



Greenwood Forest

Baptist Church





Greenwood Forest Baptist Church

October 31, 2021

ORDINARY TIME

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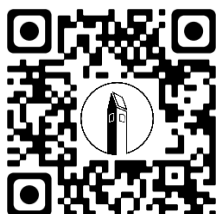
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← You can
scan with your
phone's camera
to give online!

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.



Order of Worship

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

Rev. Lauren Efir

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Efir

Call to Worship (Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Leader: In you, O LORD, we seek refuge;

People: Do not let us ever be put to shame;

Leader: In your righteousness,

People: Deliver us!

Leader: Incline your ear to us; rescue us speedily.

People: Be a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save us.

Leader: You are indeed our rock and fortress;

People: For your name's sake lead us and guide us,

Leader: Take us out of the net that is hidden for us,

People: For you are our refuge.

Leader: Into your hand we commit our spirits;

People: You have redeemed us, O LORD, faithful God.

Leader: Our times are in your hand;

People: Deliver us from the hand of enemies and persecutors.

Leader: Let your face shine upon your servants;

People: Save us in your steadfast love!

Invocation

Rev. Spears-Newsome

Gathering Hymn (vv. 1, 4 & 5)

The Church's One Foundation

(see page 3)

Offertory Prayer

Gerry Ritter

The Church's One Foundation

1. The church-'s one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der we see her sore op - pressed,
 4. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5. Yet she on earth has un - ion with God, the Three in One,

she is His new cre - a - tion, by wa - ter and the Word;
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won;

from heaven He came and sought her to be His ho - ly bride,
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and Christ's great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with Thee.

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. Spears-Newsome

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

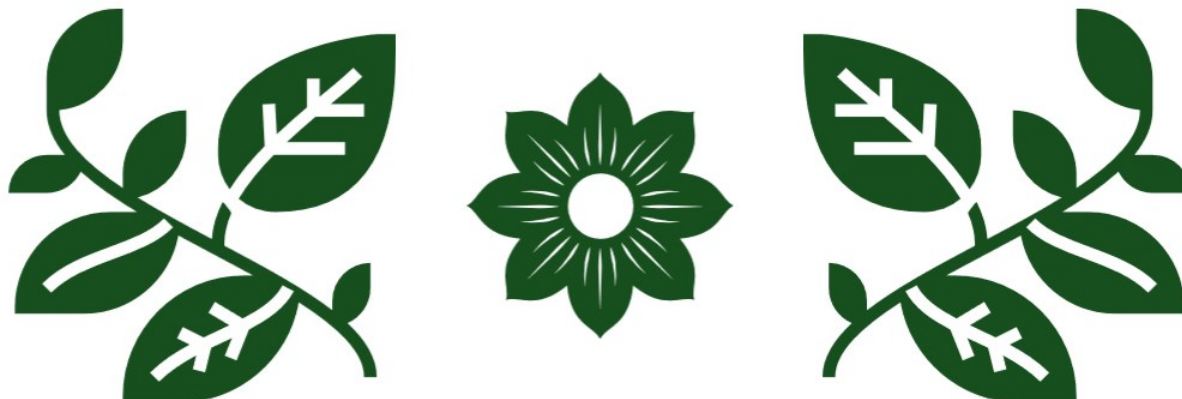
Matthew 7:24-27

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.



How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed,
for I am your God, and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you the deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply.
The flames shall not hurt you. I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

Sermon

Together We Build . . .
A Firm Foundation

Rev. Kadeisha Bonsu

Hymn

(see page 6)

