

MESSENGER

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March 2021





Rev. Bobby Morrow Pastor

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There are some things missing in our world today that I sure do wish we could restore. Things like truth, clarity, honesty, and respect for the opinion of others. We see examples of this on a daily basis. Truth: it is widely accepted now that truth is not absolute but relative. It means that truth changes based on popular opinion. Truth can be what we say it is. We have lost the fact that God has established some truths that do not change. It makes for a shifting foundation, one that could be said to be built on sandy soil.

Clarity: We listen to the voices that tell us what we should believe and then the next voice tells us something different. One voice says it is safe to be in school, one says it is not. I heard just this morning someone, a self-proclaimed authority on the subject, say that even after having both vaccinations, and waiting the required two weeks, a person should continue to wear a mask and socially distance because they may still carry the virus to others. Excuse me, I can't get the virus, but I can transmit it to someone else? I need some clarity! I'll just change the channel and see what the next expert is saying until I find an opinion I agree with.

Honesty: I want so badly for someone to tell me what is happening in the world without me having to filter the message. I have to figure out whether the person is conservative, liberal, Democrat, Republican, atheist or Christian before I can figure what direction they will spin the news. Can't someone just tell me the facts and let me form my own opinion based on my beliefs? I was intrigued by a new news program that was being introduced. The tag line was only facts, no opinions. I tuned in to see if they were being honest and the first five minutes was filled with an editorial segment that was all opinion!

Respect for the opinion of others: We have gone from just disagreeing with the opinion of others to attempting to destroy those who may have a differing view. We are constantly told that we must be more tolerant, but the real meaning of tolerance has been lost. Here is what the dictionary says is the definition for tolerant: to allow, permit, not interfere with. To recognize and respect other's beliefs without necessarily agreeing or sympathizing. It is therefore NOT to accept or agree with every popular opinion of the day or be labeled someone who is intolerant and hateful. Our politicians should pay more attention to this definition.

But lest you think I have lost hope for our world, let me say this. My hope is where it has always been. It rests in my Savior Jesus Christ. I know what absolute truth is because I read the Bible. It could not be clearer on what God expects from us. It requires honesty and integrity in every area of our lives. We are commanded to love others as we love ourselves. That implies the need to be respectful and tolerant of others opinions while we continue to stand firm in our convictions and make no apologies for sharing His truth with the world. I hope you will join me in sharing what I believe the world needs now more than ever, the knowledge of the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

In His Love, Bobby Morrow



Rev. Stan Heiser Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care & Senior Adults sheiser@pritchardchurch.com

Greetings friends! Have you ever felt like the joys of life are getting harder to find? Or that feelings of loneliness are more frequent? Jesus understands. From immense joy to intense loneliness, Jesus experienced the full range of human emotions.

On Sunday morning, February 21, I had the privilege of presenting the sermon. It had been awhile since I preached and was a little anxious, but very thankful to Pastor Bobby for asking me to do so. That morning I shared my message entitled, "Joy Is Not Canceled!" Many have felt their JOY has been taken away. I was trying to remind all of us from Kim Collingsworth's newly written song - "Joy is not canceled, peace still remains. God's goodness, kindness, grace isn't running low. His power is still abundant, His mercies are still new. God's plans have not been canceled, He's still in control. And everything that matters still remains."

Continuing on that theme of JOY, let me share a devotion that Carol Layton, Director of Communication and Administration for North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry, wrote for our award-winning devotional guide "One Hope: 30 Daily Devotions for Overcoming Loneliness." Her devotion is titled: *"Joy and Loneliness in the Life of Jesus"*.

From immense joy to intense loneliness, Jesus experienced the full range of human emotions. John 16:22 says "I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you." The sources of a person's joy reveal something about their character. Let's consider the sources of Jesus' joy.

Friendships: When the Pharisees criticized Jesus' disciples for not fasting, Jesus replied, *"Can the friends of the bridegroom fast, while the bridegroom is with them?"* (Mark 2:19). Jesus is so joyful in His friendships that He compares His disciples and Himself to a wedding party.

Social Life: Jesus was clearly a people-person. He dined with Pharisees and publicans - impartially.

