

# May Memorial Baptist Church

E-Connect Newsletter

Printed Edition 4-15-20



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

3922 Old Buckingham Rd.  
In the heart of the Courthouse Village  
(804) 598-3098 [Maymemorialchurch.org](http://Maymemorialchurch.org)

These beautiful painted stones proclaiming “fear not!” are showing up on the steps of May Memorial Church. If you need a physical reminder hope or peace, take a stone. Paint your own and add to the collection. Jesus said that the stones will cry out!



Happy Easter from Paul and Cheryl Vrooman, sharing flowers from their garden.

Connecting to God...Worship

## May Memorial's Worship Plan

This year because of physical distancing the leadership of May Memorial has decided to have our celebration of Easter on our first Sunday back physically together in worship. That being the case, our worship plan for the next several Sundays is:

**Sunday, April 19**

The Passion Story from Matthew

**Sunday, April 26**

Keeping Vigil for Easter: God's Story of Redemption Beginning in Creation

**Sunday, May 3**

Keeping Vigil for Easter: God's Story of Redemption Continues in Noah



## You May Be Right

I never remembered hearing of H. L. Mencken until early this year, and then the same week I heard about him from two sources. First was an editorial by Lutheran Pastor and Christian Century Editor Peter Marty, and then by a member of the May Memorial family who loaned me a copy of Mencken's brief *Christmas Story*.

H. L. Mencken was born in Baltimore in 1880, and he spent his entire life in that Maryland city. He was a brilliant writer, critic, and was the editor of the Baltimore Sun. I enjoyed my very limited exposure to Mencken this year, but both introductions came with caveats. The May Memorial family member and Editor Peter Marty both mentioned that Mencken is not a good example of faithful people, but he is very engaging and though provoking. His skill and talent are hard to walk away from, even for Christians.

Mencken was not a Christian; he actually was an atheist. He was what would be labeled today as a curmudgeon, and he was a racist. He spoke very harshly of the Jewish race (and religion), and he was particularly critical of organized religion as well as representative democracy. We would disagree with him in many ways.

But there is one particular practice of H. L. Mencken that I want to hold up to you. Mencken received many angry letters during his life, especially as a newspaper editor, and he replied to every one of them. He was attacking beliefs and practices that many people held sacred, so the critical correspondence was not surprising.

Mencken had a tall stack of pre-printed postcards on his desk, and when he would receive a letter disputing his views or opinions, he would pick up one of those cards, write the name and address on the front, and sign the back. Each person received the same message, pre-printed on the card. It was very honest and brief. It simply said, "you may be right."

None of us, whatever our background or our level of certainty, have it all figured out. Our politics, our religion, our opinions on any issue, would be well suited with the phrase but "you may be right." A few weeks ago, at the onset of "online church" with the Pandemic I wandered back into the world of social media. If there is one place where H. L. Mencken's practice would go a long way toward kindness and virtue is in the many Facebook scuffles, tirades, rants, and sermons.

But somehow we think that if we are open to another view, another opinion, another way of seeing things, we are somehow weakened in what it means to be a Christian. We have come to believe not only in the truth of Christianity, but also our interpretation of Christianity. And not only is Christianity's truth claims above question, but so are my thoughts about that as well.

Jesus was not looking for people who believed the exact right things. He rarely mentioned belief in facts or intellectual propositions. What he was interested in was people who "walked the way he walked." People who would "follow him." People who would act the way he acted. We believe in certain things in order to find ourselves within the big tent of Christianity, but we all have room on our desks for a stack of pre-printed cards. "You may be right." Maybe we are called to start placing a few in the mailbox.

**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.

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799 around 6:25 p.m.  
Enter this code: 286 978 612

**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.

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799 around 9:40 a.m.  
Enter this code: 373 897 124

# STORYTIME

with Mrs. Mottley



Since our children are not going to a school building each day (and adults are at home) Debbie Mottley is reading a book for us each week. Debbie is an excellent elementary school teacher in Chesterfield County, and has a heart for the children in our church and community.



Watch each week for Story Time with Mrs. Mottley!

Story Time may be accessed through our website at [maymemorialchurch.org](http://maymemorialchurch.org)

Prayer List April 14, 2020  
For any changes, please call Diana at (804) 598-3098

**CHURCH FAMILY:**

Don Adkins  
Barbara Barden  
Judy Boelt  
Susie Brock  
Pat Cover  
Lee Duncan  
Nick Elam  
Don Fitch  
Esther Fitch  
Bea Gallier  
Rick Gallier  
Jean Hall  
Bill Ketron  
Paul Lindsey  
Fran O'Donnell  
Jim Pinkley  
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  
Virgil Stroud, Lisa Gregory's father  
Scott Richards' parents  
Lennox Family  
Helen Fitzgerald, friend of Diana and B.J. Smith  
Family of Ersell Brinser, Aunt of Karen Cheatham  
Family of Shirley Reynolds  
Chloe, granddaughter of Amy&Bill Karnolt who is in  
the hospital  
Nurses, Erin and Melissa, relatives of the Karnolt's  
Logan Cook, grandson of Wilford and Linda Poore.  
Tim Martindale, friend of Bob & Vicki Kruschwitz  
Michelle Haab, Niece of Bill Ketron  
Pam Polk, Ed Mottley's sister

**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

## Tentative Schedule

## Birthdays

### Sundays:

**8:00 a.m.** A Virtual Worship Service will be shared on the website and through email

**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

### April

14-Gladys Rabon

15-Sarah Willis

17-Esther Fitch

20-Tristan Wills

21-Nancy Flower

25-Jesse Bilthuis

28-Gabe Cosby

## Financial Information

### Our Gifts to our Lord:

4/13/2020      \$4,473.64      Total

4/14/2020      \$1,700.00      Total

**Special note: under 4/14/2020 total giving  
Snead Denoon \$200.00 to Building Fund in honor of Gail Denoon.**