

Chesterbrook Chimes



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“Habit’s of the Heart”

By Rev. Gene Larkin

From Gene’s Journal

Being the new pastor of Chesterbrook UMC is an unexpected surprise for me and my wife Sophia. In retirement I have been studying scriptures for the past 3 years, served a church part-time for a year and enjoying my favorite pastime of reading and studying the Bible and reflecting on the human condition over time. What does it mean to love and to care as a Christian? Is it different from a non-Christian? Also as I grow older, I ponder, how can I become more loving, less irritable, and more present to my wife, my family, my friends and teens with whom I like to work? I like the phrase “habits of the heart” developed by Robert Bellah with a book of the same title, written 20 years ago with perhaps greater relevance today as he explored the loss of American virtues and values of community as undermined by a rugged individualism.



“Habits of the Heart” are developed much like a student learning to play a violin or musical instrument. When you practice over and over you began to hear more deeply and more keenly when observing someone playing. Likewise if you asked Michael Jordan what he saw on the basketball court before passing the ball in last game between the Lakers and the Bulls, I am sure we would be amazed at his quick assessment of what was happening and how he responded by passing the ball to teammate who amazingly scored the winning points in the last seconds from outside the circle. Virtues, in playing a violin or basketball, take practice. The seven fruits of the Spirit of which Paul lists in Romans 12 do not just happen. They are virtues that are developed over time. A kind person looks at the world differently than a mean, cruel person. A kind person sees people differently- will notice when someone is hurting, has a readiness to be moved by compassion, a willingness to do what needs to be done. She or he just knows what to do, how to respond. Kindness is practiced.

I was moved by an NPR story about an Australian man who lived alone with his wife near a bridge. One day while sitting at his table drinking a cup of coffee he looked up and saw a young woman slowly moving herself onto the bridge. He immediately grabbed his coat and started running as fast as he could when he saw her raise her foot to the bridge rail. He caught her just as she was going over the side and almost got pulled over with her. To date he has saved 169 lives on that bridge! He knows through a “habit of the heart” what to do. When the media tried to make him a hero, he just shrugged off the gesture saying this what anyone would do. Compassion is a virtue learned by practice as the playing of a violin. The Spirit is at work in our hearts. It makes our hearts different. It does not do all the work for us but it is with us. The Christian heart is about Christian virtues. They are Christian virtues because they are about Christ. As I grow older I hope to learn as much about compassion - to keep from becoming a grumpy old man if not a better follower of Jesus.

Grace and Peace,
Gene

Thanks to Phillip Cary for insights in his book “Good News for Anxious Christians- Ten Practical Things You Don’t Have to Do.” (2010).

Christian Education

We Never Stop Learning

Wonderful things happen in Sunday School when friends of all ages get together to learn together. Sunday School touches the lives of everyone in the congregation - from the very young to the very old. Youth will meet in the Ministry Building for a great time of fun and learning. Adults will enjoy coffee, friends and learning in the Fellowship Hall. Exciting programs are planned this fall season. Come when you can as you are. Chesterbrook Sunday School kicks off a new season: Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 10 am. For more information call the church office (703)-356-7100.



“Remembering Your Story”

By Arlin Honaker

Chesterbrook UMC's "Remembering Your Story" had a "special session" this summer, where we worked on our memory books. We hope everyone had a wonderful summer.

Remembering Your Story resumes Wednesday, October 5 in the Social Hall.

Reception September 11

After church welcoming Pastor Larkin & his wife Sophia to Chesterbrook UMC.
Please join us!

Sunday School with Sam

Adult Sunday School Teacher, Sam Stalcup will begin a 12 week series in October.

Charge Conference & Luncheon
Sunday September 18th at 12:30
p.m. in the Social Hall
Please Come!

body&soul FITNESS
where **faith and fitness** meet
Classes begin September 12
Mondays 7-8 p.m. In the multipurpose room

...from the Lay Leader

By Elaine Cherry



At this 10 year anniversary of 9/11 we remember well that day, where we were and how we felt when we heard the shocking news that our country was being attacked – for the first time since 1814.

I recall how September 11, 2001 began as a crystal clear Tuesday with beautiful blue, blue skies and a pervasive aura of calm happiness and peace. Around 9:30, after finishing the first 9 holes at Burke Lake Golf Course, I went into the clubhouse and discovered a silent crowd of golfers transfixed before the television set. When I asked what was going on the reply took my breath away – that we had been attacked by planes flying into the World Trade Center, and even more frightening, other planes were in the air heading for other targets, yet unknown...I stood there for a few moments, watching the news and feeling numb with fear as this unbelievable tragedy unfolded. Then my friend and I decided to forgo playing the second 9 holes and head directly for home, not knowing what we would encounter on the way.

