

THE BEACON

Sunrise Presbyterian Church

February 2022 Newsletter

TAKE THE CHALLENGE



What if everyone watching a football game gave one dollar or one can of food to a local food charity?

It would be a **GAME CHANGER!**

It's simple to join the team for those in need!

Souper Bowl of Caring is Sunday, February 13th.
Please see page 3 for more info.

The Goodness of the Lord

⁵For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, ⁶and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, ⁷and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. (II Peter 1:5-7)

In the last week, I have found myself drawn to the importance of focusing our attention on the good that is in the world. It began with a reflection at the Men's Prayer Breakfast, then became the subject of my January 28th Daily Prayer, and was the theme of the sermon on January 30th. In this month's *From the Pastor's Desk*, I am bringing together the epistle reading from the 30th, the reflection in the Daily Prayer, and a Native American parable from the sermon.

True crime stories have become very popular. The shows based on these stories have multiplied on TV. I'm not completely sure why people are drawn to these shows. Maybe it's their depiction of the sad, but hard reality of life. It's certainly true that we all have a tendency to notice and comment on what is wrong in the world.

At the Men's Prayer Breakfast, I suggested the men try looking for the good they encounter each day. Instead of focusing on what is bad, broken, and hurtful, why not see God's goodness that is all around us. A week later, one of the men commented on how surprisingly hard it is to "flip that switch." Sadly, it seems almost second nature to look for the problems instead of seeing the good. When we celebrate the presence of God's goodness in our lives and the lives of others, we become transformed. The more we see God's goodness, the more we become representatives of that goodness.

The verses from II Peter suggest steps that lead us to embracing *agape* love. *⁵For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness.* What a remarkable statement! And yet, it is only the first step on the journey. II Peter leads us through appreciating this goodness (knowledge) to exercising self-control that leads us to endurance (read: persevering) that brings godliness. It is godliness that ushers in mutual affection (in Greek: *philia* ~ a love among friends that is as strong as family bonds), which ultimately leads to *agape* love – a self-giving, self-sacrificing love.

The challenge for us is the daily struggle to embrace the good. I closed the sermon on the 30th with this parable:

Once upon a time, a Native American elder was telling his grandson a story of two wolves that live in each one of us and wage a daily struggle for dominance in our lives.

One wolf is filled with love, joy, hope, peace, gratitude, optimism, generosity, understanding, humility, kindness, truth, faith, and compassion.

The other is a reflection of bitterness, envy, anger, sorrow, guilt, greed, arrogance, self-pity, inferiority, lies, ego, selfishness, and judgment.

Their struggle is constant, their determination to win unwavering.

"So, which wolf wins?" asked the grandson.

The grandfather responded, "The one you feed."

In God's grace,



HUNGER HITS CLOSE TO HOME

Every day there are young people in your community who face hunger. An estimated one in six teens across the nation are not getting consistent and adequate nutrition for growing strong and healthy. And they won't tell you they are hungry. One coach stated, "Most of the older students won't say anything. We have to learn from parents or siblings in the elementary school." They don't want to be hungry.



LEARN MORE HERE



HIT BACK!

This year, you can easily help by taking the **TACKLE HUNGER CHALLENGE!** What if everyone watching a football game this weekend gave just one dollar or one can of food to a local food charity? With over 90,000 watching just one college football game, that means a lot of food and cash to help feed hungry families in need that live in your community!

NOW IT'S TIME TO MAKE AN IMPACT



The Cougar Food Pantry is a student led organization that was created to combat food insecurity while helping to unify the College of Charleston campus through collaboration and student involvement. Acknowledging the fact that food insecurity is a spectrum, the Cougar Food Pantry is accessible to all students on the College of Charleston campus. We hope that spreading knowledge about this issue and increasing student engagement will help to minimize the associated stigma and encourage positive change on our campus. The pantry requests non-perishable donations and loves stocking up on toiletries and other random unused, unopened, individually packaged items. If you'd like to make a monetary donation we encourage you to donate directly at <https://give.cofc.edu/donate>. You may bring donations to church on the 13th or drop them in the bin outside the Fellowship Hall doors anytime. Thank you for planning to give generously on Sunday, February 13th.



Sunrise is looking for volunteers to help with fellowship on Sunday mornings. Please reach out to Pastor Vance at vancepolley@me.com if you are interested.



Gratitude for a Lasting Legacy

The Shadow Box that displays our historic communion chalice and pitcher was created by Marian and Ray Schmelter. Ray designed and constructed the display box, and Marian created its intricate lining. It is a gift to Sunrise that is a lasting legacy for Marian, who passed away on January 3, 2022.



