



# **Greenwood Forest**

Baptist Church





# Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

September 12, 2021

## ORDINARY TIME

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# an inclusive community of faith

Welcome to Greenwood Forest!

We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. Greenwood Forest Baptist Church 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.

*If you need a hearing assistance device, they are available at the back of the sanctuary.*

*Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera if in attendance.*



In early 2020, we launched the **Together We Build** campaign to retire Greenwood Forest Baptist Church's debt to put us in a better position to continue to be an inclusive community of faith in the years to come. Eliminating our debt would free up our operating budget to do more ministry and be a greater presence in the community. We can more faithfully live out the call God has placed on our life together when we become debt-free. **Together We Build** is not just about debt, it's about a future where we are free to go wherever God calls us to go and be whoever God calls us to be.

## Frequently Asked Questions

*Where did the debt come from?*

The church campus was extensively renovated over ten years ago and many of the spaces we enjoy today are a result of that spending.

*Why are we re-launching the campaign?*

When we started in 2020, we had no idea the effect a global pandemic would have on our community. Once lockdowns began, we hit pause on the campaign.

*How can I help?*

We appreciate gifts of every size and our Senior Pastor, Rev. Lauren Efird, would love to meet with everyone in the church to talk about how they can contribute and about what they're excited about for the future of Greenwood Forest! Contact her at [lauren.efird@gfbccary.org](mailto:lauren.efird@gfbccary.org) to set up a meeting.



# Order of Worship

Together We Build Sunday

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude                                      Leaning on the Everlasting Arms                                      arr. Tornquist

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 127)    Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: Unless the Lord builds the house,

People: Those who build it labor in vain.

Leader: Unless the Lord guards the city,

People: The guard keeps watch in vain.

Leader: It is in vain that you rise up early

People: and go late to rest,

Leader: Eating the bread of anxious toil;

People: for God gives sleep to her beloved.

Invocation    Rev. Spears-Newsome

Gathering Hymn    Together We Build

*Text by Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks  
(see page 4)*

Offertory Prayer    Anthony Warren

Presentation of the Offering    OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

# Together We Build

To - geth - er we build, with in these four walls, in -  
To - geth - er we build, with neigh-bors out - side, a  
To - geth - er we build, with God as our Lord, a

clu - sion, com - pas - sion, re - new - al for all. We  
ci - ty more e - qual where peace may a - bide, a  
king - dom where jus - tice and love are re - stored, a

join with the saints who pre - ced - ed us here in  
place where none lack, where we seek com - mon good, and  
king - dom of mer - cy, where Christ's rule holds sway, a

wide - ning our wel - come that all may draw near.  
lib - er - ty thrives where op - pres - sion once stood.  
world where the Spir - it em pow'rs us to - day.

*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

Ephesians 2:11-22

Rev. Spears-Newsome

*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

Esto les Digo

Kinley Lange

Esto les digo,  
Si dos de ustedes  
Se ponen de acuerdo aquí  
En la tierra para pedir,  
Algo en oración,  
Mi padre que está en el cielo,  
Se lo dará.

Porque donde dos o tres  
Se reúnen en mi nombre,  
Allí estoy yo,  
En medio de ellos.

This I say to you,  
If two of you  
Are in agreement here  
On the earth to ask,  
Anything in prayer,  
My father who is in heaven,  
Will give it to you.

Because where two or three  
Are gathered in my name,  
There am I,  
In the midst of them.

Sermon

Together We Build

Rev. Efird

Hymn

Let Us Build a House (All Are Welcome)

*(see page 7)*

Benediction

Rev. Efird

Postlude

Redeemed

arr. Eloise Hayes

\*\*\*

*Today's hymns come from Glory to God. Copyrighted music use is covered by CCLI License #1243530 and OneLicense #A-721397.*

*Our pianist today is Lynn Newsome.*



# Let Us Build a House (All Are Welcome)

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)  
C7 F C F B<sup>b</sup> C Dm

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can  
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are  
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,  
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the  
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)  
F C F Dm7 Gm C

safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell  
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek  
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground  
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,  
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F<sup>#</sup>m) (Bm)  
Gm C7 B<sup>b</sup> F Am Dm

how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)  
Gm C F B<sup>b</sup>

vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the  
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as  
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we  
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us  
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

*Refrain*  
(D) (G) (F<sup>#</sup>7) (Bm) (Em) (Bm)  
F B<sup>b</sup> A7 Dm Gm Dm

love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:  
share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;  
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:  
house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F<sup>#</sup>m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D) (A7)  
Am Gm F Gm C7 F B<sup>b</sup> F C7

all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.



