



The Chapel Herald



An Ancient Story for a New Year by Pastor Ashley

In the Book of Nehemiah, the priest Ezra—after traveling four months from Babylon (Iraq) to Jerusalem—conducted one of the famous, and perhaps first, New Year’s Day services in The Bible. Ezra means

“help.” He certainly lived up to his name by serving Israel while in Babylonian captivity, and later after the rebuilding of the Temple (Solomon’s Temple).

Ezra was a descendent of Aaron—Israel’s first High Priest—and was well versed in the priestly requirements and the Law of Moses. After receiving permission from the new Persian King, Artaxerxes, he led a second group of exiles back from exile around the year, 516 B.C.

Finding the first group of returned exiles in a state of spiritual depravity, he tore his clothes and called all the people together in the new year (Rosh Hoshana). Standing on what would have been a make-shift pulpit, Ezra boldly read The Law in the presence of the new nation of men, women, and children *who now bore the name “Israel.”*

What can we learn from Ezra’s story that might provide wisdom as we begin 2022? First, God always has a plan to bring us out of exile—be it spiritual or emotional or any separation of sorts—and restore us to a place of a life-giving relationship with Him.

Vickie and I recently had the opportunity to worship with the congregation of French Huguenots in Charleston, S.C., who trace their roots back to 1680. *(Continued next page)*



In Search of Humor and Faith in a New Year By Pastor John

(Reprinted from the Pilot article of Jan. 02, 2022)

As we begin a new year with upcoming national elections,

epidemic concerns, violence in the streets and uncertainty for our nation’s direction, how might we retain some sense of historical perspective that, with faith in God’s providence, can provide some hope for a favorable future?

I believe God has given us a sense of humor, not only for our survival, but for our sanity.

In October 1973, in the midst of the Watergate crisis, the Cincinnati Reds were playing the New York Mets in the World Series. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, sitting through interminable oral arguments on the Court, sent a law clerk out to bring him the latest news. The clerk returned with a note that read: “Kranepool flies out. Agnew resigns.”

A sense of history reminds us that the severe realities of life can be punctuated with a serendipitous mirth, which I believe can keep us sane in difficult circumstances.

By making room in the margins of our lives for a smile, a chuckle and even laughter, can’t we celebrate and join in God’s sense of humor? Many have been saying that our nation, for quite some time, has been in the midst of the worst political and social divisions in our lifetimes. *(Continued next page)*

(Continued from front page)

The Huguenots were French Protestants who endured years of religious persecution at the hands of the religious establishment, who now enjoy a vibrant and victorious existence, in a beautiful place of worship—*our God restores*. Second, God only needed one person who was willing to be used by God as “a second Moses,” to lead His people *again* out of bondage. One man. Let me remind you, God seeks to use you and me to accomplish His will in the Chapel and this community. All He requires is our willingness. Are you willing?

Lastly, starting the New Year—any New Year—with our hearts and minds fixed upon the Law, or teaching of Christ, is the best way to begin 2022. We should be focused on the Great Commission, focused on Worshipping God, not just on Sunday, but every day, and focused on loving our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Let’s have an Ezra New Year! May God be glorified, and Christ be exalted in all we do, and say, and even think, in this New Year. Happy New Year!

Pastor Ashley

PASTORAL TRANSITION

The Search Committee is on track to receive applications for an Associate Minister position, and you will hear of their progress. In the meantime, our current pastoral staff will have offices as follows beginning January 1, 2022.

Pastor Ashley will become the Senior Pastor, and he will move to Pastor Jacobs’ office; Pastor Vicky will move into Pastor Ashley’s office; and Pastor John will become Pastor Emeritus, and he will move to the Care Cottage. There are adequate facilities for an office for the new Associate Pastor which will be decided when that position is filled.

Pastor Ashley is now handling most of the administrative responsibilities. You will be advised as further transition changes occur.

*Nancy Smith, Chairman
Board of Trustees*

(Continued from front page)

Whether that is true or not, and whether things will get worse before they get better, I have to believe that in times of crisis, the opportunity arises more clearly to recognize what is essential to our identity as Americans and people of faith, and what isn’t.

As he was prepared for operation on a bullet wound after an assassination attempt in March 1981, President Reagan jokingly said to the doctors and nurses, “I hope you’re Republicans.” To which the chief surgeon replied, “Today Mr. President, we’re all Republicans.”

