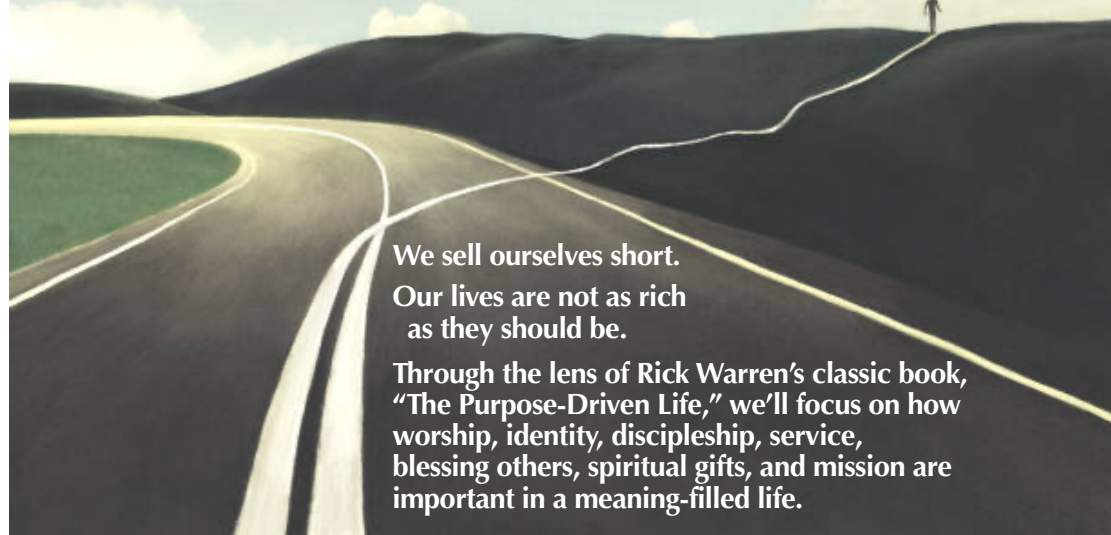


Sermon Series: September 8 - October 27

# What to Do with Your Life:

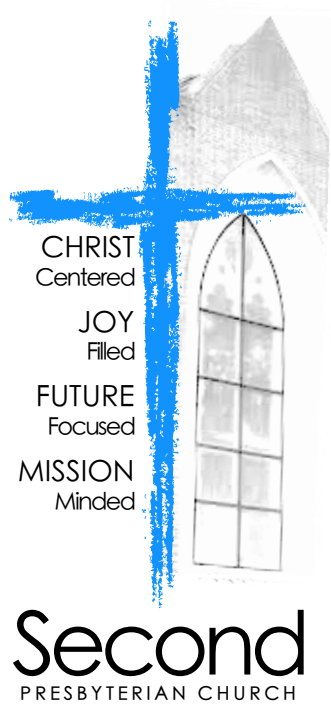
Looking for Purpose, Finding Passion



We sell ourselves short.

Our lives are not as rich as they should be.

Through the lens of Rick Warren's classic book, "The Purpose-Driven Life," we'll focus on how worship, identity, discipleship, service, blessing others, spiritual gifts, and mission are important in a meaning-filled life.



11 a.m. Worship

October 20, 2024

"Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be,



and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself."

-Martin Luther King Jr.

## We Gather In Need of the Risen Christ

Thanks to our Worship Band for leading worship music this morning!

If you have a prayer request, please forward it to the church office. We will include it on the prayer request list for a month, unless you ask us to leave it on longer.

