

May Memorial Baptist Church

E-Connect Newsletter

Printed Edition 3/31/20

*Reaching.....Teaching...Touching...
in the Heart of Powhatan*

3922 Old Buckingham Rd.
In the heart of the Courthouse Village
(804) 598-3098 Maymemorialchurch.org



Comparing Grief

We live in a world of comparisons. Having three students in my home, I see it all the time. Class rank? GPA? Starter or second string? First chair or third? Beginning or ending the recital? I suppose it is human nature to compare ourselves to others, and that becomes the norm for our thinking and living.

After the governor announced the physical closure of all schools someone posted on social media that high school seniors should not be too upset for missing the final days of their senior year, or prom, or graduation as planned. The reason graduating seniors should not be upset, according to the post, is because a couple of generations ago, high school young men missed the end of their senior year in order to go to war in Vietnam. Staying at home in isolation, according to the post, was much easier and less severe than going to war. Therefore seniors (and their families) should not grieve over this loss. Just compare yourself to that (his) generation.

I understand the idea. And I get that what my high school senior daughter is experiencing is less severe than going to war. But I also understand that our grief as humans doesn't exactly work that way.

In Powhatan County, there is (maybe) one confirmed case of COVID 19. I personally know one person who has been tested for the virus, and that test came back negative. There are some individuals in our country and around the world who have already lost several family members who have died because of this pandemic. The citizens of New York City and New Orleans and Seattle and Detroit are facing a much tougher time than we are in Virginia, and certainly than we are in Powhatan. But even though we are suffering less it does not mean that our grief is any less valid.

Yes, there are people in the world who have it much worse than we do, but that does not mean that our grief, fear, and despair are any less real. You have the right to feel pain during this pandemic. It is frightening. It is painful to be apart. We don't know when it will end. There is great uncertainty. And just because there are people in other places who are facing tougher challenges doesn't mean that we should not feel pain.

God knows the pain of our hearts. He knows our sadness and our fear. While this pandemic will not be taken away today or this week, God will take care of you today. And he will not leave you. And whatever you face, pain that some would consider great or small, God will sustain you and not leave you forsaken.

[visit our website where you have access to virtual worship services, future events and more. At maymemorialchurch.org](http://maymemorialchurch.org)

Mid-Week Gathering this Week:

The May Memorial Gathering Room

Join us for The Gathering Room on Zoom this Wednesday night. Click the link <https://zoom.us/j/286978612> on your computer or mobile device and the Zoom meeting will automatically open. Be sure your camera and microphone are turned on! You can click on the link anytime this week to be sure it will work. If you experience problems [email](#) or call Pastor Michael at (804) 922-0101.

Zoom Help: Your church secretary has created a helpful instruction sheet for Zoom. You may click here to open it.
(if this does not open, you may access it on the main page of the website.)

Church Wide Zoom Sunday School

Sunday Morning, 9:45

Click the link <https://zoom.us/j/373897124> and Zoom Sunday School will automatically open. Be sure your camera and microphone are turned on! You can click on the link anytime this week to be sure it will work. If you experience problems [email](#) or call Pastor Michael at (804) 922-0101.



Palm Sunday Plans!

Good morning! We are still in uncertain times, but our faith is strong! As Easter approaches and we are unaware of when we can meet in a large gathering again, we still want to honor our traditions here at MMBC. We have come up with a way to include the children "waiving the palm branches" on Palm Sunday. This week, Michael will be in the office from 9-12 M-F. In this sign up, would you and your family select a slot to come by the church and allow Michael to record you and your children waiving the palm branches to incorporate in our virtual worship services? This could be a beautiful way to stay strong and worship the Lord even if it looks different this year. Please know that when we gather again, whatever Sunday that may be, we will celebrate Easter, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior...and wow...what a celebration that will be!

[Go to Sign Up Genius to Sign Up](#)

Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship



Join Us For Rachael Circle - on Zoom!

On Tuesday, April 14th at noon the Rachael Circle will hold their monthly meeting via the internet. If you would like to join us, then on April 14th about noon you need to click on a link we will provide in next week's newsletter.

We hope to see you then!

Connecting to the World...Missions

We are Making Medical Masks, Will you Help Us?

