



July 2023



The Twig Bender

From the Pastor

Meet Rev. TaeWon Kang

The Rev. TaeWon Kang was born and raised in South Korea. He experienced God's call to ministry in his teens. His passion to ministry is to help people to restore God's image which has been imparted in them, and to grow them into the image of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Kang has been convinced through his personal sacred experiences that God wants him to be a humble and inclusive pastor who is willing to go to the lowest place. Therefore, two key words in his ministry are humility and justice. Also, his passion to ministry is to preach and teach the Word of God based on the Scripture and to present and share the Holy mystery of faith through the Sac-



Rev. TaeWon Kang

raments – Communion and Baptism.

Before he was appointed to local churches in the Virginia Conference in 2016, Pastor Kang served as a hospital chaplain at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. He was doing well in his hospital ministry when he began to feel deeply once again God's call for him to serve the church and people. Since he has a passion to preach and teach the Word of God and administer the Holy Sacraments at the church, he has been serving the church and people since 2016. He's been very well prepared to provide pastoral care to those in need. In addition, he had an un-

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Greenwood Prayer Ministry



Our Nation

The People of Greenwood,

Sue & Richard Cheny, Roger Eckwright, Rev. Franklin and Madison,

The Family of William Gibbs, Trish Hayes, Rev. Kang, Lori Lohr, Dominic LeMerise,

Riley Patteson, Gregory Pittman, Jr. and Family, Lacye Ryan, Juanita Sharpe,

Robbie Smith, Robbie Tyree & family, Catherine Wallace, Ruth Wilkinson, Amy Yeary

Welcome in Christian Fellowship

By Steve Stalnaker

Many times I've opined that the hardest part of moving is finding a new home church. You may also remember that I've written before about how we were part of a church closing when we lived in Knoxville – a decidedly unpleasant experience.

Put yourself in the position of members of Laurel Park UMC who now must find a new home church after going through the trauma of closing LPUMC. Recent additions to Greenwood's church family coming in from the now-closed Brookland UMC know what the People of Laurel Park are going through.

Last month the Greenwood-Laurel Park Charge Conference voted on a number of resolutions regarding merging the two churches, one of which was that their memberships would transfer to Greenwood. Such membership transfers are routine in the United Methodist Church when closing a church.

However, the members of LPUMC are under no obligation to acquiesce to this membership transfer; they're free to join any church they want, United Methodist or otherwise. New members of Greenwood who once belonged to Brookland were transferred to another church, but those people elected to come to GUMC instead. They have now formally joined Greenwood as full members. When these folks came to Greenwood, they were welcomed in Christian Fellowship by the People of Greenwood.

We're obligated (see Romans 15:7, Hebrews 13:2 and other Scripture) to welcome in Christian Fellowship anyone who comes to Green-

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Merger Brings Mission Opportunities

By Lori Lohr

In addition to new members, Laurel Park is bringing some great mission opportunities along with them to Greenwood UMC! Check out what's happening:

Most of you know about Aggie's Attic, a [former] mission of Laurel Park UMC - now a mission of Greenwood - located in The Hub Shopping Center on Lakeside Avenue.

You've heard about it, shopped there, donated items there, and maybe even volunteered to work there. But did you know what this mission actually does? All of the profits made by Aggie's Attic really do go back to our local community. Ministries include:

- Through participation in the Backpack Program, Aggie's Attic feeds weekend meals and snacks to over 120 students in Henrico County schools that may not otherwise have food to eat over the weekend.
- Aggie's Attic also works with area schools to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to families in need.
- Yearly donations to The ACE Center/Hermitage Technical Center for student scholarships.
- Financial support for other local charities like Lakeside Rescue Squad, Henrico Christmas Mother, The Lamb's Basket, United Methodist Family Services, and local ASPCA shelters.



A Mission Project of Greenwood United Methodist Church

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*Greenwood's
July Communion Offering*



Join the Prayer Chain

One of Greenwood UMC's most effective communications tools is our Prayer Chain. There's much more to what the chain does besides intercessory prayers. We use the Prayer Chain to disseminate information of interest to the People of Greenwood, including good news like birth announcements and procedural news like notice of an upcoming meeting.

