

Haymarket Herald

October 2020



The Gospel of Mark

Preaching from the Hymnal of Jesus and Paul

I miss singing hymns together with you all! Once this Covid-19 crisis is passed, I look forward to all of us coming together in the sanctuary and opening our Baptist Hymnal and singing loudly to God. I want to sing the old hymns like “Amazing Grace.” And I want to sing the new hymns like “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High.” And I want to sing lots of other hymns, including your favorites! Perhaps Ken Trammell and I can plan a special Sunday some time in 2021 when we can welcome back hymn singing with Ken leading the entire choir and all of you joining in. That will be a great day!

But that day is not today. Or even later this month. Unfortunately, having lots of people singing robustly for long periods of time tends to spread Covid-19, which we must not do.

Because we cannot sing hymns out loud this fall, I am going to have us focus on the hymnal that Jesus and Paul used when they sang hymns. You didn’t know that scholars had discovered an ancient hymnal from the first century A.D.? Well, they have! It is called The Book of Psalms.

Beginning on October 18, I (with an assist from Allan Smith), am going to begin preaching a series of sermons based on the book of Psalms, which is composed of the 150 hymns used by all the Jews of the first century, including Jesus and Paul. Hymns contain some great theology, and I hope to unpack some of that theology this fall. In case you would like to include some of these Psalms in your daily Bible reading, here is the schedule for this fall:

Oct. 18	Singing a Hymn of Joy	Psalm 100
Oct. 25	Until the Disaster Has Passed: A Lament	Psalm 57
Nov. 1	Giving Thanks to God	Psalm 18
Nov. 8	Remembering What God has Done	Psalm 78
Nov. 15	Time-Out (Allan Smith)	Psalm 46
Nov. 22	Christ’s Sacrifice (with the Lord’s Supper)	Psalm 22
Nov. 29	Christ as the Ideal King (Advent begins)	Psalm 72
Dec. 6	Jesus as our High Priest	Psalm 110
Dec. 13	Christ’s Humanity	Psalm 8
Dec. 20	Christ’s Deity	Psalm 2

In Christ,
Pastor Mark



REV. ALLAN SMITH

“It's a Small World”

What a joy it has been to join so many of the HBC Sunday School classes and Bible studies that occur each week on zoom. I have the privilege of joining both the Ambassador's SS class and the 20s/30s SS class each Sunday. I regularly attend the Men's Bible Study on Saturday mornings. And, best of all, I was even allowed to join the Women's Bible Study in one of their Monday morning meetings!

Another "small group" is the group that meets together over zoom for Bible study and prayer on Wednesday evenings. This summer, we read *A Week in the Life of Corinth* together, a fictional story which helped us to understand the typical day-to-day interactions of people living in Corinth during the time of the early church. It served as preparation for study of 1 Corinthians.

One of my observations from reading *A Week in the Life of Corinth* was a deeper understanding of how an early church gathering would take place in someone's home. It was so different from the church of today where we meet in buildings. In many ways, "small groups", such as Sunday School, Women's Bible Study, and Men's Bible Study, are most similar to the early church meetings. Individuals met together for prayer and for study. They usually shared a meal together too; life was different when there was not a pandemic!

In the midst of COVID-19, technology allows small groups to continue to meet. Sure, the Sunday School classes and Bible studies that have been held over zoom have been wonderful opportunities to deepen our faith as disciples of Christ. But they have also been filled with laughter and fellowship as small groups of the church have continued to connect with one another on a regular basis during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recently, a survey was sent by email. While the survey requested feedback on various church programs, my hope was that the survey would lead to new small groups forming, even in this current season of life. Sharing the joys and sorrows of life together in a small group setting is the vital component of what it means to be church. For many, this season has allowed more consistent participation in small groups as one can connect through zoom even when a conflict might prevent you from being at church in person. If you are not connected to a small group through Haymarket Baptist Church of some kind, please consider joining one or forming a new one. As always, I am happy to help in any way that I can.

Blessings,

Allan Smith

Associate Pastor for Community Outreach
Haymarket Baptist Church



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee would like to thank everyone who recently accepted nominations and were voted in during our September Business Meeting. We are truly blessed that so many of you felt called to serve. We are excited to see new members serving for the first time and longtime members serving in new roles. Those voted in last month will begin serving on the first of October.

There are still a few committee vacancies and we will continue with nominations until they are filled. If you feel called to serve and would like to volunteer, please contact any member of the committee for more information.

Many thanks from all of us!