# **Fundraiser & Kickoff**

**September 12**

**@ 5:00pm**

BBQ + Auction  
Crafts + Games  
and more!

## CONNECTCONNECT

### ► Ways to Serve at GFBC

At the August 15 Business Meeting, we approved a host of people ready to serve the church in the upcoming year. Thank you to everyone who is already committed to investing in the life of the church. We couldn't do it without your help! We still need some help with a few things.

We need volunteers who can serve occasionally in the **children's ministry** on Sunday mornings, including in the brand new Wonder Room! You need to be able to be kind and caring with our children, be trained in the Abuse Prevention Policy, and pass a background check. You do not need

to be prepared to develop lesson plans or prepare for Sunday mornings. Contact Rev. Dr. Stacks if you're interested!

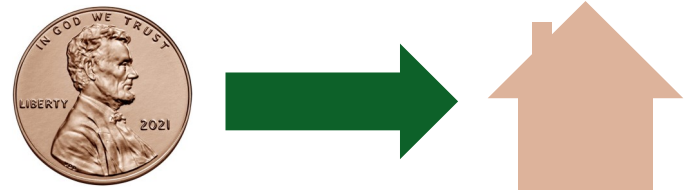
We need similar volunteers for the **youth ministry** and two roles in the **Family Promise** program — coordinating overnight hosts and coordinating laundry. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Spears-Newsome.

We also need volunteers for the **congregational care ministry** who are willing to visit, call, and pray for members of our church. If you are interested, contact Rev. Efrd.

## ACTACTACTACT

### ► A Penny For Housing

One of the founding issues member institutions of ONE Wake selected to address was housing. ONE Wake is currently addressing housing in different campaigns among the municipalities in Wake County. The Cary campaign is called **A Penny For Housing**. The Town of Cary has plans for creating and preserving affordable housing, but it has invested few local resources to implement them. Meanwhile, everyone from teachers, healthcare workers, first responders, 9 | an inclusive community of faith



people on disability, and others we know, care about, and depend on can't afford to live here. **ONE Wake** is asking that the Cary Town Council prioritize a budget that sees a penny of the Town's tax rate go toward creating and preserving affordable housing.

You can find out more details at [onewake.org/penny\\_for\\_housing\\_cary](https://onewake.org/penny_for_housing_cary) and join the campaign at [onewake.org/10000strong](https://onewake.org/10000strong) where we are collecting names on a petition supporting this plan in the Town of Cary.

## PRAYPRAYPRAYPRAY

### ► Prayer List\*

Jim Allen  
 Nell Allen  
 Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend)  
 The Beal Family (at the death of Don)  
 Gilles Bikindou  
 James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)  
 Dennis Gilpin (Elaine Dodson's friend)  
 Janet Merriman (Roz Slawson's friend)  
 Sylvia Morgan  
 Betty Patterson (Doris Martin's sister)  
 Dan Scott (Ken Scott's brother)  
 Fred Seeger  
 Elaine Whisnant  
 Marta Whitehouse (Al Whitehouse's mother)  
 Our partner church, Ebenezer Baptist, Cuba

*\*To add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names rotate off and can be re-added upon request.*

