



Our Nation — Lord, Heal
 Our Land
 All Those Affected by the
 COVID-19 Virus
 Our homebound and
 Shut-in members
 Our church leaders
 Lou Gammon
 Maurice Hawkins
 Raymond Ritchie

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From the Pastor

Return to In-Person Worship This Month!

Greenwood UMC will participate in Stage 2 of Virginia United Methodist Conference (VAUMC) in-person return to worship beginning **Sunday, July 12, 2020 at 12 noon**, including holy Communion.



Health Requirements: Information regarding your health status is required by the VAUMC protocols. Download the Health Acknowledgment Form at:

<http://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/HealthAcknowledgementform.pdf>.

If you do not have access to a printer, you may pick up a hard copy of the form from the pouch posted on the outside door of the church office starting June 30.

A completed form must be emailed or left for Pastor Franklin no more than four days prior to each Sunday's service to be valid.

RSVP: Pre-registration is required four (4) days in advance of our Sunday worship service. You must email Pastor Josette at josettefranklin@vaumc.org or call the church at 804-266-5341 each week by Wednesday

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Unlocked! Praise God!

By Steve Stalaker

Praise the Lord! We are “unlocked!” Greenwood’s Healthy Church Team (HCT), following guidelines from The Virginia Conference, has developed a phased plan to return Greenwood to in-person worship. See Pastor Josette’s article on page 1.



On **July 12**, Greenwood will **resume in-person worship** in the Greenwood Sanctuary at noon. Other gatherings will be as announced in bulletins, our web site and on our Facebook page.

We’ve had some educational experiences with technology in our virtual meetings and worship services, so far during the quarantine. Pastor Josette has done a wonderful job leading us into 21st Century communications with her use of Zoom, Facebook Live and conference calls.

In the April issue of your *Twig Bender*, we wrote about the reasons to attend virtual worship. Those same reasons apply to our restored in-person worship services.

Joining others at in-person worship allows you to be in (social-distancing) contact with other, like-minded Christians: your brothers and sisters in Christ. While virtual worship is adequate, there’s no substitute for being together, in person, in worship. Here we can be physically together, give our tithes and offerings and not worry about

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*Our July Communion
Offering Goes to*

**Sheltering
Arms**
PHYSICAL
REHABILITATION
CENTERS



LPUMC Community Garden

By Linda Walker

Teri Harris reports that vegetables have begun to come in at the Laurel Park UMC Community Garden. They have gotten a few green peppers and jalapeno peppers. The tomato plants are loaded with green tomatoes and should be ripe soon. Small squash have started to form, and they are waiting for signs of cucumbers and cantaloupes.



If you would like to help with watering the garden, please contact Teri or Bubba Harris. They prefer that the watering occur in the mornings and every day consistently. At press time they have folks covering Mondays and Tuesdays in July. If you can commit to one day a week for the whole

month, that would be great.

Anyone from Laurel Park or Greenwood churches is welcome to help and to stop by to get vegetables for those who need them.

The vegetables will be distributed at Aggie's Attic and Greenwood UMC's Friday food distribution ministry. If anyone has ideas about additional distribution opportunities, let Teri or Bubba know.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.



Taking Summer Vacation

The Ruth Circle, Willing Workers Circle, Fellowship Dinners and FunRaisers Bag lunches are all taking the summer off; they'll return in September.

No Men's Breakfast in July.

Rev. Dr. Lee is New Richmond DS

Rev. Dr. Hyo J. Lee became the new Richmond District Superintendent (DS) on July 1, 2020.



Dr. Lee was previously lead pastor at Sudley UMC in Manassas. He replaces the **Rev. Dr. Peter M. Moon**, who had been the Richmond District Superintendent since 2015.

Dr. Moon takes over at Reveille UMC in Richmond as lead pastor.

Congratulations to our own **Pastor Josette Franklin** who was appointed to lead the Greenwood/Laurel Park Charge for another year.

