



THE HARBINGER

SEPTEMBER 2020

Dedicated in FAITH ... Abounding in HOPE...
Committed to GOD'S LOVE!



Dare to Dream

It goes without saying, that these are unprecedented times! In every aspect of our lives we have experienced massive changes, uncertainties and loss of control and this is true for every individual, family, business and church. For the past six months, Market Street United Methodist and congregations all over the globe have had to close their buildings and be resourceful in worship, fellowship, mission and ministry. In many ways, the Church will never be the same post-COVID-19. Although we do not know exactly what life will be like after the dust settles from this pandemic, we do recognize that we will be living in a new state of normalcy.

Biblically, a vision can be several things. Isaiah had a vision of the Lord in the temple. Samuel's vision of the Lord in 1 Samuel 3 was auditory and apparently not even visible since Samuel responded by going to Eli three times before receiving the vision through the voice of the Lord. Paul's vision of the Lord was both in Word and sight as he experienced the resurrected Lord on the way to Damascus. In Hebrews, faith is described as "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

We do know God is still God. We serve a God who is unshaken by the events that unfold around us. We join Job in declaring that God is our Redeemer, and our Redeemer lives! God is in the work of redemption, taking that which was meant for evil and redeeming it for His purposes and His glory. We can trust that what He is doing with this crisis, taking the piercing pain of this pandemic and redeeming it in such a way, that many will learn of the hope found in Jesus and embrace the truth of Christ. **As we walk in Faith that God's vision will be known to us, we trust in his vision and plans for us.** We begin to dream of the possibilities of where His vision will take us.

Dream. . . of Disciples being made at Market Street Methodist, multiple generations sitting side by side worshipping with lifted hearts and hands in praise, of the stage filled with little ones singing at the Christmas pageant, Sunday School classrooms overflowing . . . yes, Dare to Dream! **Feeding the hungry, clothing the needy, a beacon of hope . . . yes, Dare to Dream!** Mike Slaughter in his book, Dare to Dream, calls it, "BHAG - 'Big Hairy Audacious God' Dream!" If it is not big enough, its not a dream and its not something God can get credit for!

As individuals, and as Market Street United Methodist Church, we know that God has "a plan and a purpose for us." (Jer. 29:11) We cannot look back, for we are not going that way! Who the church was in the past, how things were done, can no longer be. It is an opportunity to purposefully and prayerfully seek God, personally and corporately to find God's future vision. Arm in arm, It is time to Dare to Dream!

In the power of the Risen Christ,
Pastor Heidi

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 6th AT 9:00 A.M.

There will be informational emails and videos available on YouTube, prior to start up of worship in the Sanctuary, that will guide you from parking to entering the building to seating in the Sanctuary and departing the building. Our Healthy Care Team has worked hard to create a re-entry plan which has been approved by the District Superintendent. We will follow all aspects of that approved plan to keep everyone as safe as possible as they return to worship together. There will be no printed materials and no live singing. There will be no Sunday School or Nursery available. Please plan to use lavatory facilities before you come to the church; there will be one bathroom available for emergencies only. Masks and social distancing required.

September 6

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture:

Galatians 6:9

Sermon:

“Do Not Become Weary in Doing Good”

September 13

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture:

Genesis 28:16-17

Sermon:

Dare to Dream #1 “Dreaming the Dream”

September 20

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture:

Genesis 28:18, 20-22

Sermon:

Dare to Dream #2 “Discovering your Birthright”

September 27

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture:

Exodus 3:2-3

Sermon:

Dare to Dream #3 “Your Burning Bush”



You may prefer to join us on Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. for online worship on YouTube. It can be accessed by a button click on the website: www.mktstreetumc.org or via our facebook page Market Street UMC – ESVA. The church office will also email the link to YouTube before Sunday's service. **Just open the email and click the link to get there. Remember, it will not work until 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, but will remain working for the rest of the week.**



If you currently serve on an administrative ministry, please begin thinking about your commitment for the upcoming year. If you wish to serve on a ministry, please be thinking of how you would like to serve. Soon the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development will begin their **work in finding Market Street's servants for the 2021 year** to be voted on our Annual Charge Conference.

