



Prayer List

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Communications

By Steve Stalnaker

Last month Pastor Josette wrote about some new initiatives for Greenwood, including some improvements in our communications.

One of those initiatives is increasing Greenwood's social media presence. We've had a Facebook page for some time and now, thanks to Pastor Josette, we have an Instagram page as well.

In our congregation, the mention of social media sometimes causes hackles to rise. Readers need to understand that it's not necessary to frequent Facebook or Instagram like some besotted teenager checking out repetitive pictures of cute cats and dogs.

Facebook is a social networking application ("app") where users can post comments, share photographs and post links to news or other interesting Internet content. One of the things I use my personal Facebook account for is to play chess with my seven-year-old great-nephew (who is currently beating me!).

Instagram is a free photo and video sharing app on which people can upload photos or videos and share them with friends.

These two "apps" can be accessed from a smartphone, a tablet (like an iPad) or a personal computer.

To visit Greenwood's pages, readers need not

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From the Pastor

Our New Morning Prayer Call

"I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word."

Psalm 119:147, NIV

When I was growing up my dad would take me and my siblings to weekly prayer at church. It was a time when the disciples of the church came together in prayer service, giving their testimonies, prayer requests, songs and prayers. It usually lasted an hour.



Some prayers were long, others short. Disciples would talk about their struggles and illnesses and share how God had delivered or healed them. This time of sharing made those who attended closer in some ways to each other. Listening to the hearts of different disciples gave you a sense of understanding and sensitivity for what others were going through in their lives.

On many occasions I would think, "Wow, I didn't know that about that person." Or I might be reminded how fragile life is and feel I should be more grateful. It also taught me to be more in tune with God and the needs of others.

The time of sharing in prayer service allowed us to all be on one accord for each other's prayers and intercede on behalf of others who were going through things. We prayed for family members, neighbors and community, for the church's sick and shut-ins, for disciples who were in the hospital, for the

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Prayer Conference Call every Wednesday, 6 to 6:15 a.m., starting Sep. 4. Dial in on 605-313-5111; code: 196886. Press star six (*6) to Mute your phone



Where Do Your Donations Go?



Just to help us remember where how important those donated school supplies are, we're reprinting this article from the September 2017 Twig Bender, updated for 2019:

"We truly appreciate everything Greenwood United Methodist Church does for Longdale Elementary School; it is a tremendous blessing for our students, parents, teachers, and staff," said Kristen Kines, School Counselor at Longdale Elementary School about GUMC's academic year kick-off school supplies drive.

Late last month, Greenwood volunteers delivered a full pickup truck load of donated school supplies to Longdale.

"Greenwood UMC's constant support for Longdale is an amazing example of giving back to the community," Ms. Kines continued.

Ms. Kines told *Twig Bender* the donated supplies are distributed based on requests. These requests could be from parents of homeless families whose children are Longdale students. Other requests for school supplies can come from teachers

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September Fifth Sunday

Readers may remember that we rotate the 5th Sunday Combined Worship services between Greenwood and Laurel Park and this month's 5th Sunday it would have been Laurel Park's turn.

However, we're going to break that cycle and have this month's 5th Sunday service at Greenwood because we'll be having special music provided by the children from our After School Ministry.

We hope all the folks from Laurel Park will join us for this special 5th Sunday service.



If You Get an Order to Evacuate

This is a continuation of the article we ran last month about how to prepare to evacuate in the event of a disaster. Here's what to do if ordered to evacuate.



If authorities order you to get out immediately, go right then. If you have at least 24 hours, follow these guidelines:

Contact emergency organizations like the American Red Cross, Salvation Army or Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for shelter information. If you have animals, research local facilities that will provide temporary shelter or find hotels that allow pets.

Pack emergency supplies. Include a first-aid kit, a radio with extra batteries, one gallon of water per person per day, nonperishable food and a manual can opener, medicines, phone chargers (including one for your car), food and supplies for your pets. Plan for your evacuation supplies to last at least two to three days.

Gather important papers. Take birth and marriage certificates, passports, Social Security cards, wills, deeds, financial account information, recent tax returns and stocks, bonds and other negotiable certificates.