You can see all clergy appointments in the Virginia Conference at

<http://doc.vaumc.org/AC2020/2020Appointments.pdf>



Sunday Combined Virtual Worship

Every Sunday at noon on Zoom or dial +1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 829 5710 1589; password: 929829

Also on Facebook Live



Wednesday Prayer Call

Every Wednesday, 6 to 6:15 a.m. also on Zoom or dial +1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 851 1374 4202; password: 452446

Virtual Bible Study: Prayer

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom dial in +1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 863 1433 8951; password: 239754.

Note: Links, Meeting IDs and Passwords Are Different.



Beware Medicare Fraud

From Medicare.gov

Stay alert for Medicare fraud during the coronavirus national emergency.

Con artists like to take advantage of people when they're distracted. Those con artists might try to get your Medicare Number or personal information so they can steal your identity and commit Medicare fraud. Medicare fraud results in higher health care costs and higher taxes for everyone.

Protect yourself from Medicare fraud. Guard your Medicare card like it's a credit card. Remember:

- Medicare will never contact you for your Medicare Number or other personal information unless you've given them permission in advance.
- Medicare will never call you to sell you anything.
- You may get calls from people promising you things if you give them a Medicare Number. Don't do it.
- Medicare will never visit you at your home.
- Medicare can't enroll you over the phone unless you called first.

Check regularly for Medicare billing fraud. Review your Medicare claims and Medicare Summary Notices for any services billed to your Medicare Number you don't recognize.

You can report suspected Medicare fraud by: Calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048. Or, if you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan, call the Medicare Drug Integrity Contractor (MEDIC) at 1-877-7SAFERX (1-877-772-3379).

If you need to report Medicare fraud, have this information handy:

- Your name and Medicare Number.
- Provider's name and any identifying information you may have.
- Service or item you're questioning and when it was supposedly given or delivered.
- Payment amount approved and paid by Medicare.
- Date on your Medicare Summary Notice or claim.



Getting Rid of Prescription Labels

By Steve and Glenda, with help from the Internet

For some time, Greenwood has been collecting used, empty prescription bottles for charity reuse.

Mary Cullom started this mission a few years ago when one of her co-workers was collecting bottles for an overseas mission. Greenwood earned a trophy for collecting so many bottles.



When that mission ended, Greenwood's **Ruth Circle** picked up the effort and is now collecting our used, empty prescription bottles for the **Matthew 25 Ministries** of Cincinnati, OH. Leave your empty bottles in the box in the narthex.

Most of us don't want to donate the bottles with the very personal prescription labels on them, for obvious reasons. And Matthew 25 Ministries asks us to remove all labels.

Here's some methods to get rid of those pesky prescription labels we got from the Internet and then tried out.

Dissolving Label Adhesive with Oil: *sounded really messy to us, so we didn't try it.*

Freezing Bottles for 3 – 5 hours: *didn't work for us; after the recommended time, the label on the test bottle wasn't any looser than when it went in, just a lot colder.*

Soaking Bottles in Water and Baking Soda: 4 tablespoons baking soda dissolved in 3 – 4 cups warm water. Soak bottles for 30 minutes or so, then peel off labels. We found this not to be all that effective. After soaking, we could brush off the prescription label printing, but a glue and paper residue remained. An OK process but still short of the mark.

Heating the Label with a Hair Dryer: with your thumb nail, peel back and loosen one corner of the label. If it starts coming up without resistance, keep peeling it. Otherwise, wave a hair dryer on high heat over the label for 30-45 seconds. The warmer

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Greenwood Reopening in July

(Continued from page 1)

close of business (1 p.m.) to verify your attendance at each week's service. You will be notified if we cannot accommodate you based on availability of seating. If persons quarantined together will be attending and sitting together, please provide names and a total number at pre-registration.

Day of Service: Every attendee must wear a mask. You are encouraged to bring your own hand sanitizer. Also, there will be limited access to the bathroom, so please prepare accordingly. Every attendee must provide a newly completed Health Acknowledgement Form four days before via email to Pastor Franklin or upon entry for the worship service.

Everyone is required to practice six (6) feet social distancing and wear a mask upon exiting and entering cars in the parking lot *and* while waiting to enter the building for worship service each week.

Seating will be limited to 50 people or less in our sanctuary. Attendees will be required to sit in marked seats upon entry. Every other pew will be closed off.

