



The JPC Monthly

September 2026

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR JAY



There is so much to write about this fall. In just a few days Ministry Architects will be on campus to help us come up with some ideas for the future based on what they hear us say. I really want to encourage you to participate in those listening sessions. Your voice matters. The best part of this process is that after this time in September they will spend a 12-month period working with us to implement any ideas or changes that we are going to make. Please understand we are not going to be throwing the baby out with the bath water. We are going to make changes that make JPC better equipped to meet the needs of our members, the community, and the unchurched. I have said it many times to the Session that we are doing this in a time of strength, not in a time of desperation. Now is the right time to chart out the next 20 years at JPC.

Our fall programs are beginning to ramp back up and I am excited. The youth and their parents met with Michael, and I am thrilled at the direction our youth group is heading. The youth are going to grow in their faith, serve in the community, and become close this year. I can already tell. To support that journey I would ask that you pray for Michael and the youth. I would also love it if you watched the Eblast and the newsletter for requests from the youth. If they have a car wash, bring your vehicle. If they need snacks, consider helping. This is going to be a great year for the youth to grow in Christ.

Finally, I want to invite you to be a part of The Chosen series studies happening this fall. We will be journeying with Jesus through Season 3 of The Chosen. The entire series is free to watch without any streaming service. Even if you haven't joined us for seasons 1 & 2 you can easily catch up and be a part of the class. We will meet every other week and cover two episodes per meeting. This is to give the ladies providing dinner a little rest and to keep from clogging up the Wednesday night schedule here at the church. The dates will be as follows:

September 23rd: Episodes 1 & 2

October 7th: Episodes 3 & 4

October 21st: Episodes 5 & 6

November 4th: Episodes 7 & 8

I will leave you with an attempt at some instructions on how to find The Chosen online for free without having to give any personal information or anything! On your device go to Google or whatever your web browser is and search The Chosen. When you do that you will look for the web address **watch.thechosen.tv** this may not be the first thing that pops up on the list from Google for me it was the second or third choice. It will say, "The Chosen: Home." Once you click on that you will see the welcome page with a recorded message from Jonathan Roumie. He is the guy that plays Jesus. This will be an indicator that you are in the right place! In the top left corner you will see The Chosen in turquoise. I didn't need to tell you that I just wanted to see if I could spell turquoise. Next to that you will see an oval that says, "Seasons." When you click on that oval a photo for each season appears. All you have to do is click the season you want to watch. For the class we are on Season 3. If you need to start at the beginning, then you would select season 1. If you are ahead of us, then click on the appropriate one but please refrain from any spoilers when you are with the group. The episode you chose will begin to play FOR FREE. I have done this from my iPad, iPhone, smart tv, and desktop computer. It's easy, I promise.

This is a wonderful event in the life of the church. There is fellowship and good discussion as we look at God's word in a unique way. I do want to remind you that The Chosen is a fictional portrayal of what could have been the daily life of Jesus. This can't replace time in the Bible. Each week we will cover two episodes, and I will teach on the Biblical stories or themes covered in the episodes. This fall is going to be a busy and exciting one in the life of the church. I hope to see you there!

JPC Community Garden



We are harvesting almost every day in the JPC Community Garden! We have lots of cherry tomatoes, okra, beans, and cucumbers. We decided to try tomatillos for the first time to appeal to our Hispanic friends and we picked our first tomatillo this week. Tomatillos are used to make salsa verde or green salsa. If you have had the pleasure of having it at your favorite Mexican restaurant, you know how good it is! Let our wonderful team know if you want to help with harvesting. We will soon be planting our fall crops.

Join: Cam Tally, Dell McGill, Jack Bell, Marcia Heim, Pam Hjelmquist, Kim Schoepski, Kathy Coolidge and myself! We have a good time. Learn more about gardening and get some good exercise all at the same time helping people have access to healthy food through our community pantries.

