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PASTOR NOTES FOR JUNE 2021: What's Your Hurry?

This summer and into the fall, I invite us all to experience something unique: a new sermon/study series I am calling: What's Your Hurry? The Immediate Impact of Mark's Gospel for Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.



For perhaps obvious reasons, Mark has always been one of my favorite Gospels! But there's more to my love of Mark than just the sharing of our namesake. For one, there's Mark's place in the history of the written Gospels (his was the first.) This tells us that what became the first written Gospel may have come from the words and stories originally shared by the earliest preachers. There's also Mark's brevity. His Gospel is the shortest, yet it is packed with powerful spirituality in its call for intense discipleship. Finally, there is Mark's sense of immediacy. The Greek word translated as "immediate" is "euthys" (pronounced: you-thees). Interestingly, Mark uses this word 41 times throughout his Gospel. (More than anywhere else in all of the New Testament.)

What is Mark's hurry, we may ask? Mark is on a mission - to help others believe that Jesus is the son of God, that He has come to save the world from evil and corruption, and that the time is NOW to believe this very good and world-changing news.

Here is how the series will work: Every Sunday this summer and into the fall we will focus on one chapter of Mark's Gospel, starting with the first and going all the way to the end - 16 chapters in all. As we do, I encourage you to read ahead and read the entire chapter for the week so by the end of the series you will have read the entire Gospel. A reading guide, study points and questions for reflection will be made available on weekly handouts and in summer Grams.

Want to go deeper? Come to a weekly Bible study. All are invited Thursday nights (6 PM in Taylor) where we will examine our questions of the Gospel as we read through it together chapter by chapter, week by week.

Mark On-Stage - At some point mid-way through the series, we will be invited to a viewing of a one-person rendition of the Gospel which is how it was meant to be heard originally - word for word, cover to cover, in it's entirety. Don't worry - you'll be amazed at how quickly the time goes by!

Summer always seems to go by so fast - does it not? Well, let's slow down a bit and enjoy it with Mark's Gospel - the way it was meant to be: in a community, gathered safely, with hearts and minds open to receiving and believing the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

This Mark looks forward to spending this time of learning and growing spiritually with you all.
Peace, Pastor Mark

THE GOSPEL
OF JESUS
CHRIST according to **Mark**



The Trustees met on May 11th. There were many items to be discussed about the church buildings and property since this is the job of the Trustees.

Now that the Contemporary Service is meeting in Kortright Chapel, we have had to make some changes. Since the Pandemic is not over, we must still maintain safe distancing for seating. With that said we had to make more room in the chapel. So, the extra pews and church model were temporarily moved to Taylor Hall. The pews are over 100 years old and are part of our church history; they are being stored at Tom Truitt's property.

Our Church Historian, Lynne Murray, has been looking for a home for our Church Model which was made by Edgar Gaskins, father of Kitt Matthews. The Ocean City Life-Saving Museum has hotel models of Mr. Gaskins and would love to have this model also. So it is being moved to their location. Due to its size, it won't be on display at this time.

It is time to do our annual spring spruce-up of our church grounds. We have scheduled a clean-up day of trimming, weeding, mulching, and planting on June 12th from 8am to Noon. We need help to do this so, please mark the day on your calendar for a fun fellowship day. We always have a great time when we get together as a congregation to get the work done. Hope to see you there.

WE STOP FOR SIRENS -

It is our church's practice to pause in our worship service when we hear a siren and pray for everyone involved. We may not know who it is or the situation for which the sirens are sounding - but we trust that God will hear our prayers and will be present for whomever needs love and care in the moment.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION—Christian Ed is back in full swing! Both S'more Time with Jesus nights were partnered with our Mission committee. We had a wonderful night with live music from **Steven's Crossroads** as many joined together to pack care packages to be sent to our active-duty Delmarva Troops! Kids were also able to make Mother's Day crafts, play bubbles, dance and draw with sidewalk chalk. A special thank you to **US Kennels** for joining in on our 1st ever Blessing of the Pets! So many pets including dogs, guinea pigs, and even a bearded dragon were blessed. US Kennels gave an awesome presentation of what their organization does for both veterans and dogs in our community! Thank you to everyone who came out to support our youth during their car wash! All donations collected will go to helping with costs of activities for their group meetings. As always all are welcome to join any study group! Desserts are always welcome for anyone who would like to make something and leave for any of our activities!

PUBLIC BROADCASTS AND PRIVATE PRAYER REQUESTS—

BPC's services are broadcast live via ZOOM every week, with a recording of the service then posted on social media. During our services, we always ask for prayers of concern and we're happy to pray for all who are named aloud in the moment. If, though, you have prayers which you would rather not share publicly or have broadcast, please feel free to write them down and place in the prayer request box before or after service. These prayers will be prayed for privately and collectively in service.



