



# Greenwood Forest

## Baptist Church

Oct. 29, 2023



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# ***Bulletin Art*** Death of Moses

Frank Wesley (d. 2002)

When reading this passage, I was struck by the intimacy God exhibits toward Moses in his moment of death. God and Moses retreat into the mountains together and when it comes time for Moses to die, the God of his people, the God of all creation, the God who led them out of Egypt, the Lord buries Moses. In his last moments, no human being buries Moses; instead it is God alone who returns him to the earth. Wesley's painting of Moses' death captures that staggering intimacy well. You can see the hand of God in the earth, accepting a beleaguered Moses into a divine earthen embrace.

"Wesley was born in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh into a fifth generation Christian family of Hindu and Muslim descent. He belongs to the Lucknow school of painting. His paintings reflect this influence and that of the Chughtai school of painting that flourished in India at the turn of the century. Wesley made art based on both biblical and secular themes. He used water colours, oil paintings, miniatures and wooden carvings." - From **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library



Greenwood Forest  
Baptist Church

an inclusive  
community  
of faith

# Welcome

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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



Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers. There is also a glider in the back of the sanctuary if you need to rock your little ones.



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



Services are livestreamed and you may end up on camera.



Gender-neutral, single-occupant bathrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary in the Narthex.



[gfbccary.org](http://gfbccary.org)



[greenwoodforestcary](https://www.facebook.com/greenwoodforestcary)



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# Announcements Church Events and Updates

## Fall Festival on Oct. 29!

Our annual Fall Festival will be on October 29 at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall and outside. Bluegrass Battleship will be playing music!

We'll have cookoffs for all ages, games, and more! We can't wait for you to join us!

## All Saints *Requiem* Concert

On Sunday, November 5 at 5pm a collection of church choirs from Cary and Raleigh will be performing John Rutter's *Requiem* with orchestra at Kirk of Kildaire during a special All Saints concert. Our choir will join and Rev. Dr. Stacks will be helping to conduct. The names of all beloved members of each church who have died in the past year will be recognized. Join us for this meaningful concert! Donations at the event will benefit Habitat for Humanity of Wake County.

## Concert Singers of Cary Celebrate Black Composers

On Tuesday, November 7, at 7:30pm in the Cary Arts Center Theater, the Concert Singers of Cary (who rehearse at GFBC) will be hosting a concert celebrating Black composers of the Americas. his concert celebrates the breadth of musical colors, styles, and aesthetics of Black composers from North and South America. Featured composers include José Mauricio Nunes Garcia, William Grant Still, Rosephanye Powell, Florence Price, Marques Garrett, and Reginal Wright.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for students. You can purchase tickets at [concertsingers.org/our-season/tickets](https://concertsingers.org/our-season/tickets).

## *FREEDOM RIDE '24*



## Trip to Tucson, Arizona Summer 2024

We're taking a new trip this year for the Freedom Ride, this time to the U.S.-Mexico border in Arizona. We'll be traveling as a group with an organization called **Borderlinks** based in Tucson, AZ.

We'll engage in some service, learning, and relationship-building activities with longtime residents of the borderlands and the migrants who cross them. The trip is scheduled for June 30-July 6. We'll be traveling by plane to AZ (not by bus!) and will be staying at a Borderlinks facility designed to accommodate groups like ours.

Register at [fbccary.org/tucson](https://fbccary.org/tucson) soon as spots are limited. Deadline to register is January 31. If you have questions, please direct them to Rev. Spears-Newsome.

# Community Notes Prayer Requests and Giving



## PRAY

*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  
Bess Averre  
Gilles Bikindou  
Valerie Brooks  
Scott Davenport (friend of the Biser family)  
Barbara Dial (sister of Carol Carter)  
Elaine Dodson  
James Mark Frazier (Sue Hughes' brother)  
Anjar Hossain (friend of Kevin Schaefer)  
Tony Izador (family of Roz Slawson)  
Aaliyah Murray (family of Gail Jones)  
Katheron E. Palmer (mother of Randy Palmer)  
Fred Seeger  
Eddie Stewart (friend of Diana Morde)  
Mathias Warne (family of Gail Jones)  
Patti Webb  
Our partners at Ebenezer Baptist in Cuba



