



The Covenanter

JUNE 2021



Winter Park
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Jesus said, "Come to Me, all of you who are weary and heavy burden and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11:28

Over the years, I have on numerous occasions participated in a "stump the pastor." By the way, not a difficult challenge, but an often-fruitful endeavor affording one the opportunity to address many of the questions we all have in common. I usually begin by passing out scrap paper and pens. Anonymously, participants then record their questions and I ask a volunteer to bring them forward. After doing my best to address these questions, I usually get - well more questions.

However, I have saved these pieces of paper, and they sit in a neat stack near my desk as a reminder of the queries and concerns we all have. I also kept them, hoping to one day write a series of articles based on their content that may not offer a final answer, but perhaps might encourage us as we navigate the increasing, perplexities of life.

I don't think these articles will be consecutive, but I hope to address a few of them each year. Of course, my efforts to address the issues at hand are limited at best. I only have one page, (after an intro to series, only half a page for this question) and on many of these topics' entire books - volumes of entire books - have been written. To be sure, the whole of the Bible endeavors to address many of these concerns, but amid our limitations, bias and hubris, we are often unwilling to accept this Collective Witness as authoritative in regards to such matters. Therefore, as I attempt to address the Difficult Question Series, I begin with a disclaimer: The articles will not be exhaustive, but prayerfully encouraging.

The first question is: Why does God sometimes make us wait for things? If we apply the above text and bring the burden of this question to Jesus, what does He say about such things? Does He even address such concerns?

Waiting can be hard. Noah had to wait on God. While doing so, people laughed at him. People ridiculed him, because he was doing something no one else was doing - namely trusting in God. Still, Noah, was human and being human hurts, when others judge you no matter the reason.

Moses waited. Forty years, Moses waited - mostly tending sheep. Sheep are stubborn, easily frightened, tend to follow other sheep and smell bad. I'm sure it wasn't pleasant. The psalmist cries out, "How long must I wait?" Sarah waited for her promised child Isaac. Rahab waited on the spies to arrive. After the death of Lazarus, Jesus waited four days, before visiting people He truly loved.

Waiting requires patience. We discover from one who followed Jesus that in his estimation, patience produces character. In fact, looking around our instant oatmeal, drive through culture where patience is a four-letter word, one can perhaps link the demise of persons of character with the evolution of persons of influence, to this inability, perhaps even unwillingness to wait.

Waiting makes me frustrated. However, in retrospect, in most cases, I'm not waiting on God, but more like catching up to Him and the good things He has for me today. For many of things I wait for, tomorrow may never come. The burden of the question is not, "Why does God make us wait?" But, how should I wait? Instead of wondering, maybe waiting can be resting - faithfully trusting, crying out, even enduring, amid a difficult season, a challenging time or an interval of suffering.

Waiting in Grace, Pastor Darren

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Sunday, June 13

Our high school graduates will be honored during the worship service and they will have their trifold displays outside the Narthex with a place for parishioners to congratulate them in person. If you would like to give them a card, please leave it on their table in Fellowship Hall.

Our 2021 graduates are Camden Dreasher, Catherine Fields, Jennifer Fields, Emily Kent, and Abby Lee. We will also recognize Robbie Dreasher who graduated in 2020 and is now a student at UF.

A special treat will be available for all in church on Graduation Sunday.

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and your plans will succeed.*

Proverbs 16:3



Paul recommended constant prayer (1Thessalonians 5:17). Maintaining vigilant awareness of God gives a devotee peace of mind and enduring faith. But whenever I've tried to put that advice into practice, I get confused about balancing work with prayer. How am I supposed to do a good job while my mind is focused on God? Is it a good idea to direct focus on the eternal while using a table saw? Frustration takes over when the mental juggling act produces scattered results. I begin to wonder whether the teaching is impractical or whether I'm just too flawed to follow it.

I came across a video today that gave practical advice about maintaining God-awareness while going about daily duties. A monk suggested that prayer and God-directed attention be attempted during gaps. If I have a few minutes in between jobs, then I can close my eyes and pray. And if I spend my free time in meditation and prayer instead of wasting it on computer distractions and pointless TV shows, then I can make more progress.

The lecturer said that after a devotee maintains this practice for a while, God-awareness naturally begins to enter work time. An adept can go about his or her work, can effectively attend to all necessary activities, while also keeping God in mind. The monk stated that God is the source of all our energy and activity. Attunement with the divine aids our ability to act purposefully, to be useful.