Debbie Young, Chairperson
Cheryl Cox
Guerry Drey
Ruth Nagy
Bobby Swindall

DEACONS BENCH

Addiction is not a complete analogy for sin. Not all addictions are willingly self-imposed conditions, but for this article I am going to use addiction to explain a concept about sin; in particular, people who are “enablers” of sin. *Enablers* is a term that has become popular in rehab settings to explain why an addict needs to stay away from certain individuals. Enablers of sin, therefore, are people who knowingly (or not) promote sin. In Matthew 18:6, Jesus gives one of his harshest judgments: *“If anyone causes one of the little ones who believes in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.”*

First, I want to point out that addictions can take on many forms, the most common two are drugs and alcohol. Some actions are not so commonly thought of as addictive: sex/porn, exercise, self-image, gossip. Many recent forms include video games and social media. The list can also include almost anything that causes someone to become unhealthily obsessed. In the church’s terms it would be things that prevent one from doing God’s work; in the world’s terms, it would be “your normal.” The father of lies wants you to worship created objects and in the Bible these are referred to as idols.

There are some genetic reasons for addictive tendencies but most of the addictions listed above are more environmental. If parents smoke, their children are more likely to smoke. If parents drink, their children are more likely to drink. I cannot source this, but I have read that most pedophiles were molested as children. Husbands that beat their wives were raised in violent homes. The list goes on. Being raised in an environment that condones or normalizes certain behaviors will have lasting impressions on children. It is not just young children Jesus is referring to in the passage above. The little ones are all of us. To Jesus we are all children of God. The enablers are those that give the father of lies a crack in which to sow doubt and confusion in our defenses against addiction/sin. Movies that glorify drug use or drinking, movies that normalize certain immoral behaviors, public figures that live (and promote) lifestyles contrary to biblical teachings are all enablers.

Those of us in church speculate on the disintegration of the morals in this country and often

pine for the days when things were different. A quick check in the Bible shows that times back then were not much different from today. The Old Testament and Paul’s writings in the New Testament, show extremely depraved situations. Drug use has always been a problem and prostitution one of the oldest professions. There have always been corrupt rulers and money hungry people.

Paul writes telling us how to deal with the immoral among us. In the Bible I have before me, in 1 Corinthians Chapter 5, it is entitled “expel the immoral Brother.” I encourage you all to read this and much more that Paul has to say about the wicked. Another of Paul’s writings on the wicked is found in Romans first chapter and leaves no doubt on how Paul feels about the immoral. *“Although they know God’s righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.”* Romans 1:32 We all walk a dangerous line when we accept, condone, encourage, normalize, (or whatever term you want to use) sinful actions. We must see things as they are and not let the father of lies deceive us. A lie is a lie.

One thing that has been used to beat the heads of the Church is being judgmental. But being judgmental can go both ways. One’s behaviors can be judged *immoral* but what is happening in churches today is that those behaviors are being judged *permissible*. From Proverbs 3:5&6, *“trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight.”* We in church are taught to let the Bible direct us. To let God be the judge.

We have become a very permissive society. Is it possible that we are too rich, too powerful, and so full of ourselves that we believe we do not have to answer to anyone else? When believers start accepting behaviors that are contrary to what the Bible teaches, we are “enabling” by default.

Jesus tells us that the father of lies is ruling this age. We must believe this as we need to believe all parts of the Bible. The Lord wants us to act as it is defined in The Book most of us carry with us on Sundays. And as one of my wiser teachers, Herb Young, was known to say, “use Bible study and prayer to learn what God would have you do.”

John Hessenauer
October Deacon of the Month



SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

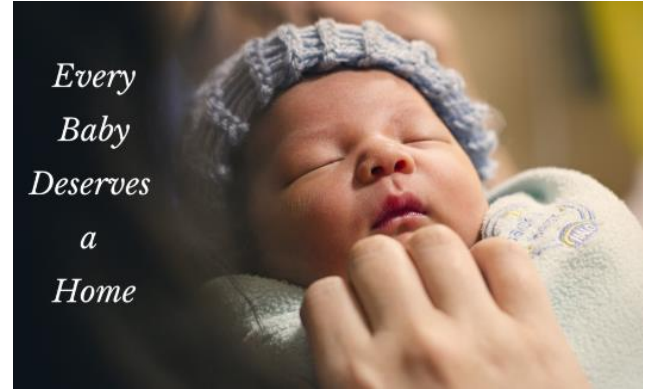
With all the concern over Covid-19, each of us has plenty to worry about in our personal lives. However, as Christians, we should not forget about the needs of others. Donating a filled Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoebox is a way to do that!

