

May Memorial Baptist Church

Reaching...Teaching...Touching
In the Heart of Powhatan

3922 Old Buckingham Road . In the Heart of the Courthouse Village (804) 598-3098 Newsletter 8-16-21



May Memorial Baptist Church
3922 Old Buckingham Road

Blessing OF THE Backpacks

Sunday, August 22
11:00 a.m.

On Sunday, August 22 we will have our annual “blessing of the backpacks” during worship. We will be praying for the students who carry those backpacks into our schools during this coming academic year and for teachers and staff.

The Annual Church Meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

From the Pastor...

Poor *Call to Worships* and “My Truth”

This past Thursday I went into the sanctuary to prepare Sunday’s Media Shout script for the sanctuary screens. While I was typing in the Congregational Call to Worship I quickly texted Diana in the office hoping that she had not printed the bulletins yet. Unfortunately, because I had given the final word to do so, she had already printed. The reason I hoped I still had a few minutes for one last change is that I did not like our Congregational Call to Worship.

I had chosen the call to worship early in the week and had put it in the bulletin, and when I read it a few days earlier I had read it differently than I did on Thursday. (Continued on page 2)

From the Pastor... (continued from page 1)

Our call to worship started with the lines:

***“For us there is only One God and Father
from whom streams all creation
and for whom we exist.”***

The two words that caused me problem on Thursday were “for us.”

When I read them earlier in the week I thought of the story from Joshua, with the famous lines “as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.” I read those first two words as a testimony that “our culture, our world, or others may choose to have other gods,” but “for us there is only One God.”

But when I read the words on Thursday I heard them in a different way. I heard them sheepishly saying that “you may believe in something else, but we believe in One God and Father...”. “You have your belief, and we have ours, for us...”. I wanted to remove those first two words so the Call to Worship began:

“There is only One God and Father...”

If you have read this far into this article, you may be thinking that Michael is overthinking something that no one else probably noticed. And maybe you’re right.

But there is a phrase that I hear more and more these days from our culture that probably made me notice this. You will hear a person, when they are beginning to speak, say that they are going to tell “my truth.” Or, someone will thank another person for sharing “their truth.” This implies that *I* may have my truth, and *John Smith* may have his truth, and *Mary Jones* may have her truth. And “our truths” may differ but the most important thing (at least according to our culture) is never to imply there is any less validity in “another’s truth.”

Jesus proclaims that He is Truth, and we believe that the Truth is sent from God and is fully revealed in Jesus Christ.

Many Christians get this confused, and they begin thinking that *their interpretation* of Jesus is The Truth, when in fact it is just their interpretation. And, this does not mean that we each don’t contribute to a full and complete understanding of God’s Truth as we tell our stories of how experience and serve God together. But while we have different stories and different experiences, the One Truth remains. And for The Truth we live in community together that we may fully understand and embody for the sake of each other and the world.

Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship



Children & Youth
Ministry
NEWS

Kingdom Kids begins on Wednesday,
September 1 at 3:30 to 5:00 at the church

Youth Soul Food begins on September
5 at 5:30 to 7:00 at the Youth House
For more information contact
Ashley Edwards, Minister of Children and Youth.



Wednesday Night Activities Returning in September!

Starting September 1, we will be gathering together each Wednesday night **at 6:00 p.m.** for fellowship, food, and Bible study. On third Wednesday nights we will have a full meal and special program (the program will vary each month), and on the remaining Wednesdays we will have “dessert and discussion.” “Dessert and Discussion” will be a time of sweet fellowship and refreshments followed by a Bible-based discussion. (We will also have a full meal on the nights of quarterly church business meetings, second Wednesday in Oct., Jan., March, and June.)

An Evening with Paul Armstrong-Wednesday, September 15. This will be the first in our “third Wednesday” nights, beginning with a wonderful meal and followed by a engaging program for Church and Community. Paul Armstrong is a “professional storyteller” from Chatham, VA. Paul has been a Methodist Pastor, a Dairy Farmer, a Leadership Consultant, and now is a part of the Virginia Storytelling Alliance. Don’t miss this wonderful evening with Paul Armstrong!