Nancy Seay,
336-580-3611

IN OTHER GARDEN NEWS....

JPC's Community Garden was entered into a contest that Guilford County Cooperative Extension was running in High Point. Gardens were judged on their productivity, appearance, outreach programs and participation. We won 2nd place! Be proud of the work done to promote raising fresh produce for our community!

DONATIONS

Donation made to Youth and Children's Programs in appreciation of Nancy Seay's many contributions to our church family by,
Louise Monroe



JPC KIDS

Save the date! Fall is here, calling all k-5th graders! On September 20 Polywogs and Frogs will meet at 3pm in the Kids' Room. We will begin to work on a project together. Please save and bring your empty clear plastic water bottles (cheap plastic kind), clear plastic cup covers (for to-go cups) and clear plastic cups. Hint, it's not an igloo! Mrs H (aka Evy)



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to get Out of the Boat

By John Ortberg (Six sessions)

Beginning September 24, 2026, Room 222 at 9:30

For info contact Vivien Carson or Clarajo Pleasants.

Ladies Evening Bible Circle will begin the 2026 - 2027 year with a new book from the Women of Faith series. The title is: **PURSUEING CONTENTMENT**. "I am disgusted with my life. Let me complain freely. I will speak in the bitterness of my soul," Job 10:1. NLT (New Living Translations) A somber opening for Chapter 1 of our study titled: "Discontent". Do we stew or do we look for the light to help us?

Our Evening Circle meets the third Monday of the month in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm., from September to May.

The date for our September meeting is on the 21st. We are a fairly small group and welcome all who would like to join us. If you have any questions please contact Cynthia Neel 336-339-3695 or

barryneel@northstate.net.



DREAMING IS ALLOWED!

By now we hope that you have signed up for one of the Listening/Sharing meetings and plan to attend the congregational dinner scheduled for Wednesday, September 16th.

Your Extraordinary Acts: Next Chapter organizing team is so excited for these meetings and to learn your vision for the future of Jamestown Presbyterian.

Are we to continue the path we are currently taking or are there other ways to connect the newer Jamestown community with Christ?

What are we doing as Christians to adhere to our mission, vision statements?

Ministry Architects will be here Sept. 14th-16th to listen to the joys, frustrations, and dreams of members, session and staff. As trained consultants and facilitators, they will take your comments and develop a plan so that we can meet the rapidly changing needs of the community and develop a foundation on which JPC can continue to thrive.

The first thing we need is for you to share your dreams with us. Perhaps in looking ahead we should also look back. Looking back into your past church life, what was thriving? What was happening? What did that look like? Remembering those good times, how do we grow JPC to that point? Please, share with us your hopes for JPC and how we can get around any obstacles in our path. We realize that there might be some frustrations and that you might need to vent some; that is part of the process too. But we are really looking into the next 5-10 years.

Your Organizational team was dreaming the other evening and sharing what we believe the final report will look like. We are so confident of the process and how things are going to move along, but we need all of you to participate. It will only take an hour or two of your time and a free dinner is included! Thanks in advance for your support and participation. And remember: Dreaming is Allowed. If you have not already done so, please click on the links below to participate in a listening meeting. And remember: Congregational Dinner on Sept. 16th!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4DA9A92FA4FF2-65074409-extraordinary>





JPC FOUNDATION

Required Minimum Distributions: What You Need to Know

If you have money sitting in a traditional IRA, SEP IRA, SIMPLE IRA, or an employer retirement plan like a 401(k), the IRS eventually wants you to start taking some of it out — and paying tax on it. That withdrawal requirement is called a Required Minimum Distribution, or RMD. Here's what it means in plain English.

The Basic Idea

Retirement accounts like traditional IRAs and 401(k)s let your money grow tax-deferred for decades. In exchange for that benefit, the IRS requires you to eventually start withdrawing — and paying income tax on — a minimum amount each year once you reach a certain age. You can always take out more than the minimum. You just can't take out less.

