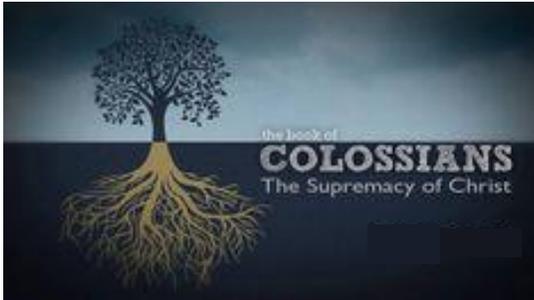


## Interim Pastor's Pen

Rev. Dwight Basham



### **Our Incomparable Christ Our Fullness in Christ**

*He is the head of the body, the church.  
He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,  
that in everything he might be preeminent.*  
Colossians 1:18

*In him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,  
and you have been filled in him,  
who is the head of all rule and authority.*  
Colossians 2:9, 10

On July 5 we will begin a new sermon series on Colossians, one of the most Christ-centered books of the Bible. The apostle Paul's brief letter speaks to two great needs of the contemporary Christian church. First, that we should have a vision of the *incomparable greatness of our Lord Jesus Christ*. Second, that we should really know *how to live the Christian life*.

#### **Our Incomparable Christ**

We live in a day when, even within the Church perhaps, it is a rare thing to meditate upon the glories of Jesus Christ. Yet the apostle Paul was overwhelmed by the greatness of Christ (Col 1:15-23). The apostle John fell at the feet of the greatness of Christ (Rev 1:17). The apostle Peter, in the presence of Christ, said (as it were), "I'm not worthy to be in your presence!" (Luke 5:8) They were overwhelmed by the greatness of Jesus.

In the church today, however, we're often underwhelmed by the greatness of Jesus. He seems small to us, and therefore, we are very little conscious of the privileges that are ours — that we have an incomparable Savior, a great Lord, a glorious Master, and it is an unparalleled pleasure to know Jesus Christ.

So Colossians speaks to a great need that you and I have as Christian people — to have a consciousness in this world that *Jesus Christ is gloriously incomparable*. To know him is the highest of all privileges and the greatest of all pleasures. Therefore, we can lift up our heads and say to ourselves (in a world like ours, no matter what happens), "I have come to know him in his glory."

#### **Our Fullness in Christ**

Paul is also concerned in this little book that the Colossians have become confused about the nature of the Christian life. He is particularly concerned that some of them have been disappointed by the Christian life.

There seem to have been teachers who are working their way into the church and saying, "Are you a little disappointed? Well, let me give you the prescription for spiritual fullness."

These false teachers, with their false instruction (Col 2:8-23), are beginning to divert the Colossians from their birthright of grace in Jesus Christ. So Paul (in effect) says to them, "If you are going to live the Christian life undiverted by the multitude of false voices you will hear in the world (and even sometimes in the church), you need to understand what it means to live your life in all its fullness in Jesus Christ" (Col 2:9-10).

I hope you'll prayerfully prepare for this series by reading Colossians. You can probably read through its four chapters fairly comfortably within 15-30 minutes. May God's Spirit apply it to our hearts so we would be overwhelmed by our incomparable Christ and experience his fullness for our lives.

#### **Re-Opening Update**

A task force was formed on June 18 to make logistical plans to resume in-person worship to start no sooner than July 5 and possibly later, depending on state guidelines and variables related to both the physical and spiritual health of our congregation. Thank you for your continued prayers and patience as we seek to make wise decisions.

Your friend in Christ,

*Dwight*

## 2020 Elder Candidates

(For Congregational Meeting on the second Sunday when we resume in-person worship.)

**Congregational Meeting for Officer Elections:** Our church Session has examined and approved the following eligible candidates for the office of ruling elder: **Sherrill Babb, Brett Callaway, and Chris Wright.** Per the PCA's *Book of Church Order (BCO 24-1)*, as of May 31, 2020, the Session is giving thirty (30) days prior notice of a congregational meeting for elections to be held at Arden Presbyterian Church immediately **following the second Sunday worship** service when we resume in-person worship.