Attendees will sit two people to a pew with one person on each end of the pew to maintain social distancing. If you were not quarantined together, it is unacceptable to cross over another person in the pew to get to or leave your seat. Individuals not quarantined together are to be seated on an isle to avoid close contact when entering or exiting a pew.

Attendees quarantined together may sit together on a pew not already occupied by two individuals.

Special Notices: There will be no congregational singing, passing of the peace, or altar service. On the Sundays of Holy Communion (July 12, this month), pre-packaged elements will be available upon departure at the front door exit. Additionally, no pew

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In-Person Worship Returns

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Bibles, hymnals, envelopes, programs/bulletins will be provided. All communication and text will be digitally distributed or projected in our services.

Virtual worship will continue via Zoom and Facebook for the Greenwood-Laurel Park Charge each Sunday at 12 noon.

Thank you all in advance for your prayerful consideration and cooperation as we prepare to return to in-person worship.

The GUMC Healthy Church Team

*Pastor Josette Franklin
Bob Stapleton*

*Lewis Daniel
Roger Eckwright*

Charley Banks



I Hate Buttermilk

One Sunday morning in a small rural church, the new pastor called on one of the older deacons to lead the opening prayer.

The deacon stood up, bowed his head and said, “Lord, I hate buttermilk.”

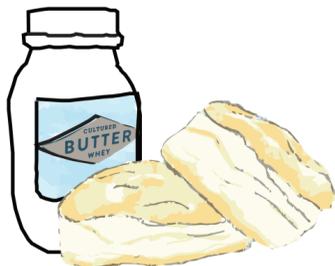
Opening one eye, pastor wondered where this was going.

“Lord, I hate lard,” the deacon continued. Now the pastor was totally perplexed.

The deacon continued, “Lord, I ain’t too crazy about plain flour. But after you mix ‘em all together and bake ‘em in a hot oven, I just love biscuits.”

“Lord, help us to realize when life gets hard, when things come up that we don’t like, whenever we don’t understand what You are doing, that we need to wait and see what You are making. After you get through mixing and baking, it’ll probably be something even better than biscuits. Amen.”

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (*Romans 8:28, NRSV*)



Unlocked, Praise God!

(Continued from page 2)

whether or not our phones are muted.

As we mentioned in that April article, Jesus tells us, in Matthew 18:20, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

And the Greenwood leadership will continue to leverage today’s – and tomorrow’s – ever more sophisticated and capable technology to allow us to gather, in Jesus’ name, *in-person, online and on the phone.*



Pastor Josette’s Bible study continues on Zoom and our Wednesday morning prayer call goes on. See the church website or our Facebook page for the Internet addresses and credentials (i.e. passwords) for these different meetings, because, while the dial-in numbers are the same,

the Internet addresses and so forth differ for virtual worship, Bible study and corporate prayer time.

Praise God for all the opportunities we have to gather in Christian fellowship, be it in-person or virtually.

 A photograph of a church sanctuary with rows of pews, overlaid with a red coronavirus icon on the left. The text "Embrace the Now, Prepare for the Next!" is written in a red, hand-drawn font across the center. Below it, "A Plan for Resuming In-Person Worship" is written in a smaller, black font. The date "May 13, 2020" is in the bottom right corner. A red banner at the bottom contains a white cross icon and the text "In the Virginia Annual Conference" in white.

**Embrace the Now,
Prepare for the Next!**

A Plan for Resuming In-Person Worship

May 13, 2020

In the Virginia Annual Conference

“De-Labeling” Prescription Bottles

(Continued from page 6)

the air, the better to heat the label’s glue. Then grab that heated corner and peel the label off at an angle (less likely to tear). Pull slowly and, if you’re lucky, the whole label will peel off. Otherwise, heat the rest of the label. It should then easily come off in one piece. If the label continues to stick, heat it for another 10 seconds or so and try again.



We liked this method best, because Steve watched Oklahoma Sooner Football highlights on YouTube while heating the bottles. The hot air blowing on his bad knee felt good. Some labels peeled off easily, others took two or three tries. But, we completely “de-labeled” 12 bottles over the course of about 30 minutes worth of Sooner highlights videos.

