



Faith Harbor
A beacon of hope, anchored in Christ, sharing God's love through joyful service.



This is from a sermon that Pastor Bescye Burnett preached last weekend. We wanted to share this with you.

“What is the question?” - Acts 8:26-40 (NIV)

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

“Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.'

*“Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked. 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So, he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: 'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. **What can stand in the way of my being baptized?**' And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.”*

Last week again we had what I call a story or should I say an episode in the Bible as written by Luke in Acts taken out of context and given to us to read. What I would like so much to do is dialogue. So, I ask “what is the question?” **Pause** here for a moment and let’s talk about these verses...what do you know about them? Remember the sermon title is “What is the question?”

What do you know about Philip? What do you know about the Ethiopian eunuch? What do you know about what he was reading? How important is all of this in this text?

There was so much going on in the life of both Philip and the Ethiopian before they came to this point. Yet they both ended up in the same place...on a desert road... Jerusalem to Gaza.

The angel told Philip to go to this place...probably during a pretty difficult time in his life...go to this desert place...this road...what is the question you have about Philip? The Ethiopian Eunuch we are told had gone to Jerusalem to worship and was on his way home.

Last week I had an experience with the staff of this church because I am sure our pastor received the same kind of message. When he told me he wanted to go to my hometown of Roseboro, NC. I wanted to know why. No one intentionally goes to Roseboro. The little spot on the map. When we had some conflict with schedules I was sort of delighted and responded “you don’t have to do this for me I can go to Roseboro anytime. It is home! I had already changed my schedule for something else when he called and said we are going to Roseboro.

When Philip got to the place on the desert road, he met the Ethiopian Eunuch and got another message...this time from the Spirit...Go to the chariot and stay close.

He ran up to the chariot...The rest of the message we receive in this passage is the dialogue between the two and how the relationship developed. All the questions. Philip didn’t push the Ethiopian. He let the Ethiopian lead the way.

What is the Question?

Do you understand what you are reading? How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me? Who can speak of his descendants? “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else? And then...what happened?

Philip shared the story of Jesus. The Ethiopian Eunuch was able to recognize the importance of the story and being baptized when he noticed the water. Philip allowed this to happen. The Spirit of God in that place at that time.

In Roseboro our staff met my younger sister Sheryl and my oldest cousin Marie. I didn’t realize this until afterwards. Pastor asked the question...remember...what is the question? Or the statement...tell us about Bescye...First of all you'll know it now. My family calls me “Bet”. Your pastor had the nerve to call me Rev. Bet. My sister and cousin said things about me that I knew and that I didn't know. I have kept my family and my home so close to my heart to my soul...

And then...what happened?

Our staff met this country girl who will always be a country girl and learned how to live in this world that God has given to her and love it but not just love it. What they learn now is if they didn’t already know it is we have a Pastor who listens to the Spirit of God.

When I read this in a devotion this week this is what I knew had happened in Roseboro... my hometown..." beautiful image of what it means to be on a journey with another and to hear the word of God in new ways... the Ethiopian eunuch on his path and asking a simple question, "What are you reading?" He didn't approach the man with the attitude of "God told me to come here to tell you about Jesus," even though that was the truth. Philip respected the man more than that. He let the eunuch lead, and lead he did, by inviting Philip to sit with him, to listen to the word, and to ask the questions. Philip responded, "starting with this scripture," the place where the man was meditating, and from there he shared the good news of Jesus. Even after this conversation, Philip didn't instruct the Eunuch what to do next, but allowed the man to discover his own next step. "Here is water; what is to prevent me from being baptized?"

And then...what happened?

"When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea."

God's Spirit is never put in a box. We do so much to box it up. The Spirit, a constant presence. God's Spirit doing as it pleases and not boxed in by human expectations and limitations. Thanks be to God!

