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CHAPEL CHIMES

Volume 6, Issue 7

July 2025

Paul's Ponderings...

I Was a Stranger and You Invited Me In

Each year I purchase a planning calendar specifically made for Christian pastors and church leaders. This calendar reminds me of all the important Sundays, holidays (Christian and secular), and the scriptures designated by the Revised Common Lectionary for each worship service. This past June was a busy time for Christians according to my calendar. There was The Day of Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, Father's Day, National Gun Violence Awareness Day, Juneteenth, and one that never gets much attention but perhaps this year it should...World Refugee Day.

Here's a summary of a 2024 report from the United Nations Refugee Agency.

At the end of 2024 there were 123.2 million people globally, who have been forced to flee their homes due to persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations, or events seriously disturbing public order.

Among this group of 123.2 million people there were 42.7 million refugees. In addition there were 73.5 million people displaced within the borders of their own countries and 8.4 million asylum-seekers.

There are also 4.4 million stateless people, who have been denied a nationality and lack access to basic rights such as education, health care, employment, and freedom of movement.

More than 1 in every 67 people on earth is a displaced person.

Many nations, even predominately Christian countries are becoming more and more reluctant to support immigrants and refugees. Some are restricting refugee entry, deporting immigrants at record numbers, and cutting services to the newly arrived. In many cases anti-immigrant leaders have gained or are gaining power resulting in prejudice and violence towards immigrants and refugees increasing all over the globe.

Yet, at the heart of Christianity is an ancient principle that Jesus taught...

*"For I was hungry and
you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and
you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and
you invited me in,
I needed clothes and
you clothed me.
I was sick and
you looked after me,
I was in prison and
you came to visit me."
-Matthew 25:35-36*

People of faith may, of course, disagree about policies regarding immigration, but Christians cannot avoid Jesus' call for compassion, safety, and welcome for the strangers among us. Immigration has been central to the human story from the beginning and the problems are expected to grow worse in the coming decades. It is incumbent on all Christians to resist the dehumanization and demonization of immigrants and refugees and to never deny the clear teachings of Jesus on how we should welcome and treat the stranger.

...But this difficulty in sharing becomes an obstacle to living a true experience of community - including with our migrant brothers and sisters. We are called to share. We are called to accompany them, to welcome, protect, and promote them - fostering a real experience of community that looks beyond religion and all the other distinctions that so often divide us.

- Pope Leo XIV (then Bishop Robert Prevost, 2020)



Prayers for Chapel Friends:

Prayer



Requests

Patty and Jack Madden, Judy Karp, Phil Westerman, Nancy Cecchini, Gerry Crow, Roger Racster, Walter Hundley, Janet Hegeman, Jean Schmidt, Rev. Bill and Marty Bruner, Dick Barry, Jackie White, Noah Presley, Tom Early, Cindy Hess, Lyn Garbarino, Jim Robinson, Carol Dunn, Mary Faas, Dapte Jay Kirit, Dwight and Faye Jessup, Kendrick Goins, George Restrepo, Cathy Pope, Maggie Craft, Rev. Harry Bronkar, Norma McKeithan, Ann Grunke, Jose Shavek, Amy Klein, Adrian Cimek, Sally Conlon, Andy Mark, Sidney Ruffin, Cindy Dabestani, Richard Von Schilichten, Linda Stow, Sue LaPoint, David Tourt, Johnathan McCaskill, Joel Lawrence, Mary Farley, Pete and Magda Sonderfan, Denise Taylor, Curtis Holt, Elizabeth Comfort & Michael Comfort, Bruce Watts, Sally King, and Mary Bromm.

Prayers for Chapel Family:

Rev. Charles Hinson, Dave Westerman, Butch & Mary Kay Allen, Mary Tuft, Phil Thingstad, Mama Dot, Mary Willetts, Bob & Joan Tourt, Lee Connelly, Kathy Steele, Peggy Olson, Jimmy McCaskill, Bart and Peggy Reuter, Jane and Jeff Lowe, Paul Infuso, Glenda and Joe Clendenin, Jon Tichenor, Shirley Percival, Ralph Olsen, Pat & Chas Griffin, Winnie Fischer, Jean Lawrence, Jane Geanes, Bruce Bedder, Danny Bowers, Marilyn and the family of Bud Holzerland, Pat and the family of Bob Donaldson, Christine Byrd on the loss of her sister, and the family of Phyllis Mahin.

