

May 25, 2020

Cloister thoughts...

We all know what it is like to receive a letter in the mail. And quickly we can scan the letters and make a judgment - junk mail, solicitation, bills and ahhh - a personal letter. Then the heart beats a little faster - is this good news - bad news. We rip it open and quickly in the first few sentences we can tell - if this is a letter to build us up or to tear us down.

I often hear people say - they have a keepsake drawer, or a special box where they save all the "good, affirming" letters that they received...so when they are having a bad day - or they are feeling all alone...they can take out one and read it - to be restored to a place of hope - a moment of grace.

First Peter is an early letter to leaders of churches in Asia Minor, probably not actually written by Peter but certainly claiming his authority as an apostle and leader of the church. The letter is a pastoral letter - it is written from the heart of a pastor and the caregiving for the church. The letter emphasizes Christian unity and seeks to encourage those who are facing persecution by Rome and the surrounding pagan culture.

The shot in the arm the letter offers is a reminder that they are not only individuals but they are God's people...they may feel personal struggles but God has called them forth to be "a holy nation, God's own people" (1 Peter 1:9). Immediately, the tape in my mind turns on - and I hear the recording once again - of those adolescent years when I would head out the door and my mom would say, "Remember who you are."

Think of it! The hodgepodge of misfits that made up the early church - some converted Jews, some Gentiles, some pagans, some renegades - are now God's people, the church. We are no different today. Some preparatory Christians, some prodigal sons, some saints, and some renegades, we are God's people. We are widows and widowers, single people and married people, children; we are doctors, lawyers, and administrative assistances and painters. We are God's people, chosen out of our uniqueness to work together to be a holy nation.

We have no more claim to be God's chosen people than did those in the first-century church. We are blemished with our sins...we have all made mistakes, said and done the wrong thing. If the kingdom of God were open only to those who deserved it, we would all be in trouble. The author of First Peter helps us visualize how we individually are becoming the house for God. "Like living stones," he writes, "let yourselves be built

into a spiritual house" (1 Peter 2:5).

We are individuals joined together in community to make a difference in the world. Saints and renegades together, and most of us somewhere in between, we work together to be living stones built as a dwelling place for God in our midst.

The main character in Hannah Hunnard's book, *Hinds' Feet on High Places*, is seeking to walk with God, and yet she is surprised that the path is rough and rocky. Time after time she stumbles and falls, all the time wishing that she could run like a mountain deer, with "hinds' feet on high places." Her angelic companions tell her, though, to pick up stones from the places that are roughest, and to keep them with her, together in a small bag.

I like that image, picking up stones to remember the hard spots in our lives after we have gotten beyond them. What she does at the end of the journey, though, is build an altar out of those very same stones, out of the broken pieces of her heart.

***We are individuals
joined together
in community
to make a difference
in the world.***

Beloved friends, as we journey these rough and hard days during this Pandemic, imagine picking up a stone for all the challenges you have faced, prepared to build an altar of thanksgiving for the strength emerging from your spiritual house of faith. We become the living stones, a holy priesthood ministering out of our community to the whole people of God.

Moving from strength, to strength, Rick



**THE BLOOD
CONNECTION**
Your Community Blood Center

**BLOOD DRIVE
SATURDAY, JUNE 6
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
REID STREET PARKING LOT**

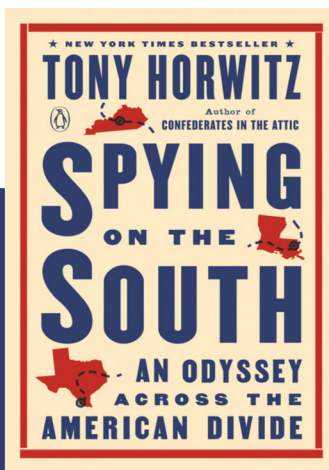
Register, log in, and make an appointment at
hbumc.org/signups

