

Interim Pastor's Pen

Rev. Dwight Basham

🎵 Hold On, Help Is On the Way 🎵

Several years ago, Whitney Houston starred in the movie *The Preacher's Wife* in which she and the Georgia Mass Choir sang these inspiring words from a gospel song:

Now when it seems that you can't stand,
Just hold on to God's unchanging hand.
Yeah, weeping may, yes, endure for just one night,
But joy will come in the morning light.
Hold on, help is on the way;
Hold on, God is on his way.
Hold on, he's coming soon.

Scripture teaches us that God is our help and shield (Psalm 33:20) and while weeping may endure for a night, joy comes with the morning (Psalm 30:5).

I am grateful to report that our Session recently approved two part-time interim church staff positions to help me and our congregation during this interim period.



Mr. Christopher Aitken will begin serving as our **Interim Music Director** on Sunday, January 26. Originally from Canaan, Connecticut, Chris received his Bachelor of Music Education from Grove City College (2007) and his Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Houghton College (2010).

He has served as the Director of Choirs at Asheville Christian Academy since 2010, where he also teaches AP Music Theory and serves as the artistic director/musical director/orchestral conductor for ACA's middle school and high school theater productions.

Chris is married to Jennifer (also a gifted singer) and they have two girls: Annabelle (almost 3 years old) and Charlotte (almost 1 year old).



In addition (pending presbytery approval), **Rev. James Buckner** will soon begin serving as our **Interim Assistant Pastor for Missions & Congregational Care**.

James is a native of Asheville, NC and his wife Bonnie is from Petaluma, California. They met at Columbia International University where James received his M. Div. (1982) and it was there the Lord called them to serve as missionaries in China. Soon thereafter James was ordained by the PCA in 1983. They then served in Hong Kong with Mission to the World (MTW) for thirty-four years (1984-2018) and have now retired to western North Carolina.

Twenty-five of those thirty-four years the Buckners were supported by Arden PCA. From December 2009 to July 2018 James also served as Pastor of Discovery Bay International Church. They have three adult children: Joseph, Ruth and David.

Chris and James will be great assets to our staff and enable me to focus more time and energy on serving as your interim pastor. Would you please join me in welcoming and praying for Chris and James and their families during this transition as they help us serve our King Jesus for the sake of his kingdom work at APC?

Holding on in Christ,
Dwight

2020

FAITH

**II CORINTHIANS
CHAPTER — FIVE
VERSE — SEVEN**

ANNUAL GLOBAL MISSIONS

I recently read on the web that 20/20 vision is a term used to express normal visual acuity (the clarity or sharpness of vision) measured at a distance of 20 feet. If you have 20/20 vision, you can see clearly at 20 feet what should normally be seen at that distance. But what is 2020 Faith? True, it is the name of our upcoming Global Mission Conference. But it is more than a name. It asks the question: "Are our eyes of Faith for the year 2020 in good health? Are we seeing clearly what Christ wants us to see?" Pray that the Lord will use Ron & Queta Shaw, Scott and Ruth Hill, Joel and Cindy Hylton, Scott McMinn, and John and Elizabeth Sexton to help us focus on our King Jesus and how His Kingdom is advancing throughout His world.

Walking by faith not by sight with you,
James Buckner
Missions Committee Chairman

Event Schedule

February 26th

through March 1st

Wednesday, February 26th

6:15 – 7:15 Prayer Tour

Catechism Classes for Children

Thursday, February 27th

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 SUPER Saints

Luncheon, Speaker: Scott & Ruth Hill

Friday, February 28th

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Missions Banquet

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Missionary Introductions

Missionary Spotlight: Joel and Cindy Hylton

Keynote Speaker: Ron Shaw

Youth Program – Speaker: Scott McMinn

Grades PreK – 5, 2020 Faith for Kids

Saturday, February 29th

9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Church Wide

Missions Breakfast

Missionary Spotlight: Scott McMinn

Discussion Panel/Q&A

Sunday, March 1st

9:15 – 10:15 a.m. Combined Adult and Youth Sunday School, Missionary Spotlight: Gary and Lois Watanabe & John and Elizabeth Sexton

Combined Children's Sunday School

10:45 a.m.- 12:15 p.m. Flag Processional and Worship Service, Preaching by Rev. Ron Shaw



Rev. Ron Shaw

Ron grew up in Illinois, and though his family attended church beginning in his Junior High years, he did not hear the gospel until, in the providence of God, he was enrolled as a student at Bob Jones University. It was there he received Christ as Savior early in his first year. Ron also met his wife, Queta, at BJU. Because he believed God was calling him into the ministry, Ron enrolled at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia where Ron and Queta made their first home. Ron was ordained in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church in 1966.

