



CHAPEL CHIMES

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Paul's Ponderings...



Paul's Ponderings The Chapel Chimes November 2021

The Great Reversal

In the September issue of The Chapel Chimes I spoke to you about "Belonging"...a sense of being accepted and welcomed in a place, group, or organization. I relayed to you a longitudinal study that showed that our happiness and our longevity are greatly enhanced by the quality of our relationships which lead to this sense of belonging. What I did not share with you is that another, very recent study showed that when the general public was surveyed 25% of those that responded had not experienced this sense of "belonging" but when only church goers responded, a full 50% of those who responded had not experienced this sense of "belonging". And, even though I proposed that the Chapel was a welcoming place of belonging, this last study shows that the church in general is not supplying this sought after and beneficial sense of "belonging" to its followers.

In the October issue of our newsletter I was determined to explore the concept of "Behaving" and I pointed out that Jesus was keen on giving his first disciples something to do...a new way of behaving. "At first, he demonstrated what he wanted them to do. Then he did it with them. Finally, he sent them out to do it themselves..." And, they healed, offered hospitality, prayed, ministered to the outcasts, comforted the griev-

ing, fasted, and forgave. (You might review these two articles on the Chapel's website.)

In the last few centuries Christianity has ordered the pathway to faith in a particular way..."belief" comes first, "behavior" comes next, and finally "belonging" resulted. Belief, behave, and belong...it has become our religious script and it has been institutionalized in the rituals of the church. We take prospective members to the front of the church and traditionally ask them, "Do you believe in Christ Jesus as your Lord and Savior? Will you support the ministries of this church with your time, your talents, and your treasure?" And, when the answers are in the affirmative, when your belief and your behavior have come first, now you can belong to our community of faith. But, it has not always been this way. Long ago Jesus taught that faith was a matter of community (belonging) first, practices (behaving) second, and belief was an anticipated result of these two.

Now it is up to us to restore the original order. The first step in becoming a Christian is to form relationships with other Christians (belonging). The next step is to learn the way of Jesus by doing and practicing what other Christians do (behaving). The final step is to come to a life of faith (believing). Church historian Diana Butler-Bass says that the church is presently in the midst of what she calls "The Great Reversal!"

What does this mean for our church going forward? For us to grow we must first engage our friends and neighbors, welcome them into fellowship, build strong relationships with them, and create a sense of belonging for them in our church community. Next, we must put them to work in the ministries of our church, for community and actions lead to faith...belonging and behaving leads to believing. We need to make friendships, invite them to participate, and then see what we might have in common with our beliefs. It's the "Great Reversal" and it is the future of the church.

**Lost Generation
by Jonathan Reed**

*I am part of a lost generation
and I refuse to believe
I can change the world
I realize this may be a shock but
"Happiness comes from within"
is a lie, and
"Money will make me happy"
So in 30 years I will tell my children
They are not the most important thing in my
life.
My employer will know that
I have my priorities straight because
work
is more important than
family
I tell you this
Once upon a time
Families stayed together
but this will not be true in my era.
this is a quick fix society
Experts tell me
30 years from now I will be celebrating the 10th
anniversary of my divorce.
I do not concede that
I will live in the country of my own making.
In the future
Environmental destruction will be the norm.
No longer can it be said that
My peers and I care about this earth.
It will be evident that
My generation is apathetic and lethargic.
It is foolish to presume that
There is hope.*

*And all of this will come true unless we choose
to reverse it.*

Now, read the poem in reverse..."There is hope, it is foolish to presume..."



