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# SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. Paul Harwath, Pastor

Summer 2018

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## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Summer is here! It seemed as though it would never arrive...now I can't wait for Fall to get here!

It is our nature to want what is just out of reach. We easily lose interest in those things we have at hand. It not only happens with things & experiences, but also with people. We are so lucky to have a God who loves us & never gets tired of us. We need to work at appreciating those gifts God has given us & to have patience with those around us. We just need to remember how much Jesus loved & gave for you & me. Let's remember the One who has given us everything, as well as the ability to appreciate & enjoy these gifts. Let's emulate this love & care given to us, with all those we touch. Now that is something to look forward to! - *God's & my love to all of you, Pastor Paul*



## CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

### President's Report:

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:11**

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

The Council continues to meet monthly to discuss church finances, Christian education, worship, missions & benevolence, building & grounds maintenance, fundraising & by-laws review.

In our effort to spread the word & attract more people to SCCC, we're still looking to schedule

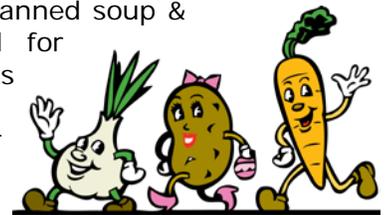
events like Pastor Paul's bow-making class. We have more concerts: DownEast Brass is playing on August 20 (paid for by an anonymous donor) & a duo is scheduled for August 25 (free-will donation). A craft fair is being held in October & of course, we have our traditional turkey pie suppers. If anyone has any ideas about skills they could teach some evening or additional fundraising ideas, please speak to a Council member or attend one of our meetings. They are usually held at 6PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month. Please text me at (207) 458-0283 to be included on the agenda. Please do not e-mail me as I get too many e-mails & tend to miss some. - *In Christian Love, Paula Kimball-Vigue, President*

### **Joshua 1:9**

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.*

### **Missions & Benevolence:**

Because we are not actively assisting any families right now & refer new requests for food to the China Food Pantry, our Benevolence Committee continues to make a \$25 monthly contribution to the Pantry. Lois Rogers, who is a member of the Benevolence Committee & also volunteers at the China Food Pantry, recently called our attention to an urgent need for canned soup & the continued need for fresh carrots, onions & plastic bags of any size. Thanks for your continued response to these requests.



Just another reminder to please support PDF (Pastor's Discretionary Fund) offerings on the months that have a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday (the next is July 29<sup>th</sup>) as this enables Pastor Paul to meet the smaller emergency requests he receives without having to ask the congregation for

special donations. Some of the aid requests he has mentioned since our last newsletter are helping a family with their electric bill; helping Arlene, the elderly lady in Albion, with further wheel chair repairs as well as providing funds for her overnight stay prior to an early morning surgery. Later, Pastor Paul received a \$75 donation from Arlene; since he strongly feels that PDF assistance does not have to be repaid, he wanted her donation to go to Special Missions. Thanks to this donation, the Benevolence Committee was able to increase its mission donation [see below]. A special thank you to the Outreach ladies who make the candy for PDF donations at our Turkey Pie suppers & to those of you who support the PDF donations that allowed Pastor Paul to meet these requests. As noted previously, he does other good deeds we don't know about!



Our Committee received a request from Alexis Porter of the Kennebec Community Church in Augusta, in which she outlined her August mission trip with *Healing Haiti* (an organization that works in Haiti providing clean water, food, housing & education). Some of you may remember that in 2016 we sent her a donation towards her mission trip to El Salvador; we later received a thank-you letter & pictures taken during her mission. Committee members voted to send \$100 from our Benevolence budget, which was increased by the \$75 donation from Arlene. A thank-you letter was received from Alexis & I will pass this on to Pastor Paul to share with the congregation.

We recently had a request through our website from a Mom for birthday gifts for her child. This was referred to Pastor Paul & he followed up by leaving a message for the Mom that we had new toys at the church & she could set a time to come & see if any were appropriate for her child. She did not reply, so we were left wondering if she was more interested in receiving cash - a good reason to have aid requests filtered through Pastor Paul. Please let Pastor Paul, or me, know of anyone needing emergency assistance. Thanks again for your sharing & caring & "God Bless." - *Glenna Jordan, Deacon/ Benevolence Chair*

### **Building & Grounds:**

The biggest joy this summer has been welcoming Marcia Hall as our new Sexton. She has brought a new energy to the role & has already started the process of rejuvenating the building. Her attention to details & commitment to her craft will make a difference to our physical plant & have already added joy to my job! Thank you, Marcia!