Nature: Jesus spent much of His time outdoors. Consider His references to the birds of the air, the lilies of the field, to sowers and reapers and vineyards. Consider the way He chose mountains, rivers and lakes as backdrops for many sermons.

Serving Others: Jesus took joy in healing people, meeting their needs, and encouraging them.

Reading: Jesus frequently quoted and taught from the Tanakh (the Old Testament). He also read aloud at the synagogue in Nazareth.

Fellowship with the Father: Jesus prayed publicly, but also *"often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."* (Luke 5:16)

In addition to experiencing joy, we know that Jesus also experienced joy, we know that Jesus also experienced loneliness. Even when He was healing and feeding the multitudes, the world was frequently hostile and scornful toward Him. His disciples and close family members were often dull of understanding. He must have longed for a human friend who could truly understand His deepest struggles and experiences. When Jesus celebrated the Passover with His disciples, He knew His loneliest and most difficult hours were near. He used the opportunity to teach them about unconquerable joy - the kind not dependent on man. "I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you." (John 16:22)

This joy is available to you today. May you have all the joy that comes from knowing Him.

Blessings, Stan

Sunday School Begins March 7

PHASE 1: In-person Adult Sunday School, Pritchard Kids and Youth Sunday School

Assigned Areas for Sunday School -

• Overflow Center (Gym): Professionals (Tanya Mazingo), Cowboys (Don Royer and John Austin), Free Spirits (Marion Harris)

• **Fellowship Hall:** Food for Thought (Don Taft), Seekers & Doers (Watt Smith and Virginia Wallace), H.I.S. (Tony Canupp, Ken Edahl and Sandy Childers)

• Williams 306-310: Happy Hearts (Peggy Spence), Hope (Frances Knell and Edith Parker), Max Moyle (Will Burch)

• The Loft: Youth • Williams 1st/2nd floors: Children Guidelines:

* It is up to each individual (teacher and class attendee) of when they would like to return to in-person class. This, of course, is not mandatory for anyone to return and if a teacher would like to continue to teach via phone or online, please feel free to do so! EVERYONES SAFETY IS KEY!!

* Teachers that are ok returning to teach can rotate with teachers in their assigned areas.

* If someone does not have a class, or they would like to visit another class, they can attend the classes in the Fellowship Hall or Overflow Center.

* We ask everyone to wear masks when indoors and practice social distancing. All assigned areas will have chairs set-up 6 feet apart. There will be NO FOOD OR BEVERAGES offered during this time due to COVID-19 restrictions. Teachers - if your class members are ok with you removing your mask when teaching, please feel free to do so for this abbreviated time.

* All areas, including bathrooms and elevators, will be cleaned thoroughly each week in prep for the next week.

* In children and youth classes, temperatures will be taken upon entry and masks will be worn by all children K-12th grade.

Stewardship Update Revenues & Expenses – Summary DECEMBER 2020					

Pritchard Memorial showed a profit of \$150,226 for the year of 2020.

Sec. 408(d)(8) of the IRS code permits "qualifying charitable distributions" from traditional IRA accounts to be excluded from gross income.

The requirements are relatively simple. The charitable distribution must be:

- From a traditional IRA;
- Direct from the IRA to Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church—with no intervening possession or ownership by the IRA owner;
- On or after the IRA owner has reached age 70½: Pritchard Memorial is a qualified 501(c) (3) organization, eligible to receive direct charitable distributions.

How Does This Help Me?

Taxpayers who take the standard deduction do so because their itemized deductions aren't large enough. Therefore, the standard deduction is more beneficial to them than itemizing. Because the direct charitable distribution completely avoids the donor's tax return, the donor can effectively get both the standard deduction and the charitable contribution deduction.

The direct charitable distribution is included in determining the amount of the RMD. Therefore, if the RMD was \$6,000, a \$6,000 distribution would satisfy the requirement for that year. The taxpayer would not be required to take the \$6,000 into income.

These are only a couple of advantages for using the direct charitable distribution. Consult your Financial/Tax Advisor for more information.



Rev. Brack Ballard Minister to Youth and College-Aged Students bballard@pritchardchurch.com

Greetings Families!!

