THE BEACON

Sunrise Presbyterian Church

August 2024 Newsletter



"Practical Optimism"

In her recently published book, *Practical Optimism*, Dr. Sue Varma offers a vision for what she terms, *Exceptional Well-Being*. As the medical director and attending psychiatrist of the World Trade Center Medical Health Program following September 11, 2001, she saw the stress and trauma created by this horrific tragedy. She also witnessed the full spectrum of responses from *devastation and stagnation to remarkable resilience and growth*. Her work with first-responders and survivors led her to develop this approach to optimism that is firmly grounded in reality. Her work highlights how practical optimism goes beyond a positive outlook, and she seeks to help those that are not natural-born optimist to benefit from the practical application of the optimistic mindset to ones life.

Chapter one opens with a quote that distills practical optimism:

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist (Practical Optimist) adjusts the sails. [Adapted from William Arthur Ward]

Varma draws a clear distinction between an optimistic viewpoint and an optimistic lifestyle. She sees the optimistic lifestyle as being proactive, making a positive difference in ones own life and the lives of others. At the root of her perspective is that elusive characteristic, *resilience*. The goal of each of her chapters is to give positive, productive advice that anyone can choose to adopt and employ.

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the church in Rome speaks to an optimism that does not deny the harsh reality of the world, but recognizes the powerful hand of God in the midst of all of life's challenges. The passage is so familiar that we tend to miss its profoundly optimistic perspective.

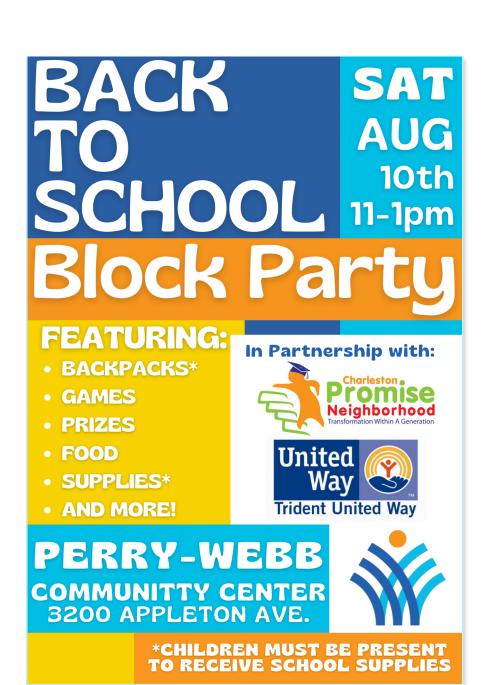
³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35, 37-39)

Throughout the generations, the church has met the challenges of an ever-changing world. Our congregation has experienced the dramatic challenges of the last few years and is on the threshold of a new chapter. We are blessed with a number of families with children and young people. The Family Service has grown to be a strong ministry at Sunrise. We now have eleven Middle School youth and are launching a Middle School Youth Program with a new leader who will be introduced to you in the coming month. Our Senior High youth are beginning a new chapter under the inspirational leadership of Vic Apat.

As we move into the fall, we will be celebrating all of the exciting new programs and activities at Sunrise. There truly is something for everyone at Sunrise!

In God's grace,

Vauce





Thank you all for your generous donations To Meighbor's Together Back To School drive.

You are invited To participate in the Block Party August 10th from 11-1 pm.

hands of

Sign up to help Hands of Christ's initiative by volunteering to help out at one of the distribution sites. We encourage you to get together and sign up to go as a team at either Zion Olivet or Second Presbyterian Churches.

Fri. Aug 2 Zion-Olivet 3347 Rivers Ave, North Charleston 4 PM - 6 PM
Sat. Aug 3 Zion-Olivet 3347 Rivers Ave, North Charleston 10 AM - 12 noon
Sat. Aug 3 Second Presbyterian, 342 Meeting St, Downtown Charleston 10 AM - 1 PM



Thank you for your generous contribution to the Remembrance Garden…

- RøberTa Blanchard and René Severns in memøry of
 Dick Blanchard and Bill Dawson
- RoberTa Blanchard and René Severns in memory of Ernest Thomas

Surrise Columbarium and Memorial Garden Mpdate

Sneak preview! Click on the link below to view the conceptual plan for the columbarium and garden. The garden will be located on the Jasper Boulevard side of the church overlooking the marsh. The columbarium will have two sizes of niches. The 8"x8" niches will hold up to two urns. The 12"x 12" niche will hold up to four urns. The Memorial Wall will have spaces for inscriptions of those who are inurned or buried elsewhere.