2020 Annual Conference will be a one-day virtual gathering

by [Brenda Capen](#) | Jun 29, 2020 | [Bishop Lewis News](#), [News](#), [Virginia News](#)

From Bishop Lewis, Appointive Cabinet and Annual Conference Planning Team

The Bishop, Appointive Cabinet and the Annual Conference Planning team have continued to evaluate options while conducting extensive logistical work of planning for the 2020 Virginia Annual Conference.

We would like to inform the Conference that the 2020 Virginia Annual Conference will take place on Saturday, September 19, 2020, in a virtual format.

Additional details regarding timing, agenda and procedure will be forthcoming. Thank you for your patience and understanding as the Planning Team continues to coordinate the many facets of conducting Annual Conference, especially in this unusual time.

Please direct any questions to your district superintendent, Alex Joyner.

The family of Polly Dize would like to thank you for your acts of kindness shown to all of us. She would have been so proud of the outpouring of love shown to her family. She loved her church and her church family. A special thanks to Walta Pruitt for organizing and delivering the food to her home and to all the people who took the time to cook/bake that special something for us. We are forever grateful and thankful for you!

Respectfully,

Andy, Alice, Jane and families



Thank you so much for your kindness during the passing of our Mom, Betty Lee Pruitt. Special thanks to Pastor Heidi and all of you who helped with the food after the funeral.

Her Children,

Tony, Klein, LeighAnn



Welcome Baby Boy! Isaac John Tyson, son of Will & Abbi Tyson, grandson of Ed & Theresa Tyson, was born on Sunday, August 9th at 2 a.m., weighing 8 lbs. 7 oz. The family resides in Lexington Park, MD. Isaac joins siblings Oliver and Joanna.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

John Fiege	September 1
Shane Bernard	September 2
David Mason	September 5
Scott Chandler	September 7
Mike King	September 7
Marti Fjelstad	September 8
Carolyn Olmsted	September 10
Mark King	September 11
Natalie King	September 11
Tori Bloxom	September 13
Paul Young	September 13
Ellie Cackowski	September 14
Ann Obenshain	September 15
Jerry Ormsby	September 17
Elizabeth Ashley	September 18
Madison Annis	September 20
Hal Lassiter	September 21
Seth Chandler	September 23
A. J. Gazda	September 23
Claudia Harmon	September 23
Allen Evans, Jr.	September 24
Venah Hargis	September 24
Jane White	September 25
Abby Fiege	September 30



It was Sarah Nock who first noticed former Market Street pastor Rev. Doug Tanner on the news and verified with Doug that it was indeed him. His response to her was: “I was seated off the Rotunda in Statuary Hall during the ceremony, but we were brought in right after those seated in the Rotunda. Being there was a special gift. It took me a week to write this piece that I finished only yesterday. I trust it reflects the essence of my treasured connection with John.”

Rev. Doug Tanner has graciously shared that piece with us.

Congressman John Lewis Mentor and Partner, Friend and Brother

Rev. Doug Tanner – Founding Director, The Faith & Politics Institute, Washington DC
July 26, 2020

This past March 8th, my wife Kathy and I stood on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama with Congressman John Lewis and an impressive delegation of his congressional colleagues. As we huddled around John that Sunday morning, we knew it could be a last opportunity to hear him speak in that revered setting.

“On this bridge, some of us gave a little blood to help redeem the soul of America. Our country is a better country. We are a better people. But we have still a distance to travel, to go before we get there. I want to thank each and every one of you for being here. For not giving up, for not giving in, for keeping the faith, for keeping your eyes on the prize. You’re wonderful; you’re beautiful; you all look so good! ... We have a lot of work to do. So don’t get weary; keep the faith!”

Today we watched John cross that bridge one last time as the horse-drawn carriage bore his flag-draped casket on its way to Montgomery to lie in state in Alabama’s Capitol. We couldn’t be there in person, but we couldn’t have been more there in spirit.