One-and-Done

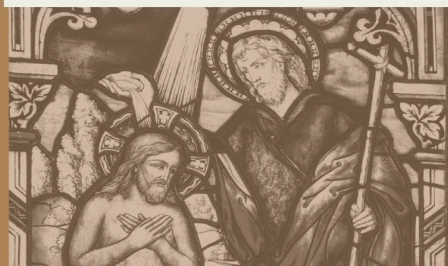
A book study with Pastor Molly

Thursday, June 4th
10am-Noon

*Spying on the South: an Odyssey
across the American Divide*
by Tony Horwitz



CHRISTIANITY 101



Tuesdays at 7:00pm via Zoom
beginning June 4
No homework

Topics include

- baptism
- discipleship
- holiness

Email Pastor Molly for more
information or the Zoom link:

mwhite@hbumc.org

ZOOM Bible

and Book Study Offerings for Spring 2020

Pastor Rick's Lectionary Group Thursdays @ 10:00am

Email Melanie Iversen for ZOOM meeting
registration or for help getting set up on
Zoom. miversen@hbumc.org

One-and-Done Book Club Thursday, June 4, from 10:00am- 12:00pm

*Spying on the South: An Odyssey Across
the American Divide* by Tony Horowitz.
Email Pastor Molly for more information.
mwhite@hbumc.org

Christianity 101 Tuesdays at 7:00pm beginning June 4

No homework. We'll learn and discuss
topics such as Baptism, discipleship, and
holiness. Email Pastor Molly for more
information. white@hbumc.org

Save the Date!

Summer Seminary: American Christianity Starts Sunday, June 14

Our combined adult summer Sunday
School begins on Sunday, June 14. Our
topic this summer is **Summer Semi-
nary: American Christianity**.

Social Justice Advocacy Training Starts Saturday, June 13

The current pandemic has shone a
light on the inequities in our community.
It may seem overwhelming, but we can
work together for justice for the poor
and marginalized. We're offering **Social
Justice Advocacy Training** from the
NC Conference Board of Church and So-
ciety via Zoom! The first of three meet-
ings will be on Saturday, June 13, at
3:00pm. Contact Pastor Molly for more
information or to register.

mwhite@hbumc.org

We're forming a Board of Church and
Society at Hayes Barton UMC in the fall.
Contact Beth Baker for more infor-
mation.

bethbaker1018@yahoo.com

Social Justice Advocacy Training

THREE SESSIONS BEGINNING
SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 3PM, VIA ZOOM

Sponsored by Hayes Barton UMC &
NC Conference Board of Church and Society

Contact Pastor Molly: mwhite@hbumc.org

High School Class of 2020 at HBUMC

Name	High School	Plans for Next Year	Church Scholarships
Sarah (Brooke) Brooke Baker	William Penn Charter HS	UNC Chapel Hill	
Allen Bost Black	Trilogy School	Wake Technical College	
William (Web) Eugene Blackburn, Jr.	Broughton HS	NC State University	
Stephen Bayard Brice	Woodberry Forest School	University of Denver	
Henry (Mason) Mason Bunn	Broughton HS	James Madison University	
Amelia (Mia) Jane Busick	Raleigh Charter HS	UNC Wilmington	Bob & Sybil Redfern Memorial
Ella Lee Carr	Broughton HS	University of Alabama	Enoch & Moore Scholarship
Stratton Ruell George Collins	Sanderson HS	Appalachian State University	
Samuel Allen Curtis Culpepper	Enloe HS	UNC Wilmington	Tucker Rives Mann Memorial
Clay Garmon Duckworth	St. David's School	Auburn University	Helms & Chadwick Scholarship
Dylan Rose Kadis	Broughton HS	NC State University	
Isabel (Izzy) Pearce Kempson	St. Mary's School	UNC Chapel Hill	Anna Green Ligon Scholarship
Ashton Leigh Kendall	Broughton HS	UNC Wilmington	Enoch & Moore Scholarship
Madeline (Maddie) Katherine Lee	Broughton HS	NC State University	
Katherine-Parker Lowry	Broughton HS	Wake Technical College	
Matthew (Ridge) Ridge Massarelli	Broughton HS	NC State University	
Zachary Clayton Naylor	Cardinal Gibbons HS	Purdue University	
George Schwind O'Brien	Broughton HS	University of Arizona	
Grace Meredith Palmer	Broughton HS	UNC Chapel Hill	Wade Rivenbark Memorial
Monica Louis Powell	Cardinal Gibbons HS	Florida State University	Martha Nagle Scholarship
Katherine Patra Rose	Athens Drive HS	Appalachian State University	Martha Nagle Scholarship
Olivia Jean Skaggs	Broughton HS	Meredith College	Casper Holroyd Memorial
Mary Martha Stokes	Broughton HS	Wofford College	Peters Family Scholarship
Winston Gray Tuttle	St. David's School	Appalachian State University	
Marcus Tyner	Broughton HS	Wake Technical College	
Adair Pittman Warner	Broughton HS	Appalachian State University	
Hope Randolph Warner	Broughton HS	NC State University	
John (Worth) Worth Warner	Broughton HS	Presbyterian College	
William (Wills) Clark Womack, III	Broughton HS	NC State University	