Many of the People of Greenwood are on the prayer chain, and you can be a member, too. **The only commitment is that you pray for someone when asked.** No need to call anyone else. The Prayer Chain includes five "captains" who each are assigned to call four or five Prayer Chain members.

Members of the Greenwood Prayer Chain:

Charley & Janice Banks	Teresa Coleman	Mary Cullom
Lewis & Cindy Jo Daniel	Roger Eckwright	Lou Gammon*
Ethel Hutchison	Jeannette Jackson	Nancy Lloyd*
Jean Mowatt	Riley & Adamarye Patteson	Janet Pittman
Dorothy Powell*	Carlos & Patricia Rios	Betty Ritchie*
Arline Shafer	Harry Shuler	Jamie Smith
Ray & Carolyn Smith	Robbie & Robin Smith	Glenda* & Steve Stalnaker
Bob & Gay Stapleton	Mary Walker	Catherine Wallace

If you'd like to be one of Greenwood's Prayer Warriors and add your prayers to those of the rest of the team, let Glenda Stalnaker know (804 -755-6767) or you can call (804-266-5341) or email (admin@gumcva.org) the church office.

Remember, the only obligation is to pray when asked to.

* *Prayer chain captains.*

Virginia UMC Annual Conference

Juanita Wade, our charge's representative to the annual conference, has filed her report. It's been emailed to the People of Greenwood and is also available [at Greenwood's web site](#). **Thanks, Juanita!**



Greenwood Outreach School Supplies Drive Resumes

Starting this month and extending into August, we once again have an opportunity to share our blessings with the pupils and staff at Longdale Elementary School.



As we do annually, as the new school year approaches, the People of Greenwood will collect and donate school supplies to Longdale in support of the children there whose families may not be in a position to provide paper, pencils, crayons and the other stuff elementary school kids use in the course of the year.

Lay Leader Lewis Daniel, coordinator of this drive, said: “This is a vital outreach ministry where we support Longdale. I urge you to give generously.”

We will publish a list of needed school supplies in the August *Twig Bender*, in the *Greenwood Grapevine* beginning in the middle of this month, and on [Greenwood’s website](#). Please leave your donations in the Greenwood Sanctuary by Sunday, August 13 so we can take your school supplies to Longdale before school opens on August 21.

In the past, Virginia has held a “sales tax holiday” in late summer; however, the commonwealth’s tax website says sales tax holidays ended on July 1, 2023. Regardless, we can still make our donations to support “our” kids at Longdale.



Online Services Paused

Due to some audio irregularities, we’ve suspended the live streaming of Sunday Worship services on Zoom and Facebook Live. We’re working to fix these issues.

Tuesday Prayer Call is on hold until August.

Watch the *Greenwood Grapevine*, the *Twig Bender* and Greenwood’s website for updated information. Feedback on streaming services is always welcome.



Ashland Trolley Line Oral History

Have you heard about the Ashland Trolley Line which once passed in the vicinity of Greenwood?

The Ashland Trolley Line was a 14.8-mile streetcar line that connected Richmond to Ashland between 1907-1938. It played a major role in the development of the communities between the Richmond Depot at Laurel and Broad streets and the Ashland Depot at England and Maple streets.

Today this corridor is being planned as the northernmost portion of the larger [Fall Line](#) a non-motorized, shared use path which will extend from Petersburg to Ashland. **PlanRVA** is partnering with the **National Park Service** to explore the historic interpretation potential along this



portion of the trail. One way we plan to highlight the route is to record the oral history from those who are willing to share their own memories or those passed down through their families of the old streetcar line through the northside.

We have been working with our localities and historians to find and share stories from people who have a connection to the Ashland Trolley Line and the neighborhoods and communities it passed through.

Do you have a story or a memory you would like to share? We would love to hear from you! Read some of the stories we have collected with local historians and see progress on the trail on our [Story Map: https://arcg.is/1DO8vP](https://arcg.is/1DO8vP).

