



Prayer List

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Be Prepared!

By Steve Stalnaker

"Be Prepared" is a motto with which all us old Boy Scouts are familiar. That obviously applies to being sure we're ready to cope with disasters that affect us, our families and our community.



We're well into the 2019 hurricane season. Although we haven't seen much in the way of storms so far, seems to me that August and September are when the big hurricanes come. Also, hurricanes aren't the only disasters possible. We should make ourselves ready to cope with earthquakes, tsunamis, terrorist acts, alien invasions or zombie apocalypses.

We can't predict when a disaster may come, so let's make sure we know how to react before, during and after the event.

On page 6 in this issue of *The Twig Bender* you'll find the first of a series of articles about preparing for a disaster and how to act after one hits. The Internet, libraries and magazine racks are replete with articles about how to get ready, what to pack, where to go, etc.

Along with sleeping bags, drinking water, can openers, batteries and all the other stuff you'd need if you had to evacuate or shelter in place, there's one paramount thing you should have with you at all times: **trust in God.**

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From the Pastor

Improving Our Ministries

I am grateful for this new season of ministry and excited to be your Lead Pastor in this two-point charge at Greenwood UMC and Laurel Park UMC. All praise and thanks to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!



As we move forward in service to God, I am particularly focused on reaffirming the ministry work already going forth at Greenwood and Laurel Park and on providing insight and leadership for how to improve on ministries and draw new disciples of Jesus Christ.

First, a campaign to **increase Greenwood and Laurel Park's presence on social media** has begun. The folks we need to reach are constantly informed by Social Media. A strong social media presence will allow our wonderful ministries, activities and events to be more visible in the community, drawing new interest in the happenings at Greenwood and Laurel Park. Instagram accounts for both churches are up and running. **You** and everyone you know are asked to follow us by downloading the Instagram app to your phone (ask the grandchildren for help) and follow us at @greenwoodumcva and @laurelparkva. We want to reach folks who don't know who we are and draw them in to participate in what we are doing for Christ. I am in need of some smart phone users to volunteer to help post in "real time" the happenings at our churches.

Second, I have added the **Prayer of Confession and Invitation to Discipleship** to the order of worship. This is an effort to be intentional about becoming more like Jesus Christ and provide a vehicle by which we invite the unsaved to accept Christ.

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***Our August Communion
Offering Goes to:
The Pastor's Discretionary Fund***

Community Garden at LPUMC

By Linda Walker

Tomatoes, green peppers, jalapenos, squash, cucumbers and watermelons. What do all these vegetables have in common? They are all grown in the community garden at Laurel Park United Methodist Church.

Laurel Park's Teri Harris told me that church members had been talking for years about starting such a garden to share food with the community. She said that this spring, "we stepped out in faith to make it happen."

They had some money budgeted, and community donations helped them get set up. The greenhouse across the street from the church donated some nursery plants and the Pete Rose landscaping company gave gravel and topsoil. Church members placed raised beds on the church grounds with gravel on the bottom and mesh to control weeds. A new water line was laid, with a cool spigot and hose, so no one will have to drag heavy hoses from the building for watering.

The vegetables have been thriving. Church members have given produce to Aggie's Attic, and just recently they brought some to give out with the free food distributed on Fridays at Greenwood. The garden is open to anyone who needs fresh vegetables. If you know of someone who does, you are welcome to go to the garden and take what you need.

Some church members have signed up to pick vegetables and water the garden. If you would like to help, you can text Teri Harris (804-398-8558) or Bubba Harris (804-432-2566) and let them know your availability. They usually water the garden early in the morning or after 6:30 p.m., and it usually takes about half an hour to give it a good soaking.

Once the harvest is done, church members plan to till the area in preparation for next year.

Please join me in thanking God for raining down his blessings on this garden.



August is School Supplies Month

This month the people of Greenwood are collecting school supplies in support of needy pupils at Longdale Elementary School and at the UMFS Charterhouse School.

