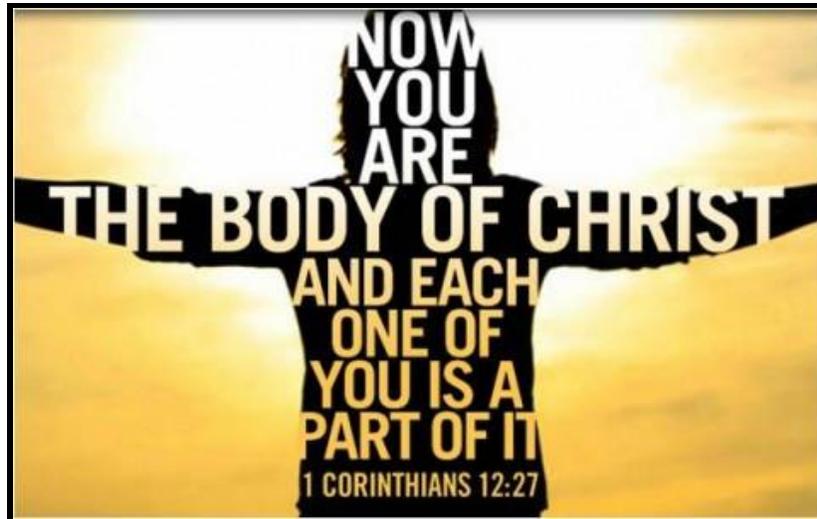


Haymarket Herald

May 2021



The Gospel of Mark

Is It Time to Return to Worship?

As I write this column, spring has come to Haymarket. It's 72 degrees outside, with blue skies and fluffy white clouds in the air. The beautiful weather encourages me to ask, "Is it time to return to in-person worship?"

Of course, every member and friend of Haymarket Baptist will have to answer that question for themselves. No one person, and certainly not the pastor, can answer for them. But the question is absolutely worth asking.

Ever since the deacons voted last June to reopen "in person" worship, a steady stream of members and friends has returned to worship in our sanctuary and/or fellowship hall (via the 86" TV). During the summer, 30-some folks worshipped in person most Sundays. Each family, couple or individual sat quite a distance from everyone else. We all wore masks, and only the person speaking or the choir quartet singing, took their masks off. We were very careful and, praise God, we have stayed pretty safe throughout the pandemic.

In the fall and winter we began to see a few more folks join us for worship, 40-some on most Sundays. But now that spring has come, we are starting to see 50-some people in worship (including the teachers and children for Children's Sunday School). Folks are still spread out between the sanctuary and fellowship hall, so no one has to sit close to anyone outside their family group. But it is good to see a gradual return of our members and friends to worship.

More than 90 of our members and friends have received their second Covid vaccine, and another dozen have received their first shot. That leads many people to feel relatively safe in our worship services. The Deacon Reopening committee has voted to allow the congregation to sing one hymn each Sunday (with masks on), so we are very gradually getting back to "normal" worship.

I hope you think seriously about returning to worship this spring or summer. If you are not quite ready, I certainly understand. But it will be very good to see you whenever you return!

In Christ,
Pastor Mark



REV. ALLAN SMITH

Seeking the Welfare of Haymarket

Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.
Jeremiah 29:7 (NIV)

The Israelites had been taken into captivity at the hands of the Babylonians. Similar to when the Israelites lived in Egypt under Pharaoh, they were in unfamiliar territory. Sure, God promised that they would only be in exile 70 years. The temptation for the Israelites was to pull back from the Babylonian culture, to just wait out this period of life as they looked forward to a return to the Promised Land.

But the prophet Jeremiah's words call the Israelites to lean into life in Babylon, to participate in the culture, to settle down, planting gardens and harvesting the crops. In Jeremiah 29:7, the prophet urges the Israelites to seek the peace and prosperity of the land where they live in exile for their own benefit.

The English Standard Version (ESV) translates Jeremiah 29:7 in this way: "But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare."

In short, the Israelites are called to join the people of Babylon in seeking the common good for the community. To live in a city is to seek things that make a better life for all the people who live there.

