

The JPC Monthly

June 2026

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR JAY

Summer on the Mount

Summer is a time for relaxation and family. It is a time for travel and warm breezes. This summer is a special one in our nation as we celebrate our 250th birthday. I was alive for the bicentennial, but I was only 2 and can't pretend to remember it other than the occasional quarter over the years. I guess there is a chance that I could live to see three hundred, but I don't know if I would remember that much either at 102. I won't do anything special this 4th. My normal routine is to help grill at Cedarwood, go home and take a nap, and watch the hot dog eating contest. I doubt I will venture out to watch any fireworks or launch any off at home now that the kids are older.

I love to hear about all the trips people take and all the things that they see and experience. Our summer is pretty set with the Cedarwood swim team, summer classes at GTCC for both girls, and then of course VBS and Montreat. We will probably try and head to the beach for a week after the Wyndham Championship and before the college-aged kids move into their new residences, wherever those might be. Our summer is booked. When you add in YFC camp for Julia and Erin and dog sitting for some church members there isn't much time left for any of that relaxation I mentioned above.

When things get busy, church is sadly the first thing to get skipped for many people. When we are offered a fun alternative church doesn't stand a chance. I don't dare mention what happens when the service is in the location we don't prefer. I want to challenge you to resist these temptations. Jesus still cares for you in the summer months. God still longs for you to serve Him when we might not feel like it. Most importantly, we still feed the hungry, offer furniture to people sleeping on the floor, and still have the expenses of maintaining the campus and paying the staff.

The summer is the best time to worship because you get to see everyone that maybe you haven't seen in a while. For me, I love it when the sanctuary is full and the hymns sound so great. This summer I am also very happy to share my Sermon on the Mount sermon series with you. For two years Joshua bothered me about this old book he was reading. His church Sunday School class had been through it and then he and his study lead partner decided to use it in his Bible study at NC State.

He eventually ordered me a copy. He apologized that my copy was used. When I got it I was blown away someone had written notes and prayers in the book and there was highlighting on every page. Then I read the introduction. I was more than intrigued. The author served for many years as the minister at Westminster Chapel in London. The book was originally a series of 30 sermons that he preached in succession for more than half a year. The book was published in 1959. I am not completely sure when the sermon series took place. The thing that was fascinating to me was that his secretary sat on the front row for 30 weeks and took notes in shorthand because no tape-recording machine was available at that time. This is why I am not sure when the sermons happened.

The reason he did this was because he felt that a study on the verses was good but that for people to really understand the beauty of God's word it must be applied and its relevance shown to the contemporary situation. That is my plan for this summer, to take these thirty sermons and walk through them in 12 or 13 weeks and let this sermon of Jesus come to life for us. The lectionary only covers about 16 verses of the three chapters of the Sermon on the Mount. This doesn't even begin to scratch the surface.

I am excited to journey through the greatest sermon ever preached with you. Please make the effort to attend. If you can't be here please go online and watch. I think that God can use these passages in exciting ways for us this summer. This will be a summer of expository preaching, that means we will go through verse by verse and the Word of God will be the meat not a cute story. I am a little nervous because there a lot of parts in Jesus' words in Matthew that pastors like to skip because they are hard or controversial. We will cover those too. Join me on this journey. I promise we will all learn something.



The Community Garden

Our garden has been planted and we are looking for helpers. No worries if you don't have a green thumb! It doesn't take a green thumb to pull weeds or harvest the blueberries that will be ready to pick in 2 weeks. We can teach you what to pull. We would also like to try a new concept of "Adopt a Bed." (think along the lines of "Adopt a Highway") This would be your garden bed to maintain by weeding and harvesting!



Our FROGS will be planting sunflowers that they started growing in cups! What a beautiful surprise to be able to give a sunflower in the food boxes that we provide to our community friends, many of which have resettled here. It is such a blessing to share our harvests and to see them flourish here in our area.

