

**Pastors' Message**

Pastor Victor Harris was not able to submit something by the cutoff for this newsletter because of other pressing demands. So I (Charles Fortney) thought I would write about the Holy Spirit as we prepare for Pentecost Sunday on June 9.

The Holy Spirit, as the third person of the Trinity, is not as well understood as God who created heaven and earth, and Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who died for us and for our sins. There are many reasons for this lack of understanding.

The first is that the outside, secular, world does not recognize the Spirit. You will hear references to God and Christ outside the church, but seldom mention of the Holy Spirit. Indeed, when Christ promised the Holy Spirit to the disciples, He made it clear that the world knows nothing of this. See John 14:17:

<sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.

The second reason is that it is difficult to explain to children, so those of us who grew up in the church did not get taught about this. We heard about the animals in Noah's Ark, Moses parting the Red Sea, and Jesus healing people, but the Spirit is not something that young kids can understand in the same way.

Yet another reason is that the Spirit dwells within us. It is very difficult to see things that are close to us. Can you see the back of your neck without using at least two mirrors? And rare indeed is the person who can see their faults. But God the Holy Spirit dwells within us, wherein no eye can see.

So how does anyone know something that cannot be perceived? Only by the effects of the Spirit. You cannot see the wind, but you can see things blowing. Likewise, you cannot see the Spirit

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Pastors' Message .....                     | 1  |
| Prayer Concerns – Long Term Health.....    | 3  |
| Directory Updates .....                    | 3  |
| Fellowship Calendar .....                  | 3  |
| Escape Room? .....                         | 3  |
| Good Newsletter Transition.....            | 3  |
| From the Editor .....                      | 4  |
| Pentecost Offering.....                    | 5  |
| Prayer for Memorial Day.....               | 5  |
| In Memoriam: Barb Herrin .....             | 5  |
| Dan Wennerholm Engagement.....             | 6  |
| A Mystery.....                             | 6  |
| Help Wanted – No Experience Necessary..... | 6  |
| Golf Outings Continue.....                 | 6  |
| Alaska Mission Trip Update.....            | 7  |
| Alaska Team Prayer Partners Needed.....    | 8  |
| Alaska Mission Send Off Lunch/Dinner ..... | 8  |
| Kids Participation in Worship.....         | 8  |
| Graduation Recognition June 23.....        | 8  |
| Summer Lunch Program .....                 | 9  |
| Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed.....  | 9  |
| Rummage Sale.....                          | 10 |
| Vacation Bible School (VBS).....           | 10 |
| Deacon Update .....                        | 10 |
| Presbytery Report .....                    | 10 |
| Worship Sermon Notes and Charges .....     | 11 |
| Worship Leaders Invited.....               | 12 |
| Worship Schedule June 2019.....            | 13 |
| Summer Birthdays .....                     | 13 |
| The Church Calendar.....                   | 14 |
| Who's Who at Heritage.....                 | 15 |

directly, but you can see the effects. The Spirit bears fruit, some examples of which are laid out in Galatians 6:22-23.

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law

In that same section of Scripture, Paul contrasts these fruits with the works of the flesh (Gal. 19-21a)

<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are plain: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger,

selfishness, dissension, party spirit, <sup>21</sup> envy,<sup>[b]</sup> drunkenness, carousing, and the like.

All persons of any experience can tell the difference between these two lists. It's not hard at all, is it?

The second way to know the Holy Spirit is by the gifts of the Spirit. These are laid out in I Corinthians 12, right before the "love" chapter. This particular section of the Bible is often read when calling people to particular ministry in the church, which is the bride of Christ.

<sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are inspired by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

This needs a little interpretation. Most of us recognize that miracles and healing are outside the realm of the ordinary, and are works of God. But this is true of everything on this list. The wisdom and knowledge spoken of are not what we typically think of as wisdom and knowledge. Rather, they are instances of particular information that comes not part of human experience.

Let me cite one example that I experienced. When I first began work at Lake Village, it didn't take long before an elder in the church called me in a panic. "Pastor, my son has been arrested for drugs. The jailhouse won't let family visit except on certain times and days, but ministers can come anytime. Will you go see my son?"

Of course the answer is yes, but what am I supposed to say upon arrival? In CLP school, they don't tell you how to handle many crisis situations, because the varieties of situations that call for pastoral response are so varied.

So I prayed. In that prayer, I felt God responding that I would receive the words upon my visit. When I arrived at the county jail and the son was brought to me, after some preliminary conversation, I said to the young man "Now hear the word of the Lord. Jesus was arrested like you. He was imprisoned like you. He faced arraignment like you will tomorrow. He knows exactly what you are experiencing. So turn to Him, and you will feel His presence and His peace."