Romans 12:12

*Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer.*





We are halfway through the year and ended the month with a spectacular event, the Great American Sing-along!

If you were there with the other 110 happy people, you know what a fantastic concert it was. Maestro Kristen was incredible, leading our two fabulous soloists, Barron Maness and Ravon Sheppard, and our wonderful Chapel Choir, which included a few added members. We also had two Choir soloists, Bruce Keyer and Ann Spong. They were also outstanding. The meal was excellent, Smithfield's BBQ and all the fixings.

The event was a great success so we are planning another one in October. If you have input on the type of musical program you might want please let Kristen or me know. Thanks.

Capital Campaign

You have all heard by now of the Capital Campaign we initiated at the Congregational Meeting on June 22nd.

I would like to remind you that this campaign is designed to repay the loan we have taken out to finance all the building and grounds projects outlined in the letter sent earlier.

Please complete your capital gift card and return it to the Chapel office by Sunday, August 3rd.

Chapel Goals

The Board is beginning to work on the 2026 Chapel Goals. If you have any input on this matter please feel free to contact a board member and let them know.

The Gathering

The Gathering will be on July 17th at 5:00 p.m. We will have the Juat A Lil Grace performing for us and a fried chicken dinner. Please make your reservations by noon on Friday, 18th.

Have a Happy Summer and we will see you on Sundays.



Team Updates

Worship Team

Summer greetings from your Worship Team!

On June 8 we hosted a covered dish brunch to celebrate Pentecost. All the food was delicious, and the occasion was a joyous one! Many thanks to all of our wonderful cooks and to all who attended to celebrate Pentecost!

On June 19th the team hosted our June Gathering featuring a salad bar with all the trimmings and various salads as well as sweets for dessert. The focus of the worship service was "Fear is the opposite of love" with accompanying scripture, hymns and homily from Paul.

Coming up July 17th is what I would say is our most fun Gathering of the year. We will host the talented and humorous blue grass band Just a Lil' Grace. We are planning a fried chicken dinner. If you have not had a chance to see this band perform, please plan to attend. You will not regret it!



Just A Lil' Grace Acoustic Guitar
Gospel Music

We would give special thanks to Paul who plays such a large role and brings a strong sense of worship in all of our gatherings and services.

Cemetery Team

We sold one Niche at the Cemetery this month and had one interment. We also had a headstone installed.

Due to the fact that we had considerable damage from the spring rains we had to have the entrance drive repaired and the entire Cemetery drive covered with new stones at the total cost of \$2100.00.

For the last number of years, the grass at the Cemetery has been dying in all areas. We have received a number of complaints. I called in a company and they reported that our Cemetery grass has a fungus called CENTIPEDEGRASS DECLINE. So to make the grass healthy again, over the next two years, we are going to PLUG (aeration) the entire cemetery, then do a four season of fertilizer and weed and crabgrass killer at the total cost of \$5140.00. After that is completed, we may have to sod an area in Section I.



Mike Barry
Cemetery Director
Volunteer Staff Member

Ed Burke
Cemetery Team Chair



Mission Team



At the June 13 Mission Team meeting, completed projects were discussed and were determined to be successful (**Blood Drive**, \$1,000 donation to **Moore Free Care Clinic**, delivery of diapers, wipes and ointments to **7 Sparrows**). The team donated over \$100 in snacks to **Backpack Pals** and **Matthew 25:40**. (Alicia DeLong made the purchases).

In June, Lydia Litteral, Shirley Madison, Alicia DeLong, Sue Dell'Acqua and Laurie Faig participated in the build for **Habitat for Humanity**.



The **Lending Library** is in the process of being assembled and the location of the library is being considered.



A donation of \$331.96 was made to **West End Elementary School** for the purchase of books.

The project "**Change for Change**" is still ongoing and the congregation is encouraged to fill their little churches with change to bring to the Chapel. Let's fill the water cooler!



MMIA has placed a footlocker in the Narthex for donations. Our Mission Team has partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Seven Lakes for collecting items needed for our soldiers. Items needed can be found on page 12 of the newsletter.

The sewing project for the **Life Pregnancy Center** was held on June 24th.

Dorry has made over 50 fleece blankets to be distributed to various organizations (**Life Care Pregnancy Center**, **7 Sparrows**, **Seven Lakes Fire Department**, etc.).