Twenty-three years ago, in March 1997, Congressmen John Lewis (D-GA) and Amo Houghton (R-NY) agreed to co-chair the Board of Directors of The Faith & Politics Institute, an entity I had helped found some years earlier. From deeply different backgrounds and opposite sides of the aisle, John Lewis and Amo Houghton were a dream team. As the Institute’s chief executive, I worked with them for seven rich and formative years, and as its senior adviser for another decade. We remained close until their respective passings—Amo’s in early March of this year, John’s a week ago this past Friday. My experiences with each were amazingly graced, and many of the times we shared together became hallowed.

Together we created the first Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama, where we walked through history in Montgomery, Birmingham and Selma with John. Kathy deserves credit for the idea; it leapt from her mind when John told us he went to Selma every year for a reunion with participants in the march he led across the Edmund Pettus Bridge on March 7, 1965. Alabama state troopers beat John unconscious and cracked his skull on the day that became known as Bloody Sunday.

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The pilgrimage grew every year, with John and his colleagues in the civil rights movement sharing stories and songs that shaped a momentous chapter in our nation's reckoning with racial injustice. In 2003, it led us to South Africa to consider and explore that land's journey toward truth and reconciliation. Before, during, and after our travels, we wrestled with the challenges facing a nation founded on one document that declared all men created equal and endowed by their creator with inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness...and another that counted its enslaved population as only three-fifths men accorded none of those rights. Along the way, we saw the qualities in John Lewis's heart, soul and spirit that had endowed his leadership with unbounded love, steadfast courage, and wondrous grace.

Of our pilgrimages to Alabama, I've written earlier in *The Truth Can Set Us Free: Toward a Politics of Grace and Healing*, a lengthy essay published by The Fetzer Institute:

“For many participants, it's a first encounter with the nature and power of nonviolent resistance to evil. John Lewis, Bernard Lafayette, Fred Shuttlesworth, Dorothy Cotton, Bob Zellner, and other civil rights movement leaders who travel with us convey a warmth, clarity and spirit deeply grounded in the philosophy and practice of nonviolence. Some participants at first don't know what to make of this. The very idea of choosing to put yourself in a situation where you're going to be hit and determining you are not going to hit anyone back sounds insane. Then as they listen more closely, it begins to sound wise. It becomes worth learning more about. It becomes worth considering. It merits respect, honor, and—perhaps—even allegiance.

Journalist Ellis Cose describes a comparable encounter with John Lewis in his book, *Bone to Pick: Of Forgiveness, Reconciliation, Reparation, and Revenge*:

“When I asked John Lewis, the congressman from Georgia, how—in his life as a grassroots civil rights leader—he had avoided anger while being beaten, repeatedly, by cops in the Jim Crow South, he answered like the seminary graduate he is: ‘If you believe there is a spark of the divine in every human being...you cannot get to the point where you hate that person, or despise that person...even if that person beats you...You have to have the capacity, the ability to forgive.’

The first Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama occurred during the last year of former Alabama Governor George Wallace's life. The delegation was invited to visit Gov. Wallace in his Montgomery home, where he lay in bed, frail but attentive. The first members to step toward him and take his hand were John Lewis and Earl Hilliard, the local African American congressman. Everyone else was provided a model lesson in forgiveness: **if these two, who suffered most directly from Wallace's actions decades before, could embrace Wallace, who am I—save someone trapped in self-righteous hubris—to choose otherwise?”**

John Lewis believed with Martin Luther King, Jr., that the moral arc of the universe is long, but it bends toward justice. Throughout his career, John was called to help bend that arc. He invited *everyone* into what he and Dr. King called “the beloved community.” John and Dr. King and their colleagues sought to form in these United States a truly more perfect union and, as they often said, to redeem the soul of America.

I was blessed for 23 years to watch John Lewis welcome his colleagues in the Congress into circles of trust and warmly invite them into the work of continuing to form a more perfect union. One Senator and former governor of his Southern state had to leave his first pilgrimage early, but not before taking John and me aside to say, **“I can't tell you what this has meant to me. I wish I had had this experience twenty years ago. I believe I would have made some decisions differently.”**

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In the past week, treasured friends from across town, across the country, and across the sea have shared their condolences. Many have spoken of the impact of John Lewis and his spirit had on **their own lives and work**. **Roelf Meyer served as F.W. de Klerk's chief negotiator in South Africa's internal peace process**; his counterpart representing Nelson Mandela, Cyril Ramaphosa, is now **South Africa's President**. **The message from Roelf reflects John's influence beyond America's borders:**

Michèle and I will never forget that extraordinary visit to Selma that you organized. We were reminded so **intimately and strongly of the civil rights movement and John's particular role in it**. The whole episode in your history left an indelible impression on me from the mid-sixties onwards, and may I say for the better because it influenced my thinking in the decades that followed. I can therefore in that way celebrate with you the life of John Lewis!

Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, another cherished South African friend, wrote:

Dear Doug, since receiving your email about John's "Good Trouble" film, I have been thinking how fortuitous that the film should come out at this time of the "fierce urgency" and great revolution of voices sweeping across the globe and coming together against racism. And as John passes on the eve of Nelson Mandela day—oh that they fought so valiantly with such grace and dignity, yet the goal remains elusive!

John Robert Lewis died the night before Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela's 102nd birthday. Maybe Mandela with Amo Houghton called John to come on up where together they could shed more light for us here below to keep our eyes on the prize.



Pam Crist is a friend and extraordinary photographer who documented many of our pilgrimages. **When Pam learned of John's pancreatic cancer diagnosis, she told me she had a picture for me**. Soon afterwards came a print with space for John to sign it. John was undergoing treatments by then and came into his office only occasionally. His scheduler David Bowman generously took the **picture to John's home**. **The inscribed photo was brought back to the office and I promptly picked it up**. The pandemic came along, and I delayed taking the picture to my local frame shop until July 10. When told that I sensed the time was near, the framer promised to have it for me the following week. I picked it up Friday afternoon, July 17, and hung it above my desk. John Lewis crossed over the Jordan later that night.

John Lewis rests in peace and power. May his spirit give us grace and **strength to not give up, to not give in ...**
and to keep the faith.



Resetting Protocols:
Accomack Interfaith Crisis Council's Response
to Covid 19

Covid 19 was an unexpected health crisis which caused the cessation of business as usual for most institutions in 2020. The Accomack Interfaith Crisis Council (AICC) was no exception. Most our intake workers fell into the vulnerable category. Most could not risk venturing from their homes. As President, health and safety were of utmost concern.

And yet the need was still there. The director of Accomack Social Services, Vicki Weakley, recognized that clients were coming for AICC assistance. We came up with a solution. While there would be no further intake interviews by AICC staff, Social Service would place applications for AICC and Members Helping Members for clients to fill out. When completed the applications were placed in the DSS drop box. They would be retrieved by DSS employees who researched them prior to passing on to AICC staff. The staff reviewed applications on Friday mornings.

As of today, AICC has reviewed 44 applications between May 1, 2020 and August 7, 2020. In addition, we have responded to three emergency calls from help from other community groups. AICC has disbursed 8,592.19.

I am thankful for the support that have allowed us to continue our mission for Accomack County. Especially I want to thank Walta Pruitt, Marti Fjelstad, Elsie Mackie, Jeff Barrett, Iris Smith and Brenda Russell for meeting Fridays for approvals. As President, I have sat in on several sessions and appreciate the hard work that they have done to keep us up and running.

Special thanks goes to Accomack Social Services. I want to thank my wife, Vicki, Director of DSS, for helping and guiding me to come up with a workable strategy that has allowed AICC to continue to function. I would like to thank Meagan Gaffney, Elena Zavala and Francis Bailey who have worked in obtaining and reviewing our applications before our approval group meets on Fridays. In many cases, these workers have contacted clients prior to our meeting that has helped immensely in determining a course of action. An added feature is that those workers meet with us on Friday mornings to help fill in the blanks.

The Accomack Interfaith Crisis Council will continue the following protocols into the foreseeable future. The health and welfare of our staff, DSS staff, and clients are our greatest concern.

That being said, AICC would like to ask three things from the citizens of Accomack County. First, the prayers of our citizens to continue the ministry of lifting up people in need. Second, the continued donations to assist our citizens that are in financial crisis. And finally, the **hope that some of our citizens will be led to take up this AICC's ministry in the future.**

Thanks for your continued support of AICC. Donations can be sent to PO Box 738, Onley, VA 23418, Attention: Iris Smith.