That began an adventure of ministry together with Queta which included pastoral ministry of approximately 31 years in six churches in three different denominations. In 1992 Ron and Queta received a call from Mission to the World to become the pastoral couple for MTW missionaries. Beginning in 1993 they ministered 13 years full time in missions. For five years Ron was the Pastor-at-Large and later the Director of Spiritual Life for eight years, both essentially member care ministries to MTW missionaries and their families. After retirement

Ron continued to work as an Independent Contractor for MTW, visiting and teaching both missionaries and in national churches abroad for another five years as well as teaching and preaching stateside as opportunity allowed. Ron and Queta praise God for the ministry opportunities He graciously gave them over the years. Ron and Queta have been married for 58 years and have three children, eleven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Queta and Ron live in Daphne, AL.

APC Women's Ministry

February Scripture Writing Journey

In February we celebrate love. As believers we are in covenant relationship with God who lavishes steadfast love upon His children. And through Him, we are called to love others. Each day, write out the verses listed, meditating on God's steadfast love.

Then write a brief reflection—an observation, a question, a command to follow, or a prayer to God for His amazing love.

1—1 Chronicles 16:33-35

16—Psalm 103:8-14

2—Psalm 25:5-11

17—Psalm 103:15-22

3—Psalm 32:9-11

18—Lamentations 3:19-25

4—Psalm 33:1-6

19—Jeremiah 9:23-24

5—Psalm 33:17-22

20—Jeremiah 31:1-3

6—Psalm 42:5-8

21—Isaiah 43:1-5

7—Psalm 52:7-9

22—John 15:9-13

8—Psalm 57:9-11

23—Romans 8:28-32

9—Psalm 59:16-17

24—Romans 8:33-39

10—Psalm 63:3-8

25—Ephesians 4:1-6

11—Psalm 86:4-6, 15-16

26—Titus 3:3-6

12—Psalm 89:26-34

27—1 Peter 4:7-11

13—Psalm 94:17-19

28—1 John 4:7-12

14—Psalm 100:1-5

29—1 John 4:16-21

15—Psalm 103:1-7

If you have enjoyed this overview of God's covenant love for his children, consider continuing to look at the steadfast love of God by copying and responding to a few verses each day from Psalm 136.



Arden Presbyterian



Don't forget our missions offering, which is continuing through Missions

Conference Weekend. Can't wait to see what we will be able to purchase! Exciting plans are being made for our children to participate with the missionaries. We hope your family will plan to attend!

Friday night at the movies was a lot of fun.

Sunday School has resumed, and we would LOVE for you to join us!



Second semester catechism has begun and continues through April 1. Won't you join us? Wednesday nights, 6:15—7:15.



SUPER Saints

On the Menu:

Ham
Sweet Potato Cass
Green Beans
Rolls
Appple Crisp
Cost: \$7

(Sustained **U**nder the **P**ower of the **E**ternal **R**edeemer)

To the saints who are ... faithful in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 1:1)

Luncheon

Come join us for a special time of good food, fellowship and a guest speaker presentation!

Thursday, February 27, 2020 – 12:30pm – Multipurpose Room

Guest Speaker: **Scott and Ruth Hill**



Scott and Ruth Hill began serving in Cherokee, North Carolina, in 2006 when they went to serve on a one-week trip through MTW. In 2007 they began to serve as project associates, serving summer teams. They continued in this role until July 2012, when they were approved by MTW to raise support to serve as career missionaries to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. During that time, God began to develop in them a greater love for Native Americans and a desire to bring the truth of the gospel message to them.

Scott was ordained in the PCA in 1992 and pastored two churches in South Carolina before serving with MTW. The Hills moved to Cherokee in 2013 and began to be involved in the ministry in Cherokee by building relationships within the community.

The goal of ministry in Cherokee is to establish a Reformed church there. A new church plant has begun, where Scott serves as pastor. He is also involved in the community and helps to facilitate a scripturally based addiction recovery program. Ruth is involved in the work of ministry through teaching, helping to establish a women's Bible study, and hospitality.

Children's Ministry Birthdays

Eliana Koomson 2/7

Heidi Zahler 2/9

Jesse LeBlanc 2/9

Call to Prayer

The Call to Prayer ministry would like to encourage you to pray for our church with these suggestions and invite you to join us for gathered prayer in the chapel the second Sunday of every month following the worship service.

