

Haymarket Herald

March 2021



The Gospel of Mark

How Can HBC Get Back to “Normal”?

If you have been attending Haymarket Baptist Church for years or even decades, you may find yourself wondering, “When will church get back to ‘normal’?” I have had this same thought myself.

Of course, none of us has a crystal ball. God has not given me the power to know the future. But let me just share my thoughts about this question as one friend to another.

First of all, there are several reasons to be encouraged. By my informal count, at least 23 of our members and friends of the church have already received their second Covid-19 vaccine. Another 26 members and friends have received their first shot, and all these folks are scheduled to receive their second Covid-19 vaccine by mid-March. That will mean 49 of “our folks” are much safer because of the vaccine. Others, like me*, have registered with the Virginia Health Department, or their county health department, or with some other organization. We are “next in line” to receive our vaccines. By summer, I hope that we are nearing 100 members and friends who have been vaccinated. That will make most (not all) of our members feel safe enough to return to church in person.

Second, we have received a grant from the Duke Street Trinity Memorial Baptist Foundation that will help pay for the creation of two “Zoom Stations.” These “Zoom Stations” will allow us to hold many different meetings with some people in-person at the church, while others are calling in on Zoom. Your Sunday School class, Bible Study, Deacons, Church Council or Committees will be able to meet using these “Zoom Stations”! Another step in returning to “normal.”

Third, we all need to be praying and asking God to show us ways to work together and reach new folks in our community. God never wants his church to be content with “getting back to normal.” There are many girls and boys, teenagers, and adults in Haymarket and Gainesville who need to come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Many others are already Christians but, for various reasons, have no regular church home. This Covid-19 Pandemic has devastated many of them and some of them long for a spiritual home. We need to reach out and help them find a home with Jesus Christ at Haymarket Baptist Church.

In Christ,
Pastor Mark

*as we were going to press I received my first Covid-19 shot!



REV. ALLAN SMITH

Making Space for Discipleship

In any church, discipleship is a core value. How are individual followers of Christ growing in faith and in mission as people who are being formed to share God’s love with the world? I recently came across an article discussing four different spaces of discipleship that exist in church. It helped me to consider how we might see each of these spaces at Haymarket Baptist Church. Here are the four spaces:

Public Space - The public space of discipleship is the large group gatherings that allow people visibility into the entire church. For us, the best example of this would be a worship service on Sunday morning where everyone gathers together (yes, I realize that many are “gathering” on livestream right now but you get the point!).

Social Space - The social space of discipleship is a space where people feel more connected. Knowing each other by name and caring for each other in times of need are examples of being in a social space. It is about community and journeying through life together. For us, the way that deacons care for their flock might be a social space. Or the way that a group cares for one another at Wednesday Night Bible Study or Sunday School might be a social space.

Personal Space - The personal space of discipleship is a space where people not only learn more about God, but also reflect about discipleship in their own lives. The way that Jesus called twelve disciples to

follow him is an example of a personal space. Certainly, the disciples had other friends that cared for one another, but Jesus and the twelve disciples formed a space of conversation, reflection, and accountability in a deeper level of relationship.

Intimate Space - The intimate space of discipleship is the space of greatest vulnerability. While Jesus had twelve disciples, he was even closer with three - Peter, James, and John. Within a small group of mutual trust, respect, and encouragement, a more intimate level of relationship might exist allowing for reflection and growth of discipleship.

The point is that a healthy church allows for each of these four spaces of discipleship to be present. So, I ask, how does your life of discipleship with Haymarket Baptist Church fit into each of these four spaces of discipleship?

As always, I am interested in any thoughts or reflections that you might have.

Allan Smith

Associate Pastor for Community Outreach



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In the case of inclement weather on a Sunday, service cancellations will be communicated through the church deacons who will contact their families. Updates will also be available via church-wide email, church website, and social media if possible. During the week, the church follows the closing policy of Prince William County schools. Therefore, when the schools are closed and/or evening activities are cancelled, all in-person church activities for that day or evening will be cancelled or shifted to a virtual format. It is hopeful that any on-line church activities can be held as scheduled.



DEACON'S BENCH

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him (Genesis 1:27). When God created man, He made him in the likeness of God (Genesis 5:1).

We know from reading in the book of Genesis that when God made us human beings he did so “in His own image”. On that sixth day when God was creating cattle, creeping things, and beasts of the earth he created man as we know him, which is wonderfully, “in His own image”. We can take from this text in the Old Testament that man, as he is described here, is at least in our minds like his maker.