I can only trust God that this word was effective. I think it likely that this young man's impression of the church his parents attended was that it was for "good people", not for people like him. And I'm not surprised at that attitude. Every church I've been in, and probably most of you as well, has been good to great about helping people through rough times – but usually not quite so much when the cause of the problem directly follows from something illegal, immoral, or otherwise wrong that the person did.

Anyway, I believe those words were given by the Spirit as the right words for that time and place. Not only did they comfort the son in prison, but they gave me, as a brand new pastor, some insight on how the church is seen by the children of our distinguished leaders, when those children make choices that are less than we hoped.

This is the work of the Spirit. But to see it, you have to be open, and you have to watch.

I encourage any of you, who would like to learn about AND experience the Holy Spirit, to ask God in earnest. God will delight in that request and bring you understanding – not just from church pastors and teachers but from things you will see that you missed before. God is faithful!

-Charles Fortney

## Prayer Concerns – Long Term Health

Scripture Verse: 1 Kings 8:28 Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, O Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day.

Please remember the following members of the church in your prayers as they struggle with long term health conditions:

|                               |                        |                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ruth Shargo                   | Amy Ackley<br>(Bailey) | Lisa Wroth         |
| Jim Outland                   | Sue Gager-<br>Garlisch | George<br>Saunders |
| Mindy<br>Branaman<br>(Bailey) |                        |                    |

Mindy is new on the list as she is a high-risk pregnancy for several reasons including prior thyroid cancer. Her due date is September 27. Also a non-health related concern: she is trying to finish up her gen ed classes before the baby comes. She plans to start respiratory therapy.

Please contact the church office or newsletter editor to be added to or removed from this list.

## Directory Updates

Alicia Sremaniak (Neff) has a new address in greater St. Louis area. Her new address is:

403 Briarchase Place

Lake St. Louis, MO 63367

Effective September 1, Kathy and Charles Fortney are moving to Minnesota. Their residence (9-month lease only) is

1305 Thye Parkway

Northfield, MN 55057

## Fellowship Calendar

Mark your calendar for these upcoming fellowship events:

6/16 Field of Dreams 12:40 at Century Stratford Theater - buy your own ticket/concessions

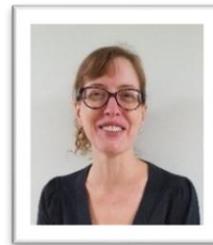
6/20 Summer in the Center: Rico, a "groove" band 7:00 pm at Town Center-meet near the food stand.

6/21 Fird Friday Fellowship Fun: Crucified & Risen screening 7:00 pm at Heritage - bring your own beverage

Manic Mondays in Motion - come join the ecstatic dance movement at HPC 6:00-7:00 pm every Monday in June except 6/10. VERY child friendly atmosphere. More info at

[www.ecstaticdance.com/about](http://www.ecstaticdance.com/about)

## Escape Room?



We're hoping to get a group together to escape The Office room at Challenge Accepted at Stratford Mall for \$30.00 each. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Cheryl directly. More info at

[www.challengeacceptedescape.com/room/the-office](http://www.challengeacceptedescape.com/room/the-office)

- Cheryl Elliott

## Good Newsletter Transition

Cheryl Elliott has stepped forward to become the next editor of the Heritage Good Newsletter when it resumes publication this fall.

She joins a tradition since 1981. The first newsletter was published by then-pastor Dave Poland. After he left, there was a series of editors. The editor before me was Sue Gager Garlisch for many years, and before her, Wendy Nelson.

## From the Editor

This is my final issue. Thanks to Chery Elliott, who will be taking over.

I came to Heritage as a young, single man; I leave as a great-grandfather, having spent more than half my life living here and loving and working with you in my calling as a ruling elder. There are some observations I have to share, and some thank yous. So I am taking the editor's privilege of writing to this broad audience.

Thanks to the four called pastors of this church during my time. Each has ministered to me in special ways. Dave Poland, for his Spirit-filled energy and determination to build Heritage into a community of believers. Doug Dudley, for his devotion to prayer, and for being there for me when my father died. Jerry Deck, for his missional focus and intentionality, and encouragement to become a CLP. And Victor Harris, who sent me to Lake Village and welcomed me home, as a colleague in ministry.

Every decade or so, there is a particular individual I first met at Heritage who brings God's abundant love to me, in sustained time together often outside the church walls. Particular people I remember from each decade: 1980s: Dick Harmon, for being a part of me coming to Heritage and for spiritual development. 1990s: Phyllis Rosenberg, Candy Mastro, and Lisa Wroth for helping me heal through music during a particularly difficult time in my life; 2000s: Patricia Lind, for working with me many hours on the cello and, recently, for playing a key role in the writing and production of three plays. 2010s: John Nelson, founder of MICA, for his integrity and incredible talent as he works on my behalf in Wyoming.

This list is not meant to be the only people who have loved me with Christ's love through the years. Were I to list all of them, in their varied ways, there wouldn't be enough space in the newsletter!