Humor is a gift from God, to make our existence not only bearable, but joyous and fun — for ourselves and those within the sound of our laughter. Finding humor, especially in difficult and stressful situations, should make us grateful to the Creator who graciously included comedy on the stages of our lives.

Humor is most helpful in the face of sorrow. As a means of survival and a gift of love, God gave us comedy to complement the tragedies of this world that is our stage. Humor can open our hearts and minds to God’s mercy. Laughter is therapeutic, and a comical approach to life can offset the sometimes harsh severity of our circumstances. Faith in a God we cannot see requires a cessation of that part of us that only responds to the material world we can see, which is starkly unforgiving in its sense of self-serving realism.

It’s obvious that God has a sense of humor. Do we? For the sake of ourselves and those we encounter in the course of our daily lives, may God awaken our sense of humor, as a courageous declaration that this world will never defeat us, and that love — the outcome of every comedy — will prevail.

Pastor John



Decorating the Chrismon Tree



A great way to start the Christmas Season is by decorating the Chrismon Tree in the Village Chapel Sanctuary. Chrismons—or monograms of Christ—are symbols designed to proclaim the name, the life, and the saving acts of Jesus Christ. They make statements of faith in symbolic, decorative ways throughout the year, on Christmas trees, at weddings, on banners, and in other places. Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia, is where the Chrismon idea originated before spreading worldwide.

This event takes place just before the annual ‘Hanging of the Greens’ service and is a wonderful way to welcome the spirit of Christmas into our hearts.



The Women of the Chapel Annual Christmas Brunch was held on December 14 with the theme, “O Come Let Us Adore Him.” Helen Bell George, Executive Assistant to Anne Graham Lotz of AnGeL Ministries, was there as the special speaker and gave a beautiful testimony.

Please consider joining the Women of the Chapel throughout the year and help spread the love of Jesus Christ.



Farewells



The Village Chapel lost one its heroes when former Senior Pastor Dr. Glenn Miller passed away in Beaufort, South Carolina on December 5, 2021.

Many of our new members never had the privilege to know him; however, all of our older members remember him with great love and gratitude.

He had to navigate some very rough waters while he was with The Village Chapel and then returned to guide us safely through a turbulent transition to a renewed spirit of unity.

Like many of his predecessors, Glenn came to The Village Chapel following a career as a military chaplain, in his case the U.S. Navy. Born in Long Island, NY, Glenn earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Tusculum College. He received his degree in divinity at Yale Divinity School and his doctorate from Columbia Theological Seminary. He was or-

dered as a United Methodist Minister in 1969 and served as pastor to two churches in Connecticut before being commissioned in the United State Navy in 1977. To say he had a distinguished career is an understatement. During his 20 years of service to hundreds of Navy, Marine and Coast Guard families, Glenn was awarded a variety of medals and commendations including the Navy Achievement Medal, the National Defense Medal and the Humanitarian Medal. It was our good fortune that in 1997 Glenn chose The Village Chapel for his post-military ministry.

As it turned out we needed him. He began his Chapel ministry as Associate Pastor to Ed Galloway and they made a formidable team; The Village Chapel grew and prospered under their leadership. When Ed retired in 2001, Glenn became the Senior Pastor. It was under his leadership that The Village Chapel inaugurated the family service that has become so popular and attracted more and more young people to our youth ministry.

When he retired from the Chapel in 2007, the 9:30 service had become an integral part of our ministry. *(Continued on page 9)*



PASTOR JOHN'S CLASS ON DOROTHY SAYERS

Begins January 21

Please join our Friday class in Chapel Hall from 10:00-11:30 am on a collection of essays written by Dorothy Sayers entitled *Creed or Chaos?*

A contemporary and friend of C.S. Lewis, Dorothy Sayers was a Christian apologist, but instead of writing fantasy books for children and science fiction for adults, she wrote best-selling murder mysteries featuring Lord Peter Wimsey as the aristocratic sleuth, as well as plays and essays defending the Christian faith. This is a writer who deserves to be read and remembered for her creative contributions to English literature and the Christian faith.

ALL materials will be provided at no cost; no preparations necessary-

ALL ARE WELCOME!



