



Light of Christ Anglican Church

THE BEACON

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In this issue:

Page 2

Mike's Message

Page 3

Senior Warden's Report
Beautiful Bulbs Available

Page 4

Thrift Shop
Samaritans Purse

Led By Truth

Page 5

In The Lord's Service

Page 6

Covid 19 Testing



*Let the Light of Christ
Shine in Your Life*

Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.
Matthew 5:16



**OUR GOD IS
AN
awesome
GOD!**

God's love and attention to detail is amazing! Slow down, adjust your perspective, and enjoy!

 CupstoCrowns.com



Mike's Message

I remember once hearing a joke about a little boy

who returned home after Sunday School. His mother asked him what he had learned in the class that day. He responded, "We learned about a cross-eyed bear name Gladly." His mother was puzzled about such a Sunday School lesson and asked him to show her the paper that he had brought home, and at the top were the words, "Gladly the cross I'd bear." It's an amusing joke but it points to a very sobering fact - it is vitally important that we understand what people are saying to us, not just what we assume they are saying. One of the greatest examples is when people say to us that they know God. As wonderful as that sounds, it's vital that we are clear as to their view of who God is and what it means to know him. Often, God is generic and understood as a higher power, but not a God that can be personally known. When a person's reference is through Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Jehovah's Witness, Mormonism, and many other viewpoints concerning the nature and character of God, it will certainly be very different than the God of the Bible. However, one of the primary concerns about many of those who profess to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, is that they have little or no understanding about what the Bible says about God. What tends to happen is that they end up with a blend of the Bible, their culture, and their own perceptions as to who God is, and what they imagine are his characteristics.

So how do we approach this common problem found within most every Christian church? Beginning Tuesday October 13th at 1 pm we will begin a series entitled, **Behold Your God**. It is a twelve-week series that will last approximately 1 ½ hours and include a DVD and time of discussion. There is a workbook and there will be daily Bible readings and questions to be answered in the book. Each day should take no more than ½ hour. The study will be held in the parish hall and tables will be set up to provide social distancing. If there are some who can't be at a daytime Bible study, then we will also have a study at night, too. Let me know ASAP if you would like to be a part of this series. The workbook is \$12.

This is what John Snyder, the author says about the series: Two truths underpin **Behold Your God**:

A vital knowledge of God is the treasure of the Christian life and not merely a tool to reach something more significant.

The believers view of God is the most distinguishing and influential factor in his or her life.

In the United States, Christianity faces a huge obstacle—indifference. People hear sermons, nod their heads in polite agreement, and walk away unaffected. Why is this? Clearly "God" has become a weightless idea, an insignificant religious term that has meaning only within the four walls of the church. Views of God can be so far from His own self-descriptions that people worship an idol unawares—a "God" of their imaginations. The greatest need of the church and the world is to be introduced to the One who cannot give us anything better than himself.

What about us? Is the God we know the God described in Scripture? What we believe about who God is will affect everything about us. Therefore, nothing should take a higher priority for us than knowing Him as He has revealed Himself in His word. Not merely to know about him, but to know him is life.

***Behold Your God** is born out of a desire to see the glory of God manifested once again among His people. This study consistently brings us into contact with God's magnificent self-revelation in the Bible and helps us to apply these descriptions of Him in key areas of life. The study requires serious contemplation of those Scriptures which most fully unveil God, aiding the reader to acquire a biblically informed understanding of Him who is beyond comprehension."*

If you have any further questions about this, please don't hesitate to ask. We will be advertising this, but please invite your friends and neighbors.

Blessings!

Mike





Senior Warden's Column

Last Sunday's service (Sept. 20) was wonderful: 45 attendees plus 12 "Zoomers," all singing with strong voices. Please continue to pray that the virus will soon depart so we can return to normal—whatever "normal" will be.

The vestry met on Sunday following the service and addressed several issues including "The Return" via telecast this coming Saturday, September 26. We have advertised the event in several media and your church will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., providing live coverage of the worldwide event. I hope you will plan to attend part of the service on Saturday.

We have scheduled a Bible study series, "Behold your God," in conjunction with several other Northumberland churches. The class, which starts in mid-October, will provide an in-depth study of God's character and personality. Due to health requirements, the seating will be limited to 40 people. Details of the course will be provided soon.

Julie Pritchard will lead the Samaritan Purse ministry again this fall. She requests that we provide the items needed to fill the "purses" for children in Africa who may have only a "purse" for Christmas. Please contact Julie for details.

In our outreach program to help connect LOC to our neighbors, we will support a Covid-19 testing site on October 7th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon in our parking lot. County health officials will have drive-thru testing tents; medical personnel will conduct the tests and provide results within minutes. No appointments are needed.

During March through August of this year, more than 700 homes and building sites have been purchased in our county. For many reasons, lots of folks have decided they want to be our neighbors. We are developing a program to formally invite them to LOC. In the meantime, please meet and greet these people and

introduce them to our church. Offer to bring them to our Sunday Services—your personal invitation will be more powerful than anything else we can do as a church. The same is true with our thrift shop; please encourage your new neighbors to visit our store.

Thanks to your generosity, our church mortgage principle continues to decrease, but our normal contributions to the church this year are below normal. Any additional help from parishioners would be greatly appreciated.

Blessings,
George

Beautiful Bulbs Available

In front of the church, Bertie's calla lily bulbs need to be divided next month. There are two varieties. The first is named Picasso and is a white calla with deep purple inside. The other is Flame and it's an orange/red color.



