

September 2024**Third Presbyterian Church****A Note from the Pastor***

Many of my sermons in July and August talked about the need to truly believe in Jesus. Today, I want to speak to you about the vital importance of belief in our spiritual journey. Faith is the foundation upon which our relationship with God is built, and belief is the cornerstone of that foundation.

In our lives, belief goes beyond mere intellectual assent. It is a profound trust in God's promises, a reliance on His word, and a conviction that He is who He says He is. Without belief, our faith becomes shallow, easily swayed by the winds of doubt and the storms of life.

The Scriptures remind us of the power of belief. In Mark 9:23, Jesus says, "Everything is possible for one who believes." This is not just a promise of what God can do, but a call to trust Him in all circumstances. Belief opens the door for God to work mightily in our lives, transforming our hearts, guiding our steps, and bringing us into deeper communion with Him.

When we believe, we anchor ourselves in the truth of God's love and grace. This belief sustains us in difficult times, giving us hope when situations seem hopeless, and peace when the world around us is in turmoil. It allows us to see beyond the immediate and the visible, trusting in God's eternal plan for our lives.

Believing is not always easy. There are moments of doubt, seasons of questioning, and times when our faith is tested. But in those moments, we are called to lean into our belief, to hold fast to the truth that God is with us, that He is for us, and that His plans for us are good.

Let us encourage one another in our belief. Let us be a community that stands firm in faith, supporting each other in moments of doubt, and reminding one another of God's faithfulness. As we strengthen our belief, we will find that God's presence becomes more real, His guidance clearer, and His love more tangible in our lives.

May we, like the man in Mark 9:24, cry out to God, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And may our hearts be filled with a deep and abiding belief in the God who is always faithful.

Peace,

Don+

*Composed in part using Chatgpt

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

PW Bible Study & Fellowship
September 10th
12:00 for Lunch
12:30 for Bible Study

Are we ready for a new challenge in our bible study?

This year's book is *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation.*

The author describes her call for creation justice in this way: "When I first learned of the climate crisis, I wondered how a biblical scholar with few practical skills could help and found my purpose in learning about ecology and teaching people of faith what I could. Such is not everyone's skillset or desire, but each of us has something to do with all our hearts." We are called to care for neighbors and God's creation with all our hearts, with particular care for society's least powerful members who are disproportionately impacted by unjust systems. In God's first instructions to the nation of Israel we hear "you shall not pervert the justice due to the poor" (Exodus 23:6); in Moses' final speech at the promised land's border, he reiterated, "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue" (Deuteronomy 16:20); and from Amos, the earliest recorded prophet, "Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24). Scripture reminds us that we are called to speak out to urge our society to act for just transitions in this fast-changing world.

Join us Tuesday, September 10th at noon for lunch, (bring a sandwich or snack) lively discussion and fellowship. We meet in the church conference room at the end of the hall and have zoom access if you are unable to join us in person. Please let me know if you need zoom access so I have the computer set up.

FALL BIBLE STUDY
TENDING THE WILD GARDEN

THURSDAYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 26th – 6:00 – 7:00 PM

A WEEKLY GROUP BIBLE STUDY WITH DAILY DEVOTIONALS ON THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

In a world fixated on outward appearances, discover the joy of cultivating an inward relationship with the Spirit, where virtues like love, joy, and self-control blossom naturally.

*"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."
Galatians 5:22-23a*

The apostle Paul paints a beautiful picture when he describes the fruit of the Spirit, but all too often we reduce this list of virtues into a checklist of attributes to pursue and strive for. Pastor and author Eugenia Gamble contends that this understanding is backwards. The Holy Spirit is the One who grows and develops those attributes within us as we pursue our relationship with God. By tending that relationship, the virtues of God develop and blossom as a fruit grows on a well-tended tree.

Tending the Wild Garden explores the true meaning behind each of the virtues in Paul's list, guiding us to discover anew what it means to be a deeply loved child of God indwelt by God's Spirit. Gamble helps us to move beyond the checklist mentality of traditional understandings of the fruit of the Spirit, to cultivate our relationship with God, and to uproot the "weeds" that could threaten the flourishing of the fruit in our lives.

Let the fruit of the Spirit be more than just words on a page—they're the living expressions of God's love within you. Dare to cultivate a life overflowing with love, joy, peace, and so much more.