He closed his talk with an anecdote. He said that a Catholic order advised its monks to practice God-awareness as best they could. If, for example, a monk worked in the kitchen cooking soup, he could pay attention to God so long as he didn't burn the dish. If he burned the dish, then it would be better for him to practice soup-awareness first.



*Christian Sympathy is extended
to the family and friends of those
who have recently passed.*

Dave Jeffries 5/1/21

Bill Brown 5/6/21

WELCOME

New Members

Myrna Ham

Norlin Ham

We're glad you're here!



GOOD NEWS FROM WPPC'S MISSION TO FEED THE HOMELESS!

Steve House and Ron Ellman have agreed to join Will McCurdy on our "Bus Driving Team." Each will transport supplies and volunteers to the Coalition 4 times during the year. If we can find one more driver, each will drive only 3 times per year. Are you interested?

Calvin, the Kitchen Manager at the Coalition, tells us the Residents (living at the Coalition) and the Community (living outside) watch for the WPPC bus and know when they see it coming that they are in for special treats. The entrée is full of ground beef, fresh vegetables and cheese and is so tasty, we've been told "it tastes just like my grandmother's casserole"; while the 7-layer salad is such a favorite we often have guests request "just give me a plate full of salad." Of course, to top these 2 off with a wonderful homemade Ghirardelli Triple Chocolate brownie and a glass of milk brings smiles to the faces of our less fortunate neighbors that are making an effort to better their lives.



Now we need volunteers to assist our teams that prepare the food to be served on the 2nd Friday of each month. You do not need to be a famous chef or even a cook to help out. Mary Van Hook leads the "Meal Preparation Team" that faithfully creates 6 huge pans of either the pasta/meat entre or the 7-layer salad to be delivered to the Coalition and served each month; they meet at 9:30-11:30 a.m. on the Thursday before the 2nd Friday of each month. Joann Robertson is in charge of the "Brownie Cutting and Bagging Team" that meets from 9-10:30 a.m. on Friday morning before we serve that evening. These volunteers cut 70 brownies from each of the 4 huge trays that were cooked on Wednesday, then carefully insert the cookie and fold the baggies so they will be ready for our Coalition guests.

During the Pandemic, we couldn't serve at the Coalition for 13 months but donated the cost of supplies to cook the meal. Now, as we restart this mission in person, we find that many of our volunteers are unable to return.

We need your help.

If you are interested in driving the bus, cooking in the kitchen,
or preparing the brownies, please contact:

Nancy Galyean nangalyean@gmail.com or 407-929-0903



LIBRARY NEWS
DORIS ANGUISH, LIBRARIAN

Your attention is called to the stained glass windows in our church sanctuary. Last month was about the first stained glass transom window showing the story of Abraham and his son, Isaac. Here in the thicket is a substitute for Isaac bringing to mind the thorn-crowned Christ, the son Whom God gave for the world as His sacrifice.

The second window shows Moses giving the Commandments to the children of Israel as told in Exodus. The promise to Abraham has been fulfilled; his "seed" has multiplied and generations of his children are settled in Egypt for some 400 years and are now in slavery. Moses is sent to free them. They arrive at Sinai where he gives them the Law and the Commandments. See how Moses towers above the people with a firm face and firm hands holding the tablets. The people surround him in postures of awe and reverence.



The Commandments are a concise summary of the fundamental duties of the Israelites to God and their neighbors: in honor of God the Sabbath is to be kept holy; parents are to be respected; and murder, adultery, theft, false witness are prohibited. The "Decalogue" proclaims the sovereignty of God in clear, simple, strong words easily remembered. In this window Moses the giver of the Law comes down to us.



Steve and Sonia Detweiler hope to return to Nigeria as soon as they can obtain their revised visas. Sonia has successfully completed her cancer treatment. Steve will be happy to replace teaching his linguistics courses at the university by zoom with meeting his students in person. The Detweillers have spent most of the past 30 year working in the area of translation in Nigeria. They thank WPPC for the support they have received from our members.

Dennis and Susan Walters also send their thanks for the support WPPC has given them in their work with Zee people in China. Currently living in the US they are continuing their work of helping the Zee people to read and be able to translate materials. They also plan to develop several smartphone appts for the Zee people, including worship songs in Zee. Despite challenges facing people, some of the people in the Zee community have been turning to the Christian faith.

Barbara Sayles, Director of Society of Saint Andrews, thanks WPPC for its support through the 5 cents a meal and other donations. These funds make it possible to provide thousands of serving of nutritious food for people in need.



