



# currents

what's happening at the bridge

Our *mission* at the bridge Presbyterian Church is to help people  
Connect with God's people in your life - Connect with God's purpose in your life  
Connect with God's passion for your life

## The bridge Core Habits

*Pray daily - Worship together weekly - Welcome & Include everyone - Belong to a small group  
Give generously - Cherish children - Forgive & reconcile continually - Serve our community*



## **Connecting at the bridge**

**Weekly Sunday Services will always be available 10:00 am on Facebook and YouTube**

This will continue weekly regardless of In - Person or Outdoor services.

## **Upcoming Events**

- Fri. May 7 – 11:00 am - Women of the bridge**
- Sun. May 9 - 10:00 am - Worship** - In Person, Livestream on Facebook and YouTube
- Tue. May 11 - 10:00 am - Packing Matthew's Ministry**
- Sun. May 16 - 9:00 am - Worship - Out door In Person – Live Streaming on Facebook Only**
- Sun. May 23 - 10:00 am - Worship** - In Person, Livestream on Facebook and YouTube
- Sun. May 30 - 10:00 am - Worship** - In Person, Livestream on Facebook Live and YouTube

**Registration for In - Person Worship will no longer be needed. There will be a sign in sheet to be used in the event notifications are needed.**



## Ways To Connect

**Weekly Sunday Services will always be available 10:00 am  
on Facebook and YouTube**

The 3rd Sunday of each month will be an outdoor service. On that Sunday the  
livestream will be at **9:00 am on Facebook Only.**

**Before the service visiting time Zoom** - 9:15 - 9:55 - This is link to use weekly

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81276261023?pwd=Q3dEWXpWcGEyVTBodIVFUXIDREN2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 812 7626 1023 - Password: 703335

**Links to all videos posted by the bridge on YouTube:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_koqkyqdW43YbC9evcgxFQ/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_koqkyqdW43YbC9evcgxFQ/videos)

Sunday, May 2 - Facebook Live Service: <https://youtu.be/wOKpK9gOuBc>

# Worship Weekly

10:00 am - In Person, Facebook or YouTube

**Rev. Barbara Hedin will be leading the church in worship this week.**

**Date:** Sunday, May 9, 2021

**Sermon title:** "I have conquered the world" --Jesus

**Scripture texts:** John 16: 29-33; 1 John 4:19-5:5

**Questions for reflection:**

- What did Jesus mean when He said to His followers on the evening of His betrayal: "Take courage; I have conquered the world"?
- In the First Letter of John, we read the words, "Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" Do you feel like you have conquered the world?

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## bridge "Notes" from Patty

[patty.lyerly@gmail.com](mailto:patty.lyerly@gmail.com)



Here is a hymn we can sing at least the first verse by memory I bet. Sometimes the praise band sings the contemporary version of the hymn with the "my chains are gone" refrain but this Sunday we will sing the traditional verses and we hope you will join with us. Here's a story behind the hymn "Amazing Grace". I will see you Sunday!!

<https://youtu.be/V0zTzcaHtxQ>

Blessings,  
Patty



## ***Elise's Tech Time***

elisethebridge@email.com

Trolls and flame wars. Sounds like the start of a fantasy novel, but the internet has its own terminology.

Both a noun and verb, a troll is a person who starts flame wars or intentionally upsets people on the Internet. Their intent is to provoke readers into displaying emotional responses and normalizing tangential discussion.

And a flame war results when multiple users engage in provocative responses to an original post. (Souce: Wikipedia)

How to spot a troll: They are everywhere - anonymous forums like Reddit, comment sections of Facebook and YouTube, or with their own profiles on Twitter. They post off-topic comments, have a condescending tone "why are you so angry?", and ignore hard facts. And most of all, they are oblivious to the original content, instead finding commenters with passionate opinions to prey on.

But what can you do when you encounter a troll?

Good news! You don't have to do anything. The best way to handle a troll is to ignore them. You don't have to engage in a flame war, or even have one start on your social media page, if you don't respond.

I'm going to talk next week about "Netiquette" and how we can lead by example.



# Pray Daily

## Prayer Requests: May 6, 2021

### Prayers for:

- John Veen, in rehab in Florida following an accident and surgery for ruptured quadricep tendons in both legs; will require further rehab when he returns home; prayers for John and Suzanne as he recovers.
- James Bozeman, recovering well from a recent mild heart attack and stent replacement surgery.
- Linda Wells, recovering from a recent surgical procedure.
- Wayne Armstrong, recovering after hospitalization for gall stones and pancreatitis.
- Marty, hospitalized for a serious infection (son of a friend of Sandy and Peter Barrett).
- Bernie, recovering from recent surgery; prayers for healing and recovery (brother of Karen Santone).
- Karen Santone, prayers for the successful treatment for an ongoing medical issue.
- Kim, recovering from surgery for melanoma; prayers as she continues further diagnostic testing (daughter of Susan Stanewick's neighbor).
- Bob, hospitalized in critical condition following tumor surgery with complications (son of Bob and Alice, Waterford friends of Ed and Bettye Weihs).
- Bill, recovering from surgery for cervical fractures following a fall; prayers for healing and positive test results (brother of Susan Stanewick's neighbor Joanne).