Most Asked For Addresses

Amy and Dennis Griffin
528 Fishermans Road
Norfolk, VA 23503
757-618-3006 - Amy
757-618-3005 - Dennis

Teri and Ken Howard
109 Windsong Drive
Macon, NC 27551
757-274-3311

Dot Grandstaff
The Gardens of Virginia Beach
5620 Wesleyan Drive #247
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
757-583-2244

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

Lexi White & Marc Cahill
89 Winchester Dr.
South Kingstown, RI 02879

Judy & Tim Cook
2909 Arc Road
Mobile, Alabama
36605-4466
251-385-0615

Don Martin's Contact Information

pastordonatthird@gmail.com

757-754-9232

Happy Birthday!!!!

September 9th – Samuel Smith
September 12th – Brenda Maxwell
September 12th – Lauren Maxwell
September 13th – Tony Crudup
September 18th – Samantha McKinney
September 25th – Vernon Barham
September 29th – Kelly Hughes

Happy Anniversary!!!!

Inda and Ron Ratcliff

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
Jessica and Ray Fitzgerald
Ginny Davis
Steve & Claudia Glover
Carol Maxwell's Mom
Patricia Basnight
Darlene Pick
Holly Gaff
Nancy & Steve Babor
Toy Hefner
Noah Lucas
Margaret Chewing
Heather Sipe
Jimmy Singer - Cheryl's Cousin's Husband
Dorothy Mosko – Teri Howard's Mother
The Family of Larry McKinney
The Family of Gini Campbell
Our Pastor - Don
Our Church
The Session
Our Community

Offerings

August 4th – \$1,975.00
August 11th – \$707.00
August 18th – \$1660.00
August 25th – \$690.00

Office Hours - We are currently without a church secretary. We will have volunteers assisting with answering phones a few mornings a week. If you need assistance, please feel free to call 757-587-7576 and leave a message, send an email to (thirdpc@hrcoxmail.com), or call one of the elders or the pastor. Thank you!

Shepherd's List 2024



Amy Griffin

757-618-3006

*Dee Glover

*Steven and Claudia Glover

Ginny Davis

Nancy and Vernon Barham

Dorothy Grandstaff

Marguerite Duke

Peggy Russell

Teri Howard

Teri Howard

757-274-3311

Don Martin and Tony Crudup

Darlene Pick

Debbie and Ray Platte

Amy and Dennis Griffin

Di Ricks

Sybil Crooks

Joseph Bray

***Anne Basnight**

Tom Maxwell

757-531-9851

**Brittany French

Dave and Jenni Joyce

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

Stacy Apelt

757-583-5872

Nancy Babor

Jim Rudiger

Carol and Tom Maxwell

Mary Ann Shepard

Kayla and Bryson Shepard

Margaret Chewning & Dan Cudney

Margaret Chewning

757-581-0428

Jessica Fitzgerald & Family

Cheryl and Fred Holtz

Ginny Keisel

Claudia Cary

Artie and Milinda Derrenbacker

Stacy Apelt and Judy Floyd Apelt

Mike Gallond

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.



September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11 am Worship & Communion In-person & Virtual	2	3 6:30-10pm Dance Group C. Crofford-FH	4 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7pm AA Meeting	5 7-9:30pm Square Dancing	6	7
8 11 am Worship In-person & Virtual	9	10 12 pm PW Lunch & Bible Study 6:30-10pm Dance Group C. Crofford-FH	11 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7pm AA Meeting	12 7 pm Civic League	13	14 10 am - 12 pm Clothes Closet
15 11 am Worship In-person & Virtual P. Bass - preaching	16	17 6:30-10pm Dance Group C. Crofford-FH	18 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7pm AA Meeting	19 7-9:30pm Square Dancing	20	21
22 11 am Worship In-person & Virtual	23	24 6:30-10pm Dance Group C. Crofford-FH	25 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7pm AA Meeting	26 7-9:30pm Square Dancing	27	28
29 11 am Worship In-person & Virtual	30					



Third Presbyterian Church
8065 Carlton Street
Norfolk, VA 23518

CHURCH STAFF

Don Martin, Covenant Pastor
Lexi White, IT Facilitator
Joseph C. Bray, III, Organist/ Choir Director
Clara Barnes, Sexton
Teri Howard, Clerk of Session
Holly Gaff, Treasurer
Amy Griffin and Teri Howard, Financial Secretary

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Men

Tom Maxwell, President
Fred Holtz, Vice-president

Memorial Committee

SESSION

Building & Grounds

Stacy Apelt

Stewardship

Teri Howard

Witness & Outreach

Tom Maxwell

Worship

Amy Griffin

Administration and Personnel

Margaret Chewning