The Solid Rock

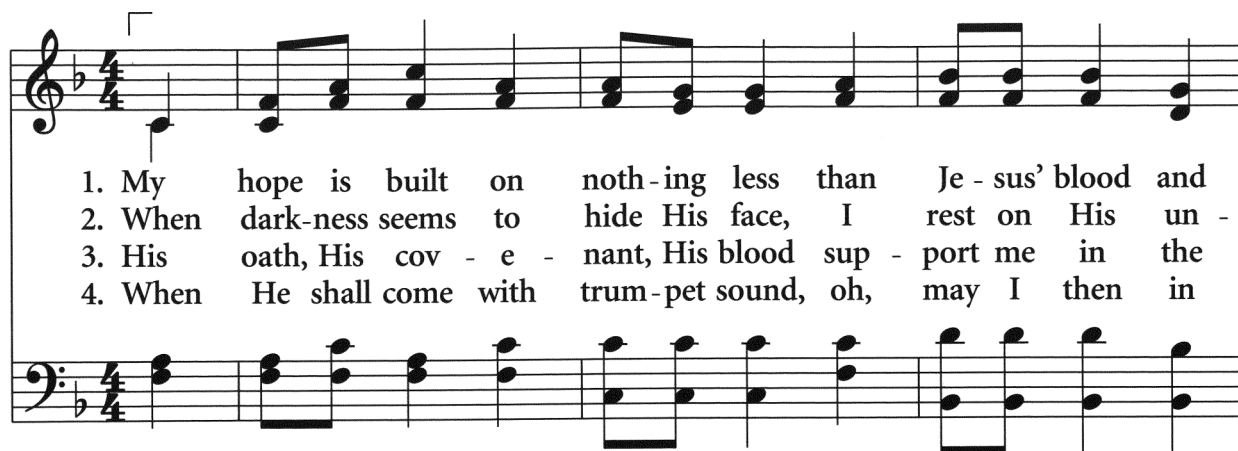
Benediction

Rev. Efird

Postlude

*Today's hymns come from Celebrating Grace. Copyrighted music use
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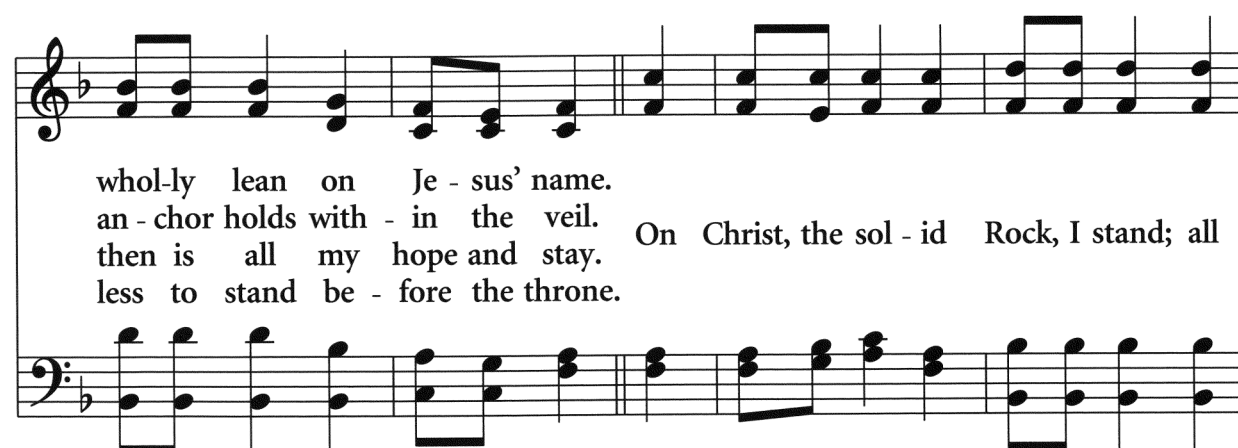
The Solid Rock



1. My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' blood and
 2. When dark-ness seems to hide His face, I rest on His un -
 3. His oath, His cov - e - nant, His blood sup - port me in the
 4. When He shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in



righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 whelm-ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, He
 Him be found, dressed in His righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -



whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.



oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

CONNECTCONNECT

► Staff Anniversary: Rev. Lauren Efird

From the Personnel Committee:

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, so be sure to thank our pastors for all their hard work!

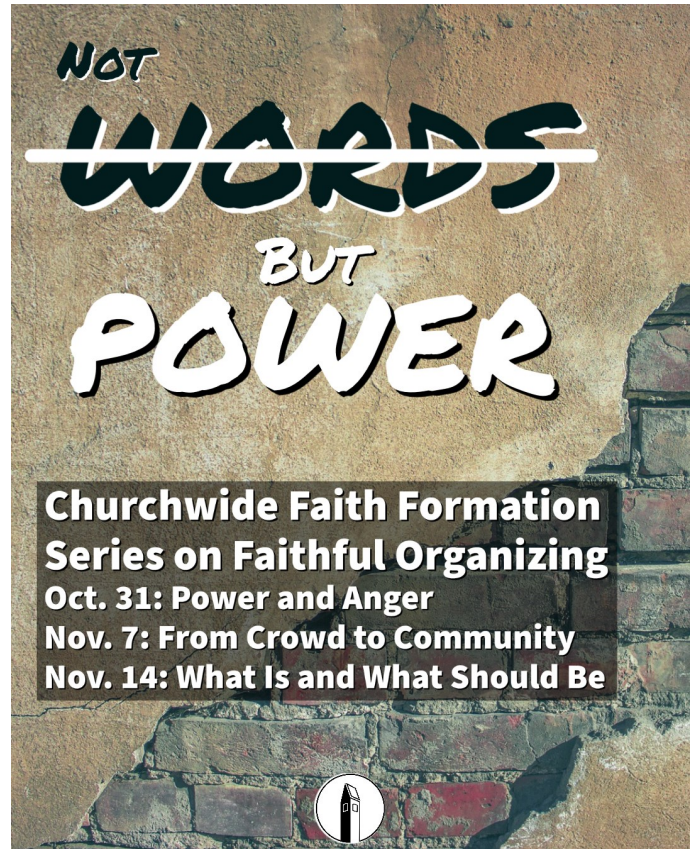
Not only that, but in October we celebrate two special anniversaries in the life of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church for our Senior Pastor, Rev. Lauren Efird.



