

Summer 2023

Third Presbyterian Church



Prayer

By Andrew Taylor-Troutman
From *The Presbyterian Outlook*

My wife and I are both pastors. Ginny and I try to teach our kids about holy things. We learn about holy things from our kids. The other night before bed, the middle child whispered to his mom, "I think I have God and Mother Nature in my heart." I mean, c'mon! What a dear!

But it is likewise true that all three of our children raise holy hell when it is time to say grace before meals.

Picture the five of us around the table, our food before us. Either Ginny or I will begin to offer simple words of gratitude; it's not like she and I pontificate in long-winded supplications. But almost immediately, all three of them start to complain. Sometimes they even yell, "Stop!"

I think God is rather amused by this behavior — the Lord created all preacher's kids!

I also understand that their responses to prayer represent a power struggle. My kids do not decide whether or not to go to church on Sunday mornings. So, they push back when they can.

Such differentiation from one's caregivers is a healthy part of growing up. I certainly am not the only parent that faces this reality.

A 2022 Gallup Poll found that in American houses of worship, attendance has dipped below 50 percent of the population. For the first time in eight decades, a majority of our citizens do not belong to either a mosque, synagogue, or church. Does this cause Christians to doubt their words and actions, even their own faith?

These are not abstract questions for me. I am a pastor, part of the church as an institution.

I am also a parent and a person of faith. When my kids' antics annoy me, even anger me, it's important to step back and ask myself, "What's going on with me? Why is their behavior triggering me? Is it that I wish to have pious children?"

Naw, that can't be it. Something deeper is going on.

My kids trigger me at the dinner table because I doubt my parenting abilities. Am I able to pass along to my offspring the shimmer of the faith, that which has helped me in my darkest hours? Am I able to teach them to pray, to trust, to hope?

The Gallup Poll brought to mind my maternal grandfather. Granddad was what some call a “lapsed Catholic,” meaning he no longer darkened the church doors of his youth. When I was a boy visiting for a weekend, I liked that he and I could stay home and watch Sunday morning cartoons. Okay, I loved that about my visits. Instead of church, he and I would play baseball in the yard, pretending we were teammates on his beloved Atlanta Braves. We would head inside when it got too hot and sit at the kitchen table for a cookie salad — a couple of Oreos, a couple of Chips Ahoy, tossed together in a bowl.

But though I never remember Granddad going to church, grace was always said before meals. Granddad offered a prayer from his Roman Catholic upbringing that sounded like one long word:

BlessusO LordandtheseThygiftswhichweareaboutto-
receivefromThybountythroughChristourLord.

I am going to keep praying every night before meals. Saying grace is about the recognition that the life-sustaining gifts of food before us did not magically appear on our doorstep through Amazon delivery, but required work at every step from farm to factory to grocery store to kitchen to table. Whether named as God, Allah, Jesus, a Higher Power, the Source, or the Universe, we are all indebted to forces beyond our ken.

That kind of preachy talk would make my kids roll their eyes. Though he had left the church, Granddad held onto the prayer of his childhood. Something about his faith stayed with him and must have been a part of the kind, patient, generous, and loving way that he related to me. Now that is my prayer for my kids.

Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the author of Little Big Moments, a collection of mini-essays about parenting and Tigers, Mice & Strawberries: Poems. Taylor-Troutman lives in Chapel Hill where he serves as pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church and occasionally stumbles upon the wondrous while in search of his next cup of coffee.

**We sincerely apologize for there being no June newsletter
and the delay of the July newsletter.**

Information from June is included in this newsletter.

If your birthday or anniversary was missed, we wish you much belated happiness.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

"I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream"

Sunday, July 30th immediately following worship

Stay for a time of fellowship after worship and enjoy a bowl of delicious ice cream with all your favorite toppings! Invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us for a time of fun and fellowship, and of course ICE CREAM!!



Join Us For Worship Every Sunday In-Person and Live Stream at 11 am

Below is the Zoom link where you will be able to see those leading worship and along with parts of our liturgy. Below is the most updated link, phone number and password.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/605837516?pwd=V0R5VmNCQ2Mraml1TFdOVXpGMEpiQT09>

If you do not have computer access, you can call in with your home or cell phone using Zoom's dial in option.

