

CHRISTIAN HERALD

WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 2018 Number 536

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Rev. Laddie J. Benton, Pastor



Presbyterian Women's Day
Sept. 18, 1994
Speaker - Dr. Katie Cannon

From the Pastor's Desk
The Rev. Laddie J. Benton

"We Are Singing a New Song to the LORD"

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving.
(Colossians 4: 2 - *New Revised Standard Version*)

One of the most critical elements in worshipping God is prayer. This includes both public prayer while worshipping with others, and individual prayer addressing God for a specific need or want. There are many models of prayers that individuals may use for seeking God's divine attention. The most often used model is "The Lord's Prayer" that Jesus taught his disciples. This model begins with adoration of God the Father, followed by petitions for daily needs, and the asking for forgiveness of sins. "The Lord's Prayer" is recorded in Matthew 6: 9-13, and Luke 11: 1-4. This is an excellent model of prayer that should be used by all believers, but in particular to those who are just beginning to learn how to pray.

One model of prayer that I often use is referred to as "ACTS." This model consists of "Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication."

Adoration is to worship and pay homage to God with "great love, devotion, and respect." ("When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion"... Acts 11: 23).

Confession is to acknowledge before God sins committed, repentance, and seeking God's forgiveness. ("If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness"... 1 John 1: 9).

Thanksgiving is an expression of joy (praise) to God for God's many blessings. ("I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving"...Psalm 69: 30).

Supplication is to make a humble and sincere request (petition) to God, and to have faith that God will answer and be willing to submit to God's will. ("In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission"...Hebrews 5: 7).

My sisters and brothers in Christ, step out in faith and try this prayer model. Let me know if it can work for you. If you need guidance, I am available for you.

Your Brother in Christ,



Rev. Laddie J. Benton (Pastor)

STAND UP FOR JESUS!
STAND UP FOR WPC!

SICK, SHUT-INS AND BEREAVED FAMILIES

Joan Marshall, Teondré Morrison-Cooper, Claudette Carter, Justin Johnson, Kevin Herring, Joyce Beckett, Linda Hobbs (Pastor's sister), Marie (Flood) Rhodes, Maurice Alexander, LaKeshia Green & Family, Aimy McKnight, Ethel Kinkaid, Will Kinkaid (Tremont Rehab.), Cherie Spillane, Mrs. Thelma Winfrey, Derric Burden, Shirley Wilson, Shania Hunter (Janice's niece), Vickie Bowers (Pennside), Connie Lantz (Vickie's mother), Kiara Delgado (Penny's granddaughter), Katrina Boykin, Eric George, Henry Johnson, Dale Brown, Valerie Phelps-Robinson, Kenneth Randall, Sabrina (Alex's friend), Oliver & Freida Carter, Nancy Kerper, Jimmy McKee, Rose Fletcher, Sharon Good (April's sister-in-law), Richard Newkirk, Marty & David Banks, Eddie Ramos, Jean Pingatore, Tommy Ridley, Nora Hartford, Mrs. Marjorie McNeill, Paulette Amprey's family, Nicholas (Amber's client), Kim Scott, Evelyn Morrison, Gary Patience (Khadri Saboor), Earl and Marilyn Hoch, Robert Nelson, Melba Stamm, Keith Stamm, Paul Lucia, William "Tune" Davis, Margret Joyce Randall, Thelma Jeanette Randall, Frederick Benton, Tomishia Johnson, Ava Marie Johnson (2 years old), Gail Scott, Hazel Kochel, Genease Brown, Alicia Lee, Linda Benton, Agnes Snead, Jennifer Seidel (Paulette's former coworker), Janice Johnson (Pauline's daughter), Penny Templin, Ella Jackson-Weathers (Harold's sister), Paul Kilpatrick (Ollie's great grandson), Norma D'Augustino, Jonelle Green and son, Langston (2 yrs. old-has cancer), Janice Greer, Rudy Rivera (Puerto Rico), Diane Milshaw, Rita Phillips (Pastor's cousin), Rev. Benton, Kathy Stock and Wally Heinz (Keith's friend in Texas).