Heritage has had a long tradition of sending people into ordered ministry as well as grooming first pastorates. Old timers remember Dave Terrinoni, who just retired after decades in military chaplaincy and who was under care of

our session while studying ministry decades ago. More recently, Ali Mulvoy, a daughter of this church, began serving as a youth minister (non-ordained) in Downers Grove. There were many in between. I hope that Heritage continues to encourage those who are exploring God's call to greater service in the church and world.

Some people have expressed fear for the future of this congregation as its members age. I do not share this. The future of our church depends on Christ and solely on Christ. Every person whom I have asked why they came to Heritage has responded with words that evidence God's call to be a part of this community. We must, however, be diligent in seeking people who seem to need God's love in their life and telling them about this faith community. I told Lake Village, and I tell you, that the most powerful force in the world is Christ's redeeming love in a world that has so much brokenness.

Kathy and I are returning to Northfield MN, where I went to college (Carleton). There, I intend to return to First United Church of Christ, as there is no PC(USA) church in Northfield. This is where I worshipped as a student many years ago. Amazingly, they still have the same organist. I wonder if she will remember my voice...

I close with the Blessing of Aaron: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and grant you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26).



I will always love you.

-Charles Fortney

## Pentecost Offering



THE PENTECOST OFFERING HELPS OUR YOUTH BEGIN LIFE WITH A STRONG START— A SOLID FOUNDATION OF FAITH FORMED IN THE FIRST THIRD OF LIFE, FROM CHILDHOOD THROUGH YOUNG ADULTHOOD.

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with *the church of the past*, continuing to inspire *the church of today*, and pointing us to *the church of the future*. Each year, this celebration is marked by receiving the Pentecost Offering which nurtures the faith of those who are the church to come — children, youth, and young adults.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. By giving to the Pentecost Offering, your congregation participates in helping our children, youth, and young adults grow up to proclaim with the Psalmist, "O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds."

Since the Pentecost Offering started in 1998, Presbyterians have raised more than \$15 million for ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. We believe we are called to do even more — to support and care for young people as they build a strong foundation of faith. Won't you

join in your support? If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

**Pentecost Offering will be accepting through Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.** Use the special offering envelopes in the friendship pads or on the table in the narthex or simply place a check in the collection basket with "Pentecost" on the memo line. 40% of this offering remains with Heritage Presbyterian Church. Thank you!

Won't you join us? If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

## Prayer for Memorial Day

Daryl Doyle sent this prayer from the Presbyterian Outlook:

Lord, what we remember of the past shapes who we are today and influences how we will act tomorrow. On this Memorial Day we remember and give thanks for those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country.

We grieve with those who grieve this day and pray comfort for those who mourn. We ask for the wisdom to allow the memory of those who died for a cause greater than themselves to form our words, opinions and decisions in ways that honor them.

Help us to take seriously the cost of war and enter into combat only when every other option has been exhausted. May the sacrifice of those we remember this day not be in vain, but instead guide us to work tirelessly for peace, justice and freedom for all people.

Amen.

## In Memoriam: Barb Herrin



Barb Herrin passed away last month. Please plan to attend the memorial service at Heritage on June 22 at 11:00 a.m. Also, the family would

appreciate any pictures we have of Barb to share at the memorial service. Please send them to Sue Gager-Garlich no later than June 7.

## Dan Wennerholm Engagement



Elder and Clerk of Session Dan Wennerholm announced his engagement in worship this month. His bride-to-be is Ruth Bernhardt-Kuehl. No date has been set.

## Golf Outings Continue



Our golf ministry resumes on Sunday, June 23, at 1:20 pm, at Glendale Lakes Golf Club.

We have reserved spots for two foursomes at this tee-off time. This is not just for church members; friends and family are welcome as well. It is also not competitive; we play just to have fun. If interested, contact Larry Evans while Dan Wennerholm is out of the country.

## A Mystery

Save the Date! First Friday Fun – Murder Edition.

Friday September 6

Whodunnit???

-Cheryl Elliott

## Help Wanted – No Experience Necessary

Carol Stream Lunch Program: Mondays only, 8 volunteers to serve actual food (not boxed lunches). Contact Sue Evans

Fellowship Hour Hosts (individual Sundays after church, sign up sheet). This position involves setting up and serving coffee, drinks, and refreshments to the congregation after church. Contact Cheryl Elliott.

Rummage Sale: Week of June 9-15; check calendar for dates and times. Signup sheet. Help needed in all phases: set up/takedown, sorting, pricing, cashiering, baking, or even watching Pierce. Proceeds support mission trip. Contact Jenn Harris or Julie Hagel.