We have already harvested our root crops of radishes, carrots, onions and garlic, as well as some kale and spinach. Our summer crops are coming in, the tomatoes are starting to bloom.

So, are you looking for a way to break free from the drain of that endless scroll on your phone? Do you want to feel connected to the earth and to your community? We are looking for volunteers to step away from the fast-paced world... to stop and smell the flowers. Please contact Nancy Seay or Pam Hjelmquist. Remember, you don't have to have a green thumb by any means. We promise, you will enjoy your time in the garden!

DONATIONS

Donations made to the JPC Community Garden Fund in honor of Dave and Nancy Seay, by Mike Daniel

Donation made to the JPC Music Fund in loving memory of Phil Tate, by Loyce Lesley

Donation made to the JPC Music Fund in loving memory of Phil Tate, by Jim and Darryl Ray

Donation was made to the JPC Foundation, Inc. in loving memory of Chuck Usborne, by Loyce Lesley

THANK YOU from Outreach

We started out with a goal of collecting 1000 cans of food. But GOD had other plans for our food drive. We have collected 2,000! To all who donated food and made monetary donations, we thank you! We thank you for following what the Bible teaches about sharing:

Luke 3:11 "John answered, anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same."

Proverbs 22:9 "The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor."





Please save your empty **clear or white gallon** milk / water jugs for VBS! Please note we are only accepting the size and shape shown below, as Jordan Smith will be collecting them over the next few months for a VBS project . We ask that you kindly be sure they are rinsed really, really, REALLY well!
Please bring to the office or to worship. Thank you so much!

Newsletter info



-We will have a combined July/August newsletter that will go out beginning of August. Please have all submissions emailed to office@jamestownprez.org by July 25th.

-All submissions for the newsletters must be emailed in Word or Google Docs. Handwritten articles or a PDF of an article will not be included. Exception to a PDF is an informational flyer for an event.

Thank you for your cooperation!

FIRST THURSDAY LUNCHEES WITH THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

All JPC ladies and friends are invited to join us each First Thursday of the month at 11:30 am for lunch.

July 2

McCallister's
Off Hwy 68 at The Palladium, HP

August 6

University Diner
3802 Samet Drive, HP



LEISURE FELLOWSHIP

You're invited to attend Leisure Fellowship on June 18 for food, fellowship and information. Come early at 11:45 and pack community outreach bags to bless others in our community. Enjoy lunch at noon and please bring a dish to share.

Our program will be presented by Jeanie Schepisi from SHIIP (Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program) focusing on protecting yourself from Medicare errors, fraud and abuse.

Join us for a time of service, good food, great fellowship, and important information to protect your health and your future.

JPC Foundation “Did You Know?”

Did you know that the Foundation can refuse a gift— for example if it conflicts with the morals or ethics of JPC, is illegal, is an asset without a current market demand or would create a burden on the Foundation or JPC?



Creative Ways to Give to the Jamestown Presbyterian Church Foundation, Inc.

Part 2: Assets, Occasions, and Legacy

In Part 1, we looked at four financial giving strategies: bequests, donor-advised funds, appreciated securities, and Qualified Charitable Distributions. This issue turns to four more creative approaches, each of which can turn an asset or an occasion into a meaningful gift to the Jamestown Presbyterian Church Foundation, Inc. (Foundation).

Real Estate Donations

Donating real property, a home, vacation property, commercial building, or undeveloped land, can be a powerful and often overlooked giving strategy. The Foundation can sell the property and use the proceeds for its mission, or in some cases, put the property directly to work.

There are several ways to structure a real estate gift. An outright gift transfers property you own free and clear. A retained life estate lets you donate now but continue living in the home, with the Foundation receiving it at your death. A bargain sale lets you sell the property to the Foundation below market value, part gift, part sale, and can be a good fit when you'd like some liquidity alongside the donation.

Donor tip: *Always get an independent appraisal and work with a real estate attorney. The Foundation will also assess environmental and liability issues before accepting a property gift.*

Workplace Giving and Matching Programs

Many employers offer charitable giving programs that can dramatically amplify your donation — sometimes doubling or tripling its impact at no extra cost to you.