On June 30, members of the team met at the Chapel to deliver a check for \$500 and 2 buckets of cleaning supplies to **Family Promise**.

C.A.R.E. has an office in Seven Lakes and has requested volunteers to mentor and tutor at-risk youth, low literacy adults, etc.



CITP Men's Fellowship



In February the Men's Fellowship met along with the Mission Team to hear about this year's "Apostle Build" by Habitat for Humanity of the Sandhills in Ad-dor, NC. It was decided that our pastor and the two teams would work together to assist with the build.

At a subsequent Habitat meeting, we volunteered to have up to 12 congregants volunteer on the dates of Thursday & Friday June 12th & 13th. Pastor Paul, volunteered for the start of the build on April 24th and 25th and up to 11 volunteers, including Paul, worked one or both of the two days in June preparing the home for the drywall team to come in July. The "Apostle Build" project will stretch into Oct - Nov and I am sure a number of our congregants will continue to assist as the project moves to completion.

**APOSTLES
BUILD**



Earlier this Spring the fellowship was asked if we would help spruce up and maintain the yard of a congregant whose husband passed away in January. Over the past couple of months a group of 6 of our members took on the project and brought the yard back up to par with the neighborhood. We will continue to maintain the yard through the summer. Please note: If any of our congregants needs assistance with small projects in or around the home, please contact Susan at the office and someone will contact you to evaluate the project.

The Men's fellowship provided the meal for the first gathering on May 29th hosted by the Worship Team. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Brats, cole slaw, potato salad, chips, drinks and deserts were enjoyed by 47 CITP congregants, followed by a short lesson and communion.



The next fellowship gathering will be on Thursday, July 10th. Plans to be announced the week before.





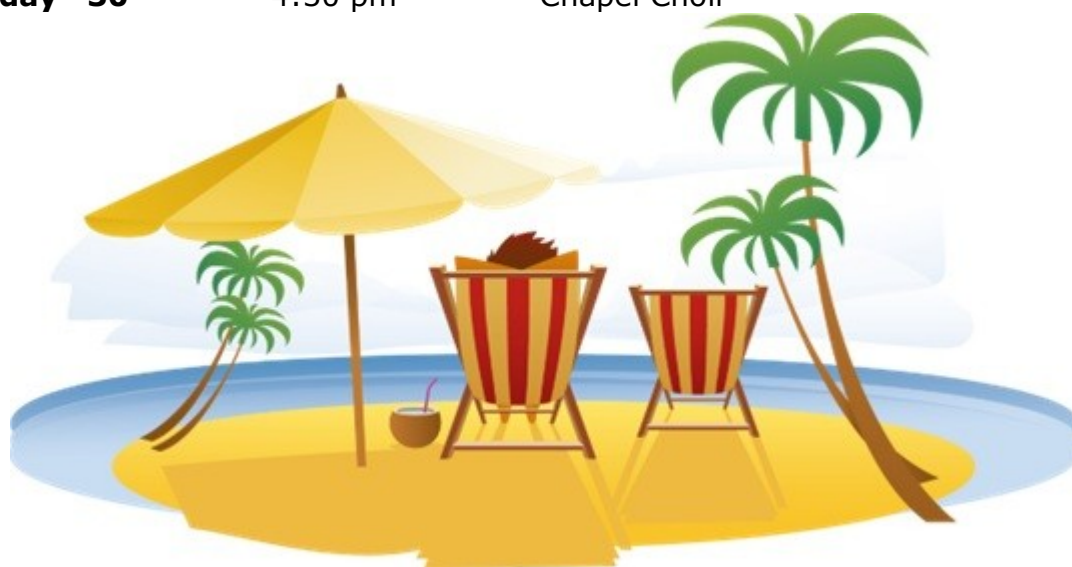
Upcoming Events

Wednesday—2	2:30 pm	Fran's Friends
Wednesday—2	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir
Sunday—6	9:00 am	The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Wednesday—9	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir
Thursday—10	10:00 am	Finance Team Meeting
Thursday—10	12:00 pm	Men's Fellowship—Southside Bar & Grill
Thursday—10	1:00 pm	Board Planning Meeting
Thursday—10	3:30 pm	The Vernell Otter Class
Friday—11	10:00 am	Mission Team
Friday—11	12:00 pm	Gathering RSVP Deadline
Sunday—13	9:00 am	The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
		Chapel Board Meeting
Monday—14	4:00 pm	Worship Team
Wednesday—16	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir
Thursday—17	5:00 pm	The Gathering— Just a Lil Grace
Sunday—20	9:00 am	The Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Peach Sunday