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Greenwood Circles



The **Ruth Circle** will meet on Wednesday Sep. 4 at 7 p.m. in the home of Adamarye Patteson. If you are interested in coming please give Adamarye a call at 804-266-6364. We will continue with our Bible Study and talk about what mission projects we will be doing this year.

The **Willing Workers Circle** will meet on Thursday, Sep. 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the Greenwood Choir Room. The Circle will continue their efforts to support the Greenwood Neighborhood, primarily Longdale Elementary School students and families.

After School Van Rolls Again!

Greenwood's After School Ministry starts this month, the day after Labor Day, with a new teacher on the staff. We welcome **Tricia Hayes** to the ministry and look forward to her working with our kids.

Trisha interned in the Henrico County School System, worked for the Virginia Department of Education and ran her own preschool for 5 years. She also trains therapy dogs.

As of press time, **the ministry has 8 confirmed enrollees** with more coming in. We have an exciting program for the fall semester. Pastor Josette will be leading the children in a musical adventure at Wednesday chapel time which will culminate in them singing for the combined churches at the Fifth Sunday worship on Sep. 29, so don't miss that. We've planned two field trips in September, one to Meadow Farm and the other to Maymont, and we expect to make at least one field trip a month thereafter.

While **Brenda Shuler** and **Porter Schermerhorn** return to the ministry, we regretfully say farewell to **Roger Robillard**, a valued member of the ministry staff for the last two years. Roger was called back to the ministry from which he retired and is now running a church full time. Our best wishes to Roger and God's blessing on him and his new endeavor.

At \$65 per week, per child, Greenwood's After School Ministry is the best child-care value in Glen Allen. If you know of anyone with a K through 5th grade child at Greenwood or Longdale Elementary Schools who needs a place to go after school, have them contact the Greenwood office at 804-266-5341 or the After School Ministry at 804-266-6668.

Stop by some afternoon this fall between 2:30 and 5:30 to visit with the children and staff and see for yourself what a great ministry this is.



What's To Eat in September?

Charge Cookout: Greenwood and Laurel Park will be having a picnic on Saturday, Sep. 7 at 4:30 p.m. at Laurel Park. Hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings will be furnished. Please bring a favorite dish or two to share with everyone. There will be a sign-up sheet on the narthex door so we will know how many to plan for. Hope to see you there!



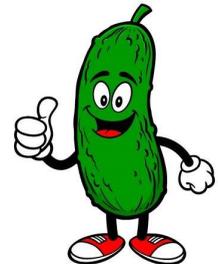
FunRaisers Bag Lunches: Pick up after church services on Sunday, Sep. 22. Menu: Beef & cheddar on a roll, potato salad, veggie chips and peach cobbler — \$7 each. Sign up on the poster in the narthex.

Fellowship Dinner: The cookout we're having on Sep. 7 with our sister church, Laurel Park UMC, will be taking the place of our September Fellowship Dinner. Watch for news about the October Fellowship Dinner.

Men's Breakfast: Also due to the Charge Cookout on Sep. 7, and because we're ahead of the game on road clean ups, we're skipping the September Men's Breakfast. We'll be back on the first Saturday in October.

And last, but not least ...

FunRaisers Pickles: Sweet or dill, \$5 per pint. Contact Betty Ritchie at 804-266-5747 or place your order with her after Sunday worship services.



W A N T E D: P R A Y E R S

... for our ongoing search for a new music director! Please continue to pray for the SPPR as they search for new leadership for this ministry.



Bible Quiz: Famous Children in the Bible

Children are an important part of many of the stories in the Bible. Each month we will post information about a child mentioned in God's Word. See if you can guess the identity of the child and the Bible reference.

The question for August was: These children were hugged by Jesus. See Mark 10:13 through 16:

"People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them.

When Jesus saw this, he was indignant [because the disciples interfered with the manifestation of his love]. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them."

We know that to receive the kingdom as a child is to depend in trustful simplicity on what God offers.

Here's the Bible Quiz question for September:

This boy heard God's voice calling him. The answer will appear in the October *Twig Bender*.



Picture Directories are Here!

We've received the finished copies of our 2019 picture directory.

Each family who posed for a Lifetouch portrait is entitled to one free directory.

