



A Message from Pastor TaeWon

Be Joyful, Thankful, Prayerful

Above all, I thank God and all of you who made our Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair, including the Aggie’s Attic yard sale, a success. The weather was perfect.

It’s November! We have just two months until the end of this year 2023. Time flies, friends. What will you do for these two months? I hope and pray that you may focus on 1) giving thanks, and 2) making a joyful noise. November leads us to Thanksgiving Day. December is the Season of Advent and Christmas Day. Thankfulness and joyfulness are keywords for these two months. God may be very truly pleased when you give thanks and make a joyful noise. What shall we do to give thanks and make a joyful noise?

The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:14-18: “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” Those three things are im-

possible without knowing, loving, and trusting the heart of God. Let’s just think. If you do not trust God, how can you pray to God? If you do not know God’s love for you, how can you rejoice with God who rejoices for you? God’s joy is you. God’s love is for you. It is what you should always know. I encourage you to place your love and trust in God alone. It will make you joyful, prayerful, and thankful always, without ceasing, and in all circumstances.

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Greenwood Prayer Ministry



Our Nation
 The People of Greenwood and the Church’s Missions
 People in Harm’s Way Around the World
 Voters, Candidates and Election Officers
 Roger Eckwright, Annie Gregory, Lori Lohr, Riley Patteson, Lacye Ryan,
 Juanita Sharpe, Robbie Smith, Frances Stalnaker, Izabel Stalnaker,
 Bob Stapleton, Tom and Lucy Stephens, Catherine Wallace

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(Continued from page 1)

The Apostle Paul faced unexpected, difficult situations after encountering Jesus Christ and deciding to live for Jesus Christ. He was a Jew and a Roman Citizen. However, he was hated and persecuted by Jews and Romans. He was beaten and thrown into jail. Yet he never stopped praising God and Jesus Christ in all circumstances. Joy was his. Thankfulness was overflowing from his heart and lips and so he praised God. Prayers never left him behind. The heart of God grabbed him strongly. Jail guards were impressed and converted their hearts to Jesus Christ.



Friends, this is the power of joy, thanks, and prayer. In November, therefore, be joyful, be thankful, and be prayerful. God will be pleased because of you.

Greenwood begins November by honoring and remembering all our Saints who completed their course of faith on Earth and now stay in their heavenly place. They are one with us in Christ Jesus. This is a reason to celebrate All Saints Sunday on November 5. I thank God for all those of Greenwood UMC who finished their life in faith on Earth and departed to God's heavenly kingdom. Their lives are remembered among us. Their spirits are with us.

We will arrive at the ending day of the liturgical calendar on November 26, Christ the King Sunday. That Sunday reminds us of where our faith lives are moving forward. Our life goal in faith is to move forward to the throne of Christ. We should be ready ourselves for the time when Christ Jesus comes. The end and the new beginning are like both sides of the same coin. Jesus Christ is the Alpha and Omega. Advent and Christmas are coming. Friends, let us be joyful, thankful, prayerful, and PREPARED for Christ's coming.

AMEN.

*Greenwood's
November
Communion Offering*



**Children's
Hospital**
of Richmond at **VCU**

Don't Ya Love Autumn?

By Steve Stalaker

Ah, autumn. Fall. The season after summer and before winter. The season when we give thanks for a bountiful year as we gather for Thanksgiving later this month.

In the autumn, I love – and give thanks for – the many blessings bestowed on us by our gracious Lord, including college football (as long as the Oklahoma Sooners are winning); gathering with family at Thanksgiving; the start of the run up to Christmas and much, much more.

I love and am thankful for the smell of Harry's Brunswick Stew slowly cooking to perfection on a crisp fall Saturday morning. Last month's Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair was a rousing success because of the dedication of the People of Greenwood, who volunteered to prepare, cook and package the stew. Also making vital contributions were those who volunteered to run the Yard Sale, the Bake Sale, the Silent Auction and all the other elements of this annual Greenwood fund raiser. This year the Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair was made even better by the additional volunteers from the former Laurel Park and Brookland United Methodist Churches.

