

Park Presbyterian Church

August 2022

Monthly Park Branches



“Your Story—My Story--and God’s Story”

Dear Friends,

Imagine yourself as an actor—or actress—in a play. You have everything you need: You have a part—you have a place on the stage—you even have a costume that fits! But you don’t have an understanding of the story. You have not read the script. You have no idea how the story began, or where it is headed. You only find yourself on the stage.

*Wouldn’t it be great to have the script?
Wouldn’t be great to know how the drama begins?
To know how it will end?*

The Bible is God's script. It tells us how things began, and where history is headed. Sometimes, however, it is difficult to see how this script "hangs together"--to sense the plot behind all the various stories and people we meet through the 66 books that make up our Bible.

The purpose of "The Story" is to help us better understand God's script. It does this by arranging excerpts from the NIV English translation of Scripture in chronological order. Since we are linear thinkers, this approach works well: You and I can see God's eternal plan unfolding in human history. We can also see how God enlists human beings, in their everyday lives, to advance God's great plan for humanity.

Wouldn't it be great to know your part in God's great play?

I hope you will want to learn about your part in God's great play, and will want to do along with fellow members and friends here, at Park! We will begin a church-wide study of "The Story" beginning on Sunday, September 11th. Over a period of 29 weeks, we will cover the 31 chapters found in "The Story", not just in our Adult and Children's Sunday School classes—but also in our time together in Sunday worship. A complete schedule of weekly chapters we will read—with the events, people, and theme found in them—follows this invitation.

New and used copies of "The Story" can be found from a variety of vendors, but I hope you will want to purchase a new copy through Park Church. We have secured a wonderful bulk rate price of just \$5 per copy (as opposed to the list price of \$20). We have also secured copies of a wonderful companion book to "The Story." It is called "Exploring the Story: A Reference Companion." This book outlines the characters you encounter in each chapter of "The Story", provides an overview of the happens in each chapter, the main points of the chapter, as well as provides helpful maps and color photos. We have secured good quality used copies of this guide (normally priced \$20) which can also be purchased at a price of just \$5.

Sign-up sheets to order copies of both "The Story" and "Exploring The Story: A Reference Companion" can be found in the sanctuary. You may also order your copies by contacting the church office at 725 775-2936.

Please pay with cash or by a check made out to Park Church, using the memo line "The Story". You will be contacted by Bre, Our Office Administrator, when your book(s) are available for pick-up!

The Bible is not 66 different books without a common thread; instead, it is a grand drama that shows us how much God loves us—and the lengths to which God will go to be with us!

I look forward to joining YOU, as we discover OUR part in God's story!

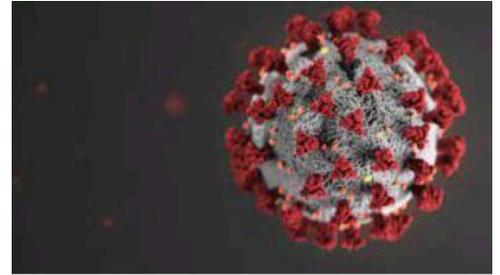
Faithfully,

Todd

News and Notes

Mask Policy

The Session of Park Presbyterian has decided, for the time being, to make the wearing of masks in worship and other church activities optional. The Session will continue to follow developments concerning variants of the COVID virus. Should you forget your mask, disposable masks are available in the sanctuary. Thank you for your cooperation in this new policy as we strive to serve one another well.



Sunday Worship as Park Apart

Worship this summer will begin weekly at 10:00am. Sunday school and adult classes will cease, as well. The worship video will be available on Sunday at 10:00 am and you can continue to find us anytime thereafter at <https://www.parkpres.org/swl-sunday-worship-live>. The bulletin for the service can also be found on the [Sunday Worship page](#) of our site. If you have announcements or prayer requests, please send them to Todd Allen on Sunday morning via text/call at 612-554 6527.

September Luncheon

The Committee for Membership Involvement will be doing a luncheon outside in the pavilion (weather permitting) for everyone on September 4th right after worship. This will be a "Thanks for Summer" luncheon. Our committee will be providing everything. Just bring a lawn chair.

The Evolution of the Food Pantry

The Mission Commission started the food pantry in 2020 because of the Covid 19 pandemic. It operated in the picnic shelter 24/7. Plastic tarps were used around the perimeter of the shelter to keep weather out. Volunteers shop 6 days a week to keep the pantry stocked. Plastic covered bins were labeled for various foods and cleaning products. Labels were made for bread, cereal, canned vegetables, canned fruits, pastas, sauce, boxed dinners, hygiene products, diapers, baby food, cat and dog food, and juices. Church members were extraordinary supporters of the program, many hands and very generous financial support. God's people were in need and his church stepped up. Praise God!