Donations for Longdale should be brought to the Sanctuary by Sunday, **Aug. 25**. The Ruth Circle is sponsoring the **Charterhouse** drive; those donations should be left in the bag in the narthex by Sunday, **Aug. 11**. Lists of needed supplies are posted in the narthex and printed in each Sunday's bulletin.



Virginia will hold a **"tax holiday"** for selected school supplies, clothing and footwear Aug. 2 — 4. Visit <https://www.tax.virginia.gov/virginia-sales-tax-holiday> for more information.

Charterhouse School is an affiliate of **United Methodist Family Services (UMFS)**, offering year-round comprehensive educational services for students ages 5 to 22. Students at Charterhouse School come from UMFS's Child & Family Healing Center (an intensive residential treatment program) and from the greater Richmond area.

The Charterhouse School Day Program serves commuter students with **special needs**. These students struggle to function in the public school setting due to learning, emotional or intellectual disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder or other health impairments. In addition to academic instruction, educational services support the development of social, organizational, behavioral and independent living skills.

Beginning as an orphanage in 1900, UMFS today provides a **comprehensive network of services for children and families** across Virginia. UMFS's mission is to be unwavering champions for high-risk children and families, collaborating with communities to help them reach their full potential.

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 last question was: This boy had a colorful coat that made his brothers jealous. The answer is: Joseph. In Genesis 37:2-4 we learn about him and his brothers:

"This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel (Jacob) loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves (a coat of many colors). But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him."

We know a long robe with sleeves was a luxurious garment, different from the ordinary sleeveless tunic that reached to the knees. It would be impossible to undertake any manual labor while wearing it.

Here's the Bible Quiz question for August:

These children were hugged by Jesus.

The answer will appear in the September *Twig Bender*.



Free Community Event

Laurel Park UMC invites you and your family to a free cookout,

Saturday, Aug. 10, 4 - 6 p.m.,
at Laurel Park, 2700 Hungary Rd.

Menu: Hot dog, potato chips, cookie, and drink.



Disaster Preparedness



To be prepared, here are some things to do before disaster strikes.

Discuss a **rendezvous point** with your family. If a disaster occurs, some family members may be in different locations. So pick a meeting place in a safe spot away from home.

Create a **car emergency kit**. Include a first aid kit, phone chargers, flashlight, spare tire and jumper cables. Check periodically to make sure each item is still usable. (This kit should be a standard item in all your cars.)

Pack a travel bag for each family member. Besides clothes and toiletries, include a blanket and sturdy shoes for each person. Pack extra keys to your home and vehicles, cash in small bills, emergency contact information and a home inventory in case you have to file an insurance claim later.

Download banking, insurance and emergency service mobile apps to your smartphone now so they'll be available in a crisis. During a disaster, texting may be more reliable than calling because it uses less bandwidth. Sign up for emergency text alerts from your city, county and state, and insurance company, if available.

Review all your insurance policies: auto, home or renters, valuables, flood, life and health. Be sure you have adequate coverage to help you fully recover after a loss. Also, be sure you understand what is and is not covered and know your deductible levels. Understand how coverage suspension may affect you. Know whether you have wind and flooding coverage. Do your policies include coverage for evacuation expenses?

Fellowship Dinners, FunRaisers Bag Lunches,
Ruth and Willing Workers Circles



Are taking the summer off;
They'll be back in *September*.

Will Your Car Battery Survive The Heat?

Downloaded from AAA



Most drivers know that the cold is rough on car batteries, but, according to the American Automobile Association (AAA) heat is actually the number one cause of battery failure and reduced battery life. Extreme heat accelerates the rate of fluid loss and the resulting oxidation of battery components, which can leave you unexpectedly stranded.

Here are a few quick tips on how to avoid that moment when you turn the key in the ignition and nothing happens.

Warning Signs

- Your car doesn't start immediately or makes a clicking noise when you turn the key.
- Your headlights or interior lights are dimmer than normal, or the power windows are working slower than usual.
- You see stains or signs of corrosion on the battery itself.
- Your battery is more than three years old.
- You take a lot of short trips where the car is turned on and off often, or you have long stretches of time (weeks or months) where the car is not used at all.

