



Our Nation
 Our Church Families
 GLC
 Chris Carlson
 Katie Corson and Family
 Dawn Myers
 Lacye Ryan
 DaJuan Rushing
 David and Carroll Shafer
 Ray and Carolyn Smith
 Robbie Smith

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What’s Your Talent?

By Steve Stalnaker

Throughout his epistles – letters – to the growing Christian congregations across the Roman Empire, the Apostle Paul writes about the gifts of the Spirit. He means the talents or skills that God gives us through His Holy Spirit. For example:

⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. – Romans 12:4 – 8 NRSV

With that in mind, with what gifts has the Holy Spirit blessed you? You can put your gifts to work in furtherance of the Church’s Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) by joining in the ministries of Greenwood United Methodist Church.

Some of this may sound familiar and it should. I wrote that we should
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Easter Egg Hunt 2022

Thanks for a Great Day

By Glenda Stalnak

Wow! No, double wow!

What a wonderful Greenwood UMC Easter Egg Hunt. The weather was lovely. There were tons and tons of Easter eggs and cakes galore.

Thank you for all the donations and expert baking. Thank you to those volunteers who hid eggs. Pastor Josette had requested that no one go home empty-handed – and no one did.

Outside we added Noah's Ark bean bag toss, corn hole and ladder ball. These outdoor games were enjoyed by both children and the adults.

A special thank you to Biltmore Baptist for their filled egg donation. Thank you to Harry Shuler for bringing the corn hole and ladder ball games. Thank you to the workers who ran the cake walk and to Charley Banks for his safety tape work.

We are hoping that next year we will be able to add back the mission project.

I think it was truly an all hands operation for our church community. Praise God for a great neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt!



*Greenwood's May
Communion Offering:*

CARITAS

GUMC Stewardship

Greenwood is grateful for the continued generous giving by disciples and friends. Stewardship is a personal, spiritual discipline that goes beyond necessary financial support. When everyone prays for the Holy Spirit's guidance in practicing this discipline, the needs of the church are met.



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 we need \$2,489 to support Greenwood's missions and operating expenses. Last month, we averaged \$1,294 each week, or 52 percent of our budget.

Keep in mind what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need.” -- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 NIV



Sunday Worship

Every Sunday at 11 a.m. at Greenwood
And on Zoom (click [here](#)) or dial 301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 829 5710 1589; password: 929829

Also on Facebook Live



Tuesday Prayer Call

Every Tuesday, 8 to 8:15 a.m. on Zoom (click [here](#)) or dial 301-715-8592
Meeting ID: 851 1374 4202; password: 452446

Annual Conference 2022

Collecting Together: Cans & Kits

Downloaded from VAUMC Website

We pray your plans are well under way for collecting "Cans and Kits" for Annual Conference 2022. We had a great collection of school kits, hygiene kits and nonperishable food for local food pantries last year.

This year we will be collecting cleaning kits and hygiene kits for UMCOR. You can find a list of the items to include in the kits at <https://umcmision.org/umcor-relief-supplies/>.

Richmond District kits will be collected on Sat. June 11, 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Lakeside UMC.

Canned food and other non-perishable food items may be collected and contributed to a local food pantry. School kits may be assembled and distributed at a local elementary school.

Should you need assistance or have any questions, feel free to contact your District Office.

Thank you in advance for helping "the least of these!"



MAY SCRIPTURES

May 1	Psalm 30; Acts 9:1-6; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19
May 8	Psalm 23; Acts 9:36-43; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30
May 15	Psalm 148; Acts 11:1-18; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35
May 22	Psalm 67; Acts 16:9-15; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29
May 29	Psalm 97; Acts 16:16-34; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

United Methodist Family Services Capital Campaign Phase II Begins

Contributed by Susan Johnston

United Methodist Family Services (UMFS) is grateful for the generous support of Phase 1 of the “Be a Champion Capital Campaign,” which took the new UMFS Child & Family Healing Center building from concept to reality.

Phase II of the campaign is underway and will transform the learning experience for students who need therapeutic educational services.



During Phase II, UMFS will expand their Charterhouse School in Richmond, adding a second building. The new building will feature 10 classrooms, a cafeteria and kitchen, a recreational therapy room, and an improved bus loop.

UMFS is an unwavering champion for high-risk children and families. Since 1900, the

organization has done whatever it takes to meet the changing needs of children and families. Our goal is to support high-risk children and families so that their stories are filled with successes. Now we need your help to expand our reach by upgrading two of our program's facilities. Help us prepare Virginia's youth to become engaged citizens.

Be a champion and invest in strong families and communities. Generous donors and church partners have already contributed \$6.1 million for this project. Can you help UMFS reach the goal of raising \$6.5 million by June 30?

Visit UMFS.org/campaign to learn more and to make a contribution.



