



September 2023



# The Twig Bender

## A Message from Pastor TaeWon

**G**race and Peace to you all! I am thankful for the wonderful July and August with your warm welcome, prayers, and support. Thank you for all that you have done for me. Above all, I thank God Who is with us.

Through this pastoral message in the *Twig Bender*, I want to introduce you to, or remind you of, what United Methodism is. Three quotes from the life of John Wesley, who was the founder of the Methodist movement, may serve this purpose.

The 1<sup>st</sup> quote is "I felt my heart strangely warmed."

The 2<sup>nd</sup> one is "The world is my parish."

And, the 3<sup>rd</sup> is "The best of all is, God is with us."

These three may help us to see our life journey in Christ. Roughly speaking, the first quote lets us know that becoming a follower of Jesus Christ does not mean to be born from a mother's womb, but to be born again, that is, regenerated "from above "(John 3:1-3).



Rebirth/regeneration, however, is not the end of our faith journey. It's the beginning of our new life in Jesus Christ. It's the beginning of our spiritual journey toward Christian perfection. In other words, repentance, justification, rebirth, and assurance of salvation mean that believers begin their spiritual journey on Earth toward becoming Christ-like.

The Apostle Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:15: "But speaking the

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## Greenwood Prayer Ministry

Our Nation

The People of Greenwood and Our Mission Projects  
June Brewster, Phyllis Clark, Amelia Daniel, Roger Eckwright,  
Bubba Harris, Betty Ross, Lori Lohr, Dominic LeMerise,  
Jack Nelson, Riley Patteson, Lacye Ryan, Juanita Sharpe,  
Robbie Smith, Frances Stalnaker, Bob Stapleton, Catherine Wallace



# Aggie’s Attic Goes Back to School

By Lori Lohr

It’s no real secret that the founder of Aggie’s Attic, Agnes Dalton, had a soft spot for what she called “her babies.” It was always very important to Aggie that children who needed help got it. No questions asked.



The Aggie’s Attic Board of Directors and the volunteers maintain this sentiment to this day and work hard to make sure that we help “her babies” in any way that we can.

Two of those projects are the Backpack program and providing school supplies to those in need.

Aggie’s Attic has been supporting and participating in the Backpack program in Henrico County schools for over 13 years. The Attic’s support has grown by leaps and bounds since it began. At the inception, Attic volunteers bought the food, packed the bags, and delivered them to local elementary schools and fed less than 10 children.

During the 2022-2023 school year, Aggie’s Attic provided over \$23,000 in funding to feed 120 pre-school and school children. A paper grocery bag (discretion is important) is sent home with the students that suffer from food

insecurity. The bags contain enough food for Saturday and Sunday as many food insecure children simply don’t eat if they are not in

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# Greenwood Learning Center Happy Grandparents Day



*By Trish Hayes, GLC Lead*

The gang is all back and ready for a brand new school year! Everyone is excited to be back together again.

We already have a bunch of projects in the works for the upcoming months. This month we would like to wish our church family members a Happy Grandparents Day on Sunday Sept. 10.

If anyone would like to come and visit us for the afternoon or join us for arts and crafts or snack time please let me know.

We would also like to thank Charley Banks and the Cub Scouts for the beautiful new mulch in our playground area as well as those who have donated to our arts and crafts supplies! We are still taking donations of snacks for our daily snack time.

Thank you all so very much! Smiles.



*Greenwood's  
September  
Communion Offering*



**ICM  
MINISTRIES**

# Ruth Circle Takes on Mission Projects

*By Juanita Wade and Adamarye Patteson*

Greenwood's Ruth Circle has decided to take on three of the missions that Laurel Park's United Women in Faith had been doing. We are asking for members of the Greenwood congregation to help us fulfill our goal. Two of those missions will be done in the last quarter of the year.

The first mission is Blessing Bags. Ruth Circle will be putting together 25 Blessing Bags for the Hermitage and 25 Blessing Bags for Manor Care – Imperial. The items listed below are what Ruth Circle would like help with:

- Lip balm — need: 50
- Combs (5 by 1 inch pocket) — need: 50
- Hand Sanitizer (1 — 2 oz.) — need: 50
- Puzzle Book (Word Search) — have 21 need: 29
- Soap (regular bars) — have 16 need: 34
- Tissue (pocket size) — have 16 need: 34

Items are due at the church by Sunday, Nov. 19.

The second mission is to get fifteen \$20.00 Walmart gift cards. These gift cards will go to [Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach](#) in Harrisonburg, VA. These cards are sent to the guarantors of children in Virginia who have one or both parents incarcerated to be given to the children on Christmas Day. Kingsway Prison and Family Outreach will shop for the smaller children instead of sending them gift cards.