What You Can Do

- Turn off your lights, wipers, and A/C before you turn off your engine at the end of a drive to prevent an unnecessary drain on the battery the next time you start your car (this is good advice always).
- Unplug phone chargers and USB cables for devices as soon as you turn off your engine (for the same reason as above).
- Avoid using your car's air conditioner longer than you have to, as the A/C system puts high demands on your battery.
- If you see corrosion on your battery, clean it or have it cleaned by a trained technician.
- If you consistently go two weeks or longer without using your car, invest in a battery tender (trickle charger) to keep the battery charged.

Improving Our Ministries

(Continued from page 2)

Third, starting Wednesday, Sep. 4 from 6 to 6:15 a.m., I will be leading a **Greenwood-Laurel Park Prayer Conference Call** to include a devotional, prayer requests and pastoral prayer as we seek to move higher to do “greater” as Jesus Christ said we would do.



Every move we make must be undergirded with the **intentional, fervent prayers** of the believers. There is power in numbers, so everyone is asked to call in and be a part of this prayer call—share this number with family, friends and strangers. Prayer Call Number: (605) 313-5111; and code: 196886.

Fourth, a **marketing tool** is being designed to share with the community at-large. It will introduce our churches in a new way, and prayerfully spark the curiosity of those who may not have considered making a connection with us.

Fifth and lastly, I have a proposal for the **After School Ministry Board** that I pray will be a wonderful vehicle for bringing families to our churches on fifth Sundays to fellowship with us and allow the children we serve an opportunity to experience music ministry in church worship.

Let's pray together for renewed vision and an unexpected move of God as we seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

— Lead Pastor, Reverend Josette L. Franklin, M. Div.

“Being confident of this, that God who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” *Philippians 1:6*



Disaster Readiness

(Continued from page 1)

Here, from the New International Version, are some of my favorite verses that express how we should trust in the Lord:

- *Jeremiah 29:11*: "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"
- *Psalms 121:8*: "The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."
- *Philippians 4:13*: "I can do all this through him [Christ] who gives me strength."

And a most important one:

- *Romans 8:31b*: "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

So, keep your sword (*The Word of God*, see *Ephesians 6:17b*) sharp and your powder dry. And, in case the big event turns out to be **the Rapture**, don't forget:

- *John 3:16*: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."



Be Prepared!

VBC

"God is Good" was the theme of the Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) which Greenwood and Biltmore Baptist Church presented in July to neighborhood children.

Over 30 children from the community attended the camp. VBC was a blessing to all who attended, campers and volunteers alike.

Pastor Josette L. Franklin and the Greenwood family extends their thanks to Adamarye Patteson, Amber Sawn, Porter Schermerhorn and Glenda Stalnaker.



August 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 August 5:Bob Stapleton
- Week of August 12: Lewis Daniel
- Week of August 19: Harry Shuler
- Week of August 26: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.

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.



Be Prepared — Read the Scriptures

August Lectionary Readings

August 4	Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21.
August 11	Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40.
August 18	Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56.
August 25	Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

Food Donation Connection

August Pick Up Rotation

Wednesday, July 31: Charley Banks; Thursday, Aug. 1: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Aug. 2: Adamarye Patteson.

Wednesday, Aug. 7: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, Aug. 8: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Aug. 9: Brenda Shuler.

Wednesday, Aug. 14: Charley Banks; Thursday, Aug. 15: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Aug. 16: Carolyn and Ray Smith.

Wednesday, Aug. 21: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, Aug. 22: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Aug. 23: Adamarye Patteson.

Wednesday, Aug. 28: Charley Banks; Thursday, Aug. 29: Lewis Daniel; Friday, Aug. 30: Brenda Shuler.



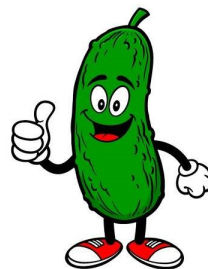
Charge Cookout

Greenwood and Laurel Park will be having a picnic on Saturday, Sept. 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 Pickles Are In!