Pick yours up in the church office during regular office hours: Tuesday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A limited number of extra directories are available for purchase at \$7 each.



Prayer Conference Call



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poor and homeless, for our government officials, for our country and our world.

Even as a youth I found **prayer service** to be a **comforting and powerful** hour, even though I kept watching the clock to see if it was time to go.

God heard our prayers. God answered our prayers. Individuals were drawn closer to God and God drew closer to them. Our church was growing spiritually, and the body of Christ was stronger for it.

Prayer is essential for a relationship with God. In prayer we worship and praise God, repent of our sins, ask God that we become more like Jesus Christ, talk to God about what's happening in our lives and the lives of others, ask God for direction and guidance and finally listen for God.

Throughout the Gospel Scriptures it is clear the **heart of Jesus' life and ministry was His relationship to God** in regular prayer. And in the early church prayer was their way of life.

Our new Wednesday Prayer Call is an effort to **seek God's face together**, just as the early church regularly came together in prayer. Understanding the demands of life, using a conference call phone number that everyone and any-one can call into is creative and inclusive and anonymous for those who need it.

We need intentional, devotional, corporate prayer in the life of the church and we must stay connected to God and to each other as the body of Christ. I hope and pray you will join me each Wednesday from 6 to 6:15 a.m. starting September 4 as we seek to do just that.



Donated School Supplies

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and staff who know of particular pupils whose families cannot afford all the required supplies.

Finally, parents can request school supplies, which typically happens for families with multiple children of school age.

The Longdale Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) posted this on their Facebook page: "Let's give a big thanks to GUMC for being a kind and charitable neighbor! Drives like this help to close the gap on supply deficits. Plus, they also help to curtail educators having to personally fund classroom activities."

In addition to Greenwood United Methodist Church, Faith Landmarks Ministries also makes regular contributions of school supplies, according to Ms. Kines. She added there were other contributors, but GUMC and Faith Landmarks Ministries are Longdale Elementary School's faithful and consistent contributors of school supplies year to year.

Greenwood will hold a mid-year school supplies drive in January 2020, for presentation in February. Readers might find it more cost effective to buy school supplies now for this future drive, since school supplies are on sale now.

The *Twig Bender* applauds the generosity of the Greenwood church family. This is one more way Greenwood reaches out to our neighborhood. Praise the Lord!



Our September Communion Offering Goes to: **ICM**



Industrial and Commercial Ministries (ICM) equips, places and supports volunteer chaplains in America's places of work (icmamerica.org).

Improved Communications Initiatives

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have a Facebook or Instagram account. You merely need to visit the website. For example just type <https://www.facebook.com/gumcva/> into your computer's browser and voila, you're on Greenwood's Facebook page where you can see the latest information posting. See our pictures on Instagram at @greenwoodumcva.



We can use many different tools to communicate with the members of Greenwood's church family. In addition to social media, those include: our website (www.gumcva.org), the marquee, this newsletter, the bulletin and the prayer chain.

So, don't be buffaloeed by Greenwood's increasing presence on social media. If you don't want to use Facebook or Instagram, well and good, there are other ways you can get the latest news.

Be Prepared — Read the Scriptures September Lectionary Readings

September 1	Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 8:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14.
September 8	Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Philemon 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33.
September 15	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10.
September 22	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9, or Psalm 4; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13.
September 29	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31.

Food Donation Connection

September Pick Up Rotation

Wednesday, Sep. 4: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, Sep. 5: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Sep. 6: Carolyn and Ray Smith.



Wednesday, Sep. 11: Charley Banks; Thursday, Sep. 12: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Sep. 13: Adamarye Patteson.

Wednesday, Sep. 18: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, Sep. 19: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Sep. 20: Brenda and Harry Shuler.

Wednesday, Sep. 25: Charley Banks; Thursday, Sep. 26: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Sep. 27: Carolyn and Ray Smith.

If anyone is interested in picking up food on Wednesday or Thursday please give Adamarye a call at 804-266-6364. Right now Lewis Daniel is the only one picking up on Thursdays and we just have 2 people picking up on Wednesday. Ideally it would be nice to have 3 people picking up each day. It just takes maybe 2 hours out of your day to pick up the food and bring it back to church.