Get Back to Church

By Tim Goeglein, Vice President of Government and External Relations

At Focus on the Family

Reprinted by Permission

If you want America to come back to life, get yourself and your friends back to church.

Several years ago, Dan Edmunds, a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association, said, “One of the most destructive problems is the breakdown of community, and it is this breakdown that has often led to the breakdown of persons. Though we may put many around us, we are alone.”

For decades, a **major source of community for many Americans was their local house of worship**. While those attending may have had varying degrees of commitment to living out their faith, they would gather to enjoy fellowship with each other as they passed through the stages of life — from childhood all the way to life’s eventual end.

Unfortunately, **fewer Americans are enjoying that community these days**, and we are worse off for it as a nation. While there may be a lot of people coming in and out of our lives, fewer have the deep, abiding ties that are developed within a religious body. As a result, Americans are more alone than ever.

Shunning Services

A few weeks ago, a new Marist poll found that while 54 percent of Americans still believe in the “God of the Bible,” they **increasingly shun religious services** — and the numbers are even worse for younger generations.

This is the result of the trickle-down as **religious attendance declined with each passing generation**. As Daniel Cox, director of the Survey Center on American Life, writes, “The parents of millennials and Generation Z did less to encourage regular participation in formal worship services and model religious behaviors in their children than had previous generations.”



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Greenwood's Women's Circles



The Ruth Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 3 at 1:30 p.m. in the home of Adamarye Patteson.

The Willing Workers plans to meet on Thursday, May 5 at 2 p.m. at the church.

Men's Breakfast

Join the Men of Greenwood on Saturday, May 7 for the Men's Breakfast. We'll meet at Shoney's near Virginia Center Commons at 8 a.m. Ray Smith has graciously offered to treat us to breakfast.



Afterwards, we'll return to Greenwood to work on the Scout House and other projects. Join us for food, fun and fellowship.

Graduation



Got a family member, neighbor or someone else close to you who's graduating? Let us know and we'll include them in the June *Twig Bender*. High school, college, graduate school, military boot camp or other training, police or fire academies — let the editor know.

Tell us the graduate's name, where graduating from, where going next and their relationship to you. Email the office at admin@gumcva or call us at 804-266-5341 by May 27.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church™

Food Donation Connection

May Pick Up Rotation

Wednesday, May 4: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, May 5: Susan Johnston;
Friday, May 6: Josette Franklin.

Wednesday, May 11: Charley Banks; Thursday, May 12: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday,
May 13: Josette Franklin.

Wednesday, May 18: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, 19: Susan Johnston;
Friday, May 20: Josette Franklin.

Wednesday, May 25: Charley Banks; Thursday, May 26: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday,
May 27: Josette Franklin.

Wednesday, June 1: Jean Mowatt and William Gibbs; Thursday, June 2: Susan Johnston;
Friday, June 3: Josette Franklin.



May 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 May 2: Bob Stapleton
- Week of May 9: Harry Shuler
- Week of May 16: Lewis Daniel
- Week of May 23: Bob Stapleton
- Week of May 30: Harry Shuler

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.**

Get Back to Church

(Continued from page 6)

As it has been said, **values are caught and not taught**, and millennials and Generation Zers are seeing the lack of commitment from those older than them and are following their example. As a result, the rising generation is feeling increasingly isolated.

While a slim **majority still say they believe in the God of the Bible**, their lack of connection with a local religious body has profound consequences not only for themselves but also for our society as a whole.

Compared to those who either infrequently attend religious services or do not attend at all, **regular attenders are more actively involved in their communities and have stronger social ties** with others. Is it any wonder that the unraveling of civility and our social fabric started to occur when attending weekly services became a kind of cafeteria option rather than a priority?

Lockdowns Killed People's Connections

This has been **exacerbated by Covid-19**, as many houses of worship chose to video stream their services online. This means many could try to worship and watch the sermon in solitude yet never have to connect with others as part of a church body. While video streaming may have provided a new avenue for people to receive religious instruction, it also created an attendant and unstated religious isolation.

Without a rock such as a local religious body to stand upon, we have witnessed more people becoming morally, emotionally, and physically adrift — something we see played out daily across the country. In addition, with the loss of commitment to a religious body comes a loss of a vital institution that has always been a source of connection with others.

America was built on civic groups and other associations, like attending religious services. It was these associations that Alexis de Tocqueville observed “form a society,” and in their absence, society disintegrates into individualism, moral confusion, and silos of separatism.



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Get Back to Church

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Worshipping Alone Becomes Not Worshipping

But on the **bright side**, Michael Conte, a Marist poll researcher, said, “[Americans] continue to consider their religious affiliation to be a key component of their personal identity.” Many Americans still see their families, religious teachings, and religious leaders as primary sources of moral guidance — in fact, seven in ten respondents in the poll said America would be better off if we prayed more.



