

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021

CHESTER BAPTIST CHURCH

A WORD FROM PASTOR NATE

*"He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down."
Psalm 104:19*

It has been years, actually two decades, since I lived in an area that experiences the seasons. And after 25+ years in Pennsylvania, I left hoping to not see one of those four except via weekend visits on purpose. However, I am very grateful that our Southern Virginia winters aren't too extreme. This will work out just fine.

Seasons are as constant as anything you can depend on. They represent patterns, rhythms, and are quite predictable even when extremes present themselves. There is beauty in the different seasons and if you sit back and look, you can see the artistry and majesty of God.

Seasons, as just discussed, are found in nature and weather. They are used to describe athletics. When I lived in Florida, the term was used to refer to the time when the tourist/visitor traffic would be the heaviest, a combo of late winter and early spring. The term is used in the scriptures; Ecclesiastes 3:1 "For everything there is a season, a time for everything under heaven", and made popular in music by the Byrds "There is a season, turn turn turn..."

But why do we dislike seasons of our lives when they are patterned, rhythmic, and very predictable? Because deep down, no one really likes change. We all want the type of predictability that allows us to be in control of our choices, our outcomes, our plans. No one wants to go through a season of loneliness or a season of unemployment or a season of financial struggle. No one signs up for a season of illness or health struggles. No one signs up for personal, family or cultural pain. Those seasons come in this world, and with all our efforts we can stop them for ourselves or the ones we love.

Hey, I'll be the first to admit I like my daylight. I do not enjoy the lights going out at 5:00 p.m. The first few weeks are a hard adjustment for me in my psyche. You can have your extra hour of sleep. However, I know March is coming and this is temporary. I just have to hang on and this season will come to a close.

Whatever season we are in, we must have HOPE for something ahead when it is not something we wish to endure. That hope is what we hang on to as we endure tough seasons. We also must be careful to not get too content in a good season, because even these seasons always come to a close while on this earth. We must keep our eyes forward to hope and future.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. Ecclesiastes 1:11

That is why what Jesus did for us on the cross and through the grave is so important and adds vitality to our lives everyday. We know that whatever season we are in, that it is temporary and it will come to a close, whether good or tough. The hope we have is an eternal future, a life with God, with His family, together in communion. A forever season that makes the temporary seasons of this world pale in comparison and strengthens us with the ability to endure.

"...set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming." 1 Peter 1:13

Everything's Coming Up Pumpkins at Preschool!

Fall has been a wonderful time for the children to see up close God's handiwork with our very own preschool pumpkin patch! They have been amazed to watch the pumpkin growth process since the beginning of school. We even did a STEAM experiment on the playground to see if a pumpkin would fall faster than a parachute! And we learned that God created gravity to keep our feet on the earth. He truly takes care of all our needs.



Our teachers have been teaching the children songs about pumpkins and they have also done some cute pumpkin crafts. And of course the children are learning their A, B, Cs and 1, 2, 3s. Our amazing teachers Ms. Becca and Ms. Stacy have done a wonderful job helping our boys and girls feel welcome and safe in their classrooms.

One of the sweetest sounds we hear every day is the sound of little voices praying at lunch time. The children have also been learning about prayer with Pastor Bryce during their chapel time. And music Mondays with Mr. Mac are a big hit to start our week. In case you didn't know, Mr. Mac and Pastor Bryce are rockstars in the preschool community. They have many fanboy and fangirl moments when the kids see them.

Thanks to everyone who has been so supportive of the preschool through your prayers and your donations. We feel so blessed that God continues to do great things in our classrooms on a daily basis.

Follow our preschool adventures this year through the Chester Baptist Preschool Facebook page and Chester Baptist Preschool Instagram.

In Christ,
Shelly McCabe



COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP SUPPERS

CBC's Community Fellowship Supper will be

Thursday, November 4 at 5:30 p.m. (This will be the only supper in November.)

Not only is there good food but we get to fellowship with you. This event is open to our whole community so please let your friends and family know.

We ask you RSVP so we can plan accordingly. Call 748-2939 to reserve your meal.

LIBRARY NEWS

Fall is here!

Cooler temperatures and shorter days are coming. Time to curl up with a good book. Check out some of the titles listed below, and stop by to browse the shelves and find a new "book friend"! We have an assortment of books for children and adults to explore. We also have books by local authors!

What do you know about Halloween? For our children, it is a candy fest and a time to play dress-up! If you want to learn some more, check out the books that shed light on the history or explore a book of devotions.

We are getting ready for Thanksgiving as well. Celebrate this time with books for all ages that lift us up, highlight the specialness of this holiday and entertain.