PRAY FOR THE BEREAVED

SCRIPTURES

June 3 I Samuel 3:1-10(11-20)

June 10 I Samuel 8:4-11(12-15)

June 17 I Samuel 15:34-16:13

June 24 I Samuel 17(1a,4-11,19-23)

Psalm 139:1-6,13-18

Psalm 138

Psalm 20

Psalm 9:9-20

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13)

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

STANDING COMMITTEES

Christian Concerns – April Coleman

Christian Education – Alexis Green

Evangelism – Yvonne Lewis

Finance – Alexis Green

Property – Stephen Greer

Stewardship – Sharon Davis/Yvonne Lewis

Worship Committee-Pauline Johnson/Alexis Green/LaKeshia Green

BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday 6:30 P.M.

LECTIONARY READINGS

Mark 2:23-3:6

Mark 3:20-35

Mark 4:26-34

Mark 4:35-41

SESSION

Pastor – Rev. Laddie J. Benton

Clerk of Session – Barbara Davis

Church Treasurer – Alexis Green

Benevolence Treasurer – Sharon Davis

Club Fund Treasurer – Winnie J. Burden

Sunday School – Sharon Davis

ORGANIZATION

Men's Fellowship – Oliver Carter

Pastor's Aid – Toni Brooks/Winnie Burden/
LaKeshia Green

Personnel – Stephen Greer

Presbyterian Women – Alexis Green/LaKeshia Green

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Senior Choir – Thursday, 1:00 PM

**WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WILL ACCEPT DONATIONS
FROM ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH OUR MISSIONS.**

WPC WEB PAGE: WPC1823.COM

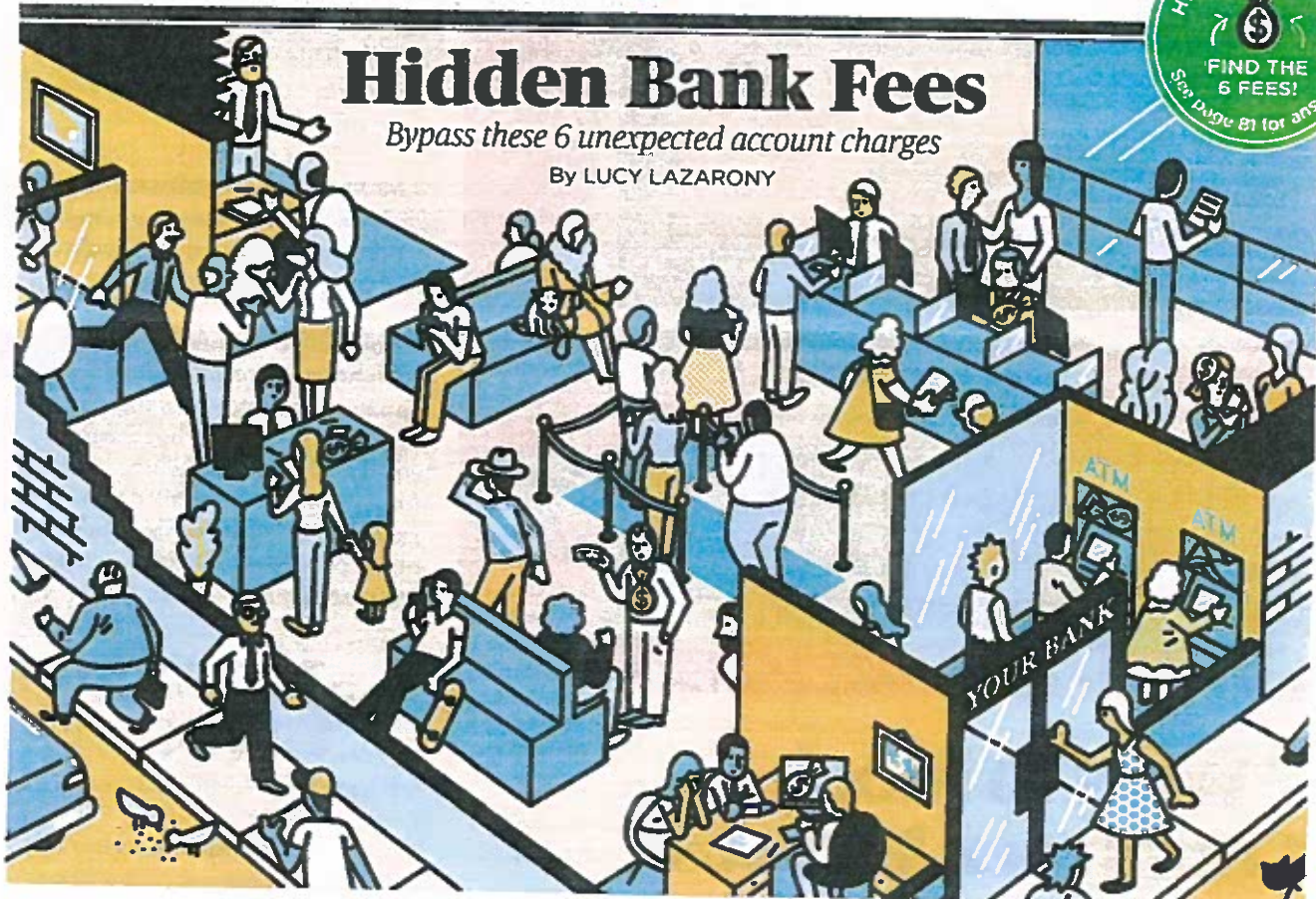
*“For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you,
Do not fear; I will help you.” (Isaiah 41:13)*

