

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2021

REMINDER: We have regathered for in person worship each Sunday at 10 am, and no reservations are needed. For those not ready to return, the livestream continues on our YouTube Channel

LEMONADE OUT OF LEMONS

It's been a lemon of a year - time to make lemonade!

Join us for lemonade and cookies in Lackey Hall after the 10 AM service.

All who are comfortable returning are welcome.

Please allow safe distancing and we recommend that you stay for a short time.

Masks are optional for the fully vaccinated.

Volunteers needed to serve - contact Lee Boisseau.

JOIN US FOR TRI-CITY CHILI PEPPERS BASEBALL!

What: Faith and Family Night

When: Sunday, June 27th 5:45pm

Where: Shepherd Stadium, Colonial Heights

Info: We will have our own section of seating at the stadium, in the general admissions section. There is a general admission ticket \$10, and then there is one that includes all you can eat food \$16. Can parishioners share this link with other family and friends- Yes! Contact the church office for more info.

PRAYER LIST

We beg you to feed the hungry, protect the refugee, embrace the distressed, house the homeless, nurse the sick, and comfort the dying. Especially we pray for Cindy Adams, Melissa Aigner, James Christiansen, Thomas Clark, Ronnie Elder, Melba Felty, Kathy Hackett, Robin Jane, Pret Kaichen, Mark Sheffield, and Mary Villepontaux.

CREATION CARE STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Southside Virginia Emergency Crew will be accepting donations for the Petersburg Animal Shelter! The shelter is willing to take any donations such as treats, food, or litter, but are most in need of cleaning supplies such as bleach and Joy laundry detergent.

You can bring your donations to the station at 425 Graham Road Petersburg, VA 23805 Monday through Friday from 10AM to 4PM so we can guarantee that someone will be there to accept your donation.

You may also bring donations to the church on Sundays (June 20, June 27, and July 4) and Bee and Robin will deliver them to the Southside Virginia Emergency Station. A collection bin will be in the sanctuary near the baptismal font.

FAITH FILLED GENEROSITY

Now is a good time to catch up on your Christ and Grace pledge. Contribution statements will be mailed on Friday, July 2. For questions, please call the church office at 733-7202. Thank you for your support.

The Collect

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

As we work together with Christ, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see-- we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return-- I speak as to children-- open wide your hearts also.

Mark 4:35-41

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”



MESSAGE FROM ROBIN+

This week we have a familiar Gospel reading and as is often the case, when a scripture passage is familiar to us, we can sometimes listen by rote and not really hear what the Spirit is saying to us in this time and place. I invite you to read the Gospel and then the poem that follows by Mary Oliver. Spend a few minutes reflecting on "the other side", on a fear you have in your heart, or a time in your life when you did experience a miracle. In these summer days, listen to Jesus when he says, "Peace! Be still!"

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Maybe

Sweet Jesus, talking
his melancholy madness,
stood up in the boat
and the sea lay down,

silky and sorry.

So everybody was saved
that night.

But you know how it is

when something
different crosses
the threshold — the uncles
mutter together,

the women walk away,
the young brother begins
to sharpen his knife.
Nobody knows what the soul is.

It comes and goes
like the wind over the water —
sometimes, for days,
you don't think of it.

Maybe, after the sermon,
after the multitude was fed,
one or two of them felt
the soul slip forth

like a tremor of pure sunlight
before exhaustion,
that wants to swallow everything,
gripped their bones and left them

miserable and sleepy,
as they are now, forgetting
how the wind tore at the sails
before he rose and talked to it —

tender and luminous and demanding
as he always was —
a thousand times more frightening
than the killer sea.

- Mary Oliver