WE ARE SAVING A SEAT FOR...



Discussing Jennifer Rothschild’s
“The Shepherd with Me” Psalm 23

Meeting dates are September 7,14,21,28
October 5,12,19,26
November 2,9,16,30 and December 7

Beginning Tues., September 7th, 2021, at 10:00 am, thru December 7th

For details and to register please contact Sandra at Sandra.cowles@aol.com

Or call 804-376-7901

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Course Material: \$16.00

Registration August 9-27, 2021

Forms can be found at May Memorial or on its website at maymemorialchurch.org



All Church Breakfast September 12 by the Baptist Men



Salt Shakers Event September 26

You're invited to join with our Salt-Shakers evening to meet new friends and connect with old friends outside the walls of MMBC. This is an event for adults (couples, singles, married, divorced) to fellowship with each other over a meal in a casual, off-site setting. Sign up begins soon!

Connecting to the World...Missions



Backpacks of Love

Backpacks of Love will be starting up again as school begins. We don't have an exact time or day yet. If you want to be a part of the team, please contact the church office and we will get your name to Jesse Bilthuis. Thank you.

The Coalition of Powhatan Churches is looking for painters who are willing to volunteer their time to paint the future residence of a client who is now residing in the Coalition's transitional housing unit. The size of the dwelling is approximately 46 ft. x 26 ft. If you can help or know of someone who can help, please contact Patsy Goodwyn at 1-804-892-3163 or patsy@goodwynlumber.com. Thank you.

LONESOME DOVE needs someone who is familiar with horse tack to help with our used Tack Shop. This involves taking the donations, making sure items are clean and selling the items in the tack shop. We have many saddles, bridles, blankets and just about anything for the horse. We are willing to pay someone to manage this. Please call Karen at #804-318-6485 for more information.

FUNDRAISER FOR THE COALITION OF CHURCHES - David Phelps Concert scheduled for November 13 at 7 P.M. at Victory Tabernacle, 11700 Genito Road, Midlothian, VA. Get tickets by going to itickets.com, or you can go to the David Phelps website and go to TOURS and find our concert. Hope you can come out and support the Coalition of Powhatan Churches.

RELAY FOR LIFE SOUTH OF THE JAMES - We are excited to announce that Powhatan and Chesterfield are joining together for Relay this year. It is on Saturday, September 18th from 4-9pm at Westchester Commons. We would love May Memorial to be a part of Relay this year, if anyone would like to be a sponsor, organize a team, or donate, you can call Jane Ware at 804-598-8803 or email at Warehouseva3@gmail.com For even more information you can go Relay For Life South of the James online. Thanks! ~Jane Ware

Announcements



May Memorial Team Signup Has Begun!

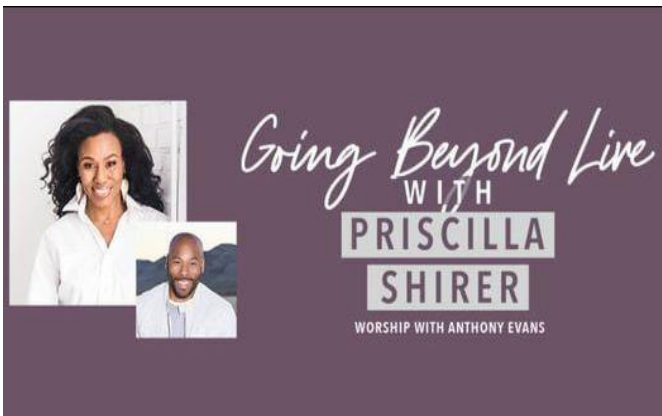
The May Memorial Ministry Teams under the ministries of: Missions, Hospitality, Stewardship, Spiritual Formation and Worship are now forming. There will be a sign up board in the Commons Area. If you were on a team last year and want to remain on that team or to change to a different team, you may either sign up on the board at church, or contact Debbie Elam at debelam1@aol.com or call her at (804) 397-5375.