## Alaska Mission Trip Update

### Alaska Mission Trip – Team Update



*Greetings from Team Alaska (Victor Harris, Jan Smith, Caroline Knoff, Nancy Olson, Alicia Sremaniak, Michele Neff, Eleke Bonsi, Erica Bonsi, Michael Bonsi and Charles Fortney)*

### Fundraising Update:

#### Dine Out Events:

- Wednesday, June 19 - Jersey Mike's (Army Trail Road in Bloomingdale) 10am – 9pm
  - Fliers will be available in the Narthex and on the Church Facebook page
  - Show the flier to your server and we will receive 25% of the sales
- Wednesday, June 26 (tentative date) – Village Tavern (Schmale Road in Carol Stream)
  - Fliers will be available in the Narthex and on the Church Facebook page

These events are posted to the church Facebook page. Please share the fliers with your family, friends and co-workers. We are hoping for a high attendance at both of these events to raise \$150 each night. Please invite your family, friends, coworkers, club members, and team members to come out and support our trip.

Additional Dine Out events are still being planned for June and July. Information will be communicated as it becomes available. Our goal is to raise \$750 from the Dine Out events; we are currently at \$396.

#### Silent Auction

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Silent Auction on Sunday, May 5. We raised \$1620 from this event.

#### West Chicago Blooming Fest

Thank you Jan Smith, Nancy Olson, Alicia Sremaniak, Michele Neff and Eleke Bonsi from Team Alaska who made this day a success by setting up/taking down and manning our booth on May 18th. We raised \$537 for our trip.

#### All Church Rummage Sale and Alaska Mission Trip Carwash

The Rummage Sale and Carwash are just around the corner. The Rummage/Bake sale is June 14 and 15. The carwash is June 15 from 11am-2pm. Stop by the rummage sale and shop while having your car washed by our youth and team Alaska members.

A portion of the Rummage Sale supports our trip. The Carwash is a free will donation. Our goal is to raise \$500 from the Carwash.

#### M&M Tubes

We are still collecting money from the M&M Tube fundraiser. If you have not turned in your coins/donation, please do so by the end of June.

#### How to Make a Direct Donation to the Trip

Envelopes are available in the Narthex and seat backs in the Sanctuary for those wishing to make a direct donation. Envelopes are marked "Alaska Mission Trip". Simply place your check or cash in the envelope and place the envelope in the Sunday Morning Offering Plate.

Our next team meeting is Monday, June 3 at 7pm at the church.

Thank you for partnering with us on this year's trip. Your support and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Below is an updated breakdown of the expenses for the trip as well as the fundraising events which will be updated monthly to keep everyone up to date on our progress of obtaining our \$15,000 goal.

|                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Expenses:</b> | <b>\$ 15,000</b>                     |
| <b>\$ 6100</b>   | est. cost of airfare and baggage     |
| <b>\$ 6400</b>   | cost of Program (incl \$900 deposit) |
| <b>\$ 2000</b>   | Ground Transportation in Alaska      |
| <b>\$ 500</b>    | Potential Hotel Rooms – 1 night      |

|                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Receipts:</b>  | <b>\$ 9957.24 (66%)</b>           |
| <b>\$ 4264.12</b> | Direct donations                  |
| <b>\$ 900</b>     | Deposit                           |
| <b>\$ 850</b>     | Super Bowl Square "Split the Pot" |
| <b>\$ 262.32</b>  | HPW donation                      |
| <b>\$ 396.80</b>  | Dining Out                        |
| <b>\$ 1000</b>    | Missional Action Committee (MAC)  |
| <b>\$ 1620</b>    | Silent Auction – May 5            |
| <b>\$ TBD</b>     | Car Wash – Saturday June 15       |
| <b>\$ TBD</b>     | Annual HPC Rummage Sale           |
| <b>\$ 537</b>     | West Chicago Blooming Fest        |
| <b>\$ 127</b>     | Kid's M&M Fundraiser              |

We are approximately \$5100 within reach of obtaining our goal. Anticipated fundraising from Dine Outs, the Rummage Sale and Carwash is estimated at \$1850, leaving us with \$3250 to raise via direct donations.

- Michele Neff

### **Alaska Team Prayer Partners Needed**

Team Alaska is looking for prayer partners for each trip attendee. A prayer partner prays for their assigned team member before and during the trip. They also prepare them small notes to be opened and read each day during our trip. These notes can be words of encouragement, scripture or just a note to say hi. These notes were very much appreciated by Team Honduras a few years ago. They are a nice connection with home and to know someone is thinking of you and praying for your daily. Note cards will be available to those signing up as a Prayer Partner, or you can use your own. Note cards will be collected on Sunday, July 7. If you are interested in being a prayer partner, please contact Michele Neff.

### **Alaska Mission Send Off Lunch/Dinner**

Team Alaska would like to share a meal with you on Sunday, July 7th before we depart on our journey July 12. We are looking for 1 or 2 people to coordinate this get together. If you are interested, please contact Michele Neff.

