



Newsletter 2-15-2021

# May Memorial Baptist Church

Reaching...Teaching...Touching

in the Heart of Powhatan

3922 Old Buckingham Road

In the Heart of the Courthouse Village

## From the Pastor

Wednesday begins the Season of Lent, the six week/forty day period (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Resurrection Day when the Church takes a solemn turn to consider Jesus' journey to the cross. We consider our sinfulness, repentance, and our own mortality. It is a season of soul-searching, a time to return to the Lord in ashes and repentance. Jesus entered the wilderness for 40 days after his baptism, and the season of Lent designates forty days that we may enter the wilderness and fully rely on God.

Traditionally, Christians have decided to "give up" something during Lent. Chocolate has always been a favorite, caffeine, cigars, or alcohol. Many people decide to take a "social media" fast, giving up Facebook or Instagram. All of these are fine, and some people may find spiritual growth in refusing a reliance of these so that they may rely on God. This year, my thoughts are drawn toward those things that I may need to give up, not just for the season of Lent, but permanently.

The Prophet Joel will proclaim to us on Ash Wednesday that God calls us to return to God with all our heart. God doesn't call us to get everything cleaned up and then come, but to come with our hearts. God is concerned with those things we do or don't do, but God also wants our hearts, God wants them to be pure.

The Lutheran pastor Nadia Bolz Weber offers a list for the season of Lent, an action for each day, and it has been helpful to me. I offer it to you again as a reminder or a plan of how we may offer our hearts to God and observe a Holy Lent. (Continued on page 2.)



## Ash Wednesday Worship Wednesday, February 17 6:30 p.m., Church Sanctuary

If you will be worshipping from home via YouTube Live for Ash Wednesday, you can pick up your Ash Wednesday "kit" (ashes and a cross) for you to use as you worship virtually with those in the sanctuary. These kits are on the table in the Commons Area, and may be picked up during regular office hours.

## Wednesday Night Gathering

"The Pandemic Vices"

by Bob Kruschwitz

Wednesdays on Zoom, 6:30

February 24 -- March 31

See page 4 for more details.



## **From the Pastor...Praying for the season of Lent (continued from page 1.)**

Day 1: Pray for your enemies

Day 2: Walk, carpool, bike or bus it.

Day 3: Don't turn on the car radio

Day 4: Give \$20 to a non-profit of your choosing

(Sunday)

Day 5: Take 5 minutes of silence at noon

Day 6: Look out the window until you find something of beauty you had not noticed before

Day 7: Give 5 items of clothing to Goodwill

Day 8: No bitching day

Day 9: Do someone else's chore

Day 10: Buy a few \$5 fast food gift cards to give to homeless people you encounter

(Sunday)

Day 11: Call an old friend

Day 12: Pray the Paper (pray for people and situations in today's news)

Day 13: Read Psalm 139

Day 14: Pay a few sincere compliments

Day 15: Bring your own mug

Day 16: Educate yourself about human trafficking

(Sunday)

Day 17: Forgive someone

Day 18: Internet diet

Day 19: Change one light in your house to a compact florescent

Day 20: Check out morning and evening prayer online at The Daily Office.

Day 21: Ask for help

Day 22: Tell someone what you are grateful for

(Sunday)

Day 23: Introduce yourself to a neighbor

Day 24: Read Psalm 121

Day 25: Bake a cake

Day 26: No shopping day

Day 27: Light a virtual candle

Day 28: Light an actual candle

(Sunday)

Day 29: Write a thank you note to your favorite teacher

Day 30: Invest in canvas shopping bags

Day 31: Use Freecycle

Day 32: Donate art supplies to your local elementary school

Day 33: Read John 8:1-11

Day 34: Worship at a friend's synagogue or church and look for the beauty

(Sunday)

Day 35: Confess a secret

Day 36: No sugar day – where else is there sweetness in your life?

Day 37: Give \$20 to a local non-profit

Day 38: Educate yourself about a saint [www.catholic.org/saints](http://www.catholic.org/saints)

Day 39: Pray for peace

Day 40: Pray for your enemies (you probably have new ones by now) then decide which of these exercises you'll keep for good

## Connecting to God...Worship



### *Worship in the Sanctuary on Sunday*

Please join us this Sunday, February 21, at 11:00 a.m. The children will meet for Extended Session and we will have a nursery. Safety measures are in place.