Questions? Please contact Phil Riggan (PlanRVA): at priggan@planrva.org or (804) 924-7038.

Twig Bender in Living Color



*We're experimenting with printing the paper Twig Bender in **color** this month. This adds an extra expense to our newsletter, so please let us know if you think it's worth it.*

GUMC Stewardship

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also – Matthew 6:21

Stewardship is a personal, spiritual discipline that goes beyond necessary financial support. Each of us should prayerfully consider what to give, not only financially, but our time and talent as well – fully using our gifts from the Holy Spirit in support of the body of Christ. Pray also in thankfulness to God that He meets our personal needs, while enabling us to support His Church.

Regardless of what's going on around us, Greenwood's financial needs must be met. Each week in 2023 we need \$2,612 to support Greenwood's missions and operating expenses. In June, we averaged \$2,007 each week, or 77 percent of our budget. The table above shows each Sunday's giving.

Date	Present	Giving
6/4	24	\$2,221
6/11	27	\$1,525
6/18	30	\$3,085
6/25	27	\$1,198

Note that Greenwood has **suspended taking donations via CashApp.**

July Grass Cutting Detail

Your Trustees have established a volunteer rotation for cutting the grass on the church grounds. This month's schedule is:

- Week of July 3 Harry Shuler
- Week of July 10 Lewis Daniel
- Week of July 17 Bob Stapleton
- Week of July 24 Harry Shuler
- Week of July 31 Lewis Daniel



If you'd like to help with this summer's grass cutting, please call Bob Stapleton at 804-672-8408. **Thank you from your Trustees.**

Food Donation Connection

July Pick Up Rotation

Wednesday, July 5: Charley Banks; Thursday, July 6: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, July 7: Scott Hudson.

Wednesday, July 12: Jean Mowatt; Thursday, July 13: Susan Johnston; Friday, July 14: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.

Wednesday, July 19: Charley Banks; Thursday, July 20: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, July 21: Scott Hudson.

Wednesday, July 26: Jean Mowatt; Thursday, July 27: Susan Johnston; Friday, July 28: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.



July Men's Breakfast

Due to the Independence Day Weekend, Greenwood's Men's Breakfast is deferred to Saturday, July 8 at 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for fellowship, food and fun. Don't miss the Moose this month!

JULY SCRIPTURES

July 2	Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42
July 9	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45:10-17; Romans 7:15-25a;
July 16	Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-
July 23	Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24
July 30	Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-

Our Merged Church

(Continued from page 2)

wood. All the members of Greenwood – old and new – should welcome the People of Laurel Park who want to be here.

As we welcome new members, let's give them a moment to catch their breath before we start soliciting volunteers for Greenwood's ministries, committees and so on. Except, of course, for people who'd like to work on the *Twig Bender* – I always welcome contributing authors. If anyone – new member or old –



wants to write for our legendary newsletter, please feel free. Send me your articles by email, write them on the back of an envelope, whatever. Just remember that I will edit your articles for style, grammar, spelling, accuracy, etc. And I can't guarantee I can print everything submitted.

With that in mind, The *Twig Bender* welcomes Lori Lohr, whose article appears on [page 3](#), where she writes about the ministries moving over to Greenwood from Laurel Park.

New members of the People of Greenwood are, of course, welcome to jump right into any of Greenwood's ministries and committees. For a full list of Greenwood's various endeavors, see the table on [page 12](#) – where you'll see the point of contact for each endeavor along with a phone number.

The New Testament, in Romans, 1 Corinthians, 1 Peter and elsewhere, is full of exhortations to use our gifts of the Holy Spirit. If you're blessed with one of these gifts, put it to use at Greenwood.

Remember that stewardship includes more than monetary support. Giving of our time and talents is an important part of supporting our church and working towards the mission Jesus gave us: to make disciples of all the world (Matthew 28:16). Winston Churchill wrote: "we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

See you in church at Greenwood, but *only if you want to be there.*

Merger Mission Opportunities

(Continued from page 3)

- Provides clothing for the homeless and others showing need in the greater Henrico area.