OCC works with local partners around the world by providing shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. These gifts demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world. With the local church they provide the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. In some regions, it is not permitted to distribute literature, but the children can still be blessed with gift boxes carefully prepared by people who love children.

It's time to start packing and collecting shoeboxes for OCC! Boxes will be available by October 11th in the Overflow room at church. If you are attending face-to-face services, just pick up a box (or 2) and shipping labels. If you are not attending the church "live," simply go to the church during regular office hours to get your boxes and labels.

Some boxes will be folded. If you prefer a box that has not been handled, there will also be some that are not folded.

Either return the box when you are at HBC for a service or go to the church during regular office hours. Contact Edith if you have questions. Packed boxes with money for postage or pre-paid label are due back to the church Sunday, November 15.



*Every
Baby
Deserves
a
Home*

Carried to Full Term, Located in Haymarket Virginia, Is holding a **Jazz Concert Fundraiser**

Tickets are now on sale for our first-ever social distancing Jazz Concert fundraiser. Music will be provided by Black Market Music, one of the Metropolitan's most sought after Jazz Bands.



All funds raised will go to Carried To Full Term in support of providing long-term housing to women who are pregnant and homeless. In addition to investing in women to assist them in every area to become independent and self-sufficient, Carried To Full Term believes that every baby deserves a home and work tirelessly to help mothers and their children and have stability, housing, resources, safety, and care.

For tickets, go to

<https://carriedtofullterm.org/product/jazz-concert-tickets/>

For information about Carried to Full term, visit

<https://carriedtofullterm.org/>



CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

Happy fall y'all! I personally am excited about this beautiful, cooler weather and especially that our children learning again! I know it looks different than what we are used to, but I am excited about it none the less.

Speaking of learning, we decided to create little weekly videos of the Children's Sunday School Lesson and share them on the Haymarket Baptist Church's Facebook Page. We upload them on Saturdays (normally in the mornings). We have shared two so far and will continue to post those each week for the children to enjoy.

Seeing that last Fall the children decorated pumpkins and shared them with the Memory Care facility on Heathcote we thought we would (socially distanced) recreate that wonderful experience and share some love with our community again. There is a COVID twist this year though; this year you get to share your decorated pumpkin with someone that you would like to bless and make smile. We will paint outside on the grass of the Church on October 24, at 10:00 a.m. Each child will have their own plastic tarp to paint on. Please let me know if you can join us – I would like to make sure I have enough pumpkins/supplies for everyone. You can email me at smile4cc@yahoo.com or text at 410-499-0679. And we do not discriminate against age in the children's ministry so if you 'slightly' older children (read: adults) would like to participate we can accommodate all God's children (young and old).

We continue to pray for you and wish you and your family a wonderful Fall season.

Christy Wisor
Children's Committee Chairperson



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Fall is here! It is hard to believe, but soon the beautiful fall colors will show us God's handiwork. It is a time for us to get out and enjoy the season, as best we can, and let the beauty of fall lift us up!

We will conclude the study of Joshua in a couple of weeks. Our study for fall will be the Book of Proverbs. We will start the study on Monday, October 5, at 10:00 a.m. on zoom. Please call me or Ernestine Meyer if you are interested or if you need help getting on zoom. (emeyer@gmu.edu or bernieandrave@comcast.net.)

The Book of Proverbs is a collection of individual proverbs that offer skills in the art of Godly living. Proverbs, along with Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon are part of the Old Testament "Wisdom Literature." Just as Psalms is the hymnbook of the Old Testament, so Proverbs is the teacher's manual. Most of the Proverbs were written by Solomon. Proverbs advances the theme of the Bible, which is God's calling, preserving, and shaping a people for himself. Wisdom is the theme that weaves through the book. Wisdom comes from the Hebrew word for wisdom, "hokman." The word "proverb" comes from the verb meaning "to be like, to be compared with, to be parallel, to be similar."

I hope you will be joining us for this study. Blessings from Bernie,

Bernice Pearson

MISSION COMMITTEE

The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.
Luke 16:8-9

Like any good teacher, Jesus used a variety of methods to impart knowledge to his listeners, tailoring his approach to the needs of His audience. The most prevalent methodology employed by Jesus was the use of parables, which function as metaphors or similes, giving implicit or explicit comparisons. These comparisons typically drew on the social and cultural context of first-century Jewish Palestine. A familiarity of the time in which they lived made it easy for the people hearing Jesus to understand and relate to what He was teaching. Each parable has an underlying message that confronts readers with a call to respond to the work of God in Christ.