In the New Testament we gain perhaps a clearer image of this perception when we view Christ Jesus as the image of God. We read *For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him* (Colossians 1:19). The glory of God the father was represented through Jesus Christ as he walked the earth. We expose this body of ours to the earth as it is our “earthly” body. It sees corruption, sorrow, weakness, hurt, anguish, and deceit. Our body experiences our daily struggle as sinners. Remember however, that Jesus walked this earth in such a body. How glorious is it to know that after our earthly times God gives us a body as he has determined it, fit to live eternally with Him! What a heavenly image that is!

You see, we learn in Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, in chapter 15, that God will take us from our natural body, our earthly and weakened body that was made from the dust of the ground, and raise us in glory and spiritual power! When you are down,

brothers and sisters, remember that you were created in the image of the almighty God - the creator of all things. C.H. Spurgeon said “Mountains, when in darkness hidden, are as real as in day; and God’s love is as true to thee now as it was in thy brightest moments.” Do not ever feel that God’s love may be cloaked in darkness. Rather, pursue His love and spread his love in all that you do! God’s love is abundant. It is vast and it is for you. God is love and you are an image of this love. As His image, seek to act in accordance with love in all things, in all relationships, in all conversations and in all of your daily activities. Allow God’s love dwelling in you to be ever clear to others each and every day.

Brad Ginn

March Deacon of the Month



BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

Mar. 1	Sam Hessenauer Sue Copen
Mar. 5	Carter Richardson Ellen Plagata Maxine Leetch Dorothy French
Mar. 6	Kelly Shirley Evelyn Guiliani
Mar. 10	Donna Stallings
Mar. 11	Amanda Mazzu
Mar. 16	Joseph DeCusati
Mar. 18	Dan Sawyer
Mar. 19	Charles Drey
Mar. 22	J.T. Frazier Cheryl Cox
Mar. 23	Paul Sellers Richard Romine
Mar. 24	Joyce Fairfax Jim Vail
Mar. 25	Ed Drey
Mar. 26	Courtney Brown
Mar. 30	David Taylor



SUNDAY SCHOOL RE-OPENING

We are happy to open Sunday school for the children this month. Many precautions have been considered as the children's safety is most important to all. Please take note of the changes the children will follow until further notice.

Beginning Sunday, March 7, at 10:55 a.m., children will gather in the hallway outside the Nursery. The teachers will greet them and suggest a bathroom break, using the bathroom in the same hallway. The stairway closest to the church office will be the one used for entry and dismissal.

The Youth Room will be used as the children's classroom during the Pandemic. The children will not be dismissed from the worship service after the children's message as was done previously. Face masks will be provided for all the children and teachers. The appropriate sizes will be available on the table as you enter the Sunday School entrance. Greeters can direct you to these items.

Each child will have their hands sanitized before and after class with hand sanitizer.

Trays and baggies will be used to distribute items to the children and will be sanitized after use as well as the items used by each child. Teachers will monitor the activities so that children will not pass supplies between themselves.

Hula Hoops will be used to ensure Social Distancing around each child. How fun!

Our goal is to share God's love not germs. If your household has fever, symptoms of a cold, or flu, please consider watching the worship service online from home.

If worship services are cancelled we will not hold Children's Sunday school.

If you would like to join in on the fun, to teach and learn from the children, we would like for you to join the group of Sunday School Teachers. We can find a schedule that will fit your needs to attend worship and experience the gospel through the eyes of a child.

Lastly, if you have any questions about the reopening of Sunday School, feel free to contact Linda Rhodes at 703-328-7710. Her email address is lolur46@comcast.net.

Linda Rhodes,
HBC Sunday School Director



OUTREACH AND HOMETOUCH COMMITTEES

Sharing Gods Love

I used to pray that God would feed the hungry or do this or that. Now I pray that he will guide me to do whatever I'm supposed to do. What I can do.

I used to pray for answers but now I'm praying for strength. I used to believe that prayer changed things. Now I know prayer changes us and we can change the world. Mother Teresa

Both the Outreach and HomeTouch Committees represent Haymarket Baptist Church in the community. Both share God's love. Both need your recommendations and input.

Please let me know if you are aware of someone in the church community who would benefit from visitations from our committees. Or, if you would like to be on the HomeTouch committee.

I read the above quote from Mother Teresa and thought how true it was. God wants **us** to make a difference. God needs us to act.

Your support and suggestions for our committees are welcome and appreciated.

Gayle Hindle
Outreach and HomeTouch Committees
Chairperson

Luv2thread@aol.com



JANE'S PANTRY

Food Needs for Jane's Pantry as of 2/16/2021

This Easter we will provide Food Baskets for those in our community needing assistance. Since Jane's Pantry was emptied during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays (Good Work!), we are asking for everyone's help restocking our shelves. Please leave your items on the kitchen counter or the counter in the Fellowship Hall.