Dear God,

Bless all the fathers in the world who have accepted the responsibilities of being a parent. Guide them to be outstanding role models to their children. Let them look to your example and to parent with patience, unconditional love and understanding. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE—

JUNE 19, 2021

**DRIVE UP OR DELIVERY OR SIT AT OUR
PICNIC TABLES 4:00 - 5:30pm**

**Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Baked Beans, Fixin's,
& Dessert**

Please place your orders before Thursday, June 17 using the sign-up sheets at Church or by calling or texting Cindi Pruitt (443-880-5502). Indicate how many dinners you need as well as whether you will pick-up your dinners or would like them to be delivered.

This is an outreach to our church and community. If you know of anyone who is suffering emotionally, physically, or financially, please order an extra dinner or two and share with them!



- 6/1 - ROBERT Bunting
- 6/2 - PAUL Chambers
KITT Mathews
KRISTIN Parker
- 6/4 - ALEXANDER Gaddis
- 6/5 - Aubrey Tull
- 6/9 - Jeremy Ashton
- 6/10 - THOMAS Cropper
Sophia Macrides
- 6/11 - GEORGE Phillips
- 6/14 - Laura Truitt
- 6/16 - Oliver Vocke
- 6/18 - RICHARD Holland,
Sr.
- 6/19 - JASON Parker
- 6/22 - ROBERT C. Arthur
CHARLON Pruitt



Blessings

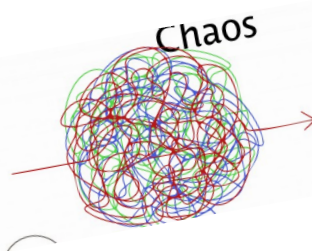


GROUPS TO GROW YOUR FAITH—

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 had a great time on their trip to Shad Landing in May and are planning a few summer outings as well! 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 on Sunday, June 13th for an afternoon for the Shorebirds game, first pitch is at 3:00. Call the church to let us know if you would like to join, tickets are \$9! June 27th drop your youth off from 4-5:30 for dinner and devotional. The theme this night is Tug-O-War, winning over temptation!

- ⇒ **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!

- 6/10 - Hugh IV & Jennifer Cropper
- 6/11 - THOMAS & LYNDIA Truitt
- 6/24 - JOHN & ARLINE Curtis

BUCKINGHAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S UPDATED COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES

As we all know, the state and federal guidance on COVID safety precautions are constantly changing and therefore present a constant challenge to churches! The Session met May 18 and has decided on the following best practices for our church:

- Masks are option for any OUTSIDE events;
- Masks are required INSIDE the church while moving around the building;
- Masks may be REMOVED once seated in worship, in a class, or in a meeting;
- Singing WITH MASKS ON will be allowed in worship;
- Social distancing of at least 3-6 feet will still be maintained for indoor activities - couples and families may sit together;
- We will continue to refrain from passing the peace and collection plates - we will soon celebrate touchless communion services;
- And of course, keep those hands washed and sanitized! If you have any symptoms, please stay home and stay safe.

Please Note: First and foremost, it is our goal to protect all our members of every age and to make our guests feel welcome and safe. While most of the population is now eligible to receive vaccinations, some (like children under 12) still are not. And because we are blessed to have so many children in our midst, we want to be sure we are protecting them. (Plus, schools in MD are still requiring masks and other similar precautions.) Please also note, that those who are not fully vaccinated* are encouraged to always wear a mask. And those who are vaccinated may feel free to wear a mask if they choose.

BPC Session continues to discern this issue at its every meeting and will make adjustments as needed. (We meet again on June 1.) Thank you all for your cooperation. Let's keep praying to keep moving forward and for the whole world to be healed.

*("Fully Vaccinated" is defined as 2 weeks past the second dose of either the Pfizer or Moderna or one dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccinations.)

MAY MISSIONS—Thank you to everyone who has supported the many missions of our church for May! We finished up with collecting supplies for our troops and packed the care packages on May 7th. A special thank you to the **Bikers without Borders** for their guidance and help with making this possible! Many members of our community joined in as well with donations of supplies and attending the packing party night! What a wonderful night and fun was had by all. May 21st we collected dog



supplies for US Kennels, along with a Blessing of the Pets. US Kennels is located in Salisbury with a mission to help both dogs and Veterans. The organization helps veterans find a dog from a shelter and trains both the dog and individual free of charge. Supplies for US Kennels are collected throughout the remainder of May. Mission also supported the COVID relief for INDIA matching donations collected during our worship services. Mission will be collecting monetary donations until Father's Day, June 20th, for the Grace Center in Berlin. Baby bottles can be picked up anytime from the table in Kortright and filled with currency and loose change, checks are also accepted. Simply bring back once full and place back in the empty box to make your donation. Thank you for supporting many outreaches in our community and around the world!