Look forward to an opportunity to participate in our standard summer maintenance & fall work. As ever, concerns or questions can be given to me in person or via e-mail at [room21@outlook.com](mailto:room21@outlook.com). - *Ron Maxwell, Chair*



### **Christian Education:**

#### **Deuteronomy 6:6-7**

*These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.*

This year's Sunday School went well. On average, we had six children attending & most recently eight, with the additions of Rachel & Sam. Sunday School will resume September 9, the first Sunday after Labor Day. I'm pleased to announce assistant Lydia Biswell has graciously accepted the role of teacher for the upcoming year! I will still be involved as a helper & serve as a substitute teacher when needed.

Luke Harwath has donated a TV so that services can be watched; a DVD player has also been donated by a friend, but we need connecting cables to hook it up. I believe an HDMI Cable Male to 3RCA AV Connector Adapter Cord will work if someone has one that to spare. I'd like to move the cable from the Nursery to the Sunday School room so that we can watch programs during Sunday

School & allow those covering childcare to observe the service & remain downstairs until it is over. With the new Right Now Media, we may be able to show some Bible stories.



We've had a young lady providing childcare, but she isn't available fulltime so we're looking for another person to cover Sundays when she can't. We would greatly appreciate if someone from the congregation would occasionally provide childcare until we hire another person. If you are willing to give on-call childcare coverage, please see me, e-mail me at [mrsvigue@gmail.com](mailto:mrsvigue@gmail.com), or text me at 458-0283.

Christian Education is simply teaching others about Jesus Christ & His will for our lives. - *In Christian Love, Paula Kimball-Vigue, Elder of Christian Education*

Our church has purchased an outreach program which provides you with unlimited access to the *Right Now Media* website & all of its content at no additional cost to you. I will be asking congregational members to verify their information, i.e., name & e-mail address, to provide to *Right Now Media*; *Right Now* will send you a confirmation e-mail & instruct you in setting up a password, etc.

#### **What is it?**

*Right Now Media* provides video & streaming content for professional development & training. Cartoons & Bible videos are available for children & there are also videos for adults to help with marriage, addiction, etc. It is set up similar to Netflix.

We will be sending our list to *Right Now Media* within the next two weeks. If you DO NOT want your name & e-mail included, please send me a quick e-mail stating that.

Hope everyone is doing well. Take care & God Bless! - *Paula Kimball-Vigue, SCCC Christian Ed & Council President*

#### **Communications & Outreach:**

We've started the summer off with added activities: Ian Maxwell is playing piano weekly at various sites; Charlene Rackliff has given two presentations on essential oils (the last one was about flea/tick spray that is also good for humans) & both were attended by more people who do not attend our church. This is a nice way to get our church's name out into the community. We hope to have Charlene do a presentation on healthy cleaning.

Upcoming events include a Turkey Pie Supper on July 28, followed by the Talent Show & Ice Cream Social on July 29. In August, we have our Chicken BBQ & Rummage Sale on the 11th (thanks to Diane for being in charge of this event). On the 20<sup>th</sup>, the DownEast Brass will be performing at 7PM. The August Turkey Pie Supper will be on the 25<sup>th</sup>, followed by a special Love Offering concert at 7PM with Jason & Ernie Couch. October 6th will be the Annual Craft Fair. Please keep us in mind if you have anything homemade that we could sell - we will have a bake table in addition to the crafts.

I want to thank Russ for putting the ads on the SCCC website as it makes it easy to share information on Facebook. I also want to thank Angela for all the work she puts into designing the flyers. Both are greatly appreciated – it's truly amazing what talent we have in our church! - *Yours in Christ, Debbie Stowe, Chair*

A handwritten note in cursive script that says "Thank You". The letters are elegant and flowing, with a mix of capital and lowercase letters.

#### **Worship Committee:**

Let me begin with a huge THANK YOU to all who help in so many ways to make our worship service possible! The choir, the flower-providers, the greeters, the Scripture readers – and so many more - are a vital part of our service.

Now I follow with a plea for greeters! All you need for the job is a smile & a hello to fellow worshippers. If you do not want to take the collection, not a problem! I usually try to

check with the greeters, but if I forget, please just let me know & I will gladly find someone to do that. It is very, very helpful if you can sign up in advance for whatever week you are able to cover; the sign-up sheet is available on the "paperwork" table in Memorial Hall.

It is a pleasure to work with the Worship Committee each week to choose hymns for Sunday. We strive to select a mixture of new & old, as well as regularly include "Congregation's Choice." Suggestions are most welcome, too. We meet regularly at 9AM on Wednesday in the choir room. Please always feel free to join us, even if you can only attend occasionally.



Don't forget that our services are recorded on DVDs which are available for you to borrow. We're currently having some camera problems, so unfortunately the video quality of some recordings has been poor or a service has been missed. We hope this issue will be corrected soon.

