



The Twig Bender



Greenwood United Methodist Church

April 2024

CELEBRATING OUR 150TH YEAR

Pastor TaeWon: Are You With Me?

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

These three exclamations show us a traditional method in which believers celebrate Easter, the day of Jesus’ resurrection. Easter is the day of victory in which the power of the love of God overcame the power of death. It is the **day of hope** in which despair is swept away by God creating everything new. Therefore, Easter is the day of a new beginning for every creature and the Universe by God the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer. On Easter, every believer shouts out together “Hallelujah” to God for all those reasons and more.

According to the Gospel of Mark, Jesus’ resurrection is very powerfully expressed by three words: **“the empty tomb.”** Externally, the empty tomb tells us the absence of Jesus’ dead and buried body in the tomb. The stone, closing the tomb entrance, was rolled away, and the tomb was empty. Jesus was not found there anymore. However, the absence of Jesus’ dead and buried body means that **death and its power were extinguished**. Therefore, it is natural to be aware that the presence of life and its power newly begins there. The empty tomb does not become the last place, meaning the end of life, but the new beginning place of life. It is a paradox of the empty tomb. The empty tomb is a metaphor and the decisive witness that Jesus is resurrected – He is alive.

The empty tomb, thus, tells us that **Jesus is everywhere** but the

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Greenwood Prayer Ministry

Our Nation

The People of Greenwood and Our Mission Projects

People in Harm’s Way Around the World

Lewis Daniel, Elaine DeAtley, Roger Eckwright, John Johnston, Lori Lohr

Riley Patteson, Lacye Ryan, Juanita Sharpe, Bob Stapleton

Tom Stephens, Catherine Wallace, Adam Womack



Pastor TaeWon: Are You With Me?

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!

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empty tomb. The first Easter people went to the tomb of Jesus. It was to honor Jesus' buried body there. They visited the last place of Jesus -where Jesus was buried. However, they did not stay there because they saw the empty tomb and they became aware of Jesus' resurrection. They looked at the **absence of death**. They saw that the power of death and despair had been finished already. They newly began their lives in and by the power of Jesus the Resurrected One. **They became the first Easter people.**

Siblings of the crucified and resurrected Jesus: let us newly begin from the empty tomb – its mystery and paradox. However, let us move on out of the empty tomb. Jesus is not there anymore, and he goes to people in need. Mark's Gospel tells us that the resurrected Jesus went to Galilee and also commanded his disciples to join, that is, follow him in Galilee. **Galilee means a symbolic space where Jesus is resurrected** among and for people in need. Every creature and the whole universe in need can be called a "Galilee." Jesus goes there and is/will be resurrected there. Jesus' command, going to Galilee, means that believers must join His resurrecting event. Where Jesus is resurrected, we must be also. It's why we believers are called the Easter people.

Therefore, if your heart and life are your Galilee, please go there with **hope in God**. Jesus is/will be resurrected in your heart and life. Also, if your family, friends, and neighbors are your Galilee, please go there. **Join Jesus' resurrection** there. Jesus will resurrect their lives. Let Jesus be resurrected in their hearts and lives. Friends, let us resurrect Jesus in our hearts and every heart.

Let us shout out: Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, indeed! Hallelujah! Amen!

*Greenwood's
March
Communion Offering:*

LAKESIDE
RESCUE



Greenwood Stewardship

March 2024		
Date	Present	Giving
3/03	31	\$3,443
3/10	30	\$2,976
3/17	35	\$2,459
3/24	35	\$1,763
3/31	Not available at press time	



Remember our Faith Heritage

By Steve Stalaker

It being April, most readers would usually, and rightly, expect an April Fool story from me, as has been my tradition since I started editing your *Twig Bender*. But not this year. The last April Fool story I wrote was a fictitious account of Greenwood and Laurel Park merging. Not too long after that, life imitated art. So, I'm out of the smart aleck speculative fiction business, at least for 2024. You'll just have to find your April Fool's Day humor elsewhere.

Easter was the last weekend in March so I'm just now getting around to writing about Easter, resurrection, Christ's loving sacrifice for us and all the things that normally come to mind around Easter time. I've always been moved by the story of the triumphant Messiah's entry into Jerusalem – celebrated on Palm Sunday – and His activities throughout what we now call Holy Week.

Of course, you remember that Jesus had come to Jerusalem for Passover – the festival of unleavened bread observed by the Israelites to commemorate their escape from Egypt. We tend to forget that various Jewish traditions like Passover, Hanukkah and others are a part of our faith heritage. We should be mindful of that heritage, ranging from God's Creation through to modern times. The Garden of Eden, Noah and the Flood, David, and more are part of the foundation of Christianity.