## GIVEGIVEGIVEGIVE

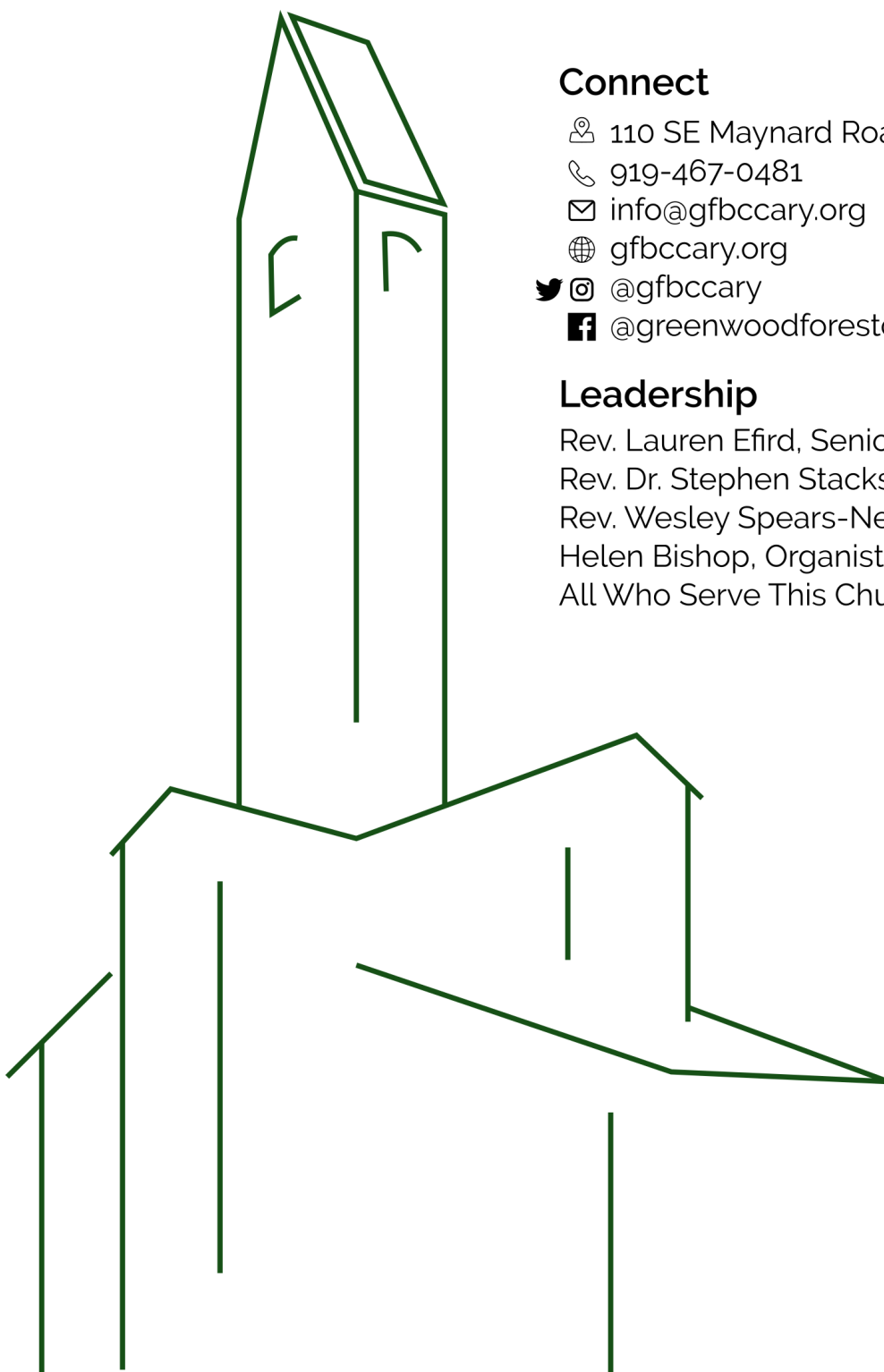
### ► Ways to Tithe

- Set up an automated bank draft by filling out a form requested from the church office, attaching a voided check, and mailing it back to the church office.
- Set up auto pay through you bank using the "Bill Pay" function. Then, your bank will mail a check to the church weekly or monthly.
- Give online through the church website at [gfbccary.org/give](http://gfbccary.org/give).

### ► July 2021 Finance Update

*Updated when the previous month's books have closed.*

	July 2021	YTD
Congregational Giving	\$51,113	\$598,640
Congregational Giving Target	\$53,624	\$647,970
Congregational Giving Under/Over	\$(2,511)	(\$49,330)
Other Receipts	\$128,186	\$149,621
Total Giving and Receipts	\$179,300	\$748,261
Total Disbursements	\$59,262	\$687,555
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	\$120,038	\$60,706
Together We Build	\$3,108	\$118,851



## Connect

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🌐 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