### **Kids Participation in Worship**

Our kids are an important part of our church family. Everyone loves seeing their smiling faces on Sunday mornings. We want to include our children/youth in our Sunday time together this summer as door greeters, ushers (pass out bulletins and/or attendance pads), candle lighters at the beginning of service and leading us in Passing the Peace (scripture reading). Our adult ushers, greeters and lectors will be available for guidance and to step in should the child/youth not be able to attend as planned.

If you and your child are interested in their participation, please sign up on the sheet in the Sunday School area or see Michele Neff or Jenn Harris to arrange a date.

### **Graduation Recognition June 23**

Join us Sunday, June 23 as we recognize and congratulate our graduates. Cake will be served during Fellowship time after the worship service to celebrate our graduates.

If you have a graduate in your family, please let Michele Neff know ASAP so that their information can be included in the bulletin insert planned for June 23.

Congratulations to our High School and College Graduates –

Eleke Bonsi graduated from Olivet Nazarene University on May 11 with a degree in Nursing.

Timothy Cheatham graduated from Bartlett High School on May 25. He will be attending Carroll University in Waukesha Wisconsin studying Health Care Administration with a focus on Physical Therapy.

## Summer Lunch Program



### 2019 SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM UPDATE

We are moving right along towards Week 1 of the Summer Lunch Program starting Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> through Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. Working together, the community groups and Consolidated School District 93 are putting together an amazing program for 2019!

Everything has changed – the location (now Carol Stream School), the food (now Organic Life), the Superintendent (now David Hill) and the addition of a new church (St. Isidore Parish). What hasn't changed is there will still be three bus stops, fabulous volunteers from ALL walks of life and the chance for our kids to eat a delicious lunch, socialize with their friends and read! They also can still play outside when weather permits.

Because the gym of this school is so much smaller than Western Trails, there will be no indoor ball playing or crafts, but thanks to a generous donation from Rotary as well as the District working together with Scholastic Books and the Carol Stream Public Library, there will be a focus on reading with a reading corner, books to share, reading aloud and the Innovation Center will be open two days a week. By the end of the summer, children will be given the opportunity to select new books from Scholastic Books to take home and keep.

There is only one way this type of program can be successful and that is with the help of each and every one of our volunteers, team leaders, and community groups. Thanks to all – let's get started!!

Community Groups:

Heritage Presbyterian Church (Mondays)

St. Andrew United Methodist Church (Tuesdays)

Carol Stream Woman's Club (Wednesdays)

St. Isidore Parish (Thursdays)

Carol Stream – Village, Library & Park District (Fridays)

Consolidated Community District 93

David Hill (Associate Supt.) and Ryan McPherrin (Director-Community Relations)



Special thanks to Rotary and all the behind the scenes personnel!

Questions? Contact Nancy Olson, Coordinator at 630-200-3944 or [enbaglady@comcast.net](mailto:enbaglady@comcast.net)

- Nancy Olson

## Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed

Our Summer Sunday School program begins June 2. We are looking for people to teach one Sunday during the summer months of June, July or August. No teaching experience is necessary. Lesson materials are provided. Sunday School is a single classroom of 1-10 children with an average attendance of 4 kids. If you prefer to use your own material rather than the planned curriculum, that can be arranged. Just let Michele know your ideas.

A signup sheet is located as you enter the Sunday School area. Feel free to text or email Michele with any questions or to volunteer. Phone: 630-3440-7457, email: [michele.neff@yahoo.com](mailto:michele.neff@yahoo.com)

Your teaching just one Sunday allows our school year teachers to attend and participate in Worship during the summer and provides them with a refreshing break between now and Fall (September).

## Rummage Sale

Spring is upon us. Therefore, it's time to think about spring cleaning and getting rid of all the extra things cluttering your home. We can consider Jesus' words as we start to purge: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven....For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:19-21). It's also good to remember the proceeds from the rummage sale will benefit the Alaska mission trip, as well as local charities.

If you need a bit more of a nudge, it's good to know that decluttering has a range of other benefits. Studies have found it can reduce stress levels, help fight depression, lead to better eating and improve air quality in your home. Getting rid of clutter can also reduce housework by up to 40%. So start filling up those boxes!

The Heritage rummage sale and bake sale will take place on June 14th and 15th from 8:00 - 2:00. There will be lots of opportunities to volunteer the week before (June 9-13th) as well as the days of the actual rummage sale. We will need people sorting, pricing, baking, cashiers and baggers to name a few.



A reminder of some of the items not accepted at the rummage sale: Adult books and clothes (Children's books and clothes up to 5T are accepted), VHS tapes, Mattresses and Tube T.V.s.

- Julie Hagel, Jenn Harris

## Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Summer VBS is in the planning stages and the date will be announced as plans are finalized. As of now, it is looking like a single day event in August. Watch the church announcements for details.

## Deacon Update

Sue GG submitted information she saw in an article on Facebook. Here is the link to the full article, but these are suggestions for things to say to someone struggling that are validating and hopeful.