Are people hungry? Help them find food. Are people searching for community and friendship? Help to develop kindness and compassion.

And the call for Haymarket Baptist Church as a community of faith is the same. How can we seek the welfare of the community of Haymarket? What needs do you see in our community? Where are people hurting and how might we help as a congregation?

There are plenty of opportunities. Let us seek the welfare of Haymarket as a part of this community.

Allan Smith
Associate Pastor for Community Outreach



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

I am excited to tell you that we are going to be offering our Bible Study by Zoom and Hybrid (in-church) starting Monday, April 26 at 10:00 a.m. So many have now had the vaccine and feel safer to gather in person.

We will be following the guidelines still in place, for in-church activities. We will wear masks, social distance and sanitize. We plan on meeting in the area just outside the sanctuary. You will be asked to come to the door down from the double doors in the corner. I think that we can have 10 in attendance but will check on that to be sure.

We continue our study on *The Mysteries of Heaven* but, will soon finish it and then we will start a new study---yet to be decided. We will meet until sometime in June and then may take a break for a few weeks.

Please know, that you are welcome to stay on Zoom and that is great! If you have wanted to be in person, then that time has come for you to join us in-person again. Looking forward to this new adventure and to seeing all of you.

I am so grateful to Morgan Jones, Dee Thompson, Ernestine Meyer, Allan Smith and Mark Olson for all their support to keep us connected during this past year. They have had to deal with someone who is not a technology - intelligent person but I have learned a little.

Blessings from Bernie



DEACON'S BENCH

A Parent's Spiritual Responsibility

Sharing Jesus is our most important duty

- *Nurture them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*
Ephesians 6:4
- *Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*
Proverbs 22:6

Enjoy your children and through prayer be blessed.

Deacon Cheryl Cox
May Deacon of the Month

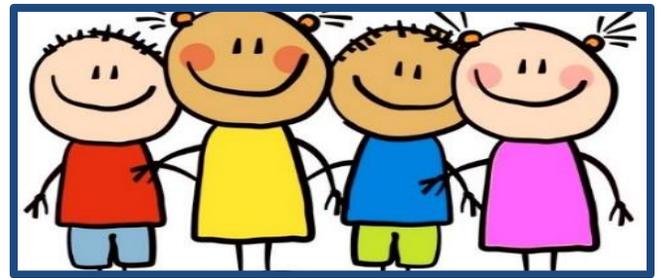
"If my people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways: then will I hear from heaven, and forgive their sin, and will heal their land."
2 Chronicles 7 :14

Prayer

Teaching your children to pray is one of the most important responsibilities of a Christian parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or stepparent. This also applies to Sunday school teachers. This does not imply that those who are not parents do not have a responsibility to be an example to children. They learn from us the good and the bad whoever we are.

I remember seeing my father on his knees beside his bed every night. I also remember seeing my father as well as the other men in church get out of the pew and get on their knees when the Pastor lead prayer from the pulpit. This makes a big impression on me as a child. It taught me to get on my knees before getting into my bed. My little sister and I learned to pray very early in life and I am very grateful to both my parents for showing me how to pray, for setting that example.

Having your own personal relationship with God through prayer is one of the most supportive and comforting relationships you can have during the hard times and the sad times and the happy times. As adults we need to have that most important conversation at the beginning and at the end of the day. Your Heavenly Father wants to hear from you, always.



CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

April showers bring May flowers! Have you had a chance to walk around and enjoy the beautiful spring colors that God has painted on our beautiful world? I find it so pretty and refreshing, especially after a long winter. And another thing to be joyous about – Children are back in school (Can I get an Amen!) and our Sunday School is open for singing, playing, learning about God, and crafting. Every Sunday there is lots of laughter and a little bit of silliness too! We hope that you will consider returning to church and let your children join the Children's Sunday School during the same time. It looks a little different now; the children go directly to Sunday School at 11am in the youth area upstairs. The pastor still shares a children's sermon during Sunday worship and the children still actively listen to those children's messages, they just watch it live-streaming during circle time now. So, join us for church so your children can join us for Sunday School.