Soon there will be an announcement in worship about the Columbarium and Memorial Garden. There will be Columbarium Open House in the Fellowship Hall after worship. The open house will be an opportunity to learn more about the columbarium and garden, and how to purchase a niche or Memorial Wall inscription. The date of the announcement and the first open house will be determined as soon as possible.

We look forward to sharing updates about the project. Contact Ida Havelka, Columbarium Committee Chair, at ihavelka@comcast.net or at 843-412-1884 for more information.

https://youtu.be/5WZbNmjjvA8

ECCO Grocery Bag Sunday

The Grocery Bag Sunday program is a cooperative effort between ECCO and local churches. Our July Grocery Bag Sunday food drive yielded 241 pounds of donations! ECCO thanks you and is appreciative of your efforts and generosity.

August at Sunrise



Growing Faith will begin meeting again on August 18th at 9am in the upstairs classroom. Please feel free to share this message with any older elementary & middle school students (4th - 8th grade) you know who might be interested in joining. I look forward to taking faith to the next level with your children! ~ Reece

The Adult Sunday School class has begun a new study of the Bible. Its purpose and design is to connect the many familiar stories and people of the Bible. We tend to read the Bible in small segments and lose the larger picture of God's activity across the generations. Part of the study will be appreciating the literature and historical context of the Biblical story from Genesis through Revelation. The Adult Sunday school class meets each week in the Church Library at 9:00 a.m. There is a Zoom option. ~ Vance

The Miriam-Naomi Circle is taking a summer break and will resume September 10th with a new study. We welcome new participants in the Circle. After we meet, those of us who are able to do so usually regroup for lunch at a nearby restaurant. If you have any questions or if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call Patsy Hindman at (843) 906-8653.



The Women's Evening Bible Study will continue their study August 20th at 5:30 pm using *Journaling the Psalms*: A *Guide for Reflection and Prayer* by Paula Gooder. New participants are always welcome.

Cents-Ability is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been

made to Neighbors Together, East Cooper Meals on Wheels, and East Cooper Community Outreach. Please continue to give at least two cents per person per meal in the bowl in the Narthex. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.



Start off your Tuesdays with the Jerry Dillon Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Start the day off right with great food, fellowship, and a devotion.



- 4 Alice Petzold
- 5 Michele Smith
- 7 Olivia Floyd
- 7 Bill Rayburn
- 8 Zach Champagne
- 9 Noah Parker
- 10 Lisa Dykes
- 11 Cal McRae
- 11 Heather Goforth
- 13 MaryAnne Crocker
- 14 Debbie Polley
- 14 Gloria Clarke
- 14 Maya Naylor
- 15 Sawyer Webb

- 17 Chip Law
- 20 Betty Jane Dillon
- 22 Marion Neese
- 23 Evan Bell
- 23 Andrew Chasman
- 24 Maryellen Bonheimer
- 26 Jay Nelson
- 26 Jim Smith
- 27 Bob Havelka
- 27 Vivian Hauff
- 28 Jenna Hill
- 31 Rachel Clark

August 2024

	10 July 10 Jul	42	31
Sat	1pm - Tim Kane Memorial		
Έ	11am - Bridge - Fellowship	11am - Bridge - Fellowship 11am - Bridge - Fellowship	11am - Bridge - Fellowship
뢷	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	9am - Veritas 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate
Wed	10am - AA Meeting 7	10am - AA Meeting 10am - AA Meeting	10am - AA Meeting
Tue	7:30am - Men's Breakfast 6 7:30am - Men's Breakfast	7:30am - Men's Breakfast 7:30am - Men's Breakfast 5:30pm - Women's Evening	7:30am - Men's Breakfast
Mon	5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 5:30pm - Music Lessons 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate	1:30pm - Music Lessons 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate 1:30pm - Music Lessons 6:30pm - Veritas Parent	9am - Veritas 1:30pm - Music Lessons 5:30pm - Agape Do Karate
Sun	8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service	8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship (Fellowship	9am - Growing Faith - Family 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service 8:45am - Choir Practice 9am - Adult Sunday School 9am - Fellowship 10am - Family Service 10am - Worship Service

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Phone: (843) 883-3888 www.oursunrise.org

Sunrise Staff

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