<https://www.boredpanda.com/validation-hope-support-toxic-positivity-difference-sitwithwhit/>

This is hard. You've done hard things before and I believe in you.

I know there's a lot that could go wrong. What could go right?

It's pretty normal to have some negativity in this situation.

Sometimes giving up is ok. What is your ideal outcome?

It's never fun to feel like that. Is there something we can do today that you'd enjoy?

It's probably really hard to see any good in this situation. We'll make sense of it later.



-Submitted by Sue Gager-Garlich on behalf of all Deacons:

Sue Gager-Garlich, Sue Wexler, Julie Hagel, Leila Trepanier, Sue Cory, Joan Knapp

## Presbytery Report

The Presbytery of Chicago met on May 21 at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago. A summary is not yet available.

## Worship Sermon Notes and Charges



May 2: This week, Victor continued his sermon series about Saul(Paul), which will take us right up to the beginning of Advent on 12/1. He titled his sermon "Blessed Defeat", and took

his message from Acts 9:1-19a. Victor noted that this section of the Bible is subtitled "*Saul's Conversion*" in the NIV translation we use, but he prefers the subtitle "*Saul encounters the risen Jesus*", which is in the CEB translation. Victor used the vision of the prophet Ezekiel contained in Ezekiel 1:4-28, because it applied to what happened to Saul on the road to Damascus: "*This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking.*" (Ezekiel 1:28b). Saul(Paul) would have known this entire passage well, but what he would NOT have expected is that the voice would be that of Jesus! This encounter is what C. S. Lewis described as the moment of "blessed defeat". This means that we must give up those human things that we cherish and that keep us from God, and allow ourselves to be carried away by the eagle/vulture of God, to be saved by his powerful love and grace. Thank you, Jenn Harris, for using the children's message to reinforce the idea that the more love you share, the more love you have. To deliver his charge, Victor stood on a chair (no easy task, since he was still feeling slightly sick), because he wanted to emphasize what he said. Victor told us it is impossible to truly convey the power of God to save, and yet, as our pastor, that is what he has been called to do. His charge to us was to surrender to this radical disruption by God in order to become obedient to Him and in doing so, live into His purpose for us.

May 12: This week, Victor continued his sermon series about Saul(Paul), which will continue up to Advent on 12/1. He took his message from Acts 6-8, and titled his sermon, "Zeal". Victor did not read all of both chapters, but he encouraged us to read them on our own. Victor told us we should imitate Saul(Paul)'s zeal. Saul(Paul), who

approved the stoning of Stephen, which can be found in Acts 7, was zealous for the law. Saul(Paul), whose conversion can be found later in Acts, was just as zealous for Jesus Christ. Zeal means giving ourselves to what God is zealous for. But it also means asking ourselves, "What is God zealous for?" The answer lies in realizing that God is a zealot for humanity. Therefore, we must be also. Victor warned us that zeal for humanity can be dangerous, like it was for Stephen and Martin Luther King, Jr. The good news is, in our zeal for humanity, God will be with us. Victor's charge to us was to be a zealot for Christ.

May 19: This week, Victor continued his sermon series about Saul(Paul), which will take us right up to the beginning of Advent on 12/1. He titled his sermon "In the Army Now", and took his message from Galatians 1:11-17, the section subtitled, "*Paul Called by God*", which was told by Patricia Lind. Thank you, Patricia! Victor admitted that we don't normally associate the army with the Prince of Peace, except for this one phrase: "*but I went into Arabia*" (Galatians 1:17b). Victor explained that Paul was commissioned and that "commission" is a military term. He informed us that, like Paul, we must be soldiers for Jesus Christ. We will experience worldly opposition in the pursuit of peace, reconciliation, justice and love, but we must "*be strong in the Lord*", just as Paul wrote in Ephesians 6. During his charge to us, Victor told us about a survey that was taken in the 90s. When Christians were asked what they thought of when they thought of "Battle Hymn of the Republic", one of the hymns we sang, they replied that they thought of the Civil Rights movement. Victor found that to be disappointing, since the refrain includes the words, "Our God is marching on." His charge to us was to go forth, armed with the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and proclaim His love.

May 26: This week, Victor continued his sermon series about Saul(Paul), which will take us right up to the beginning of Advent on 12/1. He titled his sermon, "Our Weakness, Christ's Power", and took his message from 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. He compared the thoughts contained in

Rachel Held Evans' Searching for Sunday to those contained in Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's The Power of Positive Thinking. In her book, Mrs. Evans thinks ministers should share more of themselves when speaking to their congregations. Victor admitted that he is reluctant to make his sermon about himself instead of about God. But he remembered that in his first article in the July/August 2013 edition of the Newsletter, he wrote that he looked forward to getting to know each of us and he pledged, as our pastor, to offer us both the gospel and his very self...come what may. Because of that, he told us about his anxiety and how he had been struggling with it this past week, which led him to Paul's statement about his own affliction: *"Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."* (2 Corinthians 12:8-9) Victor noted that in our culture, weakness is looked upon as almost worse than sin. In his book, Dr. Peale (a minister!) thinks that we can save ourselves. The reality is, Christ, who seemed to show weakness, by allowing himself to be crucified, saved us all. In Victor's charge to us, he used words written by Martin Niemöller. Niemöller said to look to Jesus, your deliverer, and become aware of his power, which is yours. Then, replace your self-reliance with trust in Him.

