

May Memorial Baptist Church

E-Connect Newsletter

Printed Edition 4-28-20



***Reaching.....Teaching...Touching...
in the Heart of Powhatan***

3922 Old Buckingham Rd.
In the heart of the Courthouse Village
(804) 598-3098 Maymemorialchurch.org



The Church has Left the Building

The Church Has Left the Building. That was the name of the Zoom webinar I attended last week. It was led by the Center for Healthy Churches, and it is one of many training opportunities for pastors in the time of COVID 19. Last week's training, as indicated by the title, reminded and discussed how to be the church outside of a building. Because the church is not a building, it is the people, and we can be the church without a building. It may be unfortunate that we have gotten so attached to buildings and property, because so much about being the church has nothing to do with buildings. In the book *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church* the author insists that on a balance sheet for a church, property and buildings should be listed as a liability, not an asset.

All of this is true, and it has been a major theme in denominations and pastor's minds over the past seven weeks. I agree, and maybe this time is a reminder to us that we are not a building. But as the pastor of May Memorial Baptist Church, I want to offer a caveat to this idea of the un-importance of buildings.

Several years ago I asked a person in our church family to give a testimony in worship. She agreed, and she did a wonderful job. She told about how God had spoken to her, called her, claimed her, and how she responded and gave her life to follow Jesus. She stood in the pulpit to give this testimony to our church family. It was a wonderful sermon, and I'll never forget one particular line she said. She pointed with the index finger on her left hand, and she said, "and it happened right there." She pointed to the floor, directly beside May Memorial's organ console. *That* was the location where she had encountered God in such a powerful way.

In the Hebrew Scriptures, the stories of God's Jewish people, we see over and over where individuals encounter the LORD, and they build a monument, a pile of stones, an altar. Jacob at Bethel. At the crossing of the Jordan. Samuel setting up an "Ebenezer" stone to remind them of God's faithfulness. I think about all the encounters with God, all the important events in our lives, that happen in our sanctuary. It is

appropriate for us to have a place, a sanctuary, where we freely open our lives in worship and to hear God speak to us.

We can and should do this everywhere. The whole earth is God's place. We all know that. But our sanctuary is a "set-aside-place," and it is holy, and important, and right now, missed. At May Memorial we do not worship in an auditorium. It is not just another room. Because God has been meeting with us and our forefathers and foremothers in this space, our sanctuary, for over a century.

If you would like to spend time in prayer in the May Memorial sanctuary please know that you are welcome to do that. The executive order from Governor Northam allows for individuals to drive to their place of worship so long as it is not a gathering of more than ten people. Others have already stopped by and spent a few minutes in the sanctuary, and you are welcome to do so as well.

Jacob, at Bethel, poured oil on the stone he had used for a pillow, and he proclaimed, "the LORD is in this place and I didn't even know it." The LORD is everywhere in this great big beautiful world, and, unlike Jacob, we do know that it is in "this" place.

Connecting to God...Worship

May Memorial's Worship Plan

This year because of physical distancing the leadership of May Memorial has decided to have our celebration of Easter on our first Sunday back physically together in worship. That being the case, our worship plan for Sunday is:

Sunday, May 3

Keeping Vigil for Easter: God's Story of Redemption Continues in Noah

The service will be live at 8:45 on UTube Premier. It will also be available at any time after that.

Pastor Michael will email the link closer to Sunday.

Connecting to Each Other...Fellowship



NEW! Walking Ministry

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.

We welcome you to come to the parking lot of the church at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays.

We will walk the village loop through Scottville. We will observe social distancing. Masks will be available if you would prefer to wear one.



**Kingdom Kids Virtual Scavenger Hunt on Zoom
Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting by clicking this link, then follow the directions by Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2770321474>

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799
Enter the meeting code: 277 032 1474

**Mid-Week Gathering this Week:
The May Memorial Gathering Room**

Join us for The Gathering Room on Zoom this Wednesday night. Click the link <https://zoom.us/j/286978612> on your computer or mobile device and the Zoom meeting will automatically open. Be sure your camera and microphone are turned on! You can click on the link anytime this week to be sure it will work. If you experience problems [email](#) or call Pastor Michael at (804) 922-0101.

