

October — December, 2020



THE MESSENGER

Dear Friends:

It all started on a Sunday evening a couple of weeks ago.

I was watching television when my phone rang. It was an out-of-state number, so I ignored it; that is until the caller left a voicemail, and I listened to it. *BIG MISTAKE!* Over the course of the next two days, I got over a dozen calls from various numbers, all of which I blocked, but to no avail. The calls kept coming and coming and coming.

It was unrelenting.

I was frustrated, annoyed, and angry.

And I feel like an idiot for having felt that way.

You see, in the grand scheme of things, these calls were actually little more than an annoyance; but so often we let these types of events control our lives or at least control us for a day or two. I certainly took advantage of the opportunity to tell everyone my sad story, and now I'm kind of embarrassed about that.

Too often we let little things like spam calls, the guy that cuts you off on the highway, slow service in a restaurant, control how we think, act, and live our lives. We focus on the minor things and forget to focus on the major things. Things like our faith, our family, helping others, and making a positive difference in the world around us.

2020 has been a mess, I think we all can agree with that. It can make us irritable, short-tempered, and self-centered. That's certainly what happened to me over those phone calls, but we don't have to live like that. There is a better path, a better plan, and it is the one offered to us each day by Jesus. It is the path offered to us if we love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. That includes the neighbor who is cutting us off on the highway and the neighbor providing slow service in a restaurant.

And you know what? It even includes the one making those annoying spam calls.

Yours in Christ,

John Pruitt

CHURCH INFORMATION

First Presbyterian Church
611 Oakhurst Street
Kernersville, NC 27284

Office: (336) 993-7358
Fax: (336) 993-5526
www.fpckernersville.org

Rev. John Pruitt
Minister

Ms. Jane Johnson
Church Secretary

Services:

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.



Birthdays

October

14 Carol Mandzik
14 Megan Tincher
23 Fran McKinney

November

6 Rodgers White
8 Tom Parker
17 Mike Polinsky
22 Scott Forrest
23 Spencer Sharp
24 Marjorie Bailey
24 Priscilla Henderson
30 Lisa Newton

December

4 Lynne Forrest
7 Donna Myers
9 Margaret Burks
11 Elizabeth Kerr
13 Rosalie Nicholson
16 Chess Maxwell
17 Darcy Polinsky
23 Ellen Watts

If your birthday is missing or incorrect, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Anniversaries

October

Nothing on File

November

1 Nick & Jean Nitkin

December

Nothing on File

If your anniversary is missing or incorrect, please contact the church office. Thank you.

First Presbyterian Church Session Members

Class of 2019

Lorna Foster
Lynda Self

Class of 2020

Dee Barham
Rich Tincher

Class of 2021

Kerry Kerr
Rusty Sudderth



The Parable of the Pearl

By Mike Southern

It was a busy marketplace
filled with shoppers —
families buying food,
merchants seeking bargains,
servants running errands,
and visitors purchasing souvenirs.

It was a busy marketplace
where you could buy almost anything—
expensive clothing,
carved furniture,
exotic pets,
and colorful jewelry.

One man walked calmly among the shoppers.
He hardly seemed to notice the people
or the merchandise.

Only one thing interested him—PEARLS!
He was an expert when it came to pearls
and he made his living by
searching for rare pearls,
buying them for a good price,
selling them for a better price...
and keeping the best for himself.

He searched the market until he found
another pearl merchant.
They smiled, they talked,
and finally the merchant showed him
the pearls he had for sell.

Most of them were nice pearls
but he had seen better.

He was about to go...
but then he saw IT.
He had never seen a pearl
so beautiful, so perfect.
He had to have it!

So the two of them bargained back and forth
until they made a deal.
It took all the money he could lay his hands on
but he bought that one perfect pearl.
He had searched for it his whole life.
Now it belonged to him...
and he NEVER sold it to anyone else.

Worship Service Schedules

To be determined due to Coronavirus.