

JULY 2025 INSIGHTS

The Newsletter of Mitchells Presbyterian Church

Looking ahead:

- JULY 6TH - COMMUNION
JULY 20TH - FRED/NATS GAME--6 PM
- AUGUST 3RD - COMMUNION
AUGUST 15TH - COMMUNITY STEAK DINNER
--5-7PM
AUGUST 31ST - ICE CREAM SOCIAL-- 12 PM
- SEPT. 5TH - FRED /NATS GAME --7 PM
FIREWORKS NIGHT
- OCT. 11TH - CAR SHOW - 10 AM -3 PM
- NOV. 30TH - THANKSGIVING LEFTOVER
LUNCHEON - 12 PM



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PASTOR'S CORNER

What to write... what to write... this is the only thought in my head as I watch the cursor blink at me on the computer's screen. It's 98 degrees outside, but I can see the breeze blowing the tree by the historical marker. An engaging topic for this pastor's corner seems to escape my mind. What would folks enjoy reading about? What is there to give voice to in a new way that hasn't already been discussed in sermons, studies or fellowship? Three months away from serving MPC for four years, and I'm already out of newsletter ideas. I'd have never thought that I'd be washed up so early in my career. 😊 Perhaps that is the topic... Maybe... but I'm not so sure. Because washed up brings about images of trash and seaweed left on the beach after the tide, especially as I think of summer heat and vacations. When the water washes things up on the shore, suddenly, what had spent so much time being tossed to and fro by the sea, is suddenly still and starts to dry - a new experience for these randomly deposited than in their recent history. There it is, the topic.

So often, we look at being washed up as a bad thing. The great athlete becomes washed up when they can no longer play the way they use to.

-- continued on page 2

Stop in for some Theolo-Tea
Mondays 3:30pm
 at Mitchells Presbyterian Church



Come by for tea time, where you can chat with the pastor, pray for what's on your heart, discuss theological topics, or just sip and sit.

Fellowship Events

MARCH 30 6PM Luck of the Irish Potluck and Bingo	APRIL 5 9AM-12PM Spring Picnic with Lunch/Afters	JUNE 20 7PM Cookout and Movie Night
JULY 20 6PM MPC at the BallPark - FredNats Game	AUGUST 15 5PM-7PM Community Steak Dinner	AUGUST 31 12PM Ice Cream Social after Worship
SEPT 5 7PM MPC at the BallPark - FredNats Game - Firework Night	NOV 30 12PM Thanksgiving Leftovers Luncheon	

SECOND ANNUAL
AUTUMN AUTO EXPO
Saturday October 11th, 2025
10-3

ITEMS NEEDED FOR RAFFLES:

Please reach out to folks you know that have home businesses (Avon, Pampered Chef, crafts, etc.) and local business owners/employees, for donations of their products, gift cards, or monetary donations. . Provide them with a flyer(s) for details. Collect their product & information and we will acknowledge them on the sponsor list that will be displayed at the event. Any questions, contact Brett, Patrick, or Kathy

PASTOR'S CORNER CONTINUED:

Actors become washed up when their movies move from blockbusters to busts. And musicians are washed up when they no longer sound like they did when their career began. And each of us may find ourselves being considered washed up when our prime (whatever that may actually mean) is no longer our reality. But when any of us are washed up, we are able to begin again. There're several scriptures I could quote here, whether it be the newness offered to us (Lamentations 3), or the calls to leave the past behind us (Isaiah 43/Philippians 3); but I like thinking about this in relation to 2 Corinthians 5:17. This is the verse that I often turn to for our assurance of pardon in worship, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!"

So here I am, washed up on the shore of this newsletter—and maybe that's exactly where I needed to land. Being washed up may just be the beginning of being made new. And in this church, with this community, and in Christ, new things are always possible. Washed up doesn't mean used up. In Christ, it means you're ready for something new. And maybe—just maybe—that new thing is already on the horizon. And so maybe "washed up" isn't such a bad thing after all. Maybe it's just where God does some of His best work—where the noise of the tide fades, and the stillness lets something new begin.

- Patrick

MPC SPOTLIGHT

ALAN AND SUSAN WOHLLEBEN

Alan and Susan much prefer to be behind the scenes and had to be gently persuaded to be interviewed. Alan was born in Rhode Island and moved to Culpeper with his family when he was ten. His father was a printer at the Star-Exponent before starting his own printing business. Susan was born and raised in Culpeper and if she isn't related to you, she knows just about everyone in Culpeper anyway.