Chapel Prayers

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, giving thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Prayers for Chapel Friends:

Pat Kibbie, Gardenia Flores, Juster Machovi, Jeanne Stephan, Sally Bagdan, Marjorie Gump, Laura Lentz, Sarah Hewitt, Heather Tuft, Cathy Phillips, Jessica McInnis, Reverend Bill and Marty Bruner, Eddie and Annette McInnis, Patty & Jack Madden, Jennifer Grgurevic, Cathy and Calvin Phillips, Mary Faas, George Depuy, Thomas Martin, Sandra and Robert Rickards, June Ann, Jack Sealey, Chris Flack, Tom Sullivan, Bob Hamilton, Ernie and Lucy Dunn Martin, Phyllis Mahin, Mark Vasconcellos, Maria Bliss Dave Carney, Nancy Pierceall, Kathy Steele, Rob D'Amatto, Pricilla Johnson, Sandi Keyser, Kaitlyn McInnis, Maria Karous, Ronald J. Beck, Katy and Colette Kelly Joe and Ashley McInnis and their newborn baby, Noah, Jim Milliman, Lou Matthews, Carmen Chung, Mike Augustyniak, Bruce Lowe, Bill Hughes, Evaugeline Caliendo, the Troxler Family, Dot Evans, Ross Tilley, Janice Vanderwerff, and Sue Freischlaq.

Prayers for Chapel Family:

Jane and Charles Hinson, Nancee Letter, Dorene Tichenor, Ralph Olsen, Mary Tuft, Pat Donaldson, Bud Holzerland, Phil and Angie Thingstad, Rob Guadalupe, Mary Kay Allen, Shirley Percival, Glenda Clendenin, Mike Barry Tamara Lee, Jean Lawrence, Fran Stark, and Kathy Golzio,



Advent Afternoons - 2021
The Heart that Grew Three Sizes;
Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch

This Advent season we are going to take a look at Dr. Seuss' 1957 classic *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* through the lens of faith and see how Christ is speaking to us through this familiar story.

We don't know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We don't know why the Grinch had the "wonderful, awful idea" to destroy the Whos' Christmas celebration. We will learn that even though the Grinch stole all the Whos' presents, holiday food, and yuletide decorations...Christmas came anyway. And, finally, after puzzling as to why his plan failed, why the Grinch's heart grew three sizes on Christmas morning.

We will continue our Advent Afternoons tradition by meeting in-person for four sessions on Sunday at 3:00 beginning November 28th. However, this year we will add an additional opportunity on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 for our online participants beginning December 1. Whether you join the Sunday in-person or the Wednesday online faith formation group, the concepts covered will be the same.

Showing of the 1966 animated film Wednesday, November 17, 7:00
How the Grinch Stole Christmas
 Online

Showing of the 1966 animated film Sunday, November 21, 3:00
How the Grinch Stole Christmas
 Fellowship Hall, in-person

Session #1 Sunday, November 28, 3:00 (in-person)
 When Everything is Wrong Wednesday, December 1, 7:00 (online)

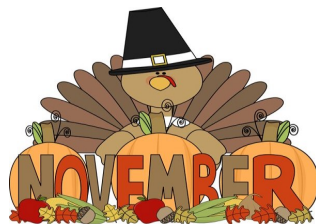
Session #2 Sunday, December 5, 3:00 (in-person)
 When Christmas Isn't Christmas Wednesday, December 8, 7:00 (online)

Session #3 Sunday, December 12, 3:00 (in-person)
 When Light Shines Wednesday, December 15, 7:00 (online)

Session #4 Sunday, December 19, 3:00 (in-person)
 When Joy Is our Song Wednesday, December 22, 7:00 (online)

Please contact Leslie at (910) 400-5188 or citp10@7lakeschapel.com by Tuesday, November 16th to let her know whether you will be joining us in-person or online. There is no book to be purchased and you do not have to commit to all the sessions. This is a discussion based faith formation experience so the number of participants is crucial, so please let Leslie hear from you by the 16th so that we may plan appropriately.





Mission Team News



Christmas4Moore

For those of you who have requested a family to sponsor for Christmas, please notify them that you are their sponsor by **November 15th or sooner**. You can discuss: 1. Will you deliver gifts or 2. Will you request the gifts to be picked up at the Chapel between **December 13th** and **Friday, December 17th**? A date and time for either option can be set at this time or later. Remember the Chapel is CLOSED on Wednesdays. If you need help with delivery, please call the Chapel for assistance. (910-400-5188)

Christmas4Moore suggests that the minimum spent on **each** household member be \$40. The Mission Team will provide a food voucher from Food Lion to accompany each family. Details will be worked out prior to delivery or pickup. The Wish List on the back of the application is OPTIONAL.



