

*ALTAVISTA  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*



***THE LINK***

*Novemberr 1, 2020*

OUR VISION, OUR HEARTS, AND OUR DOORS ARE  
ALWAYS OPEN



**ALTAVISTA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

707 BROAD STREET  
P O BOX 126  
ALTAVISTA, VA 24517  
434-369-5286 – Office phone  
434-369-1101 – FAX  
[office@altapres.org](mailto:office@altapres.org) - email  
[www.altapres.org](http://www.altapres.org) - web site  
Rev. Eduardo Soto, Jr.  
434-369-5286, office  
334-237-1895, mobile

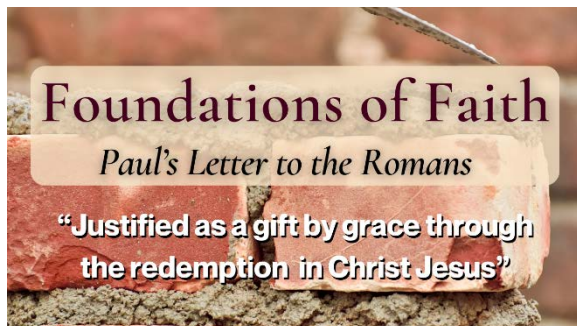
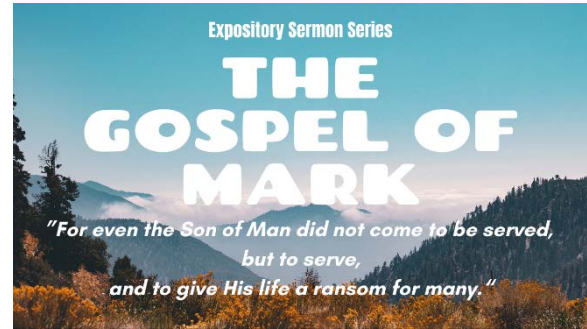
"I strongly encourage each of you to pray and read the Bible daily"



*For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction,  
so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures  
we might have hope.*  
Romans 15:4

*All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching,  
for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.*  
2 Timothy 3:16

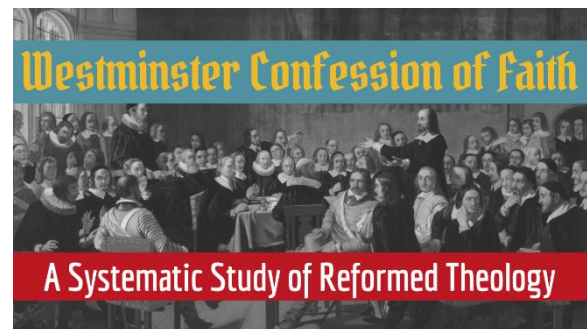
Preaching expository sermons through entire books of the Bible is truly a gift to the church from God himself through great men like the Apostle Paul, Saint Augustine, and John Calvin (to name just a few). Working our way through the *Gospel of Mark* is a rewarding process. As we dive deeper into the text, we're learning more and more about what it means to be a Christian and what the experience was like of the first believers. During this time of unfolding and unpacking the teachings in *Mark*, keep an eye open for these various themes: insiders and outsiders, the authority and identity of Christ, the ultimate mission to the Gentiles, and many others! The more we study and apply the teachings of Scripture, the better, more faithful Christians we'll become.



Our youth group is no stranger to expository teaching! This year they are getting a taste for in-depth Bible study. We're started meeting weekly this year so that I can walk our youth through the details of Scripture, just like on Sunday mornings but at a smaller scale. When crossing a stream, we often look for big stones upon which to walk, minimizing getting too wet. That is what I am doing for our youth meetings. We're crossing the wide,

deep, and swift waters of Paul's *Letter to the Romans*. This book provides much of the foundations for Christian through and life and is necessary for our youth to grasp as they look toward the next chapter in their lives.

Expository teaching isn't limited to Scripture. One form of expository teaching is thematic, and that is what you will experience in Bible study this year. I am taking a systematic, article by article examination of the *Westminster Confession of Faith*. It is a heavy and lengthy summary of the doctrines of Scripture (though it's length and breadth are but a glimpse when compared to Calvin's *Institutes of the Christian Religion* or Hodge's *Systematic Theology*). Yet, it remains a paramount document for Reformed theology. In my examination of the *Confession*, I will show where it is grounded in Scripture and how it relates to us in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. I am deeply indebted to Dr. R.C. Sproul, whose book *Truths We Confess*,



is my roadmap through this study series. His book and many other resources can be found online at [Ligonier.org](http://Ligonier.org).



This year, I added a new worshiping opportunity. On Wednesday evenings, you can experience a casual and contemporary service with the same expository preaching you'd expect. This is a prayer service, where we lift up our supplications and intercessions for the church and the world. During the Fall and Winter, I am taking an expository look at the commands of Christ throughout the Gospels.

