



# The JPC Monthly

## September 2024

### THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR JAY



#### We've Always Done It That Way!

I think that this is the battle cry of the Presbyterian. In fact, I have often wondered at what point, after Scottish immigrants made their way to this country seeking religious freedoms, did the first person object crying out, "but we've always done it that way!" I will admit that I don't hear this as often here in a younger church. The last church I served was 220 years older than JPC and the "we've always done it that way," badge of honor had been passed on for generations. At that church, I wondered if families passed this responsibility down or if it passed dutifully to the next in line on the matriarch order of succession.

Now don't get me wrong, I loved that church. In some ways I loved it and continue to love it more than JPC because it was my first solo pastorate. Just as I can tell you all about my first bicycle, first car, and first girl I kissed, I must admit there will always be a place reserved in my heart for Poplar Tent. I also don't believe that most people when they say these words do so to be mean, controlling, or hurtful. I think it is a programmed, almost natural, response when called to step out of our comfort zone or try something new or to admit that the way we are doing something might not be the best.

I must admit that I am currently in the middle of a situation that has me tempted to say this! I am very excited about the new class of elders that we will be introducing to you this fall. I think it is a great balance of people with wonderful experiences and leadership skills to bring to leading this congregation. The tempting thing for me to do would be to teach the same old elder training and simply go through the motions. The problem is that we have recognized that the number one complaint of new elders is that they don't feel prepared for what they are stepping into.

My temptation to pull out the old file because, "that's the way we have always done it," is really a disservice to the church and to each of these individuals that have agreed to serve. Sure, there are some things that folks need to know from my old training modules but there are several things that I have just assumed over the years that need to be pointed out. This will result in a better understanding of what our church does, what is expected of them, and how we can determine if what we are doing is working.

Change is hard. We are often afraid of it. This week I am not preaching so I have tried to clear off the list of things I have been avoiding. If you remember back to our Romans 12 series, this is exactly what we are called to do! Here is Romans 12:2 in the New Living Translation. "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think." Maybe this translation for me should say, "Do not copy the behaviors and customs of this world and don't be afraid to let go of what isn't working."

What do you need to let go of? What do you need to resist the temptation of the same old way? God will give you the strength. In fact, as soon as I email this article to Jen I am going to get to work on that hard list, that list of things that might mean changes for me. I can't wait for God to bless this church and this community through the gifts and leadership of these new elders, trained in a totally new way! See you in church!

## LADIES' THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Please join our Thursday Night Bible Study for our fall Bible study entitled "Irresistible" by Andy Stanley starting on September 12, 2024 at 6:30 pm at JPC in Room 222. The Bible study will end at 8:00 pm and will meet every Thursday and our last session will be on October 17, 2024.

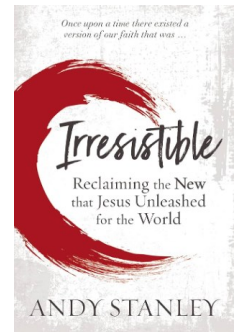
Author and pastor Andy Stanley explains what made the earliest Christian movement so compelling and resilient...and what we need to change today to make it so again.

Once upon a time there was a version of the Christian faith that was practically irresistible. After all, what could be more so than the gospel that Jesus ushered in? Why, then, isn't it the same with Christianity today? In this six-session video Bible study, Pastor Andy answers questions like:

- What did first-century Christians know that we don't—about God's Word, about their lives, about love?
- What did they do that we're not doing?
- What makes Christianity so resistible in today's culture?
- What needs to change in order to repeat the growth our faith had at its beginning?

Sessions include:

1. Simply Resistible
2. Brand-New Agreement
3. The Bible According to Jesus
4. The Irresistible Ethic
5. What Love Requires
6. A New Approach

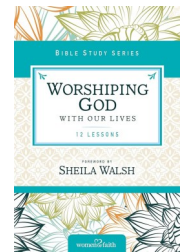


We hope to see you there. Any questions, please contact Anne Barts or Susan Shaw.