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799 around 6:25 p.m.
Enter this code: 286 978 612

**Church Wide Zoom Sunday School
Sunday Morning, 9:45**

Click the link <https://zoom.us/j/373897124> and Zoom Sunday School will automatically open. Be sure your camera and microphone are turned on! You can click on the link anytime this week to be sure it will work. If you experience problems [email](#) or call Pastor Michael at (804) 922-0101.

To join with any phone: Call (312) 626-6799 around 9:40 a.m.
Enter this code: 373 897 124

Prayer List April 21, 2020

CHURCH FAMILY:

Don Adkins
Barbara Barden
Judy Boelt
Susie Brock
Pat Cover
Lee Duncan
Nick Elam
Don Fitch
Esther Fitch
Bea Gallier
Rick Gallier
Jean Hall
Bill Ketron
Paul Lindsey
Fran O'Donnell
Jim Pinkley
Jeff Spoon
David&Susan
Terry
Nancy Wilkinson
Janice Worsham

MILITARY:

Danny Myers, Brent
Templeton, Quint
Sutton, David
Brizendine, Jeremiah
Clift, Nelson Sutton,
Justin Donnavon,
Austin, Breeden, Caleb
Hammer,
Kris Curtis

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Stephen Breeden, Son of Martha Oberg
Estelle Davis, Debbie Elam's mother
Lacie Baggett
Libby Gregg, daughter-in-law of Carol Gregg
Stuart Yeorge
Ben Spoon, friend of Juli Garrett
Suzi and Steve McClung
Matthew Berger, friend of Joy&Juston Sanudo
Clyde Martin, brother of Esther Fitch
Jeff Crews, Susie Brock's brother-in-law
Sheri Sadie, Nancy Flower's Daughter
Bobby Wells, Gladys Rabon's sister
Sharon Baltimore, friend of the Bradbury's
Bill Casper, Bill Karnolt's brother-in-law
Justin Yancey, Grandson of Irma Alvis
Stephanie Hay, Karen and Ray's daughter-in-law
Jodi Erpelding, friend of Jeanan Krueger
Janie Dean
Phyllis Lester, Ed Utt's sister
Shawn Neugent, friend of the Sheltons
Virgil Stroud, Lisa Gregory's father
Scott Richards' parents
Lennox Family
Helen Fitzgerald, friend of Diana and B.J. Smith
Chloe, granddaughter of Amy&Bill Karnolt
Nurses, Erin and Melissa, relatives of the Karnolt's
Logan Cook, grandson of Wilford and Linda Poore.
Tim Martindale, friend of Bob & Vicki Kruschwitz
Michelle Haab, Niece of Bill Ketron
Pam Polk, Ed Mottley's sister
Edna Daley, Diana Schmitz' Mom
Family of Vera Flippin, relative of Jeanne Matthews

HOMEBOUND:

Janice Worsham, 2041 Rocky Ford Road
Frances Tilman, 3904 Old Buckingham Rd
Audrey Johnston, (currently at Kirk and Peggy Johnston's home) The Crossing at Bon Air, 9100
Bon Air Crossings Drive, Room 202, Richmond,23235
Audrey Mann, The Laurels of Willow Oaks, 11611 Robious Road, Midlothian, 23113
Jim Pinkley, Chesterfield Woods

Tentative Schedule

Sundays:

8:45 a.m. A Virtual Worship Service will be shared on the website and through email

9:45 a.m. Zoom Sunday School

5:30 p.m. Zoom Soul Food

Tuesdays:

1:00 p.m. Walking Ministry

Wednesdays:

3:30 p.m. Zoom Kingdom Kids

6:30 p.m. Zoom Mid-Week Gathering

Birthdays

April

28-Gabe Cosby

May

2- Jim Madures

2-Lydia O'Donnell

5-Scott Richards

9-Conley "Squirrel" Bodsford

10-Lee Howard

12- David Terry

13-Hayden Smith

14-Jason Young

Financial Information

Our Gifts to our Lord Week of April 27:

Regular Offering \$7,080.00
Special Offering 25.00

Total \$7,105.00



E-Giving

You may contribute to missions through May Memorial's e-giving site. [CLICK HERE](#) to access that website.