



September 9, 2018

BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Proclaiming God's Word

Growing in faith and understanding

Welcoming all

Extending comfort and grace

Working for justice and peace

Nurturing creation

Being generous stewards of God's gifts

Ministers - All Members

Pastor - Catherine Taylor

Director of Music, Organist – Steve Lawrence

Director of Children and Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter

Director of Communication and Church Life - Kendra Crabtree

Office Manager - Sherry Ingham

Custodian - Viola Howery

Acting Campus Minister, UKirk Ministry at Virginia Tech – Rev. Kathy Carpenter

Mission Co-worker in Guatemala

Mission Co-workers in Bangladesh – (Our Mission Partners names cannot be listed in the bulletin as they are working in an area with terrorism and we do not want to risk their safety.)

Mission Partner in Malawi – Dr. Ruth Shakespeare

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018**

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

“Isn’t it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense?”

James 2:17, Eugene Peterson, *The Message*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

The Prayers of the People are written by the congregation and read aloud as our corporate prayer. If you want to take part, write a one sentence prayer on the cards provided.

No signatures, please. The cards will be collected during the second hymn.

Together we pray whatever is on our hearts.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you. ... *(All are encouraged to sign the Friendship Pad in the pews. If you are a first-time visitor and leave an address, we can welcome you more fully.)*

PRELUDE

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here, BWV 634

J. S. BACH

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Brandon Griffin

With our words and in our actions,

let us praise the living God.

With our lips and in our lives,

let us glorify the Lord.

† HYMN No. 1 vv. 1-3

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

† PRAYER OF APPROACH

God of love, you show your people how to be truly rich in faith, through the gifts you give when least hoped for or expected. Come to your people today with words of both judgement and mercy, that we may be fed from the bread of life. We pray this in your holy triune name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, Mother of us all. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and compassionate God, every day, in our desire to attain our wants, avoid discomfort, and shun those we do not know or love, we show ourselves to be unworthy of your gifts of life. Of this we are sorely aware, and we ask your power to renew us in body and spirit, that we will be able, through your help, to walk in the way you intend for us. Forgive us and lead us, in Jesus’ name. Amen. ... *(A time of silent confession follows.)* In your mercy, Lord. **Hear our prayer.**

† Please stand in body or in spirit.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Just as Jesus made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak,

Our merciful God lifts our burdens from us.

God removes the failures of our past.

In Christ we have new life.

✠ GRATEFUL RESPONSE No. 1 v. 4 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Worshippers may exchange signs of God's peace and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)

HEARING THE WORD

SHARING FAITH WITH CHILDREN

(Children 1st grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Parents may take kindergarten and younger children downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurture and care.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 7:24-37

SCRIPTURE READING

James 2:1-10, 12-17

SERMON

“Outrageous Nonsense”

Catherine Taylor

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✠ HYMN No. 203

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

CHEREONI

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Congregation

MINUTE FOR MISSION

UKirk at Virginia Tech

Matthew Anama

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY

Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring

J. S. BACH

Jesu, joy of our desiring,
Holy wisdom, love most bright.
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring,
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
With the fire of life impassioned.
Striving still to truth unknown,
Life attaining near Thy throne.

✠ DOXOLOGY

MCKEE

**In service to the God whose speech
And actions are as one,
Let us lift our humble offerings
To Father, Spirit, Son.**

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

COMMISSIONING

Phyllis Albritton-Webb

✠ HYMN No. 766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

MC KEE

✠ BENECTION

✠ POSTLUDE

In Thee is Gladness, BWV 615

J. S. BACH

*please recycle your bulletin in the wooden bins on either side of the front doors.

Blacksburg Presbyterian Church
701 Church Street, SE, Blacksburg, VA 24060-5213
540-552-2504 • Email: bpc@blacksburgpres.org • www.blacksburgpres.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

Welcome to all who gather for worship today. May each of us know something of God's grace and be moved toward deeper faith, sincere love, and service following Christ. No matter who you are, or what you are seeking, you are welcome here. **If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in life and ministry in this church.**

HEADSETS for the HEARING IMPAIRED are available. Speak to an Usher or Gavin Faulkner to use them for the worship service.

We are grateful for Brandon Griffin who is our liturgist today on Higher Education Sunday and for all of the college students who participated in worship today.

The Celebration Flowers in worship today are sponsored by Bob and Delores Hendricks in celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Grad Students/Young Adults are invited to meet in the Gathering Space following worship. We will be having lunch at Moe's following worship today, sponsored by University Ministry.