Wednesday—23	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir
Thursday—24	3:30 pm	The Vernell Otter Class
Sunday—27	9:00 am	The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday—30	4:30 pm	Chapel Choir



Usher Schedule

July—September 2025

July

6	Sun 9 am	Shirley Madison, Carole Faas, Tim Peppe, RJ Peppe
13	Sun 9 am	Renee Maness, Tracey Olsen, Frank Carney, Gisela Danielson
20	Sun 9 am	Carole Faas, Michael Karnish, Joyce Singletary, Shirley Madison
27	Sun 9 am	Renee Maness, Gisela Danielson, Tim Peppe, RJ Peppe

August

3	Sun 9 am	Shirley Madison, Michael Karnish, Carole Faas, George Norman
10	Sun 9 am	Rene Maness, Tracey Olsen, Frank Carney, Joyce Singletary
17	Sun 9 am	Shirley Madison, Michael Karnish, George Norman, Carole Faas
24	Sun 9 am	Joyce Singletary, Carole Faas, Gisela Danielson, Renee Maness
31	Sun 9 am	Shirley Madison, George Norman, Tim Peppe, RJ Peppe

September

7	Sun 9 am	Renee Maness, Tracey Olsen, Frank Carney Michael Karnish
14	Sun 9 am	Shirley Madison, Gisela Danielson, Tim Peppe, RJ Peppe
21	Sun 9 am	Renee Maness, Michael Karnish, Joyce Singletary, Cathy or George Norman
28	Sun 9 am	Gisela Danielson, Carole Faas, Shirley Madison, Cathy or George Norman

Coffee Fellowship



*To volunteer: Contact our Church Administrator, Susan Williams by calling **910-400-5188** or by emailing **citp10@7lakeschapel.com**. You may also sign up on the register on the podium just outside the entrance to the fellowship hall.*

July

06	Chris & Jim Beck
13	Volunteer Needed
20	Peach Sunday
27	Joyce Singletary & Katy Swain

August

03	Volunteer Needed
10	Volunteer Needed
17	Volunteer Needed
24	Volunteer Needed
31	Volunteer Needed





Thursday—3	John Golzio
Thursday—3	Shirley Madison
Wednesday—9	Sue Dell'Acqua
Thursday—10	Esther Robinson
Thursday—10	Richard Cantwell
Friday—11	Audrey Tourt
Friday—18	Carole Faas
Sunday—20	Jean Lawrence
Monday—21	Daisy Kirit
Thursday—31	Marilyn Holzerland



Monday—7	Jim & Chris Beck
Tuesday—8	Jimmy & Marilyn McCaskill
Thursday—10	Bruce & Sandi Keyser
Wednesday—23	Phillip & Angi Thingstad
Thursday—31	Alicia DeLong & Stephen Welch





Flower Schedule

To volunteer please sign up on bulletin board

outside church office. You may also call the church office **910-400-5188** or e-mail us at citp10@7lakeschapel.com to have

July	
7-6	Sandi Keyser
7-13	Shirley Percival
7-20	Wendy Tetreault
7-27	Fran Greer
August	
8-3	Volunteer Needed
8-10	Volunteer Needed
8-17	Joan Tourt
8-24	Volunteer Needed
8-31	Volunteer Needed

Matthew 25:40 Programs

We Need Your Help—Please Donate as Often As You Can!

Capri Sun Juices, any flavor
Chef Boyardee Micro Cups,
in yellow and red

Pop Tarts, any flavor
Small Water Bottles
Protein Bars, all flavors
Apple Sauce/Fruit Cups





Military Missions in Action's
**Fill The
 Footlocker**
 Care Packages

- Snack Foods /Ready Meals
- Gum/Hard Candy
- Non-Pork Jerky
- Water Flavoring
- Trail Mix/Peanuts
- Protein Bars (non-chocolate)
- Cookies/ racker Packs
- Movie Style Candy (boxes)
- Hot Sauce Packets/Small Plastic Bottles
- Coffee
- Sugar, Sweeteners and Creamer Packets
- Tuna and Chicken
- Lip Balms
- Sun Block (non-aerosol)
- Bug Repellant (non aerosols)
- Baby/Foot Powder (non-aerosol)
- Tampons/Pads/Feminine products
- Razors/Shaving Cream (non-aerosol)
- Body Lotions/ Foot Care Creams
- Bar Soap/Body Wash
- Hand Sanitizer
- Baby Wipes

If your organization, company or group would like to partner with Military Missions in Action to

Collect and donate comfort items to our active duty troops, please contact us.