Whatever method you use, please continue supporting this worthwhile mission. During this quarantine, you can drop off your “de-labeled” bottles at the church of-fice, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Be Prepared — Read the Scriptures

July Lectionary Readings

July 5	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45: 10-17, or Psalm 72; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
July 12	Genesis 25:19:34; Psalm 119:105:112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
July 19	Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
July 26	Genesis 29:15-28; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

July Grass Cutting Detail

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

- Week of June 29 Steve Stalnaker
- Week of July 6 Harry Shuler
- Week of July 13 Bob Stapleton
- Week of July 20: Lewis Daniel
- Week of July 27: Steve Stalnaker



If anyone else would like to help with this summer's grass cutting, please give Bob Stapleton a call at 804-672-8408. Thank you from your Trustees.

Food Donation Connection

July Pick Up Rotation

Donated canned or boxed foods would be really appreciated. Bring them to the church office Tuesday — Friday. 9 a.m.— 1 p.m.

Wednesday, July 1: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, July 2: Lewis Daniel; Friday, July 3: Trish Hayes.

Wednesday, July 8: Charley Banks; Thursday, July 9: Lewis Daniel; Friday, July 10: Adamarye Patteson.

Wednesday, July 15: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, July 16: Lewis Daniel; Friday, July 17: Carolyn and Ray Smith.

Wednesday, July 22: Charley Banks; Thursday, July 23: Lewis Daniel; Friday, July 24: Trish Hayes.

Wednesday, July 29: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, July 30: Lewis Daniel; Friday, July 31: Carolyn and Ray Smith.





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
Robert & 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.



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Virtual Worship: noon Sunday

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Greenwood United Methodist Church July 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Aggie's Attic is Open!</p> <p><i>Summer hours – Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.</i></p>			<p>1 6 a.m. Prayer Call</p> 	<p>2 World UFO Day 6:30 p.m. Bible Study</p> 	<p>3 6 p.m. Free Food</p> 	<p>4 Independence Day No Men's Breakfast</p> 
<p>5 Noon: Virtual Worship Nat'l Bikini Day</p> 	<p>6 Nat'l Fried Chicken Day</p> 	<p>7 Nat'l Strawberry Sundae Day</p> 	<p>8 6 a.m. Prayer Call</p> 	<p>9 Nat'l Sugar Cookie Day 6:30 p.m. Bible Study</p> 	<p>10 6 p.m. Free Food</p> 	<p>11 Nat'l Blueberry Muffins Day</p> 
<p>12 Communion Sunday Noon: Return to In-Person Worship and Virtual Wor-</p>	<p>13 Nat'l French Fries Day</p> 	<p>14 Pandemonium Day</p> 	<p>15 Income Tax Day 6 a.m. Prayer Call</p> 	<p>16 6:30 p.m. Bible Study</p> 	<p>17 6 p.m. Free Food</p> 	<p>18 Nat'l Caviar Day</p> 
<p>19 Noon: In-Person and Virtual Worship Nat'l Ice Cream Day</p>	<p>20 1st Moon Landing 1969</p> 	<p>21 Nat'l Junk Food Day</p> 	<p>22 6 a.m. Prayer Call</p> 	<p>23 Vanilla Ice Cream Day 6:30 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>24 Amelia Earhart Day 6 p.m. Free Food</p>	<p>25 Nat'l Day of the Cowboy (and Cowgirl)</p> 
<p>26 Noon: In-Person and Virtual Worship Parent's Day</p>	<p>27 Take Your Houseplants for a Walk Day</p>	<p>28 Nat'l Milk Chocolate Day</p> 	<p>29 Int'l Tiger Day 6 a.m. Prayer Call</p> 	<p>30 Nat'l Cheese-cake Day 6:30 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>31 System Administrator Appreciation Day 6 p.m. Free Food</p>	

Mark Your Calendars

Sep. 7 Labor Day
 Sep. 11 Patriot Day
 Sep. 18—19 Virginia Annual Conference
 Oct. 12 Columbus Day
 Oct. 31 Halloween
 Nov. 3 Election Day
 Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Day

SEE GREENWOOD ON FACEBOOK:
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GUMCVA



Greenwood's 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