Creation Care Thought: Tip for shrinking your carbon footprint: Tune up your water heater. There are two ways you can make your water heater more efficient. One, wrap it in an insulating blanket. It costs only about \$25 at your local home center, and it will cut your carbon emissions by up to 1,000 pounds annually. Two, turn down the thermostat from 140 degrees (the standard factory setting) to 120 degrees. Each 10-degree reduction reduces your carbon emissions by 600 pounds (electric) or 440 pounds (gas) a year.

Hear ye, Hear Ye! Do you love music but aren't singing in the choir? You can still be part of worship by joining the handbell choir! All are invited, 6th grade and up. No experience necessary but a musical understanding is helpful. Please let Steve Lawrence know if you are interested at steve@blacksburgpres.org. We hope to see you on Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m.!

Art Exhibit: Joni Pienkowski's exhibit in Westminster Library with cows and ice cream cones is not to be missed! She is sharing this exhibit of her works throughout the summer and early fall. Her art work ranges from abstract to portraiture to an occasional sculpture. And to cows and ice cream. She is a multi-talented woman and a member, along with her husband Bob, of BPC since 1961. We have enjoyed Joni's many gifts and hope you will enjoy these drawings. An art forum is scheduled for Oct. 7 following worship.

Dinner at Green's with Leslie Vogel, Regional Liaison for Guatemala and Mexico through the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Sunday, Sept. 23 at 5:30 p.m. Leslie will be in our neck of the woods and we are taking the opportunity to hear from her over a meal. BPC has supported Leslie's ministry as a mission co-worker assigned to CEDEPCA in Guatemala for several years. Leslie has recently changed roles within the Presbyterian Mission Agency and is now the Regional Liaison for Guatemala and Mexico. We look forward to hearing from her about the work God is doing in those countries and the work God is doing in her. If you would like to join us for dinner please **RSVP by September 20th** to Sandy Schlaudecker by phone, 951-1314 or by email, cheesemaker72@gmail.com.

Box tops for Education. We just sent an envelope of "Box Tops for Education" to the Menaul School in Albuquerque, NM, a Presbyterian related school with many Native American and Hispanic students. Churches all over the country send them in, enabling them to use the points for teaching materials. Please continue to place them in the marked box in the window in the Gathering Space. Questions? Contact Elva Miller at elva.miller@comcast.net or 951-8407.

Troop #144 Girl Scouts meet every Sunday. We are taking new Girl Scouts from grades K-6, Daisy-First year Cadets. We have many plans this coming year: Star gazing, Hiking, overnight camping trip in an Aquarium. If anyone is interested, please contact Joy Goerlich at 434-579-0043, or register online at www.gsvsc.org.

SERVING TODAY

Church Opener: Today: Brian Smith

Elder of the Week: Today: Jen Stewart

Prayer Room:

Mon-Sunday: Jama Hayes

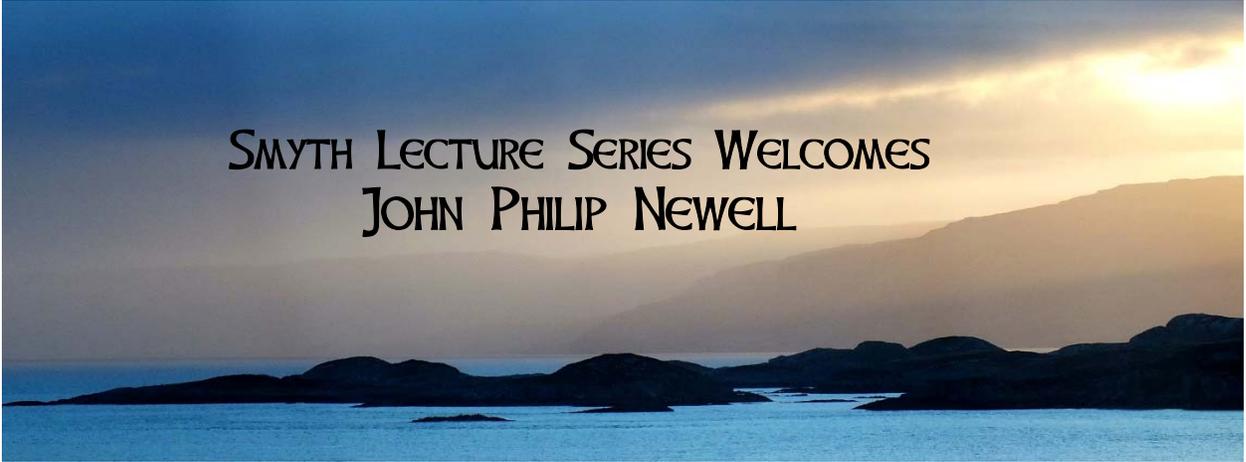
Next Sunday: Karen Watson/Diane Wilson

THIS WEEK AT BPC - HCR-Hatcher Conference Room, WM-Westminster, FH-Fellowship Hall

