

AN INDEPENDENT, INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH UNIFYING ALL CHRISTIANS THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD PINEHURST, NC SINCE 1898

Reflection on Matthew 10:39



The Chapel Herald

Losing My Life for the Sake of Christ: A Personal

WORSHIP

LEARN

GOD'S ANSWERS

YOUR LIFE

SFRVF

Rev. Dr. Ashley Smith, Senior Pastor



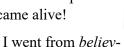
The night I surrendered my life to Christ, Jesus said to me: "if you try to find your life, you will lose it; but, if you lose your life for my sake, you will find life" (Matt.

10:39). The night was December 30, 1999. I was reading a book entitled: "God's Answers for Your Life." Since that night, I've often thought about what He said, and why out of all the scriptures He could have used to speak to me, He chose that verse. He didn't mention anything about having faith or believing, nor repentance, nor forgiveness; He asked me to *surrender* my life – losing my life to find it.

Maybe He didn't mention faith or believing, etcetera, because I had heard it all before. I grew up in the church. My family and I went to church almost every Sunday. I went to Sunday School to learn the stories of the Bible. After Sunday School, I listened to the anointed sermons; they were some of the best preaching one could hear – my pastors could preach the paint off the walls! My parents "dedicated" me when I was a few weeks old. I was baptized in the Neuse River at the age of eight – believer's baptism. I even had a three-piece suit, complete with vest and clip on tie. I was raised in the church! I have so many memories that are centered around the community of my local church. I've seen how the sausage is made and it wasn't always pretty. Nonetheless, it was genuinely Christian.

So, for Christ to speak of faith and forgiveness, and so forth, would have only said to me what I already knew – all familiar language. But He didn't speak to me in a way that was familiar; He asked me to surrender my life! For the first time in my life, a relationship with Christ wasn't so much about what I believed, as it was about how much control over my life, I was willing to give Him.

Up until that time, I believed. I would have told you, "I'm a Christian." I believe the Bible is true, and I believe in everything that Christianity stands for." But it wasn't until I was asked to surrender control of my life to Him, that my relationship with Christ came alive!



ing to surrendering. I exchanged my plans for His plans, and I didn't even know what His plans were for me. I trusted Him. I still do. Today, I have come to realize that the Christian faith is not only knowing what to believe about Christ but trusting Christ, to the point that we are willing to give Him control... "if you try to find your life, you will lose it, but if you lose your life for my sake, you will find it."

Striving to remain surrendered,

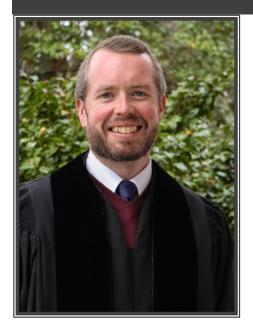




In this Issue-

- Pastor Trey Message -pg. 2
- ♦ Meet The Congregation -pg. 3
- New Members -pg. 4
- Families and Youth -pg. 6 & 7
- ♦ Outreach—pg. 9
- Birthdays and Anniversaries -pg.10
 and much more!

Rev. Trey Majure, Associate Pastor



The Lost Art of Conversation

absolutely love the picture that John gives us of Jesus in the Gospel of John. We see Jesus having genuine conversations, not just with those in his tribe (the disciples) but with a diverse group of people. There is Nicodemus, powerful Pharisee

and member of the Sanhedrin, who met Jesus by night out of fear of his fellow Jews and Pharisees. And Jesus didn't condemn Nicodemus for not fully understand-

ing, and he didn't condemn the Pharisee. Jesus had a conversation.

Then we have the Samaritan woman at the well, and even though it was not customary and even taboo in many ways, Jesus sat down and had a conversation. In both of these instances, Jesus was not coy or guarded, he stated plainly the truth of who and what he is. Jesus had honest conversations.

He did not capitulate to the views of those around him, he did not try and hide his own views or try and make them seem more acceptable.

We could learn many lessons from the conversations of Jesus. The first is the importance of conversation in meeting and connecting with those around us. There was a time (I have heard of it even if I have never witnessed it) where people waiting in line at the grocery store would have a conversation rather than checking social media on their phone. The local barber shop and diner were centers of both gossip and legitimate information, and it was a place where even strangers could connect.

Conversation is a lost art, but evidence is mounting

that if one wants to have an impact for Christ and His kingdom then this lost art must be studied and practiced once again. Craig Springer in *How to Revive Evangelism*, details the shift that sharing the Gospel has taken over the last 100 years. Two distinct movements happened, the first came from a theologically liberal position where speaking directly of Jesus or His gospel was shunned. "Evangelism" was best done by doing good deeds for people and sharing the *love* of Christ, rather than the *truth* of Christ.