### Sherrill Babb



When Sherrill was 11 years old, he accepted Jesus as his Savior at the conclusion of a Vacation Bible School held by First Baptist Church in Aberdeen, NC. As a junior in college, he made a further commitment to serve Jesus Christ wherever he would lead while attending an InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Urbana Missions Conference at the University of Illinois.

Sherrill has served our church by occasionally teaching Sunday School, helping with Angel Tree Ministry, and serving on the Missions Committee. As President Emeritus of Cairn University, he serves in retirement as a consultant to assist emerging Christian colleges in achieving their accreditation. He and his wife Nayla share five grown children and 19 grandchildren. In his spare time he enjoys visiting their children and grandchildren, hiking, playing golf, attending Asheville Symphony Orchestra concerts, and attending seminars at The Cove.

### Brett Callaway



Brett comes from a long line of Baptist preachers on his father's side of the family but his father never took their family to church. Nevertheless, they received a lot of exposure to Christianity in their grandparents' home. As Brett grew, he tended to ask life's questions with a view to how well they were answered by secular and Christian worldviews. Eventually, he saw more and more how the secular view failed and he began to see Christianity's truths. Today, he says, "I couldn't imagine greater happiness and blessings in my life. Now I am attempting to serve Him out of the gratitude I have for His love."

While attending Reformed Theological Seminary, Brett pastored a small evangelical church in Iowa for four years. He has been involved at APC by teaching Sunday School, serving on the Christian Education Committee, and hosting a Small Group. He is also a Gideon and has authored a book on Christianity, *Crossroads of the Eternal*. Employed by Syngenta, he serves as Head of North America Seed Development Operations. He enjoys reading, shooting clays, beekeeping, physical outdoor work, hiking, genealogy, and visiting historical sites. He and his wife Dorothy have two grown daughters: Jessie and Leah.

### Chris Wright



In God's grace and mercy, Chris was blessed to have two believing, faithful parents who exposed and explained God's plan of salvation through Jesus Christ to him very early in his life. He made a public profession of faith at a men's conference with his father at the age of 10 where he understood his sinful position before God and his need of a Savior in Christ. At North Carolina State University, his faith grew through personal and group Bible studies with Campus Crusade for Christ.

Chris has served APC in various capacities as a Sunday School teacher, Small Group leader, Youth leader, Deacon, Elder, and member of various church committees: Missions, Worship, Youth, Music Minister Search, and Pastor Search. In his spare time Chris enjoys time with family, camping, skiing, golfing, and mountain biking. He and his wife Michelle operate Diamond Rush Jewelers in Hendersonville and they are blessed with two teenagers: Abigail (17) and Ian (15).

## A Call to Prayer



The heavens declare the

*glory of God;*

and the sky above  
proclaims his handiwork

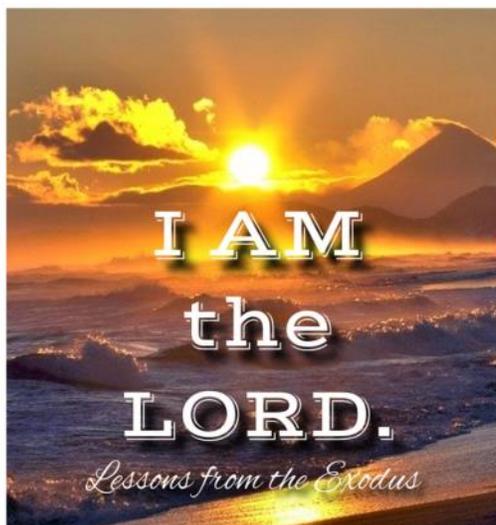
-Psalm 19:1

Photo credit: Charlene Dalton, Hendersonville, NC 6/24/2020

# Women's Ministries

**Note date change due to the extension of Phase 2**

## **Terrific Tuesdays!**



**July 21 and 28**  
**10:00 AM—Noon, APC Chapel**  
**Followed by a BYOP\***  
**Nursery and**  
**Children's Programs**  
**(through grade 5)**

*\*Bring your own picnic*

### **Terrific Tuesdays—Informal Bible Study and Fellowship Time**

Women's Ministries longs to bring the women of Arden together *in person* for an abbreviated and socially-distanced version of our summer favorite, Terrific Tuesdays Bible Study. Please know that we are working to make you *as safe and comfortable as possible*. To do so will require some changes to our typical format.