Bart Weakley, Th.M.

'You should dare to dream' – Azim Premji*

*Background: Azim Premji, (born July 24, 1945, Bombay [now Mumbai], India), Indian business entrepreneur who served as chairman of Wipro Limited, guiding the company through four decades of diversification and growth to emerge as a world leader in the software industry. By the early 21st century, Premji had become one **of the world's wealthiest people. Despite his vast personal wealth, Premji continued to be recognized for his** modesty, lack of extravagance, and charity. In 2001 he established the nonprofit Azim Premji Foundation, through which he aimed to improve the quality of elementary education in rural regions throughout India. By the end of the first decade of the 21st century, the foundation had extended computer-aided education to more than 16,000 schools, with child-friendly content increasingly available in local languages.



First, you have got to have a dream. Dreams are very powerful internal motivators. Great achievements are created twice – First in the mind and then in a concrete form. The most exhilarating part of being young is the ability to dream. As one grows, one may realize that not all of them are achievable. But never turn cynical. Aging is not adding on years. It is **parting with one's dreams. Use your experience to reshape your dreams and** adapt them to changing reality but do not stop dreaming. I cannot think of a single transformation or achievement, individual or social that did not begin with a dream. Dreams not only help us in seeing things before they happen, but they also give us the passion and energy to make them happen.

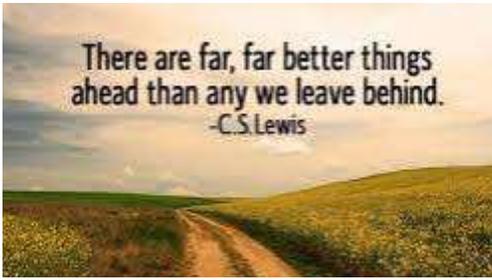
Second, stay on course even if you stumble. When everything seems to go wrong, you can either give up or you can let misfortune transform you into something stronger. The difference between great achievement and mediocrity is not extraordinary talent or intelligence, but perseverance. In fact, dreams and perseverance make a winning combination. In 1972, a chartered plane, carrying a Rugby team crashed in the Andes. After a week long futile search, the rescue team gave up thinking that all of them must be dead. The passengers after waiting for many days to be rescued decided to help themselves since apparently nobody else was going to do it. Two of them volunteered to cross the mountains by foot to reach the green valleys of Chile and bring back help. It was a walk of more than 50 miles. But they did it and came back to rescue their fellow passengers who managed to survive in the mountain 70 days after the crash. The core of heroism lies in the ability to walk that extra mile. As long as you can do that, you will never be defeated.

**Dare to dream, for in the
daring there is defiance
to live beyond your
circumstances**

**-Su Williams, Dream
Weaver**

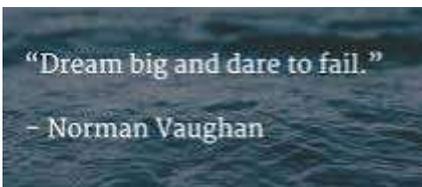


Third, do not be afraid to admit your ignorance. While it is important to project what we are good at, we must be equally candid about areas we do not know enough about. The seeds of learning were sown by the great philosopher Socrates who said "All I know is that I don't know." Today, knowledge is multiplying at such a rapid rate that it is impossible for anyone to know everything. But if we can develop an index system by which we at least know with whom or where the knowledge is available, we have achieved quite a bit! And there will still be areas which we will be unable to tap. The important thing is not to hide behind a false front. People will respect you for your honesty, if not your wisdom.



Fourth, think about what you will take on next rather than about what you may be letting go. Too many people are so enamored by the legacy of success in their current roles that they are afraid to look further. This can lead to inertia. If we linger too long on past success, we will miss out on the opportunities that lie ahead of us. We must learn to look at change as an exciting adventure rather than a disruption. New avenues for learning always lie just beyond the shade of our comfort zone.

Fifth, contribute in every situation. The only way to keep learning is by contributing. You do not have to be the leader every time. When a formation of birds flies over long distances, each bird takes its turn in leading. This ensures that no bird gets too tired and yet the formation keeps moving at a certain pace. Every person is important. It doesn't matter whether you play the violin, the flute or the drums; you are still part of the orchestra. Leadership is not about exercising power as much as it is about contributing. This will happen when you realize that leadership is not a privilege but a responsibility.