COVID Update

Yesterday morning the Church Leadership Council met to address the rising number of COVID cases in Powhatan and the risk level at May Memorial. The Leadership Council will continue to monitor the metrics and consider our response.

From yesterday's meeting:

1. Masks are optional at May Memorial for individuals who are fully vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated, please wear a mask.
2. Children (ages 5-11), because they are not eligible for a vaccine, will be asked to wear masks when participating in children's activities (Extended Session, Kingdom Kids, Children's Sermon). Adults working with children during these times will also be asked to wear a face covering.
3. Our children are safer when we wear masks, so would you consider wearing a mask? Especially at times when you come in contact with children in our community?
4. According to the CDC, responsible steps toward ending and controlling the pandemic is to wear a mask in public places indoors and get vaccinated.



When: September 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Glen Allen

Cost: \$25.00 which includes box lunch of your choice

Register Online: www.mvbcnow.org/women

If interested in car pooling, contact Sandra Cowles at sandra.cowles@aol.com or 376-7901.

"Stop frantically searching for God's will; start frantically searching for God Himself"

- Priscilla Shirer

You may send cards to Stephen Breeden, Martha Oberg's son who is suffering from Covid:

Stephen Breeden.
4364 Belcarra CT.
Dublin, California 94568

May Memorial's Prayer List 8/16/21

CHURCH FAMILY:

Barbara Barden
Jan Boswell
Diana Brown
Joann Cole
Bob Cox
Paula Duncan
Jean Hall
Audrey Johnston
Amy Karnolt
Bill Ketron
Paul Lindsey
Alice Miller
Shirley Stephens
David & Susan Terry
Nancy Wilkinson
Earl & Janice Worsham

HOMEBOUND CONTACT LIST:

- Audrey Johnston, 3901 S. Fairway Drive, Powhatan,
- 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:

Fred Blevins – Janet Allen
Jerry Hayden – Janet Allen
Justin Yancey, Grandson of Irma Alvis
Jenny Johnson, friend of Kerri Bilthuis
Tom Lester, Lynne Bradbury's brother
Zach Smith, Lynne & Doug Bradbury's grandson
Donna Waller, friend of Snead DeNoon
Kaye Edwards, Michael Edwards's mother
James Carwile — Esther Fitch
Clyde Martin — Esther Fitch
Randolph Martin — Esther Fitch
Sheri & Jim Sadie, Nancy Flower's daughter & son-in-law
Libby Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg
Ami and Scott Gregg - Carol Gregg
Marcie Brewry – friend of Debbie Howard
Chuck Karnolt, brother of Bill Karnolt
Stella Mann – Jackie Lindsey
Pam Polk Mottley, Ed Mottley's sister
Stephen Breeden– Martha Oberg's son
Sue Hresan, Nancy Richard's sister
Edna Daley, Diana Schmitz' mother
Shawn Neugent, friend of the Sheltons
Robin Davis – Friend of Shelton's
Kim Bradley-B.J. and Diana Smith's neighbor
Tim Vidra – son of Steve and Carol Vidra
Family of June Lennox – Karen Utt's Aunt

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

The church office makes every effort to keep the list current. Please let us know any updates or if a name can be removed.

August Birthdays



16 - Carolyn Madures

17 - Michael Potter

17 - Karl Schmitz

17 - Karen Cheatham

19 - Louise Poore

21- Carol Gregg

22 - Barbara Barden

26 - Michael Hylton

26 - Judy Ketron

27- Judy Boelt

28 - Nancy Wood

29- Francis Shelton

Financial Information

Our Gifts to the Lord Week of August 15, 2021

Regular Offering	\$ 4,571.00
Special Offering	800.00

Total for Giving Period \$ 5,371.00