Bulletins can be sponsored for \$25/month. A remembrance or dedication will be included in the bulletin each week for that month. The months of September, October & November are still available; that sign-up sheet is also on the literature table in Memorial Hall. - *In Christian Love, Cheryl Baker, Elder of Worship*

### **Finance & Stewardship:**

Thank you all for your extreme generosity, both with your time & financially. Each year that the budget is created, the Council uses the "Offerings" revenue category to balance the budget, expecting that actual offerings will not total the amount projected. That is the case to date.

As of June 30, 2018, our total projected revenue is \$32,500 & our total actual revenue is only \$27,082 for a difference of -\$5,418. Both fundraising & offering revenues are currently below the projected amounts. We expect that fundraising revenue will greatly increase in coming months.

Our projected weekly offering average is \$997 & we are very close to that with an actual weekly offering average of \$974. Our expenditures of \$32,265 are slightly over the projected amount of \$31,532 for a difference of \$732. To date, our total expenditures exceed total revenues by \$5,183.

On a positive note, our three annuity accounts have grown from an initial investment of \$81,828 to \$84,498 for an increase of \$2,670 in approximately fifteen months' time. At the end of the five-year period, the annuities will generate approximately \$10,000 in revenue for the church. Our best opportunity to end 2018 in the black is by supporting our church fundraising efforts. Thank you all again for your help & support! – *Respectfully, Finance Chair, John Glowa*



[www.guideposts.org/positivetips](http://www.guideposts.org/positivetips)

for tips to help you change your thinking

[www.helpforalzheimersfamilies.com](http://www.helpforalzheimersfamilies.com)

[www.caregiverstress.com](http://www.caregiverstress.com)

for support for family caregivers

[www.guideposts.org/summersalads](http://www.guideposts.org/summersalads)

for nine healthy, easy-to-make salad recipes

<https://www.charitynavigator.org>

for a guide to your charitable giving



### **Test Your Logic with this Riddle:**

It flies yet has no wings. It can be long or short but is not a measuring stick. It can be associated with a capsule but is not a medicine. What is it?

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**SYMPATHY & CONTINUED PRAYERS** for the families & friends of those who have passed into God's hands:

Donald Bartlett, a frequent summer visitor.



*"Jesus loves me! This I know..."*

Did you ever wonder about the background of this favorite children's hymn?

The words to this simple song were written as a poem in 1860 by two sisters, Susan Bogert Warner & Anna Bartlett Warner. William Batchelder Bradbury (born in York, ME) found the poem & set it to music in 1862. While doing so, he added the famous chorus.

In some hymnals, it was originally entitled, "China." Why? I can't seem to find out; however, it was the favorite hymn of Japeth Washburn, who named his town China, Maine in honor of his favorite hymn. It's one of the most beloved hymns of Christian tradition.

Now, as Paul Harvey used to say, "You know the rest of the story." Though often looked down upon as a mere child's hymn, Dr. Karl Barth, considered by many to be the greatest theologian of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, remarked that all his lengthy, scholarly writings could be summarized in the words, *Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.*

(Submitted by Darlene Zimmerman, from Lullaby Links)

faith  
love  
hope

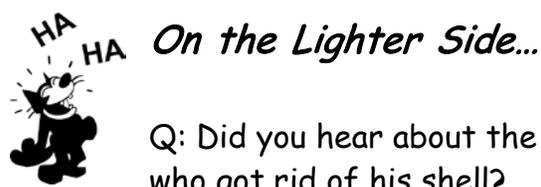
"Hope" ..... A belief, with the expectation of a positive outcome.

Faith is like Wi-Fi: It's invisible, but it has the power to connect you to what you need.

One reason people resist change is because they focus on what they have to give up, instead of what they have to gain.

"Silent" and "listen" are spelled with the same letters.

We lose the joy of living in the present when we worry about the future.



*On the Lighter Side...*

Q: Did you hear about the snail who got rid of his shell?

A: He thought it would make him faster, but it just made him sluggish.

Q: Why do people hate elevator music?

