

As we enter a new season of the year and for our new church, Paul's letter to the Colossians is a good reminder to us, as well:

You are becoming new as you learn more about God and God's ways. It's like putting on fresh, new clothes – God's clothes! In God's way, no matter what country you are from, what family you belong to, whether you are enslaved or free, [what congregation you are a part of], or anything else about you – Christ Jesus is for everyone. As God's holy and beloved people, put on God's clothes: deep feeling for the pain of others, kindness, humbleness of heart, gentleness of spirit, and patience. Be understanding of each other. Above everything else, put on clothes of Love. Love ties everything together, like a perfect song. Let the Chosen One guide you on the path of peace and harmony, and then as Christ's one body, this peace will be the guiding light in your hearts as you give thanks. *(translation from The Peace Table and the First Nations Version)*

As we move forward with the formation of our new church, the most important thing each of us can do is to clothe ourselves as God's people. As we announced last Sunday, our new church does not yet have a name. Each name got almost the same number of votes, and with no clear preference of the majority of the church, we have decided that it is best to wait on naming the church until we have undergone our next step, which is a church-wide visioning process.

Later this month, Rev. Mark Snipes, the coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia, will be leading us through Dawnings, a process that will help us discover the specific purpose and ministry God has for us. This process will be church-wide, led by several of our church members, with 11 sessions of spiritual conversation. We will be sharing more details about the process in the coming weeks.

Alongside this visioning process, we will be working on some of the more logistical elements of forming our new church – properties, finances, and more – with some guidance from outside resources.

While we are going through this process, we will still be moving forward in other ways. We will continue to worship together and to have midweek Bible study times together. The CABC and CBC church councils will begin meeting together to plan our events for the coming months. Our deacons will also begin meeting together. And for all of us, we will have opportunities for fellowship and service as one church. This month, that is our Rise Against Hunger event, which you can read more about in this newsletter.

We recognize that change – even good change – can be challenging. Please know that our doors are always open if you have questions or suggestions. May we all put on God's clothes of love, and may we continued to be guided by Christ as we walk this path together.

Your pastors,  
Steve and Melissa



## *September Birthdays*

Betty Payne	Sept. 3	Rita Bryant	Sept. 14	Cason Krawchison	Sept. 17
Allison Trent	Sept. 6	Martha Crockett	Sept. 14	Bill Lininger	Sept. 19
Madaline Brown	Sept. 8	Becky Peyton	Sept. 14	Lisa Baker	Sept. 20
Neal Kinsey	Sept. 13	Mia Viele	Sept. 16	Emma Seidel	Sept. 20
Cathy Howell	Sept. 23	Tiffany Kinsey	Sept. 27	Virginia Draper	Sept. 29
Glenda Pollard	Sept. 23	Ashley Krawchison	Sept. 27	Dominic Moresco	Sept. 29
Julie Wood	Sept. 23	Barry Wirt	Sept. 27	Brad Dillon	Sept. 30
Sarah Howell	Sept. 24	Bobbie Hawkins	Sept. 28	Lindsay Wirt	Sept. 30

## *Prayer Concerns*

- Those who are homebound or in retirement and nursing homes: Madaline Brown, Jim Bryant, Lois Burge, Jane Byrum, Virginia Draper, Mary Durrer, Buddy Garrett, Buddy Hawkins, Evelyn Hutcherson, Nadine Minnix, Shirley Moore, Betty Obenchain, Louise Parris, Betty Payne, Becky Peyton, Jack Pilcher, Evelyn Ragland, Alice Scogin, Anna Mae Smith, Frances Williams, Katie Wood
- Those with cancer including Doug Hicks (Kathy Kinsey's Brother), Barbara Kern, Susan Wimmer (Ginny Smith's friend), Penny Long (Bob Crawford's sister), Angela Johnson (Joyce Short's niece), Carolyn Straughen (A.G. Melson's sister), Ronnie Lingblom (Gerri Mill's friend)
- Those in Maui and around the world suffering because of natural disasters
- Jack Cooper's friend, Gwynn, awaiting a liver transplant
- Our congregations, our pastors, our community, and those around the world
- Tamra Sloan's daughter, with pre-eclampsia
- Patty Bohon (friend of Betty Hall)
- Sue Epperly, Friendship South
- Debbie Foutz, recovering from surgery
- Doug Coppage, as he has transient global amnesia
- Bob Chesmore, as he is having surgery Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
- Mary Shirley, as she is having hand surgery Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>

## *Giving*

Thank you for your faithful support of the ministry of our church. If you wish to give an offering, you may do so by placing it in the designated plate in the foyer, via mail, electronically through your bank or our websites at <https://cabcc.churchtrac.com/give> or <https://bit.ly/givecalvary>. You may also donate by scanning our QR codes:

**COLONIAL AVENUE  
BAPTIST**



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CHURCH**



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## *Upcoming Meetings*

- Joint Church Council Meeting: **Sunday, Sept. 10**, 2 pm
- Implementation Team Meeting: **Monday, Sept. 11**, 5:30 pm
- Implementation Team Meeting: **Monday, Sept. 25**, 5:30 pm