Lauren was originally hired as an Associate ten years ago on October 2, 2011. She was installed as our Senior Pastor five years ago on October 23, 2016. Since then, she has been our

pastor through many challenging times, including fighting the deportation of one of our church members, leading discernment processes about the future of our community, and navigating the unprecedented difficulties of a global pandemic for our church.

We are grateful for Lauren's faithful service, tireless dedication, and strong leadership of our congregation these many years!



► Faith Formation This Week

Throughout the year, we offer special churchwide Faith Formation series to give our Faith Formation teachers a break and to give everyone the chance to hear from those in our congregation with special experiences in specific areas. First up this church year, we'll hear from Rev. Spears-Newsome about the intersection between the Bible, Christian tradition, and community organizing. The three-week series begins October 31 and runs through November 14. Churchwide Faith Formation takes place in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am and is also available online via Zoom.



9:45am | Faith Formation & JOY Class Biscuits
11:00am | Worship in the Sanctuary and Online
4:00pm | Together We Walk Fundraiser Begins
5:00pm | Fall Festival Begins

Welcome back walkers and runners!
Fall-themed snacks!
Pumpkin-decorating contest!
Games!
Music!
And more!

We will be having a Fall Festival on November 7 full of fun events!

- In the morning, the JOY Class will be selling Annette King's famous ham biscuits—you'll want to get your hands on one (or more)—as well as coffee. In addition, apple butter and jams will be available for purchase starting at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall.
- In the afternoon, we'll have a fun(d raising!) walk/run to Bond Brothers Brewery and back to benefit the Together We Build campaign. Registration for the fundraiser walk is \$50 and comes with a t-shirt and a drink at Bond Brothers (if desired, 21+)! Register at gfbccary.org/walk.
- In the evening, we'll have an outdoor Fall Festival with tons of festivities, including a Glamorous Gourd Decorating Contest. Bring your finest decorated pumpkin (or other seasonal veggie) and we'll vote on the winner! We'll have activities for all ages as well as food and music.

ACTACTACTACT

Penny for Housing Campaign

What are Cary churches proposing?

ONE Wake churches in Cary are asking the Town Council to prioritize a penny from the property tax rate generating an annual fund for affordable and workforce housing development and preservation. ONE Wake's initial work suggests this would equal \$35/year of the taxes paid by the owner of a home valued at \$350,000 and would total \$3 million/year added to the fund.



Who would this solution help?

Teachers, healthcare workers, first responders, service sector employees, people on disability income, and others we know, care about, love, and depend upon. Many of these people are becoming unable (or are already unable) to live in Cary. In 2016, the Town of Chapel Hill approved a similar Penny for Housing initiative and the annual fund has led to the addition of about 300 units of affordable housing that would have otherwise not been built.

Where has this solution been successful in the past?

In addition to the Town of Chapel Hill, both Raleigh and Durham have enjoyed similar success with both housing bonds and a Penny for Housing policy. Cary remains the only major municipality in the Triangle without either a housing bond or Penny for Housing fund.

How can I support Penny for Housing?

Show your support at the petition at onewake.org/10000strong.

Come to the assembly with the Town Council members (and their electoral opponents) to hear their perspectives on our proposal. The assembly is virtual on **November 11 at 7pm**. Sign up for your invite at onewake.org/carypennyaction.



Backpack Buddies Update

Our Backpack Buddies ministry continues to provide vital resources for families in need in our neighborhood. Recently, we've expanded the program to include food for some afterschool programs at Briarcliff and Farmington Woods Elementary Schools. If you'd like to help with the program, you can contribute to the Backpack Buddies fund (recurring contributions welcome!) or volunteer to help pick up or pack food (this can be a fun family activity, as well!). Thank you to all the families who have committed to packing and keeping this program going during the pandemic and all our recurring donors.

