



# FAITH NOTES

# September

Gadsden Cumberland Presbyterian Church  
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## 2020

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### CHURCH STAFF

Church Family and Friends,

#### PASTOR

Rev. Daniel Barkley

I have always been fascinated by the many discoveries that have been made concerning life-its beginnings and origins. How everything had to come into place at just the right time, in just the right way for there to even be a universe, much less a conversation happening between you and me. There are many who argue against there being a God, or even a Divine influence in the creation of the world. Those who claim such point to the perceived absence of evidence.

#### WORSHIP LEADER

David Gramling

However, despite the goal of many to disprove a Creator, the more that is discovered by science the stronger the case becomes for a Creator.

#### CHILDREN'S

#### MINISTER

Debbie Bobo

In the book, "*The Shortest Leap: The Rational Underpinnings of Faith in Jesus*" author A.L. Van Den Herik begins his defense of Faith in Jesus (God) by discussing the origins of the earth. The author shares that our planet is in just the right type of galaxy- a spiral galaxy- and perfectly situated in that galaxy to avoid dangers like the massive black hole at its center, but also at just the right place so that the earth contains sufficient heavy elements to support life (things like carbon, nitrogen, oxygen).

#### YOUTH MINISTER

Jonathan Edwards

Here is what really caught my attention. See if you catch the repeating phrase in the following:

#### SECRETARY

Betty Bone

*"The earth is also at just the right distance from the sun, and its near circular orbit around the sun is just right to stabilize temperature fluctuations throughout the year. The earth takes just the right amount of time to go around the sun and is surrounded by just the right number of planets for life to thrive. The moon is just the right size to stabilize the tilt of the earth so that temperature changes from summer to winter are not excessive. The earth itself is just the right size-any smaller and it would be unable to hold on to the atmosphere or create a magnetic field strong enough to protect us from cosmic rays; any larger, and its gravity would be so strong there would be only minor differences in altitude, causing water to cover its surface. The list of such finely tuned parameters exceeds one hundred, and it grows with each passing year as scientists make new discoveries about our universe."*

#### SESSION

#### MEMBERS

Richard Dean

Ann St. John

Jane Matlock

Amy Edwards

Carole Edwards

Mike Ray

I hope you noticed that phrase "just the right-" that preceded each scientific discovery that has been made about our planet. At just the right time, in just the right way, in just the right amount, mixture and proportion, all of these things come together in one beautiful creation. Sounds a lot like there is a God orchestrating it all after all.

#### ELDER of the

#### MONTH

Carole Edwards

But God did more than create the Heavens and the earth at just the right time and way. He continues to speak and act in our lives in the just the right moment we need Him. In fact, Romans 5:6 says, "You see, at just the right time, while we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly". That's you and me. That is a God who not only can weave together the planets and stars in such a way as to display His infinite glory, but also a God who loves us more than we can ever hope to grasp or understand. He proves it over and over. The same God who counts the number of stars and call them out by name (Psalm 147:40, the same God who feeds the birds of the air, and clothes the lilies of the fields (Matthew 6), abides with you and you.

#### GREETERS

David & Brenda  
Ray

Take comfort today in knowing there is a God, and He loves and cares for you. May knowing this fill your days with joy and peace.

#### USHERS

Kenneth Boarders

Ray St. John

Mike Ray

Randy Nickels

In Christ,  
Rev. Daniel