Music Team (Submitted by Tamara Lee)



A Hymn of Thanksgiving

Martin Rinkart was born in Eilenberg, Germany, in 1586. Although his family was not wealthy and had no particular influence, Rinkart's musical gifts were obvious from an early age, and as a boy he was a member of the St. Thomas Choir in Leipzig, Germany, a choir that would later come under the direction of J.S. Bach. As a youth, Rinkart attended Latin School and received a scholarship to study as a chorister and theologian at the university in Leipzig, and was later ordained into the Lutheran Church. He served in a variety of churches throughout Germany, and in 1601, became Archdeacon in his hometown of Eilenberg just when the Thirty Years War broke out between Germany and Sweden.

Rinkart was faithful to his congregation and all the townspeople, sharing everything he had and using all his resources to provide food and clothing, ministering as best he could to meet the unending needs of the town. He quartered soldiers in his house and continued to negotiate for purchases to help Eilenberg even as his own home and possessions were ransacked. Twenty years into his ministry, a plague broke out that killed over 8,000 people in Eilenberg, and in 1637, Rinkart buried 4,480 people, including his wife. He, however, did not become ill. Even with all this burden, Rinkart and his townspeople, and now many refugees, had to deal with a famine that claimed many more lives. Martin Rinkart eventually mortgaged his future income to be able to provide food and clothing for his own family, after giving away everything he owned to provide for his congregation and hometown.

Then the Swedish Army returned, demanding an astronomical ransom from the town. Rinkart went out of the city walls to negotiate the ransom on behalf of the people of Eilenberg, but the Swedish general refused his pleas. He returned with the refusal and explained it to those behind the gates, saying they would have to seek refuge in God, and he began an earnest, public prayer that convicted the general who then mercifully lowered the ransom.

Through all of this suffering and loss, Martin Rinkart ministered and kept faith sharing his witness of gratitude for all the blessings God had given him. He wrote seven dramas on the Reformation, and over 60 hymns, but the best known, written in 1636, is Now Thank We All Our God. The Thirty Years War ended in 1648, and Rinkart died in 1649. He is buried in the town he lived to serve, Eilenberg.



Seven Lakes Cemetery (submitted by Mike Barry)

For the answers to all of your questions about the purchase of cemetery plots or columbaria niches, please contact Mike Barry, Chapel Cemetery Director at sevenlakescemetery@7lakeschapel.com or (910) 466-9100 or the Chapel Administrator, at (910) 400-5188 or citp10@7lakeschapel.com.

We have had one interment at the Cemetery's Columbarium. I have been contacted by two families that have niches in the Columbarium's at the Chapel because their loved ones have passed on, but they have no definite plans yet.

Seth Clark repaired the Gazebo and spray stained everything except the ceiling. The Gazebo looks GREAT!

The Veteran's Memorial is almost complete for the upcoming event on November 13th. All of the Veterans in the Seven Lakes Cemetery are included on this most prestigious memorial.

Mike Barry
Cemetery Team Chair





Building & Grounds Report

(Submitted by Dick Van Horne & Mike Barry)

Having the sidewalk raised and the void filled has fallen through, no pun intended. They were not dependable, so I requested a refund of our deposit. In the meantime, until I can find a new company, I rerouted the two downspouts that descend in front of the offices to help control the excess rain water.

All the outside light timers have been reset, again, so that they come on when darkness approaches.

Four outside lights that have blown out, have been replaced.

Richard Van Horne, Mike Barry
Building Team

Finance Team Report

(Submitted by Dick Van Horne)



Chapel Credit Card

The Chapel has a Visa Credit Card for use by the congregation for approved purchases. Stop in the Chapel Office and sign out the credit card during regular working hours. After using it, please return it to the office along with the receipt for your purchase. This procedure gives the Chapel control and accountability for the card. It also minimizes the accounting entries and checks that must be written by our treasurer.