#### Abbreviated:

- ⇒ We will meet on Tuesday mornings **July 21** and **July 28**. **Note the date change** due to the extension of Phase 2 of North Carolina's Safer-At-Home Covid restriction plan
- ⇒ We will meet officially **10:00 AM-Noon**. You may continue to fellowship unofficially by bringing lunch for a **picnic on the grounds** (weather permitting).

#### Socially Distanced:

- ⇒ We will meet **in the chapel**, with staggered seating for appropriate distancing
- ⇒ We request you **wear a mask** (unless a breathing issue prohibits this)
- ⇒ Sadly, we will not offer refreshments at this time
- ⇒ We ask that you **pre-register**, so that we can plan seating accordingly. If you are bringing children, one registration is sufficient for all participants. Pre-register online [www.ardenpres.org](http://www.ardenpres.org).



# **Rescheduled October 1&2, 2021**

Friday Night, October 1: Concert

Saturday Morning, October 2:  
Women's Gathering with Laura





Terrific Tuesdays is ON! YAY!

July 21 and 28.

LOTS of fun activities are planned!

Our theme: from 1 John 2:6 - "...walk just as Jesus walked." We will focus on the life of Moses.

All we ask: PLEASE register! A form will be available online at the end of next week, and it helps so much with planning.

### OPERATION ENCOURAGEMENT-

Operation Encouragement was a big success due to the hard work of our very own Good Will Ambassador—Miss Kim! Kim, along with help from her sister, Kathy Meeks, made "Blessings Boxes" for our children. The boxes were filled with craft items, puzzles, activity sheets, games, sidewalk chalk, encouragement task lists, canvas bags, books and other neat stuff. Miss Kim delivered the boxes to the children—with a few still to be delivered.





## News From the Mission Field

His Name Shall Be Exalted Among The Nations!

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, reports are coming from around the globe of 1) people coming to faith and 2) an increase in the attendance of virtual Bible studies. In Scotland, Greg Doty has started a new Bible study for seekers entitled Christianity Explored; Third Mill has virtually trained 70 trainers in China including pastors in Wuhan; Jim and Carin are reaching more Bangladeshi immigrants through virtual boys and girls clubs.

ISI are seeing increased number of meaningful conversations with foreign students studying in the USA including the recent profession of faith by six Chinese nationals. Lloyd Kim writes that an Iranian doctor came to faith while assisting the German government battle COVID-19 in Germany. This has resulted in missionaries in Germany doing online Iranian Bible group where Muslims are coming to hear the Gospel for the first time. God is at work!

Ongoing Prayer Needs:

Tom & Lucy Wright - Praise the Lord that Brother Bishara is no longer an assassination target.

Vicki Germann: Cancer Surgery - Mastectomy was successful. Pray for her whole body to now be cancer free. She will undergo radiation treatment.

Jeff & Caroline Thompson – Many graduate students have lost their jobs and are now uncertain about their future study grants and assistantships.

Jim and Carin – MTW NYC The Southeast Asian community we serve here in NYC has lost over 200 people to COVID-19. This includes our friend and student who died in mid-March.

Pray that many would give to the MTW Haiti Love One Project # 91493 Feed Haitian Children and to the MTW Compassion Fund Project # 40043 – Feed the starving in 11 countries. To give click on MTW.org



# Arden Presbyterian

Youth Group



Samantha and Mackenzie  
Schroder

Delaney Martin



Aubrey Lewis



Tristan Dupee



Tucker Marshall



Greta Peterson



Caitlyn Wilde



## 2020 High School Graduates

The Sewing Sisters in joint cooperation with youth leaders and women's ministry worked to bring the 2020 graduates some joy! They delivered laundry bags and the students' favorite dessert at the end of May. Congratulations to all Graduates!

### Staying connected

Please sign up for our group text and be sure you are receiving our weekly newsletter!

- You can sign up for our group text by sending APC to 31996.
- You can sign up for the newsletter by emailing Esther at [Esther.pruitt@covenant.edu](mailto:Esther.pruitt@covenant.edu).

