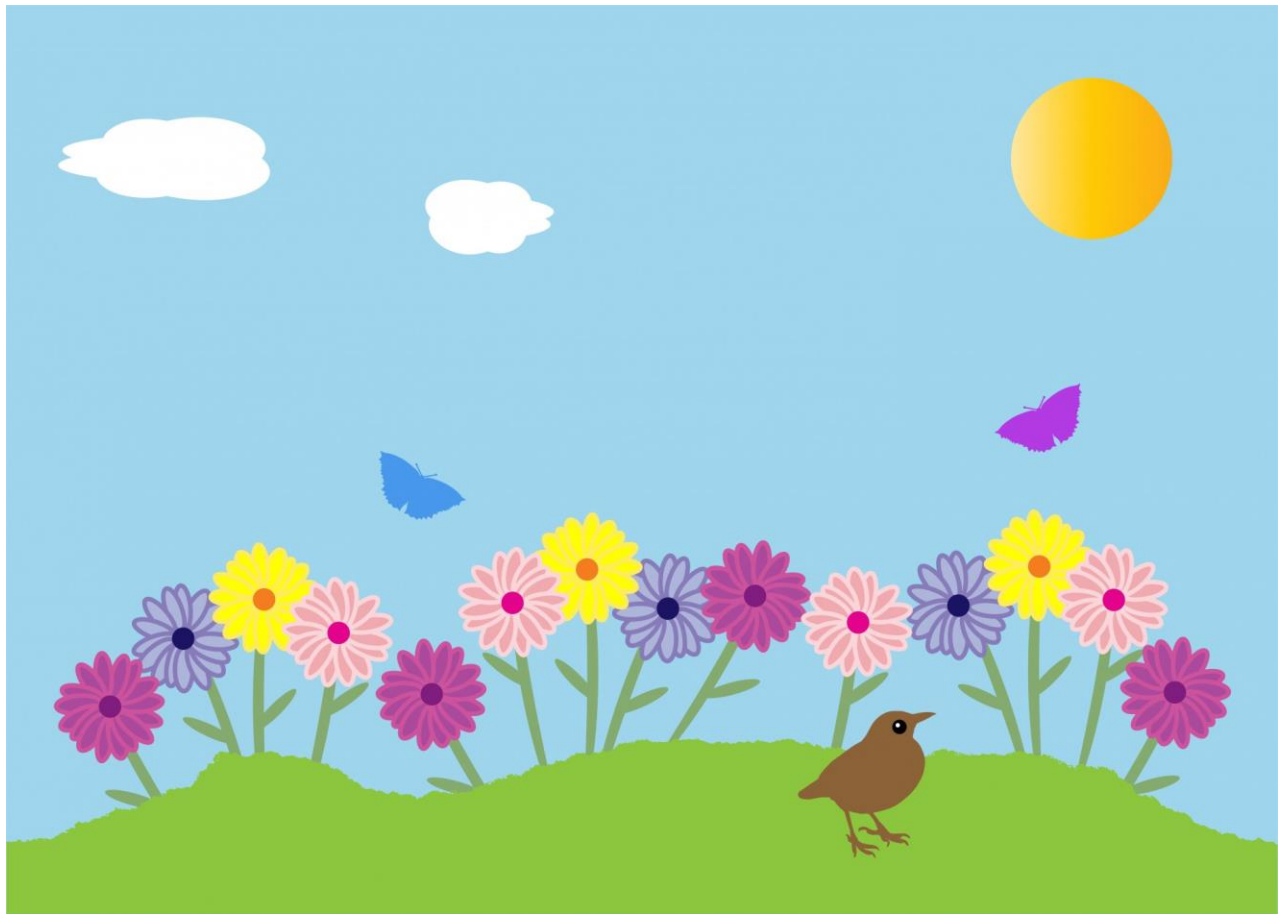


# ***Shore Lines***

***June 2024***



**On Sunday September 8, 2024**, we will invite the community to our Kickoff Sunday. It will include:

- Tailgate at 8:00 a.m.
- Worship at 9:30 a.m.
- Ministry Preview at 10:30 a.m. (aka Rally Day)

My previous Shorelines article talked about Kickoff Sunday as a genuine act of Christian hospitality. We are inviting people to fellowship with us, and we are attempting to meet them where they are with our 8:00 a.m. tailgate.