Chiming *Ringing of the bells indicates the beginning of worship.*

Gathering Music

"Christ, Be Our Light"  
By Bernadette Ferrell

Opening Prayer

God of grace, silence all voices within our minds but your own.  
Help us to seek and be able to follow your will.  
May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith,  
that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Welcome

\*Passing the Peace

### Mission Partners and Liaisons

**Local: HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS**

ForKids - Marie Finch  
St. Columba - Alice Allen-Grimes  
St. Mary's Soup Kitchen - Larry Hull  
LAUNCH Ministry - Joe Morgan  
The Norfolk Street Choir Project - Rich Voter

**Local: OUTREACH & INCLUSION**

Faith Inclusion Network - Lori Crouch  
YOURS - Larry Hull  
Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services - Catherine Hart Monroe

**INTERNATIONAL**

Ben Seidl in Germany - Craig Wansink  
Jenn West in Ireland - Paul West  
The Jungs in East Asia - Roz Klein  
Our Partners in M.E. - Mark Erickson

### 2024 Session and Ministry Teams *Larry Hull, Clerk of Session*

**DISCIPLESHIP**

Lynn Ruehlmann  
Erin Todd  
Lisa Dubey  
Sandy Simmermon  
Peggy Haile McPhillips

**MISSION**

Tami Ndahi  
Mark Erickson  
Chris Siemering

**ADMINISTRATION**

Philip Byrd  
Wendy Horner  
Sam Stearns  
Rich Voter

### Staff

Dr. Craig Wansink, *Senior Pastor*  
Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, *Covenant Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Nancy Rowland, *Parish Associate*  
Robert Shoup, *Director of Music*  
Jo Kolb, *Director of Communication & Administration*  
Tom Libbey, *Facility Manager*  
Joe Morgan, *Maintenance Specialist*  
Barbara Watson, *Housekeeper and Host*

cell: 757-412-7467  
cell: 757-287-9897  
cell: 302-354-5880  
cell: 757-739-9444  
cell: 757-406-0879

cwansink@vwu.edu  
revcat@spcnorfolk.org  
rowlandnancy73@gmail.com  
shoup.robert@spcnorfolk.org  
jokolb@spcnorfolk.org

“Persons searching for their gifts think that they can ‘find’ their gifts in isolation from the body.

They have forgotten that the orientation of God’s people is outward rather than inward.

The question should be this: How can I grow in love for and service to the body of Christ?

Gifts are the way we naturally love and serve. To paraphrase Augustine, if you want to know your God-given gifts, first know that the purpose of spiritual gifts is to bring unity to the church.

Then ‘love God and do what you feel like doing.’”

—Edward T. Welch

### \*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 343 “Blessed Be Your Name”

### \*Confessing our Sin

**Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to a lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your Spirit. This we pray in Jesus’ powerful name. Amen.**

*We listen:  
God you make all things new, wash us, renew us, breathe your spirit into us.*

### \*Receiving Grace

If you repent and believe in God’s redeeming mercy, your sins are forgiven. Trust in God’s promises and begin anew your life with God and all people in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## We Hear the Word

### Time of Discovery

### Message

Gifted with Spiritual Gifts and Abilities  
1 Corinthians 2:6-14; 12:4-11; 10:31-32

Dr. Craig Wansink

## We Respond in Humility

### \*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 874 “We Are an Offering”  
“... we lift our lives up to you...”

## Mission and Ministry of the Church

### Offering Gratitude

**What is a way that you can encourage others to share their gifts?**

*Please write this on a piece of paper, fold that paper, put it in the black basket in your pew, and then the person on the aisle in your pew will bring those baskets forward as an offering. These responses will be both read by the pastoral staff and prayed over.*

*Thank you for all of the ways you share your time, life, and finances on behalf of the mission of this church family. Please feel free to financially support us by sharing your gifts in the baskets up front.*

### Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### \*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 908 “Christ, Be Our Light”  
*Verses 5, 1, 2, and 5*  
“... Many the gifts, many the people...”

## We Depart in Joy

### \*Charge and Benediction

*We listen:  
I send you with the grace of my Spirit. I send you as companions of peace.  
I place you on the path that leads to endless joy. Go seek me in the least of these.  
Show by your life what my gospel requires. Show by your life you are mine.*

Go on the path in grace, seeking and showing the gospel in your life. **Amen.**

“Our purpose should be to discover the gifts He has given us and to use those gifts faithfully and joyfully in His service, without either envying or disparaging the gifts we do not have.”

—John MacArthur

“Nowhere in Scripture do we have the slightest hint that God’s people are to volunteer. Rather, the Scriptures indicate that the use of our gifts should be considered a joyful responsibility.”

—Curtis C. Thomas