The **Book Club will meet on Monday, November 15th at 6:00 p.m.** in the library. Contact Jewel Barger, Brenda Riding or the church office, 748-2939, for more information.

The library is located off the back parking lot entrance through the double doors. The library is open Sunday mornings from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Thursday mornings from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. If you would like to check something out, please let us know and we can have it ready for you. We are also available during the week by appointment if you would like to come in or we can make arrangements to deliver items to you. Email libraryatcbc@gmail.com or call either Jewel at (804) 526-4332 or the church office (804) 748-2939.



DONATE THROUGH THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM (KCRP)

CBC is enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards Program (KCRP). Here's an easy way to participate:

- Go to <http://Kroger.com>
- Click on the link for KCRP at the bottom of the page under Community.
- Once logged into your Kroger account, you can search for Chester Baptist or HP586 and click Enroll. (New users will need to create an account which requires some basic info, a valid email address & a rewards card.

A percentage of your purchases will go to CBC at no cost to you. Please consider helping CBC earn a little additional funding! Happy Shopping!!

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The results for the 2020 – 2021 church year were very positive with Contributions to the Operating Funds \$139,086 above expenses. The Pre School receipts were \$2191 above expenses. Below are the year's results.

	Year Totals 2020-2021
Contributions to Church Operating Fund	\$696,741
Church Expenses	\$557,654
Church receipts greater than expenses	\$130,087
Receipts from Preschool	\$13,341
Preschool Expenses	\$11,151
Preschool expenses greater than receipts	\$2,190
Net Results	\$133,294

The contribution number includes the Payroll Protection Plan Loan that we received and was forgiven for \$46,055, but without this the contributions to the operating fund were \$650,686 and exceeded expenses by \$93,032.

With the new church year, we have new church software that includes new financial reporting. Susan is working very hard to ensure the very best implementation.

THE BOOK OF ...

Judges

BIBLE STUDY

11am

Thursdays Oct. 28-Nov. 18

Join us in the great hall for 4 weeks in the book of Judges



***Please join us at 6:30 p.m. on November 11
in the sanctuary for a special recognition service honoring veterans.***

Preservice music by the Four in the Morning Quartet will begin at 6:15 p.m. The program will include a variety of patriotic music paying tribute to our armed forces by Randy McConnell and Ann Totty, the choir, as well as the audience. We also will hear from some of our veterans.

Please invite neighbors and friends to join us as we salute those who have served in the military.

Refreshments will be served in the Great Hall at the end of the service



Come and join us on *November 13* for some fun at our **Family Fall Tailgate!**

Wear your college apparel or your team spirit and have some morning fun before kickoff begins! There will be breakfast from *Beanuts Donuts*, *coffee and hot chocolate from Grants Coffee*, the playground will be open, and a barrel train for children to ride!

We will be in the back parking lot from 8:30-11:00 a.m.!

Invite a friend and we hope to see you there!

MR. MAC'S MUSIC NOTES

"**BECAUSE HE LIVES**" is a favorite song that we sing at Chester Baptist Church. I ran across this testimony from Bill and Gloria Gaither as to how "Because He Lives" has spoken to them.

BECAUSE HE LIVES...there is a way out of our despair, cynicism, and depression--to childlike trust, hope, and joy. There is a cure.

BECAUSE HE LIVES...the cure has been brought all the way to where we are, and administered so as to bring healing to our every point of need. As wholeness returns, we begin to recover a sense of who we are because of who HE is.

BECAUSE HE LIVES...we find courage to face and deal realistically with doubts, conflicts, and obstacles.

BECAUSE HE LIVES...His body is a living, breathing organism, commissioned to carry healing to a sick world.

BECAUSE HE LIVES...His life is real and needs no other argument. It will stand in obvious contrast to all replicas; it will draw anyone who is honestly searching for authentic reality.

BECAUSE HE LIVES...death dies; life wins, and there is eternity in every moment.

MEMORIAL GARDEN UPDATE



About 20 years ago, Martha Rodgers had a vision of having a Memorial Prayer Garden on the grounds of Chester Baptist Church. It has been a long time coming, but we are there now! With Martha's encouragement and the interest and time of dedicated CBC people, the site was decided upon as well as the garden being complete and ready for names on the wall as well as niches for burial of cremations.

There are benches at the site so that you can sit and meditate or have small group gatherings. If you haven't visited the site, please do so.

If you are interested in having a name on the wall or burial of cremains, call the church office and we will get in touch with you. Also, if a spouse has passed and you want their name on the wall or a niche for their remains, you can also have your name on the wall or a niche for yourself with no birth or death date.