Anne Hallum, the President of AIR (Alliance for Reforestation) thanks WPPC for its support of \$1400 this year to help make it possible to continue to make a difference for people in Guatemala this year despite the challenges they faced of two hurricanes, the pandemic, and crushing poverty. WPPC is a founding church- supporting since 1995. This year AIR delivered food

to 180 families until their vegetables could be harvested. AIR tech staff members conducted weekly farmer training (with mask) in 50 rural town. In these communities they have produced an incredible 728,142 tree seedlings (a record year). AIR has now begun a project in Nicaragua. AIR has a waiting list of communities and hopes to expand with an additional TECH staff person . AIR hopes to have volunteer trips in 2022. AIR also receives support through 5 cents a meal.

CUBA Partners: Santa Clara Presbyterian Church has been fortunate not to have members ill with COVID, however, Havana and Matanzas still contend with the virus. Jorge, an elder, just had his first of the three shots for his vaccine, Despite the financial difficulties facing the communities, Santa Clara has continued its ministry to older adults. Churches seek ways to worship even though they cannot have services in person in the church. The Cuban Partnership and the Cuban Presbyterian Churches thank WPPC and its members who helped reach the goal in the recent fund raising effort to address problems related to the pandemic generally and related financial difficulties.

- CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE -



OUR PARTNER NEWS & THANKS

Heifer International thanks WPPC for its ongoing support to enable it to provide animals that can make a profound difference in the lives of families. During the years WPPC has consistently supported Heifer.

Medical Benevolence Foundation thanks WPPC for its ongoing faithfulness to provide health care for individuals in countries with great need. This gift was especially critical with the impact of COVID 19. MBF sent out vital supplies to health care program to prepare for its arrival.

Coalition for the Homeless thanks WPPC for continuing to fund meals for their residents during the pandemic when we were not able to prepare and serve in person. They welcome our return in April to carryout this ministry in person.

Compassion Committee thanks members of WPPC who have helped make it possible to extend God's care to people throughout the world.



SPECIAL OFFERING UPDATES

5 Cents A Meal

Our second quarterly offering was taken on April 25, 2021 and we received \$794.67. These monies have been sent to Central Florida Presbytery to be distributed to Second Harvest Food Bank (25%), Society of St. Andrew/SOSA (21%), Alliance for International Reforestation/AIR - 21%, and Dan and Elizabeth Turk, PC (USA) mission workers in Madagascar - 21%. The remaining 12% covers administrative costs. On behalf of the above recipients, we thank you for your generous support of these projects. The beneficiaries of these gifts will learn that through Christ's love all things are possible.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Our congregation donated \$1,055.00 to this very special offering held on Easter Sunday. These donations will help support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self Development of People. We share God's love with our neighbors in-need around the world by providing relief from natural and human-made disasters, support for refugees, food for the hungry and help for the poor and oppressed. Thank you for your love and sharing

The Compassion Committee thanks you for your continued support.



THIS CHILD HERE AT WORK IN UKRAINE

Below is an update from Robert Gamble, Executive Director of *This Child Here*. More information can be found on their website at www.thischildhere.org.



Like many places in America, rural Ukraine is a different world. There is no city water. If you don't have a well, you get your water, by car, motor scooter, or on foot. For single parent families, it's tough. We work with Christian aid



agencies that bring food, medicine, and new clothes, but life is difficult. So we have expanded our program to help the families you see, above and below, those most at risk of losing kids to an orphanage, the poor living in rural areas. I use the phrase "at risk," because the temptation is always there for a single parent to go to the orphanage and say, "Will you take my children?" Sometimes we help with basic needs. We've dug a few wells. At the same time we help with creative parenting. Simple ideas, techniques, new ways of looking at how to relate to your children, can make an enormous difference in the emotional health of a child, the energy level of a parent and the dynamics of family life.



Most of you know that approximately 120,000 Russian soldiers with equipment gathered in the past month at the Ukrainian border. Some units have pulled back, but estimates are that 80,000 remain. I have plans to travel to the region in July. I'll be flying to Ukraine June 20th.

Ukraine is decentralizing. This means responsibility for the care of children in orphanages and placement of children in foster families has been passed

to local authorities. Money hasn't always followed. And local leadership has changed. We are trying to establish relationships now with new directors of social service agencies. We still provide the training, but without government funds to pay to foster families, trainings are not being scheduled. In the middle of this chaos, our decision to work with marginalized families has come at the right time.



