



October 4, 2021

## The Good News!

With Pastor Clark

This week I want us to focus on being free from sin. When I think of sin, I do so in terms of it being anything that separates us from the close communion with God. The two greatest commandments that Jesus gave to us are to love God and to love one another. When we don't follow these commandments, we are separating ourselves from God. The scripture that provides insight to the nature of sin is found in Mark 9:38-50. In this passage, Jesus tells us that whoever is not against us is for us! Jesus describes the nature of sin harshly indicating that if our hands, feet, or eyes caused us to stumble, then we should remove them. While Jesus doesn't mean for us to do this literally, he does want us to understand the harshness that will be used to judge our actions. This week, I challenge us to read the bible, pray, and lean into the power of the Holy Spirit to resist sinning!

Blessings, Pastor Clark ([ccundiff@baylakeumc.org](mailto:ccundiff@baylakeumc.org) or 757-615-0732)

### Spiritual Practices – Ministries

**Music Ministry: Chancel Choir** – Looking to praise God through song while sharing your musical talent? Join the Chancel Choir as they support the worship experience through vibrant and moving musical arrangements at the 11am worship service! Practice is on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8pm and Sunday mornings at 10:30am. We need voices, instrumentalists, and handbell ringers! Contact Corbin Pinto at [cpinto@baylakeumc.org](mailto:cpinto@baylakeumc.org) for more details

• **Community Engagement Team:** To better align with the church mission and vision cast by the Baylake UMC Leadership Council, the Reaching New People Team is changing to the Community Engagement Team. The focus will be to connect and engage with the various groups identified in our community including the military, families (Upward Soccer, Baylake Academy, Boy Scouts of America), Millennials, and Baby Boomers living in our community. We will engage with each group by praying, asking, worshipping, and serving. Contact Wendy Howard at [wendyraehoward@gmail.com](mailto:wendyraehoward@gmail.com) for more information.

**C.O.O.L. Capital Campaign** – Exciting improvements are taking place to our facility including the transformation of classrooms, bathrooms, cooling systems and an elevator! Our Treasurer, Gary St John, recently wrote a large check from our Endowment Funds to cover some of the expenses. Donations are still needed!



## A LIFE OF DISCIPLESHIP

### Worship

This week we will continue our journey to walk more closely with Jesus by loving generously. Join us on Sundays at 9 am on Facebook & YouTube and in person, and 11 am in-person, with masks and social distancing if not vaccinated.



### Scripture Matthew 22:8-10

<sup>8</sup> Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup> Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' <sup>10</sup> Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.



### Farewell to Liz Barnett & Family

Blessing to Miss Liz as she begins a new journey in ministry leading adults. We are grateful for the love that you showed to our children and for helping them to grow their faith! We will miss you and Andrew your sweet girls, Ainsley, Ellie and Lucy!

## Administrative Teams

So that we can continue our ministry to those in the Shore Drive area, all our committees and teams have continued to meet via Zoom Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am to 2 pm, Wednesday 12pm to 5pm and Friday 9am to 12pm.

**Church Council** – Our **MISSION** is to “Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”! We will do this by executing our **VISION** to connect with our community by praying, asking, worshipping, and serving others (PAWS).



## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL FORMATION

Beginning on September 1, 2021, a new Leadership Council was formed using a Simplified Accountable Structure approach. This 10-person team will guide the vision and strategy as well as, conduct the necessary administrative functions for the church. At their August retreat held in late August, the team affirmed the mission and vision as listed above and created guiding principles. Ministry groups will begin to align more specifically with the mission and vision. Other accomplishments included hiring of our new Pianist, Grace Holdren, and formulating strategies for Family Ministries. We will be launching our Stewardship Campaign in October.

**Shifts We Made in Response to the Pandemic**

- Worship**
  - Online - Streaming with New Format (New Equipment Purchased & Installed)
  - Launched YouTube Channel
  - In-Person - Modified Format
  - Video Music Ministry (Recorded for Worship & Special Music Events)
  - Worship Streamed at Westminster-Canterbury via YouTube
- Discipleship**
  - Video & Live Streaming Daily Devotionals
  - Weekly Video Sermon "The Message"
  - New Small Groups via Zoom - Lenten Studies, Dining Deeper, Youth
  - Small Groups Converted to Zoom - Bible Study, UMW, Parenting
  - Video Children's Ministry / Backyard Vacation Bible School
  - Prayer Calendar Delivered Electronically
- Administration**
  - Zoom Committee Meeting (Council, Trustees, Finance, SPR)
  - Weekly Newsletter
  - Baylake Academy
  - Healthy Church Team / Re-Entry Team
  - C.O.I. Capital Campaign
  - Payroll Protection Plan Funding
  - Simplified Accountable Structure
- Service**
  - Beach Bags Packing by the Congregation
  - Family Food Baskets to Bayside Elementary School
  - Online Seminars/Pastor - Operation Christmas Child
  - Food Ministry - JCOC / PRV Other
- Strategic Partnerships**
  - Baylake Academy - Weekly Children's Church with Pastor Clark
  - Scouts - Enabled Scouts to Meet at Church in a Safe Environment

## PRAY!

**Prayer:** Please keep in your prayers Esther Briner, Bob DeFord, Gean Longo, Bill Fowlkes, Martha Kornegay, Sherry Harrington, John Barnes, Sherry White's son Michael and his dad Bill, Sue Rieve's sister Caye, Ray and Sally Anderson, and Wendy Howard. If you or someone you love needs prayer, please send your prayer request to [prayerbumc@aol.com](mailto:prayerbumc@aol.com).

## Children & Youth Ministry

Join Miss Amy Townsend as she leads our children in Children's Church during the 11am worship service.



Congratulations to our rising 3<sup>rd</sup> grader, Aleah Gray! On Education Sunday, Aleah was presented with her own bible to study and help her to draw closer to God!

## Ministry Impact



## Community Outreach

Our Community Outreach and Missions Team invites everyone to join in our upcoming outreach and mission projects! On these dates, join us after the 11am worship service to pack Beach Bags and Family Food Bags for the children at Bayside Elementary School – October 24<sup>th</sup>, November 21<sup>st</sup>, December 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. Our Global Mission Project – Operation Christmas Child – also kicks off in October with boxes being packed both physically and digitally.



4300 Shore Dr  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455  
757-464-2423  
[www.baylakeumc.org](http://www.baylakeumc.org)