The second movement came from the theologically conservative position, and it was to memorize a specific *format* of the Gospel. It was canned, stuffy, and was not a conversation but a monologue. Springer makes the point that neither path works very well for reach those who are lost. The first simply provides

more things for those who are lost, and the second provides truth but without any kind of humanity.

Conversation is what is missing, a genuine interest and love for those around us that drives us to share the

ultimate truth and reality which is Jesus Christ. Conversation and community go hand in hand. I would challenge all of us, to have honest and genuine conversations with the world around us. Not trying to hide who we are as Christians, worried that it would scare someone away. Truly, what happens after a week, month, or year when you spring on your friend that you are indeed a Christian, it just wasn't important enough to mention.

Take time to have conversation, love those around you, and share the life-changing truth of Christ.

Pastor Trey



Meet the Congregation



I and Betty Mangum have lived an interesting and blessed life. Al grew up in Maryland while Betty grew up right here in North Carolina. He went to high school in Maryland and after high school served as a hospital corpsman in the Navy. He then attended college at Pembroke. Al then located to Robeson County because his brother lived there.

Betty's father was the Dean of Pembroke College prior to Pembroke becoming part of the UNC System. It would seem natural that Betty would also go to college there and she did, receiving a Master's Degree in Education. They both loved the theater and this led them to take drama classes in college where they initially met. They began seeing each other regularly and eventually fell in love.

They got married in 1961. Betty is a Lumbee Indian and notes that at that time interracial marriage was illegal. They were married in Michigan by a justice of the peace, but later had a wedding ceremony performed by Al's brother who is a Methodist minister. Betty was raised Baptist, but after marrying Al [a life-long Methodist] she joined the Methodist Church . They always found a church in the area where they lived that gave them security and comfort in their faith. Betty admits to liking some places better than others where they have made their home, but they always felt happy and contented no matter where they moved.

They lived in quite a few states with Betty raising a family and involved in the field of education while Al focused on a career in radio with an emphasis on sports. Betty was at one time the Director of Indian Instruction for the entire state in the NC Department of Public Instruction. Their lives were busy, especially with two children. They have a son, Troy, and a daughter, Dawn. Their son went to UNC-Wilmington and now has 4 children of his own ranging in age from 17 – 26. To their delight they also have a wonderful little great grandson, Ko-

da. Their daughter, Dawn, attended UNC-Chapel Hill and met a man from Australia. They fell in love and married. Dawn made the decision to follow her husband back to Australia and to make a life with him in that country. They have 2 children; one is 21 and currently in law school and the other is 14 and a ninth grader. Al and Betty have enjoyed the opportunity to visit Dawn and her family in Australia a number of times.

One Sunday when they could not attend the service at Pinehurst Methodist. They decided to go to The Village Chapel. Betty said when they heard the minister preach that morning they were very moved by his sermon.

With all of their travels (to other states and abroad) they chose Pinehurst for a retirement home in 2004. Neither were interested in golf, but just liked the pleasures and relaxed lifestyle of village life. Since their faith background had been Methodist, they chose to attend worship services at the Pinehurst Methodist Church. This sustained them until one Sunday when they could not attend the service at Pinehurst Methodist and realized that The Village Chapel was not far from their home. They decided to go to The Village Chapel for that one Sunday. Betty said when they heard the minister preach that morning they were very moved by his sermon. They decided to begin a new chapter in their lives and began to attend services at The Village Chapel regularly thereafter. It goes without saying that they have been very gratified and fulfilled with their experience here at The Village Chapel.

The Mangums knew they had made the right decision and they both have been very active in giving back to the church with new programs and activities. Betty started the Tuesday Morning Prayer Group that meets on a regular basis every week at 7:30AM. Some of the members have passed on, but there are still a number of women who have been there from the beginning. She also started the Teas for Women of the Church with time for socialization helping members get to know each other better. (continued on pg. 5)



Meet Our New Members

GREG, PAM AND HUDSON GRIFFIN

Moving from Iowa to NC as a high school senior, Greg met Pam (also a senior) and the rest is history. Greg has been in NC long enough to be Southern! Pam was born in Sampson County.

Greg is an attorney with a private firm in Clinton. Pam's career has been with the firm as well, managing the office and home, making sure everything operated smoothly and efficiently.

With retirement on the horizon they moved to the area in 2020 undertaking a long and involved remodeling of their current home in CCNC. Their grandson Hudson, a member of the Pinecrest Men's Golf Team, came with them.