12/03/23	Mark 13.24-37	03/25/24	Mark 11.12-33	07/14/24	Mark 6.1-13
12/10/23	Mark 1.1-8	03/26/24	Mark 12.1-27	07/21/24	Mark 6.14-29
12/17/23	Luke 1.46-55	03/27/24	Mark 12.28-44	07/28/24	Mark 6.30-44
12/24/23	Luke 1.26-38	03/28/24	Mark 13.1-23	08/04/24	Mark 6.45-52
12/24/23	Luke 2.1-20	03/29/24	Mark 14-15	08/11/24	Mark 6.53-56
12/31/23	Mark 1.8	03/31/24	Mark 16.1-8	08/18/24	Mark 7.1-23
01/07/24	Mark 1.9-11	04/07/24	Mark 16.9-13	08/25/24	Mark 7.24-37
01/14/24	Mark 1.12-13	04/14/24	Mark 16.14-18	09/01/24	Mark 8.11-21
01/21/24	Mark 1.14-20	04/21/24	Mark 16.19-20	09/08/24	Mark 8.22-26
01/28/24	Mark 1.21-28	04/28/24	Mark 3.7-12	09/15/24	Mark 8.27-38
02/04/24	Mark 1.29-39	05/05/24	Mark 3.13-19	09/22/24	Mark 9.1-8
02/11/24	Mark 1.40-45	05/12/24	Mark 3.20-30	09/29/24	Mark 9.9-13
02/14/24	Mark 2.1-12	05/19/24	Mark 3.31-35	10/06/24	Mark 9.14-29
02/18/24	Mark 2.13-17	05/26/24	Mark 4.1-9	10/13/24	Mark 9.30-37
02/25/24	Mark 2.18-22	06/02/24	Mark 4.10-20	10/20/24	Mark 9.38-50
03/03/24	Mark 2.23-28	06/09/24	Mark 4.21-25	10/27/24	Mark 10.1-12
03/10/24	Mark 3.1-6	06/16/24	Mark 4.26-34	11/03/24	Mark 10.13-16
03/17/24	Mark 10.46-52	06/23/24	Mark 4.35-41	11/10/24	Mark 10.17-31
03/24/24	Mark 11.1-11	06/30/24	Mark 5.1-20	11/17/24	Mark 10.32-34
		07/07/24	Mark 5.21-43	11/24/24	Mark 10.35-45

REMINDER:

Leadership Meeting tonight (5/02) at 6:00pm.
Room #6

Class of 2024 Graduates! Please join us this Sunday at the 9:30 service as we recognize and celebrate our Seniors...

Topsail High School

Jency Paliotti: UNC Chapel Hill - Nutrition
Addie MacDougall: Brevard College - General Studies
Willow Case: Cape Fear Community College - General Studies
Dylan Minor: Western Carolina University - Computer Science
Grace Holmes: UNC Charlotte - Nursing
Chris Donnelson: Eastern Carolina University - Music/Education
Casey Tayloe: Cape Fear Community College - General Studies
Jackson Lafave: Cape Fear Community College - Psychology
Ava Barnes: NC State - General Studies

Longleaf School of the Arts

Jane Jordan: Western Carolina University - General Studies

Providence Preparatory School

Karter Duddy: Salutatorian, Graduating with AAS Degree



I hope your dreams take you...
to the corners of your smiles,
to the highest of your hopes,
to the windows of your opportunities,
and to the most special places
your heart has ever known."

News & *Announcements*

WELCOME TABLE

May 5th: Judy Clemmons & Connie Carroll

COMMUNION SERVERS:

Youth

Notes from the Board of Trustees:

1. The sidewalk has been completed, using semi permeable concrete that merges seamlessly with the existing wooden walkway.
2. We hired a contractor to distribute the dirt and mulch on our property, and to clear and deepen the drainage ditches. We are still waiting for NCDOT to work on the ditch near the road in front of our property, but the drainage issue has improved tremendously.
3. The kitchen now has a working dishwasher, stove and vent, and sinks. We have ordered a few miscellaneous items and renovation is nearly complete. We will hold a brief "training" to help people learn to use the new kitchen before the family dinner / talent show on June 5th (5:30 pm).
4. Pastor Philip and his father, Bob Chryst, have installed lower cabinets (leftover from the kitchen remodel) and open shelving in the "music room" to the left of the choir loft. They added wheels to the filing cabinets and built a portable desk for the music director that can be stashed out of sight during services.
5. We will host a work team in May and hope they will start building a prayer walkway along the unused land.
6. The trustees would like to thank the preschool for paying the electric bill for the entire church!
7. Upcoming projects include replacing an indoor and outdoor HVAC unit in the sanctuary, replacing part or all of the sound system, and possible repair of lighting in the sanctuary.

If you'd like more information on any of the projects, please contact John Weaver.



Do you have a heart for worship? Join us at 5:30pm in the sanctuary~ **Saturday, May 11th** for a contemporary Worship service!

Bring your friends and come with an open heart.

Faith Harbor Pilots

A ministry for men, by men, for the good of all.

Faith Harbor United Methodist Men invite all men to be a part of something special. The men of the Church are being called to serve as "A beacon of hope, anchored in Christ, sharing God's love through joyful service." The meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of each month unless otherwise designated. We meet at 8am for breakfast and fellowship. Please join us as we continue our planning for the future. All men are eligible to join. The only requirement is the desire to become a disciple of Christ.

