

A Letter from Our Pastor

Dear Friends,

We had a wonderful board meeting last week and I was enthused to once again witness all the hard work of our congregation.

It is always my duty to give a "Pastor's Report" and I would briefly like to share with you in the Evangel the four "asks" I lifted up for all of us as BPCC.

The first is "Think". Think about how we can be church. This may seem overly simplistic but it can be a big task made easier, of course, when we do it together. As we know from a letter from Paul to the Corinthian church, we as the church are like a body with many members. It may be that for some time we have seen ourselves as the hands of Christ, or the feet, eyes, or ears. Yet the body is larger than one part and it might be that we can try out new ways to live church as a vital organ. While we continue worship in the time of COVID, I invite us also to think outside the box. I hope that with the student success center, we have come to show our heart in the community. I hope that as the lungs we continue to breathe new life into this church with every phone call and check-in that we make with our fellow members. Let's continue to think! What else can we be? What else can we do?

The second is to "Provide" outreach to one another. I'm so thankful that we have recently been able to again gather in person on Sunday mornings. It has been a gift. But I know, as you do, that so many of our friends have been unable to return for a host of reasons and we miss them dearly. I would invite you to reach out to some of our fellow congregants and check in, ask how they are doing, and just catch up! A large part of Christ's ministry was presence. If we are still not yet able to fully be together, let's maintain our presence to one another by other means. If you would like to make some phone calls but are not sure who to contact, please reach out to me or the church office and we will help you out.

The third ask is "Care", specifically care for yourself. One of the repeated lessons of Divinity School was that we are unable to tend to others if we do not first tend to ourselves. Part of what God wants in our lives is physical and spiritual health. As we do go forward with imagining and providing, let's make

Just as a body,
though one,
has many parts,
but all its many parts
form one body,
so it is with Christ.
For we were all baptized by one Spirit
so as to form one body
—whether Jews or Gentiles,
slave or free
—and we were all given
the one Spirit to drink.
Even so the body is not
made up of one part
but of many.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14



sure that we take the time to tend to the image of God in ourselves.

Finally, "Pray"! This is of course a tradition that goes back to the very beginnings of our faith. Our church needs prayer. Our community needs prayer. Our nation needs prayer. Our world needs prayer. Sometimes I feel overwhelmed by a sense of helplessness these days but God in Christ has a constant directive to share our joys and concerns with God and with one another. We can never underestimate the power of prayer and there is never a wrong way to do it or wrong words to exclaim. Prayer centers us in our faith and as our world tries to find its way back to balance, prayer is one of the greatest gifts that the church has to offer.

As we turn into October, I hope you will join me in these asks. And please don't hesitate to make asks of your own! Reach out to your church and your fellow congregants. We are here for one another. We are here to love one another as Christ first loved us.

Peace and grace,

Jonah



Many Birthday Blessings to
Miriam Tucker
who turns 100 on
October 17th!

Dear Battery Park Congregation,

Jesse and I thank you for the prayers you have made on our behalf. My medical procedures were increased from one to three, followed by physical therapy. From the first week of December until today I have left the house only for medical procedures. Perhaps by the time our community quarantine is lifted I may be able to venture out, too. I look forward to seeing the people of Battery Park again.

Sincerely

Mary Frances Garr

*Thank
you*

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Annual Meeting of the Membership

Sunday, October 25, 2020

Following the worship service in the sanctuary

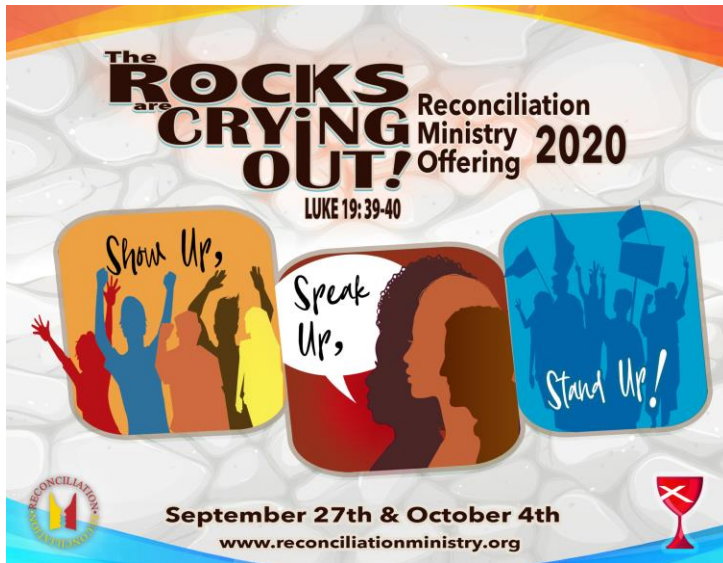
Please plan to attend this special meeting. We have several points of business to discuss and vote on as a congregation. All of these have been forwarded from the Official Board meeting of September 25.

