



Snow Creek Christian Church

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July 2021

Reflections

I am happy to say that we are now a month in to resuming indoor services. It has been fantastic to get to see everyone come together under one roof again. It is wild for me to think that at this time last year we were just beginning to meet together at all. It was in June of last year that we began hosting services in the parking lot. We still have a few kinks to work out in resuming the regular worship service, but for the most part June of 2021 felt much more ordinary than June of 2020.

With that said, things are not back to normal just yet. Due to the uncertainty of planning anything this spring two traditional July events have had to be significantly altered. First, our annual homecoming service has been moved back to the fall. As of this writing, the church is still working on coordinating an exact date, but that should all be finalized by the next newsletter. Also, the Vacation Bible School program that is put on between Jones Chapel Church of the Brethren, Pleasant Grove United Methodist, Trinity Baptist, and Snow Creek each year has had to be scaled back. It will now be a one-day event on Saturday, July 10. Given all that happened last year though, I am really excited to be able to participate in

either of those events at all. Slowly things are starting to get back to normal.

But is that totally a good thing? We have all had to undergo some pretty drastic and unwanted changes in the past 15 months. But change in itself is neither good nor bad, though it is often much more palatable if it can be anticipated. When we cancelled in-person services, we were just two months into a new decade. At the end of this year, we will already be two years in. Instead of looking back on that time as simply a lost year, I think it can instead help us find some new motivation and begin to anticipate the changes that will come. In terms of actual public worship, Covid-19 might have been the most disruptive event in Snow Creek's very long history. However, that disruption can serve to give some insight into what is important and what is not.

Before we just go back to business as usual, I think it would be good to take a minute and consider what that business should be. What is it about worship that brought people to sit in their cars in the 90+ degree heat this time last year? How can the church help continue to develop that faith that keeps bringing us back?

How can we continue to best care for those within that church and serve those without? As we spend the last half of this year getting back to normal, I think it would be good to think and talk about what that new normal should look like. As we look to recover from 2020, it is as good a time as any to start talking about where we want to be in 2030. The business of serving

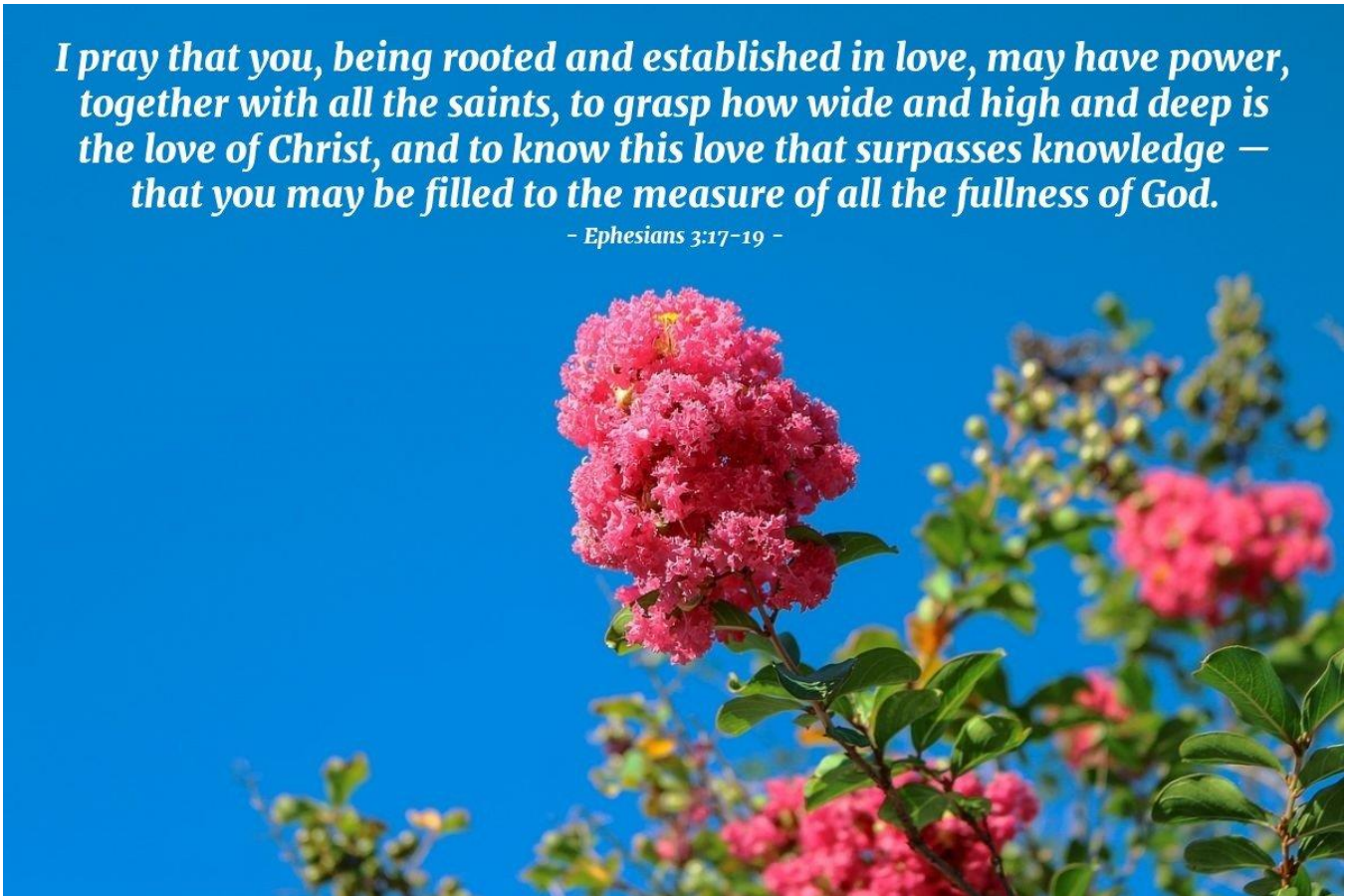
God will always bring new changes and challenges and the church should always be searching for new ways to inspire and instruct and involve people in its endeavors. As we finally begin to look ahead with a bit more certainty, it would be good to keep in mind that the business of serving God should never be just business as usual.