### Some events to look forward to:

- July 1st: Hike at DuPont (All Youth)
- July 5th: planning to have our first in person Sunday school
- July 10th: Virtual Reality at putt and play (MS boys)
- July 11th: horseback riding/horse care day (All Girls)
- July 11th: Clay shooting (HS guys)
- July 20-24: Middle school retreat
- July 31-Aug 4: High school retreat (as of right now it's on these days, more info to come early July)

Emma Grace Marshall

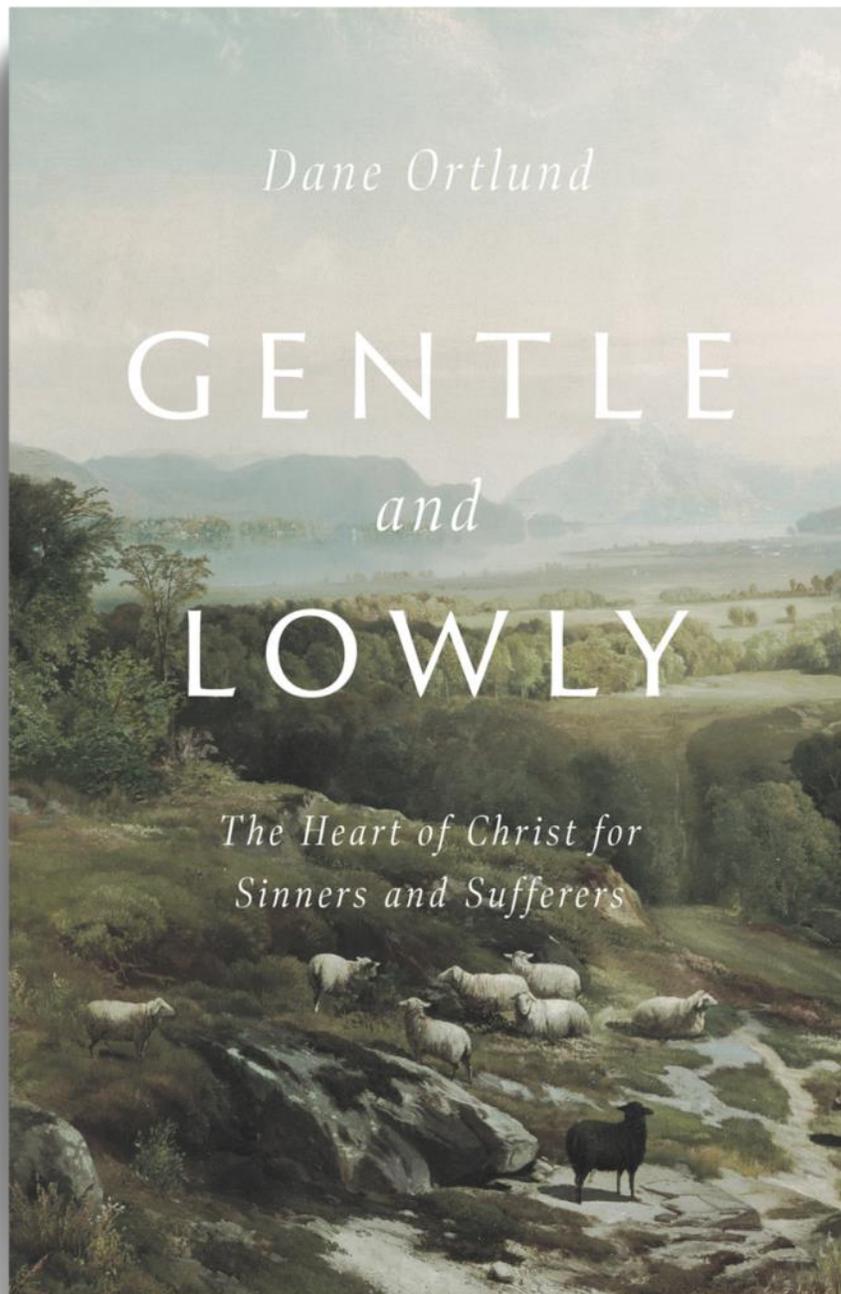


Lydia Basham



# APC Book of the Month

## July



Christians know what Jesus Christ has done—but who is he? What is his deepest heart for his people, weary and faltering on their journey toward heaven? Jesus said he is “gentle and lowly in heart.” This book reflects on these words, opening up a neglected yet central truth about who he is for sinners and sufferers today.