We hope to see you at our next monthly meeting ~Saturday May 18, 2024 at 8am.

Tuesday Morning Men's Group

Come as you can, if you can - This group meets at Sears Landing on Tuesdays at 8:30am and waits until 9:00am to order for those wishing to eat. This is an informal gathering for all men who are interested in food and fellowship. If you have questions, contact Roger Morton at rramorton@gmail.



Coming Soon...Faith Harbor Homecoming celebration & guest speaker Lee Patterson – Sunday, May 19th. The Hospitality Team will be offering a BBQ picnic lunch. A signup sheet will be available near the kitchen for side dishes and desserts.

Please join us!

Save
the
Date

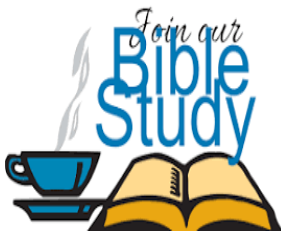
June 5th at 6:00pm – Sponsored by FHUMC Choir



Mark your calendar for the upcoming Talent Show – Wednesday, June 5th following the fellowship dinner. Stay tuned for more information!



If you would like to supply Altar flowers in Memory or in Honor of a loved one, the sign-up sheet is located on the credenza between the office and Room #6.



Come and try the Monday Bible study! We meet weekly at 1:00pm in Room 6.

We will focus on the book of Mark, verse by verse, looking at the narrative, yet more importantly discuss the spiritual meaning especially as it relates to our own lives. Drop in & join us...all are welcome!

Women Rooted in Christ, Anchored in Love, Building each other up.

Connections matter...connections with God and with each other. Come and see how God creates a place for women to be encouraged & strengthened, as we learn about Jesus's love for us and how to share it with others. Regardless of what stage of life you are in, you have gifts and insights that others need, and we want you to be a part of building up God's Kingdom. If you have any questions, please call Stacie Holmes at 910-270-9465 or email: stacieaholmes@gmail.com. **When? Wednesdays from 11:15-12:30p.m.**

The Thrift Store Bake Sale is held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month and continues to be a dependable fund raiser for the United Women in Faith (United Methodist Women) for the last 15 years. We thank you for your support, as we continue our monetary donations to such organizations as Methodist Home for Children, Share the Table, Roots of Recovery, and others.



The "Keep Me Dry" diaper program is a mission of the Harbor Thrift Store and supported by United Women in Faith. It is housed at Share the Table where clients can pick up a package of 20 diapers per week to supplement their babies' diaper needs. Studies have shown that 1 out of 3 families experience diaper shortages and our area is no exception. If you are able, please consider donating diapers or a monetary gift. There is a play pen for collection in the Narthex.

Thank you for your support and God's blessings as we care for the smallest ones in our community.



The Thrift Store is in need of gently used summer children's wear.

Also, Spring clean-out of household items and furniture!

The **Nursing Home Ministry** will join members of the Gathering Church of Surf City on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am in the Memory Care Unit at the Woodbury Wellness Center located at 2778 Country Club Dr, Hampstead. **You are welcome to join us every second Sunday for worship and visit with the residents.**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."—John 3:16

Contact: Bescye P Burnett (678) 882-6721 or bescyep@gmail.com

"Love...Loves...Loved"

"Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced". —James Baldwin (1924–1987)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS...



Important Calendar News!

Jr. Basic youth group is looking for someone who would be willing to heat up and serve food to our elementary school children. We provide all the food (chicken nuggets, pasta, easy type foods that are kid friendly), I just really need help with someone to prepare it and then clean up afterwards. Please reach out if you can help. Let me just add that this is one of the children's favorite things to do at church; have a meal and fellowship together.

This Sunday for Jr. Basic I will be taking the children to Shipwreck Golf for some Spring fun! I will have the church van, however if we have more than 13 children, I will probably need another parent to drive. Please let me know if your child will be in attendance. We will finish with a bag lunch back at the church. Pick up is at 12:30. Please have your child dress in cool comfortable clothes and wear sunscreen or hat. It does get hot and is very sunny while playing.

May

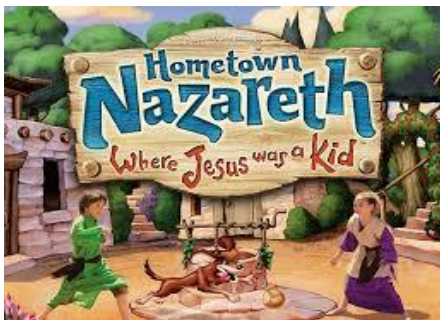
May 5th: Putt-Putt Jr. Basic, pick up 12:30

May 19th: Jr. Basic, pick up 12:30

June

June 9th: Jr. Basic End of the school year party and celebration!