Susan remembers that Alan gave her a box of chocolates when they were in the 6th grade (she still has the box on their mantle) but they didn't start dating until senior year of high school. They continued to date while Alan attended the College of William and Mary and they married on June 6, the week after Alan graduated. They have been married for 55 years and have two daughters, Beth and Lori Ann, and three grandchildren.

Alan received a camera at age 12 and shortly after, one of his photos was published in the local paper. He helped pay for college by taking photos for the yearbook and was the Photo Editor his senior year. Photography became his career.

Susan said that growing up, her family went to Sunday School at Culpeper Baptist Church but went to church at Culpeper Presbyterian Church. When she was 18, her mother decided to join the Presbyterian church but Susan maintained her membership at Culpeper Baptist where she taught Sunday School for 5- and 6-year-old children for the next 30 years. Alan's family attended Stevensburg Baptist Church. A few years ago, they decided they would like to start attending church together and visited several churches. They had almost settled on one but Susan remembered that her Dad loved to go to Mitchells Presbyterian so they decided to visit. They said they were welcomed by everyone. Susan said that Mitchells has the friendliest people of any church in the county!

They quickly became very involved. Both are members of the Safety and Security Team. Susan oversees setting up for communion and obtaining elders to serve. If there is a need or an activity, they are both there to help but they don't expect nor want any recognition or accolades.

We are very blessed that they chose Mitchells Presbyterian Church, and thank you, Dot Faulconer, for urging them to join the church.





Welcome July

Dear God...

As we stand at the beginning of this new month, bless us with vision to see the best of things to come, wisdom to make good decisions and most of all, faith that you are walking with us every step of the way. Amen!