COMMUNITY FRIENDS CHURCH

"A friendly, caring church for the entire family"

DECEMBER 8, 2021

DEAR PASTOR JOHN AND THE VILLAGE CHAPEL,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENE WHICH YOU DONATED TO OUR CHURCH. ONE OF OUR MEMBERS, WHO IS A CARPENTER, MADE A MANGER STABLE FOR IT. IT IS ON DISPLAY IN THE FRONT OF OUR CHURCH ON US HIGHWAY 15-501 IN CARTHAGE. WE INVITE YOU TO VIEW IT IF YOU ARE IN THE AREA.

THANKS ONCE AGAIN AND MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU IN YOUR MINISTRY. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE IN YOUR CHURCH.



SINCERELY,

COMMUNITY FRIENDS CHURCH

RICHARD TALBERT, PASTOR

My Beautiful Stutter

As many of you will know, for the past four summers I have served as a counselor at Camp SAY: a summer camp for young people who stutter, and at the end of each summer I have returned with a great sense of rejuvenation and renewal, having spent three weeks with some of the most remarkable groups of colleagues and campers. The support from the Village Chapel family as I go away each summer is something truly special to me.

Around 2015, a documentary was filmed during camp and around several of our campers in the days that preceded camp, highlighting some of the challenges that young people who stutter deal with. While challenges are the focus of the film, the documentary also illustrates how intelligent, resilient, creative, and talented people who stutter can be.

~ *Stephen Gourley*



I am excited to announce that I will be hosting a free screening of the documentary at Owens Auditorium on the campus of Sandhills Community College on Monday, February 21 at 6:00pm.

While the screening is **free**, tickets will be required for entry.

Tickets will be available online at ticketmesandhills.com or at the door. We will need an approximate headcount after the showing of the documentary for the film distributor. I will be introducing the film and hosting a question and answer following the screening.

You may go to www.mybeautifulstutter.com for more information on the film itself.

You are all invited to attend, and I look forward to letting you in on this special journey that I have been on for nearly five years.

Families and Youth



The Youth of the Chapel celebrated Christmas with a Christmas Party that included games and friendly competition



Caroling and Spreading the Christmas Love



Bringing some Christmas cheer to Dot Evans who turned 103 this month, Eleanor Hargin, Corina and Julia Albert and Mrs. Alice, as well as Chris and Jennifer Imperial.

We can't wait to see what 2022 as in store for Youth Ministries.

OUTREACH



Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) had its start like many other charities, in a garage.

It was Christmas time, a time of joy and happiness, a time of giving and love, but also a time of bitter, cold weather and snowstorms. A project, that was started with the build of one bed for a single family developed into something a whole lot more. With wood left over from the first bunk, another idea was created. “Who else could benefit from this bunk?”

SHP is a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling and delivering hand-made bunk beds to children ages three to seventeen that have no access to a bed.

They have developed the slogan “No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in our Town”.

SHP was started in 2012 and by the end of 2018, SHP which was featured on Returning the Favor with Mike Rowe, had grown into a charity spanning 44 states with 270+ chapters and operating in four different countries.

In North Carolina alone they have seven chapters of which the NC-Sandhills chapter is one of the newest and began this past summer with their first build of 10 beds in June. Their Chapter President is Tom Bourne, he and his wife Yvonne reside in Pinehurst, moving here from Rochester, NY in retirement a couple years ago.

When a bed is delivered, it is assembled on

site, but they don’t just deliver a wooden bed and leave it at that. They also include a new mattress, sheets, pillow and pillowcase and comforter. Lowes Home Improvement is a partner with SHP and supplies tools and wood at reduced costs, which is awesome, but the bedding materials is another issue.

The Village Chapel will be sponsoring a 20 bed build for the children in Moore County. We expect the build to take place in the spring on the church’s property with the help of our youth and other members who wish to participate. Usually, it takes about 3-4 hours for this type of build. More information will be sent out when a firm date is established.

Upcoming Outreach Dates to Remember:

Jan 25, 2022

Annual Luncheon for Friend to Friend,
11:30 a.m. at the Fair Barn

Feb 11, 2022

We Heart the ARC of Moore County
Rubicon Farm, West End

Apr 28, 29, 30

Habitat Apostle's Build weekend
for TVC and ESBC
8:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
12 volunteers needed each day



On January, 2021 Moore Buddies Mentoring merged with Moore County Literacy Council to form The C.A.R.E. Group, Inc. The principal purpose of the merger was to create a more robust organization, serving more clients more effectively and at a lower cost. The C.A.R.E. Group offers remedial education programs for residents from cradle to retirement.