In my article today, I want to pose a question that applies to Kickoff Sunday and every other Sunday too.

My question is: How should we extend hospitality to visitors during a worship service?

I cannot thoroughly answer this question in my brief Shorelines article, but I want you to consider the complexity of it. It's something that I must address as your pastor; furthermore, it is something that every Covenant Partner must address in his or her own heart.

Here are my suggestions and considerations.

**Welcome visitors personally.** This is the most obvious aspect and probably the toughest. There are numerous obstacles to welcoming visitors personally, but just keep it simple. When you notice a new person, thank them for being with us and assure them that they are welcome.

**Find connections without compromise.** There are ways that you can connect with visitors, even non-Christian visitors, without compromising biblical truth and the Gospel.

**Desire evangelism and edification.** Worship services are for the Church. They are meant to edify and encourage Christians, and they are an opportunity for those who are curious about faith in Christ to investigate and learn. Worship services should be accessible and educational.

**Display our love, fidelity to Christ, and our Spirit guided commitment to Scripture.** Our love of God and others should be clear. Our faithfulness to Christ and our adherence to Scripture should be demonstrated in practice through Scripture readings, singing, and prayer.

**Be casual and reverential.** People need to know that we are flesh and blood sinners just like them with struggles and challenges. We should not create a "holier than thou" atmosphere. At the same time, worship services must be reverential unto God. This paradox leads me to my Kickoff Day conundrum. In the theme of the day, in the spirit of welcoming (hopefully) all sorts of people, should I preach in a football jersey? The football jersey makes a kind of "every-man" statement. I am like every other person with hobbies and interests, yet clothes and hobbies don't matter like the Word of God does. When I pick up the Bible that morning and demonstrate my love of Jesus that transcends my hobbies and my wardrobe, could that connect with a non-Christian in a refreshing way? Is that meaningful, powerful, or a stretch too far? What do you think?

## Fervent Prayers

Several years ago, my husband, Mike, began to experience mild stomach pains. There were several different thoughts on why he was experiencing these pains, but nothing conclusive, and certainly nothing serious.

After several weeks of these abdominal pains, one Saturday afternoon, he began to have very severe pain, chills, nausea. It was a Saturday, and neither of us were looking forward to a visit to the emergency room on a weekend, but we quickly headed that way. After prompt attention by the staff and a CT scan, the emergency room doctor told us that he had acute perforated appendicitis which required immediate surgery. The surgeon warned us that this could be a very serious situation depending upon what he found when he did the surgery. As they took Mike into the operating room, my prayers began. I also started to contact many of our family and friends for prayers.

One of these prayer warriors stood out to me. My best friend of many years, Helene -- a woman who has guided me in my walk with Jesus -- replied to my text by saying, "I will pray each time God places Mike's name on my heart." The thought of Helene praying for Mike throughout the day each time God placed Mike's name on her heart overwhelmed me. I became tearful, but joyful. My body got chills, but I felt the warmth. I just couldn't believe that somebody would do that for us. Oh my goodness, what a beautiful feeling. Prayers prevailed, and after about 10 days in the hospital, Mike came home healthy and well.

I will never forget the comforting, peaceful feeling of Helene's prayers. I have used this in my own prayers for those who are experiencing extraordinary pain, both emotional and physical. When I read the term "fervent prayers," this is my experience of the joy bestowed upon those for whom we pray for fervently.