### *Easter Worship on Sunday April 4*

May Memorial will hold two worship services on this day. One at 9:00 a.m. and one at 11:00 a.m.

In between the two services there will be a Children's Egg Hunt.

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### **May Memorial and COVID 19**

In April the Board of Deacons appointed a Re-Gathering Team to guide May Memorial through the decisions dealing with our Church Family's safety and COVID 19. The Team meets regularly and is made up of Gary Cowles, Chair, Michael Edwards, Dawana Sheppard, Ed Utt, Matt O'Quinn, Nancy Wood, Lisa O'Donnell, Debbie Howard, and Jay Givens.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Is May Memorial Worshiping in the Sanctuary? Yes! We are worshiping in our sanctuary and online each Sunday morning. Since regathering in August the Re-Gathering Team has cancelled sanctuary worship a couple of times because of increased cases of COVID 19 in our church family and COVID test results that were pending. Online worship has happened every Sunday.

Will the Re-Gathering Team cancel sanctuary worship again? No one knows the future, but the re-gathering team senses that sanctuary worship will not be canceled again.

Are any safety precautions being observed in Worship? Yes. We keep a distance of at least 6 feet and everyone is asked to wear a face covering. We also have found other ways to reduce the risk of transmission such as not passing objects from one person to another and refraining from congregational singing during this time.

When will other church activities resume? The Re-Gathering Team meets regularly to evaluate the COVID metrics, state guidelines, and our safety. As the numbers and positivity rate improve more and more activities will be "in-person" at May Memorial Church. In addition to in-person worship, we also are providing other "in-person" gatherings such as a nursery during worship, Children's Extended Session meets during worship, and the youth meeting each Sunday evening. All of these "in-person" activities are following suggested and ordered guidelines.

What if I don't feel comfortable in a group of people? You can join us for Sunday school each Sunday morning on Zoom at 9:15, online worship each Sunday at 10:30, view our "Sanctuary Worship" livestream at 11:00 (both of these are available after they "premiere"), and be a part of our midweek Wednesday night gathering on Zoom at 6:30. While we miss being physically together, these are all great ways to stay connected with God and God's people at May Memorial.

What can I do to help us in regathering? Be patient, wear a face-covering, and help the ushers by cooperating with our safety plan together. And, get your vaccine when available to you!

## Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship



### *Sunday School - New Session*

The Letter of James is often neglected in the New Testament, but it is filled with Christian insight. It has much to teach us about God's grace and our faithful response in the Church. The moral instruction in James often comes alive through vivid illustrations, pithy parables, and trenchant sayings. No wonder, then, it's been called the "wisdom" book of the New Testament. Join us by Zoom on Sunday mornings at 9:15 for seven thematic studies in James. Or watch these discussions on the May Memorial YouTube channel at your convenience.

(Youtube channel can be reached by [clicking here](#))

To join the Zoom session at 9:15 a.m. Click the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87174870259> and Zoom Sunday School will automatically open. To join by phone: Call (312) 626-6799 Enter: 871 7487 0259 [Click Here](#) to view the Sunday School Zoom session for February 14, 2021



### *Wednesday Night Gathering*

#### **"The Pandemic Vices"**

Those distortions of love, the capital vices or deadly sins, don't take a vacation during a pandemic. Instead, they change their wily attacks our lives. Things like anger, greed, gluttony, envy, vainglory, and acedia (or sloth) manifest in new ways during times of anxiety and loneliness. On each of the six Wednesday nights of Lent, we'll explore one of the vices and examine how it manifests during the pandemic. And drawing from a figure in the Christian tradition, we'll discover a remedy and brainstorm together our defense.

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799 Enter this code: 286 978 612  
The "Stained Glass Window" series has been recorded and can be viewed on our website at [maymemorialchurch.org](http://maymemorialchurch.org) on the "Wednesday Night Gatherings" page.



### *Kingdom Kids Zoom Meeting*

Every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. we meet online for our Kingdom Kids program and fun! Join Zoom Meeting by clicking this link, then follow the directions by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2770321474>

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

Enter the meeting code: 277 032 1474



### *Save the Date - Youth Mission Madness*

Mission Madness in a Box. March 13-14 More information to be shared later.