June 2018

* Denotes Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					June 1	2
					Julius Benton *	
3 Communion 10:00 AM Sunday Service	4	5	6 Bible Study -- 6:30 PM	7 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	8 Lyric Phelps *	9 Jaylin Key *
10 Communion 10:00 AM Sunday Service	11	12 Worship Comm. Meets 10:00 AM	13 Bible Study -- 6:30 PM	14 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	15	16 Winnie Burden *
17 Father's Day Presbyterian Men	18 Paulette Amprey *	19 Jaylei Porelter *	20 Bible Study -- 6:30 PM	21 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	22	23 223 rd General Assy. Convenes, St. Louis
24 10:00 AM Sunday Jonah Chest	25	26 Juneteenth	27 World Refugee Day	28 First Day of Summer	29 Sherry Brooks *	30 223 rd General Assy. Ends
Pauline Johnson * PC(USA) World AIDS Sunday 10:00 AM Sunday Service	Season of Prayer					

MoneySaver



Hidden Bank Fees

Bypass these 6 unexpected account charges

By LUCY LAZARONY

PAPER-STATEMENT FEE

What it's for: Yes, some banks now charge you to mail a monthly statement to your home.

Typical charge: \$1 to \$5

How to avoid: Opt out of getting a mailed version and view statements online for free (if you wish, print them out at home). Or upgrade to an account that waives the fee.

OVERDRAFT TRANSFER FEE

What it's for: To prevent checks from bouncing, you can set up an automatic transfer from another account to your checking account, but there is usually a transfer fee.

Typical charge: \$10 to \$12.50

How to avoid: Set up low-balance alerts for your checking account and do a free transfer before an overdraft occurs.

ATM NON-NETWORK USAGE FEE

What it's for: This pesky fee is charged when you stray outside your bank's ATM network.

Typical charge: \$2 to \$3.50, per transaction, from your bank, plus up to \$10 from the ATM operator

How to avoid: Stay in network, or get cash when you pay with your debit card at the grocery store; often there is no fee.

EARLY-CLOSURE FEE

What it's for: Banks charge you for closing an account sooner than they would like.

Typical charge: \$25 to \$50

How to avoid: When opening an account, ask how long you need to keep it open to avoid a closing fee; typically it's 180 days. Then make sure you keep a balance for that duration.

EXCESS-ACTIVITY FEE

What it's for: Federal rules limit certain withdrawals and transfers from savings accounts to six per month, and most banks charge a fee if you exceed this.

Typical charge: \$5 to \$20 per transaction

How to avoid: Make savings account transactions in person at your bank or at an ATM; those aren't limited by the regulations.

CHECK-IMAGE SERVICE FEE

What it's for: If you want to get copies of your cashed checks with each month's statement, it's going to cost you.

Typical charge: \$2 to \$3.50 each statement cycle

How to avoid: View checks through online banking for free. You can print them yourself if necessary.

inspiration

Expect a Miracle

Five Ways to Manifest Our Desires

by J. Marie Novak

According to a Pew Forum study, nearly 80 percent of Americans believe in miracles. When we think we can't handle burdensome difficulties on our own, we often seek help from a higher power, pleading: Cure me or my loved one of this illness. Aid me in providing for myself and my family. Bring me someone to love. Help me resolve this intensely painful situation. Protect loved ones from the harm they're subjecting themselves to.

If we want miracles to unfold in our lives, we must actively participate in their manifestation. Here are five ways to manifest more miracles in our lives.

1 Be Grateful for Everything

Gratitude deserves its positive buzz. When we're grateful, our energy changes and our light shines. Our perspective shifts from scarcity to abundance. We bring forth divine blessings by being tuned into the giving nature of the creator of all. When we live in a state of gratitude, good people, opportunities and blessings arrive.