## LADIES EVENING CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

"The butler did it."

The Evening Circle will meet on September 16th. at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be completing our study book Worshiping God With Our Lives. The Chapter 12 lesson is titled; "Living for His Glory." In October, we will begin a new book from The Women of Faith series.



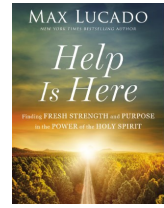
Please join us and find out what the butler did!

## Save the Date!

Christian Education Volunteer Recognition Sunday will be September 8th during the 9am Worship Service. Please plan to attend as we celebrate all of our Christian Education Volunteers and Leaders from the past year. We will also have a table featuring our Fall Programs so please plan to join us to see what opportunities there are for you!

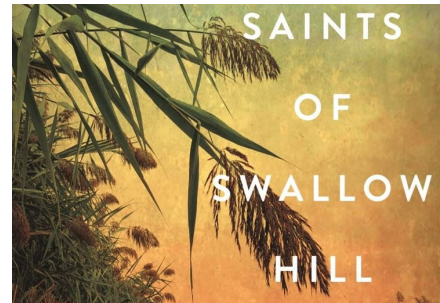
## THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY...

will begin September 12 with Coffee and Doughnuts in Room 222 and an introduction to our study of the Holy Spirit by Max Lucado called *Help is Here*. (Can't we all use a little help these days?) Please mark your calendar and come join us for this six-week study. For additional information, call Vivien Carson or Clarajo Pleasants.



## FALL BOOK STUDY

Pastor Jay will offer a book study once again this fall. Join us Thursdays in October (3, 10, 17) for great fellowship and discussion around a work of fiction. Registration will determine if there will be two class offerings or just one. Sign up with Jen in the office if you are interested and indicate your preference of time. (lunch or evening)



If you need help ordering the book Jen should be able to help with that. By now you are probably wondering what the book is? The book is entitled *The Saints of Swallow Hill* by Donna Everhart- below is a review. Get your book and get reading. We will see you in October!



## WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

## LADIES MORNING CIRCLE

The JPC Ladies Morning Circle will meet on Sept. 16th at 10:00 in Room 222. We welcome new members this fall.



The circle sends a lot of "Thinking of You" cards. We also help with Outreach projects

as we are asked to do. The legacy project involves preparing and delivering Christmas Gift Bags for the "Grace Group" church members. Last year this was a joint project with the Evening Ladies Circle and is welcomed again. Other projects include Memorial gifts to the church, stuffing Easter eggs for the egg hunt, etc.

Fall lessons will continue with the "Life Changing stories of "Women of the Bible" series from Harper Christian Resources. A new series will begin later this year for inspiration and challenge. Each meeting begins with a Devotion and ends with prayer.

If you have questions, please get in touch with Evangeline Freeman or Lynette Smitherman.





## DID YOU KNOW ...

...that there is an Admin Ministry Team that provides orderly and effective administrative processes for JPC to assure the continuing mission of the church. This team consists of two Elders, two or more members from the congregation and Pastor Jay. The Admin Ministry Team has the following responsibilities:

Assure that the church office has the provisions for the orderly operation of the church office. Provide security services for the congregation and others as they utilize the church facilities. Review contracts and recommend custodial services for church buildings and grounds annually.

Support the pastor in developing personnel policies, job descriptions, setting goals, and evaluating employee performances.

Develop and update annually the wage, salary, and benefit programs for the church staff.

Provide oversight of sexual misconduct and Safe Sanctuary policies and ensure their implementation.

Recommend to the Session nominees for Session Leadership including positions for the Church Nominating Committee.

To assist in accomplishing these responsibilities the Admin Ministry Team meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month to review status. As one can see, based on the responsibilities, members of the Team will develop a good understanding of how the Church functions as well as providing a valuable and rewarding service to the church.

We hope each of you will leave a legacy of service by volunteering in support of JPC.

## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

We are collecting the following items for the month of September. As a reminder, donations can be dropped off at worship services, placed into the box at the office door or brought inside the office. Thank you for your generosity!

Pancake mix  
Syrup  
Saltine crackers  
Dish detergent



Year to Date Donations:

**\$3,967.54**



## JPC KIDS AND YOUTH CORNER



### PRESCHOOL NEWS!

We are so excited to see all of our friends!!!! We had our Parent Open House on Thursday, August 29th and the Meet the Teacher on Friday, August 30th. What a huge success! We are so excited about all we will learn and all the friends we will make! We will start Chapel in September. We will be using a book called, God made me from A to Z, by Allison Key Bemiss. Each week of Chapel we will focus on a letter and a bible verse that matches the letter. Wishing everyone a happy school year!!!



### FROGS / POLYWOGS NEWS!

#### FROGS

**FROGS** met August 11 at City Lake Aquatic Park in Jamestown for a splashing great time! We said "good-bye" to our outgoing 5th graders and "welcome" to our incoming third graders! A great time was had by all whether swimming, water sliding, floating on the lazy river or using the splash pad! Our next meeting will be **September 29!** Watch your emails for details!

#### POLYWOGS

**POLYWOGS** will meet **Sunday, September 22 at 4 pm** in the Fellowship Hall at our church. We will be making friendship bracelets! This is our once a month fellowship group for Kindergartners through second graders. We are so pleased to have Evy Hazenberg helping with this group this year!

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school for children will start back on **September 15 at 10 am** upstairs in the preschool wing! Jenny Rathjen and Verona Graham will be your teachers. Be sure to join us for our first lesson on caring for God's world! We will combine part of our Sunday school hour with Christmas play practice beginning Sunday, October 6 from 10 -10:30 am with Miss Donna. The Christmas play will be held the evening of Wednesday, December 11.

## YOUTH GROUP

### YOUTH

FALL IS IN THE AIR! School has started back and the youth group will be starting back on September 8th! We are so excited to see everyone! Our weekly morning high school devotions will be starting back on September 10th at Cakes by B! Youth group will look a little different this year, as we are combining youth groups once a month to do a really fun wholesome activity! First up is Mad Splatter on the 22nd! More information to follow. We can't wait to see everyone! It is going to be an amazing year!

### PRESBYTERY @ JPC AUGUST 6, 2024



### OUTREACH BACK TO SCHOOL FOOD DRIVE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM PARKING LOT DRIVE-THRU



#### Requested items that we use the most:

Canned Fruits  
Mac & Cheese  
Saltine Crackers  
Spaghetti

Corn  
Beans (canned or dry)  
Peanut Butter  
Spaghetti Sauce

Pop Tarts  
Jelly  
Canned Pasta  
White Rice



# CELEBRATE

Therefore,  
as we have the opportunity, let us  
do good to all people.

**Saturday, October 5th**  
10:00am - 2:00pm

Rain date is October 6th from 12 to 4pm  
1804 Guilford College Road, Jamestown NC • [jamestownprez.org](http://jamestownprez.org)

Celebrate with us on the back lawn of Jamestown Presbyterian Church. We will have giant inflatables, a firetruck, face painting, live music from our awesome praise band "Decided" and a DJ. Plus a petting zoo. There will also be hotdogs, chips, cookies and Sunset Slush. And everything is **FREE!**

To volunteer, please sign-up through the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4AA5A82EA1FE3-50626984-celebrate>

## BLOOD DRIVE

The next JPC blood drive is Wednesday, October 2 from 2:30 – 7:00 pm. Grab your spot to help save lives!

[CLICK HERE to schedule an appointment.](#)



## CHOIR KICK-OFF!



Hello JPC! It's time to sing! If you enjoy singing and think you might enjoy singing in the JPC Choir, please come to our annual choir "kick-off" picnic on Wednesday, September 4 at 6:30 in the shelter.

Following the picnic the choir will rehearse at 7:30 in the choir room. We would love to have some new members sing with us. You don't need to have any special training – you just need to enjoy singing!