If you prefer not to shop yourself, monetary donations are accepted. Please make checks payable to Greenwood Ruth Circle or you can donate cash. Juanita Wade has agreed to shop for those that are unable or prefer to let someone else do the shopping.

Please bring gift cards to Greenwood UMC by Sunday, Oct. 29.

The third mission, coming in May, will be birthday bags for residents of the Hermitage with birthdays that month. More details coming.

Any contributions you can make for these missions will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Juanita Wade at 804-262-7843 (home), 804-357-5127 (cell) or [jbw1048@verizon.net](mailto:jbw1048@verizon.net).



## Longdale School Supplies Drive

Last month's school supplies drive for Longdale Elementary School was a smashing success; you donated more items than we've seen in recent years. See the photo at right.

Kristen Kines, Longdale E.S. counselor remarked: "Greenwood's faithful support for over 20 years is greatly appreciated by the students and staff at Longdale. Your donations have had a great impact on our students and their families. Thank you!"



### 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 ON FACEBOOK:  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GUMCVA](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GUMCVA)



## Greenwood's Women's Circles

**THE RUTH CIRCLE** will meet Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 1 p.m. in the home of Adamarye Patteson. We will be continuing our Bible study "Bad Girls of the Bible." We will also be discussing our projects for the new year. Anyone interested in attending call Adamarye at 804-690-9808 for directions.

**THE WILLING WORKERS CIRCLE** meets Thursday, Sept. 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the church. We'll be working on our mission projects for the coming year. Call Glenda Stalnaker (804-755-6767) to join us!



## September Men's Breakfast

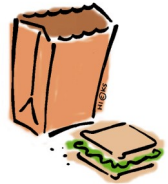
Due to the Labor Day weekend, the Men's Breakfast is postponed to Saturday, Sept. 9 at 8 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



## Fellowship Dinner

Barbecue, cole slaw, baked beans, potato salad, chocolate cake and ice cream. Wednesday, Sept. 13 — Use the [form on page 15](#) to reserve yours!

## FunRaisers Pickles



The FunRaisers are selling sweet and dill pickles again this year for \$7.50 per pint. Please contact Betty Ritchie by phone at 804-266-5747 or see her at church on Sunday morning to place your order. All proceeds go to the church. Thanks for helping out.

## BAG LUNCHES

Beef and cheddar on a roll, deviled eggs, chips and banana pudding all for only \$8/lunch. Reserve yours in the narthex. Pick up after services on Sep. 24.

## Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair

*Coming on October 21 this year.*

Brunswick Stew, Yard Sale, Silent Auction, Bake Sale and much more!  
Watch the upcoming *Greenwood Grapevine* or next month's *Twig Bender* for more information on how you can help or donate.





# GUMC Stewardship

Every month we write in this space the same words about giving, not just giving money but time and talent. We wonder if what’s printed in this space is getting boring?

If it is, that doesn’t mean it’s not true. No one needs to be reminded that Greenwood and the United Methodist Church always need funds – to keep the lights on – as well as volunteers to work the various mission projects of the church, using the talents and gifts given to each of us by God’s Holy Spirit. Let’s put those gifts to good use for God’s glory and the love of His children.

We give thanks for those who – without fanfare – do God’s work around Greenwood. Whether it’s putting down fresh mulch, volunteering in the church office, picking

## Greenwood Stewardship August 2023

Date	Present	Giving
Aug. 6	35	\$2,589
Aug. 13	33	\$2,353
Aug. 20	35	\$2,304
Aug. 27	37	\$1,703

up food or the many other activities that keep this church and its missions going.

To justify calling these paragraphs a “stewardship” article, the table at left shows each Sunday’s giving last month. GUMC needs \$2,612 each week towards budget. In August, we averaged \$2,237.25 each week, or 86 percent of our financial needs — praise God!

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## September 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 Aug. 28..... Bob Stapleton
- Week of Sept. 4..... Lewis Daniel
- Week of Sept. 11..... Harry Shuler
- Week of Sept. 18..... Bob Stapleton
- Week of Sept. 25..... Lewis Daniel



If you’d like to help with grass cutting, please call Bob Stapleton at 804-672-8408.

**Thank you from your Trustees.**

# Food Donation Connection



The food pantry can still use canned fruit and cereal. We also still need volunteers to pick up and to distribute food on Fridays.

## ***September Pick Up Rotation***

Wednesday, Aug. 30: Charley Banks; Thursday, Aug. 31: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, Sep. 1: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.

Wednesday, Sep. 6: Jean Mowatt and Lori Lohr; Thursday, Sep. 7: Susan Johnston; Friday, Sep. 8: Scott Hudson.