- Sept. 9 Sunday School for all at 9:00 a.m.
Shift Small Group at 9:00 a.m. - WM
Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 a.m. – Gathering Space
Worship at 10:30 a.m.- Higher Education Sunday
Youth Group meets at 5:30 p.m., Family Potluck & Parent meeting-FH
- Sept. 10 BPC's Kitchen Renovation begins today!
Lydia Circle meets at 1:30 p.m. – HCR
Hildegard Circle meets at 6:00 p.m. at Nancy Furr's home-708 Southgate Dr.
Enneagram Workshop at 7:00 p.m. - WM
- Sept. 11 Morningstars Bible Study at 7:30 a.m. -HCR
Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. – HCR
Prayer Group meets at 11:00 a.m. – Prayer Rm Every Tuesday- All are welcome
- Sept. 12 Caring for the Community at 9:30 a.m. – HCR
Staff meets at 9:30 a.m. –WM
University Ministry meets at 5:30-6:30 p.m. -HCR
Handbell Rehearsal at 5:45 p.m.
Adult Choir Rehearsal at 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Faith Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. at Jen Stewart's home-304 Lucas Dr, Bbrg
- Sept. 13 Malawi Ministry meets at 12:00 -1:00 p.m. - HCR
- Sept. 16 BPC's Cents-Ability Collection
Session meets at 7:00 p.m. – HCR

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Sept. 17 Enneagram Workshop at 7:00 p.m. – WM
- Sept. 18 Morningstars Bible Study at 7:30 a.m. -HCR
Quilters meet at 9:30 a.m. – HCR
Prayer Group meets at 11:00 a.m. – Prayer Rm Every Tuesday- All are welcome
- Sept. 20 Caring for the Community at 9:30 a.m. –WM
- Sept. 24 KnitWits gather at 1:00 p.m. – WM
- October 7 Art Forum with Joni Pienkowski at 11:45 a.m. – WM
- October 13 Blacksburg Master Chorale concert at BPC at 7:30 p.m.



SMYTH LECTURE SERIES WELCOMES
JOHN PHILIP NEWELL

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**All events will take place at
Blacksburg Presbyterian Church
Located at 701 Church St. SE, Blacksburg, VA 24060-5213**

Sunday, October 21st at 10:30 a.m.
Sermon: *Made in the Image of the Divine*

Sunday, October 21st at 7:00 p.m.
Boundless: A Celtic Vision of the Sacred in All Things
Lecture and Reception, including book signing
Childcare will be provided.

Monday, October 22nd at 7:00 p.m.
Boundless: A Celtic Vision of the Sacred in All Things
Lecture and Reception, including book signing
Childcare will be provided.

Ministry Leaders Luncheon
Monday, October 22nd at 12:00 noon

Homemade lunch catered by Gillie's
Includes: soup, salad, bread, and dessert.

Please register by Friday, October 12th at
blacksburgpres.org/smyth-lunch



FALL ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- ◆ ***Anxious to Talk About It***, by Carolyn B. Helsel - Sunday, August 26th - October 7th
(no class on Sept. 2nd) 9:00 a.m. in Hatcher Conference Room - Facilitated by Catherine Taylor

If talking about racism makes you anxious, afraid, or even angry, you're not alone. In *Anxious to Talk about It*, pastor and professor Carolyn B. Helsel draws on her success with white congregations to offer insight and tools to embrace, explore and work through the anxious feelings that often arise in these hard conversations. You will learn how to join conversations with courage, compassion, and knowledge of self, others, and the important issues at stake.

- ◆ **SHIFT Small Group** - 9:00-10:00 a.m., Westminster Library
This is a continuation of BPC's SHIFT that means to help those worshipping at BPC discover and strengthen their discipleship identity.

- ◆ **Fall Book Study Workshop - *The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery***
By Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile
7:00 p.m. on Mondays in Westminster Library. Begins September 10th. Will meet for 5 weeks. Join Kendra Crabtree, Director of Communications and Church Life, this fall as we scratch the surface on this system of discovery. Email kendra@blacksburgpres.org to participate.