The scripture cited at the beginning of this article is part of the “Parable of the Shrewd Manager,” sometimes known as the “Parable of the Dishonest Manager.” Before continuing to read this essay, you should read the entire parable found in Luke 16:1-15 as a knowledge of the full story is important.

So now that you’re back, let’s dig into the study of this parable. On first reading, this may be one of the more difficult parables to understand. It appears to give the impression that a dishonest manager, who behaved shrewdly in his own interest, is to be emulated. That hardly seems like something that Jesus would advocate! Nor is that the point of this parable. That meaning is arrived at if we read and interpret this parable in the context of today’s culture. But we need to remember that the words and lessons of the Bible were written and spoken *to* the people of a different time even while they were written *for* us.

It then becomes necessary to understand the social and cultural context of first-century Jewish Palestine that was previously mentioned. This would have been easy for the original audience but is less so for us. The first thing to know is that the gallons of olive oil and the bushels of wheat owed most

likely were rental payments, not an incurred debt. Wealthy landowners of that time would lease property to others for a specified portion of the harvest. Whatever the negotiated amount of the rent, the farmer kept what was left after that was paid. In the case of a poor harvest, it was standard practice for these “rental” amounts to be decreased. It was also part of the Jewish Law that no interest could be charged for rent or the loan of money. Landowners often got around this stipulation by charging more for rent. Both actions provided room for negotiation after the initial deal was agreed to as the manager in the parable did.

In essence, the shrewd manager bargained with the landowner’s money and profits for his own benefit. The farmers would be so grateful to the manager for saving them some of their harvest, thus increasing their profit, that when he, the manager, in the future needed a place to live, they would welcome him into their homes. The landowner was so impressed by the manager’s shrewdness that he actually praises him! There certainly is a lot that can be learned from this parable! But it doesn’t quite seem like what Jesus would tell us to do.

A contextual study of the passages surrounding this parable offer a deeper understanding of the message of this story. Luke 14 tells the story of Jesus eating at the house of a “prominent Pharisee.” While there, Jesus is faced with a “man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body” (Luke 14:2). Despite the disapproval of the Pharisees for breaking the Sabbath Law, Jesus heals the man and then confronts them with the accusation that they would rescue their child or ox if it fell into a well on the Sabbath. The implication is that an ailing person is just as important.

This story is followed by the explanation of the cost of being a disciple and four more parables: The Parable of the Great Banquet, The Parable of the Lost Sheep, the Parable of the Lost Coin, and the Parable of the Lost Son. There is a definite theme among these lessons. Jesus warns the people following Him, and us, that to be His disciples we must be willing to give up everything that we have. Hmmm, that doesn’t sound like what the shrewd manager did. The message running through the parables is that of seeking the lost. When the guests invited to the feast refused to come, the host sent his servants out to invite others to the dinner. We also have a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. The message of all of these is that God seeks those who

are lost and needy. This is certainly not what the shrewd manager did!

The Parable of the Shrewd Manager is followed in Chapter 16 by the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus. In this story we see a stark contrast between the characters that could act as an illustration for the Shrewd Manager. He was too proud to beg so he set about finding a way to live well after he lost his job. But in the story of Lazarus, we see what eternity is like for the beggar and the rich man. The wealthy man, who could be the manager, is reminded by Abraham that “in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony” (Luke 16:25). In this story, being wealthy did not work out so well!

These surrounding stories, with a rather obvious message, help to elucidate the more complex meaning of “The Shrewd Manager” and its concluding verses. These enveloping parables clearly show that seeking the lost was, and is, of paramount importance to Jesus. If we apply this message to the passage under discussion, we arrive at a different meaning. Yes, the manager was praised for his shrewdness, and yes, Jesus instructed us that people of the world are shrewder than Christians and that we should use worldly wealth to gain friends. It seems as if we are right back where we started.

To move forward in our understanding, let’s look at the meaning of the word “shrewd.” Merriam Webster gives the definition of the word as, “marked by clever discerning awareness.” This sounds like a necessity for a businessperson or an entrepreneur. But what does it have to do with Christianity and seeking the lost? Peter told us that we should “always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have” (I Peter 3:15). A person needs to have a clever discerning awareness to do this. In other words, a person needs to be shrewd to seek and recognize opportunities, to take advantage of and to capitalize on them.

