

Bulletin Art Instructions for Form N-400

On the cover of the bulletin this week, you'll find the instructions for filling out Form N-400, which is the central paperwork used to apply for naturalization in the United States. That is, it is how you become a citizen if you did not have citizenship by birthright. The N-400 form itself has 14 pages of questions and sought details. Few people who would like to fill out this form are actually eligible to do so. The funnel is narrow and the queue is long.

In the ancient world, it was likewise rare for someone under Roman occupation to have Roman citizenship. This scenario proves pivotal in Paul's journey as Luke narrates it in the Book of Acts. Citizenship has long been a mark of privilege and power in imperial societies and a means of restricting the rights, movement, and lives of people. Citizenship, or lack thereof, is the easiest tool for our current government to leverage against residents, particularly resident aliens (i.e., migrants).

That is part of what makes the claims in our passages from Ephesians today so radical. The author describes salvation as God offering citizenship, bypassing the imperial bureaucracies that create paperwork like this. Instead, salvation is amnesty by free gift.

- Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome



Greenwood Forest
Baptist Church

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



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



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



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Announcements Church Events and Updates

Neighborhood Summer Program (6/18-8/14)

The Neighborhood Summer Program returns this summer to provide educational enrichment and nutritious meals to neighborhood children. To sign up to help with serving food, playing games, or reading books, you can sign up at gfbccary.org/summer. We are scheduled to provide volunteers on Wednesdays (9am-12:30pm), but you may volunteer on Tuesdays or Thursdays, as well.

Calling All Graduates

If you are graduating from high school or any institution of higher education, please let Wes know at wesley.spears-newsome@gfbccary.org! We will list our members of the Class of 2024 in the bulletin on June 9. Deadline to let us know is June 2.

Affordable Housing in Apex

Habitat for Humanity is looking for help to preserve affordable housing in Apex, particularly for those vulnerable to displacement in manufactured home communities. They are asking the Apex Council to modify its 2045 Land Use Map to preserve affordability. If you live in Apex, please sign onto the letter at tinyurl.com/gfbcapexhousing to show your support.

Summer Choir

If you've been considering singing in the choir, now would be a great time to join us! During the summer, we rehearse once a month after worship on Sunday following a potluck lunch. Our first after church rehearsal is June 2.

Town of Cary Proposes Budget with Millions for Affordable Housing

Members of Greenwood Forest Baptist Church and our ONE Wake partner organizations gathered on Thursday night to thank the Town of Cary for its ongoing commitment to affordable housing. Nearly \$6 million is set to be included in next year's budget for affordable housing, something once unthinkable in Cary. Persistent and consistent action preserves this momentum! There will also likely be a bond for the Town of Cary on the November ballot, which will include \$30 million for affordable housing. Stay tuned for more details!

Members of the Chatham Estates community met with Dorcas Ministries last Wednesday night, as well, to discuss another win for affordable housing: Stable Homes Cary. The Stable Homes program seeks to preserve affordable housing or keep people in affordable housing options in and around Cary. The Chatham Estates mobile home park (north of GFBC on Maynard Road) is up for sale, which would require residents to leave homes that they own but cannot be moved. Stable Homes will help with relocation and the costs of moving for residents and is a program funded by the Town of Cary and administered by Dorcas Ministries. Both residents and Dorcas agreed to a series of ongoing meetings to ensure the program meets the needs of residents.

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
Gilles Bikindou
Aaliyah Murray (family of Gail Jones)
Fred Seeger
Paul Smith
Linda Sorrell
Mathias Warne (family of Gail Jones)
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
- 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:

Freedom Ride: Tucson

In just a few weeks, members of Greenwood Forest will go on a journey to Tucson, Arizona and then south to the border with Mexico. We'll be experiencing migrant stories, the testimonies of those who work with them, and walking in their footsteps. The Sunday after we return, July 7, we hope to share with you our own reflections on this trip during worship.

Order of Worship Ordinary Time

✝ 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 | *Break Thou the Bread of Life* | arr. Bober

Welcome to Worship | Rev. Lauren Efir

Leader: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Passing of the Peace 📖

Call to Worship (by Leslie Penrose) 📖

At God's table of justice,

Everyone has a place and none are turned away.

Here strangers are welcomed as friends, the poor sit alongside the rich,

And the upside-down kin-dom of God is revealed.