1. That we would have unity amid diversity—loving those with whom we may have little or nothing in common with but the gospel.
2. That a culture of discipling would form in which making disciples is viewed as an ordinary part of the Christian life.
3. That faithful elders would use Scripture to train members to do the work of ministry.
4. That a hunger for studying the gospel would form among members so that they can guide and guard one another in it.
5. That transparent, meaningful relationships would become normal, and remaining anonymous would become strange.
6. That the preaching of God's Word would be biblically careful and Holy Spirit imbued.
7. That elders would remain above reproach, kept from temptation, complacency, idols, and worldliness.
8. That the church's songs would teach members to biblically confess, lament, and praise.
9. That the church's prayers would be infused with biblical ambitions, honesty, and humility.
10. That adult members would work to disciple teenagers.
11. That the church's primary teachers continue to grow in dedication to God's Word.
12. That the church would grow in being distinct from the world in love and holiness, even as it engages outsiders.
13. That members would share the gospel this week—and see more conversions!
14. That we would be prepared for persecution, remembering to love, not curse, our persecutors.
15. That hopes for political change would be outstretched by the hope of heaven.
16. That giving would be faithful, as well as joyful, consistent, and sacrificial.
17. That more members would use their careers to take the gospel to places it's never been.
18. That members would be good and do good in their workplaces this week.



YOUTH



FRIENDS



Table Talk

GALS, Table Talk and just hanging out with friends are some of the latest youth events! We are looking forward to the next Table Talk, Feb. 9 at 5:30.



GALS



GALS



GALS

We are now accepting applications for the summer youth internship program! If you know of any college students who might be interested, the position description and the application can be found at ardenpres.org/youth-ministry. Please contact Gabe with any questions.

Arden Pres Youth Calendar Winter/Spring 2020

January

- Sat 18 MS/HS GALS (9am-11am)
- Sun 19 HS Table Talk @ Malloys (5:30-7pm)

February

- Sun 9 HS Table Talk @ Malloys (5:30- 7pm)
- Fri 14- Sun 16 Winter MS/HS Retreat @ Ridge Haven
- Sun 23 HS Table Talk @ Malloys (5:30- 7pm)
- Wed 26- Sun 1 Arden Missions Conference

Sunday School
9:30am
Worship -10:45am
Youth Group
Wed- 6:15pm
Every Week!!!

March

- Sun 1 HS Table Talk @ Malloys (5:30- 7pm)
- Sat 7 Game Night 6pm
- Sun 15 HS Table Talk @ Malloys (5:30- 7pm)

April

- Sun 5 HS Table Talk @ Malloys (5:30- 7pm)
- Sun 26 HS Table Talk @ Malloys (5:30- 7pm)
- *Spring Hike TBD

Save the dates..

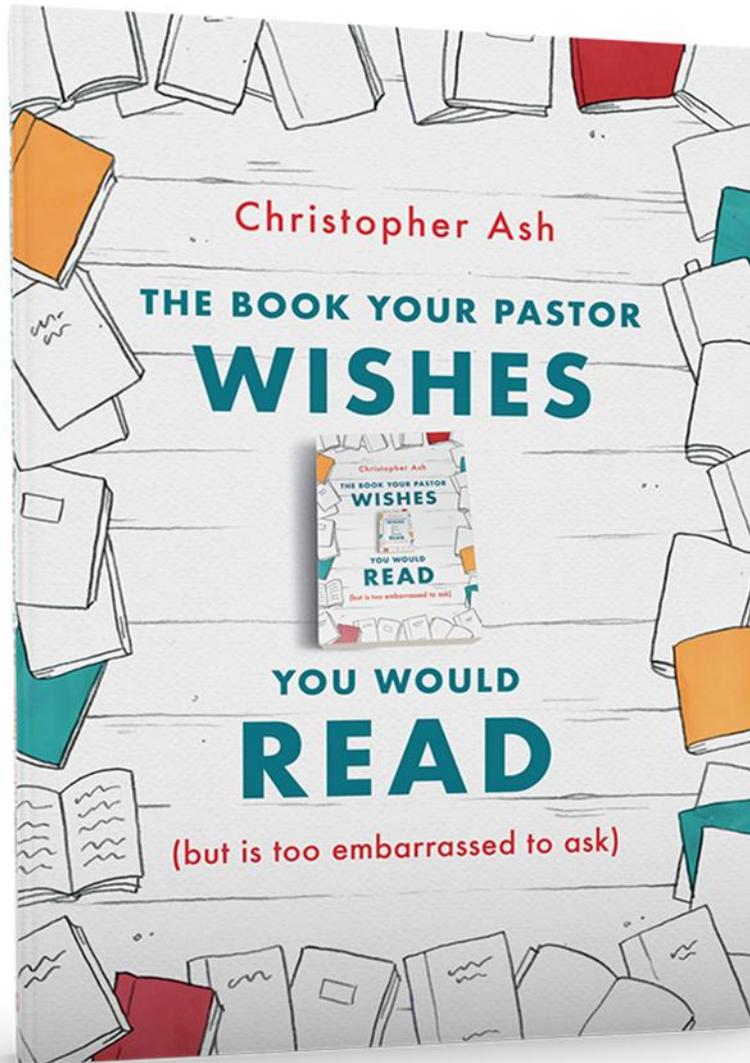
- June 6-13 Cherokee Missions Trip
- July 20- 24 MS Retreat @ Ridge Haven
- July 31- Aug 4 HS RYM Mid-Atlantic

