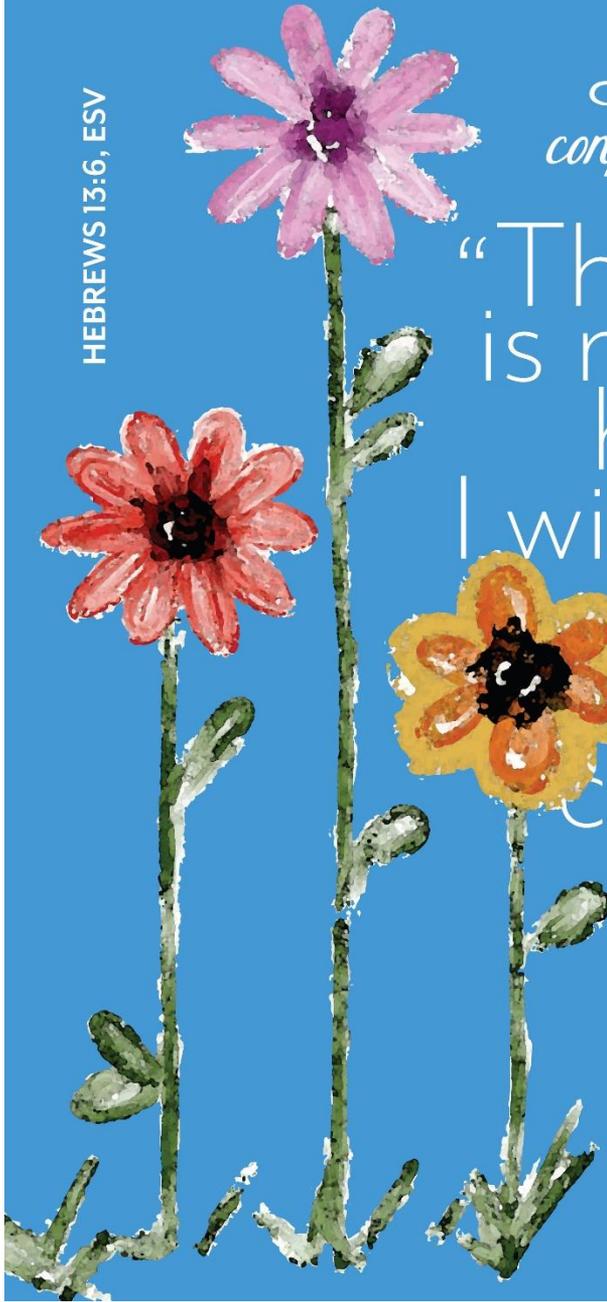


HEBREWS 13:6, ESV

*So we can
confidently say,*

“The Lord
is my
helper;
I will not
fear;
what
can man
do to
me?”



June 2, 2021

First Church of the Brethren

730 Church Street Eden, NC 27288

Doug Diamond, Pastor
(304) 283-1042 – diamond_doug@hotmail.com

Reflections:

Today, as I write this, marks two months that I have been here with you at First Church of the Brethren. And though the majority of the time has been a great blessing, there have been moments throughout these two months when I have felt a bit like Job. As you may remember, I spent my very first afternoon in the ER with a bout of Diverticulitis. My car has now had significant mechanical problems three times and I am not yet sure what the cost of the third repair will be. And now, most recently, my bike was stolen from my driveway.

I don't tell you all these things so that you will feel sorry for me but instead to let you know that I feel like this is confirmation of my call here and encourages me to believe that God has great things in the works through our ministry together here in Eden. I believe that when Satan feels threatened by how God is moving, he throws up deterrents to keep us from doing what God is calling us to do. I feel confident that this is what is happening.

I don't suggest that I compare to when God told Satan that "there is no one on earth like [Job]; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." But I definitely see that is an example of how Satan is threatened by those who choose to serve God and be obedient to his calling.

The life of an obedient, God fearing Christian has no promise smooth sailing, but maybe quite the office. May we celebrate in knowing, though, that God is faithful, and he will be with us, even through the trials affirming the call that he has in your life. His presence is our reward.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

JESUS IS FOR THE NON-RELIGIOUS – RFTH Ministries

“To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law), so as to win those not having the law.” 1 Corinthians 9: 21

It’s the fastest growing ‘religious’ group in America- it’s the “NONEs,” or the non-religious individuals. In 2012, almost 20% of Americans identified themselves as having no religious interest or affiliation. With millennials, those born after 1980, you’ll find that percentage increases to around 30-40%. That’s a very large group of people in America alone – much larger when thinking globally. So how do we initiate faith conversations with this particular group? Start with a simple question: *Tell me about the God you don’t believe in - I may not believe in him either.* What do I mean? When you sit down and actually discuss God with many non-religious people, you’ll discover that their view of God is completely contrary to what the Scriptures actually teach. Very often I agree with the skeptic, the agnostic, even the atheist, because the God they don’t believe exists, I don’t believe in either. Often, their view of God has become so distorted that the God they describe is nowhere close to the God that Christians know through the person of Jesus Christ. And that right there is a starting point - it’s the beginnings of a spiritual discussion. No matter who we are talking to: Muslim, Buddhist, or Atheist, all spiritual conversations begin with accepting people where they are - even if their values, beliefs, or lifestyles vary significantly from our own. That’s Paul’s whole point. He’s saying, **“I don’t ignore the law of Christ. I don’t compromise the Gospel or my moral values, but I AM seeking to find a common interest (my paraphrase).”** Eventually, when questions come up about why we live the way we do, we can point to Jesus. After all, Jesus put aside the comforts of Heaven to live *among* us and to die *for us* so that we might be saved. Certainly, we can put aside our interests for the sake of pointing a “NONE” to Christ. Will you?