- 1) Annual budget for Battery Park Christian Church for the 2021 year. A copy is attached.
- 2) A one-time override to the constitution to allow officers to exceed term limits.
- 3) The approval of the existing officers, with the addition of two new elders (Ronnie Walker and Susie Bodenheimer), and a Stewardship Chair (Buddy Lucord).
- 4) A replacement Constitution and Bylaws. The current constitution was revised in 2010, and some needed updates have been made. Changes include the following:
 - Updated wording to better reflect Battery Park's current situation
 - Clarification of language
 - Elimination of term limits
 - Creation of an official Building Use Committee
 - Provision for the use of phone and online voting when needed.

If you would like a copy of the proposed Constitution and Bylaws, please contact the church office. It can be mailed or sent electronically. Printed copies will also be available the church beginning Sunday, October 11.

The Rocks Are Crying Out: Show Up, Speak Up, Stand Up.

Fall Special Offering to Reconciliation Ministries



In Luke 19:39 to 40 we read that some of the Pharisees in a crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher rebuke your disciples.” “I tell you,” he replied, “If they keep quiet the stones will cry out.” Though we know that God’s spirit will cause the stones to cry out if we remain silent, when it comes to being an anti-racist, proreconciling church, silence is not an option. So may our voices echo across the stones and across this land as we work toward the restoration of God’s beloved community. -Rev. Brian Gerard, Sr. Pastor FCC Louisville, KY

To show up is more than a selfie at a protest, or a social media post... showing up means to cry with me, and to let the pain of my people’s tears move you to fight WITH those of us who are pushed to the sides because of the color of our skin, the thickness of our accents, or the documents we hold. -Yesenia Caldwell, lay leader Iglesia Hermandad, Indianapolis, IN

I tell you, if you were to keep silent the stones would cry out. Silence is the absence of sound. To speak is to convey a feeling or opinion. This is not the time to be the absence of sound but to convey the injustice of those feeling the weight of racism and oppression. This the time to speak up and convey the truth of God’s love and equality for us all. -Matthew Tippell, Musician Allisonville Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN

I choose to stand up for people of color because racism seems unbeatable. But if God can make the rocks cry out, then just imagine what He can do with people whom God has intentionally created with the capacity to love one another. -Chris Kozak, Central Christian Church, Indianapolis, IN.

Your gifts to Reconciliation Ministry allow your communities and your congregations to ensure the human dignity of every child, to ensure all have access to Christ’s abundance, to fully flourish in education, and financial stability, and friendships across God’s human diversity. Won’t you join the chorus in shouting out Hosana, Hosana blessed are we who come in the name of the Lord. Thank you for your generosity

<https://reconciliationministry.org/give/>

Or send your check to BPCC and denote Reconciliation Ministry



Non Political Voter Information from your resident Officer of the Elections, Lisa!

- Virginia no longer requires a reason to vote absentee.
- Beginning Friday, September 18, you can cast your ballot in person at an **Early Voting Center**
 - Hanover County-Wickham Building 7497 County Complex Road Hanover VA 23069. Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. There will also be special Saturday hours October 24 and 31, 2020 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day. October 31 is the last day to vote early.
 - Henrico County - Western Government Center - 4305 E. Parham Rd. Admin Building Annex Room 105 Henrico, VA 23228. Eastern Government Center 3820 Nine Mile Rd Room 100 Henrico, VA 23223
 - Richmond City - 2134 West Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23227
- Absentee Ballots – You can vote by mail with an absentee ballot. You can also surrender your absentee ballot at early voting and vote in person
- Voter Disability Accommodations:
 - Curbside – Available to all who cannot come inside and vote (no reason needs to be given). A Sworn Officer of the election will bring you a ballot and return it to the machine for you
 - Voting Assistance – If you need someone such as a spouse to help you this can be done with a Voter assistance form on site
 - Accommodated Voting – There is an “EZ Vote” machine available for the blind, deaf, and physically disabled who wish to vote in person
- October 13 is the deadline to register to vote, or update an existing registration.
- November 3 is Election Day this year.
- If you have Voting questions please contact Lisa!

Voter Pocket Guide

Commonwealth of Virginia

November 3, 2020

General and Special Elections

vote.virginia.gov • (800) 552-9745 • TTY 711



Deadlines



October 13:

Last day to register to vote or update your address for this election

If you move, your polling place may change. Be sure to update your voter registration address every time you move.



October 23 by 5 pm:

Last day to request that an absentee ballot be mailed to you



October 31:

Last day to vote an absentee ballot in person at your local voter registration office



November 3:

Election Day – Polls open 6am to 7pm



Find out more at vote.virginia.gov or (800) 552-9745 or TTY 711.

VPG-NOV20

Ways to vote

By mail before Election Day



Request a ballot at elections.virginia.gov/absentee by **5 pm, October 23**. You may return your ballot:

- By mail, postmarked on or before **Nov. 3** and received by **noon on Friday, Nov. 6**
- To your local Voter Registration Office or drop-off location
- To your polling place on Election Day

In person before Election Day



From September 18 through October 31:
You can vote at your local Voter Registration Office or satellite voting location. Bring ID.