These various instructs are Jesus' rules for our righteous living. It is important for us to know and understand what our Savior expects of us. Moreover, this evening service should be seen as an evangelistic, missional opportunity! This is chance for folks to visit our church without prejudice to Presbyterian worship.

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## Sunday Sermons This Month

November 1<sup>st</sup> • All Saints' Sunday

Hebrews 12:1-4

"The Great Cloud of Witnesses"

November 8<sup>th</sup> • Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 9:38-41

"In the Name of Jesus"

November 15<sup>th</sup> • Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mark 9:42-50

"Sin and Salt"

November 22<sup>nd</sup> • Christ the King Sunday

Mark 10:1-12

"Grounds for Divorce"

November 29<sup>th</sup> • First Sunday of Advent

Mark 10:13-16

"Like a Child"

# Happening This Month!

## Bible Study — Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, & 24<sup>th</sup>

Bible Study meets every **Tuesday** morning in the Sanctuary at **10:00 AM**. All are welcome to join as Pastor Ed leads us through various studies and discussions of Scripture, theology, and church history.

Pastor Ed continues in his series on Reformation theology through the *Westminster Confession of Faith*.

## Evening Study — Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, & 18<sup>th</sup>

Evening study and fellowship meets every **Wednesday** in the Sanctuary at **6:30 PM**. All are welcome to join us in a time of prayer, study, and fellowship.

*There will be no evening study Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>*

Pastor Ed continues in a series on the commands of Christ.

## Youth Group — Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, & 22<sup>nd</sup>

Youth Group meets every **Sunday at 6:00 PM** at rotating locations. All youth between Sixth and Twelfth grades are welcome. The Youth will be fed and will fellowship throughout the evening.

*The church will be closed Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving*

## NOVEMBER

### Birthdays

### Anniversaries

6	Alline Ritzer	
10	Geraldine Kauffman	
13	Betty Walton	
16	Megan Ingram	
19	Dana Taylor, Eann Janiak	
21	Dean Barbour	
24		Frank & Barbara Podrebarac
26	Darlene Robertson	

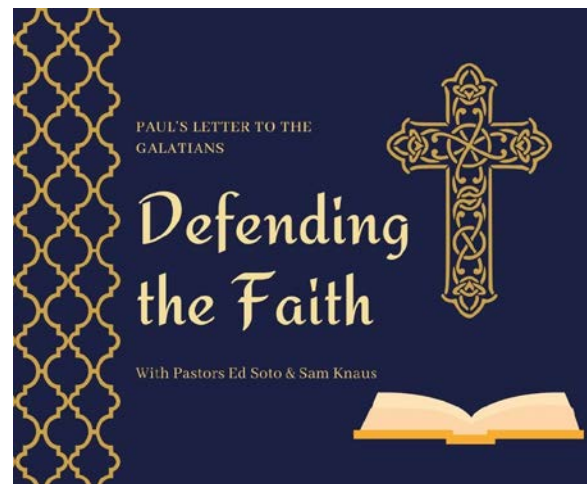
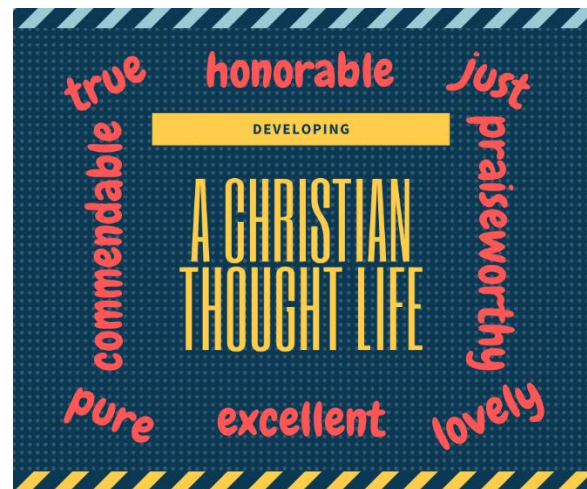
## APC Session Highlights October 2020