Boxes of Instant Mashed Potatoes
 Boxes of Stuffing
 Gravy
 Sweet Potatoes
 Soup
 Tuna
 Canned Chicken
 Salmon
 Beef Stew
 Baked Beans
 Peanut Butter & Jelly
 Evaporated Milk or Powdered Milk
 Sugar
 Cake Mix & Icing
 Hamburger Helper or Tuna Helper
 Macaroni & Cheese
 Oatmeal, Hot or Cold Cereal
 Pancake Mix & Syrup
 Tomato Sauce, Paste, Puree
 Spaghetti or Alfredo Sauce and any Pasta
 Canned Pasta such as Ravioli, Spaghetti, ABC's & 123's...
 Apple Sauce & Canned Fruit as well as Fruit Cups
 Granola Bars
 Canned Green Beans, Corn, Carrots, Spinach

Condiments, Ketchup, Mustard, Pickles, Mayo...
 Coffee, Tea, or Juices (Juice Boxes)
 Cookies
 Other canned or boxed items are also welcome

Try to select pop open cans when possible. Some people have difficulty using a can opener and others do not own one. Also, many people live alone and small cans are perfect.

If you can offer gift cards, we do usually go to Walmart for hams and fresh food items. If you would like to contribute money to this mission you are welcomed to mark your check "Food Baskets" or place cash in an envelope marked the same way. Place in the Offering Plate; after being blessed, the money will be used to shop for items still needed.

We sincerely request your prayers for these families and for God to lead our efforts in his service.

Linda Rhodes
 Jane's Pantry



SECURITY OFFICERS FOR MARCH

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

March 7	Jeff Shaver
March 14	Tim Hood
March 21	Randy Anderson
March 28	Jeff Shaver



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Dear Church Family,
Can you believe it has been a year since we started our shutdown for the Coronavirus? My, what a year! What a learning curve! What blessings the Lord has provided, and oh, the answers to prayer!

We have done our enrollment for next year, and have long wait lists due to the social distancing still in place with the Virginia governor's office. There are a lot of disappointed but understanding people. We are hopeful to start next year normally, but that has yet to be determined! Summer Camp will still be held in June, using all the current protocols of distancing, handwashing, carlines, temperature scans etc.- just like we have done all school year. We are thankful that most of the staff has been vaccinated with at least the first dose, and we will feel much safer as we continue the year. We still have had zero children contract the COVID-19 virus. It has been a great year, health wise, thus far.

February had some tricky weather to navigate, but we still managed to learn about the groundhog, celebrated Valentine's Day by creating cards for others, focused on Lincoln and Washington for President's Day, celebrated 100 days of school with lots of math activities, along with our all-time favorite, Pajama Day! February is a favorite month for preschoolers! Our teachers completed some virtual training on Saturday, February 20. I will have to say that the staff has done an amazing job of teaching and nurturing the children this year. Many have said it has been a lonelier year- teaching without an assistant, staggered starts, with no time to chat with one another- but also a rewarding year, as you

see the children grow and learn. It is so uplifting to hear the singing in the halls- "This is the Day that the Lord has made..." "The B-I-B-L-E" and our patriotic tunes being belted out with enthusiasm!

March begins with Dr. Seuss week- Wacky Wednesday and all the fun reading opportunities! We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day by wearing green and learning about the Trinity. We will host our annual Easter Egg hunts by class, and then enjoy Easter Break! We are so blessed with how the year has been going, and how our protocols have been working. The children are looking forward to nicer weather and more time outside...come on Spring! We have witnessed many answers to prayer, and God has indeed provided for us, and protected us this school year. We have much to be thankful for. Have a blessed month of March!

Laurie Frasz
Director
Haymarket Baptist Church Preschool &
Kindergarten

A NOTE OF THANKS TO MY CHURCH FAMILY

I am overwhelmed, grateful and so thankful for family, friends, and my church family. You lifted me up in prayers, which I know brought a calmness and peace over me in some of the rough days of my COVID experience. It was scary but there were also blessings in that I had no respiratory symptoms. I had a wonderful infectious disease doctor and when she said you will be in the hospital for five days- I gave her no argument!

You let me know you were with me with your cards, texts, calls and bringing food, offers to drive me. I felt God's presence with me, and He strengthened me daily.

I am feeling good again and all the snow and icy weather has made me content to "be still" and give myself even more time for recovery,

You have been a blessing to me.

