





# an inclusive community of faith

# Welcome

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 exactly as you are.

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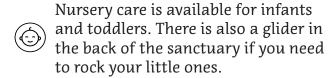
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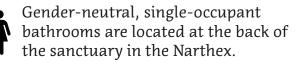
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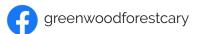


Hearing assistance devices are
(D))) available at the back of the sanctuary along with a transcript of the sermon.

Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.











# **Announcements** Church Events and Updates

# Stewardship Sunday

We have an exciting year of ministry ahead of us at Greenwood Forest! In order to engage in all these activities, we will need to raise \$612,000 this year from congregational giving. We are asking every member who is not regularly giving to consider setting up a recurring gift. For everyone already giving, we're asking you to consider what 5-7% more would look like for you. Greenwood Forest is a deeply meaningful place to all of us who call it home and we hope to come together to keep it an open sanctuary for all.

# Rev. Efird's Anniversary

From the Personnel Committee: October has two important anniversaries for GFBC. October 2 marks Rev. Lauren Efird's 11th year of service with GFBC and October 23 marks her 6th anniversary as our Senior Pastor. We'd like to say a big thank you for Lauren's leadership and care. Be sure to give Lauren a big thank you for all she does.

## Fall Festival Returns!

Join us for a night of live music, games, food, and fun on October 30, beginning at 4pm. We will have The Golden Spoon Chili Cookoff, kids-oriented games, the children and youth cake baking competition, live music provided by our youth. In addition to the chili contest tasting, we will have dinner and cake available for all attendees. We can't wait to see you there!

# October Electoral Events

You can engage civic leaders directly in the leadup to this November's elections. We hope you join us at these exciting assemblies hosted by ONE Wake, the non-partisan community organization Greenwood Forest helped start with dozens of other Wake County organizations and communities of faith.

### Raleigh City Council Candidate Assembly

City council candidates will come before us to address skyrocketing property taxes and affordable housing. This event is virtual and in-person (at St. Ambrose Episcopal Church) on Oct. 6 at 7:30pm. To attend either way, register at onewake.org.

### **United States Senate Candidate Assembly**

Hundreds of delegates from ONE Wake and similar NC organizations have combined forces to bring our concerns directly to Senate candidates Cheri Beasley and Ted Budd. Come hear directly from them at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (Durham) on October 16 at 3pm. More information at onewake.org.

# Gospels Teaching Series

Join us for a churchwide Faith Formation series led by Rev. Bucky Sydnor, beginning this week! After an introduction to the gospels, we will take a one hour look at each gospel over four sessions. The class will draw out some of each gospel's character and seek to entice you to adopt one as a favorite dwelling place.

02

# Community Notes Prayer Requests and Giving



Please keep in prayer these members of our community and their friends and family. To add a name to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Names rotate off and can be re-added upon request.

Richard Adair (Janice Medford's brother)
Nell Allen
Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend)
Gilles Bikindou
Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)
Vanna Fox

Sharon Guenther Karen Peter (Virgil and Gail Jones' friend)

James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes'

Harold Ritter Fred Seeger

brother)

Mac Graham

Greg Upchurch
Marta Whitehouse (Al Whitehouse's mother)

Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba



All of the ministries of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church are supported by members of our community like you. Thank you! Supporting us is easy. You can:

- Give online at gfbccary.org/give
- Place your gift in the offering plate before or after worship.
- Set up an automated bank draft through the church office.
- Set up a recurring gift through your bank's "bill pay" function.

A monthly finance update is available in the weekly church email. If you're not receiving our weekly email and would like to, please contact the church office.

# Monthly Ministry Highlight:

### **Youth Ministry**

The youth of our church are involved in so many different places: they run our sound and livestream in worship, they pack for the Backpack Buddies Program, they volunteer for the Neighborhood Summer Program, and they meet for their own discipleship time (called Alpha & Omega) after worship each week. The spiritual formation and community service our youth bring to our church would not be possible without your support. Sign up to give at afbccary.org/give today!

# Order of Worship Stewardship Sunday

- † This icon indicates an invitation to stand or express reverence however you see fit.
- This icon indicates a worship aid is available in the righthand column.
- Hymns and song lyrics are available in the songbook following the Order of Worship.

### **Chiming of the Hour**

**Prelude** | Cuando el Pobre (EL CAMINO)

**Welcome to Worship** | *Rev. Lauren Efird* 

Leader: The Lord be with you! **People: And also with you!** 

### Passing of the Peace

**Call to Worship** | *Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome* 

Today we are invited to a joyful feast, hosted by Jesus Christ; Todos los que tienen hambre encontrarán el pan de la vida aquí.

All who are hungry will find the bread of life here. Todos los que están sedientos encontrarán una fuente de gracia aquí.

All who thirsty will find will find a fountain of grace here.

Todos los que están perdidos encontrarán seguridad aquí.

All who are lost will find safety here.

Todos los que están solos encontrarán un amigo aquí.

All who are lonely will find a friend here.

Todos los que están rotos encontrarán curación aquí.

All who are broken will find healing here.

Todos los que han estado vagando encontrarán un hogar aquí.

All who have been wandering will find a home here.

For this is a heavenly banquet, and you are welcome here!

Let us worship God!

Today's color is **green**, symbolizing the creation and growth that takes place in the season after Pentecost.

### **The Passing of the Peace**

The passing of the peace is a symbolic enactment of the reconciling love and mercy of God in our midst. We express it through a peace sign, a handshake, a wave, or many other expressions of peace. Be mindful and considerate of others' desire for physical space or distance.

### **World Communion Sunday**

World Communion Sunday is a celebration that crosses Christian traditions and denominations in order to celebrate our diversity and presence around the world. This Sunday promotes Christian unity and ecumenical (meaning across denominations) cooperation and emphasizes the shared sacrament of the Eucharist.

### **Invocation** | *Rev. Spears-Newsome*

**† Gathering Hymn** | Take My Life And Let It Be (vv. 1, 5; pg. 6)

**Offertory Prayer** | *Andy Jarrell* 

† Doxology | Tune: 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.

The Prayers of the People | Rev. Spears-Newsome Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

### 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.

**† Hymn** | Be Thou My Vision (pg. 7)

**Scripture Reading** | Luke 17:5-10 | Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

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

Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** | What If We Already Have Enough? | Rev. Efird

### The Doxology

A "doxology" is a short hymn that usually praises the Trinity. We sing the doxology as we symbolically present our offerings back to God.

### The Prayers of the People

The Prayers of the People are when we ask God for help in our world. The prayer typically has five parts: a confession, prayers for the earth, prayers for the world, prayers for the church, and prayers for those with needs in our own community. You can find the list of people in need of prayer in the "Prayer" section of the bulletin.

### Communion | Rev. Efird

Prayer of Confession: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be obedient disciples. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we've not loved our neighbors, and we've not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we've left undone, and free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mystery of Faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

**† Hymn** | *In Remembrance (pg. 8)* 

**Benediction** | Rev. Efird

**Postlude** | You Satisfy the Hungry Heart (FINEST WHEAT)

### Communion

During Communion, we gather around the table, as Christ showed us, to remember and give thanks for God's saving acts with bread and wine. We have an open table—all who wish to take Communion are invited to participate.



The flowers are given today in honor of Jay and Doris Martin's 72nd wedding anniversary.

Thank you to Blair Biser for leading hymns today in worship.

# Take My Life and Let it Be