Meeting ID: 605 837 516

Password: 23518

Phone: 312-626-6799

UPCOMING PULPIT SUPPLY SCHEDULE

July 23rd - Commissioned Pastor Sid Etherington

July 30th - Commissioned Pastor Sid Etherington

August 6th - Commissioned Pastor Sid Etherington

August 13th - Commissioned Pastor Paula Bass

August 20th - Commissioned Pastor Paula Bass

August 26th - Rev. Don Martin

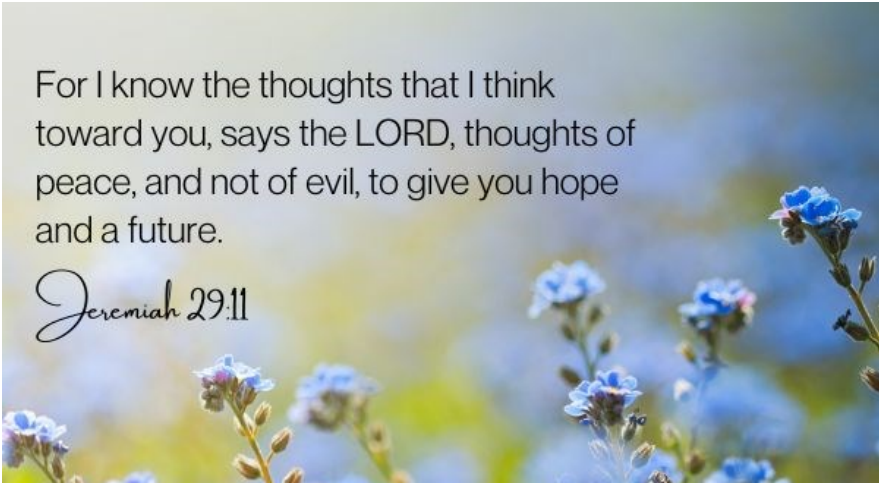
September 3rd - Commissioned Pastor Sid Etherington

September 10th - Commissioned Pastor Paula Bass

September 17th - Rev. Don Martin

September 24th - Commissioned Pastor Paula Bass

Beginning September 10th and through the month of December, we will be welcoming to our pulpit Commissioned Pastor Paula Bass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, the Rev. Don Martin on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, and Commissioned Pastor Sid Etherington on the 5th Sundays.



For I know the thoughts that I think
toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of
peace, and not of evil, to give you hope
and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

MOST ASKED FOR ADDRESSES

Peggy Russell
Aspire at West End
5020 Sulky Drive, # 415
Henrico, VA 23228
Phone: 757-387-9301

Patricia Basnight
Lake Taylor Hospital
1309 Kempsville Road
Room 29A
Norfolk, VA 23502

Lexi White & Marc Cahill
27B West 2nd St.
Patchogue, NY 11772
36619-1763

Judy & Tim Cook
5079 Easy Street
Mobile, Alabama

Brandon & Laura Griffin
7521 Ripplepointe Way
Windermere, FL 34786

Carter Griffin
Pearson Hall West
Room 137
310 Alumni Mall
Blacksburg, VA 24061
(Address changes August 9th)

Offerings

- May 7th - \$2,395.00
- May 14th - \$1,320.00
- May 21st - \$715.00
- May 28th - \$565.00
- June 4th - \$1,855.00
- June 11th - \$815.00
- June 18th - \$1890.00
- June 25th - \$959.50
- July 2nd - \$2,440.00
- July 9th - \$895.00



- June 1—Terry Grandstaff
- June 10—Gwen Lavallee
- June 22—Dot Grandstaff
- June 23—Steve Glover
- June 24—Erika McKinney
- June 30—Dee Glover
- July 4—Marguerite Duke
- July 5—Joseph Ominski
- July 11—Jessica Fitzgerald
- July 12—Judy Grandstaff
- August 11—Matthew Sipe
- August 15 —Nancy Barham
- August 16—Laura Griffin
- August 19—John Suski
- August 24—Fred Holtz
- August 27—Darlene Pick
- August 29—Milinda Derrenbacker