God be with you.

Scott.

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

– Ephesians 3:17-19 –



July Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

July 4 (6th Sunday after Pentecost)

- 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
- Psalm 48
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
- *Mark 6:1-13*

July 18 (8th Sunday after Pentecost)

- 2 Samuel 7:1-14a
- Psalm 89:20-37
- Ephesians 2:11-22
- *Mark 6:30-34, 53-56*

July 11 (7th Sunday after Pentecost)

- 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
- Psalm 24
- *Ephesians 1:3-14*
- Mark 6:14-29

July 25 (9th Sunday after Pentecost)

- 2 Samuel 11:1-15
- Psalm 14
- Ephesians 3:14-21
- *John 6:1-21*



Special Offering for Rob Lovett

As many of you are already aware, Snow Creek's former pastor Rob Lovett lost both of his parents in a house fire that occurred on June 19. To show our support for Rob in this time of grief, the church has begun taking up a special offering on his behalf. If you would like to contribute to that offering, we will take it up as part of the regular offering during the July 4 worship service. Please make checks payable to Snow Creek Christian Church and be sure to write 'Rob Lovett' on them. Also, any cash donations should be similarly designated. You can also mail a check to Snow Creek Christian Church, 4970 Snow Creek Rd., Martinsville, VA 24572. Thank you so much for your contributions and please continue to pray for Rob and his family in this difficult time.



New Member

Welcome to Amy Mitchell on becoming a new member of the Church. She transferred her membership on June 20. She is the wife of Andrew.



Memorial Day Tribute



Thanks, Ken Beall for providing an inspiring message for Memorial Day.

Homecoming

Our Church will celebrate the 149th year of the Church this July. The Church has survived several events in the world over the years. We have remained strong. We continued to worship thru a pandemic. Minister Scott provided innovative methods of worship including online services, drive in services, modified indoor services, and Outdoor Sunday School services for the Youth. Special thanks to Scott and the many people who were involved in continuing services at our Church.

We will not have a Homecoming celebration in July; however, we are in the process of making plans for the fall. We will provide more information in the future.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

A Brief History of Snow Creek Church (from a handout for the 131th Anniversary of the Church)



Since 1860 to 1872, the Primitive Baptist Church was the only one at Snow Creek and all who were members of any church held membership there. In the late 1860's a group of interested citizens secured a small plot of land, one square acre in size, across the road from Benjamin H. Tatum's office to build a church. Progress on the building was very slow due to the undeveloped country and the lack of money and tools.