Military Missions in Action

411-B N. Judd Pkwy NE

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Join Us for our June Gathering Special Guest—Just A Li'l Grace



Just A Lil Grace *Acoustic Guitar
Gospel Music*

**The Gathering
Wednesday July 17, 2025 @ 5:00 pm**

Just A Li'l Grace

Will be in concert at
Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines
Free of charge
(a "Love" offering will be collected and given to the musicians)

The Worship Team will be providing a Fried Chicken Dinner.
(A donation of \$7 is suggested to help cover the cost)

**Call the church office no later than noon
On July 11th (910) 400-5188
to let us know you are coming.**



Board of Directors – 2025

George Norman President	genorman3@gmail.com	910-987-4664
Ruth Klein 1st Vice President	srklein8@gmail.com	763-203-4846
Mike Barry 2nd Vice President	citp-cemetery@7lakeschapel.com	910-466-9100
Sue Barry Treasurer	suelongdrive@yahoo.com	910-466-9100
Shirley Madison Assistant Treasurer	jakesmom.shirley@gmail.com	717-823-7567
Tracey Olsen Secretary	tolsen415@gmail.com	704-604-7930
Thalia Beam Assistant Secretary	thaliabeam53@gmail.com	910-477-2731
Kathy Golzio Member-at-Large	kbgtrixie@aol.com	845-216-9446
Jon Tichenor Immediate Past President	tichenorjon@gmail.com	910-466-9148

Chapel Staff and Contact Info

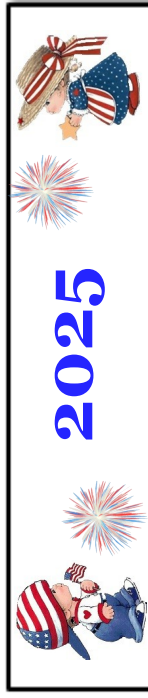
Pastor Reverend Paul James	pastorpaulchapel@gmail.com	910-690-5529
Chapel Administrator Susan Williams	citp10@7lakeschapel.com	910-400-5188
Financial Secretary Paula Montgomery	citp-treasurer@7lakeschapel.com	910-986-9191
Choir Director Kristen Webb-Thompson	kristen.webb@gmail.com	910-220-1979
Seven Lakes Cemetery/ Columbarium Director Mike Barry	citp-cemetery@7lakeschapel.com	910-466-9100

Sound/Audio Technician, Simon Lussier

Church Office: 910-400-5188
Church Email: citp10@7lakeschapel.com
Church Website: <http://7lakeschapel.com>



JULY



2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

6 Fourth Sunday
after Pentecost

7 9-12 Preschool
Summer Camp

1  **EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**
Kiwanis 11-2

2 2:30 Fran's Fiends
4:30 Chapel Choir


3 7:00 AL ANON
7:30 OLA Choir

4 **Happy 4th of July**

5  **National Apple Turnover Day**
CLEANING

13 Fifth Sunday
after Pentecost
Chapel Board Mtg

14  **SHARK AMBASSADORS**

15  **SHARK AMBASSADORS**

16 **NATIONAL HOT DOG DAY!**
4:30 Chapel Choir

17 5 The Gathering
Just A Lil Grace
7:00 AL ANON
7:30 OLA Choir

18 10 Mission Team
12 Gathering RSVP

19  **National Apple Turnover Day**
CLEANING

20 16th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Peach Sunday


21 9-12 Preschool
Summer Camp

22  **SHARK AMBASSADORS**


23 4:30 Chapel Choir


24 3:30 Vernell Otter
Class
7:00 AL ANON
7:30 OLA Choir


25 *Newsletter
Article Deadline

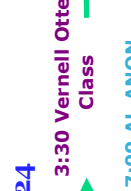
26  **National Apple Turnover Day**
CLEANING


27 17th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

28  **National Apple Turnover Day**

29  **National Apple Turnover Day**

30  **NATIONAL CHEESECAKE DAY**

31  **National Apple Turnover Day**

32  **National Apple Turnover Day**

33  **National Apple Turnover Day**