### LEISURE FELLOWSHIP

Leisure Fellowship will be having a covered dish lunch in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00 Thursday, September 19.

After a delicious lunch. Lynn Moseley, retired Professor at Guilford College, will speak on the Return of the Eagles. After retirement, she was able to spend more time on her interest in bird behavior. Her presentation will review the history of Bald Eagle populations in the US.



Please bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship and interesting information Ms. Moseley will be presenting.

NEW FALL LIFE CENTER STUDY LED BY PASTOR JAY

# LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

A 4-week Bible Study

\*Week 1: Welcoming Neighbors with an Image of God Perspective

\*Week 2: Listening without Judgment

\*Week 3: Speaking Life-Giving Words

\*Week 4: Serving Others with Genuine Generosity

9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6

5:30pm-7:30pm

Dinner & Childcare Provided





## CHURCH COOKOUT- BE SURE TO RSVP!

The Men of JPC along with Congregational Life are hosting a church wide cookout Sunday, September 8th beginning at 5:00 PM. We will have hamburgers, hot dogs, fixings, sides and drinks. Please feel free to bring dessert to share! If you have any questions, please email [jpcmensgroup@gmail.com](mailto:jpcmensgroup@gmail.com). Please RSVP to the Church office by Thursday, September 5th at noon! Thank you!



## DONATIONS

Donation to JPC Orange Feather Fund

In honor of Clarajo Pleasants

In honor of Loyce Lesley

In honor of Jo Brech

In honor of Carol Carpenter

In honor of Joan Brisley

In honor of Kathy Van Dorp

Donation to JPC Music Fund

In honor of JPC Staff by

Jim & Darryl Ray

Donation to the Lane Pleasants Scholarship Fund

In memory of Andy Meehan

In memory of Barbara Bayle

In memory of Lela Jones by

Bill & Clarajo Pleasants

Donation to JPC Music Fund

In memory of Andy Meehan by

Charlotte Griner

Joanne Graham

Jim & Robin Gonsiewski

Russell & Diana Martyn

Donation to JPC Music Fund

In memory of Ross Ramsay by

Joanne Graham

Donation to JPC Music fund

In memory of Barbara Bayle by

Jim & Robin Gonsiewski

Donation to JPC Food Pantry Fund

In memory of Andy Meehan by

Marilyn Bell

Donation to Lane Pleasants Scholarship Fund

In memory of Andy Meehan by

Mike & Taffy Puckett

Donation to JPC Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study

In memory of Donna Hunter by

Vivien Carson

Donation to JPC Music Fund

In memory of Andy Meehan

In memory of Barbara Bayle

In memory of Lela Jones

In memory of Lois Yelton

In memory of Ralph Doss

In memory of Frank Mills, Chris Mills' father, by

Jim & Darryl Ray

Donation to Lane Pleasants Scholarship Fund

In memory of Lane Pleasants' birthday by

Jim & Darryl Ray

Joe & Carolyn Pleasants

Donation to the Lane Pleasants Scholarship Fund

In honor of Joan's Brisley's #102 Birthday, by

Jim & Darryl Ray

Donation to JPC Outreach Endowment Fund

In honor of Kim Schoepske

In honor of Ronnie Decker

In honor of Joanne Vitelli

In honor of Bob Vitelli by

Jim & Darryl Ray

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336.454.3718

Visit us on the Web  
[www.jamestownprez.org](http://www.jamestownprez.org)

### **CHURCH STAFF**

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### **JPC SESSION**

#### **Class of 2024**

Vivien Carson  
Carlos Frontera  
John Martin  
Clayton Robinson  
Brian Stroud  
Joanne Vitelli

#### **Class of 2025**

Mike Bryant  
Bill Carter  
Charles Graham  
Angelin Ham  
Linda Honeycutt  
Becky Robinson

#### **Class of 2026**

David Bean  
Becky Brown  
Nancy Seay  
George Wissmiller  
Anne Wright