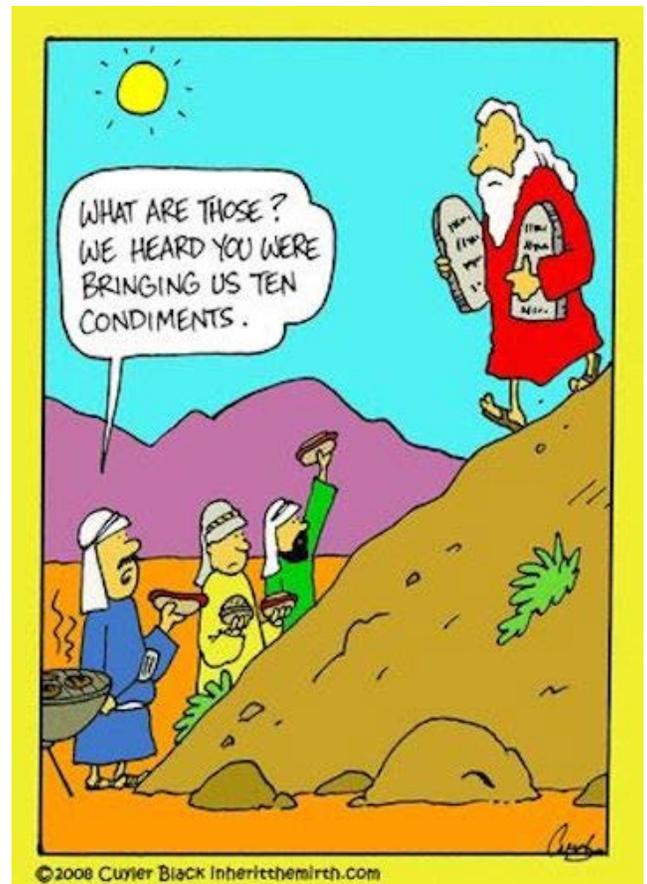
A: At first, it's uplifting, but in the end, it always brings you down.

Vegan: "Anybody who sells meat is gross."  
Carnivore: "Oh yeah? Well, anybody who sells fruits & vegetables is grocer."



- † ADULT BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9AM  
\*NOT HELD IN SUMMER, RESUMES SEPT 9
- † CHURCH SERVICE, 10AM
- † COMMUNION: AUGUST 5 - SEPT 2 - OCT 7 - NOV 4
- † CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS: 6PM, 2<sup>ND</sup>  
WEDNESDAY: AUGUST 8 - SEPT 12 - OCT 19 - NOV 14
- † JULY 26: SETUP FOR SATURDAY TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 9AM
- † JULY 28: TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 5-6:30PM  
(PAULA VIGUE, CHAIR - NEED PIES & GIFTS FOR SILENT AUCTION)
- † JULY 29: PDF DONATION SUNDAY
- † JULY 29: TALENT SHOW & ICE CREAM SOCIAL, 6PM
- † AUGUST 6-10: SET UP FOR SUMMER SALE, 9AM-1PM
- † AUGUST 11: SUMMER SALE, 9AM-1PM (PLUS CLEAN-UP). BBQ WORKERS ARRIVE AT 10:30AM
- † AUGUST 18: CLEAN-UP MEMORIAL HALL IF SALE LEFTOVERS NOT GONE
- † AUGUST 20: DOWNEAST BRASS CONCERT, 7PM
- † AUGUST 23: SETUP FOR SATURDAY TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 9AM

- † AUGUST 25: TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 5-6:30PM  
(CHERYL BAKER, CHAIR - NEED PIES & GIFTS FOR SILENT AUCTION) FOLLOWED BY:
- † AUGUST 25: JASON COUCH & FATHER CONCERT, 7PM (LOVE OFFERING)
- † SEPTEMBER 21: SETUP FOR TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 9AM
- † SEPTEMBER 22: TURKEY PIE SUPPER, 5-6:30PM  
(GLENNA JORDAN, CHAIR - NEED PIES & GIFTS FOR SILENT AUCTION)
- † SEPTEMBER 30: PDF DONATION SUNDAY
- † **NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: NOV 11, 2018**



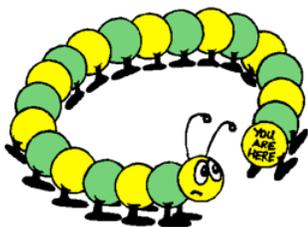
## THE CENTIPEDE

A single guy decided life would be more fun if he had a pet, so he went to the pet store & told the owner that he wanted to buy an unusual pet.

After some discussion, he finally bought a talking centipede (100-legged insect), which came in a little white box to be used as his house. He took the box back home, found a good spot for it, & decided he would start off by bringing his new pet to church with him. So, he asked the centipede in his little white box, "Would you like to go to church with me today? We'll have a good time." But there was no answer from his new pet. This bothered him a bit, but he waited a few minutes & then asked again, "How about going to church with me & receive blessings?"

But again, there was no answer from his new friend. So, he waited a few minutes more, thinking about the situation. The guy decided to invite the centipede one last time. This time he put his face up against the centipede's house & shouted, "Hey, in there! Would you like to go to church with me & learn about God?"

This time, a little voice came out of the box. "I heard you the first time! I'm putting my shoes on!"



**“Catch Up With Jesus: Lettuce Praise & Relish Him ‘Cuz He loves me from my head to-ma-toes”**



**“Adam & Eve: The First People To Not Read The Apple Terms & Conditions”**

*South China Community Church*  
*246 Village Street, PO Box 335*  
*South China, ME 04358*  
[southchinacommunitychurch.org](http://southchinacommunitychurch.org)

*“Don’t speak unless you can  
improve upon the silence.”*  
- Quaker Proverb