The Griffins have two adult children and five grandchildren, three boys and two girls, ranging in ages of 5-16. They enjoy family-time, sports endeavors of their grandchildren and traveling to Topsail Beach.

Greg enjoys reading, while Pam's interest is photography. Golfing has been an ever present activity;

Life-long Methodists, the Griffins were attracted to TVC due to its warm and friendly membership and Christ-focused services. They attend the 9:30 family service



MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS- The feedback received from The Village Chapel Readership Survey gave us some great information regarding what the congregation feels is most (or least) important about the church. One area of interest to the congregation was learning more about our new members. The process of introducing new members began in the September issue of The Chapel Herald. We will continue posting new members each month. If you do not already know them, please seek them out at various church services or events and let them know you are glad they have joined The Village Chapel.



The Chapel Herald

Women of the Church

2023 Women of the Chapel Fall Retreat

Guest Speaker Katherine Caldwell

"Jesus Changes Women's Lives"

October 7, 2023

8:30 am - 2:30 pm

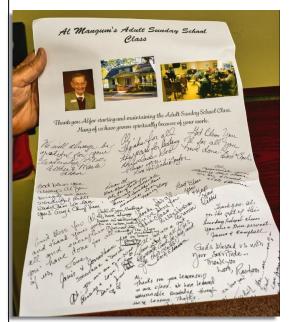
Cost: \$30 (includes lunch)

* The cost will increase to \$35 after September 7

Save the date to hear Katherine Caldwell, a well-known Women's Bible teacher, and author, who will join us IN PERSON. Her presentation Jesus Changes Women's Lives will focus on Jesus' encounters with women in scripture touching their lives then and our lives now. In today's world, we need this message. Katherine Caldwell is a graduate of Northern Illinois University and founded Living Word Bible Study Ministries in 1987. She has taught ladies' Bible studies for over 30 years and currently her popular Caldwell Commentaries podcasts can be heard on YouTube.

Due to limited seating, early registration is open solely to The Village Chapel congregation and their guests at the reduced price of \$30 until September 7. After September 7, registration will open to the general public at \$35.

(Mangum's continued from pg. 3) They have both been instrumental in organizing Bible studies and both have been Sunday School teachers, Betty working primarily with the children and Al organizing the adult Sunday school which is now known as



the Al Mangum Sunday School class. This class started with 7 members and the attendance has grown with 12-35 people now on any Sunday. Both have also sung in the choir. Al has served twice on the Board of Trustees and has been a reader of scripture for the worship service. Space will not allow the listing of all the things they have done here but they have been very generous with their time giving back to the congregation many times over.

Al would like people to know that two of his greatest pleasures have been sports and music. Many people may not know that Betty is an accomplished artist. She has exhibited her paintings at Campbell House and elsewhere. Betty speaks for both of them when she says, "God has blessed our lives wherever we have lived."

Betty and Al, we thank you so much for all that you have given back to this church and how you have enriched our lives by all you have done. We pray that God will continue to go with you and bless you through each day. <a>—.

~ Gerri Crutchfield





Families and Youth

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WORD SEARCH

Look for the VBS words below in the grid. Circle them when you find them. Look forwards, backwards and horizontal.

BIBLE CRAFTS FAITH FUN GAMES JESUS LEARN PATH PSALMS
SCHOOL
SINGING
SUMMER
TURNS
TWISTS
VACATION



New Addition

There is a STRONG possibility that by the time the July Herald comes out we may have a new addition to the TVC family. Our beloved Heather, with husband Tyler and of course Levi, are about to welcome a baby brother.

Carson Phillip Wiggins is anticipated to say 'hello' to the world on July 7. We wish the

family our very best as they start their new life together. **NOTE:
Upon Baby Carson's arrival Heather will be out for a good bit. Please keep in mind when calling or stopping by the church.

Communications Committee

The Chapel's Communication Committee is devoted to leveraging a broad spectrum of digital and traditional channels to inform our congregation about events vital to the life of the church and to inspire prospective new members to consider a visit to a Village Chapel service.

The committee's long-term commitment is to broaden the Chapel's community presence through radio broadcasts, streaming video casts of our Sunday services via YouTube, and traditional print instruments such as the Chapel Herald and notices in the local Pilot newspaper.

Toward fulfilling a goal of communicating the Chapel's commitment to interdenominational Christian worship, the committee in 2022 modified how our three Sunday services are "advertised" – Holy Eucharist (8:00 am); Family Service with children's sermon (9:30 am); and Traditional Worship Service (11 am).