March is upon us!!! I know it has been a crazy semester so far! I really appreciate everyone's patience and flexibility when it comes to our youth scheduling. Our Youth Council is excited to announce we will be back in-person for all of our March events! We will continue our Bible study, *Awkward*, which is about attraction and desires and creating healthy boundaries that are Biblical.

Our *special event* of the month includes a trip to the *Movie Theater* at 4:30 PM on Saturday, March 27 (drop-off at Pritchard). We have rented a movie theater just for our youth for an evening of fun at Ayrsley Grand Cinemas 14. There will be plenty of room for social distancing as we will have the theater all to ourselves! Students are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend!

Our college group continues to meet via Zoom on Sunday evenings periodically and will continue our monthly dinners as in-person events begin again at Pritchard. In the month of March, we will be wrapping up our study of *"Adulting,"* led by Carrie Henderson. We are so grateful for this group of young people who are dedicated to growing their faith during these busy seasons of their lives.

I am praying for our students as some of them prepare to be back in-person at school for the first time this month. Please call/text if you need anything at all.

Blessings, Rev. Brack Ballard

Remembering Someone Special

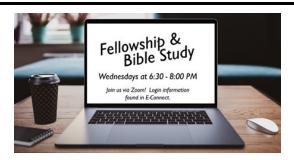
Is there a particular month or day that's a special time for you or your family? Maybe a milestone birthday or anniversary? Maybe you want to honor someone special? Or remember a loved one? If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary on one of the following open dates in 2021, please contact Lynn or Katrina in the Church Office. *March 14; April 18, 25; May 2, 9, 23; June 27; July 4, 25;*

August 15, 29; September 5, 12; October 17, 24, 31; November 21.



Camp Ridgecrest "Influencer" Monday, August 9 - Friday, August 13

Calling all rising 3rd graders through completed 12th graders! Cost: \$250 (\$30 deposit due upon registering with remaining balance of \$220 due on July 18). This includes all meals, interest groups and t-shirt. Questions? Contact Carrie Henderson or Susie Crowell. Register online at **www.pritchardchurch.com**



Wednesday Night Fellowship and Bible Study

Moving towards Easter!

For March, we get the great pleasure of hearing from a Pritchard member leading our Bible Study time! Fellowship begins at 6:30 PM and Bible Study/Prayer Time is 7:00-8:00 PM. A Zoom link can be found each week in Pritchard E-Connect (our weekly announcement email). To receive E-Connect, sign up at www.pritchardchurch.com

Schedule:

March 3 - Grace Grady March 10 - Millie Creech March 17 - Rick Kisiah March 24 - John Austin March 31 - Don Taft



Donations

The Hospitality House on Scott Avenue gives caregivers

and families of patients at Atrium Hospital on Blythe Boulevard a place to stay for a very low price. The family must be from out of town and the patient must be in need of hospital care for several days. Our church has supported these families over the years with food through the New U and other individuals. Hospitality House can no longer allow us to bring in prepared food and visit with the families as we serve them. However, they are in need of our help with supplies. The missions groups are stepping up to meet these needs and want you, as a congregation, to have the opportunity to give as well.

The bins are located in the Church Office, Gathering Place and the lobby near Solomon Chapel. The list includes: *toilet paper, disinfectant wipes, ground coffee, disposable paper products such as plates, bowls, cups, plastic utensils and 30 gallon trash bags.* Call Angela Livingston at 704-651-9721 or Nona Thompson at 704-898-7746 if you need a pick-up.

Holy Week

March 28 - April 4

We look forward to having video reflections during this very special week through daily emails and posts on social media.

Also, we plan to host Maundy Thursday Service in our courtyard Thursday, April 1 at 7:30 PM (RAIN LOCATION: Sanctuary)

> More details will be provided in Pritchard E-Connect.

PRITCHARD PULPIT

10:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Bobby Morrow

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

SERMON: "GIVE THEM WHAT YOU'VE GOT" SCRIPTURE: ACTS 3:1-10

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Sermon: "Things Aren't Supposed To Get Better" Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:1-5

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

SERMON: "DOING WHAT IS GOOD" SCRIPTURE: TITUS 3:2-8

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Sermon: "Ecstasy to Agony, Triumphant to Tragic" Scripture: Mark 11:1-10, 15:33-39

Sanctuary Flowers

Sunday, March 7

The flowers on the altar table are given to the glory of God in loving honor and celebration of my dear wife, Hope Riggins. Happy Birthday! I love you! David

Sunday, March 21

The flowers on the altar table are for "Praising God from Whom all blessings flow" and thanking Him for blessing us with Talmage Spence from 3/27/1925 until 11/8/2016. They are placed with love by Talmage's family - Peggy, Alan & Lynn, Stanley & Jean, Tolly & Julie Spence.

