

KGPC ENEWS

Every Member in Ministry: Learning Together



Inside this Issue

- 1 Message from the Pastor
- 2 August Worship Schedule, August Birthdays, People's Choice Sermon Series, Property Pleas
- 3 Session Notes, Adult Ministry, Electronic Bulletin Board
- 4 Children's Ministry, Thank you, Exercise Group
- 5 Upcoming Events, Bethlehem Walk, Blitz Day

Sabbath: A Time to Rest, A Time to Play

Sabbath is very important to me. After all it is one of the ten commandments. Barbara Brown Taylor, one of the leading preachers of our day, says, "Sabbath is a gift, but we are so reluctant to accept it, that God had to make it a command." I need that commandment. I need the reminder that Friday is my Sabbath and I shouldn't be in the office. I need the PC(USA) to tell me that I have 4 weeks of vacation and 2 weeks of continuing education and I should take that time away every year. I need time to just be with family. I need time to just be with God.

The notion of a healthy rhythm of rest and restoration is central to our Christian faith and lives. God created the world in six days and on the seventh day God rested. Not because God was tired. Because God wanted to enjoy and appreciate what had been created. And we are made in that image, in that rhythm, in that cycle of being. We need time to appreciate and enjoy the abundant life God gives us. The problem is that because Sabbath is woven throughout our entire being, when we don't honor it we fall out of holy rhythm with the One who created us.

Sabbath was given to us as a gift and command not only because we are to follow God's example of six days on and one off, but for many other reasons. For the joy that comes when we stop to appreciate our blessings, our world, our lives. For the physical well being of our bodies. And most importantly, for deepened communion with the Living God. John Calvin had another reason. "On the Sabbath, we cease our work so God can do God's work in us." When you wonder if what you are doing is honoring the Sabbath, ask yourself if it brings you joy, if you feel renewed afterward, if your communion with the Living God has been deepened and strengthened, and if it allows God to work in you. The Sabbath is an invitation to rest, redemption and renewal whatever day of the week it is. Church workers often say, "But Sunday is a work day for me, how can I keep it a Sabbath?" Well, maybe Sunday isn't your Sabbath! Maybe it's another day or another time. But it is important that every week and every year we intentionally engage in activities or non activities that bring us joy and renewal through which our relationship with God grows as God works in us. Sabbath time, holy rest, is about living in communion with God.

We all need rest, rest from expectations, rest from stress, rest from hardship, rest from pain and regret and guilt, rest from doing. There is a reason we are not called Human Doings, you know. We need times when we can simply be, simply rest, and simply acknowledge God's presence with us. For some of us that rest will be to sit at home, turning off the TV, and simply pray for ourselves and loved ones. For others it will be to play with a child or grandchild, being silly and laughing. For others it will be a vacation, one that is restful and relaxing and takes us out of our daily routine. For some it will be to swing on the front porch and watch the sun go down this evening as you sip a glass of wine. We need rest. God commanded it. Jesus provides it. The Holy Spirit brings renewal through it.

This summer provided some wonderful Sabbath time for me. I was able to fine tune my preaching skills at the Festival of Homiletics, spend time with God and a few close friends at an Episcopal retreat center, grow closer to my extended family in Denver, play with my kids in California, and connect with the larger denomination at the PC(USA) Big Tent Event.



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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Bill Sale, Jill Caynor, Maddy Reynaldo, Richard Balke, Michael Bowling, Earl Waters, Craig Bailey, Ben O'Donnell, Janet Werndli, Hannah Otto, Scarlet Malagon, Tony Plater, Megan LaSalle, Robert Mauldin, Linda Miller, Buena Henry, Laurel Wilson, Mel Allmond, Brian Sturdevant, Barbara Johnson, Shirley Deglow, Megan Dillon, Cathy Hawley, Billy Weber, Janet Phelps, John Chisholm, Brenda Holster, Ronald Clark, Wayne Shank, Beth Overton, Amy LeCroy, Don Evans, Brandon Overton, Pollie Morison, Bill Hudgens, Sandy Colby, Kenneth Lawrence, Lucas Diton

Con't from page 1

I am grateful for this time away. I am grateful for Sabbath time. My prayer is that you will take Sabbath seriously also. Find time on a daily, weekly, yearly basis to rest, have fun, laugh, pray, and be renewed. Your spiritual, physical, relational, and emotional health depends on it. But more importantly, God commands it.

August Worship Schedule

All Sundays in August will have worship at 10 a.m. with Communion on August 2nd.