## GIVING

*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](http://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:

### **Outreach Ministry**

GFBC's presence in the community goes far beyond mission projects and partnerships! We host multiple recovery groups, community choirs, the PRIDE of Cary group, and more. People from all across the community connect with our space, our people, and our leadership outside of Sunday morning and Cary wouldn't be the same without these relationships. Keep an eye out for Outreach-sponsored events this fall, like the Fall Festival next month! **Your gifts make this ministry possible!**

# Order of Worship 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

✝ 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** | *Rock of Ages* | arr. Melody Bober

**Welcome to Worship** | Rev. Efirid

Leader: The Lord be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

**Passing of the Peace** 📖

**Call to Worship (from Ps. 96)** | Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

**Or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;**

But their delight is in the law of the Lord,

**And on God's law they meditate day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water,

**which yield their fruit in its season,**

Their leaves do not wither.

**In all that they do, they prosper.**

The wicked are not so,

**But are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

**Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;**

For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

**But the way of the wicked will perish.**

**Invocation** | Rev. Dr. Stacks

✝ **Hymn** | *We Are Called to Be God's People* (pg. 8)

**Offertory Prayer** | Tim Carr

Today's color is **green**, representing growth and new life.

The cellist this morning is Stephanie Wilson.

## 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.

**Offertory** | *O God Beyond All Praising* | arr. Gustav Holst 📖

† **Doxology** | *Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH* 📖

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! 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** | *Gracious Spirit Dwell with Me* (pg. 9)

**Reading** | *Deuteronomy 34:1-12* | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** | *The Lord is My Shepherd from Requiem* (pg. 10)

**Sermon** | *Standing at the Edge* | *Rev. Efird*

† **Hymn** | *God of Grace and God of Glory* (pg. 10) 📖

**Benediction** | *Rev. Efird*

**Postlude** | *Postlude in G Major* | arr. Setchell

## The Offertory

During the offertory music, we pass plates across the pews as a way to make our collective offering to God and the wellbeing of this community.

## The Doxology

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

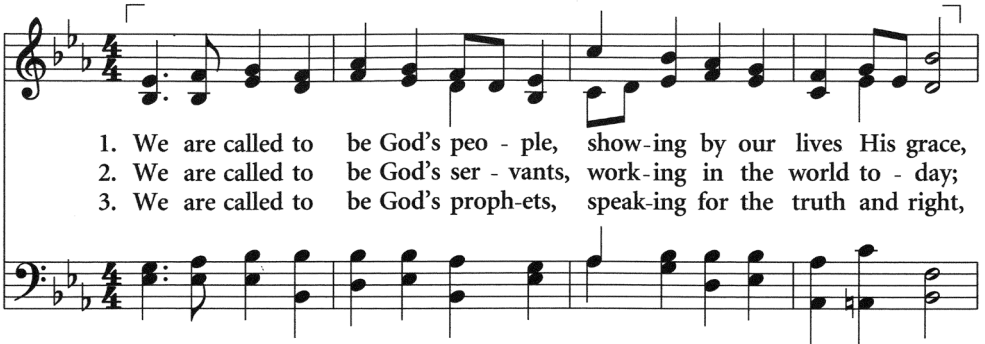
## The Prayers of the People

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.

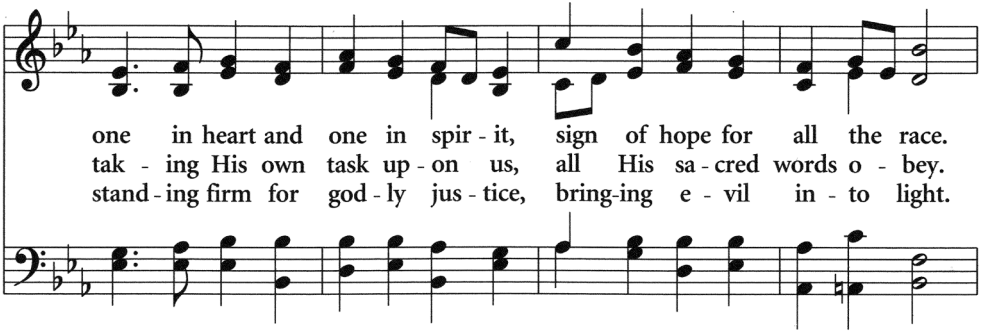
## Final Hymn: An Invitation

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!