As we go to press this year's fair netted nearly \$4,500, all of which will go – this year – to Greenwood's missions, outreach and expenses. Those of you who assisted by volunteering or buying something are helping keep the lights on and the heating oil tanks full at Greenwood.

For more about this year's Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair – including an original song – see the article on [page 4](#).

Something else that autumn brings is the Charge Conference where the church members (who show up) vote on important things like the budget for next year and the slate of Lay Leaders – the People of Greenwood who keep track of and manage Greenwood's operations, ministries and missions. We'll publish that list of Lay Leaders and the approved budget in the December issue of your *Twig Bender*.

There's a nice plaque in the church office that reads: "Volunteers are a work of heart." Cute but very true. Greenwood would founder without the good works done by the People of Greenwood, working together towards our mission to make disciples of all the world as Jesus commissioned us to do in Matthew 28:19.



Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair

“It was loving, growing and serving, all in one event,” said Lay Leader Lewis Daniel about Greenwood’s Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair last month. All three components of Greenwood’s vision rolled into one.

Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers from the Greenwood family and others, the Fair was a resounding success, netting almost \$4,500 for the church’s missions and operating expenses.

“Thanks to everyone that helped in any way,” said Stewmaster Harry Shuler. Harry and his band of mid-night stirrers made 402 quarts of stew, all of which was sold by 11 a.m. on Saturday. Also, Harry composed (and performed in church on October 22) this musical tribute to the Brunswick Stew to the tune of “Give Thanks:”

Thank God, that the stew is done,

Thank God, yes, for everyone,

Who helped, in any way

With making the stew,

Thank God the rain went away,

And the sun came out Saturday,

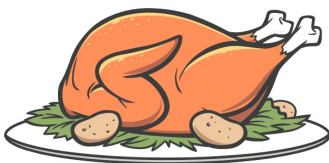
Thank God all of the stew was sold,

Because we’re getting old.

Sing along on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JENnvQiCpiI>

Brunswick Stew Sale & Fall Fair by the Numbers

Brunswick Stew	3,907.00
<i>Expenses</i>	
Table Rental	90.00
Silent Auction	936.50
Bake Sale	420.75
Toy Sale	35.00
Hotdog Stand	110.00
Total	\$4,779.25



Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner

Turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Reserve your dinners using the form in the bulletin or at Greenwood’s [website](#). Sign up by Sunday, Nov. 12.

Menu

Turkey & Dressing

Mashed Potatoes

Gravy

Cranberry Salad

String Beans

Hot Rolls

Pumpkin Pie

Greenwood Learning Center

New Kids and More Doggy Treats

The big news here at the GLC is that we added two new students: Mariah and Za'raiah.

October has been a super busy month. We had so much fun making special homemade dog treats and Christmas ornaments that we sold at the Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair. We made \$28. Later, we'll pick an angel from "Angel Tree" and use this money to help make someone's Christmas special.

In November, we plan on making a special batch of doggie treats and taking them the Henrico County Animal Shelter on Woodman Road.



Newest classmates.



Making doggie treats.

This November and December we are going to carry on our tradition of collecting socks, mittens, hats and scarves for the homeless. This year we will deliver those donations we collect to the Salvation Army.

Please, we are asking for help from our church, community, family and friends again this year, with our "Kindness Mission." No one likes a cold head or hands. Let's see how many people we can help keep warm this year!

The donations can be adult or children sizes, boys or girls, fancy or plain. Whatever you want to give, the recipients will be so grateful to have them and we are so very grateful to you for taking time to help us with our "Kindness Mission."

Smiles! Miss Trish!



Greenwood Stewardship

Greenwood depends upon the generous giving of its people, not only for mission work and outreach but for more mundane things like keeping the lights on and paying for heating oil. As you plan your giving, consider what the Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 9:7—8.

At right is last month’s attendance and giving.

October 2023		
Date	Present	Giving
10/01	25	\$2,986
10/08	30	\$2,633
10/15	30	\$2,966
10/22	29	\$1,405
10/29	31	\$1,294

Medicare Update

Get Your Flu Shot!

