



Northside NEWS

Northside Presbyterian Church

September 2016

Blacksburg, Virginia

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

Dear Friends,

How many of you have been hurt or confused by something someone said to you as a “Christian” or “biblical” message that just didn’t ring true?

Examples of what I mean are:

“Everything happens for a reason.”

“God helps those who help themselves.”

“God won’t give you more than you can handle.”

I’ve heard these kinds of so-called reassurances a lot of times, and they trouble me. They bother me because they really aren’t totally true and they aren’t justified in the Bible. We could call these kinds of statements “half-truths” or “things the Bible doesn’t say.” During the month of September and October, I’ll be preaching a series of sermons on half-truths, and I’ve chosen some, but I’d like your input as well.

If you have heard something that strikes you as a half-truth of our faith, please let me know. I’ll be putting a paper in the bulletin that you can fill out during church, but feel free to just email me. It would be great if you could tell me why that phrase troubles you. If you give me permission, I’ll share your reasoning during the sermon.

Hopefully, during the sermon series, we can begin to see how to move beyond half-truths and to a more faithful way to live in Christ. Let me know your thoughts.

Peace,



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 A.M. – Morning Worship

USHERS

Aug. 7: Jack & Sandy Webster

Aug. 14: Sue & Ernie Bentley

Aug. 21: Ron Pearson & Lucian Robinson

Aug. 28: Joe & Kay Hunnings

FLOWERS

Aug. 7: COMMUNION

Aug. 14: Ellie Reser

Aug. 21: Jamie & Edd Stoops

Aug. 28: Marya Katz

Officers On Call

July 31-Aug. 6:

Rachel Morrow,
549-961-1007

Aug. 7-13: Mary Lough,
540-250-5810

Aug. 14-20: Rachel Morrow,
549-961-1007

Aug. 21-27: Bruce Harper,
540-392-3597

Aug. 28-Sept. 3: David Bowen,
717-475-0660

“It’s the *start* that *stops* most people.”

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR AUGUST

Aug. 7: Isa. 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Heb. 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

Aug. 21: Jer. 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Heb. 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

Aug. 14: Isa. 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2,8-19
Heb. 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

Aug. 28: Jer. 2:4-13
Psalm 81:1, 10-16
Heb. 13L:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

- 2 Morgan McCoy
- 3 Amy Ogburn
- 4 Jenny Orr
- 10 Ellie Reser
- David Bowen
- 12 Lou Brown
- 14 Drew Taylor
- 16 Gail Gray
- 18 Sandy Hancock
- Emily Duralia
- Doug Rathjen
- 21 Heidi Harper
- 23 Paul Ruszler
- 25 Sandi Webster
- Edward Bridge
- 30 Kaitlyn Heinze
- Sue Herbein



If your birthday is not listed here, you probably have not given it to us. We want to have everyone's birthday on file. Please give us a call at the church office and tell us the date of your birthday. We promise not to ask the year!

HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Emotional strength

You have the capacity to choose what you think about. If you choose to think about past hurts, you will continue to feel bad. While it's true you can't change the effect past influences had on you once, you can change the effect they have on you now.

-Gary McKay, Ph.D.

SAVE THIS DAY – September 8, 2016**NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY**

A pictorial directory is a powerful tool in our church to help each of us know each other better. Our last directory is now out-dated and it is time for a new one. Please make an appointment to have your picture taken on one of the sign-up Sundays coming up. You can schedule your appointment at the sign-up table on one of the sign-up Sundays.

Every family photographed for the directory will receive a copy of the directory and an 8 x 10 portrait at no additional cost. You will also have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits at the time of photography. So, please make sure you sign-up in August – watch for dates and time in up-coming bulletins and newsletters!

From the Worship Committee:

Seeking Sound System Operators – no experience needed, just the commitment to attend to the sound system on scheduled Sundays beginning in September. Training will be provided! (did we mention “no experience needed?”) Gail assures us that there are really only about 2 knobs that ever need to be tweaked, which sounds pretty simple – right? If you are interested and want to become part of this vital team, please contact Gail Gray.

Thank you!

Calling all Musicians!

We still have openings for special music, poems, etc. during worship in August. If you have a special talent or something special to share, please check the list in the narthex and sign-up for the Sunday of your choice! All help will be appreciated!!!