- Darly Doyle, Church Secretary

## **Worship Leaders Invited**

The Church office schedules lectors, ushers, greeters, offering counters, nursery attendants, and communion servers on a bimonthly basis. July and August schedules are in process, and the church office will be finalizing the rest of the summer by Monday, June 17. Please pray to see if you might be interested in serving the church in any of these ways. Contact the church office for more information.

## Worship Schedule June 2019

|                         | <b>June 2: 7<sup>th</sup><br/>Sunday of Easter</b>                               | <b>June 9:<br/>Pentecost</b>      | <b>June 16: Trinity<br/>Sunday</b> | <b>June 23: 2<sup>nd</sup><br/>Sunday after<br/>Pentecost</b> | <b>June 30: 3<sup>rd</sup><br/>Sunday after<br/>Pentecost</b> |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Sacrament of Communion  | Tray   | Intinction                        | None                               | None  | Intinction  |
| Paraments               | White  | Red                               | White                              | Green   | Green   |
| Lector                  | Grace Bradley  | Leila Trepanier                   | Dave Hamby                         | Larry Evans   | Cheryl Elliott  |
| Communion Servers       | Dave Hamby;<br>Patricia Lind;<br>Larry Evans;<br>Desiree Reynolds<br>Nick Shargo | Leila Trepanier                   | None                               | None  | Cheryl Elliott  |
| Children's Message      | Nick Shargo  | Victor Harris                     | Victor Harris                      | Victor Harris   | David Wroth   |
| Ushers                  | Bev Mason;<br>Larry Evans  | Bob McNees;<br>Larry Evans        | Nancy Olson;<br>Dan Wennerholm     | John Garlisch;<br>Jerry Knapp                                 | Dave Hamby;<br>Nick Shargo                                    |
| Greeters                | Julie Hagel;<br>Dan Wennerholm   | Grace Bradley;<br>Bev Mason       | Delali Bonsi;<br>Caroline Knoff    | Vern Hagel;<br>Nancy Olson                                    | Jim and Dawn<br>Giunti  |
| Nursery Sanctuary Setup | Caroline Knoff<br>Jenn Harris  | Delali Bonsi<br>Jenn Harris       | Julie Hagel<br>Jenn Harris         | Joan Knapp<br>Jenn Harris                                     | Leila Trepanier<br>Darly Doyle                                |
| Offering                | Dave Hamby;<br>Nancy Olson   | Cheryl Elliott;<br>Dan Wennerholm | Candy Mastro;<br>David Wroth       | Darly Doyle;<br>Nick Shargo                                   | Nancy Olson;<br>David Wroth                                   |
| Ambassadors             | Larry Evans; Bob McNees; Nick Shargo; David Wroth                                |                                   |                                    |   |   |

## Summer Birthdays

|         |          |                    |         |         |          |           |         |            |
|---------|----------|--------------------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|------------|
| June 1  | Jim      | Goldbach           | July 1  | Sue     | Wexler   | August 2  | John    | Strohmeier |
| June 1  | Melanie  | Slouka             | July 4  | David   | Wroth    | August 2  | Emily   | Mulvoy     |
| June 10 | Jan      | McKeown            | July 4  | Aubry   | Miller   | August 7  | Lance   | Mays       |
| June 12 | Tyler    | Moore              | July 6  | Becky   | Evans    | August 8  | Dominic | Moise Neff |
| June 15 | Nancy    | Bagdonas           | July 6  | Tim     | Cheatham | August 18 | Dawn    | Giunti     |
| June 15 | Eleke    | Bonsi<br>Wennerhol | July 8  | Allison | Moore    | August 19 | Leigh   | Bailey     |
| June 15 | Dan      | m                  | July 11 | Jenn    | Harris   | August 20 | Kathy   | Fortney    |
| June 19 | Darlene  | Mastro             | July 13 | Brandi  | Neff     | August 26 | Dave    | Hamby      |
| June 21 | Lorraine | Schoerger          | July 20 | Michael | Bonsi    | August 27 | Julia   | Jones      |
| June 27 | Andrew   | Brady              | July 22 | John    | Giunti   | August 29 | Bill    | Kraft      |
| June 30 | Joan     | Knapp              | July 25 | Amanda  | Kraft    |           |         |            |
|         |          |                    | July 25 | Carol   | Miller   |           |         |            |
|         |          |                    | July 26 | Ali     | Mulvoy   |           |         |            |

