

Hebron News

Hebron Presbyterian Church, Manakin-Sabot, VA *Our Mission is to "Spread the Word of God"*.

From the pastor's desk . .

October, 2016

Pickett's Charge

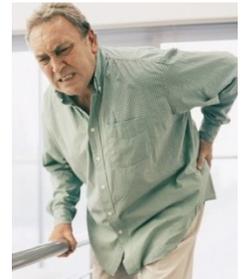


You Gotta Have Faith

Some very well meaning people have said to me, "If you had enough faith then God would do what you're asking." They are referring to verses like: Matthew 17:20 *"Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."* or Acts 14:9 *"He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed."*

I do believe that God can certainly heal, move mountains and anything that He wants. What part do we play in all this? What is this thing called 'faith'? Is it mindless belief or some magic mumbo jumbo that most of us know nothing about? I have learned in the last couple of weeks a new perspective that may not be satisfactory to some but I believe it has merit.

In the midst of planning this trip to India I tore a scapula muscle in my back. Was it playing ping pong with my left hand? Who knows? I certainly believed and had faith that God could heal it instantly. I even followed the injunction of James 5:13-16 that we should have others pray over us for healing. Tracy has prayed over me numerous times. I have begged God to release me of the pain. I began to grow in fear of sitting on an airplane for 14 hours and medicating myself in order not to feel the pain so intensely.



And then I turned a corner. If I had faith that God could heal me, did I also have faith that He could give me the endurance to handle the pain? Perhaps there was more purpose to my pain than mere aggravation. Of course that brought a tremendous amount of guilt upon my head as I realized how difficult I have been to live with over the past couple of weeks. Pain doesn't tend to bring out the best in me.

Isn't this what faith is about? It's trusting in a good God who has a purpose for us and He can use anything and everything for His glory...even pain or cancer, and a myriad of other unpleasant things. It's the belief that He is in control and we are not. It's a calm acceptance that things will not always go the way I imagined but laid at the foot of the cross, they can be redeemed.

With that in mind Hebrews 11:1 begins to make sense, *"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."*

So, what will it be? Will we continue to gripe and groan because things aren't going our way and arrogantly assume we are in charge when they do? Or can we imagine submitting it all to God and sitting back and watching what He'll do...with our pain, our aggravations, even past histories and painful memories? He's a good God. Take a chance on faith. You won't be disappointed.

God Bless,

Allen

exploreGod™

continues through Sunday, October 16

Invite someone who may be seeking answers to these questions:

- Is Christianity too narrow?
- Is Jesus really God?
- Is the Bible reliable?

Join the conversation after the worship service:
 Sunday School classes for everyone from 11:30am-12:15pm

Learn more at www.exploreGod.com

Wednesday Night Special Begins October 12 This Fall's Topic: Your Money Matters

Join your Hebron Church family for dinner, fellowship and learning together this fall.
 After dinner, we'll gather around the table for learning and discussion.

Dinner	5:45-6:30pm
Intergenerational Program	6:30-7:30pm
Choir Rehearsal	7:15-8:15pm

Adult Bible Studies

- Seeking a Word from the Lord Sundays 9:00am, Ralph Fields Room
- *Too Busy Not to Pray* Will resume Sunday, October 16
- Women's Bible Study Tuesdays 9:00am, Parrish House
 Gideon by Priscilla Shirer
- Women's Bible Study Thursdays 9:00am, Parrish House
 Genesis, Precept Upon Precept
- Women of Hebron 2nd and 4th Thursdays 11:00am, Meeting Room
 The Story
- Men's Group Sundays 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall
 Leadership 101

OCTOBER YOUTH CALENDAR

[grades 7-12]

Fall Bible study series: *Jesus is _____*.

Sunday, October 2

11:30am-12:15pm *Explore God* Sunday School/Confirmation Class
6:00-7:30pm Youth Group at the Parrish House

Sunday, October 9

11:30am-12:15pm *Explore God* Sunday School/Confirmation Class
6:00-7:30pm Youth Group at the Parrish House

Sunday, October 16

11:30am-12:15pm *Explore God* Sunday School/Confirmation Class
6:00-7:30pm Youth Group at the Parrish House

Sunday, October 23

11:30am-12:15pm Confirmation Class
6:00-7:30pm Youth Group at the Parrish House

Sunday, October 30 Confirmation Sunday

6:00-7:30pm Youth Group at the Parrish House
Fall retreat registration deadline

Fall Youth Retreat: *Soul Survivor*

Saturday, November 19 - Sunday, November 20 at Westview on the James
See Lori for more details and info on how to register by October 30th!