By the Medicare Team

Protect yourself and your loved ones this flu season — get your flu shot. For better protection against flu, the CDC recommends people 65 or older get one of the higher-dose flu vaccines, if available.

The flu virus can be a very serious health risk if you're 65 or older. Getting your flu shot is the best way to protect yourself against the flu. And if you do get sick with the flu, your symptoms likely won't be as bad or last as long.



Medicare

Medicare covers the flu shot at no cost to you. Also, people with Medicare Part D (drug coverage) can now get even more covered vaccines, including vaccines for shingles, whooping cough, and more.



Greenwood's Women's Circles



THE RUTH CIRCLE meets Tuesday, Nov. 7 at 1 p.m. in the home of Ann Via.

THE WILLING WORKERS CIRCLE will meet at a later date, to be determined. We'll be working on supporting our Longdale families at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD NEVER PACK

Ditch these five items before your next trip.

Downloaded from AAA's Website

With more and more air passengers packing their belongings in a carry-on bag, space can be at an absolute premium. With most carry-on bags maxing out at 22 inches, that doesn't leave a lot of space for extra items. Avoid these items when packing for your next trip to free up space.

Excessive Amounts of Denim. We get it—jeans are comfortable for travel and are extremely versatile. However, denim takes up double the space of other fabrics and can weigh twice as much. Consider packing only one pair of jeans, or two at the most.

A Hairdryer. Most hotels or vacation destinations provide hairdryers, so avoid bringing your own.

Expensive Accessories. Our theory is that if it's meaningful or irreplaceable, you probably shouldn't pack it. Consider leaving that special family ring or the expensive watch at home so you can be sure it's safe. This tip also helps you avoid becoming a target for pickpockets.

Too Many Shoes. While it's good to have options, shoes are another way you can lose space in your bag. Consider taking two to three pairs and wearing one of these options. If you can, fill the shoes you pack with socks to use the real estate.

Unnecessary Gadgets. A disclaimer: the term "unnecessary" varies from traveler to traveler. But if you're consistently packing gadgets for your travels that you never use, such as a toothbrush sanitizer, door alarm, portable DVD players, or otherwise, leave them at home.

Aggie's Attic — a Greenwood UMC Mission Project
6913 Lakeside Avenue, Henrico, 804-921-9385
Hours: Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. — 4 p.m.
Click [here](#) for Aggie's Facebook page.



Food Donation Connection

We served 58 families in the month of September. They really enjoyed getting the canned fruit and cereal. Thanks to Susan Johnston for the cleaning supplies; they definitely liked getting those. With Thanksgiving coming up we really need to restock our food closet. It is getting low and every bit helps these families.

November Pick Up Rotation

Wednesday, Nov. 1: Jean Mowatt; Thursday, Nov. 2: Susan Johnston; Friday, Nov. 3: James Calderone.

Wednesday, Nov. 8: Charley Banks; Thursday, Nov. 9: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, Nov. 10: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.

Wednesday, Nov. 15: Jean Mowatt; Thursday, Nov. 16: Susan Johnston; Friday, Nov. 17: James Calderone.

Wednesday, Nov. 22: Charley Banks; Thursday, Nov. 23: Thanksgiving; Friday, Nov. 24: James Calderone.

Wednesday, Nov. 29: Jean Mowatt; Thursday, Nov. 30: Susan Johnston; Friday, Dec. 1: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.



NOVEMBER SCRIPTURES

Nov. 5	Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12
Nov. 12	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
Nov. 19	Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
Nov. 26	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-34; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46.