A Note from Historian Lynne Murray

You may be interested to learn that at a congregational meeting on September 7, 1803 the proper name given to our congregation was the
Presbyterian Congregation of Buckingham.

That is the corporate name by which we are still known today.

On December 11, 1951 church trustees met to review the 1803 Articles of Incorporation and again stated that the corporate name and the name of the congregation would continue to be known as the *Presbyterian Congregation of Buckingham*. They did, however, specify the name of the church building would be *Buckingham Presbyterian Church*. The trustees also discussed the election of officers and the scheduling of an annual meeting. Seven trustees attended this meeting at the Presbyterian Manse, a large home still located at 203 North Main Street diagonally across from Taylor House Museum. The house is now yellow and in my memory was much larger from the street end; it was definitely white and may have had a wrap around porch. Some of the trustees at the meeting, or their family names, may be familiar to you. Those seven men were: Calvin P. "Jack" Pruitt, William S. Hudson, Ralph Bunting, Lawrence L. Cutright, Sewell C. Cropper, Calvin E. Quillin, and Milton R. Trader. I was ten years old in 1951 and remember all of them quite vividly.

Jack and Alma Pruitt owned the Berlin Dairy Queen, located in the shop on Main Street where Island Creamery is today. Jack Pruitt was a realtor, and Alma Pruitt was guidance counselor at Stephen Decatur High School for many years. William S. Hudson was a pillar of our congregation and I was in his adult Sunday School class; he is remembered by a brass plaque located in the sanctuary. Some of you will certainly remember Ralph Bunting, he was the father of Susan Bunting Rencher. Lawrence Cutright was married to Julia Burbage Cutright, a sister of John Howard Burbage, Sr. Sewell Cropper lived on Route 50 in a recently demolished farmhouse on the right just before you get to Home Depot. Calvin Quillin was the brother of Rosalee Quillin James and Eunice Quillin Sorin. Eunice donated the Women's Diagnostic Center at Atlantic General Hospital. Milton Trader was often in evidence as he lived on a street behind the church. These church families represent a long line of members dedicated to the *Presbyterian Congregation of Buckingham*.

Happy Trails, Lynne

This article is a re-print from the May 2019 Gram.





BLESSING OF THE PETS



June 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>And since all this loveliness can not be Heaven, I know in my heart it is June. ~ Abba Woolson</i></p>		<p>1 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm Session 6pm</p>	<p>2 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High School Youth Group 5:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>3 Bible Study w/ Pastor Mark 6-7:30pm</p>	<p>4 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 2nd Pentecost</p>	<p>7 Share & Care 6:30pm</p>	<p>8 Men's Breakfast At Raynes Reef 8:30am Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm</p>	<p>9 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High School Youth Group 5:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>10 Bible Study w/ Pastor Mark 6-7:30pm</p>	<p>11 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon S'More Time w/ Jesus 6pm</p>	<p>12 Church Grounds Clean-up 8am-Noon</p>
<p>13 3rd Pentecost CHAOS Crew Shorebirds—1st pitch 3pm Tickets \$9—Call church to join</p>	<p>14 Share & Care 6:30pm</p>	<p>15 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm</p>	<p>16 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High School Youth Group 5:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>17 Bible Study w/ Pastor Mark 6-7:30pm</p>	<p>18 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon</p>	<p>19 June Dinner 4-5:30pm</p>
<p>20 4th Pentecost</p> 	<p>21 Share & Care 6:30pm Berlin Lioness 7pm</p>	<p>22 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm</p>	<p>23 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High School Youth Group 5:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>24 Bible Study w/ Pastor Mark 6-7:30pm</p>	<p>25 Pastor Hrs. 10am-Noon S'More Time w/ Jesus 6pm</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 5th Pentecost CHAOS 4-5:30PM Dinner & Devotional—Theme: Tug-O-War</p>	<p>28 Share & Care 6:30pm</p>	<p>29 Pastor Hrs. 3-5pm</p>	<p>30 Pastor Hrs. 1-3pm Prayer Shawl 1-3pm High School Youth Group 5:30-6:30pm</p>	<p>TODAY WILL NEVER COME AGAIN. <i>Be a blessing. Be a friend. Encourage someone.</i> Take Time To Care. Let your words heal, and not wound.</p>		

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.*