





an inclusive community of faith

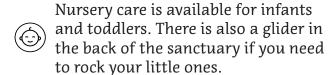
Welcome

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.

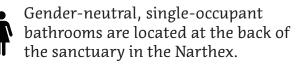
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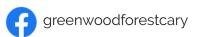
REMINDERS



- 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

Meal after Worship!



This Sunday (1/29), we begin monthly meals after worship hosted by Franz and Jill Bryant. At \$10 for

adults, \$5 for kids, all proceeds go to the Organ Fund. This week, we will have assorted soups and salads along with pimento cheese sandwiches. There will be chicken nuggets for kids, cookies for dessert, and tea to drink. Come and enjoy food and fellowship downstairs following worship!

Invitation from the Concert Singers of Cary

On Jan. 31 at 8pm in the Sanctuary, Concert Singers of Cary will present a concert titled I Believe, featuring works by Caroline Shaw and Margaret Bonds. These works explore themes of racial harmony and social justice for displaced persons. Concert Singers is happy to offer GFBC members discounted tickets of \$10, which can be purchased at the door with cash or check. Simply come and let us know you are members. We would love to share this wonderful music with you. Please join us!

Randy Palmer Anniversary

From the Personnel Committee:

Friday, January 27 marks Randy Palmer's 19th year of serving GFBC as our custodian. In addition to helping ensure the day-today operation of our church, Randy is an active church member whom you will often hear lending his musical talents. When you see Randy this week be sure to thank him for all he does for our church family.

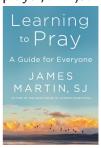
Coffeehouse Theology

Faith Formation Series Continues Sunday!

Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote, "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." In this series, we'll test the hypothesis that every thing is sacred by looking at "secular" music and how it speaks to our spiritual lives. Each week, Rev. Dr. Stacks will select and perform a song and we will break down the song and discuss its resonance with our faith journeys. This week (1/29) concludes the series.

Discipleship Retreat

Have you ever struggled with prayer? This year's Discipleship Retreat will focus on an exploration of prayer, different prayer practices, and how we can strengthen and expand our prayer lives. Our ministers will lead a wide range of sessions, including food and prayer, praying with nature, Ignatian prayer, and journaling. Sunday morning's



session will feature lay people sharing their insights, as well. We'll use James Martin's Learning to Pray as our guide for the weekend (Feb.24-26). The registration fee is \$35 and includes the book and 3 meals.

Register on Realm (onRealm.org/ GreenwoodForest) today! If you need assistance creating an account or registering, contact Rev. Spears-Newsome.

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.

Nell Allen

Peter Barboriak (Valerie Brooks' friend) Gilles Bikindou

Katie Buchanan (Pat and Tom Brooks' niece)

Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)
Elaine Dodson

Vanna Fox

James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)
The Mangum Family at the death of Fred
Margaret King at the death of her
daughter-in-law

Betty Mayfield

Annie Poe

Jerry Poe

Fred Seeger

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:

Discipleship Ministry

Our Discipleship Ministry is dedicated to the Christian formation of our community through regular Faith Formation on Sundays, special churchwide Teaching Series, and our annual Discipleship Retreat. Your gifts to Greenwood Forest make this ministry possible. Don't forget to register for the Discipleship Retreat on February 24-26!

Order of Worship 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

- † 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 | I Will Arise and Go to Jesus | arr. David Hammond

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Efird

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

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Psalm 15) | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? **Who may dwell on your holy hill?**

Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,

And speak the truth from their heart;

Who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends,

Nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

In whose eyes the wicked are despised,

But who honor those who fear the Lord;

Who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

Who do not lend money at interest,

And do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Invocation | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

† Gathering Hymn | *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly (pg. 6)*

Offertory Prayer | Carol Carter

Today's color is **green**, symbolizing creation and growth.

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.

Prayer in Worship

We use many kinds of prayers in worship. The Call to Worship is a communal prayer using call and response. The Invocation is a single individual inviting (or invoking) God into our worship this morning. The Prayers of the People uses intercessory prayer to ask God to come to the world's aid. The benediction is a blessing offered over those gathered in worship.

† Doxology | Tune: GLORIA PATRI ₩

Glory be to the Maker, And to the Christ, And to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen! Amen!

The Prayers of the People | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks 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 | Holy Presence, Holy Teacher (pg. 7)

Scripture Reading | *Matthew 5:1-12* | *Johnny Jackson* The word of God for us, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem | *Hallelujah from* The Cry of Jeremiah (pg. 8)

Sermon | *Name a New World* | *Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome*

† Hymn | When the Lord Redeems the Very Least (pg. 9)

Benediction | Rev. Spears-Newsome

Postlude | Wherever I May Wander | arr. Anna Laura Page

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

This 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.

Final Hymn: An Invitation

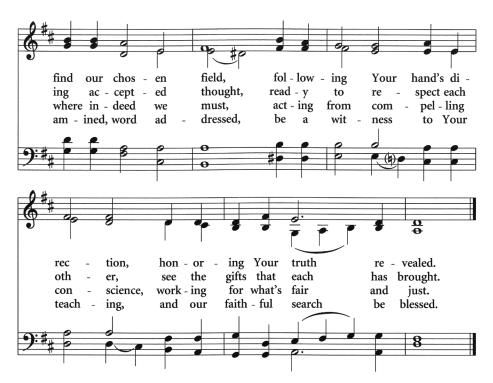
During the final hymn, if you'd like to join our community at Greenwood Forest Baptist Church, we invite you to come forward to the altar. When you come forward, you'll be greeted by a minister and a deacon who will then introduce you to the congregation after the hymn. Welcome!





Holy Presence, Holy Teacher





Anthem Hallelujah

from The Cry of Jeremiah arr. Rosephanye Powell

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord on high.

He will deliver me.

Hallelujah! Faithful God of love.

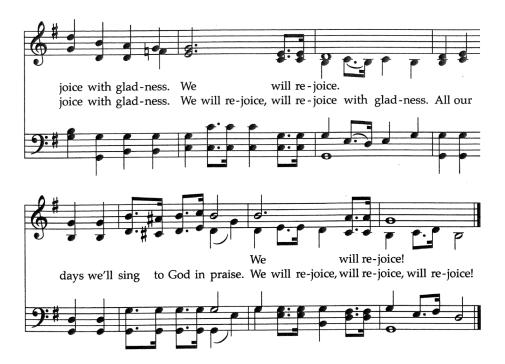
His glory I will see.

Rest in the Lord, O my soul, Trust in God; fear not, He's always near. Stand on the Word of the Father Pray in the Spirit; believe! God always hears.

Rejoice! Rejoice! He will deliver me. Rejoice! Rejoice! His glory I will see.

God is my refuge, Strong mighty tower, He is my deliverer, Hallelujah!





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Bulletin Art Puzzle of Love

digital art by David Hayward

"This cartoon is about more than acceptance, it's about friendship.

"Jesus Christ is completing the puzzle of love with his LGBTQ+ friends. They're comfortable and happy — this is clearly a safe space. The puzzle is made up of diverse pieces, including me and you. And every single piece, just like every single person, is loved and important.

"[Take] this as a reminder that the puzzle isn't complete without you."

(Art purchased and used with permission.)