Thank you for your generous contributions to the Remembrance Garden...

- Andrea and Larry Allen in memory of Dick Blanchard
- Roberta, Rene & Dan, Rick & Laura, and Grands in memory of Dick Blanchard

**Give
Thanks
With
A
Grateful
Heart**



Please continue your financial support of the ministry and mission of Sunrise through the following ~

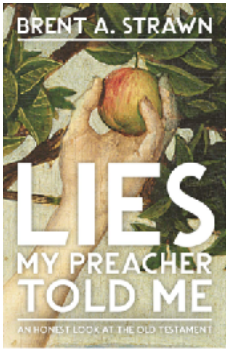
Mailing a check to:
Sunrise Presbyterian Church
PO Box 517, Sullivan's Island, SC 29482

Or

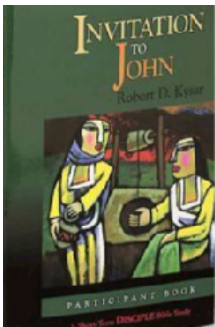
Give Securely Online at

<https://www.oursunrise.org/give/>

Monthly Happenings...



The Women's Evening Bible Study will meet February 8th at 5:30 p.m this month. We are using the book LIES MY PREACHER TOLD ME: AN HONEST LOOK AT THE OLD TESTAMENT by Brent Strawn as our study guide. As the title indicates, this book focuses on the Old Testament, and dispels a number of myths we may have heard over the years. We will meet in person at the church and there will also be a zoom link for a remote option. Any questions, please contact me at reecehsmith@yahoo.com. ~ Reece



The Miriam-Naomi Circle will meet at 10:00 a.m. on February 8th. All women of the church are invited to attend. Our minister, Vance will lead us in our study book *Invitation To John* by Robert D. Kysar. We will continue our fellowship after the study with lunch at a convenient location for those who can do so.



Cents-Ability is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been made to TriCounty Family Ministries, East Cooper Meals on Wheels, and East Cooper Community Outreach. Please continue to give at least two cents per person per meal in the bowl in the Narthex. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.



Communion Sunday ~ February 6th

Communion is served during worship on the first Sunday of each month. Virtual and in-person communion is part of the worship services. For those worshipping in-person, preparations have been made for taking communion in the sanctuary during worship. To prepare for sharing communion at home, you will provide your own bread and grape juice. In this way, we can all share *The Lord's Supper*.



Sunrise Church

February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 Communion 9:00 am Devotional Service - Sanctuary 9:30 am Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:00 am Family Service/Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:30 pm Youth Group	7 1:30 pm Music Lessons (Upstairs) 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate	1 First Day of Black History Month 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 4:15 pm Lisa Deakins - Fellowship Hall	2 10:00 am AA Meeting 4:00 pm Cheer Group - Fellowship Hall Evenings	3 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice	4 12:30 pm Bridge - Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Palmetto Vocal Project	5
13 Cents-Ability 9:00 am Devotional Service - Sanctuary 9:30 am Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:00 am Family Service/Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service	14 Valentine's Day 1:30 pm Music Lessons (Upstairs) 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 6:45 pm Seaside Singers	8 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Miriam-Normi Circle (Library) 4:15 pm Lisa Deakins - Fellowship Hall 5:30 pm Women's Evening Bible Study	9 10:00 am AA Meeting	10 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice	11 12:30 pm Bridge - Fellowship Hall	12 8:00 am Parking Lot Usage - CCI
20 9:00 am Devotional Service - Sanctuary 9:30 am Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 10:00 am Choir Practice 10:00 am Family Service/Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:30 pm Youth Group	21 President's Day 1:30 pm Music Lessons (Upstairs) 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 6:45 pm Seaside Singers	15 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 4:15 pm Lisa Deakins - Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Prick Meeting - Fellowship Hall	16 10:00 am AA Meeting	17 8:00 am Parking Lot Usage - Ham Road/SS Hunley 5:30 pm Agape Do Karate 5:45 pm Choir Practice	18 12:30 pm Bridge - Fellowship Hall	19
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february birthdays



2 Caroline Champagne

4 Barbara Powell

6 Maddie Russell

9 Kylie Ruddock

10 Andy Rhyne

10 Zinnia Tully

11 Russ Penley

13 Gary Hawkins

15 John Eppelsheimer

16 Sharon Floyd

20 Bill Schupp

20 Manning Rosen

22 Jane Hooper

23 Libby Kilpatrick

23 Van Nettles

24 Leo Hurst

25 Logan Nelson

26 Becca Hodges

26 Dennis Frazier

Church Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday
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