Hebron Kids For Christ

[tweens in grades 4-6]

Lunch and a Movie

October 23rd, 11:15am-1:00pm
at the Parrish House

Hosted by Tracy Kistler



Perseverance in Faith Horatio Spafford (1828-1888)

*My Soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him.
He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.
Psalm 62: 1-2*

Misfortune wasn't new to Horatio Spafford. In 1871 the great Chicago fire destroyed his massive real estate holdings on the shore of Lake Michigan. The financial fallout was horrendous, but he consoled himself that at least his family was safe.

Just two years later, the Spafford family—Horatio, his wife, and their four young daughters---looked forward to needed break, accompanying friends to Europe, crossing the Atlantic on the *Ville du Havre*.

At the last minute, however, business concerns unexpectedly held Mr. Spafford in Chicago. He sent the family ahead of him, assuring them he would follow as soon as he could and meet them in France.

But that was not to be. In the mid-Atlantic the *Ville du Havre* collided with an English ship and sank in only twelve minutes. All four of the Spafford girls drowned; only Mrs. Spafford was named among the survivors.

The thought of receiving such a telegram as was given to Horatio Spafford is difficult to comprehend. He immediately headed for New York and boarded a slow boat to his wife's side. The ship's captain knew of the father's grief and one day called Horatio on deck to tell him, "To the best of my calculations, Mr. Spafford, this is where your daughters were drowned."

What were his thoughts as he gazed into the watery grave? Later that very day he wrote down his emotions—neither a lament nor a complaint, neither anger nor remorse.

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Here was a man who persevered in faith despite misfortune that is hardly imaginable to me—and maybe to you. Yet faith rested firmly in the God of his salvation.

The write of Hebrews challenges us to *perseverance* in the context of faith:

*Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its
shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men,
so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. (Hebrews 12: 1-3)*

At Hebron recently we have discussed why God allows pain and suffering to happen. These scriptures passages and the witness of Spafford's song gives us comfort and hope and reminds all believers to fix their eyes on the author and perfecter of their faith, the God of their salvation.

Session Notes

At the September Meeting:

1. A proposal to update our website with a one time cost of \$599 and an annual fee of \$849 was approved. This update will enable us to make our website more attractive, post photographs and video of our services. Accessible to people looking for a church as well as to our members on vacation or otherwise might not be able to attend on a particular Sunday.
2. Set a Congregational meeting for October 16th for the approval of the Pastor Nominating Committee.
3. Noted marked improvement in our budget. We are still \$20,000 behind for the year but are encouraged that our members have helped close the gap.
4. The Nominating committee for the selection of new elders and deacons was formed led by Laura Farley-Smith, John Bullard and Everett Mish.
5. Session will examine the Confirmation class on October 23rd with approved members joining on October 30th.

Men's Group

Every Sunday Night, the men of Hebron are invited to Holman Hall to watch some of the best speakers on leadership that you'll ever hear. These are talks from the Willow Creek Leadership Summit in Chicago that occurs every year in August. After listening to the speaker, we'll have discussion and application to the message. For a few weeks every Sunday will feature a different speaker so come when you can and join in.



The Nominating Committee has called a Congregational Meeting for October 16th immediately following Worship for the election of a Pastor Nominating Committee. The Committee has contacted the following to serve: Mary Austin, Mack Curle, Kelli Eastwood, Everett Mish, Brenda Morgan, Ronnie Nuckols and Dan Rogers.

Operation Christmas Child

Giving Like God

A busy mother explains why she and her family began packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child

I admit it. As a mom, I lose it sometimes. It's not just laundry, overdue checkups for the kids, paint I need to buy to create the solar system out of Styrofoam balls and poster board, a stack of bills on the kitchen counter that I walk past and pretend not to see, or the report due to my boss by 9 a.m. Any one of those is no big deal until you swirl them all together in the time constraints of a busy day.

School's back in, which brings a little order back into my world, but in my typical avoidant style, I try to ignore the fact that the calendar is inching toward the mother of all chaotic seasons: Christmas. Lugging an over-stuffed basket of laundry down the stairs and sensing the loss of three or four socks, which have formed a trail from the bedroom hall, I leave the dirty clothes just outside the laundry room on the way to my chair to grab a scant 20 minute quiet time. But by the time I settle in, Christmas worry has taken center stage: It's coming, so there needs to be a strategy for surviving the mayhem—the crowds, the shopping list, and the endless details to create obligatory Christmas wonder for my family. I feel sweat on my upper lip until something stops my train of thought in its tracks.

Opening my Bible to James, I read the following: "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says" (1:22, NIV). Exhaling deeply, I continue reading verses 23-25: "Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do."