*If you think you're too small to make a difference, you
haven't been in bed with a mosquito.*

-Anita Roddick

CLOTHING DRIVE FOR THE CHRISTMAS STORE

A clothing drives for gently used winter clothes will be held from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on August 27 at the Montgomery County Christmas Store, 30 West Main Street in Christiansburg. Summer clothes are not needed, since the store is only open in December.

Items particularly needed are warm coats for all ages and sizes, hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters, long-sleeved shirts and blouses, jeans, sweat pants, and shoes. Gently used books are also in great demand, especially cookbooks and children's books. Donations are tax-deductible.

Annual collections for the Montgomery County Christmas Store of new and used winter clothing, toys, bikes, books, and infant car seats and new household goods will again be received at Northside on Saturday mornings in November. Details will be posted in October.

CHOIR PRACTICE BEGINS AUGUST 24, 2016

In case you weren't aware of it, here are some advantages of membership in the choir here at Northside Presbyterian Church:

1. You never have to worry about what to wear to church (no one sees what is under your robe).
2. You have an excellent seat and are assured of a reservation for Christmas and Easter services.
3. From your advantageous position you can admire, gawk at, smile at, ignore, and other wise enjoy the rest of the people in the congregation.
4. You are served Holy Communion very promptly.
5. You can enjoy watching the babies during baptisms.
6. The minister is almost always looking the other way.

Please consider all these advantages and join the choir. Rehearsals are every Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. starting August 24th in the sanctuary.

ONLY ONE

*I am a miracle -
there's only one of me.
unfold.*

*There aren't any extras,
Not two or three.
sky.*

*I am one of a kind -
all?
God has broken the mold.*

*I eagerly watch for
my life to*

*I dream of flying;
I reach for the*

Why not, after

I might as well try!

-copied from Count Your Blessings,
Thanking God for His Gifts

From the Mission Committee:

Blacksburg Refugee Partnership has been formed. Working with Commonwealth Catholic Charities Services they hope to bring one or more Syrian Families to Blacksburg in the next several months. The families will need housing, jobs, transportation, food, education/ESL, and financial support. If you would like to sign up to help go to blacksburgrefugeepartnership@gmail.com. The Mission Committee will be watching for ways Northside can help. Question/Comments to Mary mrmlough@gmail.com.

The Mission Committee needs volunteers for a booth at Pride in the Park, a celebration of the LSBT community. We will assist Glade Church, who has had a booth for several years and needs help from area churches. Churches will have handouts about their churches. If you can help (about 3 hours – 2 hrs there) with this on Sept. 10, please contact Mary – mrmlough@gmail.com.

The Mission Committee is looking into the possibility of Northside providing some type of hands on assistance in the West Va/Va flooded areas. This may take the form of a work day. More information to follow. If you are interested in being part of a group to go and assist, please contact Mary – mrmlough@gmail.com.

A Minute for Discernment – from Jane Jones

We have been hearing a lot about the work the Session and Deacons have engaged in this year regarding a Discernment process for Northside. Above all else, we've learned that we cannot do this on our own without God's guidance. We know that listening for God's calling for Northside's future will be challenging and must involve the entire Congregation if we are to be successful in trying to embrace change.

As Reverend Linda preached on July 17th, we are a mix of "Martha and Marys". The Martha in us wants to continue to do business as usual at Northside because it is necessary and comfortable – to continue the traditional way in which we worship, the way we manage our committees and activities, the way we nurture our church family, the act of service that we perform.....

"Discerning" our true calling cannot be accomplished by being Martha-like. Our Congregation requires thoughtful contemplation and plenty of prayer to understand how we best fit into the body of Christ in today's uncertain world. Please so your part by listening to what God is saying to you regarding the future of Northside and praying for your ruling elders and deacons as they continue their learning and discussions.

The peace of Christ be with you!

DATES TO REMEMBER IN August:

August 7: COMMUNION

14: 2 Cents-A-Meal Offering, Committees to meet!
Sign-up for photos for New Church Directory

21: Session Meeting
Sign-up for photos for New Church Directory

24: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm

31: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm

Sign-up for photos for New Church Directory

Procrastination

A painfully shy man fell in love with a young woman. He sensed that she felt the same way, but he couldn't find the courage to ask her out.

Finally he decided he would mail her a love letter every day for one year, and then ask her for a date.

Faithfully, he followed his plan, and at year's end he was courageous enough to call her - only to discover she'd married the letter carrier.

Check Us Out...

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Minister's Email: dickerson.northside@gmail.com

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