We got home safely, while an amazing scene was unfolding at Chesterbrook UMC, and it is that scene which also is engraved in my memory forever, frozen in time. Our pastor, Herb Williams had already begun to react, having heard the Pentagon had also been attacked and realized this was only about 6 miles from our church. At this point no one knew where another missing plane was headed. Pastor Herb Williams went to the church, robed in clerical garb and positioned himself on the front steps of the church. The interesting thing was he had opened both outside double doors to the narthex, and also the inside double doors to the sanctuary, so that anyone driving down Kirby Road was able to see directly into the interior of this House of God. Herb stood there all day, inviting anyone who wanted to pray, to enter the sanctuary and pray alone or with him.

I will never forget that image of our pastor, before the wide open double doors of the Little Church by the Side of the Road, humbly reaching out to offer Christ to the world. Perhaps on this 10th anniversary we might remember that gesture, and think of ways we might also spread Herb's message, even though the observers today are not as acutely aware of their need for Christ as that time 10 years ago.



Lifting Up Local, National & International Issues:

- People of all countries, especially: Libya, Somalia, Horn, Norway, Japan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Haiti, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Korea.
- People serving in harms' way.
- Our President, and all National, Commonwealth and local leaders.
- The Christian Church.

Lifting Up Our Church Family in Prayer:

Our Church:

- Chesterbrook UMC
- Arlington Temple UMC, our 5 Talent partner.
- Bishop Charlene Kammerer and family
- District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Young Jin Cho and his family

Weddings:

Kirstin Perry and Luke Simon (10/22)

Lifting Up Special

Missions:

- Bethany Frazier
- Shade and Fresh Water
- Zion Project, Sarita Hendricksen in Uganda
- Salt and Light, Dominican Republic
- Art for Humanity, Rev. Evans, Honduras
- Andy & Jodi Oliver

Health and Healing:

- Azalie Rose Crain
- Bill
- Bill Robinson
- David Martin
- Diane
- Donald Grey
- Gail Varley (kidney transplant Fall '11)

Jan Harrod (shoulder surgery)

Jessica Russel
Judy
Kristen Holdsworth
Marguerite Gibson
Marion Green
Robert
Sam Waters
Talia (leukemia)

Comfort and Support:

Donna Chuz
Judy

If you wish to add or delete a prayer request, call or email the church office.

A Note from the Music Director



"Everything in God's time..." is a really hard thing to live out when it's a constant battle between patience and anxiously awaiting good news. Finally, I've gotten some.

I have been offered a position as the Music Teacher at Winterfield Elementary, in Charlotte, North Carolina. I'm thrilled to have this opportunity, and to be moving on in my teaching career. It's been a long road getting there, but finally God saw a place where I could shine, and I intend to. I will be sad to leave all of you and not be able to be in worship with you any longer, but I am very excited to start my new life in North Carolina. My prayers are with the congregation. I hope to see you all when I'm home for breaks.

Thank you for this opportunity.

"Music expresses feeling and thought, without language; it was below and before speech, and it is above and beyond all words.

~Robert G. Ingersoll "

SEPTEMBER 11-'01

A poem by Peggy Byers

*September the eleventh – 9-1-1
The horrible hijacking had just been done.
That date is implanted evermore
Our nation was in a state of war.*

*The heartache, the loss, the suffering, the weeping
The shocking realization
Was continually deepening.
Over 6,000 lives were tragically taken.
Such calculated evil – there's no mistaking.*

*Then, through sadness laced with patriotism,
Our work began – we all had a mission we must seek
out the terrorists
and we must rebuild.
They have destroyed our buildings,
But not our will.*

*Dear God, be with us as we all work as one
With you by our side, they will be done.*

GOD BLESS AMERICA

Seminarian Pastor's Column

By Jiyeon Kim

My Grandmother's Love and God's Love

A big reason I visited Korea during this summer was my grandmother's birthday. She is very special in my life. From the time I was born until the summer of 2009 when I left Korea to study, I lived with my grandmother. When I was young, my grandmother took care of my brother and me while my parents were working. She used to bind or braid my hair with a pretty band, and she would buy a pretty dress for me whenever she found one. Because of me, she participated in all school events. Sometimes, she delivered my lunchbox to my school when I forgot it. Sometimes, she needed to run at full speed in the race. As a child, in Korea, my grandmother was so busy since she cooked and prepared refreshments for me every day. She frequently looked around my family fields, and prepared the most fresh vegetables and foods. She did not forget buying a dress for me, as expected. She always waited for me when I went out.

Looking back at the treasured time with my beloved grandmother, I can feel how much she loves me. Her love is similar to God's love. So, it makes me realize how big and amazing God's love is. As my grandmother has shown me how much she loves me by devoting and sacrificing for me, God has showed his love in my life, even by giving His only Son to the world. There is a lesson which my grandmother taught me through her life, "I can love God more when I recognize how much God loves me." Lastly, I want to say to my grandmother, "Thank you and I love you so much."