*For more information about this book, please visit the church website at [Arendpres.com](http://Arendpres.com)*

“Come to me,  
all who labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am *gentle and lowly* in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls.”

The above verse, Matthew 11:28-29, is printed on the front of our church bulletin Sunday after Sunday reminding us each week of our Lord’s cherished words and gracious welcome. This beautiful invitation is not only one to which the Christian initially responds to by faith at the start of his or her Christian life, but one that our Lord beckons us to anew each day. As such, it is as much a call to the unconverted as it is to the believer who has been walking with Jesus their entire life.

Yet as sheep prone to wander, instead of looking to the only One who can truly satisfy our souls, we seek in vain to find rest elsewhere, becoming more and more restless in the process. Thus, Augustine famously prayed, “Oh Lord, our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.”

Our prayer is that this exposition of Christ’s words above will serve as a faithful guide to help us discover more deeply the heart of our gentle and lowly Savior, to the praise of his glory and the good of our souls. May our rest be found in Him alone.

In love and service,

Your Christian Education Committee

P.S. As our tentative plan is to begin meeting in person again for worship sometime this month (July), copies of this title will be available for check-out at the Welcome Center.

# JULY 2020 PRAYER CALENDAR

Praying for the kingdom of God all over the world

GO, PRAY, SEND

*"If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14*

## Our Church

## The World

1. Assimilation Committee
2. Pastoral Intern David Livernois
3. Elder Steve Jennings
4. Our Nation
5. Arden Presbyterian Church
6. Elder Kees Auer
7. Deacon Mike Neese
8. APC Becomes a Praying Church
9. John Sexton
10. Deacon Garrett Pittman
11. Elder John Dean
12. Pastor Dwight Basham
13. God's Pastor for APC
14. Terrific Tuesday
15. Pastor Search Committee
16. Session/Deacons Meetings
17. Deacon Kenneth Dupee
18. Elder Monty Baker
19. Pastor Gabe Malloy
20. Deacon Bill Miller
21. Elder Sammy Johnson
22. Deacon Zach Holcombe
23. Elder Tony VunCannon
24. Deacon Larry Kidd
25. Elder John Paschall
26. Pastor James Buckner
27. Elder Jim Wilde
28. End Abortion
29. Children's Ministry
30. Elder Bill Resh
31. RYM Mid Atlantic/Gabe & Youth

Donnie & Kara Williams West Africa / MTW  
Tom & Lucy W. Africa/Haiti/USA - MTW  
Pastor Yavuz Mid. East/Asia Minor Partnership  
Kate Anderson WCU / RUF  
Phillip Baron Cru  
Jack & Diana Brinkley WNC/Sports Out  
Brooks & Riva Cain Japan / MTW  
Bill & Susan Carr North America / MTW  
Garry & Anita Chambers Caribbean/ Nat.Am - MTW  
Greg & Leanne Doty Scotland / MTW  
Charles & Bonita Davidson Mexico / MTW  
Michelle DeLeon Philippines / MTW  
Roger & Laura Dye Lat. Am. - Cru / Family Life  
Esaie & Natacha Etienne Haiti / MTW  
Doug & Rachel Flaherty WNC / Intervarsity  
Nathan & Lori Francis Cane Bay, SC Ch. Plant/MNA  
Jim & Carin Frederes USA / MTW  
Ed & Vicki Germann Int. Students, Inc. / USA  
Rob & Mary Lee Herron ASU / RUF  
Scott & Ruth Hill Cherokee / MTW  
Joel & Cindy Hylton Prague, CR / Serge  
David & Marcia Jones West Europe / MTW  
Scott & Brooke McMinn TN / Young Life  
Mountain Area Pregnancy Services WNC  
Vladimir Nikitenko Belarus Christian Min  
Keith & Ruth Powlison Peru / MTW  
Bill & Suzanne Scott USA / MTW  
John & Elizabeth Sexton Global / MTW  
Andrew & Trish Shank WCU / RUF  
Third Millennium Global  
Jeff & Caroline Thompson UGA / RUF

GO, PRAY, SEND

*"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Psalm 46:10-11*