And lastly, at times of my own fears and frustrations, I have fallen upon the following scripture (Thank You, Navigators!):

**Philippians 4:6-7**, Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

With love, Mike and Renee December



Do you enjoy hearing the handbell choir play? Have you some interest in learning more about playing them; even if you're not sure about being a full-time member of the bell choir? The regular bell choir will be taking the summer off so during the summer I'd like to offer the opportunity for one-on-one tutorials (beginner level) on playing handbells to anyone, ladies or men. Then you can make an informed decision if this is something you'd enjoy and might want to be a part of (either as a regular ringer or as a sub) when they start up again in the fall. Just give me a call or email and we can set up a time that's good for you. We can schedule an individual or small group (no more than 4) lesson. Janette Schroeder, 910-880-9573 or [Janette.Schroeder1@gmail.com](mailto:Janette.Schroeder1@gmail.com)



### **Summer Sunday School Offering**

Beginning **June 9<sup>th</sup>** through **July 28<sup>th</sup>**, we will offer **"The Life and Ministry of The Messiah"**. This video and discussion course was produced by Focus on the Family and was filmed on location in Israel. Each lesson is taught by Ray Vander Laan, a renowned teacher and historian, and led by Gloria Wimmer.

This is your opportunity to revive your faith and visit Israel at the same time. The eight classes are filmed in places including Masada, Qumran, En Gedi, Mount of the Beatitudes and more. Each lesson is stand alone. If you miss one you will not be in catch up mode! If you are interested in attending these sessions, please call the church office to sign up so we can determine which room will be needed. 910 579-7356 Thank You.

## INVITATION TO PRAYER

*Praying Scripture-Receive the Word, Reflect Quietly, Respond in Grace and Humility  
Praying Psalm 25*

Psalm 25 gives us three simple, yet powerful prayers. Prayers that have the potential to change your heart and your life – if you'll allow your heart to believe and submit to God's will.

### **1) In you, Lord, I put my trust: Psalm 25:1-3**

In You, Lord my God, I put my trust. I trust in you, do not let me be put to shame nor let my enemies' triumph over me. No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame, but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause. (NIV)

Pray these verses to put your trust in God, releasing your control over a situation or decision you're facing. Pray for unwavering trust in God and steadfast confidence that he will walk with you through whatever you're facing.

### **2) Make me and lead me, O Lord: Psalm 25:4-5**

*Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. (NIV)*

Pray these verses to submit your plans to God. Pray to release your own attempts to control your life and allow God to lead you. Ask God to show you the path to His better future for your life, for he is the God of your salvation and the one who wants the best for your life.

### **3) Forgive me, Lord Psalm 25:6-8**

Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, are good. (NIV)

We all sin. That's the base of the human condition. We turn from the path he sets before us. We make mistakes. Yet we serve a God full of grace and mercy. He will guide the humble and forgive our sins if we'll just admit our wrongs.

Pray over the areas in your life where you've stumbled and detoured from God's path, where you've fallen short of all God desires for your life. Own up to your sins and ask God's forgiveness. Ask him to show you a better way and to help you move forward. \*

**Please join us for small group prayer gatherings:**

- **Thursday June 20 and July 18 at 10:30 AM** (we will pray earnestly through the CCPC prayer list on behalf of our church family, our church programs, and our community.)
- **Drive Thru Prayer Friday June 21 and July 19 from 10:30-noon** (please encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to stop by and allow us to pray with and for them.)

- **Beach Drive Through Prayer is every Tuesday from 9:30-11:00** June, July and August. (weather permitting)
- **July 6 at 10:00 am** (we will pray boldly and fervently for the salvation of our loved ones and friends).

**If you are in need of prayer or pastoral care, please call the church office at 910 579-7356 or email [prayer@calabash.church](mailto:prayer@calabash.church).**

Grace and peace,  
Prayer Ministry Team

\*adapted from "Prayer & Possibilities" and Charles Stanley writings

### **ANN THOMAS MEMORIAL**

At the last minute, our Board of Deacons learned about a nursing scholarship in memory of Ann Thomas that was to be awarded to a nursing student graduating from Northwood High School in Pittsboro, NC.