I hope you will be able to enjoy the garden during these beautiful fall days!

Becky Tarkington
Chairman



It is finally cooler weather, and the leaves are just starting to turn colors. Let's plan a walk and celebrate the beauty of this season.

Saturday, November 6, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Chesterfield Government Complex Fitness Trail (near the courthouse) This trail is about 1.4 miles, paved in places. It is an easy walk, mostly level.

Meet at the Department of Social Services parking lot This is located at Government Center Parkway and Lucy Corr Boulevard). We will pick up the trail head there.

If you are interested in walking, but need a different day/time, give me a call and let's see what we can work out.

Contact Kimberly Sasser, 804-481-5181. Sasserbook@gmail.com



To the Chester Baptist Church family,

I am so grateful for all the love and support that has been shown to me and my family after the death of my mom. Thanks for the prayers, cards and for the beautiful plant. This has been a difficult time. All of your acts of love and kindness have meant so much.

Lloyd Braswell

CHILDREN'S HAPPENINGS

Wow! What a wonderful month of October we have had with our Children's Activities on Sunday mornings. This month we have been studying about how we are made in God's image- we are God's Creation! We are all unique and individual. God has given us unique gifts which we should use even if we are young... we are never too young to do God's will!



We began our month learning about how God created Adam and Eve and how we sometimes get tempted to do things other than what God would like us to do... but we are all unique and special! We discovered what Individuality means: discovering who we are meant to be so that we can all make a difference! We have learned about people in the Bible like Lydia, Paul, Timothy and how they did God's work. We have learned our monthly memory verse- "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14a. We learn where our memory verse is in the Bible, the book of the Bible, the chapter and verse.

This last week of October we will finalize our study with emphasis on "Let's Work Together (One Body but Many Parts) • 1 Corinthians 12:12-27". Our emphasis will be that God had given us our gifts so that they can work TOGETHER. He has given us each different abilities and skills which are a part of our individuality and when we use these skills and talents together, we can do greater things than we can do alone. As the children have learned, everyone's individuality is equally important, because God made us that way for a reason. We are unique and His creation.

This pass week we followed Lydia and Timothy's examples: We completed 4 Thanksgiving Bags to give to other's in our community through CCHASM and we built and completed 12 Samaritan Purse Children's Christmas Boxes. We had a great time and really put our skills and talents to work.

During November our emphasis will be Upcycle – Roll with what you've got! Our memory verse "Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has." Luke 12:15, NIV – in other words, be content with what you've got! Not an easy task regardless of our age! A challenge for sure!

It is exciting to be together on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in our Children's/Preschool Department learning, playing, dancing and singing, yes it's a special exciting time. If your child or children are not a part of our Sunday morning activities, we invite you to join us. We have nursery – 5th grade activities.

And to our parents/grandparents/aunts and uncles, who are sharing your child (ren) with us, We Thank you! See all soon.

GIVE THROUGH AMAZON SMILE

What's Amazon Smile? It is a foundation that will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to a non-profit groups. If you shop on Amazon, choose our church name in Amazon Smile and part of the purchase price will be donated to our church. You only have to choose our church once and then every time you shop on Amazon and purchase a participating product, it will donate money to us. This is an easy opportunity to contribute to our church when you are already shopping online. Use this link to make the process even easier

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-072569>.

Feel free to contact the church office with any questions, 748-2939.

The Amazon Smile logo features the word "amazon" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by "smile" in a larger, lowercase, sans-serif font. A curved line resembling a smile is positioned below the "amazon" part of the text. Below the entire logo, the tagline "You shop. Amazon gives." is written in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font.

RUSTY'S RAP SESSION



God's Sovereignty On Display

It's been a couple of months since I have been able to write an article for the newsletter and I am grateful to have the opportunity to share this one with you. As most of you know I have been gravely sick with the Covid 19 virus. I would like to take this opportunity to share how God has moved on behalf of me, my family, our church, and for His glory.

On August 6, I had some sniffles that were not normal and found out that I had been in an area where other people had been exposed to Covid. Jacqueline and I had plans to go to a restaurant with friends that night and because of the sniffles and my possible exposure I felt that I should be Covid tested before we got together - just to be on the safe side. Well, the rapid test came up positive. Needless to say, we cancelled our dinner plans and from there it was a downward spiral.

The first few days were fine. It was like having a mild cold; I thought for sure that I would quarantine 14 days and life would go on. That was far from the truth. As I moved into the second week of dealing with Covid things took a drastic change for the worse. My breathing became labored and one evening we even called the emergency crew. They came to the house and actually told us not to go to the hospital because they were all a mess. We took their advice and tried to get through at home. My breathing was getting more labored and on August 16, I was admitted to the hospital. I had Covid pneumonia in both lungs.