Other Seniors

Lila Maria Casey	Noah Raynor Casey	Jacqueline Annette Caulfield	Allie GraycAnn Depo
John (Jackson) Jackson Elis	Spencer Haile Giles	Lillian (Lily Grace) Grace Kelly	David (Paxton) Paxton Merriss
Andrew Scott Phillips	Bryce Joseph Potter	Caroline Delores Pridgen	Owen Russell Ravenscraft
	Laura Elizabeth Zarzar		



05/25/2020

Hayes Barton United Methodist Preschool Celebration

The Hayes Barton United Methodist Preschool celebrated the end of the year with a reverse parade. Parents, teachers, and students paraded in decorated cars to say goodbye until next year and to celebrate graduates. Hip Hip Hooray for HBUMC!



The Commissioner

Discerning a Path in Re-opening Hayes Barton United Methodist Church

As NC enters Phase II of re-opening, we have implemented four Task Force groups in our church to discern ways that we can begin in-person meetings and worship over the next several months. The groups will include staff members as well as church members to ensure we are being comprehensive in designing guidelines to keep everyone healthy and safe.

Below are just a few of the guidelines being considered as each Task Force continues to do research and engage in conversation with members. We invite your prayerful support as we pioneer these days of gathering as the body of Christ.

Staffing

In moving towards allowing the physical space of the church to be more available to staff, the safety of people employed by Hayes Barton UMC and members of the congregation is the top priority. Therefore, the following protocols have been recommended:

- Social distancing among staff must be respected: 6 feet of separation between all staff and members present.
- Staff should schedule office hours. This will help to make sure that staff can comfortably social distance. Staff members that share an office space must be thoughtful of coordinating office hours with each other. Staff that can effectively work from home are encouraged to do so.
- Masks must be worn in common areas. Staff do not have to use masks when taking breaks at a safe distance from others or when in their own office space. Disposable masks will be available for staff that need or request them.
- All staff must be responsible to clean up after themselves, wash or sanitize hands regularly, and sign in when they have been working in the facilities of HBUMC.

Worship

During **Phase II**, online worship will continue with no in-person gatherings.

In-person worship for both traditional and LightHouse *may* begin at some point during **Phase III** while we continue to stream online worship. The closed environment, limited ingress/egress and longer duration of corporate worship are challenges for the logistics to returning to in-person services.

Hayes Barton Support: Helping Each Other

You are supporting each other at this time! Visiting Friends are calling the In Crowd and sending notes, as are members of the elementary department; the Stephen Ministers and staff have been calling those in the age bracket of 70 and up (a total of about 415 individuals); and the JOY Class are sending notes to Starnes Class and In Crowd members as well as our high school seniors. Several members have been preparing meals for people that are alone in their homes.