Bernice Pearson

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
7 8:00 Deacon Meeting 9:45 Deaf Ministry 9:45 Sunday School (Zoom) 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson	8 9:30 Women's Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00 Nominating Committee Mtg.	9 4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)	10 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00 Quartet Practice	11	12	13 8:30 Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
14 9:45 Deaf Ministry 9:45 Sunday School (Zoom) 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson Daylight Savings Time begins	15 9:30 Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	16 4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)	17 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00 Quartet Practice	18	19	20 8:30 Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
21 9:45 Deaf Ministry 9:45 Sunday School (Zoom) 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson	22 9:30 Women's Bible Study (Zoom) <i>April Newsletter Deadline</i>	23 4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)	24 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00 Quartet Practice	25	26	27 8:30 Men's Bible Study (Zoom)
28 Palm Sunday 9:45 Deaf Ministry 9:45 Sunday School (Zoom) 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson	29 9:30 Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	30 4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)	31 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00 Quartet Practice	Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it. Luke 18:17(NIV)		

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.
John 15:16

Last month we talked about growing tomatoes: preparing the soil, choosing the variety, applying the proper amount of water and fertilizer to assure a bumper crop. And then waiting for the harvest. But there is more required than just nourishing and feeding these plants. Some plants are not compatible with tomatoes while others make a good pairing. And then there is the continuing bane of weeds and the need for pruning. Gardening is a long-term process.

Tomatoes should not be planted near eggplant, corn, potatoes, or cabbage. Eggplant, potatoes, and tomatoes are all members of the nightshade family. This means that they are susceptible to early and late blight that can kill the plants. Like the Covid-19 restrictions, isolation of vulnerable plants is necessary to continued good health. Corn is another plant that should not be grown near tomatoes for a similar reason. The pests that are drawn to and attach potatoes also feed on tomatoes. When blight or pests attack, they will quickly spread to nearby vulnerable plants. Cabbage also is not a good companion plant for tomatoes because the two compete for root space. This rivalry for room will result in stunted plants and small tomatoes. Be careful what you put near your tomato plants!

Just as there are plants that should not be grown near tomatoes, there are others that should be used to surround tomato plants. Red Spider Mites are a major pest that attacks tomato plants and can devastate the harvest. Fortunately, these pests are repelled by planting garlic near tomatoes. Another plant that is beneficial to tomatoes in a symbiotic relationship is leaf lettuce. The broad leaves of the lettuce create a ground cover that retains moisture in the soil and reduces weeds, while the tomatoes offer shade that creates a longer growing season for the lettuce. As they grow, green beans fix nitrogen in the soil, providing one of the nutrient needs of tomatoes. Surrounding tomatoes with the right plants will enhance the harvest.*

In addition to choosing the correct companion plants, sometimes it is necessary to do

some weeding and pruning. Mature, healthy tomatoes will actually block the growth of weeds, so the only time that weeding is really needed is during the first few weeks. But another issue with tomato plants is the appearance of suckers. These are extra shoots that grow in the joint between the branch and the main stem of the plant. If allowed to stay on the plant, the extra foliage saps nutrients, prohibiting the development of the actual fruit.

These are all important things to keep in mind when growing tomatoes to assure that the plants bear fruit, and that the fruit ripens to maturity. However, these lessons also have other applications as well. Jesus often used agrarian parables to present His message so that they would be understood by His audience. Just like those people, there is much that we can understand from these teachings. While this month's scripture is not a parable, it offers the same opportunity if we dig into it.

Just as being surrounded by the wrong companion plants will negatively affect the growth of tomatoes, we need to make sure that we are not filling our lives with the wrong companions or activities. Some people or groups that we associate with may spread harmful ideas and beliefs that affect our ability to bear fruit for God. We can't always control who is around us. Who we work with at our jobs is not always negotiable; we are sometimes required to work with certain people whom we would rather avoid. However, outside of work, we have more control over whom we spend time with and the activities in which we engage.

Though people are not susceptible to blight as tomatoes are, ideas and attitudes can be just as infectious to us. If we are continually bombarded by the idea that premarital sex is okay and that abortion is simply a woman's choice, whether it be from people with whom we associate or on the television shows that we watch, that idea can creep into our own belief system, becoming our attitude about these issues. Similar to the competition for space between cabbages and tomatoes, if we spend too much time watching television and reading the popular books and magazines instead of studying the Bible, our Christian roots do not have room to grow but are forced out by secular ideas. Both of these situations will negatively affect the fruit that we bear. Like the care we give tomato plants, we need to be careful about what influences we allow access to us.

