Dear Cobham Park Church Family,

The church bulletin board caught my eye as I walked down the hall. There it was—as if time stood still four months ago. The posted events were all cancelled: Advent services, a luncheon, Ladies’ Bible Studies, Sunday School classes, and a special sanctuary song service. But as we know, neither God nor His church were cancelled. We were merely forced to step beyond what was familiar to us. For a while, it felt like we’d lost our religion. But as the weeks marched on, we realized that our faith in Christ is deeper and stronger than anything in the world: “...for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world (1 John 4:4, ESV).” When this pandemic eventually passes and church life settles back into a new “normal,” I don’t want to forget these lessons.

When our comfortable routines were disturbed by the Coronavirus, we had to think outside of the box and look to God for new direction. This has been a painful but much-needed revival in that regard. I yearn for a return to normal as much as anyone else—as long as we don’t ditch the Holy Spirit’s direction for the sake of being comfortable. One of the scariest statements in the Bible is found at the end of Judges 16:20. There, Samson has been taking God for granted and demanding his own way for years. Finally (with a little help from his girlfriend Delilah), Samson reaches a terrible tipping point: “And she said, ‘The Philistines are upon you, Samson!’ And he awoke from his sleep and said, ‘I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.’ But he did not know that the LORD had left him.” It is possible for a church to become so comfortable in rutted routines and preoccupations that nobody would notice if the Lord left! I am confident of better things for you. So, let’s keep our eyes on Jesus no matter what craziness July may bring. I want to keep looking to Him until we cross the finish line together (Hebrews 12:1-2).

In Christ’s Love,

Pastor Keith

“Proverb-Picking Challenge”

Over the next two months, we’ll be trying a different format for our Bible challenge. This time, you’ll have a chance to actively guide the discussion! July and August each have thirty-one days, and Proverbs has thirty-one chapters. So whatever date it is, read the chapter in Proverbs with that number. For instance, on July 1st you’d read Proverbs 1, and on July 2nd read Proverbs 2, and so on until the 31st. Here’s the catch: each day, pick one of the Proverbs in that particular chapter that you want to dig deeper into. For example, when you read chapter 18 on July 18th, you might have questions about verse 16: “A man’s gift makes room for him and brings him before the great.” Is this promoting bribery, or what? So you’d send that verse-pick to me by email (mark12v30@yahoo.com), Facebook message, text, or phone. Each member of a family can make his or her own choice. Every day, I’ll keep count of which verses people picked from that chapter. Then in August, we’ll read through Proverbs again exactly the same way (chapter one on August 1st, etc.), and I’ll write a devotion each day on the verse in that chapter which was picked the most (if there’s a tie, then I get to pick!). So I’ll be emailing and posting a devotion every day in August on the verses you chose. It’s all clear as mud, right? I look forward to hearing from you!
Cara Michelle Bryant

Cara will be attending Longwood University in the fall to pursue her master’s degree in business with a concentration in accounting. She also plans on being on the cheer team while there.

Joshua Chase McAllister

Joshua plans to begin his full time career as a commercial waterman working on his dad’s boat, the Madison Danielle.

Joshua Tyler White

Josh is planning on taking a gap year. He is looking forward to attending a University next year but hasn’t decided where or what to study. Josh lives to play golf, hang with his friends, and of course play video games!
Warner Remington Pierson

Warner loves the outdoors, hunting, boating and spending time with friends. While attending RHS, Warner completed two years under the electrical program at NNTC. He wants to continue trade school through the workforce program at RCC in the fall.

Chandler Harrison Jett

Chandler graduated with honors. This fall he will attend RCC with plans to attend Virginia Tech after. His enjoys hunting, fishing, and outdoor activities. He’s working at Sion

A Prayer for our Graduates

We pray for our graduates, Lord, and lift them before you. We thank you so much for these we love and for the work you are continuing to do in their lives. They are a gift to us and to many others. And during this season of new beginnings, we ask that you would make their way clear. We ask that you would keep their footsteps firm and remind them that you are with them, always. May they sense the freshness of your Spirit over their lives in amazing ways, may they be strengthened, instilled with hope, for the new roads you have in store. We ask for your wisdom and clear direction over their lives, that you would give them understanding beyond their years. Thank you that your timing is perfect. We pray that you would direct their steps, that your plans for them would prosper; that every place you have determined for them to walk would be paved clear. Allow every gift and treasure you have placed inside their lives to grow, develop, & flourish. May they feel your peace and security.

In Jesus’ Name, Amen.
LAWN CHAIR WORSHIP SERVICES
We know you’ve missed singing during our worship services. Test your memory to see how many of these hymn titles you can identify. The missing word begins with the corresponding letter of the alphabet. Have fun!

