



From the Pastor

Do you remember the old saying, “Time is money?” Although I rarely hear that expression anymore, I believe it still rings quite true. At the same time, I also believe that time is also a gift. In fact, it’s the greatest resource that any of us will ever have. Our use of it will help determine our prospective earnings, how we spend our money, how healthy we are, what the value of our relationships will be, the quality of our overall well-being.



Time is also the ultimate counterbalance – no matter who you are or where you live, you have the exact same 24 hours each day and the freedom to decide how you’re going to use them. And yet, no matter how hard we try, time seems impossible to manage. All that you can manage is yourself. It’s inevitable: time keeps on ticking, whether you’re paying attention to it or not. So rather than making every attempt to

manage it, why not make it our aim to make the most of it?

What this does is takes our everyday schedule out of the hands of Father Time and places it squarely into our own. I can never fall prey to busyness or a crowded schedule because I have given permission to every last item on my calendar. Time didn't crowd my calendar, I did.

As believers in Christ, how well we use our time becomes even more important. As our most valuable resource, God gives us the freedom to use our time in whatever way we want. Our time should therefore, be subject above all else, to Christ.

For example, it would be most inconsistent for me to offer my financial treasures for the advancement of God's work, but not the way I offer my time. One could easily make the comparison to the Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25— two men wisely used the resources given to them and their money increased significantly. A third man was lazy with what he had been entrusted with and he was punished. The time we are given cannot be magically increased, but how we use the precious time we have been given can magnify the difference we make for others.

In our world today, our time is up for grabs. We face family, friends, employers and co-workers, advertisers, and marketers, competing for as much of it as they can get. And all of these constant demands on our time, leave us distracted, adding to the various "multi-tasking" that is already distorting our sanity.

An article written by James Hewitt in the World Economic Forum a few years ago, properly describes our constant distractions brought on by today's technology: "Our smartphones buzz with notifications throughout the day and night; we accept relentless distraction as the default option. Habitual checking on missed calls and messages can become an addictive pattern of behavior, increasing stress and disturbing sleep. More than 90% of people multi-task during meetings. 42% of us admit to reading and responding to e-mail in the bathroom. 70% of us check e-mail while watching TV. When we find the opportunity to rest, 34% of us admit to using social media as a form of mental break."

If the Parable of Talents had been written today, it would probably look significantly different. I'm guessing the "wicked and slothful" man who did nothing with the money would have been too distracted with his various social media profiles and overwhelming work schedule that he just didn't feel like he had time to invest. But what I feel is most important for us to realize is that, when the stewardship of our time and finances work in unison, our likely investment in the advancement of God's Kingdom grows dramatically.

Let's liken this to an employee who uses his time wisely and productively, he becomes a better employee and may receive a raise, promotion, or a new career opportunity. When an individual uses their time throughout the week wisely to plan,

budget, and organize, they save money at the grocery store, reduces their stress, and increases their resourcefulness.

But the opposite is also true – the more time you waste, the faster your earning potential decreases and the more money you waste. In fact, often, ill use of your time can cost you far more than overspending would.

There is much written in the Bible that deals with using our time well. The book of Proverbs reminds us to ask the Lord, “To teach us to number our days so that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” How we guard our hearts and minds can significantly influence how we spend our time and money.

But, more than anything else, being good stewards of our time is a perfect way to serve God. The problem is, many of us are too busy--too busy doing things for God that we neglect to do the things of God.

Why not decide to be the best user-of-time you can be, and pray for wisdom on how to increase your productivity as well. Honor God in the way you do your job, the amount of time you spend on social media, and how you personally interact with others. In the same manner that making a budget forces you to cut out the excess, organizing your time will force you to make hard sacrifices as well. It might mean waking up an extra 15 minutes early in the morning or deleting Facebook off your phone to meet with the Lord in prayer instead, or to bring a meal to a neighbor in need, or to serve in one of our church's many ministries. But, most importantly, it may be the key to hearing, “well done, good and faithful servant”. Make time. Choose wisely of your time--but choose.

Faithfully, your partner in Christ,
Pastor Tim



Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

All ages are welcome to join us for a box packing party after church on Sunday, November 6th. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP on the bulletin board outside the church office or call/email Stacey Newton (774-0044 or staceynewton622@gmail.com) by Thursday, November 3 so she can plan for the food.

There are optional coloring/information sheets to complete for inclusion in the shoeboxes. The sheets are located in the Fellowship Hall and in the foyer if families want to complete them at home in advance of the packing event.

If you have any more items to donate or wish to donate towards the postage for the Operation Christmas Child boxes, please do so by October 30 as all shoeboxes are

due by November 6th.



COMMUNITY CORNER

Daylight Savings Times Ends

Be sure to set your clocks back one hour on November 6 at 2:00 a.m.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

The FCA for Middle and High Schoolers will be meeting on November 6th at 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Good News Club

Good News Club is getting organized thanks to Barbara Wilson, director of training for CEF (Children's Evangelism Fellowship), and her team! Volunteers have been background checked and fingerprinted for safety, and training has been conducted for the material we will use to teach. We have a meeting with the school board in November for the final approval to start at Victoria Elementary School. If you would like to support this new ministry please contact Barbara, Pastor Tim or the church office for more details.