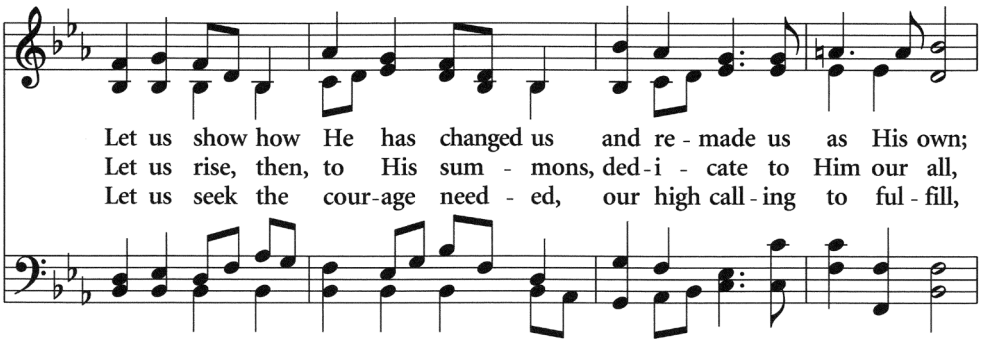
# **■ We Are Called to Be God's People**



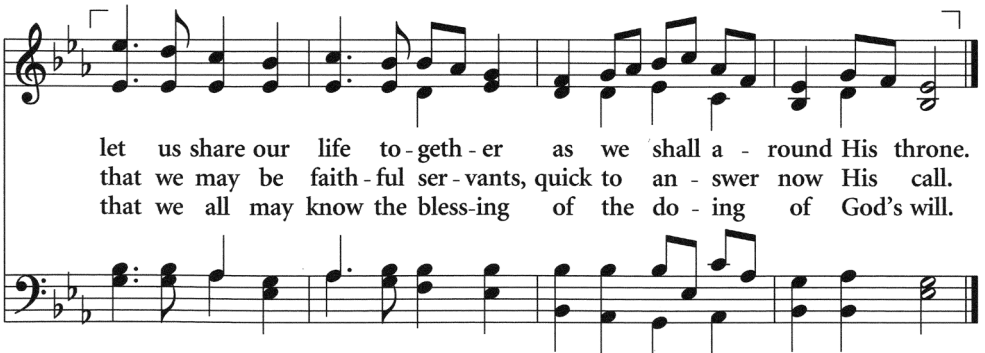
1. We are called to be God's peo - ple, show-ing by our lives His grace,  
2. We are called to be God's ser - vants, work-ing in the world to - day;  
3. We are called to be God's proph-ets, speak-ing for the truth and right,



one in heart and one in spir - it, sign of hope for all the race.  
tak - ing His own task up - on us, all His sa - cred words o - bey.  
stand - ing firm for god - ly jus - tice, bring - ing e - vil in - to light.



Let us show how He has changed us and re - made us as His own;  
Let us rise, then, to His sum - mons, ded - i - cate to Him our all,  
Let us seek the cour - age need - ed, our high call - ing to ful - fill,



let us share our life to - geth - er as we shall a - round His throne.  
that we may be faith - ful ser - vants, quick to an - swer now His call.  
that we all may know the bless - ing of the do - ing of God's will.



# Gracious Spirit Dwell with Me

*Unison*

1. Gra - cious Spir - it, dwell with me, I would gra - cious be;  
 2. Truth - ful Spir - it, dwell with me, I would truth - ful be;  
 3. Ho - ly Spir - it, dwell with me, I would ho - ly be;  
 4. Might - y Spir - it, dwell with me, I would might - y be;

help me now Thy grace to see, I would be like Thee;  
 help me now Thy truth to see, I would be like Thee;  
 show Thy mer - cy ten - der - ly, make me more like Thee;  
 help me now Thy power to see, I would be like Thee;