Palm Sunday and Easter Lilies

The lilies in the Sanctuary for Palm Sunday, March 28 and Easter Sunday, April 4 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Amon and Imogene Baucom. They are placed by the families of Chip Baucom and Angela Livingston.

Flowering of the Cross

Please bring fresh cut flowers on Easter Sunday morning, April 4, to the Sanctuary prior to Sunday School. There will be committee members in the Sanctuary to assist you with placement of flowers. Flowers may be cut from your own garden or purchased. This experience is a beautiful way to celebrate that *"He is Risen!"* If you have questions, please contact Hope Riggins at 704-564-0166.

FROM THE MEDIA CENTER by Katrina Gore

LOVE THE CAROLINAS

Show love to the Carolinas. Enjoy books with settings in North or South Carolina. It's fun to read a book that references places you have been to or even your own hometown.



Carolina Breeze by Denise Hunter

Following the sudden death of his parents, Levi Bennett left his life in Denver to return to his hometown of Bluebell, North Carolina. There he has two critical jobs: take care of his younger sisters and turn the Bluebell Inn—their parents' retirement dream—into a success. And things are not going well on either front. Then they discover that an old heirloom necklace is hidden somewhere in the inn. What will happen next?

The Crushing Depths by Dani Pettrey

When an accident claims the life of an oil-rig worker on the first drilling platform off the North Carolina coast, Coast Guard investigators Rissi Dawson and Mason Rogers are sent to take the case. Tensions surrounding the oil rig are high and the death has everyone on edge. Environmental activists are threatening to do whatever it takes to stop the structure from being completed, while rumors are being whispered about ancient curses surrounding this part of the ocean.

A Pictorial Guide to Biltmore by Rachel Carley

A comprehensive guide with text and illustrations that celebrate one of the most enduring homes in America. Biltmore House opened in 1895 in Asheville, North Carolina. See photos of this 8,000 acre mansion that is the largest private estate in the United States.

READ A BOOK ABOUT NORTH OR SOUTH CAROLINA



Monday, March 1 **Tuesday, March 2** 10:30 AM—Women on Mission (ZOOM) 3:00 PM—Afternoon Bible Study Group Wednesday, March 3 6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak 6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM) 7:00 PM—Bible Study and Prayer Time (ZOOM) Thursday, March 4 6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana) Friday, March 5 Saturday, March 6 4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Kids 4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Youth 5:05-6:15 PM—Overflow Service Sunday, March 7 9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School (Adults, Youth, Children) 10:30 AM—Worship Service Monday, March 8 **Tuesday, March 9** Wednesday, March 10 6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House) 6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM) 7:00 PM—Bible Study and Prayer Time (ZOOM) Thursday, March 11 6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana) Friday, March 12 Saturday, March 13 4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Youth 5:05-6:15 PM—Overflow Service Sunday, March 14 9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School (Adults, Youth, Children) 10:30 AM—Worship Service Monday, March 15 6:00 PM—Deacons Meeting **Tuesday, March 16** Wednesday, March 17....ST. PATRICK'S DAY 6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House) 6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM) 7:00 PM—Bible Study and Prayer Time (ZOOM)

Thursday, March 18 6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana) Friday, March 19 Saturday, March 20 4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Kids 4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Youth 5:05-6:15 PM—Overflow Service Sunday, March 21 9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School (Adults, Youth, Children) 10:30 AM—Worship Service Monday, March 22 **Tuesday, March 23** Wednesday, March 24 6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House) 6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM) 7:00 PM—Bible Study and Prayer Time (ZOOM) Thursday, March 25 6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana) Friday, March 26 Saturday, March 27 10:00 AM-12:00 PM—Easter Egg-Spress 4:30-8:00 PM—Pritchard Youth Outing (Movie Theatre) 4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Kids 5:05-6:15 PM—Overflow Service Sunday, March 28 9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School (Adults, Youth, Children) 10:30 AM—Worship Service Monday, March 29 Tuesday, March 30 Wednesday, March 31 6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House) 6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM) 7:00 PM—Bible Study and Prayer Time (ZOOM)



Join us in wishing a Happy Anniversary to **David Bailes**, our Minister of Music and Outreach, who celebrated 15 years on staff February 1. He has been sharing his beautiful voice and musical talents since 2016. Thank you, David, for your ministry and love for Pritchard! We love and appreciate you!