2 Stop Using Excuses to Do Nothing

When we take a positive step in our lives—it can be anything—a way forward will often appear that may be unrelated to the blessing we receive. For example, clearing out clutter may clarify a career move. Taking a course to build a new skill may introduce us to a new friend. In beginning a new exercise routine, we may discover self-confidence in other areas of life.

3 Step Beyond Routine

Step out of routines, broaden horizons and bust through comfort zones. Bumps and bruises may occur, but bravery is rewarded. Miracles are not beyond our grasp, but we may need to extend our reach in ways we've never done before.

4 Help Others Receive the Miracles They Pray For

Experience the bliss of being a giver. Share what others need. Sponsor a child's education. Give unused belongings to people that desperately need them. Offer words of encouragement. It all matters more than we realize.

5 Trust Intuition

When we listen to our intellect instead of our inner heart-and-soul guidance system, we get turned around and off course. We all have an inner knowing that can help us get where we want to go. Divine wisdom always trumps the human mind. When we tune into it and trust what it's telling us, we invite miracles into our lives.

We all have the power to participate in creating miracles for ourselves and others by bringing to fruition what did not seem remotely possible. It's easy to start by practicing these five miracle-creating strategies.

J. Marie Novak is an author, life transformation mentor and founder of the Believe and Create online community. Learn how to believe in and create the life you were born to live at BelieveAndCreate.com.

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DISCIPLINE OF THE HEART

By Amy Nappa and Jody Brotsma

On her wedding day, Shari Hayes was a size 20. Her new husband loved her, and friends who had gathered on this special day declared she looked radiant. But Shari felt differently inside.

“I didn’t like myself,” she shares. “I knew God loved me no matter what, but he wanted to work in my life and make me grow.”

So shortly after her wedding day and with the support of her husband, Dan, Shari began one of the ultimate tests of self-control. A diet.

Yes, we’ve all been on diets. Some with success, most without. Shari had tried other diets too, but this time she was determined to succeed. So instead of starving herself with celery sticks and grapefruit juice, or counting every calorie, Shari made big changes in her life.

First of course, was eating. “I had to change my eating habits and learn how to eat right.” Next, she disciplined herself in exercise. “Exercise can be hard,” she admits. “I tried to exercise with a friend for accountability, fun and encouragement.” She sought encouragement from the Scriptures by hanging verses about her home to help her say “no” to temptation. And her loving husband added incentive by offering her a dollar for every pound lost. “We didn’t have a lot of money, but a little helped.”

Sounds so simple, but we all know from experience that it wasn’t. The self-control required for dieting is long-term, not just turning down dessert once a week. Shari remembers “The hardest part was that it took a long time. One and a half years, slow and steady. It was a long haul but it paid off.” Of course Shari got discouraged at times, but instead of indulging in chocolate cake, she treated herself to a new scarf or a video. And the compliments of friends who noticed her slimmer body did wonders to keep her on course as well.

As a result of the discipline of those long months Shari lost eighty pounds. She went from a size 20 to a size 8. Dan gave her the \$80.00 and she went out to spend it all on new, smaller, clothes. And, even more amazingly, Shari has kept that weight off for more than ten years. This truly was a permanent change of lifestyle for her.

Is thinness a virtue? No. However, discipline and self-control are, and Shari certainly has demonstrated these in her life. She doesn't hide away her wedding pictures. Instead, she's proud to tell others of how God helped her reach a difficult goal. She is teaching her daughters a healthful lifestyle and, more importantly, is teaching them to follow God.

Shari encourages us in her own words:

"Seek the Lord when you know God wants you to do something. I wanted to please Him most of all. My motivation was to make the Lord proud and ask for His strength in any weakness. He wants to give us victory through anything that is pleasing to Him. Don't give up. Keep going toward your goal even if you feel it's too far away."

**Loving God, You have the strength to move mountains.
Give us the strength to move away from the refrigerator.**

A DAILY THOUGHT TO PONDER

Verse of the Month

Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Hebrews 11:16.
**Ere yet another morning my spirit may be free,
As absent from the body, at home, O Lord with Thee.**

Shackled by a heavy burden 'Neath a load of guilt and shame; then the hand of Jesus touched me, and now I am no longer the same. He touched me, O, He touched, and O, the joy that floods my soul; Something happened, and now I know. He touched me and made me whole.