A  Rock of ______________________
B  Come Thou Fount of Every ________________
C  All ________________ of Our God and King
D  Holy Bible, Book ______________________
E  Leaning on the ________________________ Arms
F  Great is Thy __________________________
G  How ______________ Thou Art
H  All ______________ the Power of Jesus’ Name
I  Immortal, ____________________________, God Only Wise
J  Tell Me the Story of ____________________
K  Rejoice, the Lord Is ________________
L  How Great the Father’s ________________ for Us
M  Crown Him with _________________ Crowns
N  ________________ but the Blood
O  Have Thine __________ Way, Lord
P  There is ________________ in the Blood
Q  There is a ________________ Place
R  The Old, ___________________________ Cross
S  Savior, Like a ________________ Lead Us
T  O For a ________________ Tongues to Sing
U  Stand ______, Stand _____ for Jesus
V  ________________ in Jesus
W  It Is ________________ with My Soul
X  [Give yourself bonus points if you can think of one!]
Y  When the Roll Is Called Up ________________
Z  We’re Marching to ________________

June’s Trivia Answer Key:
1. 66
2. David
3. 11 brothers, 1 sister
4. Adam and Eve
5. Raven and Dove
6. Rainbow; He would never destroy the earth by flood
7. Ruth
8. Lot
9. Benjamin
10. In the bulrushes by Pharaoh’s daughter
11. Mt. Sinai
12. Turned to a pillar of salt; Sodom
13. Trumpets and torches
14. Jordan River
15. Tax Collector
16. Moses and Elijah; Peter, James and John
17. Moses wasn’t on the ark, it was Noah
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD your God (Isaiah 43:2-3a NIV).

The warmer temperatures of summer often bring with them the cycle of strong thunderstorms. Although the storms are sometimes short-lived, they can be frightening. Some folks hurry inside to a place of safety to avoid the effects. Others enjoy lingering on the porch as long as possible to watch the show as the storm approaches. Lightning brightens the sky, and thunder rumbles and cracks as the storm moves closer and closer. Drenching rain pounds on the roof, and when it finally passes, all seems quiet. If the storm comes during daylight hours, a brilliant rainbow may arc its way across the horizon. When the storms of life come our way, we can run to hide and seek shelter. Sometimes that may be an appropriate response. Then there are times when we stand on the porch of life and watch the gusty winds and damaging hail bring destruction and pain. Whatever our response, we can be assured that we are not alone.

The hymn “Till the Storm Passes By” was written by singer/songwriter Mosie Lister in 1958 and was originally intended for American gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson. Though she never recorded it, God has used the song by many to help those who struggle when the raindrops start falling and darkness rolls in.

In the dark of the midnight,
Have I oft hid my face;
While the storm howls above me,
And there’s no hiding place;
‘Mid the crash of the thunder,
Precious Lord, hear my cry;
“Keep me safe ’til the storm passes by.”
‘Til the storm passes over,
‘Til the thunder sounds no more;
‘Til the clouds roll forever from the sky,
Hold me fast, let me stand,
In the hollow of Thy hand;
Keep me safe ’til the storm passes by.

In faith, we can face the storms of life with confidence knowing that God is walking with us, providing protection and leading the way through the darkness. How blessed we are to know that He holds us in the hollow of His hand in the midst of the most dangerous storms. We can weather storms with the assurance that just as He promised, we won’t face them alone. During these stormy days, look to the One who walks with you through the waters and the flames.

In Christ,
Cindy
Our Deacon Ministry

Mike Slaw  
(Chairman)  
(804)333-1400  
Andrew Packett  
(804)761-6695  
Gary Sanders  
(804)761-5267  
Bo King  
(804)761-1058  
Wayne Carter  
(804)314-2611  
Craig Brann  
(804)445-6699  
Ronnie Hall  
(804)337-3636  
Tracy Douglas  
(804)761-1629  
Kent Sanders  
(804)380-2950  
Bruce Pflugradt  
(804)462-5531  
Mitch Withers  
(804)366-9703

TENT REVIVAL  
at Cobham Park  
7pm Sun-Wed nights,  
July 26th-29th

Continue to bring a lawn chair for 10am Sunday morning worship services through July leading up to this year’s special evening revival services. The Taylors will be leading in the music and preaching, giving a concert the final night. We plan to set up a big tent by the pavilion so that everyone will have room for social distancing. Services will continue to be online as well. There will be no Homecoming meal this year due to health concerns, but that won’t stop us from praising the Lord! Please help get the word out!