Rather than surrounding ourselves with people who inhibit our ability to bear fruit, we need

to choose companions and activities that will enhance our fruit-bearing capability. This can be done by choosing the best companions and situations to strengthen and enhance our God-given talents and skills. The right friends and places can act as a shield and defense against the “pests” that attack our resolve and attempts to be what God has called us to be. Spending time in the study of God’s word helps to repel the pests of today’s society that teach that people who cling to Christian beliefs are less intelligent than those who have cast aside those ideas. Choosing friends who are supportive and like-minded offers us the shade of the symbiotic lettuce plant to the tomato which allows us to continue to grow and develop. Just as the tomato plant benefits from the right companion plants, so do we in our quest to bear fruit.

Sometime these efforts to be the best “fruit-bearer” that we can be is painful. Just as useless suckers should be removed from tomato plants, we sometimes need pruning. That tomato sucker does not harm the plant itself; it only makes it bushier with a more expansive leaf system. This may seem to be an indication of a healthier plant than one that has fewer branches. However, not all branches are productive. Suckers will not bear fruit and only drain nutrients. We sometimes need to make such choices in our own lives. For example, I love to read and have recently discovered cozy mysteries. I could (and have) spent hours each day reading these novels. There is nothing wrong with reading! Everyone should read, including books of fiction. However, when that activity so takes over a person’s life (like mine) that other activities are negatively impacted, then that pastime needs to be pruned. By spending so much time reading for the sheer pleasure of it, I was no longer engaging in “fruit-bearing” activities. There was not enough time for both, so I had to choose. I pruned the cozy mysteries.


So this has (hopefully) been an interesting and edifying examination of how people are, in many ways, similar in fruit bearing capabilities and frailties to tomato plants. However, there is one more aspect of the verse quoted at the beginning of this treatise that should not be overlooked. Just as we as gardeners select the plants that we want to grow in our garden, so did Jesus choose us to bear fruit for Him. God could save the world without our help, but He chose us to do this task for Him. In this there is another gardening analogy. If a tomato plant is infected with blight or is hosting a colony of Red

Spider Mites, those plants will be removed to prevent those infestations from spreading to healthy plants. If a plant is simply not producing tomatoes, it too will be uprooted and thrown away to allow more room for those that are bearing fruit. God chose us and gave us a task to accomplish. If we are not doing His bidding, we may be cast aside for others to fulfill that need. This does not mean that we have lost our salvation. It simply means that we have disappointed the Master Gardener.

As we go through our lives, we should surround ourselves with beneficial or symbiotic companions. We must be willing to weed out and prune away those things that prevent us from fulfilling our God-given task of bearing fruit for Him. Are you bearing fruit for God or does your life need pruning?

*Warren Thompson, okra is also a companion plant with tomatoes, but more for the benefit of the okra than the tomatoes.

Edith Kennedy
Mission Committee Chairperson



Thank you everyone for your prayers, cards and calls in the death of my dear sister, Betty Cannon. My church family means so much to me.

Thank you also for your prayers for my son’s surgery. He is doing well. Also, my blood pressure medications have adjusted to my need.

I appreciate all your prayers. You are such a blessing to me. I look forward to worshiping with you again soon!

Dot Todd



CHILDREN’S COMMITTEE

Welcome March! Who is excited that we are one month closer to Spring? Me! Me! I cannot wait for the flowers to bud and to shed my winter coat. I know we are coming off the heels of Valentine’s Day, but we have Easter to look forward to and the celebration of our risen Savior. I am really excited that we are planning to host our Easter Eggstravanza this year. It will look a little different than in years past. In an effort to continue to keep our church family and community safe we will be hosting a Drive-Thru Easter Eggstravanza this year. It will be comprised of a few stations: I Spy, mini-field day, a living scene of Easter, filled Easter Eggs gift as well as an opportunity to see the Easter Bunny. Every year the Eggstravanza brings a large gathering from our community and we hope we are able to provide a small token of joy to them and our church family this Easter. We are in need of a few volunteers for this effort; if you are willing to share your time with us please contact me. It will be on April 3rd but the time is still to be determined. Please keep an eye on the church bulletin for the date. Happy Easter to you and your family!

Christy Wisor
Children’s Committee

HAYMARKET BAPTIST CHURCH
PO BOX 182
HAYMARKET, VA 20168

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

March! How can it be? I believe I have lost a month in there!

We will begin a new study by Dr. David Jeremiah--"Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven." This study is on Heaven. A lot of scripture will be from the book of Revelation, but this is not a study on the book of Revelation. We will start this study on Monday, March 1, via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.

If you are interested to know how to join us - please call me or Ernestine Meyer.

Blessings from Bernie

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