Your help is needed in making medical masks for Virginia Baptists. Maryvel Firda is leading the effort for us to support WMU of Virginia, click below to find the pattern and other information. If you need help with the pattern or with gathering supplies contact Maryvel at mtbfirda@gmail.com or (804) 712-0764.

[WMU Message click here](#)

[Face Mask Pattern click here](#)

(these items can be accessed on the main page of the website.)

Fabric Masks Needed!



What can you do?

Envoy at the Village, a skilled nursing center in Fork Union, requests fabric masks that may be used if/when supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) masks are depleted. We would like to provide 500 masks to this center.

1. Follow the pattern given below.
2. Please note the fabric should be 100% cotton for the outside of the mask and 100% cotton flannel for the inside.
3. Mail completed masks to WMUV, 2828 Emerywood Parkway, Henrico VA, 23294 by April 4, 2020.
4. Contact your local assisted living facilities and skilled nursing facilities to see if this would be useful for them!
5. Questions? Contact Laura at Ldavis@wmuv.org



Prayer List March 30, 2020
For any changes, please contact Diana at (804) 598-3098

CHURCH FAMILY:

Don Adkins
Barbara Barden
Judy Boelt
Susie Brock
Nick Elam
Don Fitch
Esther Fitch
Bea Gallier
Rick Gallier
Jean Hall
Bill Ketron
Fran O'Donnell
Jim Pinkley
Shirley Reynolds
Jeff Spoon
David&Susan
Terry
Nancy Wilkinson
Janice Worsham

MILITARY:

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

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Stephen Breeden, Son of Martha Oberg
Estelle Davis, Debbie Elam's mother
Lacie Baggett
Libby Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg
Stuart Yeorge
Ben Spoon, friend of Juli Garrett
Suzi and Steve McClung
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
Bobby Wells, Gladys Rabon's sister
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
Jodi Erpelding, friend of Jeanan Krueger
Janie Dean
Phyllis Lester, Ed Utt's sister
Shawn Neugent, friend of the Sheltons
Mike Vidra
Virgil Stroud, Lisa Gregory's father
Scott Richards' parents
Family of Gene Gwaltney
Family of Ersell Brinser, Aunt of Karen Cheatham

Logan Cook, son of Bruce Cook and Susan Cook
and grandson of Wilford and Linda Poore of
Amelia. Logan is in basic training for National
Guard in Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. He fell
down two flights of steps and injured his back and
is in hospital there.

HOMEBOUND:

Janice Worsham, 2041 Rocky Ford Road
Frances Tilman, 3904 Old Buckingham Rd
Audrey Johnston, (currently at Kirk and Peggy Johnston's home) The Crossing at Bon Air, 9100
Bon Air Crossings Drive, Room 202, Richmond, 23235
Audrey Mann, The Laurels of Willow Oaks, 11611 Robious Road, Midlothian, 23113
Jim Pinkley, Chesterfield Woods
Shirley Reynolds, Spring Arbor in Salisbury, 14001 Turnberry Lane, Midlothian, 23113

Condolences

May Memorial Church,

Mr. Gwaltney was a fine man who role modeled what a father should be. With him, his wife, Francine, and his children were his world. In our “talk in the swing,” he expressed his love for his wife and his children. He also spoke lovingly of his step father and said no man could be a better father to his children than his step father had been to him. In his mind, the Lord richly blessed him throughout his life.

It is our hope that his money will be used to reflect the goodness that was in the man known as Gene Gwaltney. He was truly one of a kind!

Lee Brown
Hazel Boothe-Brown

Tentative Schedule

Birthdays

Sundays:

8:00 a.m. A virtual worship service will be shared

9:45 a.m. Sunday School through Zoom

5:30 p.m. Soul Food will meet through Zoom

Wednesdays:

6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Gathering through Zoom

March

30- Bob Cosby
30-Mike Lindsey

April

4-Shirley Stephens
5-Eric Mead
6-Amanda Seaman
10-Judy Potter
10-Paul Roberts
14-Gladys Rabon
15-Sarah Willis

Financial Information

This Week's Financials: As the congregation is continuing to give to support the ongoing ministry of May Memorial Church through the mail and e-giving the totals will be reported when available. Because contributions come in through the week the giving reports may be delayed a week.