Our committee is expanding its horizons by increasing visibility during community events such as the annual Holly and Arts Craft Fair, and the Village Christmas Parade.

Acknowledging the vital role of social media in attracting new members, the committee tracks the Chapel's presence on social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, and monitors web site content so that traffic to the site is greeted by an array of dynamic, accessible content that showcases the Chapel's spectrum of programs.

The committee is connected to every detail of the life of the church, from celebrating outreach events to producing marketing materials such as digital flyers and banners displayed on church property.

The vibrancy that defines The Village Chapel's congregation is readily observed through the work of our numerous committees. These bodies reflect the diverse professional and spiritual backgrounds of their members.



Managing Sleep

Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Join Dementia Alliance of North Carolina and Melanie Bunn, RN, MS, for a free online seminar series!

Food & Nutrition

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 9:00 am - 10:00 am

ABOUT THE SPEAKER Melanie Bunn is a Dementia Training Specialist for Dementia Alliance of North Carolina, Consulting Associate at the Duke University School of Nursing, and Trainer, Positive Approach to Care.

She is a skilled and experienced advanced practice nurse and nurse educator, conducting over 200 presentations and trainings annually to health professionals, community organizations, first responders, families and other groups focused on the care and needs of people living with dementia and their families.

Outreach



These are exciting times at Sandhills ATC. Since the end of 2020 (and post-COVID) they have experienced a sizable increase in the demand for our programs. Last year, they even added a new, 28-acre, 10-bed campus in Elizabethtown, NC to further combat addiction without turning individuals away due to lack of available beds.

Their staff continues to minister to members *mentally*, *spiritually*, and *physically*. One of the greatest facts about this team is that most are *graduates of the program*! This is part of what differentiates ATC from other places of treatment. They *are a*





family. To deepen and strengthen the student experience, they have added a fun (and beneficial) Life Skills Training Program utilizing volunteers (wood working, forestry, blueberry farming, & professional landscaping). Additionally, Sandhills Community College now offers free college courses in job readiness, along with a very successful GED program. Now, students are completing ATC equipped not only with a new life, but also new skills for the demanding workforce awaiting each graduate. All of that to say that GREAT THINGS ARE HAP-PENING THERE. God is providing tremendous blessings. What's next? Both a facility for Veterans and military is being established and plans for a Women's facility are under way. (More in next month's Herald.) Info on the latest can be found at www.sandhillstc.org.



Habitat has purchased one hundred acres in Aberdeen between Peedee Rd. and 15/501, near Burney

Hardware. This will be a designed mixed income community, focusing on workforce housing. Many people who work in the Pinehurst area cannot afford the house prices. Those that care for us at the hospital have to drive for 45 minutes to an hour to get to work.

Habitat is focusing on these workers. The building will include houses, duplexes, townhouses, and apartments. Plans are to include a gas station, convenience store, day care and a walkin clinic. Habitat is speaking with businesses, like First Health, to partner with them in this endeavor. This land will allow Habitat to build for the next fifteen years. They hope to build one hundred to two hundred homes in this area. This will be a benefit to us all.

Hopefully, medical facilities, restaurants, and shops will be better staffed after this housing is in place.

C.A.R.E. Group's Moore Buddies

Mentoring programs is in need of volunteers to help with their summer reading program. For more info, visit their website at: https://www.thecaregroupinc.org/moorebuddiesmentoring



MISSION STATEMENT OF THE VILLAGE CHAPEL: As an independent, interdenominational Church, we unify all Christians through the Word of God, worship God in spirit and truth; teach and encourage the Christian faith; support the spiritual needs of our congregation, and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through community outreach.

MISSION STATEMENT OF YOUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE: "Prayerfully and earnestly distribute budgeted funds of The Village Chapel to vetted entities through rational giving, while encouraging congregational participation with organizations we support."

July Birthdays

- Carolyn Smith Maru Nelson Matilda Lashmit Ronald Trawick Kristin Olzark Trey Majure
- 2 Seth Whitfield Emma Lashmit Dube Putz
- 3 Tom Flanagan Mary-Ellen Morris Greg Page
- **4** Dian Moore Peter Kisver
- 5 Margaret Shaw Marge Behning
- 6 Patricia McLean
 Sallie Webster
 Darlene Reeves
 Greg Singer
 Donna Brundage
 Mike Fusselbaugh
- 8 Jack Raffaele
- 9 Nancy McNally
- 10 Laura Spence Terry Prince

- 12 Donna Traylor Nathan Vogt Jacques Wood Maggie Ihde Kate Barnes
- 13 Rae-Lynn Ziegler
 Jean Williams
 Cricket Cowell
 Cara Mathis
- 14 Ellen Bailey
- **15** Carty Davis

