



**Greenwood Forest**  
Baptist Church





## **GREENWOOD FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH**

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost | Livestreamed Service

August 23, 2020

Welcome to Greenwood Forest!

We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. GFBC is an inclusive community of faith, which means we welcome, affirm, and include all God's people in their diversity of genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, and backgrounds. We are each beloved by God and we are happy to welcome you to our church this morning exactly as you are.

We would love to get to know you and for you to get to know us better. Follow us on social media or visit [gfbccary.org](http://gfbccary.org) to learn more.

Welcome to worship!

**an inclusive  
community  
of faith**

Chiming of the Hour

◆ Gathering Hymn (vv. 1 & 3)

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

*See, I am sending My messenger ahead of You, who will prepare Your way before You.*

*Matthew 11:10*

1. Pass me not, O gen - tle Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble  
 2. Let me at a throne of mer - cy Find a sweet re -  
 3. Trust - ing on - ly in Thy mer - it, Would I seek Thy  
 4. Thou the Spring of all my com - fort, More than life to

cry, While on oth - ers Thou art call - ing,  
 lief; Kneel - ing there in deep con - tri - tion,  
 face; Heal my wound - ed, bro - ken spir - it,  
 me, Whom have I on earth be - side Thee?

*Solo:* I'm call - ing  
 Do not pass me by. Sav - ior, Sav - ior,  
 Help my un - be - lief.  
 Save me by Thy grace.  
 Whom in heav'n but Thee?

Hear my hum - ble cry; While on oth - ers Thou art

call - ing, Do not pass me by.

## Welcome to Worship

Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## ◆ Passing of the Peace

Rev. Efird

## Call to Worship (Psalm 67)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us,

**People: And make your face to shine upon us,**

Leader: That your way may be known upon earth,

**People: Your saving power among all nations.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you!**

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**People: For you judge with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**People: Let all the peoples praise you!**

Leader: The earth has yielded its increase;

**People: God, our God, has blessed us.**

Leader: May God continue to bless us;

**People: Let the ends of the earth revere the Lord.**

## Invocation

Rev. Dr. Stacks

1. In Christ there is no East or West, in  
 2. In Him shall true hearts ev - ery - where their  
 3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -  
 4. In Christ now meet both East and West, in

Him no South or North; but one great fel - low -  
 high com - mun - ion find; His ser - vice is the  
 e'er your race may be; who serves my Fa - ther  
 Him meet South and North: all Christ - like souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.  
 gold - en cord, close bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
 as His child is sure - ly kin to me.  
 one in Him through - out the whole wide earth.

**Offertory Prayer**

Elizabeth Biser

◆ **Presentation of the Offering**

OLD 100TH

*As our offering is presented back to God, we will sing the following doxology:*

Transcendent God, we bless your name,  
Incarnate Christ, the risen one,  
The Spirit with us, Immanent,  
The Source, the Word, the Breath of Life! Amen.

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Dr. Stacks

*We affirm each prayer with the following response:*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*We conclude the Prayers of the People with the Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**

Matthew 15:21-28 and James 2:1-17

Rev. Efird

*We affirm the reading of Scripture with the following response:*

Reader: The word of God for us, the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

There Is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Burleigh

Randy Palmer, Soloist

*There is a balm in Gilead  
To make the wounded whole,  
There is a balm in Gilead  
To save the sin-sick soul.*

If you cannot preach like Peter,  
If you cannot pray like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus,  
And say he died for all.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,  
And think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit,  
Revives my soul again.

**Sermon**

Rev. Melissa Florer-Bixler

E *Leader or All* A2

1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,  
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,  
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,  
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,  
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

E A2 Bsus B

for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,  
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,  
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,  
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,

F#m7 E/G# A2 Bsus

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,  
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,  
 the hands of a child ; in hands that are wrin - kled,  
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,  
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

E Bsus E Bsus

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,  
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,  
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,  
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,  
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,



◆ **Benediction**

Rev. Efird

◆ **Postlude**

Fanfare-Improvisation

Charles Callahan

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*Today's hymns come from Celebrating Grace (Celebrating Grace Inc.), the African American Heritage Hymnal (Gia Publications, Inc.), and Glory to God (Westminster John Knox Press). Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530 and OneLicense #A-721397.*