Details of these logistics will reflect an abundance of caution in limiting exposure for congregants and worship leaders alike:

- Maintain 6-ft distancing
- Operate the campus as two independent facilities (Traditional worship via Stone St. / LightHouse via Reid St.)
- Implement Enhanced Hygienic and Tracking Practices
- Nursery and Extended Session will not be offered in **Phase III**

Small Groups

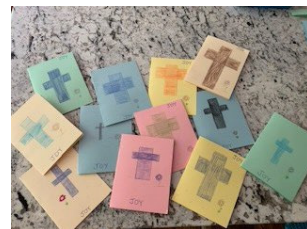
- Small groups for church meetings, Bible studies, and covenant groups will continue to meet via Zoom or other web-based platforms in Phase II.
- During Phase III, small groups will continue to meet via web-based platforms. The church building may be open in a limited capacity for small groups who provide a guest list, wear face masks, and limit their activities to prescribed areas.
- In the fall, we expect that small groups will be able to meet both virtually and in person. We are examining technology that allows groups to meet simultaneously in person and virtually.

Preschool and Wee Care

We plan to follow the Wake County Public Schools with respect to an opening date for the Preschool and Wee Care.

- We will follow guidance of CDC, federal and local governments, NC Department of Health and Human Services and Wake County Public Schools with respect to social distancing, screening for signs of illness, use of personal protective equipment, cleaning procedures, etc.
- We will review and make recommendations regarding the use of shared spaces and equipment (for example the Children's Fellowship Hall, the Children's Kitchen, restrooms, playground and CHH).
- We will review and make recommendations regarding the preparation, delivery, distribution and location of snacks and meals.
- We will review and make recommendations regarding the transportation, drop off and collection of children.

Your efforts are appreciated. A member of the In Crowd recently shared how much it means to her to get notes and phone calls from the church (she lives alone in her home and has a visual issue). Thank you for staying in touch with your church family. If you want to participate in this effort, please contact Becky Balentine at 919-601-8682 or bbalentine1025@gmail.com.



College Graduates

If you or someone in your family will receive a college degree this spring, contact Doug Gill at dgill@hbumc.org or 919-832-6435 x1126 so they can be recognized in June.

Sympathy and Love to

- ✦ John Armfield and family on the death of his stepfather, Ed Johnston, on May 20.
- ✦ the family and friends of Jimmy Ball, who died on May 14.
- ✦ the family and friends of Richard Kane, who died on May 10. His service was held on May 14 at Oakwood Cemetery.
- ✦ Melba Smith and family on the death of her husband, JC Smith, on May 20. His service was held on May 22 at Raleigh Memorial Park.

Births

- ✦ Hunter Willis Hesmer, son of Tacey & William Hesmer, was born on May 16. William and Anderson are proud big brothers.
- ✦ Frances Claiborne Yarbrough, daughter of Amy & Will Yarbrough, was born on April 16. Eleanor is a proud big sister. Mark & Kitty Yarbrough and Jim & Rena Macgill are proud grandparents.

Memorial Gifts through May 21

In Memory of **Alan Arnold**, Laura Kirby's brother-in-law, to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Elvey & Sharon Thomas.

In Memory of **Eddie Bagwell** by Edward & Anne Brennan and Charles & Betsy Hinton, III.

In Memory of **Jimmy Ball**:

- to The Well Fund by Mary June & Henry Jones.
- to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Harold & Gladys Rose.
- by Barbara & Jim Riggins.

In Memory of **Kristin Byrd**:

- to the Starnes Class Fund by Scarlett Bryant.
- to the Stroud Music Fund by Joyce Stroud.

In Memory of **Billie Catington**, Chelle Porter's stepmother, to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund by Elvey & Sharon Thomas.

In Honor of **Lisa Coster** and all the "mask making ladies at Hayes Barton" by Barbara Riggins.

In Memory of **Marie Lomax** by Sally Lomax Turner.

In Honor of **Bob Morrison** to the Morrison Music Endowment Fund by Cheryl Hall.

In Memory of **Don Preiss** to the Stroud Music Fund by Joyce Stroud.

In Memory of **Richard Ruebesam** by Hazel Jenks.

In Honor of **Joyce Stroud**:

- to the Stroud Music Endowment Fund by Cheryl Hall.
- on her birthday, March 5, by Mr. & Mrs. M. B. Huggins, Jr.