Have a superb new month

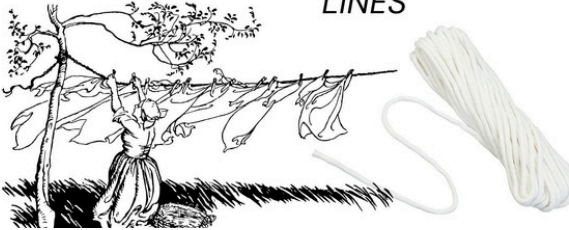


CLEAN UP BUCKET COLLECTION

Month of July

CLOTHESLINES

COTTON OR PLASTIC LINES

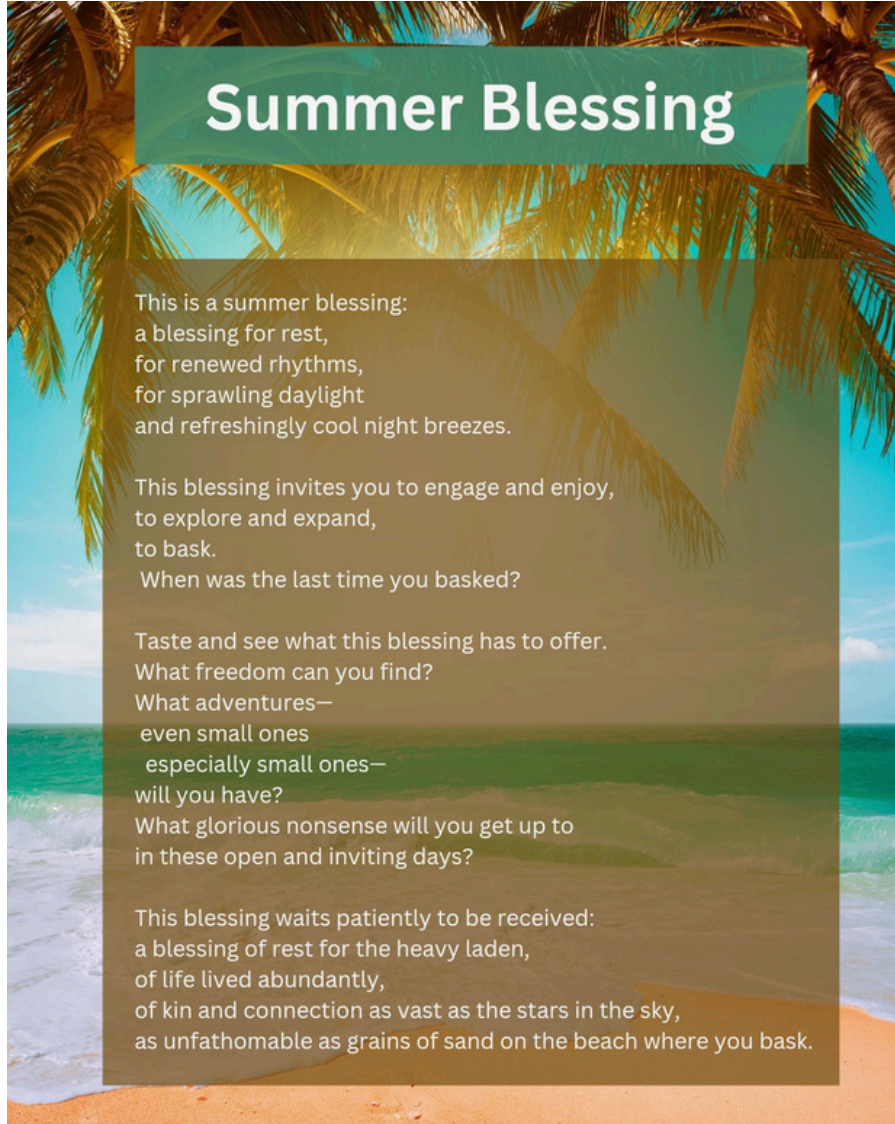


SHARE



** If you have a poem, prayer, praise or celebration to share, please submit by the 25th.**

USHERS:
Perry Kinsey
and
Scott Mitchell



Summer Blessing

This is a summer blessing:
a blessing for rest,
for renewed rhythms,
for sprawling daylight
and refreshingly cool night breezes.

This blessing invites you to engage and enjoy,
to explore and expand,
to bask.
When was the last time you basked?

Taste and see what this blessing has to offer.
What freedom can you find?
What adventures—
even small ones
especially small ones—
will you have?
What glorious nonsense will you get up to
in these open and inviting days?

This blessing waits patiently to be received:
a blessing of rest for the heavy laden,
of life lived abundantly,
of kin and connection as vast as the stars in the sky,
as unfathomable as grains of sand on the beach where you bask.

Mission & Outreach (M & O)

CLEAN UP BUCKET PROJECT

For the month of JULY we would like to ask the congregation to donate: 50 - 100 ft. CLOTHES LINES (Cotton or plastic lines)

Please place your donations in the Narthex or in the Fellowship Hall near the Bucket Display !

"THANK YOU" to everyone who donated Scouring Pads and Scrub Brushes for the month of June !

M & O will be collecting various items throughout the Summer months. Buckets will be filled in October!

We APPRECIATE your continued support of this Mission Outreach ministry!



MPC AT THE BALLPARK

The church family will be heading to the FredNats baseball game on:

Sunday July 20th, first pitch at 6:00PM

And

Friday September 5th, first pitch at 7:00PM

BIG THANKS TO STEVE DUBOIS AND PATENT PORTFOLIO BUILDERS PLLC FOR OFFERING US USE OF THEIR BALLPARK SUITE- WITH A/C!

WE ARE NOT DAIRY QUEEN BUT WE HAVE GREAT SUNDAYS

MPC Family Progressive Dinner

A progressive dinner is a fun and unique dining experience where each course of the meal is served at a different location. It's a great way to explore different cuisines, grow in fellowship, and have a wonderful night out.

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall, as a head count will be important for hosts!



MUSIC NOTES FROM MARY SCOTT

The Culpeper Baptist Church 2025 Concert Series has been finalized. All concerts are free and take place in the church sanctuary. Please put these dates on your calendar and bring friends with you. Check out the bulletin board near the Music Room for more details about each concert.



Our own Daniel Grotz!

Sunday, August 10 at 4:00 p.m.



Washington Symphonic Brass and Percussion Ensemble

Friday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m.



American Youth Harp Ensemble

Saturday, December 6 at 4:00 p.m.

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Phil Stuart Jimmy Jenkins	4	5
6	7	8	9 Janet Miller	10	11	12 Philip Inskeep
13	14 Danielle Kapp	15	16	17	18 Chuck Gyory	19 Terry Weaver
20	21 Steven Tidman	22	23	24 Philip Grotz	25	26
27 Carlynn Walker	28	29	30 Bo & Libba Chase	31		