When RMDs Start

Thanks to the SECURE 2.0 Act, the starting age depends on when you were born. If you were born in 1959 or earlier, your RMDs generally begin at age 73. If you were born in 1960 or later, your RMDs begin at age 75.

Your very first RMD can be delayed until April 1 of the year after you reach your starting age. Every RMD after that is due by December 31 of the year it applies to. Some people delay their first withdrawal into the following spring, which means they end up taking two RMDs in that calendar year — worth planning around, since it can push you into a higher tax bracket for that year.

How the Amount Is Calculated

The math is simpler than it sounds. Your RMD is calculated by taking your account balance as of December 31 of the previous year and dividing it by a life expectancy factor from an IRS table (most commonly the Uniform Lifetime Table). Your custodian or plan administrator will typically calculate this for you and can tell you the exact figure, but the responsibility for actually withdrawing it is yours.

What Happens If You Miss One

Skipping an RMD, or withdrawing less than required, can trigger an excise tax of up to 25% on the shortfall. If the mistake is corrected within two years, that penalty can drop to 10%. This is one area where a small oversight can carry an outsized cost, so it's worth setting a reminder well before your deadline each year.

A Few Related Rules Worth Knowing

RMDs don't work the same way for every account, and a few related rules are worth having on your radar.

Roth IRAs are not subject to RMDs during the original owner's lifetime, since those contributions were already taxed going in.

Inherited retirement accounts follow their own, more complicated set of rules depending on your relationship to the original owner and when they passed away.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) let you send funds directly from your IRA to a qualified charity, which can count toward your RMD without adding to your taxable income. Both The Jamestown Presbyterian Church Foundation, Inc. and Jamestown Presbyterian Church are qualified charities.

None of these are substitutes for a plan tailored to your own accounts and beneficiaries, but knowing they exist can shape the conversation you have with your advisor.

Where This Comes From

RMD rules appear in Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a)(9), related Treasury Regulations, and IRS Publication 590-B, *Distributions from Individual Retirement Arrangements (IRAs)*.

This article is provided for general informational purposes only and does not constitute tax, legal, or financial advice. Rules governing required minimum distributions are complex, change periodically, and can apply differently depending on your individual circumstances. Please use this information as a starting point for a conversation with your tax advisor or accountant before making any decisions about your retirement accounts.

LEISURE FELLOWSHIP

We hope you will join us on Thursday, September 17 for Tea at the O. Henry Hotel. We have 4 tables of four reserved. If you are interested, email Anne Barts ahlbarts1973@gmail.com or Mary Hale maryghale@gmail.com no later than Tuesday, September 8. Please note this is a first-come event as we have limited seats. The cost will be based on your order (\$15.00 to \$30.00 plus tip), which will be paid for at the event. This is a delightful experience! Dress would probably be what you might wear to our traditional service.



Jamestown Presbyterian Church
1804 Guilford College Road
Jamestown NC 27282
336.454.3718

Visit us on the Web
www.jamestownprez.org

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Jay Smith, Pastor

pastor@jamestownprez.org

Mrs. Sammie Braxton, Parish Visitor

pastoralcare@jamestownprez.org

Mr. Michael Henry, Youth Director

youth@jamestownprez.org

Dr. Jon Brotherton, Director of Music Ministries

music@jamestownprez.org

Ms. Donna Brotherton, Director of Contemporary Music & Organist

donna.brotherton@gmail.com

Mr. Chris Henry, Assistant Director of Chancel Choir

ncmusicman.ch@gmail.com

Mrs. Jen McNamara, Office Manager

office@jamestownprez.org

Mrs. April Bolick, Director of Preschool

preschool@jamestownprez.org

Ms. Evy Hazenberg, Children's Coordinator

children@jamestownprez.org

Finance Office

finance@jamestownprez.org

JPC SESSION

Class of 2026

David Bean
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