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### PASTOR NOTES FOR JULY 2021: Enjoying the Ride?

Our summer/fall series "***What's Your Hurry? The Immediate Impact of Mark's Gospel for Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow***" kicked off on June 6. Mark moves the action forward quickly and urgently. Mark wants us all to get that the message of the good news that Jesus is God's son come to bring salvation is something to believe right now...today...immediately!



I hope you're enjoying the ride! **To recap where we've been:**

**First, we looked at just the first verse, Mark 1:1** and asked: What, for you is the most urgent, important and immediate message of the Gospel? What is it for the world around you?

**Next, we looked at Mark 1: 9-45** and found Jesus - after a long few days taking time to rest and pray. We asked: What's our prayer life like? Do we take the time we need to rest and pray and just be with God, listening to God's direction for our lives? We were encouraged to try to stop three times a day to pray. Have you tried it? Has it changed you from the inside?

**Then we looked at Mark 2: 1-17** and saw many instances of people standing up and moving forward. Taking a stand for themselves and for others. We see Jesus - who always stands up for sinners and welcomes them into God's Kingdom. It is for sinners, after all, why He came. We asked many questions: For whom and for what are we asked to take a stand - as Christians? As a church? In what ways has sin held you down and made you unable to move? In what ways have you been freed from the burden of sin through the power of forgiveness in Christ? What sins are we convinced will forever identify us? From what might we stand up and move away from - choosing instead to follow Jesus? Do we believe that Jesus sits and eats with sinners - or might we feel that some are not fully invited to the table?

**Finally we looked at Mark 3: 1-34** and saw Jesus drawing together a new family of faith in God. We asked: What does it mean for us to belong to the family of God and how do we live out our family life in the church? How are we mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers to one another?

All great questions! Find a notebook and jot down some answers. Re-read the chapters and see what else you discover. What other questions come to you as you do. Keep an on-going journal to write down your questions, discoveries - and your prayers, too.

#### Coming next in July:

July 4: Mark 4: 35-41 (Ask: How do you handle the storms of life?)

July 11: Mark 5: 21-43 (Ask: How do you handle times of waiting for Jesus to show up?)

July 18 - Mark 6: 1-12; 30-44 (Ask: What about the Gospel is offensive to others? Even to us?)

I encourage us all to keep reading along with Mark as our journey through his wonderful Gospel continues. As you do, read slowly, taking in every word. In your journal, write down your questions and take notes of things that "pop out" at you. What and who do you meet? What do you hear and see? How does the reading make you feel - and make you think? Enjoy! And remember - you'll get the most of this series by joining with us on Thursdays at 6:00 in Taylor Hall for our Bible study together! All are welcome to take a seat around the table.

Blessings for a safe and happy summer. Pastor Mark



PRAYER for the FOURTH of JULY  
(credited to Jill Duffield, Presbyterian Outlook)

God of all tribes and every nation, on this day of cookouts and fireworks, parades and pool parties, we pause to remember the best of our nation's aspirations and values.

We give thanks for those who made great sacrifices for the sake of the principles of equality and liberty, life and the pursuit of happiness.

We lament the many ways and countless times that we have fallen short of the hopes of not only the founders of this nation, but of you, Lord of all. Forgive us for not fulfilling the great aims this country sought to represent to the world. Send your Spirit to help us become the country you call us to be.

When we rest and play, eat and celebrate today, do not let us forget those unable to do likewise. Inspire in us a zeal for the equality in which you create all people, a passion to seek abundant life for all people, a relentless drive to provide liberty for all people, and a pursuit of happiness, not only for ourselves and those like us, but for all people. May our country truly be a refuge for the tired, the poor, and those yearning to be free — free from fear, free from poverty, free from oppression, free from exploitation, free from violence, free from war, free from suffering and hopelessness.

May our nation truly be a place of justice, tranquility and welfare for all people. Amen.





The Trustees are focused on restoring the church building to full use by identifying excess furniture and contents for removal. Please share your voice and suggestions with Rose, Tom, or Paul, who can provide more details, no later than July 18th.



7/2— SUSAN Cropper  
 7/7— KANDIS Kulyk  
 KATHLEEN Pruitt  
 7/10—KATHLEEN Eschenburg  
 7/17—CAROL Neal  
 7/19—BRENDA Burbage  
 7/21—ROSEALEE Campion  
 7/24—Laura Amrhein  
 7/25—VIOLA Keesling  
 7/26—JOHN Fisher  
 7/29—PATRICIA Rouch  
 PEGGY Jones



7/13— Bob & Pam Russell  
 7/22— WILLIAM & ROSE Campion  
 7/24— LINDSAY & Jeremy Ashton

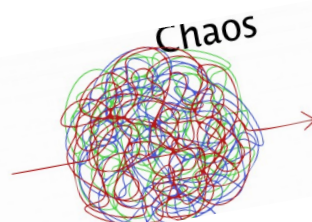
Blessings

## GROUPS TO GROW YOUR FAITH—

We have so many ways to join in and grow your faith!!