Sociologist Robert Putnam famously observed we were “bowling alone” more often in America as civic association began to decline. Worshipping alone would be a sad corollary.

If we are going to restore community in America, one of the first places to start is to get people back to houses of worship, in-

stead of watching sermons on TV or not attending. Such a community changes the shape and form of our social priorities and focus — from self to selfless — as we become connected with others in the common bond of faith.

Such a **vibrant and renewed community will bring restoration** to our current fragmented state and bring us back together again for the common good — for us and society. This would be soulcraft at its most important, and the kind of regeneration our country deeply needs.



Prayer Request Email



For prayer requests only: greenwoodprays@gmail.com
Monitored daily by Pastor Josette; all emails in strict confidence.

Using Your Talents

(Continued from page 1)

not ask what your church can do for you, but ask what you can do for your church in the March *Twig Bender* and Mary Cullom added her commentary last month.



Pastor Josette and the church leadership have put together a list of Greenwood's ongoing ministries. You can find this list on [page 15](#) of this newsletter, conveniently placed so you can download it, print it and keep it handy. You can also download the list from [Greenwood's web site](#) or find it as an insert in the weekly

Greenwood Grapevine. Use this list to note what our ministries are. Carry it with you so you can tell others about Greenwood's outreach and ministries. You can see that the Ministries List includes points of contact and their phone numbers.

Using our gifts to further the missions of Greenwood and of Christ's Body (the church) is a theme we'll repeat often because it needs to be repeated. Everyone has gotten some gift from the Spirit so everyone can step up and apply their talents. Again, see the Ministries List on [page 15](#).

- Like working with kids? Join Trish at the Greenwood Learning Center (our after-school ministry).
- Can you write? Spell? Proofread? Have computer skills? Help Steve with the *Twig Bender*, the *Greenwood Grapevine*, the marquee, or the slide show.
- Can you carry a tune? Jackie and the Greenwood choir are always looking for additional voices to make a joyful noise to the Lord.
- Can you drive a lawn mower or wield a weed-whacker? The Trustees can use help with keeping the Greenwood lawn mowed and trimmed.
- And so on ...

There are lots of things going on at our church to which you can apply your God-given talents and skills. Make your commitment to help Greenwood now.

See you in church.

Greenwood Church Family Birthdays



Izabel Stalnaker.....	5/2	Jeremiah Frazier	5/11
Bob Stapleton	5/4	Lathan Fulcher	5/13
Kendra Thomas.....	5/7	Mary Walker	5/19
Patricia Rios	5/7	Steve Stalnaker	5/30

Anniversaries



Adamarye & Riley Patteson	5/2
Bobby & Jackie Schultz	5/8

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.



Twig Bender

is a publication of Greenwood United Methodist Church

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In-Person and Virtual Worship: 11 a.m. Sunday

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Greenwood United Methodist Church

May 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday 11 a.m. Worship	2 Brothers and Sisters Day 	3 Nat'l Teachers' Day 8 a.m. Prayer Call 1:30 p.m.	4 Star Wars Day 	5 Cinco de Mayo 2 p.m. Willing Workers Circle	6 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	7 Nat'l Train Day 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
8 Mother's Day VE Day 11 a.m. Worship	9 Lost Sock Memorial Day 	10 Golden Spike Day 8 a.m. Prayer Call	11 Eat What You Want Day 	12 7 p.m. Richmond Beekeepers 	13 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	14 Nat'l Windmill Day 
15 Police Officer Memorial Day 11 a.m. Worship	16 Love a Tree Day 	17 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	18 Nat'l Museum Day 	19 Boy's Club Day 	Friendship Quilters	
22 11 a.m. Worship	23 Lucky Penny Day 	24 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	25 Nat'l Missing Children's Day 	26 Sally Ride Day 	27 <i>Twig Bender</i> Deadline 6 p.m. Food Distribution	28 Nat'l Hamburger Day 
29 11 a.m. Worship	30 Memorial Day 	31 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	MAY IS NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH			

Mark Your Calendars

June 5 Pentecost
 June 16 – 18..... VAUMC Annual Conference
 June 19 Father’s Day
 July 4..... Independence Day
 Sep. 1..... GLC Open House
 Sep. 5..... Labor Day

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

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
After School Volunteer	Trish Hayes	804-704-2566
Audio & Visual Media	Steve Stalnaker	804-513-8397
Choir	Jackie Schultz	804-883-6277
Church Office Volunteer	Gay Stapleton	804-672-8408
Community Outreach	Josette Franklin	804-238-9318
Finance	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	Josette Franklin	804-238-9318
Trustees	Bob Stapleton	804-672-8408
<i>Twig Bender</i> Newsletter	Steve Stalnaker	804-513-8397
Willing Workers Circle	Glenda Stalnaker	804-755-6767

Tear out this page and keep it handy. Tell your friends and neighbors about mission opportunities at Greenwood.