in October at Aerations Plus at 7:00 p.m. If you are not on Jesse Bilthuis's email list, please contact the church office. With concerns around Covid, Jesse completely understands if anyone would rather skip the first month or more.



The Food Pantry is collecting the items below.

A container is in the church foyer.

Chicken Helper, Spam, Vegetable Soups - No Chicken, Soups, Refried Beans, Dry Cat Food, Paper Towels, Crackers - Ritz & Saltines, Pudding, Salad Dressings

Prayer List September 14, 2020

CHURCH FAMILY:

Barbara Barden
Susie Brock
Joann Cole
Bob Cosby
Bob Cox
Snead DeNoon
Lee Duncan
Paula Duncan
Nick Elam
Ester Fitch and Family
Bea Gallier
Rick Gallier
Bill Ketron
Paul Lindsey
Fran O'Donnell
Jim Pinkley
David&Susan
Terry
Frances Tilman
Karen Utt
Nancy Wilkinson
Janice Worsham

MILITARY:

Danny Myers, Brent Templeton,
Quint Sutton, David Brizendine,
Jeremiah Clift, Nelson Sutton, Justin
Donnavon, Austin, Breeden, Caleb
Hammer,
Kris Curtis,
Adam and Hunter Mitchell

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Stephen Breeden, Son of Martha Oberg
Estelle Davis, Debbie Elam's mother
Lacie Baggett
Libby Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg
Stuart Yeorge
Ben Spoon, Juli Spoon's son-in-law
Matthew Berger, friend of Joy & Juston Sanudo
Clyde Martin, brother of Esther Fitch
Jeff Crews, Susie Brock's brother-in-law
Sheri Sadie, Nancy Flower's Daughter
Sharon Baltimore, friend of the Bradbury's
Bill Casper, Bill Karnolt's brother-in-law
Justin Yancey, Grandson of Irma Alvis
Stephanie Hay, Karen and Ray's daughter-in-law
Janie Dean
Phyllis Lester, Ed Utt's sister
Shawn Neugent, friend of the Sheltons
Lennox Family
Helen Fitzgerald, friend of Diana and B.J. Smith
Chloe, granddaughter of Amy&Bill Karnolt
Nurses, Erin and Melissa, relatives of the Karnolt's
Logan Cook, grandson of Wilford and Linda Poore.
Tim Martindale, friend of Bob & Vicki Kruschwitz
Pam Polk Mottley, Ed Mottley's sister
Debbie, Vicki Kruschwitz' sister
Randy Kope, grandson of Les and Dianne Miller
Brian Sullivan, nephew of Mike and Bernice Koelzer
Mary, Annie Sparrow's Aunt
Matt Bennett
Mary Ann David, Debbie Elam's sister-in-law
Teresa Fields (knee replacement surgery)
Family of David Davis, Gladys Rabon's son-in-law
Lisa Davis, Gladys Rabon's daughter

HOMEBOUNDED PRAYER AND CONTACT LIST:

Janice Worsham, Westport Rehab. Center., 7300 Forest Ave, Room 111, Richmond 23226
Frances Tilman, 3904 Old Buckingham Rd
Audrey Johnston, 3901 S. Fairway Drive, Powhatan, VA 23139
Audrey Mann, The Laurels of Willow Oaks, 11611 Robious Road, Midlothian, 23113
Jim Pinkley, Currently with Billy and Marlis Kruschwitz
Jean Hall, 1748 Old Powhatan Estates

Tentative Schedule

Birthdays

Sundays:

9:15 a.m. **Zoom Sunday School**
(Re-Gathered SS begins in October)

11:00 a.m. **Worship in the Sanctuary**
Also, a Live Streaming Worship Service
will continue to be shared on
YouTube Premier at 11:00

5:30 p.m. Soul Food

Wednesdays:

3:30 p.m. Zoom Kingdom Kids

6:30 p.m. Zoom Bible Study
(Re-Gathered Bible Study in January)

September

16-Kerri Bilthuis
18 - Ray Hay
23 - David Deal
24-Debbie Elam
27-Fran O'Donnell
27-Juston Sanudo
28-Joann Cole
29 - Bernice Koelzer
30-Diane Miller

Financial Information

Our Gifts to our Lord, Week of September 13, 2020

Regular Offering	\$ 6,786.64
Building Fund	1,267.00
Scholarships	25.00

Total \$ 8,078.64

Flat Rock Elementary
Mrs. Tanja Atkins-Nelson, Principal

2210 Batterson Rd
Powhatan, VA, 23139

Pocahontas Elementary
Mr. Tom Sulzer, Principal

4294 Anderson Hwy
Powhatan, VA, 23139

Powhatan Elementary
Constance Deal, Principal

4111 Old Buckingham Rd
Powhatan, VA, 23139

Powhatan Middle School
Dr. Samantha Martin, Principal

4135 Old Buckingham Rd
Powhatan, VA, 23139

Powhatan High School
Dr. Mike Massa, Principal

1800 Judes Ferry Rd
Powhatan, VA, 23139

Blessed Sacrament
Paula Ledbetter, M. Ed., Head of School

2501 Academy Road
Powhatan VA 23139

Powhatan Superintendent: Eric Jones

Pocahontas Landmark Center
4290 Anderson Highway
Powhatan, VA 23139

Powhatan School Board: Rick Cole, Susan Smith,
Valerie Ayers, Joe Walters,
Kim Drew Hymel

Pocahontas Landmark Center
4290 Anderson Highway
Powhatan, VA 23139

Teachers affiliated with May Memorial Baptist Church

Kerri Bilthuis – Midlothian Middle School
Carla Crump – Powhatan Elementary
Constance Deal – Powhatan Elementary
Paula Duncan – Powhatan High School
Kate Duncan – (Write to Paula Duncan’s address)
Beverley Edwards – Amelia County Schools
Andy Firda – Powhatan High School
Maryvel Firda – Powhatan High School
Parker Mead – Powhatan Middle School
Debbie (Williams) Mistr – St. Bridget’s, Richmond
Debbie Mottley – Chesterfield County
Megan (Crump) Nice – Pocahontas Elementary
Sandra Parker – Powhatan Middle School
Julie Seaman – Midlothian Middle School
Brooks Ann Smith – Powhatan High School
Joyce Smith – Pocahontas Elementary