- ◆ **Celtic Spirituality Workshop - Oct. 14 at 9:00 a.m. and Oct. 17 at 7:00 p.m.**
In anticipation of John Philip Newell being our Smyth speaker, the Adult Education Ministry is hosting a workshop on the Celtic Christian tradition. The workshop, led by Rev. Dave Snyder, will touch on the history of the Celtic Christian experience, its primary theological claims, and its contemporary contribution to the church and world.

This workshop will be offered on Sunday, October 14th at 9am and again on Wednesday, October 17th at 7p.m. for those who aren't able to make it on Oct. 14th.

Recycling Update FAQs

You will notice on the other side of this page that there have been a few changes in recycling. The policies here became effective on July 1, 2018. Here are answers to some FAQs regarding the changes:

Why shredded paper is no longer accepted curbside?

As the recyclables go through the sorting process, bits of shredded paper tend to stick to everything and get mixed in with other types of items. It is THE most common and most irritating contaminant.

What should I do with shredded paper?

You can reduce your shredded paper to include only that which is essential, and you can take your shredded paper in bulk directly to the Waste Authority, where it can be handled separately.

Why are we not recycling plastic containers #3 - #7 anymore?

Throughout the US, most plastics #3-#7 have been sent for collection at US recycling companies that would then export it to China. Chinese recyclers would sort the valuable stuff from the chaff, cleaning it and breaking it down into plastic resin that can be remolded by manufacturers. Anything recyclers couldn't use was heaped onto China's growing trash mountains or sent to smaller processors that often pollute heavily but are hard to regulate. To reduce that pollution, the Chinese government has recently launched a policy that bans the import of all but the cleanest, most tidily organized bales of reusable rubbish. Now, #3-#7 plastic from the U.S. has no place to go, since the U.S. has only developed the infrastructure to sort and process the easier-to-break down #1 and #2 plastics. In other words, we felt good about recycling our containers #3-#7, but the environmental value of doing so has been dubious for years.

Is this connected to the new trade tariffs with China?

No, this all happened much earlier, some of it as far back as 2013.

Why have I not received a mailing about this from the Town of Blacksburg?

At the recycling sorting center, #3-#7 containers are already being sent to the landfill now, but the Town has a year or more to fully implement the policy, update websites, send out mailings, etc. Only ~2% of plastic recycling from households in the town is #3-#7 plastic, so complete compliance is not urgent now.

What can we do now?

All containers #3-#7 must go in the trash now. However, since this is a problem facing the entire country, a more sustainable solution becomes more likely, we hope! New markets will have to be found and/or new technology developed in the U.S. An even better result COULD be that we begin to evaluate our dependence on single-use and "disposable" plastic. Some of the #3 - #7 plastics may be dangerous for food storage anyway, as they leach hazardous compounds. Can your household cut back on the plastic containers you use? Can we encourage companies to use less packaging by buying items with minimal packaging? Can we buy more items in bulk? Can you write letters to the companies who make the products you buy in #3-#7 plastic containers (things like yogurt, sour cream and feta cheese) and ask them to use recyclable plastic, glass, or paper containers, perhaps even pledging to boycott them until they do?

How can we begin to think beyond plastic?

This occasion has given us all an opportunity to start to figure it out! Look for further resources on this from the Creation Care Team.

Sources: <https://qz.com/122003/plastic-recycling-china-green-fence/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/11/world/china-recyclables-ban.html>

Carol Davis, Sustainability Manager, Town of Blacksburg



RECYCLE THESE ITEMS:

Cans



Aluminum Beverage Cans,
Steel and Tin Cans

empty

Glass



Bottles and Jars

empty

Paper



Mixed Paper, Newspaper,
Magazines, Pizza Boxes
and Cardboard

Plastic Containers



Plastic Bottles, Jugs
and Food Containers
#1 (PET) & #2 (HDPE) only

NO!



Do Not Bag Recyclables
No Garbage



No Plastic Bags
(return to retailer)



No Food or Liquid
(empty all containers)



No Tangles
(no hoses, wires,
chains, or cords)



No Clothing or Toys
(use donation programs)



No Electronics
(take to MRSWA)



No Shredded Paper
(take to MRSWA)



No Styrofoam

For more information go to
MRSWA.com
or call **540-381-2820**

MRSWA located at 555 Authority Dr. Christiansburg