Could You Help?



The Share furniture program needs volunteers to schedule pick-ups and deliveries. Schedulers work at home. Schedulers retrieve messages offering or requesting furniture, making calls to arrange pick-ups and deliveries, and preparing the schedule for our two trucks. Experience with E-Mail and Word is essential. Anyone interested in doing this vital work should e-mail iauerbach@cox.net.



Trustees
Corner

First, I would like to 'Thank' everyone for their contributions to the exterior painting and repair of the Church.

We received several generous donations and the project is off to a

great start. In addition, Nolan Mackness has made great progress with an interior paint project for our Pre-School. The Board of Trustees continues to focus on the following projects:

- Resolve Water Drainage and structural issues - Ongoing
- Crack in rear exterior wall of Church - Ongoing
- Exterior painting of Church - Ongoing
- Memorial Garden - Planning
- Bond Release - Ongoing

If you are interested in contributing to these longer term beautification projects for our Church please include your donation with any Sunday service offering or feel free to mail your donation to the CUMC Administrative Office at 1711 Kirby Road, VA 22101.

By Sam Askew

Please be sure that your donation is made out to "Chesterbrook United Methodist Church" with 'CUMC Beautification Fund' on the memo line. These donations will be used only for the enhancement of the Church building itself.

We are continuing to improve the Church grounds and property in order to make bond release. We had to adjust our bond release time line goal to November 2011; the Board of Trustees believes this to be a more realistic goal. Please continue to send me your thoughts by e-mailing me at samuel_askew@yahoo.com. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas as together we continue to 'create sacred spaces' at Chesterbrook United Methodist Church.

Very Sincerely,

Sam Askew
Chairman, CUMC Board of Trustees

**Chesterbrook
United Methodist
Church**

Chesterbrook Chimes is a publication of Chesterbrook United Methodist Church
Articles for publication must be submitted by the 15th of the month.

You may contact Pastor Larkin by E-mail: Gelark@cox.net

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**CUMC Preschool and
Child Care Center**

WWW.CHESTERBROOKUMCPRESCHOOL.ORG

PHONE: 703-854-1691

Fax: 703 -854-1693

Email:

Chesterbrookumcpreschool@gmail.com



...from the Preschool Director

By *Christina Maxwell*

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year here at Chesterbrook UMC Preschool & Child Care! We hope that all of our new and returning families had a wonderful summer vacation. The new year will begin on Tuesday September 6th, 2011. Each individual program was sent a welcome email with all information regarding the first week of school and tuition payments. If you have any questions please email the director Christina Maxwell at chesterbrookumcpreschool@gmail.com.

September will be a busy month with all of the children getting used to their new environment and routines. Throughout the beginning weeks of school the students will be getting to know their teachers, classmates, learning all about themselves, sharing about their families and their summer vacations. The three year old Bumblebee Class will be having Back to School night on Wednesday September 14th from 7:00-8:00 p.m. The two year old Butterfly Class and the Pre-K classes will have their Back to School night on Thursday September 15th from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

***Chesterbrook UMC Preschool & Child Care
Summer Camps FUN!!!!***



Hawaiian Luau



Eric the Energy



Fun & Games

Donations to Chesterbrook United Methodist Church and it's Ministries are welcome!
1711 Kirby Road, McLean, VA 22101

If you wish to unsubscribe to Chesterbrook Chimes,
Please call the church office (703) 356-7100 or email ChesterbrookUMC@gmail.com.

CUMC Calendar September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10 a.m. Preschool Meeting	2	3
4 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Communion Sunday	5 Labor Day	6 CUMC Preschool Starts	7	8 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	9	10
11 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10 a.m. Sunday School 12 p.m. Welcome New Pastor 2 p.m. MSM Open House Ice cream Social	12 7:30 p.m. Body & Soul	13	14 7 p.m. CUMC Preschool Back to School Night	15 7 p.m. CUMC Preschool Back to School Night 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	16 CUMC Newsletter Deadline	17
18 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10 a.m. Sunday School 12:30 p.m. Charge Conference	19 7:30 p.m. Body & Soul	20	21	22 6:30 p.m. MSM Back to School Night 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	23	24
25 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10 a.m. Sunday School	26 7:30 p.m. Body & Soul	27 7:30 p.m. Church Council	28	29 9 p.m. Korean Men's Basketball	30	



Anniversaries

September Birthdays

- 2 Cassel Mosechetto
- 8 Patrick Howard
- 15 Donna Buffington
- 23 Gary Spewak
- 26 Blake Richardson
- 28 Tom Wotring
- 29 Karen Sherman
- 30 Robert Spewak III