Our faith heritage includes Martin Luther's nailing his 95 theses on the church door, English King Henry VIII's establishment of the Church of England and John Wesley's methodical observances of prayer, learning the Word of God, doing good works and so on. Don't ever forget your faith heritage and if you're not sure about it, hit the Internet. Here's a good place to [start](#).

The Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church begins on April 23. This gathering of United Methodists from around the world will meet and make some momentous decisions that will have a lasting effect on our denomination and on many of us. I won't go into my personal opinions about the questions the UMC is facing; I'm pretty sure everyone knows what's at issue and how I feel about it. Enough said. Regardless of how you feel about what's going on with the denomination overall, I urge you to be in prayer for the United Methodist Church, for the Annual Conference and for the delegates to that Conference. The UMC has set up a special web site for [prayers for Annual Conference](#). We should pray for the delegates to discern the Will of God and to implement His Word.

That's it. No April Fool. See you in church.



Greenwood Learning Center Spring Already?

By Trish Hayes, GLC Lead

Hello friends and family of Greenwood Learning Center. Can you believe it is Spring time already? The kiddos are so excited about the arrival of the Easter Bunny, warmer weather and their Spring Break ... not necessarily in that order.

We had so much fun this past month when Nicholas Hayes came in on his Spring Break from college and taught us an arts and crafts project making a bee keyring for our book bags. We also enjoyed getting to go back outside when the weather was nice. We had so much fun making our friends and family Easter presents, we made butterflies out of coffee filter and clothes pins. We were quite pleased with how beautiful they turned out. The kiddos and I hope everyone enjoyed and had a blessed Easter! Smiles, Miss Trish



Above left: Nicholas Hayes and the GLC kiddos; above right: making butterflies.

Financial Fraud Prevention

Downloaded from Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.

There's been an increase in imposter scams recently. Here's some tips on how these scams happen, and steps you can take to protect yourself.

An imposter scam is a fraudster impersonating a trusted individual, business, or organization trying to convince a target to transfer money.

Fraudsters will often:

- Contact you via a phone call, email, text, online advertisement, or social media post.
- Claim to be security or technical support for a known and reputable company, such as Microsoft, or a trusted financial institution like Schwab.
- Ask you to download software or request remote access to your computer.

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Financial Fraud Prevention

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- Send you an email or text message with a link or attachment, which may ask you to approve or deny a transaction, set up new credentials, or take some other action regarding your account.

You can take some simple steps to combat this fraud:

- Confirm the legitimacy of the organization or person trying to reach you, especially if you did not initiate the contact.
- Do not assume you are speaking with an institution based on caller ID. Text messages, emails, and phone calls can appear to come from a trusted institution when they are actually from a fraudster.
- Use caution and take time to research if you receive a request to send money urgently.
- Check the URL (Internet address) of the website or link sent to you by email to validate it is a legitimate site address (e.g., www.schwab.com versus www.schwab.co).
- Report concerns you have. Check with your financial institution for the email address of their fraud prevention team, for example, phishing@schwab.com or reportabuse@navyfederal.org. Then forward suspicious emails or screenshots of suspicious texts to that address. Or, call the institution's fraud prevention hot line.



- Contact the Federal Government's Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) at <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/fraud/> to report scams or for more information.

Editor's note: be skeptical; if in doubt, ask ... ask your financial institution. Don't assume anything.



Prayer Request Email



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

APRIL FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Sunday, April 14 in the Fellowship Hall right after worship. Bring your favorite dish to share. Because it's pot luck, no need to sign up.





2023 YEAR IN REVIEW



2528

educational field trip visitors to the farms



189,261 LBS

of produce harvested at our two farms

335

Mobile Markets

9806

shopper transactions



140

Hours of cooking demos and community kitchen & food skills classes



1012 BAGS

of fresh produce distributed through our Produce Rx program



16,485

Volunteer Hours worked by

5611

Volunteers

We envision a healthier community where everyone has equitable access to nourishing food and meaningful opportunities to grow, choose, cook and enjoy fresh produce



2024 Spring "Shred It to Protect It" Event

Saturday, April 13, 2024
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Western Henrico Government Center
4301 East Parham Road

Please enter the Center onto Prince Henry Drive. Follow the signs and do not leave your car.

Free
Document
Shredding



Free*
Electronics
Recycling

Document Shredding Information

- Personal documents for shredding are accepted at no cost. Please place these items in paper grocery bags or boxes ONLY.
 - All other containers will be handed back to the citizen.
- Each citizen is limited to **two full boxes** (10"x13"x18") OR **three full paper grocery bags**.
 - Please remove – all paperclips, binder clips, 3-ring binders, bound books, metal spirals in notebooks, file folders, plastic sleeves, etc. **Personal documents only!**



Call Henrico Police at **(804) 501-4838** for more information on document shredding.

