



The Weekly Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

October 5, 2021

Storms, Shipwrecks, Sleep and Jesus!

A note from Pastor Darcy. This past Sunday our message on World Communion Sunday was based on Matthew 8: 23-27. In this life we are all going to experience storms, little storms, big storms, or even devastating storms. Storms are a part of the Christian's journey. We have no control over when they will appear or how severe they may be. Yet, we are not completely helpless. If we make the decision to hold on to the hand of an almighty God, He will equip us to weather any storm.

Similar to facing a literal storm there are three principles that we can apply to our spiritual storms that will help us endure. Thanks to SuMamma Watts for these insights.

Don't question the storm. When the warning sounds ring out indicating a severe storm is upon us, it is time for action, not time for questioning. It would be foolish to waste time pondering why the storm came to your town or how it developed. That is of no consequence. What matters is surviving the storm. Thus, we must take the same approach when facing the storms of our lives. Spiritual survival must be our focus. It is of the utmost importance and there is no room for questioning.

Don't jump ship. In the midst of a storm at sea who would dare jump out of the ship. Yet when faced with spiritual storms many times that is our first response. We are quick to jump out of the hands of God, quick to forfeit our faith, and quick to succumb to defeat. Stay in the vessel! There is safety in the vessel. Therefore, we must stay, knowing that God has prepared a ship that is sturdy enough to carry and protect us through any storm. Have faith in the God who holds your vessel in His hand.

Don't try to navigate the ship. Let the captain guide the vessel. None of us, regardless of what we may think, possess the skills necessary to be captains of our vessels. When embarking upon a cruise ship or other type of vessel, passengers trust the captain. It must be no different when it comes to our vessels. We must resist the urge to navigate our own way through the storm and surrender all of our control to the true captain, Jesus. He knows exactly what to do to maintain the buoyancy in our vessels and keep us afloat. He knows how to manipulate the sails when the winds of fear, pain, and doubt, come crashing against us. With Him as our captain our vessels will not sink nor lose their course. This He guarantees.

Nobody likes a storm but if we must go through them let's come out victorious! I pray these 3 simple principles will help you weather your next storm. Jesus cares and looks forward to the opportunity to carry us through each and every one.

Blessings,
Pastor Darcy





October 3 - Brian Yoder
 October 4 - Jim Ward
 October 5 - Tim Yoder
 October 7 - Matt Chabak
 October 8 - Heidi Yacapraro

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS

A new Adult Bible Fellowship (ABF) will start October 17 following the service. We will meet in the fellowship hall from 10:45 - 11:45. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a time of fellowship and Bible study. We are starting with a five week series learning how to stand on biblical truths in a non-Christian society. *"The tragedy of today - The situation is desperate, but the Saints are not"* ~Vance Havner

So many times we avoid having a conversation for fear of knowing how to discuss the convictions of our faith without "offending" those we are speaking with. *But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. 1 Peter 3:15* Doing what Peter is asking of us in this verse is often very difficult and it takes work to learn how to be effective. So come and join us. Be part of a conversation that equips you to better communicate God's love with a world that doesn't understand who He is.



CELEBRATING THE SAINTS

As Pastor Jesse has already reminded many of us, our future is built upon our past. So along with Pastor Jesse, we are planning a special service for November 7, for the Saints of today, to remember those who have been a faithful part of shaping our congregation into the kind, caring, and Christ-focused church we are today.

We will be inviting family members to attend. The hardest part of this project has been looking over the old directories and rosters to build the list. We will be naming the names of all who have passed since 2010 (including their spouses if they passed before 2010).

So three things church family: 1) if you think we have omitted anyone please let Pastor Darcy or Secretary Jeann know, 2) if you have a special memory of how one of these folks mentored you or helped in your faith journey, again let us know, and 3) Plan to be present on November 7 as we ring the bell remembering all who have lead us in our faith and inspire us for our future.