Our CCPC Board of Deacons was able to contribute to this recognition of Ann and the ceremony was held on May 21 at the high school. Ann's daughter, Rhonda, participated in the service and two students were awarded scholarships of \$1400 each.

#### **Long Term Prayer Requests**

Linda Batts, Betty Bond, Sally Bond, Bill Bradham, Sandy Brinegar, Karyn Foley, Phyllis Foley, Sue Greiner, Karen Grohsmann, Diane Hahn, John Haskins, Al Hertzog, Inge Hickson, Rosemarie Lacroix, Chris Lewis, Peggy Little, Frank Mayberry, Gene McKelvey, Alberta Morley, Betty Schillinger, Gary Sessi, Dan Stinnett, Barbara Weber, Wendy Weber



## **LOCAL MISSION SPOTLIGHT**

### **MATTHEW 25 CENTER**

The Matthew 25 Center of Tabor City a non-profit Christian ministry focused on helping families that travel a long distance to visit incarcerated loved ones in the North Carolina State Prison System. They serve Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, and Robison Counties in North Carolina and Horry County in South Carolina. With the help of their tireless staff and volunteers, Matthew 25 Center provides a clean place to stay, a light meal, and emotional/spiritual support. Matthew 25 Center, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is sustained by donations and gifts from area churches, citizens, and businesses. \*Covenant Partner, Rob Waldron, was the architect in the designing of the facility. Please pray for the dedicated small staff and the many employees, family guests, and their incarcerated loved ones as we partner with Matthew 25 Center.

## **GLOBAL MISSION SPOTLIGHT**

### **STEVE AND LISA SCHWIND**

Steve and Lisa Schwind, missionaries affiliated with The Antioch Partners, have been serving for sixteen years, with Mercy Ships on board two medical ships that serve throughout Africa. Mercy Ships is a medical organization that utilizes hospital ships to serve the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of the poor throughout the world. During Covid, the Schwind's were relocated to the Mercy Ships International Center in East Texas. Steve currently serves as the Hospital Chaplaincy Program Developer. He provides missional direction and support to mercy ships and is redesigning mercy ministry programs to provide greater spiritual impact to those who are served in Africa. Lisa is working on special projects related to Mercy Ships Academy, an accredited Christian school which serves the educational needs of the children of crew members. Please pray that the Schwind's continue to form a unified, functioning body of Christ to bring love, hope, and healing throughout West Africa.

Submitted by Sue Brandon



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

## June

Julie Adams	1
Bob Volinic	2
Frank Grohsman	5
Terry Ikner	7
Peyton Becton	7
Lori Hansen	10
Lila Nicholson	10
Renee December	11
Lynn Wagner	12
Barbara Errickson	13
Sue Greiner	13
Allison Deatherage	14
Dane Deatherage	16
George Habel	19
Nancy Crews	22
Mary Ard	22
John Schliewenz	23
Linda Batts	23
John Olson	25
Barbara Kumnick	27
Darlene Hummer	28

## June

Richard & Loretta Burkett	1
Dick & Sue Brown	3
Paul & Jean Kelly	4
Ken & Yupayong Thirakomen	5
Glen & Barbara Poe	6
Ken & Linda Schafer	8
Durwood & Marsha Hurst	8
Peter & Ruth Diefendorf	15
Mickey & Susanna Smith	16
Nick & Betty Priscu	30





# “JUNE”

## SCRIPTURE READING PLAN

### COMFORT

*Give ten minutes a day to focus on God’s word. Take those words with you throughout the day and meditate upon them.*