► Prayer List*

Jim Allen
 Nell Allen
 Peter Barboriak (*Valerie Brooks' friend*)
 Gilles Bikindou
 James Mark Frazier (*Sue Hughes' brother*)
 Henry and Sally Glasgow (*Scot Glasgow's Parents*)
 Mac Graham
 Alix Grizzard (*Gail Jones' cousin*)
 Amy Harvey (*Elizabeth Harvey's daughter-in-law*)
 Janet Merriman (*Roz Slawson's friend*)
 Sylvia Morgan
 Fred Seeger
 Diane Smith (*at the death of her sister*)
 Lee Taylor
 Elizabeth Vickery
 Emma Webster
 Marta Whitehouse (*Al Whitehouse's mother*)
 Alison Zieglmeier
 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.*

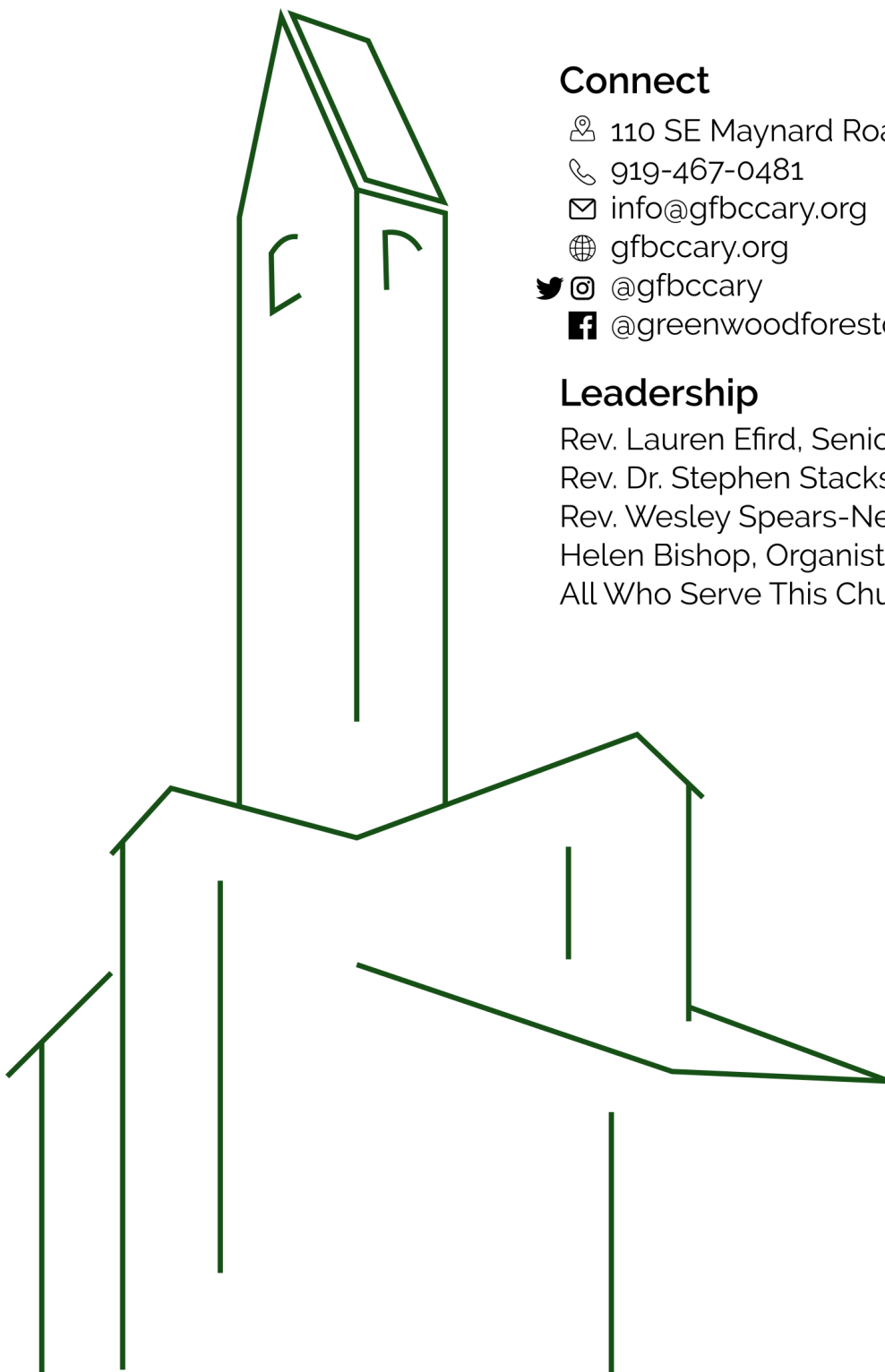
► Ways to Tithe

- 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 your 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.

► September 2021 Finance Update

Updated when the previous months' books close.

	Sept. 2021	YTD
Congregational Giving	\$41,829	\$41,829
Congregational Giving Target	\$51,000	\$51,000
Congregational Giving Under/Over	(\$9,171)	(\$9,171)
Other Receipts	\$4,475	\$4,475
Total Giving and Receipts	\$46,304	\$46,304
Total Disbursements	\$57,608	\$57,608
Under/Over Receipts vs. Disbursements	(\$11,304)	(\$11,304)
Together We Build Giving	\$15,437	\$15,437



Connect

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📞 919-467-0481

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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