The names we have selected so far include:

Sue Amstutz, Jean Bricker, Millie Brinkerhoff, Chester Carr, Howard Cramer, Mary Cramer, Deb Dobson, Bud Fisher, Ruth Fisher, Evelyn Fry, Helen Hall, Harry Herman, Liz Herman, Shirley Ice, Jan James, Karen Lilley, George Mann, Ruth Mann, George Miley, Naomi Miley, Nevin Miller, Joann Plant, Henrietta Rice, Robert Rice, Roy Schlegel, Merrill (Smitty) Smith, Don Speelman, Pat Speelman, Bill Spencer, Ellen Spencer, Heber Spencer, Lavina Sterling, Lucinda Strine, Robert Strine, Donald (Doby) Uhl, Marilyn Walton, Winnie Weaver

COVID UPDATE

Pastor Jesse and the Session are asking you all for prayers and wise discernment for our entire church family They have been notified that 4 persons have tested positive for Covid this week. Some were in church on Sunday and others at our hayride. First and foremost pray for mild symptoms and rapid recovery for those involved. Secondly, we encourage you all to be self-aware.

Elder Angie Chapman, who is also a nurse, adds these cautions: People with Covid -19 have reported a wide range of symptoms, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms may include fever or chills; cough; shortness of breath; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea. Bottom line, is if you don't feel well, please err on the side of caution.

Welcome team will be suspending coffee service for the next few weeks as we hope to minimize contact points, but if you are a coffee lover, please bring your cup from home to sip on. We are not going to mask mandates at this time, but ask for wisdom and social distancing for all. Please walk with respect for those with fragile health, who are grateful to be back in public worship.

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

Note: The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list, gathered from the Sharing of Joys & Concerns from the previous Sunday.

Praises

Military Service:

- Phyllis Miller's grandson - Army
- Isaiah Styer - boot camp. Facing some training challenges
- Rusty King 1st Lieutenant Ohio National Guard
- Ryan Chabak
- Jeff & Veronica's nephew in National Guard

Prayer Needs

- Brian Yoder - in rehab,
- Covid, Delta Variant, masks & vaccinations
- Joanna - nurse seeing lots of children with Covid
- Unspoken

Health Concerns:

- **Mike Miller - neck surgery Oct 18**
- Gene King - recovering from accident
- Veronica's mother - cancer treatment, strength
- Joe & Tanya as they wait for Tanya's next surgery
- George & Jane Ann Heilman
- Continued prayers for Renee Schaaf's father
- Pastor Tim Hull - needs a liver transplant
- Matt & Tiana- baby due soon

Covid

- **Gerald Douglas**
- Tammy in Virginia
- Corky's son and daughter-in-law
- Eric Endsley
- Rod

Battling Cancer:

- Doyle - recovering from tongue cancer
- Teresa Albright
- Jim Shrader (Zach Stevenson's grandfather)
- Brian's co-worker
- June Yoder
- Edna Wade's sister
- Mark - Janet Albright's son
- Karen Silver's daughter's best friend battling cancer

Condolences:

- **The family of Shirley McKelvey**
- The families of David & Angela Plant
- The Jim Muncy family

COMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- Wednesday, October 6 @7:30 p.m.
Girls & guys HsM (High school Ministry)
- Thursday, October 7 @ 6:30 p.m.
Ladies First Friday (on a Thursday this time)
Gather at The Olde Jaol @ 6:30pm
for dinner and fellowship.
- Sunday, October 10 @ 6:30 p.m.
Saltshakers (youth)
- Monday, October 11 @ 6:30 p.m.
Deacons Meeting

Your financial gifts to the church are especially important in this time of transition. They help create stability which enables us to navigate uncertainty and plan for future ministry. To give your tithes and offerings, you may mail checks to: PO Box 259, Fredericksburg, 44627 or text fredericksburgpres to 77977.

You may also drop off contributions to the church during normal office hours. And, as always, you can drop your contribution off in the offering box on Sunday mornings. Thank you for your generosity.

To contact us:

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Follow us on Facebook too!

Rev. Jesse McDonald (828-319-0187)
Darcy Miller, Pastor of Congregational Care (330-440-4155)
Jon Hutchison, Pastor of Family Ministries (330-418-8969)

Church Office Hours
Monday thru Friday 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