The People's Choice Sermon Series

August 9th we continue our People's Choice Sermon Series through September 6. Thank you to so many who have submitted ideas for future sermons. There are over twice as many suggestions as we have Sundays so not all of them will be able to be used at this time. Topics have ranged from the persecution of Christians, to some of the more troubling texts in scripture, to Revelation, how to confront evil but still be loving, how Jesus changed the Jewish culture, Tolerance, Balance, atheist statements, and even a topic on "nothing". It has been a joy to find out what is on your hearts as you share your sermon ideas with me. The suggestion box continues to remain in the Connection Point if you'd like to share any ideas, comments, or suggestions regarding sermons in the coming months. I believe preaching is a dialogue and I have enjoyed these conversations with you these past six months and look forward to many, many more.

Property Pleas

Please put on your calendar Saturday, August 29th - to come and help the property committee to clean inside the building. We will start at 9:00 a.m., and will furnish lunch.

This is the time of the year we try to make the building "shine from within", getting ready for rally day.

A notice to all ministries- the week of August 24th will be a great time to do some house cleaning in all rooms and closets that effect your ministry. We all could do some de-cluttering.

Property will be furnishing a trash bin from Aug. 26-Sept. 2 to throw away unused treasures. All are welcomed to use it.

This is a plea from property and worship that any liquids leaving the Connection Point be in a cup or container that has a lid. We are trying our best to keep the sanctuary and classrooms as spotless as possible.

Keep a Lid on it, Please!

We are asking everyone who takes a drink out of the Connection Point to **please put a lid on their drinks.**

Numerous stains are starting to appear in the sanctuary and classrooms. Property tries hard to keep God's house as clean and presentable as possible. We thank you.

KGPC Electronic Bulletin Board

King's Grant Presbyterian Church now has the electronic capability to display information and photos on a television monitor in the Connection Point and projected on the screen in the Sanctuary prior to worship services. This is a useful addition to our multi-media communications strategy to ensure more complete dissemination of information about church life and to keep members informed.

In order to maintain quality and consistency, please keep in mind the following operational considerations:

- ¥ Messages should be timely, simple and easy to read in the few seconds it will be on the screen
- ¥ Requests to display informational messages should be directed to Jacqu Camlet by Tuesday of the week the message is to appear on Sunday at (mjcamlet@verizon.net)
- ¥ Questions about content or appropriateness will be resolved by the Standing Communications Committee

Session notes from the Clerk

First, a monumental thanks to the Class of 2015 which served & led KGPC so diligently over the last 3 transformative years. Tom Dillon served mightily as Clerk the last year helping direct the Session & KGPC with his wise & strong counsel. The other members of 2015 included Sylvia Maume, Sandy Christensen, Sherry Hatfield, Jeff Hammaker, & Julie Seipel. Our thanks go to all!

The coming year will present more opportunity for all of us to serve our Lord & fellow man. As your Session moves ahead over the next 11 months, we are considering the continued "downsizing" of the Session with a goal of 4 strong leader-Elders in each class, just like we've done in the Class of 2018. The goal for this new Session would be that of providing leadership, vision, and direction for KGPC. Day-to-day operations & programs would be managed by the leadership team, comprised of the moderators of each ministry – all under the broad governance of the Session. It is likely that moderators would not be members of Session at the time.

With the excitement & enthusiasm – plus boundless energy and ideas and great preaching – brought to us by our new pastor, Chris Carrasco, the future of KGPC is indeed bright!

Bill Hudgens, Clerk of Session.

Adult Ministry Update

The Sunday School "staff", of both Children's Ministry and Adult Ministry, are having a "Sabbath Rest" until Sunday School resumes on Rally Day, September 13th

The Adult Ministry team is seeking ideas for new studies! If you are interested in studying a specific topic such as a book of the Bible, theme from the Bible, or application of Christianity in the world today, please email your ideas to Julie Seipel (mseipel@aol.com).

We are also looking for Sunday school teachers/facilitators and small group leaders! If you feel that God is calling you to this ministry, please let Julie know! Remember, where 2 or more are gathered in His name there is a small group forming! So get some friends together and choose a time to meet. We have many studies available for all sorts of groups! You don't have to wait for Adult Ministry to get the ball rolling! If the Spirit is nudging you, let us know!





Dear KGPC Community,

We thank our church family for all the wonderful calls, cards and offerings of prayers and of food to comfort us with the passing of Maxine, our mom. Maxine had said when she first came to Virginia Beach how sad she was that all of her friends had died. You, our gracious church family, proved her wrong about that. You all adopted her, pampered her, hugged her, laughed with her, visited her, sent her cards, colored pictures for her, brought her candy (she loved chocolate) cookies, flowers, and even balloons. And later, when she could no longer make it to attend church, you brought her communion. and prayed for her. And she felt very loved by you, as do we. We say to you all, "well done, good and faithful servants".

You have been the Body of Christ to our family.