## *Bible Study Opportunities*

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study** is a great way to connect with God and with our church family! We have classes for all ages and stages of life at **9:30 on Sunday mornings**.
- **Brown Bag Mid-week Bible Study:** We are taking a break and will return **September 27<sup>th</sup>** for a study of the Book of Judges. Through the land of wilderness, to the promised land of Canaan God had one man in charge – Moses. The long-hoped-for promised land was entered by Israel led by the one God put in charge – Joshua. Now a new system of twelve warrior rulers, called Judges would lead Israel in a window of time where military means were essential. In the book of Judges, there are stories of political intrigue, murder, power, and greed. There is sex, love, death, civil war. A world of God's people torn in a land of milk and honey. Had God's grand call for a nation to be Israel the chosen ones become a nightmare of mistakes. Had God misunderstood the desire for power and greed in the hearts of the people? Was political power more important than social and religious life? How did this divine experiment go so wrong? Where was God present and active in the lives of the people? The Judges, Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech, Jephthah, Samson, and others were leaders for God or leaders of self-interest. Come & find out.
- Our **Young Adult Dinner & Bible Study** resumes meeting **September 14<sup>th</sup>, Thursdays** at 6 pm at Pastor Melissa's house.

## *Paper Back Book & Magazine Collection*

The Evelyn Townsend Circle is collecting reading materials for the Roanoke City Jail library. Please place your donations (paperback books or magazines only) in the box in the foyer. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

## *Women's Missions: Evelyn Townsend Circle Invite*

Attention all ladies of our newly formed church: Mrs. Ellen Scott has invited you all to the Evelyn Townsend Mission Circle meeting Monday, **Sept. 11** at 12pm at her home. A light brunch will be served. If you are planning to attend, please contact the church office ([office@cabc.us](mailto:office@cabc.us)) to rsvp by Wednesday, **Sept. 6**, so Ellen can prepare for everyone.

## *Women's Coffee*

The women of the church are invited to the fellowship hall on **Saturday, Sept. 16** at 10:00 am for a coffee fellowship.

## *Youth Ministry*

- Our regular Youth Dinner and Discipleship time begins again on **September 10**. We will meet on Sundays from 5-7 for dinner and Bible study. This fall, we will be learning about "Surprising Things Jesus Said."
- Parents of tweens and teens are invited to join us on the **second Sunday of each month** at 11:45 am as we support each other and learn together about ways to stay connected with your tween/teen, help to shape their character, and foster positive, respectful, and fun relationships with them.

## *Volunteer Opportunities*

- Help feed our youth on **Sunday evenings** during our dinner & discipleship time! We eat at 5:00 pm, and it's best to prepare for 10-12. Let Pastor Melissa know if you would like to provide a meal or sign up at: <http://bit.ly/pbjyouthmeals>.
- Child care needed. We need volunteers to provide child care once a month during our parents of tweens and teens group meeting. We will meet the **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month** from about 11:45 am-1:15 pm, and lunch will be provided. Let Pastor Melissa know if you can help!



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**Our Church Staff:**

Rev. Melissa Scott  
Pastor

Dr. Steven Pollard  
Pastor

Rev. Steven Harris  
Minister in Residence

Debbie Foutz  
Church Administrator

Karen Viele  
Church Administrator

Bill Lininger  
Music Director

**Fall Sermon Series: On The Way**

The language of being on a journey is often used to describe a life of faith, and as we continue on the path of forming our new church, there is much for us to learn from that imagery. For the next couple of months, the revised common lectionary scriptures will guide our worship as we think together about what it means to be "On the Way."

**September 3-17 "The Journey Begins":** While some of us began our faith journey long ago, we are beginning the journey to become a new church together. And, for all of us, each day is a new beginning, another chance to be and make disciples. The beginning of a journey is a time of celebration and of hopefulness. So, here in the late summer and beginning of fall, when some things are winding down and other things are starting up, it is time for us to remember who we are and to whom we pledge our ultimate allegiance. Let's go back to our first love and embrace our God with passion and with joy.

**September 24-October 15 "For the Long Haul":** Our faith journey – and our journey to becoming a new church together - is a marathon and not a sprint. We won't get too far in our discipleship journey on enthusiasm alone. There will be times when we've hit a dry spell, or when we find ourselves in a desert. And scripture shows us that grumbling and fear will be ever around us and even within us at times. Enthusiasm wanes and emotions come and go. It takes discipline to sustain the pace as we walk our faith journey. The good news is that we are not alone as we continue along our discipleship path. First of all, there is the ever-present Spirit of God who sustains and enlivens us the more we seek God in our daily lives, as we proceed on the long haul of faith. God is with us. Secondly, there is a community of faith that encourages us, mentors us, learns with us and even from us at times. We are in relationship with the church in the long haul. Indeed, we might argue that the only way we can make it for the long haul is together. There's a saying that sums it up: "if you want to go fast, go alone; but if you want to go far, go together." We are in community as we journey, especially for the long haul.

**October 22-29 "The End in Sight":** We are a pilgrim people; we have a destination in mind as we move forward in our journey of faith. It may seem at times that we are just wandering aimlessly, doing our best to stay clean in an increasingly messy world. But the deeper truth is that we are heading somewhere. We are on a quest toward the kingdom of God. Is it heaven? Well, yes, we are on our way to heaven, but not as traditionally described. Instead, it is the new heaven and the new earth of which we get a glimpse in Revelation, a new way of living and being in the presence of God always. It is affirmation and transformation. This end, this goal, this hope is in sight because we are living it out every day. Every time we act as the church in the work of discipleship and reconciliation and joy, we reflect this hope; we glimpse this destination. We are a people who live with the end in sight.