



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HEIGHTS

Northminster Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Experiencing and sharing God's love to transform our homes, community and world.

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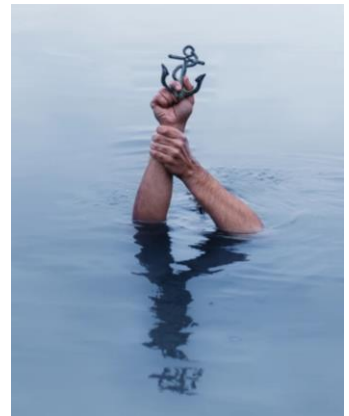
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Change

"In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." — Ben Franklin

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."
— Hebrews 13:8



The past few years have taught us how quickly things can change, and change drastically. Some of these changes have been good, many of them have been difficult, if not very hard. Just about every area of our lives has been shaken and challenged. Most of these changes have been as unexpected as they were unprecedented; some of them we could see coming.

I've been reflecting on change a lot lately. Part of that has been stirred by the cultural changes we're seeing around us, but closer to home it's been triggered by my son's graduation from high school and preparation for college. Our family is moving into a season of change we've not experienced since my son was born. Many of you have experienced that transition yourselves, some of you have a few more years. When facing changes like these, it's easy to begin to feel "unmoored." But, as my (great x6) uncle, Ben Franklin, said above, everything changes, except death and taxes.

There's a lot of wisdom and a lot of truth in my uncle's observation...but he missed something crucial. As the author of Hebrews reminds us, Jesus Christ never changes either. As part of the Holy Trinity, God the Son has always existed. God the Son is as much the same before the incarnation as after it, as before his death and resurrection as after it, as before his ascension into heaven as after it, as before his ultimate return as after it. His nature, his mission, his work, his *hesed* (steadfast lovingkindness — see the sermons on Ruth) is all exactly the same yesterday, today and forever.

We depend on consistency and stability to keep us anchored in our lives. But if we anchor ourselves to something that will move or change, we can't rely on that mooring. Everything moves and

changes — relationships, jobs, people, family, the stock market, politics, the weather, even church. The only true certainty in life is Jesus Christ. When we anchor ourselves to Christ, we can weather whatever storm may whip up around us, whatever change and transition might come our way. How do we anchor ourselves to Jesus Christ? He tells us that himself:

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock." (Matt. 7:24–25)

Knowing the Word of God through Christ in Scripture and doing what He says is how we secure ourselves to Jesus Christ. We "hear these words" of His by spending time reading the Bible and in prayer every day, by going to Sunday school and Bible studies each week, and by worshipping with the body of Christ each Sunday morning. We "do what it says" when we put what we hear into practice each and every day.

If there is any particular way we can help you work through the changes and challenges you are navigating by helping you to hear His word and do it, please don't hesitate to reach out and let us know.

Blessings,
Rev. David Garrison

Faith, Family, and Fabulous Food



The highlight of our a covered dish luncheon the other week was the Woodruff sisters, Angela and Darnelle, telling all about the Woodruff family history, with an emphasis on their mother, Mary Woodruff, who is now a legend in Amherst County! Woven into this story was their faith in God, their love of God and people, and their hope in the future because of God!! Angela talked about the pie shop and its struggles and the ways that God opened doors to help the pie shop to become not only successful, but well known, as well!!! And it ended with a sweet desert—pies from the Woodruff Cafe and Pie!

(Thanks to Sharon Bryant for her note and pictures and to the fellowship team for their hard work!)

Life Together

JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

- 9 Judy Reyburn
- 14 Marge Mills
- 19 Albert Garrett
- 21 Kaleigh Bennett



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:

- Don & June Hedrick, June 12, 1960
- Bobbie & Debbie Irvine, June 26, 1971
- Bob & Marge Mills, June 28, 1980

I sought the Lord, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears. Psalm 34:4 NIV

Prayer Requests:



Tim Wright will be having knee surgery. Please pray for a successful surgery and a smooth recovery.

Debbie Moore will be having surgery later this summer to address a severe case of carpal tunnel syndrome.

Ray Vandall continues to heal from his hip replacement surgery. Praise the Lord, the surgery went well!

Barbara Baker asks for prayers for her niece, **Sheila Layton**, who is recovering from breast cancer surgery. This was to address a recurrence of the cancer after 26 years.

Dot Stinnett fell and broke three ribs. She is back at The Elms after a brief stay at LGH for care and treatment.