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



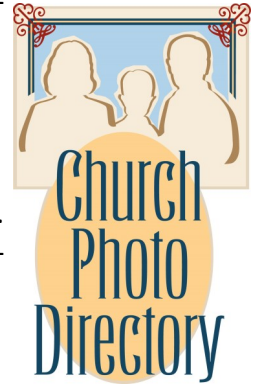
Picture Directory Update

The Greenwood/Laurel Park picture directory should be available this month.

Our directory team reviewed proofs twice in July and then authorized Lifetouch to print these long-awaited directories.

Every household who sat for a Lifetouch portrait at Greenwood in May and June is entitled to one free copy of the directory. A limited number of additional directories will be available for purchase for about \$7 — we'll know the cost for sure once the directories are printed and distributed.

Watch the weekly bulletin for further updates.



LAMB's BASKET FUN FUNDRAISER AT THE PANTRY

LAMB's Basket volunteers and guests are invited by the LB Board of Directors to meet other volunteers and enjoy a home-grown tomato sandwich on white or wheat loaf bread, ice cold beverages, potato chips and assorted desserts.



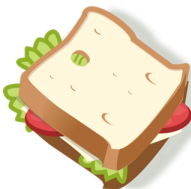
DOOR PRIZES!

Saturday, August 10, 5 to 7 p.m.

Serving the first 50 people to sign up on the Sign-up sheet at LAMB's Basket or call Nancy Yeary (262-7655).

We ask for only a \$5.00 Donation to LAMB's Basket.

LAMB's Basket is located at 8419 Oakview Ave., Henrico, VA 23228 .





Greenwood Church Family *Birthdays*

Linda Wagner.....	8/2	Jeannette Jackson.....	8/14
Nancy Yeary.....	8/3	Madison Elliott	8/15
Alan Daniel	8/9	Javier Shuler	8/22
Ray Smith.....	8/13		

Anniversaries

Alan & Emily Daniel	8/11
Patty & Bill Prout	8/14



*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**.*



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Greenwood UMC — August 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	2 Ice Cream Sandwich Day 6 p.m. Free Food	3 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
					Virginia Sales Tax Holiday	
4 Coast Guard Day Communion Sunday LAMB's Basket Sunday 11 a.m. Worship Va Sales Tax Holiday	5	6	7 Lighthouse Day 	8 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m. Richmond Beekeepers Meet 	9 6 p.m. Free Food	10 4 p.m. Free Cookout at LPUMC 5 p.m. LAMB's Basket Fund Raiser
11 Charterhouse School Supplies Due 11 a.m. Worship	12 7 p.m. Finance Committee Meets	13 Left-Handers Day 	14 Creamsicle Day 	15 VJ Day 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 	16 6 p.m. Free Food	17 Thrift Shop Day
					Friendship Quilters	
18 11 a.m. Worship	19 Aviation Day 	20 Chocolate Pecan Pie Day	21 Senior Citizen Day	22 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	23 <i>Twig Bender</i> Deadline 10:30 a.m. Hidden Treasures at The Hermitage 6 p.m. Free Food	24 Pluto Demoted Day
25 Longdale School Supplies Due 11 a.m. Worship	26 Dog Appreciation Day 	27 Doozie Tuesday at Aggie's Attic	28 Bow Tie Day 	29 4 p.m. After School Open House 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	30 Frankenstein Day 6 p.m. Free Food 	31 College Football Season Opens 

Mark Your Calendars

Sep. 2 Labor Day
Sep. 3 After School Program Opens
Sep. 4 Prayer Conference C all
Sep. 7 Charge Cookout at LPUMC
Oct. 6 World Communion Sunday
Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 1 Advent Begins

Doozie Tuesday

Aggie's Attic

4th Tuesday

of every month 10 am - 7 pm

Beginning July 23

**Everything in the main store will be
discounted 50% on that day**

Some exceptions may apply

Aggie's Attic is at 2320 Hungary Rd.