Suddenly, my schedule and concerns seem smaller. In fact, every time I read that passage, I'm struck by the simplicity—coupled with the massive challenge: Do the Word. As I kick around that thought and what it means, I'm reminded that the holidays aren't about survival. They provide an opportunity to lead my kids deeper into the Truth of Christmas—the gift of Christ.

That's when I remember a video I saw online about Operation Christmas Child. It included footage of children in different countries opening shoeboxes sent from far away. I was teary-eyed seeing the joy of gifts gratefully received by these beautiful children and the message of hope in Christ delivered with them. These children were as excited about toothbrushes and soap as they were about the colorful toys that they pulled from the packages.

That's it, I think. God has given us His example: He's given us life, provision, and the gift of His only Son. Now we have the amazing opportunity to be among the givers: doing the Word.

Time to rally the kids. A quick Internet search, and I show them the video and explain the concept of Operation Christmas Child. They have been raised (as I have) in this—by the world's standards—affluent society, so it's important for us all to comprehend the need of these children, God's love for each one of them, and the call and ability we have to join in. Relieved, I see understanding flooding their faces as the video ends, and I know they are all in. At our family conference around the dinner table, the girls decide to earn the money they'll use to shop for their shoebox goodies. My oldest girl works part time training dogs and babysitting, another has a small online art business, and the youngest will add some chores to her normal tasks to earn extra. They own this project, and they want to share personally in this experience. Each will manage one of the boxes, and my husband and I will help where needed.

Suddenly Christmas is clearer to me than it has been in years—its beautiful simplicity of a gift given by God to mankind. None of this should be a revelation to me, but it is. I've known about this wonderful worldwide outreach for years, and I smile as the table conversation becomes electric with girls discussing their plans. Suddenly, I realize that I'm learning from them. We can never match our Father in gift giving, but we're created to give, to think of others, and to surrender the plan of a hectic day to His will. No longer paralyzed by my schedule, I understand that we are recipients of a great gift: the ability to join God in His strategy of giving.



In October, we are collecting:

- Monetary Donations to purchase plastic shoeboxes and T-shirts
- Plastic cups and bowls
- Bar soap
- Small pads of paper, pens and pencils
- Crayons
- Plastic jewelry-necklaces and bracelets
- Reusable shopping bags (new) from grocery, discount and hardware stores
- Toothbrushes

Also, please look for:

- Free items from sporting events and conferences (stadium cups, pens)
- Small purses from cosmetic companies

Put your Christmas gifts in the green plastic tub outside Holman Hall.

September Volunteer Schedules		
	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Nursery</u>
October 2	Cricket & Robin Williams	Tanya Powers
October 9	Jim & Rachel Parker	Jena Northen
October 16	Tanya Powers	Tanya Powers
October 23	Jamie & Tracy Kistler	Tracy Pickett
October 30	John & Karen Bullard	Rossie Fisher

Hebron Day School

"Be still and know that I am God."

Psalm 46: 10

Hebron Day School is off to a fantastic start. We have 35 children currently enrolled! September has been busy and hectic, and October promises to more of the same (fun!).

We begin with our annual Fall Field trip to the Lloyd Family Farm Pumpkin Patch on Wednesday, October 5. We look forward to a morning of fun, picking a pumpkin, taking a hayride, petting animals, and just enjoying a beautiful fall day outdoors. Parents and siblings also attend.

During the week of October 11th, we celebrate Fire Safety Week. Mr. Earl Taylor and friends with the Goochland Fire and Rescue Department will be visiting on Wednesday, October 12, to give a demonstration of fire safety to the children, and then allow them to explore the fire truck and rescue squad.

Hebron Day School will again participate in Operation Christmas Child by collecting items for the boxes. This year, during October, we will be collecting coloring books and crayons and hope to have a large donation for the church by the end of the month.

Several after-school classes have already begun. Dance class meets every Thursday throughout the year, and Workshop Wednesdays meets once a month. In addition, Paint Explorers will begin in October with classes on Tuesdays from 12:00-1:00pm.

As always, we appreciate the support from Hebron Presbyterian Church, and would like to invite you to come and visit us any time! Happy Fall!

"Growing in Faith. . ."

Shirley Bonovitch
Director

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sunday, October 2

Adult Bible Study 9:00am
 Worship 10:00am
 Communion
 Prayer available in Pastor's office
 Sunday School 11:30am-12:15pm
 Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall
 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm

Tuesday, October 4

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House
 Women's Bible Study: 9-11:00am, "Gideon"

Wednesday, October 5

Choir Rehearsal 6:30-8:00pm

Thursday, October 6

Women's Bible Study: 9-11:00am, "Genesis Part 1"

Friday, October 7

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Sunday, October 9

Adult Bible Study 9:00am
 Worship 10:00am
 Prayer available in Pastor's office
 Sunday School 11:30am-12:15pm
 Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall
 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm

Tuesday, October 11

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House
 Women's Bible Study: 9-11:00am, "Gideon"

Wednesday, October 12

Wednesday Night Special Begins!