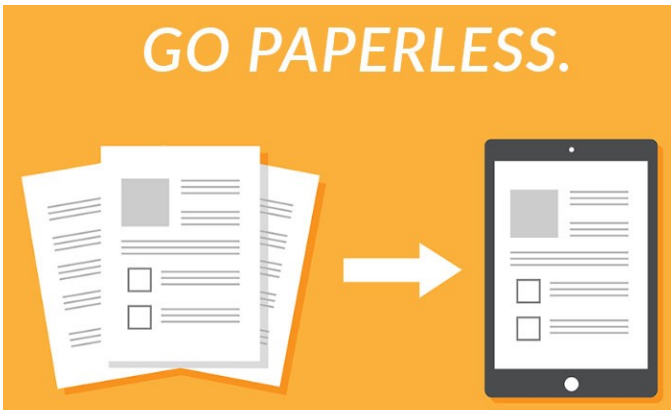
Go Paperless

If you're receiving a paper copy of *The Twig Bender* through the snail mail (a.k.a. U.S. Postal Service), consider going paperless. Save Greenwood the cost of postage, paper, toner, labels, stickers and labor involved in printing, folding, stamping and mailing out paper copies of our newsletter.

Remember, *The Twig Bender* is always available online at Greenwood's web site at <https://www.gumcva.org/twig-bender-archives>. There you'll also find newsletter archives going back through the beginning of 2019 (and we'll be adding more archives as the webmaster gets the time).

We realize, however, that many of us (including your editor) prefer a "hard copy" to hold in our hands while we read. That's OK, and we'll continue to publish paper copies of *The Twig Bender*.

To go paperless, email the church office at admin@gumcva.org, call the office at 804-266-5341 or just tell



your newsletter editor.

Likewise, if you no longer want to receive the monthly *Twig Bender* in any form – paper or by email – please let us know.

But, don't select a paperless *Twig Bender* if you think paperless saves the environment. It doesn't necessarily. Think about it:

- Paper is a biodegradable, renewable, sustainable product made from trees.

- Growing and harvesting trees provides jobs for millions of Americans.
- Forests are good for the environment and provide clean air and water, wildlife habitat and carbon storage.
- Thanks to improved forest management, we have more trees in America today than we had 100 years ago, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

It's your choice: paper or plastic ... er ... electronic. Let us know, please.

Tuesday Prayer Call

8 a.m. every Tuesday

Dial in at (605) 313-5873, enter access code: 3108329, press #.

Please mute your phone unless you're adding a prayer.



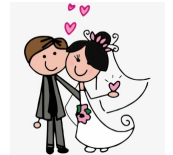


Greenwood Church Family Birthdays

Nancy Lloyd 11/3 Seth Stanley 11/6
 Betty Ritchie 11/5

Anniversaries

Jon & Lori Lohr 11/16



*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**.*

Be Decisive

Right or wrong, *make a decision*. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make up their minds.



The Twig Bender

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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



November 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOVEMBER IS BANANA PUDDING LOVERS MONTH			1 All Saints Day Author's Day 	2 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 	3 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	4 National Bison Day 
5 Communion Sunday Daylight Saving Ends 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	6 National Nachos Day 	7 Election Day 8 a.m. Prayer Call 1 p.m. Ruth Circle 	8 National Stem/Steam Day 	9 World Freedom Day 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m. Richmond Beekeepers 	10 USMC Birthday 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	11 Veteran's Day 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast 
12 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 	13 Sadie Hawkins Day 	14 World Diabetes Day 8 a.m. Prayer Call 7 p.m. Finance Committee Meets 	15 America Recycles Day 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner 	16 National Fast Food Day 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 	Friendship Quilters	
19 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 	20 National Peanut Butter Fudge Day 	21 8 a.m. Prayer Call 7 p.m. Church Administrative Council Meets 	22 National Jukebox Day 	23 Thanksgiving Day 	24 Black Friday 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	25 Small Business Saturday 
26 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 	27 National Bavarian Cream Pie Day 	28 Red Planet Day 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	29 National Square Dancing Day 	30 Computer Security Day 		

Mark Your Calendars

- Dec. 3 First Sunday of Advent
- Dec. 9 Men’s Breakfast
- Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor Day/Hanukkah Begins
- Dec. 15 Hanukkah Ends
- Dec. 21 Winter Begins
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day



Sign Up for Altar Flowers

Don’t forget the flower calendar posted in the back hall. You’re invited to donate altar flowers in memory of or in honor of, those you’d like to remember.

Cost of the altar flowers is \$20; please pay in advance.

**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 »

Serving

Participating in church ministry and community outreach