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## ***Focus on Community***

### **Prayer Concerns**

Emma Aepli

Jim Allen

Nell Allen

Peter Barboriak

*(Valerie Brooks' friend)*

Gilles Bikindou

Kitty Blanton

Marjorie Floyd

James Mark Frazier

*(Sue Hughes' brother)*

Sharon Guenther

Janet Merriman

*(Roz Slawson's friend)*

John and Sylvia Morgan

Sara McMillan Perkinson

*(Leon and Sue Perkinson's  
daughter-in-law)*

Miriam Rodriguez

*(Roz Slawson's sister)*

Fred Seeger

Allison Smith

The Thomas Family (at the  
death of Dave Thomas)

Alison Zieglmeier

Our partner church,  
Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

## *Announcements and Updates*

### **First Day of School Pictures**

We are approaching the end of the summer and the beginning of the fall, when we typically celebrate and pray over our students as they move from one grade to another and begin a new year of learning. Since we cannot be together in person right now, and our Promotion Sunday and Backpack Blessing will happen virtually, we would love to incorporate some pictures of our kids on their first day of school this fall. If you are comfortable doing so, submit a picture of your child on the first day of school, and we will include it in a slideshow during our livestream on Sunday, August 30 as a part of our Backpack Blessing. The web address for sending your pictures was emailed earlier this week to the church family.

### **Backpack Buddies Update**

Due to the ongoing hunger crisis resulting from the pandemic, the Backpack Buddies program will not be going on hiatus this summer. Because the program is continuing beyond its normal end date, we will need new packers, food purchasers, deliverers, and new double-bagged plastic bags to deliver food. Groups for any of these roles are still limited to families that are already exposed to one another on a regular basis so that we can keep our volunteers safe. If you or your family would like to serve in any of these roles or you have plastic bags you'd like to donate, please contact Karen Upchurch at [kaupchurch@gmail.com](mailto:kaupchurch@gmail.com).

### **Faith Formation via Zoom**

In addition to the upcoming antiracist reading groups, some of our Faith Formation classes are meeting via Zoom. Special Studies is meeting Mondays at 2pm, Crossroads is meeting Sundays at 9:30am, and Agape is meeting at various times on Sundays. The Kindergarten through Fifth Grade Faith Formation Class meets twice a month. Contact your Faith Formation leadership for more details.

### **Update from the Stewardship Ministry**

Dear Congregation,

Our church's work and outreach continue, even if we cannot be physically together. Thanks to all of you who have continued to send your tithes by mail or online – and a big thanks to all of you who have switched to regular online giving. If you have any questions about sending in your gifts – or setting up online giving – please contact the church office or see the details later in this bulletin. In addition, if you receive offering envelopes in the mail but no longer need them because you are giving via an alternate method, email [info@gfbccary.org](mailto:info@gfbccary.org) to let the church office know you would like to cancel your mailed envelopes.

please consider giving an extra gift before the end of the month of August to help us close our 2019-2020 budget gap. With your help, we can finish the year strong!

In Peace, Elizabeth Biser, Stewardship Deacon



# ONE Wake

## ONE WAKE – GET OUT THE VOTE 2020!

As you know, Greenwood Forest Baptist Church is an active member of ONE Wake, a broad-based community organization dedicated to bettering the lives of all kinds of families in Wake County. ONE Wake is made up of a coalition of institutions dedicated to work for its members by involving a diversity of people in non-partisan activities. A list of member organizations is given below and more information can be found at [www.ONEWake.org](http://www.ONEWake.org).

### ONE Wake Member Institutions

Antioch Bible Fellowship  
Baptist Grove Church  
Bazzel Creek MBC  
Beth Shalom  
Cary First Christian Church  
Christ the King Lutheran Church  
Church of the Good Shepherd  
Common Threads  
Dorcas Ministries  
Eastern Wake Ministers Alliance  
Raleigh First Baptist Church  
First UMC Cary  
Friendship Chapel Baptist Church  
Good Shepherd UCC  
Greenwood Forest Baptist Church  
Iglesia Fiesta Cristiana  
Islamic Association of Raleigh

Macedonia New Life Church  
Open Table UMC  
Pleasant Grove MBC  
Pleasant Grove Church, Cary  
Pullen Memorial Baptist Church  
Raleigh Mennonite  
Southeast Raleigh Table  
St. Ambrose Episcopal Church  
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church  
St. John's Baptist Church  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Tapestry Church  
The Fountain of Raleigh  
UU Fellowship of Raleigh  
Watts Chapel MBC

ONE Wake has been active this year in an attempt to lessen the harsh impacts of the Coronavirus on folks who are struggling more now than ever before. One of its most recent successes was supporting the allocation of over \$7 million dollars in emergency federal funds to be used for homeless families and families needing housing assistance in Wake County. ONE Wake also supported the RIMA (Raleigh Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance) walk in downtown Raleigh following the murders of George Floyd and others at the hands of police.