FIRST CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

June 2, 2021

730 Church Street Eden, NC 27288

Office phone: (336) 627-7063 - Email: eden1stcob@gmail.com

Pray Without Ceasing

Sheila Barnes, Eugene Barton, Lucy Bradford, Katherine Bridges, Carolyn Combs, Melissa Dalton, Donnie Gilley, JT Hale, Barbara Janney, Gary Janney, Tania Martin, Salem Nelson, Marie Priddy, Aaron Roach, Arnie Roberts, Jutta Shelton, Roger Shockley, Louise Tudor, Patsy Underwood, Gail Walker, Danny Whitley, Frankie Wilson

Thinking of You

Christine "Teny" Harris - 10820 Sandy Oak Lane #242

Raleigh, NC 27614 (336) 432-0477

District Prayer Request

Pray for the students and staff of the Christian Growth Institute as they gather online June 12 for Orientation Day. Let us express gratitude to God for those who are engaged in formation for the Gospel Ministry in Virgina and Shenandoah Districts.



The Home and Family Life Committee is now accepting donations for the Father's Day Bulletin.

Along with your donations, please include the names you would like listed (indicate if they are In Honor or In Memory). You may also email any pictures you would like included in the slide show to the church office.

Thank you for continuing to honor your commitment to the work of Jesus Christ through your tithes.

Would you rather send your tithes by PayPal?

You can find us listed as Ncbrethren.tithe@gmail.com



If you cannot attend regular Sunday service do not forget that you can watch a live stream of Sunday Worship service on YouTube. Find us on YouTube as Eden NC Church of the Brethren, where you can view the live stream each Sunday, or watch any of our recent sermons online.

Attendance and Offering for the week of May 30, 2021

Attendance :

Offering	\$	1,349.12
Food Box Donation	\$	60.00
Clean Water	\$	500.00
Creation Care		
Home & Family Life	\$	<u>320.00</u>
Total	\$	2,229.12

Need to restock flavorings?

The Home & Family Life Committee can help!

\$3 per bottle

Regular Vanilla Flavoring

Clear Vanilla Flavoring

Almond Flavoring

Lemon Flavoring

The Witness Commission will be collecting items for Hospice of Rockingham County during the months of June & July.

Please help them keep providing comfort to others by purchasing some items on their wish list. You may place the items just inside the door downstairs or in the container in the narthex. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, make your check payable to the church and put "hospice" on the memo line. You can place all monetary donations in the offering plate.

Thank you for all your help!

Upcoming Birthdays

June 9: Ronda Proffit

June 10: Felisha Diamond

June 11: Don Janney

Nick Williams

June 12: Eugene Barton



Camp Bethel's "Sounds of the Mountains" festival
is available to stream until June 19th at
www.soundsofthemountains.org

Listen to 6 of the world's best storytellers and their original
stories online anytime and be sure to donate to Camp Bethel as
this is one of their largest fundraisers each year!

Hospice of Rockingham County

Wish List

It may seem strange to request something as ordinary as stamps or laundry detergent on a wish list, but the truth is, it takes a lot of things to keep our office humming along. So, if you find yourself in the post office, or cleaning product aisle of the grocery store, or even the linens section of a department store, why not pick up just an item or two for HRC? You'd be surprised at how helpful that would be!

For Our Administrative Operations:

- Forever Stamps

For Gibson House:

- Single-serve cups of pudding, applesauce, fruit or jello
- Jersey Knit Twin Sheet Sets
- Bleach
- Clorox 2 (color-safe bleach)
- Lysol Laundry Sanitizer
- Kleenex tissues
- Air freshener (fresh-type scents {ex: clean linen or powder} or citrus scents only, please)
- Renuzit Solid Gel Air Freshener (Snuggle Linen Escape or Snuggle Super Fresh scents)
- Paper plates & cups

- Plastic cutlery (forks, spoons, knives)
- Folger's coffee (regular)
- Coffeemate powdered coffee creamer
- Soft drinks (cans or 20 oz. bottles)
- Cases of bottled water
- Splenda, Sweet 'n Low and/or Equal
- Adult wipes
- Unscented laundry detergent
- Unscented dryer sheets
- Lysol aerosol spray
- Clorox wipes & Lysol wipes
- Individually wrapped foods/snacks/candy for the courtesy cart in Gibson House {ex: granola or fruit bars, instant oatmeal/grits, candy bars, nuts, cookies, crackers}

If you have any questions about Hospice of Rockingham County's Wish List, please feel free to call the Hospice office at (336) 427-9022 or Gibson House at (336) 427-0218.