Day 1: Psalm 23	Day 17: Acts 9:31
Day 2: Psalm 71:17-21	Day 18: Romans 15:1-6
Day 3: Psalm 119:49-56	Day 19: 2 Corinthians 1:1-4
Day 4: Psalm 119:73-76	Day 20: 2 Corinthians 1:5-7
Day 5: Psalm 119:77-80	Day 21: 2 Corinthians 2:1-4
Day 6: Psalm 119:81-84	Day 22: 2 Corinthians 2:5-8
Day 7: Psalm 119:85-88	Day 23: 2 Corinthians 7:8-11
Day 8: Isaiah 12:1-3	Day 24: 2 Corinthians 7:12-16
Day 9: Isaiah 12:4-6	Day 25: 2 Corinthians 13:11
Day 10: Isaiah 40:1-2	Day 26: Philippians 2:1-4
Day 11: Isaiah 40:10-11	Day 27: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Day 12: Isaiah 40:27-31	Day 28: 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11
Day 13: Isaiah 51:1-3	Day 29: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-14
Day 14: Isaiah 51:4-8	Day 30: 1 Thessalonians 2:13-17
Day 15: Isaiah 51:12-16	Extra: Revelations 22:12-20
Day 16: Isaiah 61:1-3	

# June

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Sunday School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9am – Crafts 9:30– DTP - Beach 7:00 pm – Men’s WebX	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00 AM – Card ministry	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 10:00 am - prayer
<b>2</b> 8:00am –Beach Service 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Sunday School	<b>3</b> 11:00 am – Woman’s Bible study	<b>4</b> 9am – Crafts 9:30 – DTP - Beach 7:00 pm – Men’s WebX	<b>5</b> 12:00 pm – Assimilation Committee 6:00 pm – Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:00am –Beach Service 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Sunday School 3:00 pm – Lydia Circle	<b>10</b> 11:00 am – Woman’s Bible study	<b>11</b> 9am – Crafts 10:30 M – DTP - Beach 7:00 pm – Men’s WebX	<b>12</b> 6:00 pm – Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10:30 am – Prayer Ministry	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <b>Food Pantry Collection</b> 8:00am –Beach Service 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Sunday School	<b>17</b> 11:00 am – Woman’s Bible study 12:00 pm - Chatters	<b>18</b> 9am – Crafts 9:30 – DTP - Beach 7:00 pm – Men’s WebX	<b>19</b> 6:00 pm – Bible Study	<b>20</b> 10:30 am – prayer	<b>21</b> 10:30 am – Drive Through Prayer	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:00am –Beach Service 9:30 am – Sanctuary 10:30 am – Sunday School	<b>24</b> 11:00 am – Woman’s Bible study	<b>25</b> 9am – Crafts 9:30 DTP - Beach 3:00 pm - Session 7:00 pm – Men’s WebX	<b>26</b> 6:00 pm – Bible Study	<b>27</b> 10:00 am – card ministry	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00am –Beach Service 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Sunday School	<b>July 1</b> 11:00 am – Woman’s Bible study	<b>2</b> 9am – Crafts 10:30 M – DTP - Beach 7:00 pm – Men’s WebX	<b>3</b> 6:00 pm – Bible Study	<b>4</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

**Session**

Beth Decima, Don Mazingo, Pat Robison, Karen Toutant  
Sue Brandon, Barbara Dresser, Darlene Hummer, Brian Johnson  
George Brandon, Sue Brown, Tom Pressel, Dan Stinnett

**The Diaconate**

Barbara Poe, Mark Ryan, Barbara Volinic  
Judy Buschmeier, Don Decima, Donna Lee,  
Ray Beadnell, Jerry Coffey, Bonnie Lee

**CLP-1s**

Karen Scheboth  
Peg Stinnett  
Gloria Wimmer

**CLP-2**

Annelle Waldron (Leader, Whiteville Community)

**Group Leaders** Presbyterian Women – Debbie Ryan  
Presbyterian Men – Mark Ryan, Dan Stinnett

**Staff****Pastor – Dane Deatherage**

Administrative Assistant /Bookkeeper– Janine Zegel  
Asst. Pastor for Missions, Brazil -Rev. Robson Gomes  
Music Department – Kathryn Parker, Janette Schroeder, Peg Stinnett

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