In addition to Aggie's Attic, some of the former missions of the Laurel Park United Women in Faith group are moving over to Greenwood as well. The Ruth's Circle has decided to adopt the following mission projects – but anyone in the church is welcome and encouraged to participate.

- Birthday Bags are provided to the residents of the Hermitage during one month out of each year. This mission project has been completed in 2023, and would begin in 2024.
- Each fall, \$20 gift cards are collected for The Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach ministry. The gift cards are used to purchase gifts for young children and given directly to guarantors for older children. This project makes sure that the children of the incarcerated get Christmas gifts when they might not receive gifts otherwise.
- Also, for Christmas, Blessing Bags are prepared for the residents of the Hermitage and Manor Care Imperial. Bags often include personal care items, puzzle books, devotionals and even handmade knitted hats.

Please pray for the continued success of these missions. Laurel Park folks are so happy that the missions that they have worked on for so long are going to continue at Greenwood. Stay tuned for more information on how you can participate in any of these “new” missions at Greenwood UMC.



Greenwood's Women's Circles

THE RUTH CIRCLE and **THE WILLING WORKERS CIRCLE** are taking the summer off. They'll be back again in September.

HELLO, PASTOR TAEWON

(Continued from page 1)

expected life-crisis: open-heart surgery in September 2021. This experience has created a more widened space in his mind to understand people in crisis. As a pastor, called a “doctor of the soul of people,” his passion is to understand people's spiritual needs and to help them fully enjoy God's grace which makes their life abundant.

The Rev. TaeWon Kang was ordained as an elder in the Korean Methodist Church in 2005. In 2018 he transferred into the United Methodist Church. He graduated from Methodist Theological University with a Bachelor of Theology degree and Master of Theology from the School of Theology in Seoul, Korea.

In 2007, Pastor Kang relocated to the United States and graduated from Emory University's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta with a Master of Divinity degree. After graduation from Emory University, he was appointed to a new church for Korean-American families and Korean immigrants in Huntsville, Alabama, in the UMC's North Alabama Conference. In the

Virginia Conference of the UMC, he served the Bethel-Emmanuel charge from 2016-2021 and now is serving Walmsley Blvd UMC in Three Notch'd District. Pastor Kang is looking forward to meeting people at Greenwood UMC and taking a spiritual journey with them all together in Christ's love.

Rev. Kang has been married to MiRhang Baek since 2004. She is the best

comforter and supporter, and his best friend. She is also in the clergy, serving as the lead pastor of Ginter Park UMC

in Richmond. These two pastors support each other always as a clergy couple.

In his spare time, the Rev. TaeWon Kang likes spending time with his spouse MiRhang, reading books, birdwatching, camping, hiking, and walking. He also likes to watch European football and baseball games.

The Rev. TaeWon Kang

MEET
OUR *Pastor*



Greenwood Ministry Opportunities

Opportunities to use your spiritual gifts in support of Greenwood's ministries abound. Here are some of our ministries and whom you can contact to help out.

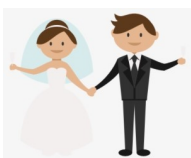
MINISTRY	CONTACT	PHONE
Aggie's Attic	Susan Johnston	804-515-5652
After School Volunteer	Trish Hayes	804-704-2566
Audio & Visual Media	Steve Stalnaker	804-513-8397
Choir	Lewis Daniel	804-614-8153
Church Office Volunteer	Gay Stapleton	804-672-8408
Community Outreach	Pastor TaeWon	470-728-9060
Finance Committee	Adamarye Patteson	804-266-6364
Food Donation Connection	Adamarye Patteson	804-266-6364
Greeters & Hospitality	Roger Eckwright	804-572-4282
Groundskeepers	Bob Stapleton	804-672-8408
Liturgist	Lewis Daniel	804-614-8153
Men's Breakfast	Charley Banks	804-513-5417
Offering Counters	Nancy Lloyd	804-339-9013
Prayer Chain	Glenda Stalnaker	804-755-6767
Ruth Circle	Adamarye Patteson	804-266-6364
Social Media	Steve Stalnaker	804-513-8397
Trustees	Bob Stapleton	804-672-8408
<i>Twig Bender</i> Newsletter	Steve Stalnaker	804-513-8397
Willing Workers Circle	Glenda Stalnaker	804-755-6767