June 24th-27th: Vacation Bible School 9am-Noon. ***Note time change***



Vacation Bible School is right around the corner. I will be making an announcement to the church next week regarding registration, volunteer opportunities and needs. In the meantime, please keep the dates listed below on your radar and consider volunteering, even if it is for only one day or for clean up or whatever, we always need many hands to make it possible! There will be a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Also, I would like to note that this year we have reduced our number to participants to 75 children. Registration will be open to church families and their friends the first two weeks before I make it available to the public. There will be no online registration. I will have a registration table in the Narthex next month. Please be sure to sign up your children as soon as it is available to secure their spot. I really want to make sure our Faith Harbor children and their friends can attend.

Blessings,

Melissa Schleinkofer, FHUMC Children's Ministry Director

(484)515-7361

mxcook8@yahoo.com

faithharborumc.secretary@gmail.com



Hi all bAsiC youth group families!

Wow, here we are close to the end of the school year already! I wish success to each of our youth as they complete this semester. Please see below to mark your calendars for May/June for upcoming activities:

***Sun., May 5th** ~ Senior Recognition (We have 10 Seniors!) and Youth Sunday at the 9:30am Service. *Most of you have already signed up for the Youth Sunday helper slots, if your youth has not yet and would like to serve- please let me know, thanks!

That Evening-

MS youth, 4:00-4:45pm in The Reef

MS And HS youth, 4:45-5:30pm**Special time of Yoga (with Mr. Bill) & Centering Prayer in the Sanctuary** (Bring a towel or yoga mat if you would like)

HS youth, 5:30-6:30pm in the Reef

***Sun., May 12th** ~ Happy Mother's Day! No regular youth group meetings. Celebrate with your family!

***Sun., May 19th** ~ Homecoming at the 9:30am Service with Meal afterwards.

That Evening-

MS youth, 4:00-5pm in The Reef

MS And HS youth, 5-5:30pm Fellowship

HS youth, 5:30-6:30pm in The Reef

***Sun., May 26th** ~ No regular youth group meetings due to the Memorial Day weekend. Enjoy the holiday!

***Thurs., May 30th**~ THS Graduation Ceremony- See y'all there!

****June Happenings~**

Sun., June 2nd ~ **Youth Fundraiser Bake Sale before and after the 9:30am Service.** Funds go towards summer youth mission activities! Parents- Please let us know if you can bake & bring items in for the sale. Desserts like brownies, cookies, muffins, rice Krispie treats, etc. sell well. We ask that you keep everything nut free to avoid allergy issues. All Youth- Please come out to help with the sell that Sunday! Ms. Kim McCluskey and Stacie Holmes have graciously offered to spearhead this sale since I will be away on vacation that week.

Sun., June 9th~ Please join us for the Family Fun Fest at Faith Harbor UMC to kick-off the Summer!!!! Mark your calendars for this event from 4-6pm. There will be a Giant Waterslide, Foam Machine, Live Music, Games and Food! All families - children, youth, parents are invited & feel free to bring a friend. *Postcards and invites to be sent out very soon, thanks!!

Tues., June 11th ~Middle School Breakfast & Bible Study on Tuesdays from 9:30-11am. Session 1 runs every Tues through July 9th. Session 2- tba.

Sun., June 16th ~ Happy Father's Day! This will be our Youth Sunday for June. Please let me know if your youth can serve, thanks! **Also, after the 9:30am service, Ms. Jessica will be available to Notarize the High School Summer Mission trip forms. I will send copies out and have some hard copies on hand that day.

Mon., June 17th ~ Youth Council Meeting at 5pm in the Library. All are welcome to attend, especially our youth.

Mon.- Thurs., June 24th-27th from 9am- Noon. All Youth (MS & HS) are encouraged to come help- even for a day or 2! Reach out if available, thanks!

Save the Dates/Other info.

High Schoolers & parents- Be on the lookout throughout the Summer for "Pop Up" events. We will likely have 1 every other week, so be sure to check your emails/texts for more info.!

Maple Hill VBS outreach~ July 10th-14th at Maple Hill Presbyterian Church. All Youth (MS & HS) are welcome to join in this fun outreach opportunity

High School Summer Mission Trip~ July 14th-20th in Seymour, TN with Team Effort Missions. If you have not PAID your *First Deposit of \$100 per youth that Was due by March 14th, Please kindly do so. The last payment of \$100 is due by June 3rd for a total of \$200 for the registration.* The other half and transportation is covered by the church and fundraising.