At God's table of abundance,

a banquet of righteousness and liberation is set for all.

Here the powerless are heard; the outcast are showered with honor,

and the inside-out kin-dom of God is revealed.

At God's table of life, all peoples know peace and creation flourishes.

Here the hopeless are nourished with possibility,
the complacent are transformed into advocates for change.

Here in our very midst the kin-dom of God is revealed.

Invocation | Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

✝ **Hymn** | *Here in This Place (Gather Us In)* (pg. 7)

Offertory Prayer | Sally Shaver

Offertory | *Wherever I May Wander* | arr. Anna Laura Page 📖

Today's color is **green**, representing spiritual growth and life. Clergy stoles are **rainbow** in honor of Pride Month and the inclusive love of God.

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, expressed through a peace sign, a handshake, a wave, conversation, etc. We hope you will take the time to greet and speak with those around you or with someone you haven't met!

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.

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. A short doxology follows as we offer our gifts.

† **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. 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** | *Somos el Cuerpo (pg. 9)*

Reading | *Ephesians 2:11-22* | *Rev. Dr. Stacks*

The word of God for us, the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem | *Tear Down the Walls (pg. 10)*

Sermon | *A House Without Walls* | *Rev. Efird*

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** | *I Come With Joy (pg. 8)*

Benediction | *Rev. Efird*

Postlude | *My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff* | *arr. Mendoza*

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.

Communion

During Communion, we gather around the table as Christ showed us, to remember and give thanks. We have an open table—all who wish to take Communion are invited. We practice intinction, which means you receive a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. A gluten-free option is available on the altar.

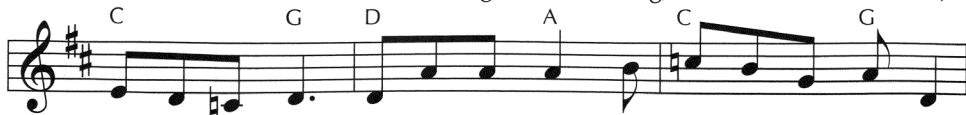
Thank You

Thank you to Sally Shaver for playing piano in today's service.

Here in This Place (Gather Us In)



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

I Come With Joy

Unison



1. I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved and
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3. As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4. The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mun - ion bread, in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
stran - gers now are friends, and stran - gers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.



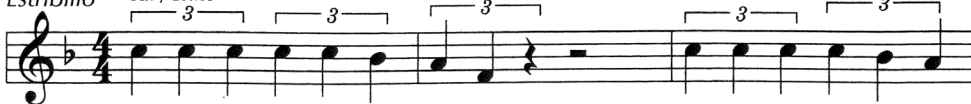
Somos el Cuerpo

Refrain /

Estribillo

F

All / Todos



So-mos el cuer-po de Cris-to.
So-mos el cuer-po de Cris-to.

We are the bod-y of
We are the bod-y of

(B)

(B7)

C

C7



Christ.
Christ.

He-mos o - í-do el lla - ma-do;
Tra - e - mos su san - to men - sa - je.

we've an-swered
We come to

(B)

(B7)

1

2

Final

C

C7

(E) (B7)

F

C7

F a las Estrofas

(E)

F

Leader / Líder



"yes" to the call of the Lord.
bring the Good News to the

world. 3 Que world.

(E)

F

Leader / Líder



1 Dios vie - ne al mun - do a tra - vés de no - so - tros.
mun - do a cum - plir la mi - sión de la I - gle - sia,

2 Ca - da per - so - na es par - te del rei - no;
To - das las ra - zas que ha - bi - tan la tie - rra,

3 nues - tras ac - cio - nes re - fle - jen jus - ti - cia;
Va - mos al mun - do a cui - dar su re - ba - ño.

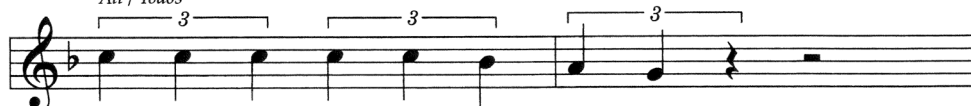
(E)

(B)

F

All / Todos

C



So - mos el cuer - po de Cris - to.