Start by checking whether your employer offers a matching gift program and at what rate. Payroll deduction makes consistent, year-round giving easy. If your workplace runs a giving campaign, nominate the Foundation as a recipient. If you volunteer, ask whether your employer offers volunteer grants, dollar amounts tied to the hours you contribute.

Donor tip: *Some matching programs extend to retirees and spouses. Check your HR policies carefully, you may be leaving free money on the table.*

Life Insurance as a Giving Tool

Life insurance offers creative ways to make a significant gift, often at a fraction of the eventual value. You can donate a policy you no longer need, purchase a new policy naming the Foundation as beneficiary, or simply designate the Foundation as a beneficiary on an existing policy.

If you donate an existing paid-up policy, you can deduct the lesser of the cash surrender value or the premiums paid. If you name the Foundation as a primary or contingent beneficiary, the designation is free and revocable, so you retain full flexibility. If you purchase a new policy with the Foundation as owner and beneficiary, the premiums themselves can be deducted as charitable contributions.

Tribute and Memorial Gifts

Honoring someone, a loved one, a mentor, or a person who has passed away, through a gift to the Foundation is a deeply personal form of giving. In-memory gifts honor someone who has passed. In-honor gifts celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or milestone.

A named fund within the Foundation can carry a person's legacy forward indefinitely. A memorial gifts in lieu of flowers, requested in an obituary, let a community come together around a shared tribute.

Donor tip: *The Foundation will notify the honoree or their family of the gift and the donor's name, though never the amount.*

Final Thoughts

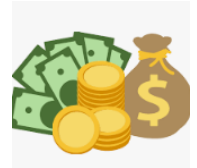
Charitable giving is both an act of generosity and an opportunity for thoughtful financial planning. The most effective donors think creatively about what they give, not just how much.

Whether you're donating appreciated assets, setting up a trust, or simply updating a beneficiary designation, each of these strategies lets you give more, keep more, and leave a legacy that reflects your values.

Before implementing any complex giving strategy, consult a qualified financial advisor, tax professional, and estate planning attorney. The right combination of tools, matched to your situation and your philanthropic goals, can make an extraordinary difference for the causes you care about most.

Volunteer Opportunity!!

Do you ever wonder if your financial contributions to Jamestown Presbyterian are being used as you thought they would be? Do you ever wonder if donations to the Church could be used in a different way? Do you ever wonder if giving any money to JPC makes a difference?



If you have had these questions or any thoughts about how the money here at Jamestown Presbyterian is collected, managed, invested, or spent, the Resource Management Ministry Team would like to extend an invitation to you to join our Ministry Team. The Team meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM in room 222.

You say you don't know anything about accounting or bookkeeping? That's Ok. We'll be happy to share with you what we know. (We have recently changed our accounting system to QuickBooks and, each month, we are learning something new ourselves!!)

Please feel free to speak with Dave Bean, Clayton Robinson, Chris Mills, Steve Honeycutt, or Vivien Carson. We'll be happy to answer your questions and begin sharing with you.



Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the many cards, texts, emails, phone calls, meals, prayers, and countless act of kindness shown to me following my recent surgeries. Your love, encouragement, and support have meant so much during this time of healing.

Each thoughtful gesture reminded me how blessed I am to be surrounded by such caring people. You have truly been a blessing in my life and I thank God for the gift of your friendship and support.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Ellen Winnett

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Visit us on the Web
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JPC SESSION

Class of 2026

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Becky Brown
Nancy Seay
Anne Wright
Cam Tally

Class of 2027

Jim Gonsiewski
Kirk Lesley
Peggy Maynard
Kerry Miller
Jenny Rathjen
Dick Whitt

Class of 2028

Evy Hazenberg
Katie Heineman
Pam Hjelmquist
Randy Stroud
Ellen Winnett