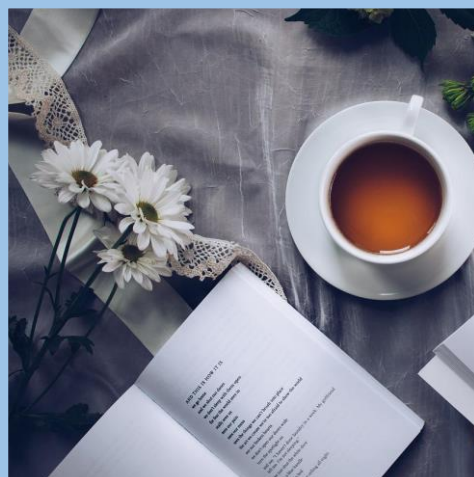
All medical personnel who have continued serving those with coronavirus in spite of the possibility of getting infected themselves.

Remember others who cannot be with us in church: **Leonard Rowe and Margaret Watts.**

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT

GENERAL FUND

	March	Y-T-D
Income	8,736	29,323
Expenses	<u>12,074</u>	<u>37,619</u>
Balance	-3,338	-8,296



The Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will meet on **Friday, June 17, at 10 a.m. at Sharon Bryant's place on the river.** They are reading the book *The Maid* by Nita Prose. When hotel maid Molly finds a very wealthy and very dead guest, the police immediately put her on their list of suspects. Molly is different from everyone else, and that makes her suspicious. But fortunately, Molly has friends and the truth on her side! All women are welcome to join us!

Missions, Outreach, and Evangelism Update



Evangelism? Who? Me!



Evangelism is defined as the spreading of the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness. We can ease ourselves out of the way when we think that it's the preacher's job; but, when it comes down to personal witness, that's where we stammer and stutter. If you are like me, you, too, fall far short of where you believe God expects you to be.

Colossians 4:6 tells us: "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace seasoned with salt, so you may know how to answer everyone."

This passage was written by the Apostle Paul, who had witnessed "big time" to unbelievers about the love and grace of God through Jesus who had died on the cross for our sins. He was most certainly an authoritative expert on the subject. He gives us 4 suggestions to help us along in our own search to become the witness God wants us to be.

- Be wise in our actions. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you when you speak and tell you what to say. Live a life that demonstrates that Jesus lives in your heart.
- Look for every opportunity. No matter where you are, there may be someone who God has put in your path that needs a kind word from you.
- Be full of God's grace seasoned with salt. Salt is something we use to make our food taste better. The salt of speaking with humility and love makes our words more appealing.
- Know how to answer. Know what you believe as a Christian—if we confess with our lips and believe in our hearts that Jesus is Lord, we shall be saved.

There is a children's song, "He's Still Working on Me to Make Me What I Need to Be!" I love it because it says to me, "I am not perfect." Evangelism is hard. I have goofed it more than once. This song gives me the assurance God still loves me anyway. No matter what, He is always there, still forgiving, still loving, and a God of second chances.

June Hedrick
Missions Committee

Upcoming Dates:

MOE committee meeting: Tuesday, June 14, at 1:00 p.m. if needed.

Gleaning for the Word: Thursday, June 16. Meet to carpool at 8:30 a.m. at the church.

In the News

Birthday Box News

Birthday Box collection for June: scotch tape, pens, notepads

Next month is our last collection for these boxes; then we will fill and deliver them. This population of shut-ins is especially isolated from the community. Receiving this box for many is the only person-to-person interaction they have to look forward to on their birthday. Your participation in this ministry is greatly appreciated.

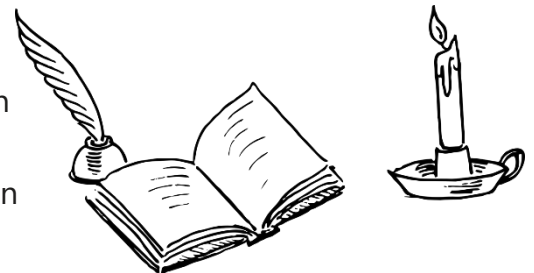


Youth Ministry News

Our Sunday night youth ministry will be on summer break until the fall. We'll still be holding special events, especially our week at camp, but there will not be any weekly meetings. Keep watching your bulletin and newsletter for announcements about fun, upcoming activities!

Sunday School News

The adult Sunday school class, led by Bob Mills, will continue its study on culture and the church as we look at ways the church can help encourage and educate people in our postmodern society. What's gone wrong in our world, and how can the Church shine on a world filled with darkness?



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DAVID GARRISON, *Pastor*

ELDERS

Ron Reyburn, *Clerk of Session,*

Liz Boothe, Maggie Brockman

Sharon Bryant, John Lange, Judy Reyburn

Bob Mills, *Director of Music*

Liz Boothe, *Organist*

Sharon Bryant, *Sunday school*

Superintendent