

May Memorial Baptist Church

E-Connect Newsletter 5/18/20

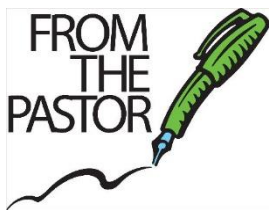
*Reaching.....Teaching...Touching...
in the Heart of Powhatan*

3922 Old Buckingham Rd.
In the heart of the Courthouse Village



**Ashley Edwards, Youth and Children's Minister,
made a surprise visit to the graduates on Wednesday.**

Clockwise from top: Anna Edwards, Dylan O'Quinn and Kayla Tibbs.



“Re-Gathering”

Ten weeks ago, the church made what I thought at the time was a very difficult decision. That decision was to not have worship (or any gatherings) in person, in our building, for the following week. I thought that was a hard decision, but as it turns out that choice was much easier than the decision of when and how to re-gather for worship and activities.

I want to share with you two things... (continued on next page)

...The first is what was discussed by the re-gathering team last week. The second are some of my thoughts, not decisions made by anyone at May Memorial Church.

First, from the re-gathering team. At last week's meeting the team decided that at least during phase one of Virginia's re-opening plan we will continue doing what we have been doing. We will worship online and have Sunday School by Zoom. The team will meet again next Tuesday and see where things stand. The team is working to make preparations for when we re-gather in our building. They are purchasing and installing hand sanitizing stations, they are also purchasing masks that can be distributed to worshipers.

The team is taking caution in our regathering plan. May Memorial is an older congregation, and for many of us a COVID 19 diagnosis would be very serious.

Second, a few of my thoughts. The team looked at guidelines from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I am also aware of how other churches in our community (and beyond) are regathering. One of the guidelines coming from Virginia is for churches to have "adults only" worship because young children cannot wear masks, and younger children are not conscious and careful of the spread of germs. Other churches are having multiple services and reservations are required for attendance to those. These steps are seen as safe ways to phase back in to in-person gatherings for churches.

I struggle with both of these. It is not my decision, but these ways of adjusting do such harm to our practice of worship that I wonder if we have been seduced into being something other than the Church. What if a person shows up and they do not have a reservation? What if a family shows up with a four-year-old? Will they not be admitted to worship that day? Will we turn people away? A senior adult who didn't make their reservation, or a family with a "germy" four-year-old who may accidentally go in for a hug? When we start turning people away for any reason, I fear we have ceased to be the Church.

It is a hard question and I don't know the answer. We are a community-minded church who welcomes all, regardless of age. We are not a church that turns people away. And these are things that are important to our identity.

God will guide us, each step of the way. As I said in yesterday's sermon, sometimes we are only called to take the next right step, the next step where God shows us the way. We can't see all the way to the "other side," but all we must do is take the next right step, and little by little, God will show us the way. Of this I'm sure.

Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship



Walking Ministry

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. Weather permitting.

Walk the village and trails together, Tuesdays at 1:00, Starting in the Church Parking Lot
Join us this week! We will walk the village loop through Scottville. We will observe social distancing and masks will be available if you would prefer to wear one.

Connecting to the World...Missions



Above: May Memorial's Backpacks of Love Team.

Helping Amelia Nursing Home

The WMU Rachael Circle has initiated a hygiene collection for the Amelia Nursing Home. A bin will be in the church foyer starting **Wednesday, May 20th**. If anyone would like to donate, these are the items we need:

Hand Sanitizer (any size bottles), Clorox Wipes, Lysol, Face Masks

Any questions, contact Diana Schmitz at (804) 598-3098. Thank you!



Thank You

Thank you from the Women's Missionary Union of Virginia:

Can I just tell you that you all are amazing? You are! In the past two months you have lived as people on mission in so many ways:

Together, We sent 500 masks to Envoy at the Village Skilled Nursing Center in Fork Union.

We sent 1,384 masks to site leaders and to the WMUV office to be distributed among our friends on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North and South Dakota.

You provided funding for the continued ministry at Tipi Wakan Baptist Church at Cannon Ball, ND (on the reservation). You are sending masks, cards, and funding to Marisa Sanchez to help our neighbors facing a COVID-19 breakout in Accomack County on the Eastern Shore. Larger masks are needed for men.

You minister through countless other ways in your local community: distributing masks to local essential workers, distributing food, calling and checking in on your neighbor; the list goes on!

Praise the Lord! Yes, give praise, O servants of the Lord. Praise the name of the Lord! Psalm 113:1

Laura Davis, Director of Missions Involvement

Prayer List May 18, 2020

CHURCH FAMILY:

Don Adkins
Barbara Barden
Judy Boelt
Susie Brock
Margaret Carter
Bob Cosby
Bob Cox
Snead DeNoon
Lee Duncan
Nick Elam
Don Fitch
Esther Fitch
Bea Gallier
Rick Gallier
Jean Hall
Bill Ketron
Jeanan Krueger
Paul Lindsey
Fran O'Donnell
Jim Pinkley
Jeff Spoon
David&Susan
Terry
Frances Tilman
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

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

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
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
Chloe, granddaughter of Amy&Bill Karnolt
Nurses, Erin and Melissa, relatives of the Karnolt's
Logan Cook, grandson of Wilford and Linda Poore.
Tim Martindale, friend of Bob & Vicki Kruschwitz
Pam Polk Mottley, Ed Mottley's sister
Gwen Lunford, Lester Oberg's sister.

Tentative Schedule

Sundays:

8:45 a.m. A Virtual Worship Service will be shared on Utube Premier. Will be accessible after that on website and through email

9:45 a.m. Zoom Sunday School

5:30 p.m. Zoom Soul Food

Tuesdays:

1:00 p.m. Walking Ministry

Wednesdays:

3:30 p.m. Zoom Kingdom Kids

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

Birthdays

May

18-Maryvel Firda
19-Monica Waters
20 - Jake Blandford
21-Debbie Ahladas
24-Brooks Ann Smith
24-Courtney Deal
24-Noah Jarrell
25-Gerald Hagen

June

1 - Michael Edwards
1 - Sophie Edwards
1- Lori Turner
5- Irvin Williams
5 - Jon Flower
9- Jim Blandford
9 - Christina Fredette
13 - Irma Alvis
13 - Doug Bradbury
15 - Paul Lindsey

Financial Information

Our Gifts to our Lord Week of May 17:

Regular Offering \$4,292.00.

Total \$ 4,292.00



E-Giving

You may contribute to missions through May Memorial's e-giving site. [CLICK HERE](#) to access that website.