- ⇒ Join in for an **Adult Bible Study** on Thursday evenings from 6-7:30.
- ⇒ Our **High School group** meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 -6:30 with dinner, lesson, and games. They are planning a few summer outings! They always welcome help with food or leading this group in their devotional for the evening!

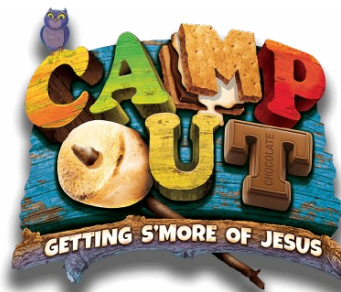
- ⇒ Our new **CHAOS (Christians Hanging Around on**



**Sundays) Crew** (Grades 3rd—7th) will meet twice a month on Sunday afternoons from 4-5:30. Check the calendar and

schedule for dates and to see activities! Once a month will be a hands-on team building group devotional and the other will be a full family (church family included) fun afternoon! Everyone is welcome to join.

- ⇒ **S'more Time with Jesus** is a church and community outreach night on 2nd and 4th Fridays throughout the summer. This summer our S'more Time with Jesus nights will be VBS style. Each night we will have burgers and hot dogs, bible story, crafts, songs and games. Other churches in our area have been asked to join for a *Vacation Bible Summer Camp Out* theme. Anyone who would like to help with one night or several nights are invited to come help wherever you feel called!







## SERVING THE CHURCH

We had a successful day parking cars on May 8th during the Jazz and Blues festival. Thank you to former Deacons and current Deacons that were available to spend a couple of hours collecting donations. At the end of the day we collected \$446. It was not the best weather day.

Thank you **Debi Cook** for providing the plants for moms on Mother's Day. It was a very nice remembrance.

We continue to support the Congregational Life drive through dinners. At their request we contacted our friends in the Police Department and they came up with 6 more residents at the Cottages that would enjoy these meals. That brings up to 11 meals that we deliver there. All were so very appreciative.

In May, **Tammy and Lottie** delivered a home cooked meal and the supplies that were requested by the Samaritan Shelter. Thank you Tammy and Lottie.

We recognized an outstanding Christian graduate of Stephen Decatur with a \$50 gift card.

On June 14th we supported Worcester Youth with their Bus Stop Snack Shop program. This was the last one for the year and was held at the Cannery here in Berlin. We contributed \$125. This was a great outreach. The Maryland Food bank provided bags of food, a Diakonia representative was there with baked treats, snacks, and fresh fruit, as well as information on their resources and there were juice boxes and pizza for the kids. Many kids stopped and some went home and brought back siblings and parents. Everyone went home with their arms full. There were some left-over food bags so we delivered them to our adoptees at the Cottages. FYI, it was tie between the cheese and pepperoni pizzas.

In June **Debi Cook** prepared and delivered dinner to the Samaritan Shelter along with the fresh fruit, vegetables, bread, sandwich makings and milk they requested. Thank you Debi.

We are continuing to support our senior member with Sunday supper and driving her to church.

We are looking forward to the Peach Festival, Saturday, August 7th. We will be set up again on our front lawn to sell pies (whole and pieces). We'll be looking to the congregation to help with this wonderful fund raiser.

The Deacons are happily returning to setting up for communion, now scheduled for the first Sunday of each month.



Sunday, July 4, 2021

Sunday, August 1, 2021

Sunday, September 5, 2021

World Communion Sunday, October 3, 2021

Sunday, November 7, 2021 (Daylight Saving Time Ends)

Sunday, December 5, 2021





## *A Note from Historian Lynne Murray*

Dear Buckingham Friends,

I've found the most informative new website, Newspapers.com. I did a search of "Buckingham Presbyterian" in the Baltimore Sun and Democratic messenger starting in the 1850's. Apparently the Messenger wasn't in existence until the 1880's, as the earliest article I found there is dated April 1888. It is the obituary of BPC Elder Littleton P. Franklin.

Democratic Messenger [Obituary] 14 Apr 1888 / p 3. Democratic Messenger [Berlin News] 3 Jun 1893 / p 3

### **Death of Littleton P. Franklin.**

Littleton P. Franklin, Esq., one of Worcester's most highly respected citizens, died at his residence in Berlin, on Monday last, after a short illness of typhoid pneumonia. The news of his death was received here with much sorrow, for the people of Snow Hill recognized in him a true, upright and honest man. He was one of the Elders of **Buckingham Presbyterian Church of Berlin**, which office he had faithfully filled for many years. During his life he had filled many offices of trust, and represented his native county on more than one occasion. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1867, and served one term in the House of Delegates, after which he was elected State Senator, which office he filled with great credit to himself and constituency. At the time of his death he was a member of the Democratic State Central Committee of this county, having been chosen last year to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Hilliary Pitts. In his death the church loses a most earnest supporter, the county a valuable citizen and the Democratic party one of its brightest lights. He leaves a wife and four children.