### Sympathy:

- Family and friends of Mark Brennan, who died on April 25 following complications from a stroke; prayers for his wife Judy (good friends of Marilyn and John Vernon).

If you would like to place a prayer request with the Prayer and Care team, please contact Marilyn Vernon

[Marilyn.vernon2@gmail.com](mailto:Marilyn.vernon2@gmail.com) (301-908-8704).

**Note: Names in parentheses indicate those who made the prayer request. Prayer requests will remain in Currents for two weeks unless otherwise requested.**

### Daily Bread Devotion Books

The new books are outside the church office on the small table.

# Give Generously

**This Week's giving total - \$ 4,950**

As you continue to give generously during this time, you can mail you pledges to  
**497 Olde Waterford Way, Suite 205, Leland, NC 28451** or set up direct payment where your  
bank will mail a check., or set up online giving (see below)

**It is easy to give online!**

Visit [thebridgepres.square.site](http://thebridgepres.square.site)

Scroll to the Give section. **Select a donation amount**, or enter a custom amount in the \$0 box. Select if your gift goes to the general fund or to a Monthly mission partner in the drop down menu, and you can enter text in the memo line. Click **Donate**, and then **Checkout**, and enter your card information.



## CHURCH METRICS

Virtual Participation Metrics from Sunday May 2nd

Maximum Live Viewers	Service Reached on FB	Total views Sunday (FB + Youtube)	% FB / % Youtube (live)
19	117	32	80% / 20%

\* Reached on Facebook is when the service appears on someone's newsfeed

\* Though the number of views is a good metric, it may not be accurate to actual people watching as there are couples and families watching together. Participation may be up to 2 times higher than views

# Serve Our Community



## May Sustainable Partner Kids World Academy Book Drive

We are blessed with another opportunity to assist the children of KWA. To help retain their reading levels throughout the summer, we are collecting books for children 4 years of age. Please donate new books with 1-2 sentences per page and lots of pictures, and new activity books. The children enjoy topics relating to school and kindergarten as they help to build enthusiasm and relieve anxiety. Christian books are also appreciated. Dollar Stores have lots of Children's books! **Bins will be provided beginning May 9.** There will be a book drive **Wednesday may 26th from 10 - 12:00** downstairs in front of the church. Thank you for so generously supporting this Sustainable Partnership.

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**Matthew's  
Ministry**  
*Food Changes Lives*



The school year is coming to the end and there is only one more packing which is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 11 at 10:00 AM.** If you have not packed before and would like to, please send me your email so I can provide additional information as we get closer to the date. If you have already packed this year, you don't need to send anything. I know who you are and you are going to get a note anyway! My email is [spencerb49@gmail.com](mailto:spencerb49@gmail.com).

Thank you,

Bill Spencer



# American Red Cross

While we are still uncertain about our ability to partner with the Town of Leland for a blood drive in July, there are upcoming opportunities in Leland for those of you who may be interested in donating blood.

- **Friday, May 28** - WWAY - 1224 Magnolia Village Way 10:00-2:30

To book an appointment go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) search by code LELAND  
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).



## ***SAVE THE DATE – PUB AND GRUB NIGHT FUNDRAISER***

***MONDAY, MAY 17TH***

NORTH BRUNSWICK KIWANIS CLUB WILL HOLD IT'S FIRST FUNDRAISER of 2021 on MONDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> at BLOSSOMS RESTAURANT in Magnolia Greens with a rain date set for *Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>*. The event will be held from 5:30PM till 8:00PM, and we are advertising it as a PUB AND GRUB night. Jim Bath's own CHANCE UNION BAND is donating their time to play for us outside....their first performance of the year....and Blossoms has agreed to donate 10% of their proceeds that evening. BLOSSOMS will be running beer and wine specials and guests can order dinner to eat in or take out or just bring a lawn chair and have a drink as they listen to some tunes from the band. Admission is free, but we will be encouraging donations and selling fifty-fifty tickets to raise funds. Money earned from this fundraiser will be used to support our many worthy programs that help children in our community like our Project Dignity program that helps Foster Children, and our ongoing support of all the schools in North Brunswick County. It will also be a first step in our efforts to bring a Boys and Girls Club to Leland. Boys and Girls Clubs provide a safe environment for children after school with mentoring and tutoring and healthy snacks.

Reservations are encouraged for dinner seating by calling Blossoms and asking for Susan.