Mother's Day is right around the corner and I wanted to share something with you in honor of Mother's Day. This last year has been tough on everyone, the elderly, children, working parents and

society as a whole. However, I feel that Mothers took a very hard hit this past year. Not only did your life go sideways but your children's life did as well and as a mother the onus was on you to pivot, adjust to the changes and keep going. The way that you have taken each new challenge in stride over the last year is a testament to your role, tenacity, and strength as a mother. You have kept your family going and you have come out the other side stronger! Please be sure you do something nice for yourself, compliment yourself, and take time for yourself this Mother's Day. Your family has gotten through this year because of YOU! Be sure to own that, be proud of yourself and reward yourself!

We leave you with this beautiful Mother's Day poem to remind you how special and loved you really are!

Wonderful Mother

God made a wonderful mother,
 A mother who never grows old;
 He made her smile of the sunshine,
 And He molded her heart of pure gold;
 In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,
 In her cheeks fair roses you see;
 God made a wonderful mother,
 And He gave that dear mother to me.
 ~ Pat O'Reilly

Sunday School Teachers for May:

[May 2](#) - Danielle

[May 9](#) (Mother's Day) - Christy

[May 16](#) - Danielle

[May 23](#) - Christy

[May 30](#) (Memorial) - Danielle

[June 6](#) - Christy

Christy Wisor, Children's Committee



JANE'S PANTRY

*And do not forget to do good and share with others,
 for with such sacrifices God is pleased.
 Hebrews 13:16*

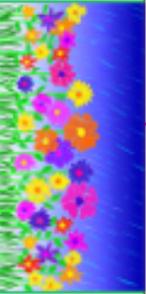
Jane's Pantry has been very successful as a result of the many donations and financial contributions given by our church family. A huge thank you goes to everyone who gave food, money, and time to make the Easter boxes a success.. If you know of anyone in need of the Food Pantry ministry, please contact Allan Smith at 703-754-8546 or by email, Allan@MyHBC.org.

Linda Rhodes



MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 1	Joe Mazzu Ann York
May 2	Elizabeth Shirley
May 5	Amber Terrant Kristen Shepherd Lisa Mazzu Christine Rawls
May 9	Brittani Riddle
May 10	Angela Sloan Frances Kennedy
May 12	Vickie Tackett
May 13	Mary Riddle
May 15	Bernice Pearson
May 18	Debbie Young Grace Gough
May 20	Steven King
May 22	Jim Cafferty
May 23	Steve Thacker
May 24	Valerie Faw Jackie Fletcher
May 25	John Gough
May 26	Beatriz Lassiter Ryan Bayol
May 27	Nathan Morgan Tillian Heidenreich
May 29	Ruth Middleton



May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>8:00 Deacon Meeting (Hybrid) 9:30 Sunday School (Zoom&Hybrid) 9:45 Deaf Ministry 10:55 Children's Sunday School</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 Women's Bible Study (Hybrid) 7:00 Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:30 Brunch Bunch (Zoom) 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Hybrid) 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:30 Men's Bible Study (Zoom) 8 9:00Men's Bible Study (Zoom)</p>
<p>9 Mother's Day</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School (Hybrid) 9:45 Deaf Ministry 10:55 Children's Sunday School 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:30 Brunch Bunch (Zoom) 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Hybrid) 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 Men's Bible Study (Zoom)</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School (Hybrid) 9:45 Deaf Ministry 10:55 Children's Sunday School 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson 5:00 YouthIgnite</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:30 Brunch Bunch (Zoom) 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Hybrid) 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Hope Tree Golf Tournament</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 Men's Bible Study (Zoom)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School (Hybrid) 9:45 Deaf Ministry 10:55 Children's Sunday School 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 Women's Bible Study (Hybrid) June Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4:40 ASL Class 7:00 Bible Study - People of the Bible (Zoom)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:30 Brunch Bunch (Zoom) 6:00 Prayer Mtg & Bible Study (Hybrid) 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00 Men's Bible Study (Zoom)</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9:30 Sunday School (Hybrid) 9:45 Deaf Ministry 10:55 Children's Sunday School 11:00 Worship – Dr. Olson</p>	<p>31 Memorial Day</p> <p>10:00 Women's Bible Study (Hybrid)</p>	<p>Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. 1 Corinthians 16:13 (Hybrid – Zoom and In-person)</p>				