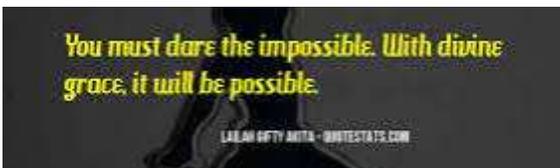
Sixth, pursue excellence in whatever you do. Excellence cannot be forced through a process nor guaranteed by a certificate. It comes from an all consuming passion to do one's best. It needs an eye for the smallest of details. When differences become small, it is the small things that make the difference.

Seventh, while you must take your careers seriously, do not take yourself too seriously. You have to laugh and find humor everyday. This will help you to keep issues in their perspective. Being cheerful is an attitude. Not only will it help you to reduce your own stress, but a positive attitude is contagious. It can do a lot to elevate the moods of people around you and recharge you to take one more shot at the problems facing you.

Eighth, we must always know what we are really good at. Rather than trying to be everything to everyone, we must focus on areas where our talents truly lie. A talent can be defined as that skill which we not only enjoy learning but which we can also learn rapidly. We need to work at honing our talent and smoothening the rough edges. But exceptional performance usually comes from doing what comes naturally to us.



Ninth, always welcome feedback even if it comes in the guise of criticism. I remember the story of a boy who dreamt of becoming an artist but was frustrated because whenever he showed his painting, the teacher would look at it with a frown and find some fault with it. The student improved on his work continuously and he thought he would one day hear a word of appreciation from his teacher. But it never happened. Finally, in disgust, he bought a painting from an accomplished artist, touched it up with fresh paint and showed it to his teacher. To his amazement, the teacher smiled and said, "now this is really good work. Congratulations." Feeling guilty, the student confessed that it was not really his painting. The teacher looked at him silently and then said, "Till now, I thought you wanted to paint a great picture. But I realize now that you do not want any more corrections, which means that the last painting you did was the best you will ever do. Remember you have set these limits to your talent, not me." Criticism may actually be an expression of faith in us rather than a put down. We must learn to take it constructively because it will show us what more we can learn.



Bob Dylan – The Times They Are A-Changin'

50 years after Dylan wrote it, "The Times They Are a-Changin'" vibrates with new meaning. Perhaps that's because the song itself doesn't look to the past — rather, it's an anthem of hope for a future where change is always possible.

I thought it was appropriate for a message that we need to acknowledge. A message that we don't want to hear. A message that saddens us, confuses us, angers us.

We will not ever go back to who we were in January or February.

That door is closed and locked. It seems like a simple statement, a simple reality, but it is something that none of us anticipated and none of us know exactly how we should be moving forward.

We need to be patient with each other, respectful of each other's concerns and fears, and reassure each other that we will pull together to make a new future. The only concrete thing we can move into the future with is love for each other. Let's all do our best to help each other along ~ Pat McArdle

Verse 1	Come gather 'round people Wherever you roam And admit that the waters Around you have grown And accept it that soon You'll be drenched to the bone. If your time to you Is worth savin' Then you better start swimmin' Or you'll sink like a stone For the times they are a-changin'.	Verse 4	There's a battle outside And it is ragin'. It'll soon shake your windows And rattle your walls For the times they are a-changin'.
Verse 2	Come writers and critics Who prophesize with your pen And keep your eyes wide The chance won't come again And don't speak too soon For the wheel's still in spin And there's no tellin' who That it's namin'. For the loser now Will be later to win For the times they are a-changin'.	Verse 5	Come mothers and fathers Throughout the land And don't criticize What you can't understand Your sons and your daughters Are beyond your command You old road is Rapidly agin'. Please get out of the new one If you can't lend your hand For the times they are a-changin'.
Verse 3	Come senators, congressman Please heed the call Don't stand in the doorway Don't block up the hall For he who gets hurt Will be he who has stalled		The line it is drawn The curse it is cast The slow one now Will later be fast As the present now Will later be past The order is Rapidly fadin'. And the first one now Will later be last For the times they are a-changin'.