



**CAPE CARTERET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**100 YAUPON DRIVE
CAPE CARTERET, NC 28584
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JULY 2019

www.capecarteretpresbyterianchurch.org



I have made it no secret that I have a like/dislike relationship with social media. Since I am not on Twitter or Instagram I should probably be more specific. I have a like/dislike relationship with Facebook. I like Facebook because it has helped me connect with classmates I haven't seen since we graduated high school. I like it because it helps me connect with members of our congregation. I like it because I can connect to groups that share common interests. With this being said, there are aspects of Facebook that give me heartburn! Just about all political posts (all parties) make me cringe. It also bothers me how easily people will make hateful comments they would never make to another person's face. However, the one thing that really bothers me is the way the Christian faith is sometimes misrepresented and distorted. Let me give you a few examples.

Example #1: If you love Jesus you will "like" this post or pass this post along to ten of your friends and Jesus will bless you. I see versions of this type of post on Facebook daily. The problem I have with these types of posts is they are manipulative. The implication is that if you don't respond, then you don't love Jesus. Or if you don't share the post, then you aren't really a Christian. To use Jesus in this manner just saddens me. Jesus never manipulated anyone, and I suspect he would prefer we spend our time loving our neighbor rather than passing along spam.

Example #2: A tragedy occurs (natural like a hurricane or man-made like a school shooting) and soon posts pop up proclaiming these acts were God's will. The suggestion is that God is punishing a group for their misdeeds. A tragic example of this is when Jerry Farwell and Pat Robinson proclaimed that 9/11 was God's punishment on our country because we have become "a nation of abortion, homosexuality, secular schools and courts, and the American civil liberties union." They don't know God's will. I don't know God's will. What I have been able to discern is God is love, and God seeks to bring healing and peace to our world not suffering.

Example #3: It bothers me when posts attempt to pass off catchy sayings as the gospel truth. "You just need to have more faith. God helps those who help themselves. Everything happens for a reason. God won't give you more than you can handle." These sayings sound good and no doubt they are often passed along with the best of intentions. They can provide a measure of comfort and do contain a small measure of truth. God is indeed with us in difficult times. But despite all of this the bottom line is they are not biblical.

The problem I have with these expressions is that life has a way of humbling all of us. Sometimes we do find ourselves with more than we can handle. Sometimes we face a tragedy that is beyond reason. Sometimes, despite a faith that is as big as the sea, the outcome of our prayers does not go as hoped. What do we do then? I can tell you what a person might do if they have relied on the phrases listed above.

(cont'd)

They might come to the conclusion that God is to blame. Sadly at one of the most vulnerable moments in their lives, they can become angry at God. I've seen this happen too often.

Earlier I said I like Facebook because it helps me connect with groups that have common interests. A pastor in one group shared that when her daughter died, a well-meaning person asked if it was because her faith wasn't strong enough or if it was her daughter who didn't have faith enough. I suspect we all can see how hurtful this was. When we accept these catchy phrases at face value or when we pass them along without really questioning whether or not they are true, we are really doing a disservice to ourselves and to those we care about.

Social media is not going away. It is a platform that billions use every day. As Christians we have the opportunity to use this neutral tool in ways that are good and life affirming as well as critical and life denying. This is why I think an important piece is education. Presbyterians have historically valued education. We need to know what we believe and why we believe it. To this end we are going to spend the month of July looking at a few of the expressions I named earlier. My hope is that by diving into scripture we will all deepen not only our faith but also our appreciation of how God is truly present in our lives.

Peace,
Ben



The Hem of His Garment is in need of volunteers.
Please consider the donation of your time!



www.capecarterepresbyterianchurch.org



VBS WISH LIST

VBS is coming up July 15th-19th!
We will be decorating July 8th-12th.
We are in need of a few items!!

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Items to be borrowed and returned:

- Baskets
- Muslin Painting tarps (paint stains are okay!)
- Fake foliage/greenery/vines (anything that would grow in the jungles of Africa or looks like it does)
- African printed fabric
- Little rugs for kids to sit on
- Sleeping cots

Donated Items Needed:

(most can be found at the dollar store)

- Brown packing paper
- Green packing paper
- Jute string
- Grass table clothes
- Green tissue paper
- Yellow, orange and blue plastic tablecloths
- Paint - brown, black, green
- Disposable baking tins (large)

Please contact Heather Molfetto or Erin Gull with any questions.



It's not too late to help with VBS the week of July 15th- July 19th. If you are interested, please contact Heather Molfetto, Erin Gull, or the church office.