As we moved through the pandemic the Mission Commission decided to pack boxes in the church basement and distribute them weekly in the parking lot. We advertised in the surrounding communities that boxes of food would be passed out on certain days at designated times. Once again volunteers shopped and packed the boxes to pass out. They averaged 6 to 12 boxes each event to folks in need of assistance. On the designated days volunteers carried the food boxes upstairs to the parking lot entrance by the church office to pass out as cars drove up to the entrance. Although this was a large task our volunteers continued helping people in need of food assistance. The need to supplement people with food has continued to increase as the war in Ukraine is affecting the economy worldwide and the slow recovery from the Covid 19 pandemic has also disrupted the world economy. These major factors lead the Mission Commission to looking into expanding and improving our efforts to supplement those who need help. We first talked about other churches we could come together with and increase our effectiveness but didn't find anything in the area. Our office assistant Bre mentioned one day that the Salvation Army in Rochester operated a food pantry. She put us in contact with her friends that are the Envoys in Rochester, Chris and Mary Kay Mackneer. We went to see their food pantry and talked about partnering with them at the pantry, they were very receptive to the idea. We talked about how we could assist along with financial support.

They have a need for people to assist shoppers when they come in on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 AM to 12 PM. This involves reaching the top shelves if they need assistance explain the number of different items that can be taken per visit. Some older folks need help with the grocery cart. Seniors get a box made up just for seniors once a month and can also shop from the pantry. Volunteers are most welcome and needed, so contact the office or a member of the Mission Commission if you are interested in helping. We continue to ask for financial contributions to the commission for the food pantry.

Beaver Yard Sale

While 2023 is months away, there are two events that we would like you to be aware of. The first is the annual Beaver Yard Sale usually held the first Saturday of May. The church is planning on participating with hopefully several tables of items for sale and maybe even an overflow into other areas like the pavilion. So, start gathering items and small furniture (that one person can carry) to donate to the church. You will be able to bring your items to the church beginning in March 2023. The second is a bazaar/craft fair to be held either September 30th, October 7th, or 14th, 2023. This will be held in Guild Hall. We are still working out all the details for the event but wanted all the crafters in the church to know about this and start crafting away.

If you have any questions, please contact Ginny Flick at 904-568-0761 or ginny.flick@gmail.com.

Summer Reading Celebration

There's still one month to go to get those Summer Reading Cards filled up! The dog days of August are a great time to head to the porch with a book from our church library and a cool glass of lemonade. We will meet on Sunday, August 28, for brunch after the worship service (location to be announced), to celebrate our 1st Annual Park Summer Reading Program. Make sure to bring your cards with you so that you can earn a ticket for every bingo line. Remember...a completely covered card will earn you 5 extra tickets!! If you are planning on coming on the 28th, please let Roxanne Walker know, so that we can plan accordingly. Happy reading!

News From Your Session

- The Finance Commission is planning a Stewardship Brunch on Sunday, September 25 in Guild Hall following the worship service.
- The Finance Commission is investing some monies in short-term CDs.
- Park Church Preschool will now be under the auspices of the Christian Nurture Commission instead of the Administration Commission. Gratitude was expressed to Clif Dietz (Admin Chair) and the commission for overseeing the preschool over the past several years.
- Session approved the installation of seven security cameras outside the church building. Research and a cost analysis are ongoing regarding an internal security system.

Please pray for the Session members as they continue to make decisions about our church.

Susan Ivey, Clerk of Session

August Family Fun Day

There will be a Pool and Pizza Party on Wednesday, August 10 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Duncan Circle Pool (across the street from 136 Duncan Circle, Windermere Estates). Please email Andrea Yothers (andrea.yothers@gmail.com) if you are planning to attend. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

A Word of Thanks

Thank you so much for your prayers and expressions of love during our time of great loss.

Sincerely,

The Family of Chester Shoop

The Ladies of Park

A special thanks to Karen Capper for arranging a relaxing and enjoyable afternoon at the Merrick Art Gallery, which included the history of the museum as told by the director, Michelle Long, a guided tour by docent Nancy Dunn, and refreshments on the veranda (peaches and cake by Dee Byers).

All women are invited to The Ladies of Park activities. We will begin our fall session of study and sharing on Wednesday, September 14 at 1:30 pm in the Memorial Room. Becky Pilarski has graciously volunteered to facilitate our study on the topic, "The Fruits of the Spirit". Can you name all nine fruits of the spirit? The sessions will run through the middle of November.