John Breting

- **16** Brent Slosser
- Alyssa Brosch

 17 Jasmine Walker
- 18 Gene Horne
 Chloe Bowen
 Amelia Lashmit
 Jules Shumski
 Joan Montgomery
- 20 Sharon Trail Shirley Aquino Sallie Trent
- 21 Bob Friedrichs Patricia Scheil

Ken Crutchfield

- **22** Jerry Townley Charlotte Cable
- 23 Nancy WetmoreRob Barrett
- Josiah Lashmit

 26 Darlene Skinner

Amy Shank Charlie Lannom

- 28 Charles Clack Jean Bradshaw Olivia Fox
- 29 Doug Smith

 Jim Schneider

 Jim O'Malley
- 30 Betty Austin
- 31 Marc Granata

Anniversaries

- 1 Rob & Katie Barrett
- 2 John & Allison Orban
- 5 Ron & Jan Kelly
- 6 Sean & Sabrina Finkbeiner
- 9 Dave & Tisha Edrington Stephen & Nancy Sebastian
- 10 Jim & Stephanie O'Malley Elton & Sallie Trent
- 13 Ron & Ann Whitley
- **15** Kenneth & Cynthia Eckard-Matthes
- 17 Jim and Jane Lewis Jim and Eleanora Voelkel
- 20 Emmett & Mary Callow
- 21 John & Harriett Riley
- 22 Robert & Kathy Hawks
- 24 Greg & Pam Griffin
- 26 Charlie & Barbara Lannom
- 28 Ham and Sallie Webster
- 29 Mike & Kristin Obst
- 31 Gary and Jean Ann Doern

Please contact the office (910) 295-6003 if your birthday or anniversary information is incorrect, or if you need to be added to the list.



On Saturday, June 24, 2023 We celebrated the Baptism of Oliver Daniel Winters, parents Daniel & Jackie

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

"Giving brings a far greater blessing than receiving." ~Acts 20:35

Children and Youth Sunday School We are in need of Sunday School assistants to help our teachers in the classrooms. Please contact Pastor Vickie if you can help at 910-992-8309, or vickiemcarsonsmith@gmail.com

VBS volunteers are needed for July 10, 11, 12. Please contact **Pastor Vickie at 910-992-8309** if you are interested.

Insurance Committee We are in need of 2 volunteers to serve as our Insurance Committee to handle our needs with our brokers and carriers. If you have worked in the insurance industry and can help, please contact Mike Fusselbaugh at 910-603-5506 or fusselmrf@gmail.com

Ushers/Greeters-please contact Cam Cantelou at cantelouc@gmail.com

Small Group Leaders and hosts needed- Please contact John Rowerdink: jrowerdink@aol.com

Volunteers Needed to blow off church steps and surrounding walkways before 8:00 a.m. service. Please contact **Joe De Rosa** at **jderos15@gmail.com**

Care of Congregation Committee- needs volunteers who can make periodic phone calls and visits to our widows and homebound members. Please contact Pastor Ashley at 910-992-8308 or ashleyneilsmith@aol.com

Prayer Ministry volunteers needed to pray for prayer requests. Please contact **Nancy Clay** at **nclay1@nc.rr.com**

Altar Guild needs volunteers to assist with the altar at the 9:30 service. Please contact Jennifer Imperial at: brothers909ji@prontomail.com

Dementia Care Calling all formerly active Stephen Ministers and like-minded 'heart and soul' congregational members for being an active part of developing a Dementia Friendly Community in our church. Please contact Rae-Lynn Ziegler at

rlziegler@nc.rr.com

New Volunteer Opportunities for Women of the Chapel Publicity and Special Events subcommittee. Contact Eleanora Voelkel at voelkelje@gmail.com



Contributions and Ex	penditures—May
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	MONTH	YTD	
Contributions: **	\$69,401	\$458,716	
% of Projected Annual	6%	42%	
PROJECTED ANNUAL		\$1,093,186	
Expenditures:	\$91,358	428,906	
% of Projected Annual	8%	37%	
PROJECTED ANNUAL		\$1,154,186	
** DOES NOT INCLUDE MI	SC. INCOME		



The *Chapel Herald* is a publication of The Village Chapel, 10 Azalea Rd., Village of Pinehurst, NC 28374; www.TVCPinehurst.com Telephone:910-295-6003; Fax 910-295-3729; The Care Cottage: 910-295-8026; Email info@TVCPinehurst.com

The Village Chapel

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