In Memory of **Marguerite Thompson**:

- by Conway & Patsy Chewning, Sue & Jim Thompson, Travis & Linda Tomlinson and Win & Bess Walker.
- to the Chancel Choir Fund by Alice & John Kester.

Prayer Bookmarks 05-17-20 & 05-24-20

Deaths

Jimmy Ball

Bea Gillette, mother of Wray Gillette

Ed Johnston, stepfather of John Armfield

Richard Kane

JC Smith

Births

Hunter Willis Hesmer, son of Tacey & William Hesmer

Frances Claiborne Yarbrough,

daughter of Amy and Will Yarbrough

Health Concerns

Nancy Stamey

Ongoing Concerns

Mark Angelo

Dale Benson

Richard Birtch

Kent Burns

Elly Cherry

Mary Lou Goodrich

David Hesmer

Finlay Carter Judy

Margaret Lucas

Jo Ann Moore

Robert Earl Phyllian

Jane Preiss

David Robertson

Rhumell Ross

Carol Smith

Phil Templeton

Elvey Thomas

Georgia Webb

Deployed

James Hemphill

John Templeton, nephew of Phil Templeton

Our Church Leaders

Pastors Rick, Adam and Molly

D.S. Southern; Bishop Ward

All Those Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic

Outreach Activity Photos



Vacation Bible School

From your VBS leaders....After much thought and discussion, our Vacation Bible School leaders have decided to change the traditional format of this year's event. Because so many restrictions would have to be put into place to keep everyone safe, we believe that it would not be the same exciting and fun VBS that everyone knows and loves. We will look forward to hosting everyone for the "Knights of North Castle" next June.

For this summer, we are offering a new concept - an interactive family VBS that will be explored, played and learned at home. "God's Big Backyard" will come to you in a box! It will have five days of interesting activities and lessons that are all focused on serving family, friends, neighbors, community, and Jesus. Each morning will start with a live streamed assembly featuring music and Ms. Laurie and Ms. Ellen's famous skit! We can't wait to share more details with you and hope you will choose to explore "God's Big Backyard" with us August 10-14.

If you have already registered for VBS, you will be re-funded and will need to register again. We apologize for any inconvenience this change may have caused you, and we appreciate your patience! New registration link coming soon.



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HAYES BARTON
United Methodist Church

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Finance Corner

We thank the congregation for their steady, generous gifts that have put us in strong financial shape this month. Through April we have collected 41% of the current year's pledges; a record high! Non-pledged gifts are lower as a result of not meeting in person. That amount equals 21.6% of estimated collections.

As a direct result of your generosity, we allocated over \$64,000 to go to community outreach partners that are meeting the needs on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis. You can find a complete list of this year's grant recipients at hbumc.org/outreach.

We are also on track to provide funds for anticipated major capital expenditures, including roof replacement and ongoing HVAC unit replacement for systems in the older part of the building that have exceeded their expected lifespans.

At the beginning of the church closure period, we were uncertain of how our future would unfold. Thanks to you, our members, we are confident that Hayes Barton will continue to worship, serve, and fellowship together, in whatever forms that may unfold, through this time apart.

- Dudley Gwaltney & Tyler Morris, Finance Committee

April Finance Update

	Month to Date 2020	Year to Date 2020	Annual Budget 2020	% Annual Budget Used 2020	Year to Date 2019	% Annual Budget Used 2019
Pledges	\$229,468	\$956,793	\$2,337,120	41%	\$899,308	37%
Total Revenue*	\$253,296	\$1,049,899	\$2,659,724	39%	\$1,024,817	38%
Expenses	\$207,789	\$853,875	\$2,654,723	32%	\$869,382	32%
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$45,507	\$196,024	\$5,001		\$155,435	

MAY 31:

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

John 7:37-39

JUNE 7:

Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalms 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

WEEKEND WORSHIP ON VIMEO

Each weekend, the service will be available at noon on Saturday so that you can worship at a convenient time for you and your family.

Go to vimeo.com/hbumc to view the service, or previous archived services. For questions, contact Susan at:

919-832-6435 x1135

or sbaldwin@hbumc.org.