Lots of information listed above! Feel free to contact me should you have any questions. These are exciting times for our bAsiC (brothers And sisters in Christ) youth here at Faith Harbor UMC and we covet your prayers as we seek to mentor them and grow them up in their Faith! Thank you for your continued love and support!

Peace of Christ be with you,

Jewels Swain, Fhumc Youth Coordinator

(910)232-9844 or julietswain@hotmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Instead of worrying about my future, I will focus on God.

Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

~Matthew 6:34 (NIV)



Members: Joyce Arnette; Ray Blackburn; Sylvia Bowman; Doris & Mike Davis; David Decatur; Patty Feige; Diane Geary; Gail Hargett-Lilly; Janet Hughes; Janice Long; Doug & Sandi Lowery; Martha Marlow; Tony Merlino; Larry & Becki Modlin; Alma Osborn (Dale); Judy Pratt; Ron (Annie) Voli; Steve Wells; Alice & Owen Williams; Dean Wise; Vicki Wygant

Military: Joe Fraley, Andy Harrison, Ryan Hermance; Greg Holmes; Joey Horne; Abbie Kizer, John Modlin, Branden Mooney, Tyler Ray, David Ritz, Michael Roberson, Charlotte Taylor

Family and Friends: Kelly Bonnell's Husband; Paxton (Connie Carroll's son); Pat Bower (Sandy Sly's friend); Judy Grubbs Cordts (Sandy Sly's friend); Eileen Eifert (John Pratt's sister); Hayden Ennis Family; Parker Fox; Rick Hughes; Steven Penley (Jewels' cousin); Ted Penny (Vance's Dad); Joey Osborn (Colin Rice); Barbara & Neil Schilling; *Parker Swain*; Brenda (Harriet Rice's friend); Betty Ann (friend of Diane Secary); Sarah Kilpatrick and family (Johnsie's Niece).

And all unnamed persons needing God's peace, comfort, and healing. Heavenly Father, I am praying for complete healing and good health. Please take away my worries & grant me inner peace and strength. AMEN

SCRIPTURE CARD ~Week of May 6th

Centering Prayer: O sing to the Lord a new song. Psalm 98.1

M Acts 16.11-15, John 15.26-16.4

Tu Acts 16.22-34, John 16.5-11

W Acts 17.15-18.1, John 16.12-12-15

Th Acts 18.1-8, John 16.16-20

F Acts 18.9-18, John 16.20-23

Sa Acts 18.23-28, John 16.23-28

Su Acts 1.15-26, I John 5.9-13, John 17.6-19

Key scripture: Acts 17.28: "For we too are his offspring."



MAY

2ND: Isaac Henry

4th: Michael Alexander; Kevin Woolard

6th: Milly Ferrell

7th: Gail Ace

11th: Hunt Tayloe

13th: David Cosner

14th: Kevin Brooks; Aiden Roberson

17th: Caroline Shepard; Sandy Sly

18th: Oscar Phillips; Austin Hengst; Deanna Beard

20th: DeAnne Chryst; Doug Medlin

27th: Emma Chryst

28th: Melissa Roberson

31st: Chris Campbell



HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT FAITH HARBOR UMC

Sunday, 5/05 Youth/Senior Sunday

8:00 Beach Service
9:30 Communion Service
10:30 JR Basic
10:45 *Sin & Salvation* Session
3:00p Celebrate Recovery Meeting, Rm. 6
4:00p MS Youth Group
5:00p MS/HS Fellowship Time
5:30p HS Youth Group

Monday, 5/06

9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6
1:00p Bible Study, Rm. 6
6:30p Cub Scouts

Tuesday, 5/07

8:30 Men's Breakfast Group @ Sears Landing
9:00 Quilters, Rm. 6
6:00p Praise Band Practice
7:00p Women's AA/Reef

Wednesday, 5/08

9:30 Communion
10:00 Rainbow Circle, Rm. 6
10:30 Staff Meeting
11:15 Women's Group
7:00p Boy Scouts/Reef
7:00p Choir Practice

Thursday, 5/09

12:00 AA Group, Rm. 6
6:30p Girl Scout Troop #4242

Friday, 5/10

8:30 Women's Breakfast Group

Saturday, 5/11

5:30p Praise Service

Sunday, 5/12

8:00 Beach Service
9:30 Worship Service
10:45 *Sin & Salvation* Session
3:00p Celebrate Recovery Meeting, Rm. 6