(B7)

C7
Leader / Líder

God is re - vealed when we love one an - oth - er.
 Bring - ing the light of God's mer - cy to oth - ers;
 Put - ting a stop to all dis - crim - i - na - tion;
 All are in - vit - ed to feast in the ban - quet.
 Stop - ping a - buse and re - liev - ing the hun - gry,
 Serv - ing each oth - er we build up the king - dom;

1		2	
(B)	(B7)	(E)	(B7)
C	C7	F	F C7

We are the bod - y of Christ. 1 Al Christ.
 2 †
 3 †

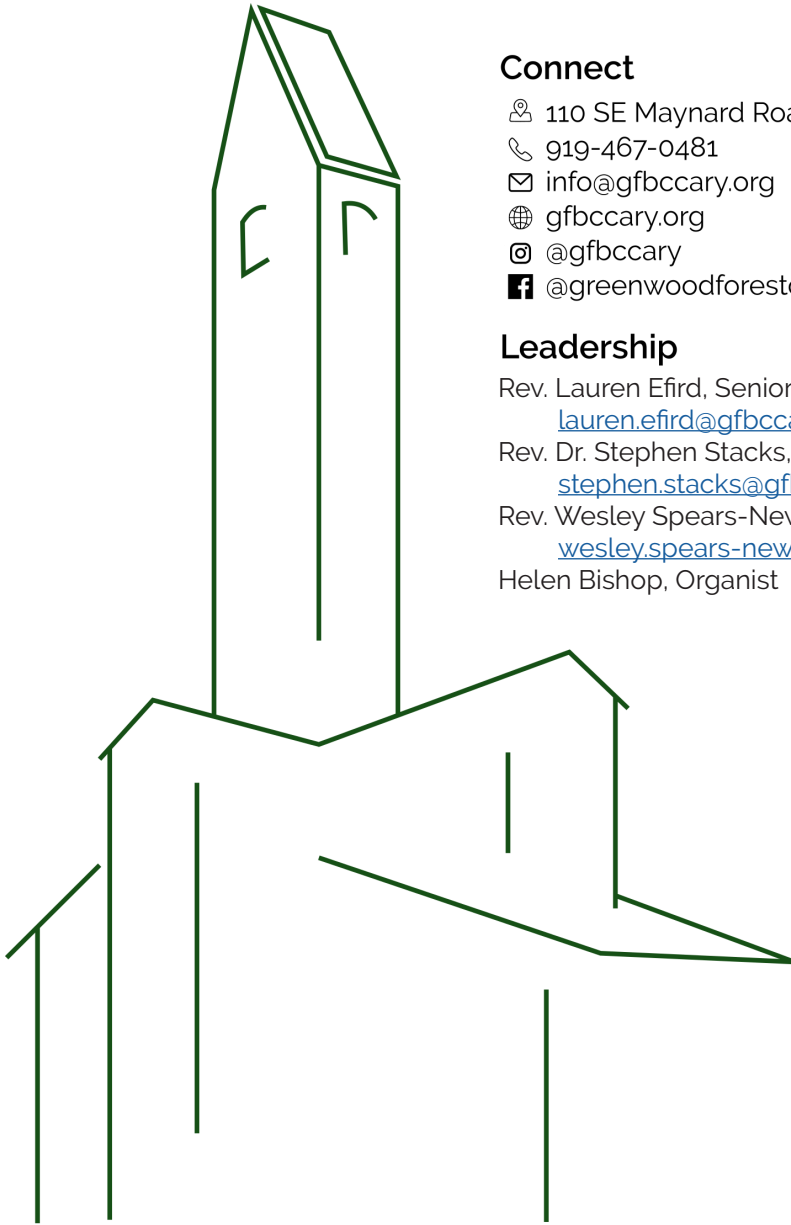
Anthem Tear Down the Walls

The Many

*Tear down the walls
 Tear down the walls
 Tear down the walls
 Between us*

A clenched fist, cordoned off heart
 The border lines always keeping us apart
 The crossed arms, the closed up ears
 The long high fence always keeping us in fear
 Downcast eye, the hard grip of hate
 The words we shout, and the word we do not say
 The slow burn, the anger we feel
 Scarring souls with the lies that we keep

We bring the wood, the iron, the concrete, the fire
 We build these walls every day
 We carry the hurt, the fear, the shame, and the tears
 Our beautiful barricade
 These walls, we hate them
 But these walls, we make them
 But these walls..... (it's time to)
 So I can see you
 So you can see me too



Connect

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Helen Bishop, Organist

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