Hope to see you all there!!! Judy Bath

**See the flyer below for more information**

**PUB AND GRUB  
NIGHT AT  
BLOSSOMS**

Sponsored by

**North Brunswick  
Kiwanis Club**

**"Improving the world, one child,  
one community at a time."**

**MONDAY, MAY 17TH**

**5:30PM—8:00PM**

**BLOSSOMS RESTAURANT @**

**MAGNOLIA GREENS GOLF COURSE**

**(RAINDATE—MAY 18TH)**

**Spring**

Join us at BLOSSOMS and welcome *Spring* with  
your friends and neighbors!!!

Enjoy delicious food and drink specials as you  
listen and dance to the tunes of the  
**CHANCE UNION BAND!!**

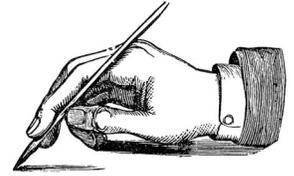
**ADMISSION IS  
FREE!!!**

**DONATIONS ARE  
WELCOME!!**

**LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO  
HELP THE KIDS IN OUR  
COMMUNITY!!**

- **COME FOR DINNER**—Enjoy Blossoms delicious food!  
(Reservations for seating highly recommended.)
- **COME FOR A DRINK**—Bring your own lawn-chair  
and listen to some tunes! (No outside alcohol, please.)
- **THANK YOU** to BLOSSOMS for donating a portion of  
their proceeds and to CHANCE UNION BAND for  
donating their time to help our children!!!

Below is the first of a series of op-eds Dr. Andrew Purves will be writing. It's called "A Retired Theologian Reads Karl Barth." It will be his musings on working through Barth's massive 13 volumes, the Church Dogmatics.



## A Retired Theologian Reads Karl Barth

Cathy was in from weeding, all hot and sticky. I was sitting in my chair in our air-conditioned sun-room reading Karl Barth, Volume 3.3, of his Church Dogmatics, on angels and the hosts of heaven, of all things. She was a bit irritated with my sense of leisure, I think, while she had been working in the dusty garden. "Why don't you write something periodically for "Currents" on what you are reading. People might be interested. And it will give you something to do." Not a bad idea. And those of you who know Cathy... I ran it by Doug, and he enthusiastically encouraged me to go ahead.

So that's what I'll do – not every week, but maybe a couple of times per month I will write a brief op-ed, as it were, on my theological reading of Karl Barth. I will do my best to write with a light but informative touch.

What have I done with my time these past five and a half years since my retirement from the faculty of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary? I could plead guilty to some sloth, though there is more to my life than that. Yes, we walk on the beach, though not as much as we thought we would. I have preached and taught a bit, as most of you know. I have read a ton of big theology books because that is what I do. Go figure, I suppose. The enforced isolation these past fourteen months have been little problem for this bookish introvert! I have also researched and written fairly long chapters for three recently published books on theology. (Copies available upon request!) That's the end of my academic writing.

My major, continuing project, however, has been to read my way through the massive thirteen volumes of Karl Barth's, Church Dogmatics, from beginning to end. (His name is pronounced "Bart.") Each volume is six to seven hundred pages! He does go on a bit, kind of like my Roomba, round and round covering every piece of gospel-ground he can think of saying something about. I have read a lot of Barth through the years, assigned him in course work, and published on aspects of his theology. But I have not read the whole thing straight through. Well, I am not at the end yet. It takes a lot of stamina to read Barth. And leisure. It was Gregory of Nazianzus (Greek Father; second half of 4<sup>th</sup> century; the first theologian to develop a systematic doctrine of the Holy Trinity) who taught me that theology can't be rushed. That's certainly the case with Barth, or as one wit said, 'St. Voluminous.'

Why Karl Barth? He is to theology what Einstein is to physics. You can't go around him; you have to deal with him. Most everything in theology today vectors towards or away from him. He was a Swiss theologian from Basel who died in December 1968, listening to Mozart. And he is arguably the most important Protestant theologian since John Calvin of Geneva, the theologian of the Swiss Reformation during the middle decades of the sixteenth century, and the 'father' of our Presbyterian tradition.

Next time I will write a little bit about Karl's life and context. Then we will be off and running – or better, slow walking. I hope you will enjoy my periodic sharing of my musing on my sunroom companion from Basel. Anything is better than pulling weeds!

Andrew



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**MAY 1**

**9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**SUNDAY**

**MAY 2**

**10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**



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## Celebrating Birthdays at the bridge

MAY



Karen Santone	8
Dana Erbe	11
Clyde Queen	11
Lydia Stevens	17
Greer Broadwater	19
Kerrin Polaski	20
Page Humphreys	24
Marilyn Vernon	24
Patricia Shaffar	29

**Remember to login into REALM and put your birthday. You can also email Wanda - just remember to put the year ( it doesn't show but is needed in system)**