Dates, Chapters, and Biblical Texts 2022-2023

Date	“The Story” Chapter	Focus	Biblical Texts
9/11/22	The Beginning of Life as We Know It	Creation	Genesis 1 -8
9/18/22	God Builds a Nation	Abraham	Genesis 12-13, 15-17,21-22, 32-33, 35 Romans 4 Hebrews 11
9/25/22	Joseph: From Slavery to Deputy	PharaohJoseph	Genesis 37, 39, 41-48, 50
10/2/22	Deliverance	Moses	Exodus 1-7, 10-17
10/9/22	New Commands and A New Covenant	Moses	Exodus 19-20, 24-25, 32-34, 40
10/16/22	Wandering	Moses	Numbers 10-14, 20-21, 25, 27 Deuteronomy. 1-2, 4, 6, 8-9, 29-34
10/23/22	The Battle Begins	Joshua	Joshua 1-2, 6, 8, 10-11, 23-24
10/30/22	A Few Good Men...and Women	Judges	Judges 2-4, 6-8,13-16
11/6/22	The Faith of a Foreign Woman	Ruth	Ruth 1-4
11/13/22	Standing Tall, Falling Hard	Saul	1 Samuel 1-4, 8-13,15
11/20/22	From Shepherd to King	David	1 Samuel 16-18, 24, 31,
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY			2 Samuel 6, 22 1 Chronicles 17 Psalm 59
SEASON OF ADVENT / CHRISTMAS / NEW YEARS: We take a break from “The Story”.			
1/8/23	The Trials of a King	David	2 Samuel 11-12, 18-19, 1 Chronicles 22, 29 Psalms 23, 32, 51
1/15/23	The King Who Had It All	Solomon	1 Kings 1-8, 10-11, 2 Chronicles 5-7, Proverbs 1-3, 6, 20-21
1/22/23	A Kingdom Torn in Two	Rehoboam/Jeroboam	1 Kings 12-16
1/29/22	God's Messengers	Prophets	1 Kings 17-19, 2 Kings Hosea 4-5, 8-9, 14, Amos 1, 3-5, 9

2/5/23	The Beginning of the End	Fall of Israel	2 Kings 17-19, Isaiah 3, 6, 13-14, 49, 53
	The Kingdoms' Fall	Fall of Judah	2 Kings 21, 23-25, 2 Chronicles 33, 36, Jeremiah 1-2, 4-5, 13, 21
	Daniel in Exile	Daniel	Daniel 1-3, 6; Jeremiah 29-31
2/12/23	The Return Home	Ezra	Ezra 1-6; Haggai 1-2, Zechariah 1, 8
2/19/23	The Queen of Beauty and Courage	Esther	Esther 1-9
2/26/23	Rebuilding the Walls	Nehemiah	Ezra 7; Nehemiah 1-2, 4, 6-8 Malachi 1-4
PERIOD OF LENT			
3/5/23	The Birth of the King	Jesus	Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2, John 1
3/12/23	Jesus' Ministry Begins	Jesus	Matthew 3-4, 11; Mark 1-3, Luke 8; John 1-4
3/19/23	No Ordinary Man	Jesus	Matthew 5-7, 9, 14; Mark 4-6; Luke 10, 15; John 6
3/26/23	Jesus, the Son of God	Jesus	Matthew 17, 21; Mark 8-12,14; Luke 9, 22; John 7-8; 11-12
4/2/23	The Hour of Darkness	Jesus	Matthew 26-27; Mark 14-15; Luke 22-23; John 13-14, 16-19
PALM SUNDAY			
4/9/23	The Resurrection	Jesus (Easter)	Matthew 27-28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 19-21
EASTER SUNDAY			
4/16-23/23	New Beginnings	Early Church	Acts 1-10, 12
4/30-5/7/23	Paul's Mission	Early Church	Acts 13-14, 16-20 Romans 1; 3-6, 8, 12, 15 1 Corinthians 1; 3; 5-6, 10, 12-13,15,16 Galatians 1, 3, 5-6 1 Thessalonians 1-5
5/14/23	Paul's Final Days	Early Church	Acts 20-23, 27-28 Ephesians 1-6 2 Timothy 1-4
5/21/23	The End of Time	A New Beginning	Revelation 1-5, 19-22

2022 Elders and Commission Assignments

Administration	Clif Dietz *
Christian Nurture	Roxanne Walker * and Susan Ivey
Facilities	Bob Gourley *
Finance	Ginny Flick * and Rich Reed
Membership Involvement	Sandra Parker * and Mary Gaydos
Mission	Bruce McCowin *
Outreach and Evangelism	Karen Capper *
Worship	Jan Pasuit * and Sally Heimbrook
Clerk of Session	Susan Ivey

Session commissions are always looking for at-large members to join them. Where can you offer your gifts and talents? Please contact the commission chair to talk about serving!

2022 Deacons and Committee Assignments

Local Mission	Kathy Bittner *
Congregational Care	Dave Ivey, Jerry Madden, Lyndsay Owens Carol Fedeles *
Secretary	June Phillips, Emily Dugan, Gail Rackley, Betty Brosch, Hermann Brosch
Deacon Moderator	Emily Dugan Gail Rackley



Maggie Leyda	08/05	Dick Riggs	08/18	Martha Leyda	08/24	Bonnie Schmidt	08/31
Becky Becze	08/07	Luke Bernard	08/18	Karen Capper	08/25		
Evan Linkimer	08/16	Andrea Yothers	08/22	Ruth Meyer	08/26		
Rosemarie Clark	08/16	Gary VanHartog h	08/24	Gary Leonard	08/30		