Dividing them will keep them looking as beautiful next year as they did this year. If you're interested in having some of these extras and/or want to help digging, please let me know. It'll probably be around the latter part of October.

Betty Dillingham
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nngardener@gmail.com





Our lovely thrift shop is in need of a new roof costing \$10,000! Needless to say, this is a lot of money for a small shop and we would *gratefully appreciate* donations to help offset this huge expense. If you

would like to contribute, please make the check to “LOC Women’s Ministry Thrift Shop” and send to Pam Smith at P.O. Box 609, Heathsville, Va. 22473. Bless you!!

If you would like to volunteer at our shop we would love to have you—men and women alike! The shifts are four hours and we are open Thursdays-Saturdays, 10 am - 4 pm. Contact Suzy Norman, suzyasker@hotmail.com.

Led By Truth In A Deceitful Age

In this hour, when a myriad of voices and false prophets are emerging, we must recognize how imperative it is to have a sound mind, clearly discerning God’s voice and allowing ourselves to be directed by truth. If you choose to turn to God with all your heart, he will begin revealing his Word and his voice to you. “Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘This is the way, walk in it,’ whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left” (Isaiah 30:21).

God will give you a sound mind if that is your desire. He will take you into the Scriptures and you will be established in the ways of God, able to discern truth. Soon you will get to the point where you are no longer fighting in your mind, no longer governed by your own natural thinking. This means you will not be moved by what other people are saying or by what you see in the news. You will not be overcome with fear at every evil report you hear, for you will know what is right and what the Bible says.

You will remember what God has spoken to you, and as you walk in what he says, you will live to see it fulfilled. All hell can send its deepest, darkest enemies against you, but you will have the confidence that one line of truth can send the whole crew to flight. “If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31). Or when fears about provision for the future arise, suddenly you will remember David’s words: “I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread” (Psalm 37:25).

The major difference between people with a sound mind and those without will be evidenced by God’s leading in their lives. David wrote, “He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters” (Psalm 23:2). Those with a sound mind will be led by the tender voice of their Savior, and they will be given promises of reassurance no matter what they face in the coming days.

Power, love and a sound mind — that is what comes from God, and it comes only from God. Trust Him for the power to be all that he has called you to be. Determine in your heart to find his will and God will do his part to fill you with the Holy Spirit who will overpower any spirit of fear.

Kevin Jessip
One of the Speakers of *The Return*



Believe it or not, it is time for Operation Christmas Child again. We will meet at the church (wearing masks and with social distancing) at 10:00 o’clock on Saturday, November 7th to complete boxes.

We already have 43 T-shirts, 8 note pads, 19 pens, 50+ pencil sharpeners, 52 toothbrushes with holders, 19 soap boxes with soap, 7 boxes of crayons, 45 boxes, bunches of batteries and assorted toys.

If you can’t be with us on November 7th, there will be a box in the narthex of Light of Christ Church to receive items to go in the boxes.

If you want Samaritans Purse to put together a box for you, you can go to samaritanspurse.org. It will send you to Operation Christmas Child and tell you how you can have them fill a box for you.

Julie Pritchard

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

Lesson Readers

- Oct. 4 Betty Dillingham (L) Julie Pritchard (P)
- Oct. 11 Bart Morrison (L) Jeanne Hickey (P)
- Oct. 18 Constance McDearmon (L) Bart Morrison (P)
- Oct. 25 Jeanne Hickey (L) Betty Dillingham

Altar Guild

- Oct. 4 - Anna Brennan
- Oct. 11 - Suzy Norman
- Oct. 18 - Wendy Smith
- Oct. 25 - Julie Pritchard

Tellers

- Oct. 4 Courtney Ludeman, Jan Beckett
- Oct. 11 Courtney Ludeman, Bob Norman
- Oct. 18 Courtney Ludeman,
- Oct. 25 Courtney Ludeman, Pam Smith

Vestry Person on Duty

- Oct. 4 Anna Brennan
- Oct. 11 George Beckett
- Oct. 18 Anna Brennan
- Oct. 25 George Beckett

October Birthdays

- Oct. 1 Mary Swann
- Oct. 7 Doug Ludeman
- Oct. 10 Ben Ward
- Oct. 12 George Semerjian
- Oct. 20 Jim Sanderlin
- Oct. 21 Melinda Floom
- Oct. 23 Courtney Ludeman, Ed Costello
- Oct. 24 Frank McCarthy
- Oct. 28 Pat Dalzell

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants named above, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

October Anniversaries

- Oct. 9 Suzy and Bob Norman (Wedding Anniversary)
- Oct. 14 Ed and Carolyn Costello (Wedding Anniversary)
- Oct. 17 Barbara and Richard Seed (Wedding Anniversary)
- Oct. 21. Caitlyn and Erik Berg (Wedding Anniversary 2017)

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your servants as they begin another year, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

- ROMANS 5:2 KJV

Those who leave everything in
GOD'S HAND
will eventually see
God's hand in everything.

The Beacon
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The deadline for the Beacon is the third Sunday of each month.
Suzy Norman, Editor

October



The Northumberland County has asked to set up two tents in our parking lot for Covid-19 testing. It will be from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Friday, October 7th and they bring everything they need. It will be drive-through and results will be known before you leave. The vestry approved this last Sunday.