September Grass Cutting Detail

Your Trustees have established a volunteer rotation for cutting the grass on the church grounds this summer. This month's schedule is:

- Week of September 2:..... Harry Shuler
- Week of September 9:.....Bob Stapleton
- Week of September 16:..... Lewis Daniel
- Week of September 23:..... Harry Shuler
- Week of September 30.....Bob Stapleton



If anyone else would like to help with this summer's grass cutting, please give Bob Stapleton a call at 804-672-8408. Thank you from your Trustees.

Get Out Now!

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Inform extended family and employers. Tell a family member about your planned destination and route and notify your employer.

Secure your home. Lock doors and windows. Unplug electrical equipment, such as appliances and electronics, but leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in. Post a note saying when you left and where you're headed.

Plan your route. Get gas as soon as possible and check online for road closures and authorized evacuation routes. Don't take shortcuts.

When You Return

Make safety your top priority. Return home only when local authorities say it's safe. Wear sturdy shoes and gloves, and look out for exposed nails, sharp metal and other hazards like downed power lines and possible gas leaks. Report property damage to your insurer as soon as possible.



Some emergency evacuation articles say you should **take a firearm** and ammunition. I agree with this, but only if you know how, and when, to use that gun and only if you are prepared to do so if you have no alternative. Know the legal ramifications, especially know what “self-defense” and “deadly force” mean. If you have to, aim for center mass and have no regrets.

Sign Up for Altar Flowers

Don't forget the 2019 flower calendar posted in the back hall. You're invited to donate altar flowers in memory of, or in honor of, those you'd like to remember.

Cost of the altar flowers is \$20; please pay in advance.





Greenwood Church Family Birthdays

Lewis Daniel	9/2	Maurice Hawkins.....	9/11
Leo Bray.....	9/3	Catherine Wallace	9/18
Mildred Walsh.....	9/6	William Gibbs	9/19
Glenda Stalnaker	9/8	Shelly Bowles.....	9/22

Anniversaries

David & Gail Stanley.....	9/25
Cindy Jo & Lewis Daniel	9/26



Don't see your birthday or wedding anniversary in The Twig Bender and would like to have us publish it? Send your dates to admin@gumcva.org or call the church office at 804-266-5341; likewise, let us know if you'd like your birthday or anniversary re-moved.



Twig Bender

is a publication of Greenwood United Methodist Church

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Greenwood UMC — September 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday LAMB's Basket Sunday 11 a.m. Worship	2 Labor Day VJ Day (Surrender Signed)	3 After School Ministry Opens	4 6 a.m. Prayer Call 7 p.m. Ruth Circle Meets	5 5:30 p.m. Will- ing Workers Circle Meets 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	6 6 p.m. Free Food	7 No Men's Break- fast 4 p.m. Charge Cookout at LPUMC
8 11 a.m. Worship	9 7 p.m. Finance Committee Meets	10 Sewing Machine Day 	11 Patriot Day 6 a.m. Prayer Call 	12 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m. Rich- mond Bee- keepers Meet 	13 6 p.m. Free Food	14 National Cream- Filled Donut Day 
15 11 a.m. Worship	16 Mayflower Day 	17 Constitution Day 	18 U.S. Air Force Est. 1947 6 a.m. Prayer Call 	19 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	20 POW/MIA Day 6 p.m. Free Food	21 International Peace Day
22 11 a.m. Worship Pick Up Bag Lunches	23 Autumn Equinox Fall Begins Hobbit Day 	24 Doozie Tuesday at Aggie's Attic	25 National Comic Book Day 6 a.m. Prayer Call 	26 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	27 <i>Twig Bender</i> Deadline 10:30 a.m. Hidden Treasures at The Her- mitage 6 p.m. Free	
29 Gold Star Mother's Day 11 a.m. 5 th Sun- day Com- bined Wor- ship at Greenwood	30					28 Ask a Stupid Question Day 

Friendship Quilters



Mark Your Calendars

Oct. 6..... World Communion Sunday
Oct. 8..... Charge Conference
Oct. 14..... Columbus Day (Obs.)
Oct. 26..... Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair
Nov. 1..... All Saints Day
Nov. 2..... Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov. 11..... Veterans Day
Nov. 28..... Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 1..... Advent Begins