The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock and his remains were followed to their last resting place, in Buckingham Cemetery, by a very large number of people many of whom came from distant parts of the county.

The Baptist Church in Berlin is nearing completion. There was a large attendance at the dedication on the 21st of May.

The Methodists have commenced the improvements on their church. The building will be raised another story and a handsome tower built in front.

The date for completeing the painting of the **Buckingham Presbyterian Church** has not yet been fixed. It will soon be too warm to finish the work. Painters tell us that frame buildings should not be painted in hot weather.

Miss Virgalyn Warrington has returned from a pleasant visit to her sister in Washington.

Mr. Calvin B. Taylor and wife attended the Commencement Exercises of the Snow Hill High School on Wednesday evening and were highly pleased with the programme.

The Messenger article [above right] discusses other churches in Berlin and the paint project at BPC. This would have been before the great Berlin fire of October 1904 when the church burned to the ground. The cornerstone for our present building was laid in 1905.





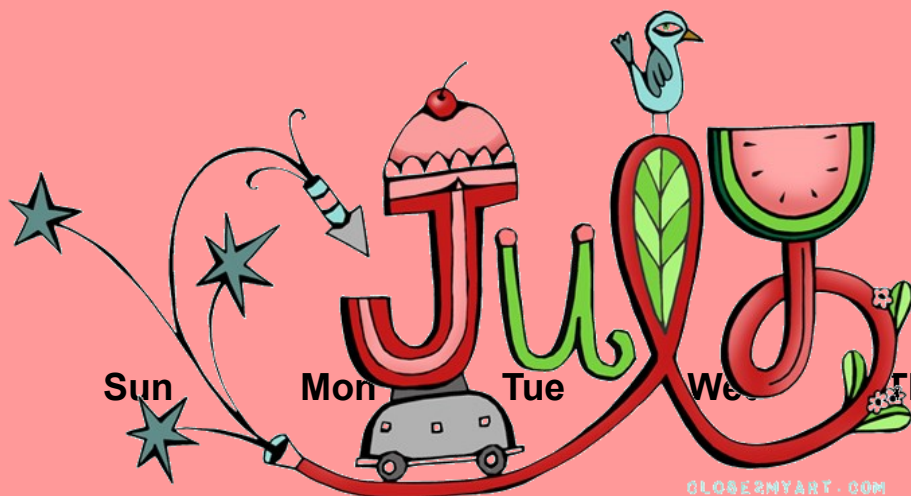
## THE NEW COLOSSUS

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,  
With conquering limbs astride from land to land,  
Here at our sea-washed, sunset- gates shall stand  
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame  
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name  
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand  
Glow's world-wide welcome, her mild eyes  
command

The air-bridged harbor that twin-cities frame.  
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she,  
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore;  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

-Emma Lazarus, 1883





# 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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				1 Bible Study 6-7:30pm Choir 7:30pm	2 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon	3
4  Lemonade on the Lawn 10:10- 10:50 Holy Communion	5 Share & Care 6:30pm	6 <b>WYFS</b> <b>9am—4pm</b> Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm Session 6pm	7 <b>WYFS</b> <b>9am—4pm</b> Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High school 5:30-6:30pm	8 <b>WYFS</b> <b>9am—4pm</b> Bible Study 6 -7:30pm Choir 7:30pm	9 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon	10
11 CHAOS 4pm— Running from Temptation	12 Share & Care 6:30pm	13 Men's Breakfast 8:30am Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm	14 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High school 5:30-6:30pm	15 Bible Study 6-7:30pm Choir 7:30pm	16 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon VBS 6pm	17
18 CHAOS 4-6pm— Anchors Aweigh Family Cookout	19 <b>Pastor away</b> Share & Care 6:30pm	20 <b>Pastor away</b>	21 <b>Pastor away</b> Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High school 5:30-6:30pm	22 <b>Pastor away</b> Choir 7:30pm	23 <b>Pastor away</b>	24 <b>Pastor away</b>
25 <b>Pastor away</b> Rev. Kerry Shull in the pulpit	26 Share & Care 6:30pm	27 <b>WYFS</b> <b>9am—4pm</b> Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm	28 <b>WYFS</b> <b>9am—4pm</b> Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High school 5:30-6:30pm	29 <b>WYFS</b> <b>9am—4pm</b> Bible Study 6-7:30pm Choir 7:30pm	30 Pastor Hrs. 10am—Noon VBS 6pm	31



## BUCKINGHAM GRAM

### VISION STATEMENT

*We are a community of disciples,  
Who honor all people,  
Care for those in need,  
Share the hope we receive from Jesus Christ.*