- June 14—Susan & Richard Mayo
- June 15—Brandon & Laura Griffin
- July 2—Amy & Dennis Griffin
- July 6—Jessica & Ray Fitzgerald
- July 16—Teri & Ken Howard
- August 9—Renee and Doug Hughes

Prayer List

Please remember the following people and families in your prayers, that they might be lifted up through your conversations with God:

- Claudia Cary
- Ruth Bray
- Di Ricks
- Chuck Olejasz
- Jessica and Ray Fitzgerald
- Ginny Davis
- Steve & Claudia Glover
- Carol Maxwell's Mom
- Larry McKinney
- Toy Hefner
- Patricia Basnight
- Darlene Pick
- Kitty Ribauda
- Holly Gaff
- Nancy & Steve Babor
- Toy Hefner
- Our Church
- The Session
- Our Community

Third's Values

Value #1
We Believe God is Good and
God is in Control

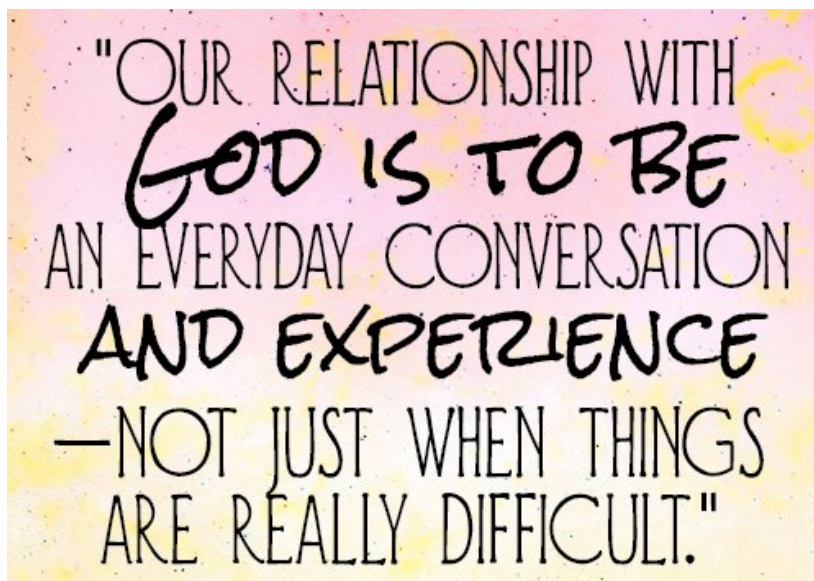
Value #2
We Keep God First

Value #3
We Value Every Person

Value #4
We Go to Church Because

Office Hours

Monday - Friday from 9am - 1pm.
Please feel free to call 757-587-7576 or send an email (thirdpc@hrcoxmail.com), if you need any assistance. Thank you!