In the last verses of this parable, Jesus offers his application of this message. What we have has been given to us by God, be it talent, wealth, or yes, even shrewdness. If we use our gifts to advantage, not our own but God’s, He will bless us with more. Jesus goes on to say that “no one can serve two masters” (Luke 16:13). We cannot use our talent solely for our own advancement but should direct that effort to further God’s Kingdom. When Jesus

told us to use worldly wealth to gain friends, He was sending us to the poor who do not know Him. Remember the Parable of the Great Banquet. It is this ministry that will allow us to be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

Make no mistake. Jesus is not telling us that we can earn our way into heaven by our actions. What He is saying is that we have a job to do. We are to use our gifts to minister to the “people of the world. This is the call of this parable for us to respond to the work of God in Christ.

Are you using your gifts, whether they be wealth, knowledge, talent, time, giftedness, or yes, even shrewdness, to draw others to Christ? How we use these reveals much about where our heart is. Where is your heart focused?

Edith Kennedy
Mission Committee Chairperson



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Oct. 2	Jean Fairall John Burke Gretchen Saylor
Oct. 3	Jeremy Allue Mac McVearry
Oct. 4	Grace Allue
Oct. 9	Warren Thompson, Sr.
Oct. 11	Virginia Abbott
Oct. 14	Norma Thompson
Oct. 16	Ava Bacon
Oct. 17	Janet Romine
Oct. 20	Adam Mazzu Ann Whitney
Oct. 22	Reed Sawyer
Oct. 23	John Carey Claudia Brawley
Oct. 30	Dustin Bayol Harrison Stewart



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Happy Fall Church Family,
 All is well with our preschool and kindergarten program! We were just announced as the winner of BEST PRESCHOOL in the Haymarket/Gainesville area with Haymarket Lifestyle Magazine. People voted in their winning entries over the summer, and we now have a new banner hanging in the hallway for 2020--- at least something GREAT has come of 2020!

We are navigating the new COVID19 procedures well, and the children are so resilient! Each day when we come outside to do the carline, the children undo their car windows and poke their foreheads out for a temperature scan-- they are well-trained! We are so blessed to conduct school each day in such a healthy and loving environment. We held our first fundraiser (gift wrap) and did very well, and hope to put a few thousand dollars towards our Zono machine and other expenses towards opening with the CDC requirements. We just finished up school pictures--the children all dressed up- lots of big bows, bow ties, and 'church shoes'.... we LOVE it! September included the study of Creation, Adam and Eve and the story of Noah. Children are reciting their verses each week and Kindergarten is learning the books of the Old Testament. Wrapped up the month with a unit on Apples and Johnny Appleseed, and outdoor easel painting under a canopy- a big hit!! Some days it seems very normal around here!

In October our sweet little 2-year old's start. We held them off for a month, thinking our 3's and 4's would be a bucket of tears with separation anxiety, and would need a month to get settled. Well, it turns out that no one cried, everyone is so happy to be in school!

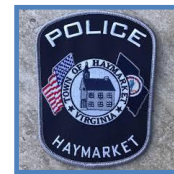
We will continue the month learning our letters, sounds, numbers in preschool, while Kindergarten takes their PALS test and gets started with reading groups. At the end of the month we will

host our annual Harvest Hoedown- with ponies and pumpkins for all!

Early in October we will hold a fundraiser called Claire's Gourmet. This is frozen food that can be ordered up until October 9 and will be delivered here on November 4. Please let the school office know if you are interested in placing an order for cheesecake, pound cake, pizza, cookie dough etc... by calling 703-753-9561. The frozen food will be available to order and pay for online, happy for your support- just let me know!

Although things are very different this year, we are grateful for the opportunity to have 'in-person' school and for many on our staff to keep their jobs. We would appreciate your continued prayer support- for good health for everyone involved in this school. We know it is by God's amazing grace that we are open and have some normalcy for His children! Our school staff, classroom and office are working extremely hard. So much more has been put upon them with all the changes, yet they press on with happy hearts. Pray for them to feel encouraged by the great work that is being done here for His children. Our preschool council has met every need. We definitely know we are blessed with all the safety measures put in place. It is busy, but happy!

Laurie Frasz, Director
 HBCPK



SECURITY OFFICERS FOR OCTOBER

We greatly appreciate these officers dedicating their time and effort towards the safety of our members and visitors.

October 4	Randy Anderson
October 11	Randy Anderson
October 18	Randy Anderson
October 25	Tim Hood



SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

On October 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a special called business meeting for the purpose of approving the budget for the year 2021. It will be live and on Zoom. The budget and Zoom login information will be shared with you by email with paper copies available in the church office upon request beginning Sunday, October 4.

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