I'll have more to say about life at the border with Russia and life in rural Ukraine in my next newsletter in early July.

Grace and Peace, Robert Gamble



COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS - Here's How to Help

We are delighted to again be serving in the Men's Service Center at the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida. If you would like to serve, please sign up on the Coalition serving list posted in the hallway near the office, or contact Nancy Galyean at 407-929-0903 or nangalyean@gmail.com.

What	When
Bake brownies (Bonnie Gaughan 407-804-2565)	Wed 6/9 9:00-11:00 AM
Prepare meal (Mary Van Hook 407-359-2388)	Thurs 6/10 9:00-11:00 AM
Bag brownies (Joanne Robertson 407-678-8254)	Fri 6/11 9:00-10:00 AM
Donate reading materials: Magazines (news, sports, cars, National Geographic, religious magazines/booklets, paperback books)	All month: Place in COALITION giant storage box located in Fellowship Hall
Prepare to transport: Gather supplies, load food & supplies into bus (Nancy Galyean 407-929-0903)	Fri 6/11 3:30-4:00 PM
Serve the Meal. Join us in the WPPC kitchen for departure to Coalition at 4:00 PM and return by 7:30 PM. Volunteers please wear closed-toed shoes; it is a violation of health code to wear flip-flops. Please call Nancy Galyean (407-929-0903) by the Wednesday before if you would like to serve.	Fri 6/11 4:00-7:30 PM NOTE: The church bus is reserved for this function.
Cleanup kitchen: Wash, sanitize items used; store supplies	Fri 6/11 7:30-8:00 PM
Financial Donation: Make check out to WPPC; note on the memo line "Coalition for the Homeless" - mail to WPPC or bring to the church office.	Anytime

HOMELESS COALITION TEAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS


Each month about 50 devoted WPPC volunteers handle the many tasks to provide and serve a wonderful meal to our guests at the Coalition. We are in need of additional volunteers for various projects, and backup volunteers when regulars must be absent.

Any of the above gifts, or your time, are so appreciated!
To help in any way, please contact: Nancy Galyean
407-929-0903 or nangalyean@gmail.com.

Bible Quiz

Complete this proverb: "Like snow in _____ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

A. springtime
B. summer
C. seedtime
D. autumn



Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV.)

Puzzle!

For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode Proverbs 3:5, NRSV.

CLUES:
Y = T, D = I

Y K T P Y D X Y J Z

V Q K R F D Y J O V V

C Q T K J Z O K Y, O X R

R Q X Q Y K Z V C Q X

C Q T K Q F X D X P D L J Y.


Answer: Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5, NRSV

PUZZLE

Conundrums of creation

God's creation is filled with amazing and sometimes puzzling works.

Directions: Use the bank of picture clues to answer the riddles.

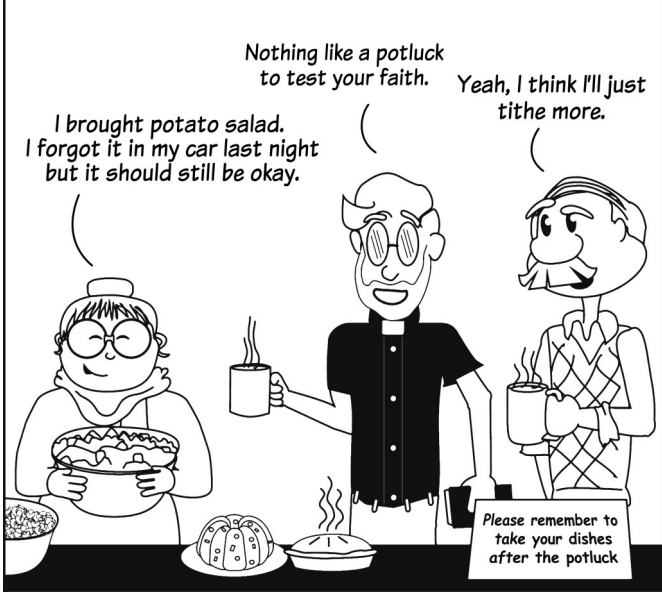


You can hold but not touch this. -----
Before using this, you must break it. ----
This falls without getting hurt. -----
This gets bigger the more you take away. ----
This has an eye but cannot see. -----

"In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the ____.
It is like ... a champion rejoicing to run his course.
It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit
to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth."

PSALM 19:4-6, NIV

Answer: breath, egg, rain, hole, hurricane, sun



Nothing like a potluck to test your faith. Yeah, I think I'll just tithe more.