Moore Buddies Mentoring, Inc.

Mission- to champion successful children and youth through mentoring and empowering families.

In January 2022 this agency will initiate a new nutrition program for children in their structured day and mentoring programs. They will establish, stock and operate a kitchen. Nutritious and balanced meals and snacks will be provided for the children. They will be taught how to prepare simple meals for themselves, with lessons on hygiene and nutrition. The children will be involved in the preparation of the food and cleaning up afterwards. Teaching kids the basics of cooking will make them more self-reliant. Mastering these tasks will also improve their self-esteem. Ingesting a healthy meal or snack should improve their ability to learn and decrease bad behaviors which can be the result of poor nutrition.

Moore County Literacy Council, Inc.

This agency's mission is to work with others to significantly improve literacy in Moore County by Raising the awareness of low literacy in this county

Systematically identifying and coordinating the county's literacy resources

Energetically recruiting and training volunteers, using state of the art literacy resources

Providing volunteers with meaningful and life affirming experiences

Developing additional literacy programs and funding resources

Strategically providing literacy counseling and tutoring in our own facilities.

One to One Tutoring for Low Literacy Adults is just one of the literacy programs offered to adults in Moore County. Eighty volunteer tutors, including at least three Village chapel parishioners, work one-on-one with clients for 90 minutes every week seeking to help these adults overcome educational setbacks from early childhood.

(Miller Continued from page 4)

As important as that decision was to the development and history of The Village Chapel, his subsequent return after the Chapel went through a painful split was even more critical to the stability and healing church needed. Comfortably retired in Bluffton, South Carolina, Glenn nevertheless answered the call and provided the Chapel with another year of caring leadership at a time when the very survival of the church was threatened. For that we shall be eternally grateful.

Glenn was the quintessential pastor - kind, thoughtful, caring, wise possessing a keen sense of justice. He was a superb teacher and biblical scholar. He also had a wry sense of humor and easily entertained oth-

ers with his jokes and stories. He enriched our lives. Although he left the Chapel several years ago, we were always happy to welcome him back when he visited Pinehurst and we hoped that he and his wife Betty would be here for the dedication of Heritage Hall in a few months because Heritage Hall is, in a sense, the culmination of the developments he set in motion two decades ago. We miss him and we honor him. The key board for Heritage Hall was given by the Hamiltons to honor Glenn's love, devotion and invaluable service to The Village Chapel. We thank God for Glenn's life and that we at the Chapel were the beneficiaries of his service.





The flowers displayed around the Altar are given to God's glory and to the birth of His Son Jesus by the devoted members and friends of The Village Chapel.

In Loving Memory, Celebration, and Honor:

- In honor of our grandchildren (by Mark & Esther Acker)
- In memory of our mothers, Charlotte Acker and Dorothy Merry (from Mark & Esther Acker)
- In honor of my parents, Tom and Anne Williamson (by Sally Adams)
- Blessing the new marriage of Olivia and John Hasty (by Sally Adams)
- In memory of our parents and those who passed too soon (by Don & Judy Auch)
- In Thanksgiving for the birth of our Savior, (by Pastor John and Betsy Jacobs)
- In memory of Richard E. Bisbe (by Silvia Bisbe)
- In memory of our wonderful daughter, Hannah Marie Bradshaw (by her loving parents, Jean & Stan Bradshaw)
- In honor of our beloved grandchildren; Amelia, Declan, Grace, and Liam (by Kevin & Donna Brundage)
- In honor of our children and grandchildren (by Campbell & Janice Cantelou)
- In memory of Lou Clay (by Sam & Faith Clay & family)
- In honor of our daughters, Leslie and Diane (by Don & Mary Delauter)
- In memory of our daughter, Denise, and our friend, Win Reynolds (by Jon & Martha DeVault)
- In celebration of the birthday of Stephen William Bennett (by Paula Hill)
- In memory of Sean Ian Bennett (by Paula Hill)
- In memory of Dr. & Mrs. David O. Wright (by Mrs. Ruth E. Holm)
- In honor of our daughter, Angela (by Mr. And Mrs. Jeff E. Holm)
- In memory of our parents (by John & Connie Hopkins)
- In memory of Carroll Hudson (by Phyllis Hudson)
- In honor of our family and friends (by Jim & Julie Huggins)
- In honor of the Pastors and Staff of The Village Chapel (by Jim & Julie Huggins)
- In memory of our parents (by Gary & Susan Jacobsen)
- In memory of the Knight family (by Elizabeth Knight)
- In memory of Jess and Trace Krall (by Judith Krall)
- In memory of Richard Kruse (by Lisa & Cayleigh Ana Kruse)
- In memory of Tove Longhta (by Roy Longhta)
- In honor of our six grandchildren (by Jan & Marjorie Ludwig)
- In memory of our parents Michael Joseph and Shirley and William Miller (by Michele & Bill Miller)
- In loving memory of Jeff Park, our son, and Bro Park, my husband (by Dee Park)
- In loving memory of Win Reynolds (by Mira Reynolds)
- In memory of LTC William and Ellene Shannon (by Carol Shannon & John W. Shannon)
- In memory of Eddie Wayne Carson (by Ashley, Vickie, Abby, Sarah, Hannah, & Landen Smith)
- In memory of Garland Wayne Smith Sr. (by Ashley, Vickie, Abby, Sarah, Hannah, & Landen Smith)
- In memory of my loving husband-Tony ten Braak (by Cecilia ten Braak)
- In loving memory of Andy, Emily, and Adrian (by Nathalie Thomas)
- In honor of our Lord and Savior – We thank you for all our blessings! (by Guy & Cheryl Veni)
- Glory to Yeshua/Jesus, Creator of the Universe, and Savior of the World (by George & Pat Watterworth)
- In loving memory of “Mr. Dave and Mrs. Jeanne” (by the Whitfield family)
- In memory of John and Marian Wood and James and Harriett Cosgrove, and Judi’s sister and brothers (by Jack and Judi Wood)

January Birthdays

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| 1 Gay Gearhart
Alice Schalz
Larry Martin
Shirlene Bremer
Charlie Abner | 8 Laura Goodman
John Sebastain | 14 Jonathan
Newman | 23 Pamela Bradley
Bill Wetmore
Susan Culp |
| 2 Allen Turner | 9 Lindsey Lashmit | 15 Jim Busby | 25 Ralph Newman
Dan Joslin
Paula Crocker
Lee Carbaugh |
| 3 Hannah Smith
James Hart
Jerry Ayers | 10 Martha Romero
Teresa Graham
Barbara Kelley | 17 Mary Jo Matthies
Curtis Anaya
Devina Sherwood | 26 Harriet Neely |
| 4 Amita Sherwood | 11 Jane Leonard
Mike Moody
Victor Aguilar | 19 Sam Clay
Judith Sherer | 28 Liz Skvarla |
| 5 Harper Kisver
LuAnn Schneider | 12 Robert Adams | 20 Diane Tate
Sherry Wood
Ellen Brown
Ellisa Granata | 29 Charles Meyer |
| 6 Ted Williams | 13 Janis Sholtis
Connie Lovell | 22 Al Mangum
Alex Grimshaw | 30 Walter Bull
Dick Haefele |



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Walter and Ann Blackwell
Tom and Carmei Laird | 11 Jeff and Ruth Holm |
| 9 Doug and Nancy Smith | 19 John and Kathy Spangler |
| | 22 Edward and Karen Emmett |
| | 23 Bill and Pat Tomasetti |
| | 28 R.Q. and Sharyn Simmons
Kelly and Beverly Walsh |
| | 31 Jim and Char Rohr |

Heritage Hall Help Pave the Way

Many thanks to all who have purchased a brick so far! Our final brick order will be sent out on February 1. If you have been considering a purchase, please don't wait. We intend to fill the plaza with brick pavers that include special messages from the congregation and church friends. Flyers are available in the church office and narthex. You can pay for a brick online if you like and send your special message via email to

Mike Fusselbaugh at fusselmrf@gmail.com.

Each brick costs \$125.



"We are so grateful to be surrounded by the many generous and kind members of our church who shared their time and gifts with so many that are not as fortunate"



Distribution Day for Angel Tree Saturday, December 11, 2021



This year we have a new Nativity display in front of the church helping everyone to get into the true spirit of Christmas!

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The Village Chapel

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