Wednesday, Sep. 13: Charley Banks; Thursday, Sep. 14: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, Sep. 15: Jim Calderone.

Wednesday, Sep. 20: Jean Mowatt and Lori Lohr; Thursday, Sep. 21: Susan Johnston; Friday, Sep. 22: Jim Calderone.

Wednesday, Sep. 27: Charley Banks; Thursday, Sep. 28: Gay and Bob Stapleton; Friday, Sep. 29: Glenda and Steve Stalnaker.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church™**

## SEPTEMBER SCRIPTURES

Sep. 3	Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-
Sep. 10	Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.
Sep. 17	Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35.
Sep. 24	Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16.



# A Message from Pastor TaeWon

*(Continued from page 1)*

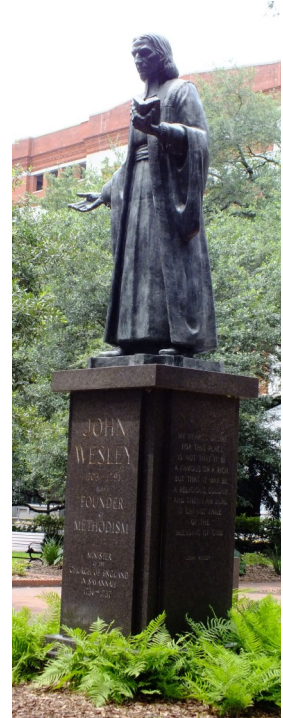
truth in love, we must grow in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." We United Methodists remember that John Wesley more passionately advanced into Jesus Christ and people since his Aldersgate experience, that is, his "heart-warmed experience." Before that experience, when he faced the storm on the voyage to Savannah, in the Colony of Georgia, he was afraid of dying, that is, losing his own life. However, after the Aldersgate experience, he did not have any fear of losing his life. Rather, he came to have more compassion for people in need. He fully opened himself for God to fully use him for people in need. He preached outside the church such as in a marketplace, a mining town, and so on.

The church of England did not allow this. Therefore, John Wesley was excluded from the appointment and pulpit. However, he did not quit his steps toward helping people. He never quit delivering the good news of Jesus Christ to people.

When he was excluded from the appointment and pulpit by the church law, John Wesley stated, "The world is my parish." He advanced beyond church walls to people in his days. In other words, John Wesley did his best to make himself nothing, while letting Jesus Christ be everything. He very thoroughly took his faith journey in Jesus Christ, for Jesus Christ, and toward Jesus Christ. Therefore, his entire life proved God's everlasting presence. This is why he said, "The best of all is, God is with us" when he was dying.

For John Wesley, conversion and journey, and conviction and confession are bound to one another.

The three quotes from the life of John Wesley are inscribed on his statue in Savannah, Georgia. Whenever I visit the statue, I change the quotes into reflection questions to examine myself. I encourage you to do the same as follows.



John Wesley  
statue in Savannah,  
Georgia

*(Continued on page 10)*

# A Message from Pastor TaeWon

*(Continued from page 9)*

- 1) Is my heart strangely warmed by the power of the Holy Spirit?
- 2) Is my mission field the world – meaning all lives that need the Good News of Jesus Christ?
- 3) Is my whole being rejoicing that the best of all is that God is with us?



My brothers and sisters in Christ, John Wesley's quotes tell us about who we are and what we shall be. The first quote tells us about the starting line, where we shall begin, while the second one teaches us about our spiritual journey in Christ Jesus. Our spiritual journey has nothing that can be named a border. Like Jesus traveled to all people and all places and included all in God's love, we United Methodists have to take the same in faith and action. By doing so, the third quote "Best of all is that God is with us" will be proved through fruits from our spiritual journey.

Do not forget that these stages are not separable from one another. Without repentance, justification, and rebirth, we believers cannot begin our spiritual journey. We may not see God's vision and mission that is hidden in the quote "The world is my parish." In other words, without conversion and journey, we cannot arrive at the conviction and confession that "the best of all is that God is with us."

I encourage you to continue to reflect on your faith and life journey in Jesus Christ through these three quotes from John Wesley. Let us never stop progressing toward people and Jesus Christ.

I believe that many blessings are promised to you. Amen.



## Prayer Request Email



For prayer requests only: [greenwoodprays@gmail.com](mailto:greenwoodprays@gmail.com)  
 Monitored daily by Pastor TaeWon; all emails in strict confidence.

# Aggie's Attic Goes Back to School

*(Continued from page 2)*

school. We feel confident that Agnes is smiling from ear to ear knowing that all of those “babies” are getting the food that their growing bodies need.