PEACE AND JOY ROMANS 5:6-17

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

We were weak and helpless because we could do nothing on our own to save ourselves. Someone had to come and rescue us. Not only did Christ come at a good time in history; He came at exactly the right time—according to God's own schedule. God controls all history, and He controlled the timing, methods, and results of Jesus' death. NIVLASB

Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

While we were still sinners—these are amazing words. God sent Jesus Christ to die for us, not because we were good enough, but because He loved us. Whenever you feel uncertain about God's love for you, remember that He loved you even before you turned to Him. If God loved you when you were a rebel, He can surely strengthen you, now that you love Him in return. NIVLASB

Since we have been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him!

For if, we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life!

The love that caused Christ to die is the same love that sends the Holy Spirit to live in us and guide us every day. The power that raised Christ from the dead is the same power that saved you and is available to you in your daily life. Be assured that, having begun a life with Christ, you have a reserve of power and love to call on each day, for help to meet every challenge or trial. You can pray for God's power and love as you need it. NIVLASB

Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

God is holy, and He will not be associated with sin. All people are sinful and so they are separated from God. In addition, all sin deserves punishment. Instead of punishing us with the death we deserve, however, Christ took our sins upon Himself and took our punishment by dying on the cross. Now we can "rejoice in God." Through faith in Christ's work, we become close to God (reconciled) rather than being enemies and outcasts. NIVLASB

DEATH THROUGH ADAM < LIFE THROUGH CHRIST

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—

How can we be declared guilty for something Adam did thousands of years ago? Many feel it isn't right for God to judge us because of Adam's sin. Yet each of us confirms our solidarity with Adam by our own sins each day. We are made of the same stuff and are prone to rebel, and we are judged for the sins we commit. Because we are sinners, it isn't fairness we need—it's mercy.

For before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law.

Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

Paul has shown that keeping the law does not bring salvation. Here he adds that breaking the law is not what brings death. Death is the result of Adam's sin and of the sins we all commit, even if they don't resemble Adam's. Sin is a deep discrepancy between who we are and who we were created to be. The law points out our sin and places the responsibility for it squarely on our shoulders. But the law offers no remedy. When we are convicted of sin, we must turn to Jesus Christ for healing. NIVLASB

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many.

We were all born into Adam's physical family—the family line that leads to certain death. All of us have reaped the results of Adam's sin. We have inherited his guilt, a sinful nature (the tendency to sin), and God's punishment. Because of Jesus, however, we can trade judgment for forgiveness. We can trade our sin for Jesus' righteousness. NIVLASB

Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.

For if by the trespass of one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

What a promise this is to those who love Christ! We can reign over sin's power, over death's threats, and over death's threats, and over Satan's attacks. Eternal life is ours now and forever. In the power and protection of Jesus Christ. NIVLASB

JESUS TELLS ABOUT THE FINAL JUDGMENT MATTHEW 25:34-40

Then the King will say to those on the right, come, you who are blessed by the Father, take your inheritance. the kingdom's prepared for you since the creation of the world.

This parable describes acts of mercy we all can do every day. We have no excuse to neglect those who have deep needs, and we cannot hand over this responsibility to the church or government. Jesus demands our personal involvement in caring for others. NIVLASB

For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in.

I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you came to visit Me.

Then the righteous will answer Him, Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink?

When did we see You a stranger and invite You in, or needing clothes and clothe You?

When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?

The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for Me.

Brothers are suffering people everywhere. The point of this parable is not the who, but the what—the importance of serving where service is needed. The focus is that we should love every person and serve anyone we can. Such love for others glorifies God by reflecting our love for Him. NIVLASB

Wherever God Is

The establishment has a reputation — a bad one. Every so often the police raid the premises, and in the paper we often read of arrests being made there. No respectable person ever goes there, and in the evening it is not wise even to walk past the door.

One day during daylight hours I was walking by on the other side of the road and happened to look up. There, growing out of the side of the chimney of the building, was a lush green plant with a deep red flower. Obviously some soil was lodged up there, and God, the creator of all that is good, was gracing this place with a token of nature's beauty.

It made me think about where God is. Some places we avoid; we do not want to become contaminated. But God has no such reservations. God is lying beside the homeless on the bitter cold nights, beside prisoners in their solitary cells, and beside the drug addicts in their addiction. Surely where God is, we should be also.

Prayer: Lord, may we go where You want us to go, speak to those You want us to speak to, and pray and speak for those who do not have a voice. Amen.

Thought for the Day

God is at work in places I would never go.

Carol Purves
(From the Upper Room)