David and Georgia Jones

**Exercise group
now meets Tuesdays AND
Fridays!!**

Do you need motivation to exercise??? KGPC has started an exercise group. We have several videos including Richard Simmons. We exercise on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. in the senior high Sunday school room. Come and have fun. Questions? Contact Deane Carroll dmc2teach@gmail.com or 910-554-1932



Christian Education & Development

Children's Ministry

The Sunday School "staff", of both Children's Ministry and Adult Ministry, are having a "Sabbath Rest" until Sunday School resumes on Rally Day, September 13th

Children's Church

During the 10:00 single service and then the 11:00 service in room 120

Recommended for children ages four through second grade. Children learn about God at their own level.

CHOW

Fall CHOW begins Wednesday, September 23rd and runs through November 18th. Mark your calendars!

Eva and Malawi

We continue to sponsor Eva in Malawi, so please consider a birthday donation or a celebration of the beginning of another school year in your child's name. What a special way to honor your child and support Eva.

Thank you for your donations of the medicine bottles to be reused in Malawi.

VBS 2015

Thank you to Marie Garrenton for her diligent direction during VBS. Also, many thanks to the countless volunteers who gave of themselves to make the week possible. Not only did we help bring 118 young children closer to Jesus, but the children and their families also raised \$1177.75 for Living Waters for the World and brought in 510 items for the KGPC food pantry. God continues to work through the body and hands of KGPC!

Remind

Want a way to always remember what is going on with the children of the church? Text **571-248-3846** and put **@81e2b** in the message field. And Voila! You will now receive a text to remind you of upcoming events. How easy is that? See Becky Otto (rotto2@cox.net) with questions.

TEACHERS NEEDED!

We are still looking for several teachers/assistant teachers for the upcoming school year for Sunday School and Children's Church. Please pray about it, and if you feel God's call, please let Becky Otto or Sue Mooney know.

Dates to Remember

August 21st – Art Fun at KGPC

August 30th – Teacher training and decorating time @ 11:00 after church

August 30th - September 12th – Teacher decorating of classrooms for the upcoming year

September 13th – Classes Resume

September 23rd – Fall CHOW begins



- Sept 13 - Rally Day
- Oct 10 - KGPC Annual Oyster and Pig Roast

Church Summer Outing

Our game was rained out in June. We have rescheduled to August 22nd.

Please contact Jacque Camlet or Becky Otto for questions. We will send an email out with more details to those with paid tickets.



Bethlehem Walk Needs YOU!

The tiny town of Bethlehem needs you to help us create our 10th Annual live recreation of the Christmas story right here at King's Grant Presbyterian Church. It takes many hands and countless hours to bring this fun and worthwhile annual gift to our community! Come join the Bethlehem Walk team on Thursday, August 27th at 7:00 in the Connection Point to learn how you can get involved. Save the date...This year Bethlehem Walk will be held December 4-6th. I hope to see you in Bethlehem!

Laurie Duquette & the BW Team

Blitz Day planning meeting
Wednesday August 5th at 7:00 pm at KGPC church
Join us if you can!

“Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me.” Matthew 25:40
On Saturday, October 17th, our Church will leave the building!
Will You Join Us?

BLITZ DAY is a community mission day of hands-on projects dedicated to assisting those in need by doing “His work” in our community.

King's Grant Presbyterian's Outside These Walls Ministry organizes two days of community service annually for our church family and neighbors to go out into our community to do service in His name. In addition to assisting our church family and neighbors in need we have assisted a host of community non-profit organizations that are dedicated to helping our neighbors. They include Samaritan House, Seton Youth Shelters, Youth Street Outreach, Judeo-Christian Outreach Center, Pin Ministries, the Dwelling Place, and Habitat for Humanity.

Our church family and neighbors are invited to join us for this day of fellowship and service in His name. Skills are not required, only a willingness to help and assist in the many tasks that will be done. There are all kinds of ways to participate: building, painting, yard work, cleaning, preparing meals & refreshments, taking pictures, providing fellowship, and helping with the planning and organization. If you have a project that you would like to organize for this day, please let us know as soon as possible.

Job sites are planned based on the number of skilled and non-skilled volunteers who commit to help! Child Care will be provided at church. Getting commitments to help provides the opportunity to better plan to assist at more work sites. Although all are encouraged to participate on this day, for planning purposes, it is important to let us know as soon as possible if you can commit to give service on Blitz Day!

If you know of anyone in our community (KGPC members and non-members) who may need help such as home repairs or yard work, please let us know. Please E-mail Brian Miller at brian.miller@vbschools.com or call 332-0959 with needs or for information.

Visit our Facebook page at www.Facebook/OTWwithKGPC for updates.

A Blitz Day planning meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5th at 7:00 PM at church. Join us if you can! **More information to follow! Brian**