Shepherd's List 2023



Amy Griffin

757-618-3006

Claudia Cary

*Dee Glover

*Steven and Claudia Glover

Ginny Davis

Jessica Fitzgerald & Family

Nancy and Vernon Barham

Dorothy Grandstaff

Marguerite Duke

Betty Hart

Susan Howlett

Peggy Russell

Tom Maxwell

757-531-9851

**Brittany French

Dave and Jenni Joyce

Kitty Ribaud

Shelli Quales

Holly Gaff and CJ Jones

T.J. and Larry McKinney

Lexi White and Marc Cahill

Deb King

The Rapacon Family - Amanda,
Manny, Christian, Samantha, Rachel,
and Peter

*no email-please call

**Text

Red+Shut-in



Teri Howard

757-274-3311

Susan Mayo

*Dolores Ominski

Darlene Pick

Debbie and Ray Platte

Amy and Dennis Griffin

Ginny Keisel

Di Ricks

Sybil Crooks

***Anne Basnight**

Stacy Apelt

757-583-5872

Jennifer Lavalley & Family

Ron and Ina Ratcliff

Tim Green & Family

Nancy Babor

Jim Rudiger

Malinda Hanna Davis

Carol and Tom Maxwell

Mary Ann Shepard

Kayla and Bryson Shepard

Margaret Chewing & Dan Cudney

Jim Rudiger

757-588-5311

Cheryl and Fred Holtz

Teri Howard

Michael and Teresa Gibbs

Joseph Bray

Ruth Bray

*Chuck Olejasz

Artie and Milinda Derrenbacker

Stacy Apelt and Judy Floyd Apelt

Meghan Powell and Geno Morgan

Calvin Presbyterian Church

2901 E Little Creek Rd, Norfolk, VA
23518 (757) 587-1591

• Food Pantry Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

• Third Saturdays of the month
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**The food pantry serves Norfolk
zip codes 23518 and 23503.
Those in need of assistance
may obtain a referral from any of
the participating churches.**

Pantry Wish List:

- 25 oz Apple Sauce
- 16 oz Baked Beans
- 24 oz Beef Stew
- 15 oz Peas
- 15 oz Green Beans
- 1 lb 13 oz Canned Fruit
- 32 oz Jelly
- 18 oz Peanut Butter
- 32 oz Pancake Mix
- 24 oz Syrup
- 1 lb Rice
- 8.25 oz Tuna Helper
- 6 oz Tuna
- 15 oz Spaghetti O's
- 15 oz Thick Soup
- 64 oz Juice
- 12 oz Luncheon Meat
- 7.25 oz Macaroni & Cheese
- 13.75 oz Mashed Potatoes
- 13.7 oz Oatmeal Individual Packs
- 16 oz Spaghetti Noodles
- 26.5 oz Spaghetti Sauce
- Dry Milk, Individual Packs

Please, no baby food, coffee, tea, sugar, pickles, olives, condiments, tomatoes, cranberries, canned milk, crackers or mushrooms.

CALENDAR FOR JULY 16TH - SEPTEMBER 2ND

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JULY 16 11 am Virtual & In-Person Worship	17	18 6:30-10 pm Crofford Dance Group	19 7 pm Choir Practice 7 pm AA Meeting	20 7-9:30 pm Square Dancing	21	22
23 11 am Virtual & In-Person Worship	24	25 6:30-10 pm Crofford Dance Group	26 7 pm Choir Practice 7 pm AA Meeting	27 7-9:30 pm Square Dancing	28	29
30 11 am Virtual & In-Person Worship Ice Cream Social	31	AUG 1 6:30-10 pm Crofford Dance Group	2 7 pm Choir Practice 7 pm AA Meeting	3 7-9:30 pm Square Dancing	4	5 7 pm Square Dancing
6 11 am Virtual & In-Person Worship Communion	7	8 6:30-10 pm Crofford Dance Group	9 7 pm Choir Practice 7 pm AA Meeting	10 6:30 pm South Bayview Civic League Picnic	11	12 10 am Clothes Closet
13 11 am Virtual & In-Person Worship	14	15 6 pm Session 6:30-10 pm Crofford Dance Group	16 7 pm Choir Practice 7 pm AA Meeting	17 7-9:30 pm Square Dancing	18	19
20 11 am Virtual & In-Person Worship	21	22 6:30-10 pm Crofford Dance Group	23 7 pm Choir Practice 7 pm AA Meeting	24 7-9:30 pm Square Dancing	25	26
27 11 am Virtual & In-Person Worship	28 First Day Back to School	29 6:30-10 pm Crofford Dance Group	30 7 pm Choir Practice 7 pm AA Meeting	31 7-9:30 pm Square Dancing	SEPT 1	2 7 pm Square Dancing

*****Church Picnic in September - More information and details coming soon!*****



Third Presbyterian Church
8065 Carlton Street
Norfolk, V23518

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor (Vacant)
Debbie Platte, Secretary
Lexi White, IT Facilitator
Joseph C. Bray, III, Organist/ Choir Director
Clara Barnes, Sexton
Teri Howard, Clerk of Session
Holly Gaff, Treasurer
Teri Howard, Financial Secretary

SESSION

Building & Grounds

Stacy Apelt

Stewardship

Teri Howard

Witness & Outreach

Tom Maxwell

Worship

Amy Griffin

Administration and Personnel

Jim Rudiger

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Men

Tom Maxwell, President

Fred Holtz, Vice-president

Memorial Committee