Electronics Recycling Information

Electronics that are accepted free of charge:



- Monitors
- Computers
- Printers
- Computer Peripherals
- Audio/Stereo Equipment
- VCRs
- DVD Players
- Video Cameras
- Phones
- Facsimiles
- Copy Machines
- Wireless Devices
- Video Game Consoles
- Kitchen Appliances

Costs for certain electronics:

CRT TVs, 27 inches or less: **\$25**
CRT TVs, 28 inches or more: **\$35**

LCD TVs, 46 inches or less: **\$20**
LCD TVs, 47 inches or more: **\$30**

Projection TVs: **\$30**

Items that are NOT accepted:

Compact fluorescent light bulbs, refrigerators, dehumidifiers, AC units, and other items such as clothing or batteries that are not considered an electronic.

NOTE: Do not place electronic items in the bags or boxes with your shredding items. This will jam the machines. Electronics recycling is separate from the document shredding.



Food Donation Connection

Thanks to everyone who has brought in non-perishables. We can always use cereal, granola bars and pop tarts. Don't forget to put your donations in a bag before putting in the freezer.

April Pick Up Rotation

Wednesday, April 3: Jean Mowatt and Lori Lohr; Thursday, April 4: Susan Johnston; Friday, April 5: James Calderone.

Wednesday, April 10: Charley Banks; Thursday, April 11: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, April 12: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.

Wednesday, April 17: Jean Mowatt and Lori Lohr; Thursday, April 18: Susan Johnston; Friday, April 19: James Calderone.

Wednesday, April 24: Charley Banks; Thursday, April 25: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, April 26: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.



Welcome Richmond Beekeepers

The Richmond Beekeepers Association meets in the Greenwood Fellowship Hall the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.



APRIL SCRIPTURES

April 7	Psalm 133; Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31,
April 14	Psalm 4; Acts 3:12-19; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48.
April 21	Psalm 23; Acts 4:5-12; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18.
April 28	Psalm 22:25-31; Acts 8:26-40; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8.



Greenwood United Methodist Church April 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1 April Fool Day 	2 8 a.m. Prayer Call 1 p.m. Ruth Circle 	3 National Walking Day 	4 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 	5 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	6	
7 Communion Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 	8 2 p.m. Solar Eclipse 	9 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	10 Encourage a Young Writer Day 	11 Submarine Day 5:30 p.m. Willing Workers Circle 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 7 p.m. Richmond Beekeepers	12 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	13 Thomas Jefferson Day 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast 	
14 UMCOR Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 12:15 Fellowship Dinner 	15 Income Tax Day 	16 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	17 Haiku Poetry Day 俳句	18 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice 	19 6 p.m. Food Distribution	20 Husband Appreciation Day Friendship Quilters	
21 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 1 p.m. Aggie's Attic Volunteer Luncheon	22 Earth Day Passover Begins 	23 UMC General Conference Begins 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	24 Administrative Professionals Day 	25 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	26 Arbor Day 6 p.m. Food Distribution 	27 Morse Code Day RIVER CITY RUG HOOKERS	
28 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	29 Zipper Day Passover Ends 	30 8 a.m. Prayer Call 	APRIL IS KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL MONTH				

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





Mark Your Calendars

- April 23 — May 3 UMC General Conference
- May 12 Mother’s Day
- May 27 Memorial Day
- June 16 Father’s Day
- June 20 — 22 Virginia Annual Conference
- July 4 Independence Day
- September 2 Labor Day



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's Women's Circles

The Ruth Circle will meet Tuesday, April 2 at 1:30 p.m. in the home of Adamarye Patteson.

The Willing Workers Circle will meet Thursday, April 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the church.



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	Growing	Serving
Learning to love and connect with God and People	» Acquiring tools for being transformed into the image of	» Participating in church ministry and community outreach



Greenwood Church Family Birthdays

Arline Shafer	4/1	Lou Gammon	4/13
Libby Stout	4/4	Lydia Cuffy	4/15
Bill Prout.....	4/7	Teresa Rios McCartney	4/20
McKenzie Fulcher.....	4/9	Roger Eckwright.....	4/22
Barbara Lewis.....	4/11	Douglas Banks.....	4/24
Carolyn Smith.....	4/12	Josette Franklin.....	4/29

Anniversaries

Glenda & Steve Stalnaker.....4/10



*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**.*



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church™



The Twig Bender

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 Church Office hours: 9 a.m. — 1 p.m. Tues. — Fri.
 Fax: 804-266-2019
 Education Building Phone: 804-266-6668

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