Happy Anniversary also to **James Phillips** who serves in so many ways at Pritchard. He joined our staff back in February 22, 1962. That's 59 years of dedicated service!!!! Thank you, James, for your love and faithfulness to Pritchard. We adore and appreciate you!

> "We give thanks to God always for you...." 1 Thessalonians 1:2

Notes of Thanks

Buddy and I want to thank you for all the love and support you have shown us during this sad season in our life through cards, calls, visits, food and prayer. We would not have made it this far without you. We know we'll see her again and thank the Lord each day for that. Thanks again. Love, Buddy and Kathy Goforth

We miss you terribly and pray that we will soon be able to be back in church among our Pritchard friends. In the meantime, we would like to thank our Pritchard family for all of the prayers, phone calls and cards. They mean so much to us. The doctors are still trying to find a solution to Bill's heart problems. Nothing has worked so far. On February 26, they will perform an ablation procedure on Bill's heart - risky but hopefully it will restore him to some level of activity. Please be in prayer for him and the doctors who will be performing the surgery.

Love you all very much! Bill and Naomi Reid

You are our family and have been for almost 40 years. We love you and miss you all very much, but we are only a phone call (or text) away and we will be back for visits. Thank you for your prayers for us during the construction of our new home and our move - it was a stressful time, but we are getting settled.....slowly. Please continue your prayers for us as we seek what God has planned for us in Granite Falls. Please stop by for a visit. Our new address is 32 Broadwater Drive, Granite Falls, NC 28630.

Debbie and Watt Smith

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, calls and texts during my recent struggles with eye surgeries. Apparently, I like to do things that most other people do not experience. My Ophthalmologist said he had never seen or heard of a person needed 2 surgeries on each eye. The support of my family and church family got me through and meant the world to me. I am so blessed.

Ginger Thompson

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Bobby Morrow
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care & Senior Adults	Rev. Stan Heiser
Minister of Music & Outreach	Rev. David Bailes
Associate Pastor, Spiritual Development & Communication	onRev. Kristen Tucker
Minister to Youth & College Aged Students	Rev. Brack Ballard
Administrator	Doug Burkhart
Executive Assistant for Administration & Education	Lynn Plyler
Office Assistant/Media Center Director	Katrina Gore
Accounting Clerk	Cindy Gamwell
Maintenance	James Phillips
Chef	Qunita Dashiell
Grounds Keeper	Dewight Little
AV Director	Joe Hicks

Dear Pritchard Family,

Thank you so much for the cards, calls, e-mails and prayers during my recent Covid illness and hospitalization. Thank you, too, for your prayers for my friend, Linda Ferguson. We are both doing well. I have been truly blessed by God to have such a wonderful, loving church family. Love, Becky Black





By Baptism: Casey Elias and Bryan Ostrander

We Express Our Love and Sympathy to:

 \sim Susha Hursey and family in the passing of her adoptive mother.

 \sim Carrie Henderson and family in the passing of her father, Jim Cannon.

- ~ The family and friends in the passing of Tom Carton.
- ~ The family and friends in the passing of Louise Wherry.

 \sim Carolyn Bolin and Becky Black in the passing of their cousin, Ronnie Burgin.

 \sim Linda Robinson and family in the passing of her brother-in-law, Ed Scarboro.

~ The family and friends in the passing of Margie Earle.

 \sim Pat Martin and family in the passing of her husband, Gerald Martin.

~ Ralph Milford and family in the passing of his mother, Barbara Ann Morris Milford.

 \sim Buddy and Kathy Goforth in the passing of their daughter, Melissa Goforth.

 \sim Dennis Brown and family in the passing of his mother, JoAnn Brown.



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