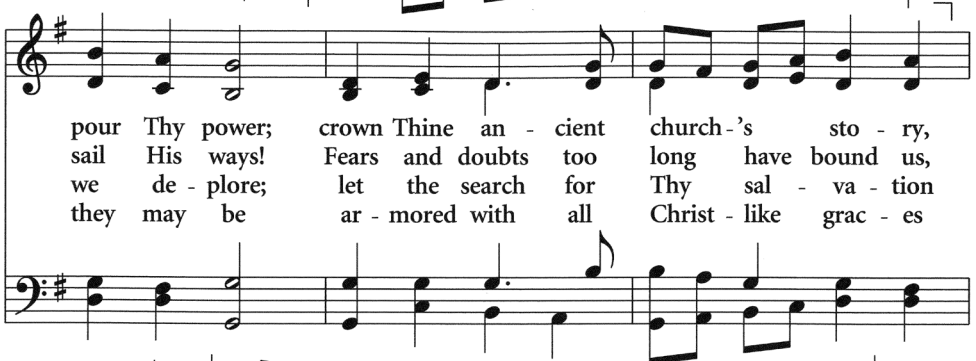
and, with words that help and heal, Thy life would mine re - veal;  
 and, with wis - dom kind and clear, Thy life in mine ap - pear;  
 sep - a - rate from sin I would and cher - ish all things good,  
 'gainst all weap - ons hell can wield, be Thou my strength and shield;

and, with ac - tions bold and meek, for Christ my Sav - ior speak.  
 and, with ac - tions, lov - ing - ly, speak Christ's sin - cer - i - ty.  
 and what - ev - er I can be give Him who gave me Thee.  
 let Thy word my weap - on be, Lord, Thine the vic - to - ry.

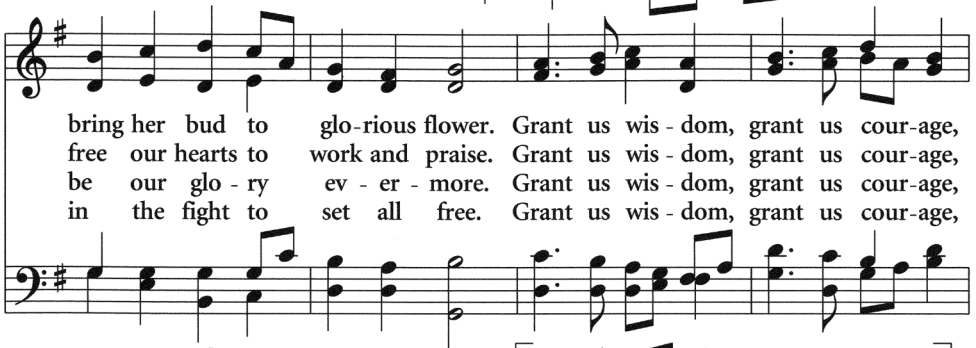
# God of Grace and God of Glory



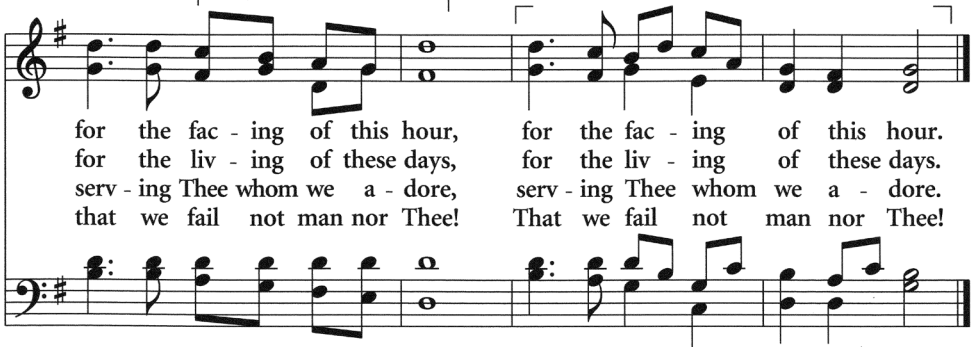
1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on Thy peo - ple  
2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn Thy Christ, as -  
3. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils  
4. Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that



pour Thy power; crown Thine an - cient church -'s sto - ry,  
sail His ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us,  
we de - plore; let the search for Thy sal - va - tion  
they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es



bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
in the fight to set all free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