I told the admitting medical staff, "Look, I bike 15 miles a day and do 200 pushups a day." I really couldn't believe that Covid had hit me so hard. I was in good shape. I eat healthy. I take no medication. As healthy as I was, this virus began to ravage my body, however, I believe the doctor's knowledge of how healthy I was helped determine my treatment.

I was placed immediately in the ICU but I was never placed on a ventilator. My memory of the next few weeks is sporadic because most of the time I was unconscious or just not able to realize what was going on. There is a Bible application on my phone and when I was coherent I would listen to the Psalms every day. I listened to them all and really focused on Psalm 91. I cried out to the Lord and held onto His Word, and there were times when I honestly felt like giving up and say, "Lord, just take me home", but somehow I knew that was not His plan.

Every physician that came to see me looked at me with hope in his or her eyes and each one said, "Mr. Peaks, you are going to be okay. We are going to get you home." While I felt like I may not be able to breathe another breath, the look of hope in their eyes gave me hope. The prayers of people from church who came to the hospital and prayed for me, every card sent, every text message, every phone call, every point of contact encouraged me and Jacqueline, and I believe moved the Hand of God for mercy toward me and my family.

Why God spared me and not some others, I do not understand, but I do know that He has a purpose for everything that happens. My prayer is that while I continue the long process of rehabilitation that God will have His way in my life and the life of my family. May He have His way in the life of you, the reader, and may He have His way in the life of Chester Baptist Church.

God bless you all and thank you so much for your support in every way.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Morris Cumbie, Brandon Hester, Crystal Williams
- 3 Becca Meager
- 4 Michael Benton, Katie Moore
- 5 Shirley Wright
- 6 Brian Ray
- 8 Cary Allen, Michael King, Brenda Stargardt
- 9 Cindy Riveland
- 10 Anne Braswell, Megan Parrish, Mildred Ramey
- 11 Lester Abbott
- 13 Carolyn Parrish
- 15 Wayne Estes, Sherry Viar
- 16 Nathon Orr, Lou Swindell, Chrissie Waddill
- 17 Nancy Edwards, Sherry Self
- 18 Cassie Ellis, David Martin
- 20 Kipp Cole, Hannah Rinker
- 21 Robert Bowles Jr.
- 22 Brandon Self
- 24 Edye Parrish, Stogie Schwank
- 26 Pat Bennett, Barry Brockwell, Scott Fitzgerald, Randy Miller, John Waddill Jr.
- 27 Will Brockwell, Jessica Couchman
- 29 Chris Boquist, Alyssa Palmer
- 30 Logan McCabe



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kevin Ellis, Matthew Fitzgerald
- 2 Allan Mays, Julia Meredith
- 3 Will Bailes, Shirley Harper
- 4 Carol Moffett
- 5 Deanie Clements, Dana Litton, Joanne Rivers, Lois Waddill
- 6 Lis Dickinson, Tammy Lohr, Brandon Wright
- 7 Blake Braswell
- 8 Layla Austin, Kristina Bales, Madison Braswell
- 9 Steve Bozarth, Emily Gibson, Nina Greene, Robert McNew, Bobby Parrish
- 10 Charles Freeman, Mildred Freeman
- 11 Alyssa Alexander
- 12 Don Blake
- 13 Pam Setterholm
- 14 Ryan Carter, Karista Isley
- 15 Eric Davis, Stanley Russo
- 16 Ellen Sapko
- 17 Grace Nottingham, Lauren Sullivan
- 19 Glen Boquist, Warren Landis, Gene Raines
- 20 Rhonda Blake, Marie Russo, Nira Wade
- 21 Sandra Bartle, Michael Gambill, Lori Morgan
- 22 Berley Wade
- 23 Shannon Hill
- 24 Beverly Cole, Moring Gravitt, Brianna Greene
- 25 Verta Blake, Zach Oliver
- 26 Kris Abbott, Barbara Marshall, Nicki Thomas, William Wingold
- 27 Shelly McCabe, Karsen Miller, Gerri Moore, Steve Roberson
- 28 Mark Abbott, Chris Morris, Meredith Roberson
- 29 Velma Jones, Jennifer Benton
- 30 Cheryl Walker



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:00 AM
&
10:30 AM

MEET IN PERSON OR
JOIN US LIVE STREAMED ON
OUR WEBSITE
(WWW.CHESTERBAPTIST.COM),
FACEBOOK, OR YOUTUBE



CONTACT US!

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
804-748-2939

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Pianist

Ellen Sapko, contact church office, 748-2939