## Summer Anniversaries

|         |                 |         |           |                       |          |
|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------|----------|
| June 6  | Delali & Paul   | Bonsi   | August 7  | Sonia & Tim           | Cheatham |
| June 18 | Andi & Joe      | Moore   | August 8  | Amy (Goldbach) & Jake | Reich    |
| June 22 | Jim & Carol     | Outland | August 9  | Ali (McKeown) & Scott | Mulvoy   |
| June 26 | Roger & Jan     | McKeown | August 12 | Jan & Earl            | Smith    |
| July 5  | Charles & Kathy | Fortney | August 20 | Bob & Mary            | Lawrence |

## The Church Calendar

**June 2019**

Recycling This Month: Canning Equipment; Brita and PUR water filters

|  |  |   |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|  |  |   |  |  |   | 1  |
| 2<br>Non-food Donations<br>for LCoM Pantry<br>Sunday School 8:45<br>Worship 10 a.m.                                | 3<br>Alaska<br>Mission Trip<br>Meeting<br>7:00 p.m.                      | 4<br>Women's<br>Bible Study<br>6:30 p.m.                              | 5  | 6<br>All Church<br>Prayer 1:00<br>p.m.   | 7<br>Pinochle<br>6:30 p.m.                                    | 8  |
| 9<br>Sunday School 8:45<br>Worship 10 am<br>Setup for Rummage<br>Sale 11:30<br>Deacons 11:30<br>Youth Group 5:00-7 | 10<br>Rummage<br>Sale Sorting<br>10-12, 6-8<br>Summer<br>Lunch<br>begins | 11<br>Rummage<br>Sale Sorting<br>10-12, 6-8<br>The Gathering<br>10:30 | 12<br>Rummage<br>Sale Sorting<br>10-12, 6-8                            | 13<br>Rummage<br>Sale Sorting<br>10-12, 6-8<br>All Church<br>Prayer 1:00<br>p.m. | 14<br>Rummage<br>Sale 8-2<br>Wannabees<br>at Panera<br>6 a.m. | 15<br>Rummage<br>Sale 8-2<br>Car Wash<br>Youth Group<br>11-2 |
| 16 Sunday School<br>8:45<br>Worship 10 am<br>Fellowship "Field of<br>Dreams" Stratford<br>Square 1 OR 4            | 17   | 18<br>Women's<br>Bible Study<br>6:30 p.m.                             | 19<br>Dine Out<br>Jersey<br>Mike's<br>10am -<br>9pm for<br>Alaska trip | 20<br>All Church<br>Prayer 1:00<br>Summer<br>Concert<br>"Rico"<br>7:00-9 p.m     | 21<br>"Crucified<br>and Risen"<br>Showing<br>6:30             | 22<br>Barb Herrin<br>Memorial<br>11 a.m.                     |
| 23<br>Sunday School 8:45<br>Worship 10 am<br>Graduation Sunday<br>Recognition<br>Golf 1:20 p.m.<br>Youth Group 5-7 | 24   | 25<br>Women's<br>Bible Study<br>6:30 p.m.                             | 26<br>Missional<br>Action<br>7:00 pm<br>PADS                           | 27<br>All Church<br>Prayer 1:00<br>Session<br>7:00p.m.                           | 28  | 29   |
| 30<br>Sunday School 8:45<br>Worship 10 am  |  |   |  |  |   |  |

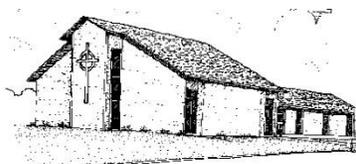


Heritage Presbyterian Church

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Carol Stream, IL 60188

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**Rev. Victor Harris**

### Who's Who at Heritage

Church Secretary  
 Worship Pianist  
 Treasurer  
 Financial Secretary  
 Clerk of Session for 2019  
 Newsletter Editor

Darly Doyle  
 Sabrina Poulin  
 Ginny Goldbach  
 Candy Mastro  
 Dan Wennerholm  
 Charles Fortney/Cheryl Elliott

#### Deacons

Last Name A-C  
 Last Name D-G  
 Last Name H-L  
 Last Name M  
 Last Name N-S  
 Last Name T-Z

Joan Knapp  
 Sue Wexler  
 Sue Cory  
 Leila Trepanier  
 Julie Hagel  
 Sue Gager-Garlich

#### Elders

Word and Gathering  
  
 Buildings and Grounds  
 Response and Sending  
  
 Administration  
 Fellowship  
 Nominating

Patricia Lind  
 Michelle Neff  
 Jerry Knapp  
 Nancy Olson  
 Dave Hamby  
 Dan Wennerholm  
 Cheryl Elliott  
 Patricia Lind