



Newsletter 12-14-2020

Reaching...Teaching...Touching ...in the Heart of Powhatan
3922 Old Buckingham Road

In the heart of the Courthouse Village (804) 598-3098

From the Pastor...Heaven Shall Not Wait

John Bell is a Scottish Presbyterian, a hymn writer and preacher. He is a member of the Iona Community, an ecumenical Christian Community that attracts pilgrims from around the world. John Bell was the preacher one summer when my family and I were at Montreat, and when he entered worship and stood to preach he always did so barefoot. When asked why, he told us that he knew that he was standing on holy ground.

John Bell wrote a hymn text and tune a few years ago titled "Heaven Shall Not Wait." Each stanza begins with that phrase, "heaven shall not wait," and then it goes on to describe the things that our hearts yearn for, that we normally imagine happening when God comes at the consummation of the age and sets everything "to rights."

We love to think of a coming day when wrongs will be made right and all things set straight, but in his hymn, John Bell proclaims that "heaven shall not wait," for Jesus is Lord now and has already ushered in His Kingdom. This reflects an "already/not yet" reality that is foundational to our faith.

A question was raised in Sunday School yesterday regarding Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1. One person observed Zechariah's song seem to reflect a future tense, but Mary speaks as if God's works of justice and peace are present realities. She sings that "God has scattered the proud" and "brought down the powerful" and "filled the hungry with good things." For the Prophet Mary, she reveals a present reality to God's work of redemption. To her, "heaven shall not wait."

This Sunday we will hear the story of Mary, the Annunciation, the Magnificat. It is a beautiful and moving story. But do not misunderstand, Mary is a Prophet who is proclaiming both how things will be at the end of the age, but also how things are now in God's world. For Mary, "heaven shall not wait."

On-Line Advent and Christmas for the May Memorial Family

Advent Hospitality: A Gift from the Home... (of name)

November 30 – December 25

Consisting of artwork, music, Christmas symbols and decorations, and readings, these gifts will come from members of the May Memorial family and will be sent out each morning during Advent.

They are available anytime on our website under "Advent Hospitality".

Sunday, December 20

YouTube Premiere Children's Christmas Pageant

The pageant will premiere on YouTube.

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

4:00 p.m., MMBC Christmas Eve Worship on YouTube Premiere. This will be an online worship service much like our worship services while in early pandemic weeks.





Youth Christmas Party at Drive Shack

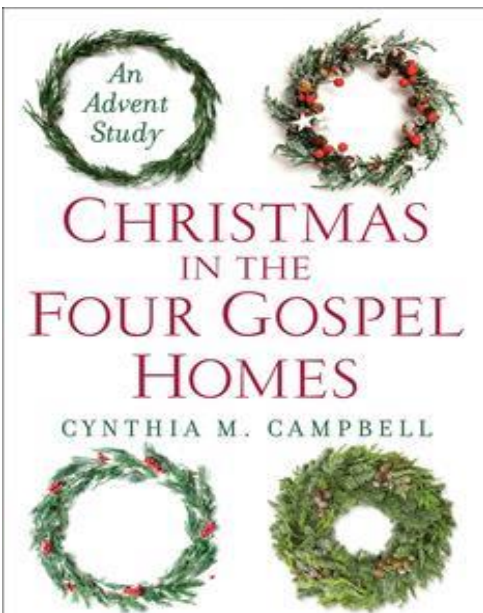
Jesse Tree Devotional

The family devotional has the instructions on what supplies you will need for your Jesse tree. If you want a copy of the 25-page devotional, you may contact Ashley Edwards by calling her at (804) 586-0652.

JESSE TREE DEVOTIONAL



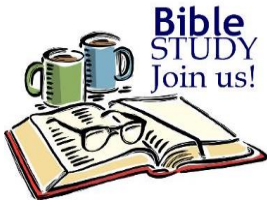
Join Us For Sunday School on Zoom



During the four Sundays of Advent this year, November 29 through December 20, travel with the Zoom Sunday School to some ‘houses’ decorated quite differently for the birth of Jesus—the four “Gospel homes” of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John! Bob Kruschwitz and Juston Sanudo will be team teaching the study. Our guide will be Cynthia M. Campbell, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2019). Copies of this book are available in the church office and from online booksellers. “The purpose of our journey is to experience what Christmas means from [each Gospel’s] perspective and how Christmas is celebrated there,” Campbell writes. Each week’s study features a house drawing by architect Kevin Burns, who offers his own interpretation of how each Gospel welcomes us to “reflect on the mystery of Jesus, Son of God, born of Mary.” Please join in the Zoom Sunday School class each Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m., or view it afterwards online through the May Memorial YouTube channel.

To join by phone: Call (312) 626-6799 Enter: 871 7487 0259

Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship



Bible Study on Zoom - Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

(This is the last week before Christmas break)

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799

Enter this code: 286 978 612

Kingdom Kids Zoom Meeting

(This is the last week before Christmas break)

Every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. we meet online for our Kingdom Kids program and fun!



To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799

Enter the meeting code: 277 032 1474

Connecting to the World...Missions



Christmas Mission Project

Standing Rock Indian Reservation—This year before Christmas we will be joining with Baptists across Virginia collecting gifts cards for children in the Cannon Ball on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota. WMU of Virginia staff (who are at Standing Rock) will shop for each child using the gift cards so the children there will receive what they need this Christmas. **Please bring gift cards** from Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart or Target. While any amount is appreciated, a \$25 gift card will sponsor one individual child at Standing Rock.

Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry team will meet at the Powhatan Food Pantry on Saturday, December 19 at 9:30 a.m.



Thank you

I would like to wish the entire May Memorial family a heartfelt thanks for the kindness and extension of love given to me during my interim period as Music Director. It was an honor to serve in this capacity and I'm grateful our paths crossed. I am hopeful that the New Year will bring hope, peace, joy, and love for each May Memorial family member. May Memorial has always been a special place in the heart of the community. God's purpose and plan will continue as we each walk life's journey. May God's hand of protection be among you all and may you be blessed in the coming year.

Much love and Merry Christmas!

Sandra Parker
Interim Music Director
May Memorial Baptist Church

Announcements

Office Holiday Hours and Newsletter - In addition to Christmas Day and New Year's Day holidays, the church office will be closed on Wednesday/Thursday December 23 and 24, as well as Tuesday/Wednesday December 29 and 30. Also, there will not be a *Newsletter* sent on the week between the holiday's.

Staff Christmas Gifts - May Memorial Family,

Please consider making a contribution toward the May Memorial staff Christmas gifts. We will be receiving contributions for these over the next two weeks, until Monday, December 21.

Thanks,

Gerald Hagen

2021 Offering Envelopes will be placed on a table in the Commons Area. You are welcome to come by the church during office hours to pick them up. Office hours are Monday to Thursday 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (doors are locked during lunch 12:00 to 12:30). The church office will be closed on 12/29 and 12/30.

Poinsettias will not be placed in the Sanctuary this year. Those who have already purchased plants have been contacted concerning reimbursement. Contact the church office if you have any questions.

December/January Birthdays



16 - Nancy Gillespie
 18 - Phyllis Anderson
 18- Laura Edwards
 19- Dawana Sheppard
 19- Ken Jamerson
 22- Robin Mead

22- Lisa O'Donnell
 25 - Tyler Bilthuis
 30- Bob Wood
 30 - Vicki Kruschwitz
 January 2 - Gwen Hagen
 2 - Linda Dail

Financial Information



Our Gifts to our Lord

Week of December 13, 2020

Regular Offering	\$ 4,910.50
Benevolence	20.00
Memorials	150.00
Scholarships	
Special Offering	1,065.00
(Piano fund, Standing Rock, Staff offering)	
Total	\$ 6,145.50

Prayer List 12/14/20

CHURCH FAMILY:

Barbara Barden
Susie Brock
Joann Cole
Bob Cox
Snead DeNoon
Lee Duncan
Nick Elam
Ester Fitch and Family
Bea Gallier
Rick Gallier
Bill Ketron
Bernice Koelzer
Paul Lindsey
Fran O'Donnell
Jim Pinkley
Shirley Stephens
David&Susan
Terry
Nancy Wilkinson
Earl Worsham
Janice Worsham

MILITARY:

Danny Myers, Brent Templeton, Quint Sutton, David Brizendine, Jeremiah Clift, Nelson Sutton, Justin Donnavon, Austin, Breeden, Caleb Hammer, Kris Curtis, Adam and Hunter Mitchell

HOMEBOUND PRAYER AND CONTACT LIST:

- Janice and Earl Worsham, Auburn Hill Senior Living, 5800 Harbour Ln, Midlothian, VA 23112
- Audrey Johnston, 3901 S. Fairway Drive, Powhatan, VA 23139
- Audrey Mann, The Laurels of Willow Oaks, 11611 Robious Road, Midlothian, 23113
- Jim Pinkley, Currently with Billy and Marlis Kruschwitz
- Jean Hall, 1748 Old Powhatan Estates

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Estelle Davis, Debbie Elam's mother
Lacie Baggett
Libby Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg
Stuart Yeorge
Ben Spoon, Juli Spoon's son-in-law
Matthew Berger, friend of Joy & Juston Sanudo
Clyde Martin, brother of Esther Fitch
Jeff Crews, Susie Brock's brother-in-law
Sheri Sadie, Nancy Flower's Daughter
Sharon Baltimore, friend of the Bradbury's
Bill Casper, Bill Karnolt's brother-in-law
Justin Yancey, Grandson of Irma Alvis
Stephanie Hay, Karen and Ray's daughter-in-law
Janie Dean
Phyllis Lester, Ed Utt's sister
Shawn Neugent, friend of the Sheltons
Lennox Family
Helen Fitzgerald, friend of Diana and B.J. Smith
Chloe, granddaughter of Amy&Bill Karnolt
Nurses, Erin and Melissa, relatives of the Karnolt's
Logan Cook, grandson of Wilford and Linda Poore.
Pam Polk Mottley, Ed Mottley's sister
Randy Kope, grandson of Les and Dianne Miller
Brian Sullivan, nephew of Mike & Bernice Koelzer
Mary, Annie Sparrow's Aunt
Mary Ann David, Debbie Elam's sister-in-law
Teresa Fields
Patricia Vermillion, Jon Flower's sister
Emily, Gene & Sandy Parker's daughter
Chuck Karnolt
Kathy Kuhn, friend of Vicki and Bob Kruschwitz
Davin Ericson, friend of the Cox's
Stephanie Prentice, Nancy Flower's granddaughter
Stuart Howard and Bre
Sue Ellen Hresan, Nancy Richard's sister
Fred Boatwright, Amy Potter's father
Mike Davidson
Randy Blackwell
Family of Bob Cosby