Dinner: 5:45-6:30pm
 Intergenerational Program: 6:30-7:30pm
 Choir Rehearsal: 7:15-8:15pm

Thursday, October 13

Women of Hebron 11:00am, Chapter 23
 New Women's Bible Study Begins: 9-11:00am,
 "Genesis Part 2"

Friday, October 14

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Sunday, October 16 - Dedication Sunday

Adult Bible Study 9:00am
 Worship 10:00am
 Congregational Meeting following Worship
 Prayer available in Pastor's office
 Sunday School 11:30am-12:15pm
 Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall
 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm

Tuesday, October 18

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House
 Women's Bible Study: 9-11:00am, "Gideon"

Wednesday, October 19

Wednesday Night Special
 Dinner: 5:45-6:30pm
 Intergenerational Program: 6:30-7:30pm
 Choir Rehearsal: 7:15-8:15pm

Thursday, October 20

Women's Bible Study : 9-11:00am, "Genesis Part 2"

PRAYER CONCERNS

Polly Anderson
 Susie Smyth
 Diane & T. C. Anderson
 Bibby Raines
 Sandy & Rossie Fisher
 The Atkinson Family,
friends of Dan & Martha Rogers

Denny Rudzinki, *friend of Jamie Kistler*
 Ted Phillips, *Barb Young's brother*
 Ben Watkins, *Tricia Miller's brother*
 Mia Barksdale, *Paula Curle's sister*
 Tristen Edwin Jenkins, *Shirley Bonovitch's*
great nephew

Barbara Kaplan, *Alison Raines' mother*
 Karen Ball, *Patsy Rice's daughter*
 Steve Cobb, *former Student Minister at Hebron*
 Tee Thackston, *Fayette Thackston's brother*
 Glenn Parrish, *Sandra Parrish's husband*
 Danny Mizelle and Our Military Personnel

Please call the church office if there are any changes to be made to the Prayer List.

Friday, October 21

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House

Sunday, October 23

Adult Bible Study 9:00am
 Worship 10:00am
 Prayer available in Pastor's office
 Deacons Meeting
 Tweens: Lunch and a Movie 11:15am-1:00pm
 Confirmation Class 11:30am-12:15pm
 Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall
 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm

Tuesday, October 25

AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House
 Women's Bible Study: 9-11:00am, "Gideon"

Wednesday, October 26

Wednesday Night Special
 Dinner: 5:45-6:30pm
 Intergenerational Program: 6:30-7:30pm
 Choir Rehearsal: 7:15-8:15pm

Thursday, October 27

Women of Hebron 11:00am
 Women's Bible Study 9-11:00am,
 "Genesis Part 2"

Session 7:00pm

Friday, October 28

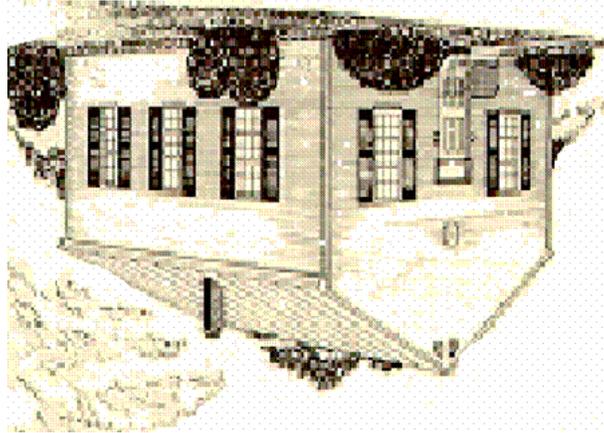
AA Meeting 7:00-8:00am Parrish House
Sunday, October 30 - Confirmation Sunday
 Adult Bible Study 9:00am
 Worship 10:00am
 Prayer available in Pastor's office
 Men's Group 6:00-7:30pm, Holman Hall
 Youth Group 6:00-7:30pm
 Fall Retreat Registration Deadline

Hebron Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ, Reformed in theology and Presbyterian by way of organization. It is related to the Presbytery of the James, the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, and to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

Our Mission is to Spread the Word of God

“A Historic Church with a Living Mission”

Hebron Presbyterian Church
Founded 1843



HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1040 SHALLOW WELL ROAD
MANAKIN-SABOT, VIRGINIA 23103
(804) 784-4018

*You are invited to join us for our
10:00am Worship Service*