The current initiative being undertaken by ONE Wake focuses on our readiness to vote in the upcoming 2020 election. Each member institution wants to support 100 percent voter registration in its own organization and to encourage everyone to develop a plan for voting in the upcoming election. For members of GFBC who are not already registered to vote, ONE Wake Core team members can help you register electronically. If you have questions, you can reach out to Leta Huntsinger ([letabird@bellsouth.net](mailto:letabird@bellsouth.net)) or any other member of the Core Team (Beth Jernigan, Greg Upchurch, Vivian Denning, Randy Palmer, Gerry Ritter, Mark Soyars, Judy Vaccaro, Meg Spears-Newsome, or Jazzmoné Sutton).

In an effort to reach beyond our church family, we would like to encourage everyone to reach out to five members of your own social network to make sure that they are registered to vote and have a plan (either in person or via absentee ballot) to vote.

The GET OUT THE VOTE efforts by GFBC Core Team members and other member institutions will be tracked electronically by ONE Wake and the results can be viewed at [www.ONEWake.org/voterreg](http://www.ONEWake.org/voterreg). A member of the GFBC Core team may be contacting you soon either via email, text, or telephone in our attempt to support the **GET OUT THE VOTE** initiative, but don't wait. If you have questions, you can reach out to one of the Core Team today.

Stay tuned for more!

## Update from the Finance Ministry

2019-2020 Budget:	\$864,000
Amount supported through stewardship giving:	\$804,000

	<i>This Week</i>	<i>YTD</i>
Total Giving	\$ 15,227	\$ 1,018,310
Less Together We Build Giving	\$ 176	\$ 295,902
Less Other Designated Giving	<u>\$ 230</u>	<u>\$ 45,874</u>
Actual Stewardship Giving	\$ 14,821	\$ 676,534
Stewardship Giving needed to fully subscribe budget	<u>\$ 14,533</u>	<u>\$ 774,933</u>
Over (Under)	\$ 288	\$ (98,399)

## Way to Give at GFBC

In the midst of the pandemic, there is something simple that we can all do for the church that will make a huge difference—set up online giving. Every Sunday that we are not at church, we experience a decline in giving. Even though we are not physically together, the church still has to pay its bills, our wonderful staff, and make sure that our church is prepared to help the most vulnerable among us especially during this pandemic.

Ways to tithe:

1. Set up an automatic payment through your bank using the “Bill Pay” function. This will result in your bank mailing a check to the church on a weekly or monthly basis.
2. Give online through the church website. Simply go to [gfbccary.org/give](http://gfbccary.org/give) to access the online giving module.
3. Set up an automated bank draft by filling out the form attached to the bulletin, attaching a voided check, and mailing it to the church office at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, 110 SE Maynard Road, Cary, NC 27511.

Together, we can make sure that Greenwood Forest can continue to serve our community for years to come!



Greenwood Forest Baptist Church  
110 SE Maynard Road  
Cary, NC 27511  
(919)-467-0481  
[info@gfbcccary.org](mailto:info@gfbcccary.org)

- New Draft  
 Replace Existing Draft  
 Cancel Draft

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Authorization Agreement for Automated Bank Draft

### Automated Payment Authorization

I (we) hereby authorize Greenwood Forest Baptist Church to initiate debit entries to my (our) account designated below at the depository financial institution named below and to debit same account. I authorize credit entries, if necessary, for any debit entries that are determined to be in error. I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until Greenwood Forest Baptist Church has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination that is to be received at least five (5) business days prior to the proposed effective date of the termination of the authorization.

### Financial Institution Information

Financial Institution Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Routing Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (9 digits on bottom left corner of check)

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Type:  Checking  Savings

### Account Information

Account Holder Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Full Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Debit Account Every:  Month  Twice a Month  Week

- If weekly, what day of the week: \_\_\_\_\_ (If on a holiday, debit occurs day before)
- If non-weekly, what date(s) of the month: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Each Debit: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Stewardship Giving Portion: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Designated Giving to: \_\_\_\_\_ Portion: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Designated Giving to: \_\_\_\_\_ Portion: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Designated Giving to: \_\_\_\_\_ Portion: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach a voided check to this document.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Connect

📍 110 SE Maynard Road Cary, NC 27511

☎ 919-467-0481

✉ info@gfbccary.org

🌐 gfbccary.org

🐦 @gfbccary

📘 @greenwoodforestcary

## Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

Helen Bishop, Organist

All Who Serve This Church

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