Greenwood Church Family Birthdays



Isaiah Robinson	7/3	Raymond Ritchie	7/24
Dorothy Powell.....	7/7	Lauren Coleman.....	7/28
Kristen Bray	7/15	Sue Anne Blanton.....	7/29
Lucas Langston	7/18		

Anniversaries



Janice & Charley Banks	7/12
Bob & Gay Stapleton	7/12
David & Jonae Shuler.....	7/12

Don't see your birthday or wedding anniversary in The Twig Bender and would like to have us publish it? Send your dates to admin@gumcva.org or call the church office at 804-266-5341; likewise, let us know if you'd like your birthday or anniversary removed.



The Twig Bender

is a publication of Greenwood United Methodist Church

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Worship: 11 a.m. Sunday



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 Church Office hours: 9 a.m. — 1 p.m. Tues. — Fri.
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 Education Building Phone: 804-266-6668

Lay Leader: Lewis Daniel
 Musical Accompanist: Joseph Maher
 Twig Bender editor: Steve Stalnaker
 Web site: www.gumcva.org

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Greenwood United Methodist Church

July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>JULY IS NATIONAL ICE CREAM MONTH AND NATIONAL CELL PHONE COURTESY MONTH</p>						<p>1 Nat'l U.S. Postage Stamp Day</p> 
<p>2 Communion Sunday 11 a.m. Worship 12:15 p.m. Welcome Reception</p>	<p>3 Nat'l Eat Beans Day</p> 	<p>4 Independence Day</p> 	<p>5 Nat'l Bikini Day</p> 	<p>6 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice</p> 	<p>7 World Chocolate Day 6 p.m. Food Distribution</p>	<p>8 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast</p> 
<p>9 11 a.m. Worship</p> 	<p>10 Nat'l Pina Colada Day</p> 	<p>11 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee</p> 	<p>12 Etch a Sketch Day</p> 	<p>13 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m. Richmond Beekeepers</p>	<p>Friendship Quilters</p>	
<p>16 11 a.m. Worship</p> 	<p>17 Global Hug Your Kids Day</p> 	<p>18 7 p.m. Admin Council</p> 	<p>19 Nat'l Hot Dog Day</p> 	<p>20 1st Moon Landing: 1969 6:30 p.m. Choir Prac-</p>	<p>21 6 p.m. Food Distribution</p> 	<p>22 Nat'l Cowboy Day</p> 
<p>23 11 a.m. Worship 30 11 a.m. Worship</p>	<p>24 Amelia Earhart Day 31 Nat'l Cotton Candy Day</p>	<p>25 Carousel Day</p> 	<p>26 Nat'l Aunt and Uncle Day</p>	<p>27 Bagpipe Appreciation Day 6:30 p.m. Choir Prac-</p>	<p>28 <i>Twig Bender</i> Deadline 6 p.m. Food Distribution</p>	<p>29 Nat'l Dance Day</p> 

Mark Your Calendars

Aug 13 Longdale School Supplies Due
 Aug. 17 GLC Open House
 Aug. 21 First Day of School; GLC Opens
 Sep. 4 Labor Day
 Oct. 9..... Columbus Day
 Oct. 31..... Halloween
 Nov. 1.....All Saints Day
 Nov. 7.....Election Day
 Nov. 11..... Veterans Day
 Nov. 23.....Thanksgiving Day
 Dec. 3 First Sunday of Advent

SEE GREENWOOD ON FACEBOOK
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GUMCVA



Greenwood UMC Mission

The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. — Matt. 28:19

Greenwood Vision

Loving

Learning to love and connect with God and People



Growing

Acquiring tools for being transformed into the image of Christ



Serving

Participating in church ministry and community outreach