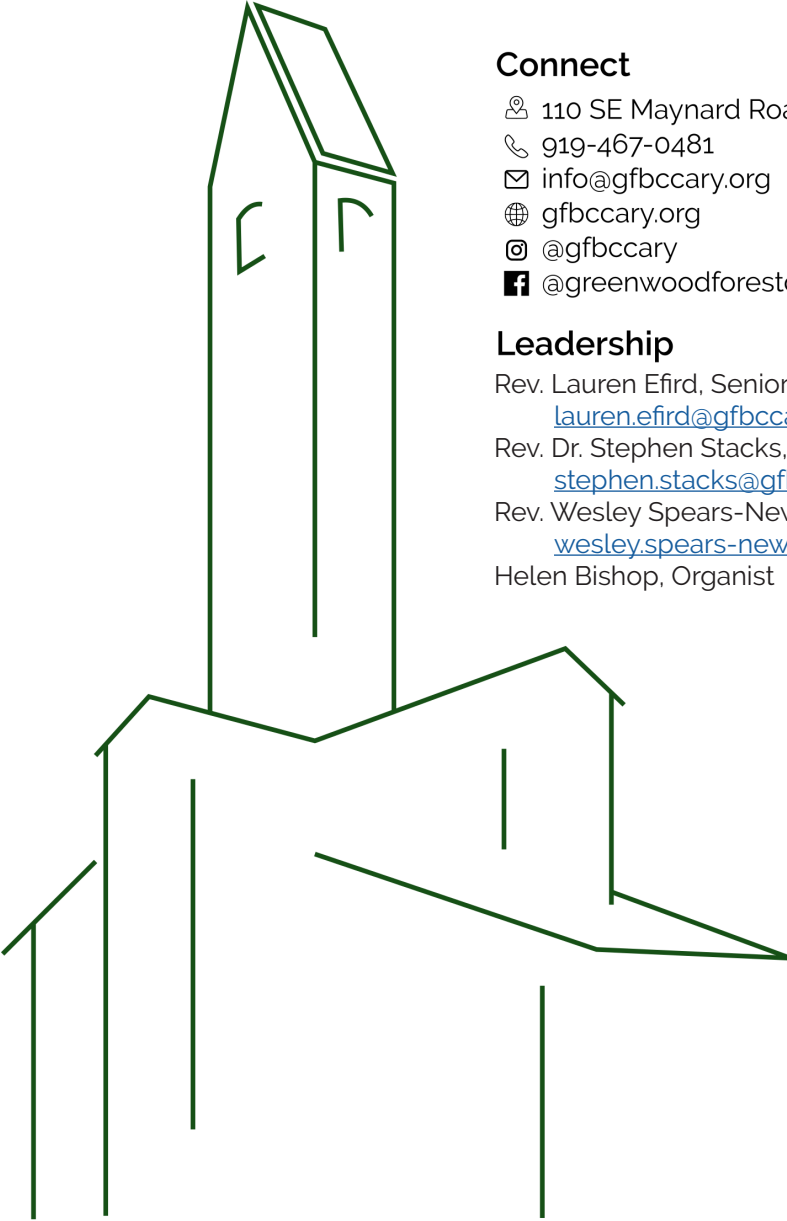


for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
serv - ing Thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing Thee whom we a - dore.  
that we fail not man nor Thee! That we fail not man nor Thee!

# **Anthem** The Lord is My Shepherd

from *Requiem*, arr. Rutter

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.  
He shall feed me in a green pasture,  
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.  
He shall convert my soul,  
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness,  
for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; For thou art with me:  
Thy rod and thy staff comfort me.  
Thou shalt prepare a table before me  
against them that trouble me:  
thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.  
But thy loving-kindness and mercy  
shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



## Connect

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📷 @gfbccary

📘 @greenwoodforestcary

## Leadership

Rev. Lauren Efird, Senior Pastor

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Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks, Associate Pastor

[stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org](mailto:stephen.stacks@gfbccary.org)

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome, Associate Pastor

[wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org](mailto:wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org)

Helen Bishop, Organist

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