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Again, Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." John 20:21

How well do you understand the mission of Christ on earth? We all probably know that He came to live a sinless life in order to be the perfect sacrifice to atone for the sins of all humanity throughout time. It was His appointed task to live, die on the cross, and then rise from the dead. Through these actions, He became the ultimate Passover lamb whose spilled blood provided protection from death. However, this entailed some scaffolding steps.

For Jesus to become the Savior, the Messiah, His death had to happen, but He could only save those who believed in Him. John 3:16 tells us that "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Jesus gave His life so that all could be saved, but only those who believe that He did this will be saved. Thus, a secondary purpose for Jesus was to show that He was the Son of God and the Christ.

To achieve this, Jesus spent much of His time teaching those who followed Him. This wasn't just the Apostles. Matthew tells us that "large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed Him" (Matt. 4:25). There are numerous stories in the Bible that tell of the crowds that came to hear Jesus teach. Three examples are the people who heard the Sermon on the Mount, the group that so filled a house that the lame man carried by his friends could not gain entry, and the feeding of the 5000.

Yet this also required a scaffolding step. Many who heard Jesus thought that he was simply a teacher. From this He earned the name Rabbi, which is Hebrew for teacher. The platform that moved Jesus from Teacher to Son of God was the performance of miracles. Healing the lame, restoring sight to the blind, and casting out demons gave Jesus the opportunity to show His divinity. Both Matthew and Luke tell stories of Jesus telling a paralyzed man that his sins were forgiven (Matt 5:1-8, Luke 5:20-26). In these two events, Jesus clearly equates His healing power to His divinity, because only God can forgive sins. The performance of these miracles moved Jesus from "just" a teacher to the rank of Son of God. He now could be proclaimed as the Messiah.

Yet all of this is not the entirety of Jesus

accomplishments on earth. He often used parables in his teaching. Many of these stories involved every day, well-known characters and events. The people of the agricultural region in which Jesus taught were knowledgeable about planting (the Parable of the Sower), animal husbandry (the Parable of the Lost Sheep) and guarding their possessions (the Parable of the Faithful Servant). The crowds may have nodded in understanding because these often were actions that they would take. They broadcast seed and they searched for lost sheep. However, the mass of people hearing these teachings did not receive the full explanation of these stories as did the Apostles.

Jesus often took the Apostles aside to offer an explication of the stories that He told. He wanted to be sure that His chosen followers were fully cognizant of the meaning hidden beneath the surface of these stories. Jesus wanted to be sure that the Apostles fully comprehended the message that He was teaching. He did this because He knew that after His death, they would "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19-20).

This brings us to the scripture quoted at the beginning of this essay. That message was delivered by Jesus to the disciples on the evening of His resurrection. Frightened by what had happened, His followers were huddled in a locked room. They were clearly afraid to be seen in public by Roman soldiers and those who had called for the crucifixion. Yet Jesus appeared to them.

With these words, Jesus reminded His followers that God the Father sent Him. This sending implies to the disciples the purpose discussed in the opening paragraphs of this essay. Now Jesus is sending His followers just as He was sent. He is sending them purposefully to accomplish a specific task. He is sending them as an extension of His own task as given by God.

The words that He spoke to them are reminiscent of the previous time that He had sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. This time, however, He equates His actions to what the disciples are to do. Jesus is sending them as the Father had sent Him. What He had done, they are now to do. Their actions are the continuation of His ministry. The disciples have become co-laborers with Jesus in teaching about and drawing people to the Kingdom of God.

