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From the Pastor

We are swamped daily with messages- calls, emails, texts, voicemail, commercials. Some of us follow Face Book and other social media platforms on which we may further communicate. Not long ago, I tackled the job of deleting my old or unwanted email messages. There were over 3,000! It was an all-day process.

Effective communication is key to living and working with others. Communication is important for the life of the church. One of the most-respected authorities on the subject is Dr. Mitch Carnell. Dr. Carnell is a Fellow of the American Speech Language and Hearing Association. He was President/CEO of the Charleston, South Carolina Speech and Hearing Center for over 35 years. He is the author of several books and is a sought-after workshop leader in healthcare, business, government, and educational settings.

Dr. Carnell is a member of the First Baptist Church of Charleston, SC. He offers the following advice for church folks as we resume in-person worship and programs this summer. These remarks are excerpted from a message prepared for Day1.org, a member of the Alliance for Christian Media, and a resource I have found helpful.

*Stop talking. Give others a chance. This is difficult because we have so much to share. We have been separated for so long. Smile, thus breaking the ice. Speak to people. You may need to introduce yourself.

*Listen attentively. Because we aren't talking doesn't mean we are listening.

*Don't interrupt. Interrupting is an act of aggression. It says that what I have to say is more important than what you have to say.

*Delay judgment. Jumping to conclusion always poses the danger of arriving at the wrong conclusion.

*Sincerely compliment others. Find something nice to say. Stay away from talking about physical attributes.

*Consider the opinions of others. They might have something new or unique to contribute.

*Be sensitive to the feelings of others. They may not take what you say in the way you intended.

*Be approachable. Be aware of your body language. Uncross everything. Face the other person. Make eye contact.

*Speak the truth, but speak the truth with love. It is not necessary to share everything you know.

*Don't gossip. Dr. Arthur Caliandro, formerly of the Marble Collegiate Church in NYC, has said, "Be kinder than you think it necessary to be. The other person needs it more than you know."

*Stop talking. Use this acronym: WAIT. Why Am I Talking?

We Christians have a good message to share, one with eternal implications.

We also have so much to learn and opportunities to which we may respond. Now that we are (mostly) un-masked, let us resolve to communicate effectively in all the many forms available to us in this busy, frustrating, complex, and blessed 21st century.

Paul offered these words to the Ephesians. They are most appropriate for us in this season:

“I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all.”

Seeking, with you, the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace,
Cinda Harkless

Nurturing Faith Ideas



June 6 – Second Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 5: Read Mark 3:20-35 Jesus’ own family thought he had lost his senses. He left the security of a carpenter’s business to become a wandering preacher. No one, they thought, could take on

the Scribes and Pharisees and come out a winner! And, he could not care less about “What will people say?” Sometimes the voice of our neighbors is louder than the voice of God! What risks are you willing to take for the sake of building God’s kingdom?

June 13 – Third Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 6: Read Mark 4:26-32 Jesus compares the growth of the Kingdom of God to that of a mustard seed. There is nothing so powerful as growth. Just as the smallest of seeds grows into a great bush, we, too, can sow seeds that help God’s kingdom to grow. Think of “seeds” you or your church family have planted that have produced amazing results in your church or community.

June 20 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 7: Read Mark 4:35-41 The disciples were afraid and worried when the storm threatened to overtake their boat on the lake. They asked Jesus, “Teacher do you not care that we are perishing?” In response to their fears, Jesus calmed the storm. What are the storms in your life? Worry, sorrow, fear? In the presence of Jesus, we can have peace even in the wildest storms.

June 27 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 8: Mark 5:21-43 The Ruler of the Synagogue and the woman with a hemorrhage, when all else failed and they were at their wits’ end, turned to God. These stories, found in Mark, give us hope in times of despair. Many years ago, during VBS, there was a song with the words “With God, all things are possible.” Five- year-old Chloe heard the words “With God all things are Popsicles!” What brings more happiness and excitement to a child than a popsicle? Can you feel that excitement knowing that God is there for you when you reach out in faith?

Birthdays & Anniversaries

June Birthdays

- 1 Mary Elizabeth Baumgarner
- 2 Spencer Toy
- 7 Rose Wolford

June Anniversaries

- 2 Steve and Karen Gold
- 19 Jon and Caroline True
- 20 Harold and Becky Bias

11	Capri Isabella Roma	21	Doug and Leslie Frost
12	Teague Christopher True	26	Tim and Amy Moore
13	Kevin Dennison		
	Peggy Roach		
16	Merritt True		
18	Robert Minichan		
24	Isabella Maria Chircop		
	Pat Ray		
26	Mark Baker		
28	Cinda Harkless		
29	Robert Grizzell		
30	Vince Keys		

A Note

Jesus taught it is better to give than receive (Acts 20:35)

It has been more than a month since Karen Gold and myself, Theresa Miller visited Sue Yoak at The Village at Riverside where she now resides. We found Sue her own delightful self. She was comfortable and cheerful as she invited us in for a visit. Her own positive attitude on that day was uplifting for Karen and myself. Karen and I brought some thank you notes to share with Sue. The notes were from the Barboursville School for Adolescents. This is a school for troubled youth located in the Barboursville Park and associated with the Pretera Center. Many of the children have severe emotional problems. The children were thanking KMPC for their Christmas gifts.

This facility has long been one of the mission projects of KMPC. The church gifts them in December for Christmas. The process by which we gift them had been refined over the years by Sue Yoak and Greta Ball and many other women in the church. In the early days of this mission project, Sue, Greta and others would invite the youth of KMPC to shop for individual gifts for the children in this facility. Sue described the adventures and fun they had with the process. However, there are "many" restrictions on the type of gift children may receive for safety reasons. So over the years our gift became a monetary

donation. This enabled the counselors to buy specific things according to the needs of the youth. It also allowed for funds to be available for the proverbial late arrival of a child. They have even received children on Christmas Eve.

This year Karen Gold personally presented the money to the faculty in early December 2020. The counselor was overwhelmed and brought to tears by the gift. This facility had also been negatively impacted by Covid. They did not expect to be remembered this Christmas season. The children received individual gifts throughout our mission project. They sent many thank you notes!

The notes were quite artistic and enlightening. The following message is just one example of the many we received. One student said, "Thank you for making my Christmas special. You gave me all I could ask for. I am glad you spent your time and money on me. This was my first Christmas away from home and you made me feel better about not being with my family. Thank you very much."

Wow, it was hard to get past this one. Sue, Karen and myself spent some time going through all the thank you notes. Sue reminisced about previous years of gifting and long forgotten, related conversations.

Karen and I parted Sue's company that day on a cheerful note. She was a positive and uplifting voice on that day. She was anticipating the flowers that would soon bloom on her table. As Karen and I parted company that day, we felt our own sense of grace from visiting with Sue.

In closing this note we would like to express our own gratitude to Sue and Greta and all of the people at KMPC to Sue and Greta and all of the people at KMPC who make these gifts possible. We all know that the smallest acts of kindness can reverberate throughout the world. We are so fortunate to be reminded that faith in action is an awesome power.

Respectfully Submitted

Theresa Miller

Karen Gold

Last Sunday of the Month

The last sunday of each month is ECCHO Sunday. We are asked to bring contributions of cereal to be distributed as needed by ECCHO.

It is also Sense and Sensibility Sunday. In years past this was called "2 cents a meal". We contributed 2 cents per meal to our fund to feed the hungry in our community. Share what you can for our neighbors in need. There will be collection buckets available where you may deposit contributions.

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