In person on Election Day



On Tuesday, November 3, 2020
Election Day polls are open 6 am until 7 pm

- Find your polling place:
elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation
- Bring acceptable ID:
elections.virginia.gov/VoterID

For more information on voting options, locations and hours,
contact your local Voter Registration Office:
elections.virginia.gov/localVRO

Absentee voting

Eligibility

All registered voters in Virginia may now vote early, in person or by mail, using a no-excuse absentee ballot.

Witness signature

If you believe you cannot safely have a witness present while completing your ballot, you may disregard the witness signature requirement when completing your mail-in absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 election.

Accessible voting



There are accessible voting systems at each polling place, including satellite voting locations.

If you are 65 or older, or have a physical disability, you can vote from your vehicle at the polls on Election Day *or* at your local Voter Registration office before Election Day. Remember to bring a helper with you who can go in to request your curbside assistance. You can get help reading or writing from an election officer or your own helper.

If you are blind, have low vision, or have impaired manual dexterity, you may vote an absentee ballot using an electronic ballot marking tool. Contact your local voter registration office for details: elections.virginia.gov/localVRO.

Go to elections.virginia.gov/accessible to learn more.

Bring your ID



You need to show your ID or sign an ID Confirmation Statement to vote in person in this election.

Acceptable forms of identification:

- Voter confirmation documents
- Virginia DMV-issued driver's license* or ID card
- United States Passport (valid)
- Employer-issued photo ID
- Student ID issued by any college/university in the U.S. or high school in Virginia
- Other U.S. or Virginia government-issued photo ID
- Tribal enrollment or other tribal photo ID
- Virginia Voter Photo ID card
- Any current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document with your name and address

* Virginia law permits an expired Virginia DMV license to be used for voting purposes

A voter who does not bring an acceptable ID to the polls or does not sign an ID Confirmation Statement will be offered a provisional ballot.

Voter rights



You cannot be denied the right to vote if you are legally qualified to do so.

You have the right to:

- Vote if you have been registered at your current address at least 22 days before Election Day.
- Ask any election officer for help.
- Be shown how to mark and cast your ballot.
- Ask for a new ballot if you want to change your vote before you cast it.
- Vote a provisional ballot if your name doesn't appear on the voter list and you believe it should, or you forgot to bring an acceptable ID and refuse to sign an ID Confirmation Statement.
- Bring your small child into the voting booth.
- Vote if you are in line by 7 pm when the polls close.

What to expect at the polls

When you arrive, election officers will be there to help you:

Check in

Say or write your name and address.
Show an acceptable ID.



Receive and check your ballot

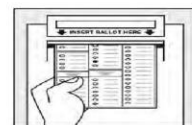
Does it include all contests for your district?



Go to the voting booth and vote your ballot



Mark your ballot by filling in the oval next to your choice(s).



When you're done, scan your ballot.

If you are not on the voter list, or if you didn't bring a ID or sign an ID Confirmation Statement, an election officer will direct you to vote a provisional ballot.

Serving as a poll worker



The need for poll workers is greater than ever. Officers of Election perform a variety of duties on Election Day, including setting up polling places, assisting voters, and helping conduct the election fairly and lawfully. Interested? You can find more details and apply at elections.virginia.gov/officer.

Contact us



Have a question? The Virginia Department of Elections is here to help! Turn to us for #TrustedInfo:



Call us: (800) 552-9745



Email us: info@elections.virginia.gov



Visit our website: elections.virginia.gov



Like us on Facebook: [@VirginiaELECT](https://www.facebook.com/VirginiaELECT)



Follow us on Twitter: [@vaELECT](https://twitter.com/vaELECT)



Follow us on Instagram: [@va_election](https://www.instagram.com/va_election)



The church office is open physically twice per week and virtually anytime!

Church Office: *Tuesday* and Thursday 8am – 1pm

-Emails, Voicemails, Paper mail, and in house administration (bills, facility maintenance etc)

Virtually: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

- Emails, Website, Tech Support, Prepping bi-weekly mailings and other duties as needed.

Worship and Study Alternative Options

If you are not able to access our worship services online and would like a copy of Rev. Jonah's sermon mailed to your home please request these to Jonah or Lisa.

Also we still have a few copies of "Our Daily Bread" Devotional available for members who would like this mailed out.



Income and Expenses, Jan 1 – September 30, 2020

Income	
Offering	49,414
Building use	16,950
Other	5,161
Total Income	71,525
Expenses	
Personnel	66,824
Utilities and Maintenance	34,243
Unexpected Major Expenses	2,495
Other	7,027
Total expenses	110,689
Net loss (taken from reserves)	(39,164)

October Birthdays

Bill Kinsey	10/09
Robert Bailey	10/17
Miriam Tucker	10/17
Richard Hunley	10/19
Gloria Bailey	10/22
Tim Huth-Scruggs	10/22
Richard Izquierdo	10/24
India Butler	10/25

Battery Park Christian Church

4201 Brook Rd., P.O. Box 9314, Richmond, VA 23227

Batteryparkchristianchurch.org T: 804-266-3973