At this point, we arrive at another question. Who was Jesus sending? The group locked inside that room were not just the Apostles. They are referred to as the disciples, which is inclusive of all followers of Jesus. It is likely that women were also part of this group. While the accounts of the women who visited the tomb that morning differ among the Gospels, all of them name Mary Magdalene. It was she who told Peter and John that Jesus had risen. Given the relationship of these women with the other disciples, it is probable that they were present to hear this command.

Each of these disciples was a member of different groups that other followers of Christ might not have known. As the disciples eventually dispersed, they each went to their own friends and families in often disparate regions. The women in this group are good examples of this. Groups where the genders mixed together were rare. Women were segregated from the men. It was only the female disciples that would be able to reach other women. Jesus sent each of these people to teach to the group that they were part of. Each was to bear witness to the people they knew.

There is still another group that this directive was given to. One adage about the Bible is that it was written *to* the original audience but was written *for* us. This means that as Jesus spoke these words to the original audience, He was also speaking directly to us. As disciples of Jesus, it is our responsibility to disseminate information about the saving grace of Jesus. Just as Jesus made the disciples in that locked room His co-laborers, so He has also called us to be part of His ministry. What Jesus did, the disciples in that room did. What they did, we are to do.

God has equipped us for this work just as Jesus assured the success of the Apostles. Where they heard Jesus teach, we read His words in the Bible. While they agonized over His loss at the time of the crucifixion, we know the end of the story. While they struggled to build the fledging religion, we know what they accomplished. We have access to more information than the original disciples did. We are equipped to carry out our assigned mission.

Young or old, male or female, our actions are the continuation of Jesus's ministry; we are called to be co-laborers with Him. As the Father sent Jesus, so Jesus is sending us. Is Haymarket Baptist Church doing its part? Are you doing your part?

Edith Kennedy, Missions Committee Chair



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Happy Mother's Day Church Family!

We are entering the last month of Preschool during this unusual year! We are very busy recording the children singing songs to their mommies for our Zoom Tea Parties! We sing a song or two about mom and a song about grandmothers...and of course, recite a poem or two! Our Kindergarten students have learned portions of Proverbs 31 to recite to mommy during their zoom 'Spa/Make Over' on Zoom. We have sent special cookies and pretty napkins home, along with gifts and cards to honor all the moms and make them feel special even though they cannot come into the school for these celebrations. Here is hoping that next year we can welcome them back to the building!

Our Kindergarten students are finishing up a unit on animal habitats and creating their first book report. Their reading is coming along well above grade level, and the children recently began 'checking out' special books from our Kindergarten library to read, return and take a test on. They are amazing students! Next week we begin our butterfly unit, and will watch those caterpillars create a cocoon, then emerge as beautiful butterflies. We use this experience to explain our new life in Christ - it is a great analogy! Our Pre-K students are getting ready for PALS testing and continue to work in reading groups with their own special books, and of course, they are singing lots of patriotic songs for their graduation.

Our 3-year-old students are finishing up the alphabet, counting to 30, and accomplishing many new skills. Our 2's are the sweetest and just love everything they are learning.

All students are enjoying the outdoor easel painting that has started back up since the weather is so pretty. The children enjoyed watching the big trucks clear the lot next door (although we will miss our pretty trees!).

We are staying healthy at school - we haven't had any covid in students, and just a few in some school families. It has been a great, but different kind of school year! Preschool graduations will be outdoor- some are drive-through, and some are small outdoor settings based on CDC and Virginia Dept of Health standards, as well as our licensing requirements. Kindergarten is still in session until mid - June. Summer camp starts June 7 for preschoolers. We are so thankful for a safe and healthy school year. God is Good!

Happy Mother's Day to all the Moms and Grandmas at Haymarket Baptist Church!

With Love,
Laurie Frasz, Director
Haymarket Baptist Church Preschool &
Kindergarten



DO YOU KNOW A 2021 GRADUATE?

If you know of someone connected to Haymarket Baptist Church who will be graduating this spring, or who graduated in December, please contact the church office. In June we will be honoring each person who graduated from Kindergarten, High School, College or Graduate School. We need all the names soon so we can order an appropriate present for each graduate.

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