Collegiate Exam Care Packages

We are collecting items for the Baptist Collegiate Ministry to encourage our college students during exam week. They will be distributed to BCM students and others during their exam week. Flyers including items needed are on the table downstairs and on the bulletin board. Please help as you are able. Items are due by November 20th.



115th Anniversary was a huge success! With over 174 people present for the worship service and fellowship meal. Special thanks to everyone who made this celebration possible giving your time to help beautify the church. It truly was a wonderful day and all who attended received a blessing!



VBC Preschool

The Victoria Baptist Church Nursery School is in full swing! Each day, the students learn more about loving each other, themselves, and, most importantly, God through their daily Bible studies. The children have also enjoyed many hands-on activities such as nature walks and a field trip to the pumpkin patch as they've studied the multiple changes of the season. God is at work through the nursery school. Thank you for all of your support!



**Celebrating the
Season of Advent**

Worship schedule for Sundays November 27;
December 4, 11, 18, 25

11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

**Hanging of the Greens Worship Service,
Sunday, November 27**

11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

**Children's Christmas Program
Sunday, December 18**

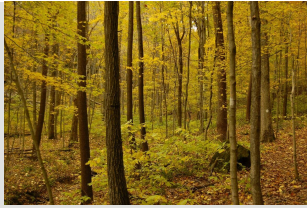
7:00 pm (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
Sunday, December 24**

5:00 pm Worship Service (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

**Christmas Day Worship Service
Sunday, December 25**

11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary & Facebook Live)
* No Sunday School this morning!



Tithes and Offerings

As we strive to maintain the ministry of our church, we hope and pray you will continue to tithe during this time.

For online bill pay or mail in offerings (please no cash), send to:

P.O. Box 911
Victoria, VA 23974

We have added online giving and text giving for your convenience. There is no charge to the church or you to use it through the rest of this calendar year. To give you have three options now:

1. Mail
in
Offering
2. [Click here to give](#)
3. Text
GiveVBC
to
73256

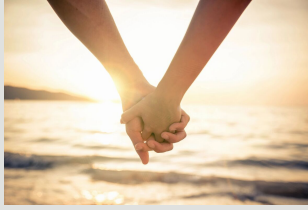
We appreciate your faithful support to Victoria Baptist Church as we weather these difficult days.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD FOR OCTOBER 23, 2022

REGULAR OFFERING (weekly goal \$3,520.19) \$2,404.00

HOMECOMING SPECIALS \$860.00

TOTAL \$3,264.00



Remember Those on our Prayer List and Our Shut-Ins:

PRAYER LIST UPDATES - Names in bold print are new this week to our prayer list or are experiencing new difficulties. If you have a family member or loved one on our prayer list, please contact the Church Office with an update. If the Lord has answered prayers and all is well, please ask us to remove their name from our list.

You can help our shut-ins by writing a letter, sending a card or giving a call! Phone calls are an especially good way for them to hear your voice and be comforted. Please respect the rules of the nursing home and care facilities when planning visits.

PRAYER CONCERNS October 30, 2022

Members Who Need Prayer

Bay Tomlinson
Susan Hawks
Jon Coffman
Dianne Griffin
Stephanie Millican Powell
Peppi and Gary Dayton
Roger Pennell
Peggy Green
Vernon and Jean Harding

Margie Paynter
Ronnie Bishop
Grant Foley
Sandra Tomlinson
Linda Clark

In Our Community - Keep In Your Prayers

Martha Clark
Helen Fitzgerald
Dr. Andrew Apostle
Rev. Mike Day
Amanda Garrison
Jonathan Stroup
Ray Martin
Peggy Townsend
Carol Driver
Kevin Ashworth
Mark Corning

Bill Finch
Thomas Thompson
Wade Harding
Leann Driggers
T.J. Smith
Thomas Chumney
Margaret White
Anna Jones
Mary Jordan
Paige Berkley
Nena Dunavant

Bledsoe
Scott Crawford and family
Alan White
Mike Armstrong
Kris Earwood (Linda and Mike Walker's niece)
Carolyn Hitt
Elizabeth Perez

SYMPATHY to the family and friends of Mrs. Ruth Rowles (former interim pastor's wife.)

PRAYER LIST UPDATES - Names in bold print are new this week to our prayer list or are experiencing new difficulties. If you have a family member or loved one on our prayer list, please contact the Church Office with an update. *If the Lord has answered prayers and all is well, please ask us to remove their name from our list. We want to include everyone who needs our prayers, so please keep us informed. Thank you.*

AWAY FROM HOME PRAYER CONCERNS

Phyllis Hood (Room 118) Jackie Clement (Room 126) Anne Hudson (Room 203) Heritage Hall, Room 118 900 S. Main Street Blackstone, VA 23824	Curtis Jones Waynie Pennell Chase City Nursing and Rehab 5539 Highway 49 Chase City, VA 23924
Betty Schumaker (birthday November 20) Amelia Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 8830 Virginia Street Amelia, VA 23002	Shirley Garrett Manor House 13500 N. Gayton Road Henrico, VA 23233

SHUT-INS

Jean Overton, 2003 6th Street, Victoria, VA 23974
Betty Lindsey, 1505 Tidewater Avenue, Victoria, VA 23974
Holly Crenshaw, 1521 12th Street, P.O. Box 83, Victoria, VA 23974
Ella Harell, 1615 10th Street, P.O. Box 644, Victoria, VA 23974



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