2019 Financial Report:		MAY
Receipts:		
General Fund		\$ 20,797.73
Building Fund		\$ 335.00
Capital Improvement		\$ 11,592.00
Wash Fund		\$ -
Non Budget Fund		\$ 3,598.07
Year-to-Date Receipts:		
General Fund		\$ 92,742.22
Building Fund		\$ 1,075.00
Capital Improvement		\$ 64,652.00
Wash Fund		\$ 830.35
Non Budget Fund		\$ 12,454.54
Disbursements:		
General Fund		\$ 17,599.86
Building Fund		
Capital Improvement Projects		\$ 303.03
Wash Fund		
Non Budget Fund		\$ 5,529.64
Year-to-Date Disbursements:		
General Fund		\$ 87,399.63
Building Fund		\$ 5,458.50
Capital Improvement Projects		\$ 102,566.90
Wash Fund		\$ 830.35
Non Budget Fund		\$ 17,503.42
Checking Account:		
General Fund/Wash Fund		\$ 25,878.28
Non Budget Fund		\$ 18,825.88
Money Market		
General Fund		\$ 77,917.56
Building Fund		\$ (3,720.12)
Capital Improvement Projects		\$ 13,691.16
Interest		\$ 14.60
Total		\$ 74,212.04
Certificate of Deposit		
2.5% Interest, Renewed 6/16,5/17,5/22/18,5/22/19		\$ 105,000.00
Average Attendance		146
YTD Average Attendance		141

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Thank you for turning in your capital campaign commitment cards. If you haven't turned it in yet, no worries, you still can! If you didn't receive one, but would like one, please contact the church office.

****IMPORTANT****

When making your contributions for the capital campaign, please write "Capital Campaign" in the memo portion on your check or on your offering envelope so we know that's where you want your donation applied! If it's not noted, it automatically goes to the General Fund. If you write Building on it, it goes to the Building Fund. It needs to say CAPITAL CAMPAIGN somewhere in order for it to be applied to the Capital Campaign Fund.

Thank you!!



MEET AND GREET



During the summer months, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, following worship, we will have light refreshments in the fellowship hall.

This gathering is to provide a time to welcome visitors and also to reconnect with each other in an informed, relaxed setting.

So mark your calendars and plan to stay for a short time after worship on July 14th and July 28nd!

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

FRIDAY, JULY 19th

Articles for the AUGUST 2019 issue of the newsletter need to be submitted **FRIDAY, JULY 19th**. Newsletters will be distributed on Sunday, **July 28th**. Please bring any articles you wish to have included to the church office, or email to capecartertpres@gmail.com



CAROLINE MANNING CARLTON

Congratulations Helen & Chris Carlton on the birth of your new baby girl! Caroline Manning Carlton entered the world on Friday, May 31st at 4:35 pm. She was 6 lbs, 10 oz, and 19". Mom and baby are doing great.

Congrats also go out to the proud grandparents, Ed and Jan Holt!



If you have placed flowers in the church, please take them with you after church on Sunday. Take them home and enjoy them, or take them elsewhere to be enjoyed by others! Places like Carteret Health Care, Crystal Bluffs, Brookdale, Carteret Landing, Hope Mission would be delighted have to opportunity to enjoy them!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

- July:** Donations for pumps that we order in bulk
- August: Pencils, Pencil Sharpeners, Small writing tablets
- September: Sewing Kits
- October: Sewing Kits



We wish to express our deepest condolences to Bruce Albin on the recent loss of his wife, our dear friend, Patti Albin. Please keep their family in your thoughts and prayers.



- July Eliana Hicks
- August 4 Aiden Martin
- August 11 Aiden Martin
- August 18 Michael Sypsomos
- August 25 Michael Sypsomos
- September Madisen Sales
- October Aiden Martin
- November Michael Sypsomos
- December Eliana Hicks



- Billy & Lauren Burch 6/02/11
- Jim & Terry Smith 6/08/69
- Mark & Sara Williams 6/12/10
- Phil & Sandra Wagner 6/12/59
- Lawrence & Kathleen Smith 6/15/68
- Bill & Sandy Sloan 6/17/95
- John & Lynda Capps 6/19/93
- Pat & Toni Wright 6/21/59
- Charles & Debbie Starliper 6/21/80



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|----|-------------------|----|---------------|
| 6 | Max Morton | 15 | Erin Gull |
| 7 | Rick Stevens | 21 | Dick Shetzer |
| 7 | Aleksandra DeMars | 25 | Jean King |
| 8 | Sunnie Bree Burch | 26 | Don Ackerson |
| 11 | Ann Wedemann | 26 | Tom Ackerson |
| 11 | Ellie Ackerson | 30 | Janet Kolb |
| 13 | Trish Brown | 30 | Joyce Brogdon |



The office will be closed on Thursday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day



Men of the Church

**ANNUAL
COOKOUT**

JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN IN THE SUN
AND MR. HOLT'S FAMOUS HOMEMADE
ICE CREAM!

SUNDAY JULY 7TH 2019
DIRECTLY AFTER CHURCH SERVICE

Dress for Fun!

**FUN AND FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL AGES;
HORSE SHOES, CORNHOLE, RELAY RACES, SPOON RACE,
SACK RACES, THREE-LEGGED RACE,
HULA HOOP CONTEST!**

LADIES OF THE CHURCH:
BRING YOUR BEST DESSERT FOR OUR BLUE RIBBON CONTEST!