For more info contact:

Pastor Gabe Malloy
gabrielfmalloy@gmail.com
813-679-6675

www.ardenpres.org/youth-ministry

*Please see youth email newsletter for most current details, changes, or additions.



So, why *this* book?

Regardless of what direction the Lord leads as He makes clear His will concerning our next Senior Pastor, the wisdom in this book offers timely guidance and biblical encouragement that will last long after the Pastoral Search Committee concludes their last meeting. May the Lord use this book to further a church culture in which pastors care well for their people, people care well for their pastors, and together we grow in glad Christ-likeness.

For more information about the book, please visit the church website at Ardenpres.com

February Book of the Month

“Of the making of books there is no end...” Ecclesiastes 12:12b

In the past few years, APC has traditionally put out an annual book challenge sometime during the month of January. This basically consisted of an announcement or two, listing the titles on the church website, and placing a couple copies of each title in the library.

Though these books were selected by the pastoral staff to be a blessing to the saints, and indeed, many were blessed by them, the reading challenge would largely fade into the background as the year moved forward.

This year, we want to try something different. To that end, the Session of Arden Presbyterian has approved The Christian Education Committee to select and recommend one book each month that will encourage, edify, challenge, and equip us as a church as we continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Book of the Month will be announced every month in the *Arden Focus* Newsletter as well as on the church website and bulletin.

Some books may be more practical, while others more devotional. Some will have been recently published, while others will be from centuries gone by. But every book will be carefully chosen and prayerfully considered with the people of Arden Pres and the specific contours of who we are as a church in mind.

For Our Good and His Glory,

Your Christian Education Committee

P.S. We would love to hear from you as you interact with each month's recommended read. Please email our Christian Ed Chairman at livernois.david@gmail.com to offer your impressions of each work.

FEBRUARY 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

1. Pastor Search Committee
2. Pastor Dwight Basham
3. Elder Jim Wilde
4. Deacon Garrett Pittman
5. Elder Monty Baker
6. Deacon Mike Neese
7. Elder John Dean
8. New Commandment Ministry
9. Call to Prayer
10. Elder David Livernois
11. Deacon Zach Holcomb
12. Elder Sammy Johnson
13. Arden Presbyterian Church
14. Elder Tony VunCannon
15. Deacon Kenneth Dupee
16. Prayer for International Students
17. Elder John Paschall
18. Deacon Bill Miller
19. Elder John Dean
20. Our Session & Deacons Meetings
21. Elder Bill Resh
22. God's Pastor for APC
23. Pastor Gabe Malloy
24. Elder Steve Jennings
25. Deacon Larry Kidd
26. Missions Conference
27. Super Saints
28. Elder Kees Auer
29. Our Country

The World

- Phillip Baron - CRU
Mission to the World
Jack & Diana Brinkley - Sports Outreach
Brooks & Riva Cain - Japan / MTW
Bill & Susan Carr - Native Americans / MTW
Garry & Anita Chambers - Caribbean / MTW
Charles & Bonita Davidson - Mexico / MTW
Michelle DeLeon - Philippines / MTW
Mission to North America
Greg & Leanne Doty - Scotland / MTW
Roger & Laura Dye - CRU/ Family Life
Esaie & Natacha Etienne - Haiti/ MTW
Doug & Rachel Flaherty - Intervarsity
Nathan & Lori Francis - Church Planting/ MNA
Jim & Carin Frederic - New York/ MTW
Faith Promise
New City Christian School - Matt Fuller
Ed & Vicki Germann - International Students, Inc.
Third Millennium Ministries - Greg Duble
Rob & Mary Lee Herron - App. State Univ./ RUF
David & Marcia Jones - United Kingdom/ MTW
*Gary & Lois Watanabe- Japan/ MTW
*Ron & Queta Shaw - Mission Conf. Keynote Speaker
*Scott & Ruth Hill - Cherokee/ MTW
*Joel & Cindy Hylton - Prague, CZ/ Serge
*Scott & Brooke McMinn - Young Life
*John & Elizabeth Sexton - Medical Ministry/ MTW
*Mission Conference Banquet
*Mission Conference Brunch & Fellowship Groups

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