I brought potato salad. I forgot it in my car last night but it should still be okay.

Please remember to take your dishes after the potluck

Crio

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> Matt Straub	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> Barbara dePaula	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> Steve House Carolyn Wolf	<u>10</u> Theresa Coker Ron Ellman Kayleigh Merae Craig Osterhaus	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> Mariya Lampe Alexander Reece	<u>15</u> Abbie Lampe Winnifred Riccio	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Nancy Glancy Eric Schieber Donna Thompson	<u>18</u> Esther Grace Tallungan	<u>19</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>21</u> Fern Barnard	<u>22</u> Enid Marr	<u>23</u> Jo Russell	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u> Patrick Boyle	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u> Dan Meadors Sue Rudolph	<u>28</u> Gary Wolf Tom Woodward	<u>29</u> Denise Ferguson	<u>30</u> Mitch Bargar Don Paulsen			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<u>1</u> Paul Danley	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u> Peggy Bargar Carolyn Deatrick Alison Frazier	<u>5</u> Katharine Antommara	<u>6</u> Michelle Trahan	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> Jeremiah Boyle Wade Edwards Dee Herschel	<u>9</u> Catherine Fields Jennifer Fields	<u>10</u> Shanda Needham
<u>11</u> Anne Bensinger Jayne Leach	<u>12</u> Ann Paulsen Deanna Spangler Tricia Wilson	<u>13</u> Yvonne Manking	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> Jean Cumming	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>18</u> Melissa Storey Mark Wilson	<u>19</u> Lynne McKnight	<u>20</u> Nancy Miller	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u> Donna Brokop	<u>23</u> Christina Trexler	<u>24</u>
<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> Charles Wagenhauser	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> Jennifer Roe	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u> Sue Erdmann	<u>31</u> Leeann Lee Gene Pickler



Our campus has been bustling with special activities as the school year comes to an end on June 4. The children in all age groups enjoyed splash parties with a sprinkler tunnel plasma car wash (some call it a kid wash!), water games and experiments, shaving cream painting, obstacle courses, refreshments and other celebratory activities.

The four VPK classes held separate graduation ceremonies in the church sanctuary for our 51 VPK graduates. During each of these events the children sang favorite songs, then walked across the altar to receive a few loving words and beautiful children's Bibles from our director, Mrs. Tricia Wilson.

On the last day of school the children were surprised at car circle by a giant CONGRATS WPPP CLASS OF 2021 sign with bubble machines blowing from all directions. Parents took photos by the sign of their children holding bubble tubes with tags that read "You've blown us away in VPK 2021!"



The Koalas VPK class performed the songs *If I Were a Butterfly* and *This Little Light of Mine* during their chapel celebration.



The Alligators VPK class performed a medley of songs including *What a Mighty God We Serve* at their end of the year celebration.



Each of the 51 VPK students at Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool received cross necklaces and beautifully illustrated children's Bibles at their end of the year celebration.



The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor
 The Rev. Emily Wasser, Associate Pastor
 Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant
 Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant
 Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant
 Justin Chase, Director of Music
 Penny Walsh, Organist
 Susan Davis, Director of Handbells & Children's Music
 Tricia Wilson, Director of Preschool Programs
 Kenny Lovelace, Sexton

SESSION

2021

Phillip Anderson
 Lisa Dreasher
 Jayne Leach
 Shaheed Mohammed
 Nelson Roe

2022

Theresa Coker
 Bonnie Gaughan
 Fran Morrissey
 Michelle Trahan
 Jay Van Hook

2023

Syd Davis
 Fred Kittinger
 Malcolm MacDiarmid
 Jim McKinney
 Dawn Sumrall

DIACONATE

2021

Mike Galyean
 Reta Jackson
 Julie Kent
 Curtis Koon
 Sara Van Arsdel
 Jeanne Vinci

2022

Susan Davis
 Jane Munns
 Rachel Myers
 Christine Rich
 Dennis Schmalstig
 Meg Ball Thomas

2023

Ron Ellman
 Betty Johnston
 Sevilla Morse
 Cynthia Nants
 Jyme Smith

MISSIONARIES

Rev. Gordon and Dorothy Gartrell - Brazil
 Mark Hare & Jenny Bent - Costa Rica
 Dr. Dan & Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar

For Covenanter or Sunday bulletin submissions, please fill out a publicity request online at <http://winppc.org/publicity-request/>, or contact Cindy Mitchum at cindym@winppc.org or 407-647-1467.