In early August, we received a request from Maude Trevvett Elementary School for help with school supplies for their students who could not afford them. The **Board approved a \$300 budget for this project** at their last meeting, and Lori (and her love of school supplies and a bargain!) went to work. We were able to purchase headphones, notebooks, folders, markers, crayons, pencils, glue sticks, scissors, and much more!

**Response from the school was overwhelming.** Trevvett's school counselor said “Our families were so thankful for the supplies. They couldn't say thank you enough. Thank you again. Seeing the smiles on those students' faces was so heartwarming, and we couldn't have done it without you and everyone at Aggie's Attic!”

There are **many ways you can help support the mission** of Aggie's Attic: donate gently used items for the store, volunteer your time, or if you prefer – just write a check! All store profits and funds raised go back into the community with a focus on children and their needs.

Interested in finding out more about Aggie's Attic or volunteering your time and talents? Feel free to **contact Susan Johnston** by emailing [ksngal@aol.com](mailto:ksngal@aol.com) or calling (804) 869-7098).

Aggie's Attic is located at 6913 Lakeside Avenue, Henrico. Hours: Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. — 4 p.m. Click [here](#) for Aggie's Facebook page.



*Trevvett Tigers*  
*Roaring with Positivity!*

## Twig Bender in Living Color

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





## Greenwood Church Family Birthdays

Lewis Daniel.....	9/2	Lucy Stephens.....	9/15
Isaac Langston .....	9/2	Catherine Wallace .....	9/18
Leo Bray .....	9/3	Shelly Bowles.....	9/22
Glenda Stalnaker .....	9/8	Lawrence Stout.....	9/25
Maurice Hawkins.....	9/11		

## Anniversaries

David & Gail Stanley .....	9/25
Cindy Jo & Lewis Daniel .....	9/26
John & Susan Johnston .....	9/30



*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](mailto: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

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Phone:	470-728-9060	Musical Accompanist:	Joseph Maher
Email:	<a href="mailto:PastorTaeWonKang@gmail.com">PastorTaeWonKang@gmail.com</a>	<i>Twig Bender</i> editor:	Steve Stalnaker
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Fax:	804-266-2019		
Education Building Phone:	804-266-6668		

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Fill out this form, clip it out and mail it to the church.

# SEPTEMBER FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Wednesday, Sept. 13 – 6:30 p.m.

**MENU:**

- Barbecue
- Cole Slaw
- Baked Beans
- Potato Salad
- Chocolate Cake and Ice Cream



We need to know ahead of time how much food to prepare. Therefore, **please make your reservations** by Sunday, Sept. 10. Cost of dinners is \$10 per plate.

Sign up on this bulletin insert and drop it in the collection plate. Or call the church office at (804) 266-5341 or e-mail [admin@gumcva.org](mailto:admin@gumcva.org).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Diners: \_\_\_\_\_





# Greenwood United Methodist Church

## September 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH</b>						2 V-J Day  
3 Communion Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sun- day School 11 a.m. Wor- ship	4 Labor Day  	5 8 a.m. Prayer Call  	6 Read a Book Day  	7 5:30 p.m. Willing Workers 6:30 p.m. Choir Prac- tice	8 Int'l Literacy Day 6 p.m. Food Distribution  	9 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast  
10 Grand- parent's Day Fellowship Dinner Res- ervations Due 9:30 a.m. Sun-	11 Patriot Day  	12 8 a.m. Prayer Call 1 p.m. Ruth Circle 6:30 p.m. Finance	13 Uncle Sam Day 6 p.m. Fellow- ship Dinner  	14 6:30 p.m. Choir Prac- tice 7 p.m. Rich- mond Beekeepers	<b>Friendship Quilters</b>	
17 Constitu- tion Day 9:30 a.m. Sun- day School 11 a.m. Wor- ship	18 USAF Birthday  	19 8 a.m. Prayer Call 7 p.m. Admin Council  	20 Nat'l Pepperoni Pizza Day  	21 Int'l Peace Day 6:30 p.m. Choir Prac- tice  	22 6 p.m. Food Distribution  	23 Fall Equi- nox Nat'l Hunting and Fishing Day  
24 9:30 a.m. Sun- day School 11 a.m. Wor- ship 12:15 p.m. Pick Up Bag Lunches	25 Yom Kip- pur National Daughter's Day  	26 8 a.m. Prayer Call  	27 World Tourism Day  	28 6:30 p.m. Choir Prac- tice  	29 National VFW Day  	30 World Mari- time Day  



## Mark Your Calendars

Oct. 9 ..... Columbus Day  
 Oct. 15 ..... Charge Conference  
 Oct. 21 ..... Brunswick Stew Sale and Fall Fair  
 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



## 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 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