## Connecting to the World...Missions



### Life Savers for Life Savers!

Our mission project is to purchase stainless steel coffee mugs and fill those with Life Savers for every deputy in Powhatan County. You can bring (name brand) Life Savers to the church office (or worship), you can also donate for the cost of the mugs. They are \$7 each, and you are encouraged to give to buy several for this project. If you write a check to purchase mugs, write "Life Savers" on the memo line. Place cash in an envelope with "Life Savers" written on the outside. Powhatan has 43 full time and 10 part time deputies. Help us be a blessing to our "life savers!"

### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2021

Eligible high school seniors and past recipients can pick up an application at the church office to be completed and submitted no later than March 31, 2021 for consideration by the Scholarship Committee. An application can be emailed to you if requested from the church office. Questions should be directed to Jackie Lindsey at [prlindsey1@verizon.net](mailto:prlindsey1@verizon.net) or by phone 598-3038.

Scholarship Committee

Lynne Bradbury, Constance Deal, Jackie Lindsey, Juston Sanudo

### Thank you

A heartfelt thank you to our May Memorial church family for your many expressions of care and concern following passing of my father, Jim Pinkley. In the midst of the pandemic, preventing the traditional funeral or gathering, your calls, cards, thoughts and prayers ministered to us in a meaningful way.

Thank you! Billy and Marlis Kruschwitz

### Financial Information

The financial information for February 14 will be in next week's *Newsletter*.

# May Memorial's Prayer List 2/15/21

**CHURCH FAMILY:**

Barbara Barden  
 Joann Cole  
 Bob Cox  
 Snead DeNoon  
 Nick Elam  
 Ester Fitch and Family  
 Bea & Rick Gallier  
 Bill Ketron  
 Paul Lindsey  
 Fran O'Donnell  
 Shirley Stephens  
 David & Susan Terry  
 Earl & Janice Worsham

**MILITARY:**

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

**HOMEBOUND CONTACT LIST:**

- Audrey Johnston, 3901 S. Fairway Drive, Powhatan, VA 23139
- Audrey Mann, The Laurels of Willow Oaks, 11611 Robious Road, Midlothian, 23113
- Jean Hall, 1748 Old Powhatan Estates
- Nancy Wilkinson, 2116 Eastwood Ridge Dr., Moseley, VA 23120
- Earl and Janice Worsham, 18507 Harrison's Road, Amelia Court House, VA 23002

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:**

Estelle Davis, Debbie Elam's mother  
 Lacie Baggett  
 Libby Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg  
 Ami Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg  
 Stuart Yeorge  
 Ben Spoon, Juli Spoon's son-in-law  
 Matthew Berger, friend of Joy & Juston Sanudo  
 Sheri Sadie, Nancy Flower's Daughter  
 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  
 Pam Polk Mottley, Ed Mottley's sister  
 Mary, Annie Sparrow's Aunt  
 Mary Ann David, Debbie Elam's sister-in-law  
 Teresa Fields  
 Kathy Kuhn, friend of Vicki and Bob Kruschwitz  
 Davin Ericson, friend of the Cox's  
 Mike Davidson  
 Randy Blackwell  
 Jenny Johnson, friend of Kerri Bilthuis  
 Ruth Boatwright  
 Kaye Edwards, Michael Edwards mother  
 Sandra Williams, family member of Carol & Irvin Wms  
 Family of Patricia Vermillion, Jon Flower's sister  
 Randy Kope, Grandson of Les and Diane Miller  
 Michael Bryant, friend of David & Constance Deal  
 Family of Brian Sullivan, nephew of the Koelzer's  
 James Carwile — Esther Fitch  
 Clyde Martin — Esther Fitch  
 Randolph Martin — Esther Fitch  
 Family of Ethan Edwards, Ashley Edwards's nephew  
 Lisa Davis, Gladys Rabon's daughter

**February/March Birthdays**



15 - Debbie Mottley  
 17 - Judy Martin  
 23 - Lester Oberg

5- Jane Ware  
 6- Cheryl Vrooman  
 9 - Bob Cox