The Methodist and Christian (Disciples of Christ) Churches and the Masonic Lodge went together and built a two-story structure. It was a long time being built and was almost destroyed by fire during the building process. The churches used the first floor and the masons the upper floor.

The Christians and Methodist always worked together congenially. It meant so much to see them willing to work and build a union church. They undoubtedly had the proper Christian spirit. In the early years, services were held only once or sometimes twice a month. Among the pastors serving this Church, there was none more beloved to the people than the Rev. William C. Clark, who served in this capacity for forty years.

The early 1950's found the building in urgent need of repairs, as well as inadequate for the growing congregation. The building fund was started with a dime found by Mrs. Cooke (Fannie) in the church parking lot along with the Christian Missionary Society. The churches bought out the masons share of the old building and a new brick structure was built and dedicated in June 1954.

In 1967, under the leadership of the Rev. W.M. (Mike) Stump the congregation built their parsonage valued at \$25,000.00.

The progress made in the United States during the 1950's and 1960's was felt in the church along with the rest of our society. With this progress the life of the church changed with the Methodist group declining and membership of the Christians increasing. In the fall of 1969, the two denominations became one affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The Christian Church called for its minister, Berlin Hanks in the spring of 1968. He began his ministry here on June 11, 1968. Therefore, the late 1960's found the



new building of 1954 again inadequate for the teaching and witnessing ministry of the church. Thus, in October 1970 with the combined efforts of the members, another building program was begun, and this time completed. It was dedicated on July 9, 1972 as part of the Centennial celebration.

In 1979, we began the enlarging and remodeling of the sanctuary which was dedicated on the second Sunday of July 1980 at our homecoming. The picnic shelter was built in 1991 and given by Ada Barbour Morris in memory of Sally and Charlie Barbour. Today we celebrate the 131st anniversary of the Snows Creek Christian Church.

A few details about the Church: (Quotes in part from the local newspaper: 1954)

"Snow Creek's oldest church is being replaced with a new building." "The old church that is standing in front of the newly constructed one has been in constant use since 1873."

"Just last week over forty people came together and contributed two full days of work, the men helping with the building project and the women preparing the meal. The young people, along with the Missionary Society, gave a supper at the church to aid in raising money. Halloween parties, plays, and many other events have aided in the building fund. The people of the community expressed their appreciation of many donations outside of the community."

"Whenever the people of a community want an improvement", stated one of the members of the community, "regardless of how large or small the project it may be, it is possible when all or the majority of the people are willing to make sacrifices in donations of time, labor, and money cooperating together."

"Visits to communities where the people cooperate as they do in the Snow Creek community is always an inspiration. Visitors are always welcome in the Snow Creek community."

Quote from the Snow Creek Community Scrapbook: "There were 95% of our community contributing to the building of our church. Some were members of other churches, others not members of any churches at all but all cooperating for the interest of the community."

The last couple married in the old Church building in December 1953 was Curtis and Louise Washburn and the first couple married in the new Church building in 1954 was Nancy Lee Perdue and Allen Cooper.

Upcoming Events

- Elders Meeting July 7-7:00 p.m.
- Vacation Bible School July 10- 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (Details below)
- Board Meeting July 11- 12:00 noon

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**“Come, follow me,
and I will make you fishers of men.”**

Matthew 4:19

Snow Creek Christian Church will join Jones Chapel Church of the Brethren and Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church for a joint Outdoor Vacation Bible School on July 10, 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. at Jones Chapel Church of the Brethren, 2390 Figsboro Road, Martinsville, Va.

Place: Jones Chapel Church of the Brethren

Date: Saturday July 10, 2021 – rain date July 17, 2021

Time: 8:45 am-2:00 pm Bring a beach towel

Ages: 3-13 Preschool through 6th grade

For more information contact Pleasant Grove, Snow Creek Christian Church, or Trinity Baptist Church



LET'S CELEBRATE



JULY BIRTHDAYS

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

1 Casey Eanes
1 Conner Amos
12 Brodie Eanes
14 Gusta Morris
16 Jarrett Amos
16 Wanda Damon
21 Erica Pruett
25 Terry Doyle
27 Troy Washburn
31 Scott Oliver

10 Scott & Laurie Oliver
28 Mark & Pam Gabriel