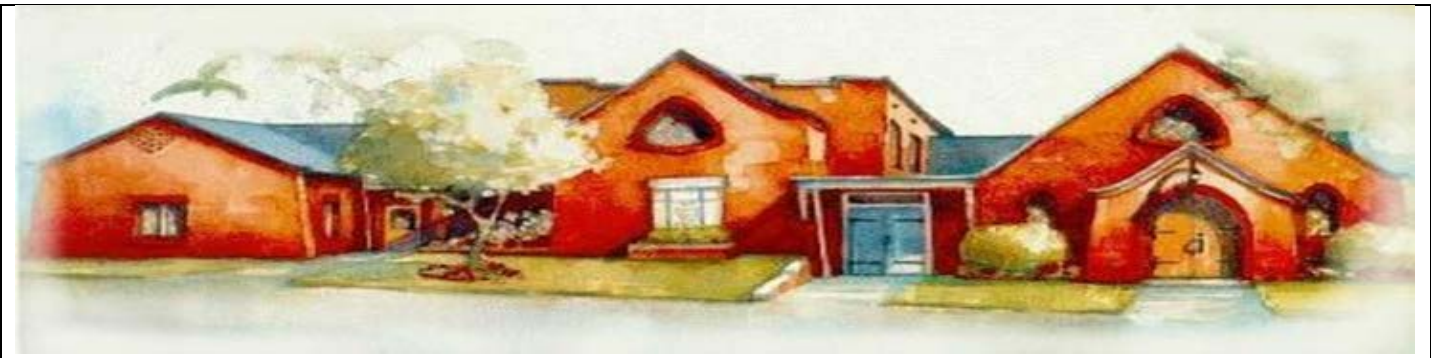
- Decided to pay the shipping (\$450) for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes from ACT for Mission funds.
- Decided to sponsor the renovation of a bedroom (\$1,000) in the Claire Parker house from ACT for Mission funds.
- Reviewed the September, 2020 Treasurer's Report.
- Entertained a motion to reinstate the celebration of the Sacrament of Communion to the first Sunday of every month. Following discussion of the current surge of Covid-19 cases in Campbell County, it was decided to revisit this issue again in January, 2021.
- Approved minutes of the September 20, 2020 Stated Session meeting as presented.
- Elected Kevin deBernard as Commissioner & John Erb as Alternate Commissioner for the November 19, 2020 Presbytery meeting.
- Elected Kevin deBernard as Session's representative on the 2021 Nominating Committee.
- Called a Congregational meeting for November 22, 2020, following Worship, for the purposes of (1) presenting the 2021 Operating Budget, (2) adopting Pastor Ed's 2021 Terms of Call & (3) electing the 2021 Nominating Committee.
- Joys & concerns of the congregation were identified. Moderator Ed prayed for those listed & to close the meeting.

	<b>September-2020</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Pledges</b>	7,107	84,874
<b>Non-Pledges</b>	2,790	17,959
<b>Plate Offering</b>	16.50	240.50
<b>Total Expenses</b>	11,918.63	100,847.01



In case you missed them, you can find these series, studies, and devotionals (and more) on our website: [www.altapres.org](http://www.altapres.org)





## Month of November 2020

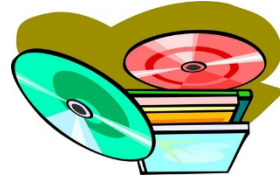
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 AM Worship Children's Church 6 PM Youth Group Mtg.	2	3 10 AM Bible Study in Sanctuary 6 PM Ministry Beyond Mtg.	4 6:30 PM Midweek Fellowship in Sanctuary	5	6	7
8 10 AM Worship Children's Church Return OCC Gift Items 5 PM Youth Group Mtg.at Church	9	10 10 AM Bible Study in Sanctuary  5:30 PM Christian Ed. Mtg.	11 6:30 PM Midweek Fellowship in Sanctuary	12	13	14 Youth Retreat  Set-up Fellowship Hall for OCC Packing Party
15 10 AM Worship Children's Church Collect T. Offering OCC Packing Party- in F Hall after Worship Session Meeting after Worship 6 PM Youth Group Mtg.	16	17 10 AM Bible Study in Sanctuary	18 1 PM DAWN Board Mtg. in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 PM Midweek Fellowship in Sanctuary	19 9 AM Presbytery Virtual Mtg.	20	21 5-7 PM Curbside Pick-Up BBQ Dinner Fundraiser for the 2021 Mission Trip
22 10 AM Worship Children's Church  Congregational Mtg. after worship  6 PM Youth Group Mtg.	23 December Link Deadline	24 10 AM Bible Study in Sanctuary	25 Church Office Closed  <u>No</u> Midweek Fellowship	26 Happy Thanksgiving! Church Office Closed	27	28
29 10 AM Worship Children's Church  <u>No</u> Youth Mtg.	30					

The Ministry Beyond Committee will have a Take-out BBQ Dinner Saturday, November 21, 5-7 pm. Pick-up will be in front of the church. All donations will go to support the 2021 Mission Trip. Volunteers are needed to donate food items and to help with preparing the take-out dinners. Please use the sign-up sheet "BQ" on the hallway bulletin board, if you would like to donate.



DVD's are available of the church services.

Just stop by the church office or see Sang-iL Lee on Sunday.



Our Operation Christmas Child tree is up. This year we are hoping to pack and send 50 shoebox gifts, Gospel Opportunities, which will reach out to children around the world as expressions of God's love for them.

Please consider taking an ornament or two and purchase items needed to help reach our goal. One side of the ornament has the ornament number; the other side has the items needed. There will be a list on the table beside the tree to put your name beside the corresponding ornament number. Please return all items to APC no later than Sunday, November 8.

If you want to participate, but are unable or don't have time to shop, you may make a monetary donation and Barbie Andrews, Ministry Beyond the Congregation, will be glad to shop for you.

Pastor Ed has a new phone number, please update your phone books. This is not a new number nor an ill omen. He was using a phone porting app to have a local number, but that app is starting to get too expensive. This is his original number and goes directly to his iPhone: 334-237-1895.



***Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.***