Seven Lakes News

The Chapel has a working relationship with Seven Lakes News. In exchange for us providing a site at the cemetery for the Community Veterans Monument, Seven Lakes News provides us with "free" monthly ads promoting the Seven Lakes Cemetery. Board members and Team leaders are encouraged to seek out Seven Lakes News for any Chapel advertising. It's acceptable to advertise with the Seven Lakes Insider as well, but then please purchase the same ad with both Publications.

Back Pack Pals & Matthew 25:40

We Need Your Help!

Please Donate as Often As You Can!

Back Pack Pals Items Needed



Juice Boxes, any flavor—Pop Tarts, any flavor

Peanut Butter/Cheese Crackers

Matthew 25:40 Items Needed

Capri sun Juices, any flavor—Pop Tarts, any flavor

Chef Boyardee Micro Cups, in yellow and red

Small water bottles—Protein Bars, all flavors

Fruit Cups—Apple sauce cups



Schedule of Upcoming Events for November 2021

Nov. 7 Daylight Savings, Board of Directors Meeting following worship Nov. 7 Daylight Savings, Board of Directors Meeting following worship

Nov. 12 10 a.m. Mission Team Meeting Nov. 12 10 a.m. Mission Team Meeting

Nov 17 7 p.m. ONLINE Showing 1966 How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Nov 21 3 p.m. IN_PERSON Showing How the Grinch Stole Christmas Nov 21 3 p.m. IN_PERSON Showing How the Grinch Stole Christmas

45th Chapel Anniversary 45th Chapel Anniversary

Nov 25 Happy Thanksgiving—Office Closed Nov 25 Happy Thanksgiving—Office Closed

Nov. 27 Christmas Decorating Nov. 27 Christmas Decorating

Nov. 28 3 p.m. Advent Session #1—When Everything is Wrong (In-Person) Nov. 28 3 p.m. Advent Session #1—When Everything is Wrong (In-Person)





November Flower Sign-Up

November 7th: Dorene & Jon Tichenor	November 21st: Mike & Sue Barry
November 14th: Shirley Percival	November 28th: Alicia Delong

November Coffee and Fellowship

November 7th: Dot Riggins/ Bruce & Vickie Bedder
 November 14th: Shirley Percival
 November 21st: Shirley & the Worship Team
 November 28th: Mike Barry & the Cemetery Team



November Birthdays



11-7 Shirley Percival
 11-9 Rev. Charles Hinson
 11-11 Fred Young
 11-16 Nancy Ayres
 11-18 Martha MacKay
 11-18 Pat Dantzer



November Anniversaries

11-29 Ed & Barbara True



Chapel Board Members

President: Dick Van Horne - 910-673-3123 - rvanhorne@embarqmail.com

Vice-President: George Norman - 910-987-4664 - gngolfer@nc.rr.com

Second Vice-President: Drew Augustiniak - 910-466-9131 - augustyniakd@gmail.com

Secretary: Tracey Olsen - 704-604-7930 - tolsen415@gmail.com

Assistant Secretary: Lee Connelly - 910-673-2521 - lrconne@nc.rr.com

Treasurer: Sue Barry - 910-466-9100 - suelongdrive@yahoo.com

Assistant Treasurer: Dot Macdonald - 910-673-3866 or 910-470-0939 - dotjmac1957@gmail.com

Member at Large: Blue Baker - 910-783-6486 - blue.baker3@icloud.com

Member at Large: Bob Donaldson - 910-466-9064 - rhd138@gmail.com

Chapel Staff and Contact Info

Pastor—Reverend Paul James - pastorpaulchapel@gmail.com—910-673-3123

Chapel Administrator—Leslie Kern—citp10@7lakeschapel.com—910-400-5188

Choir Director—Edward Lee—edhlee@icloud.com—910-695-6751

Organist—Tamara Lee—tamaraclee@icloud.com—910-690-7671

