

May 17, 2017

Volume 35 Number 20

Sundays

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am

Worship



GRACE
Baptist Church

WORSHIP

Sunday, May 21

John 14:15-21

1 Peter 3:13-22

Rev. Kayla Bayles Lennon

Sunday, May 28

Praises on the Portico

Outdoor Worship

and Hymn Sing

*Request your favorite hymns
by emailing the office,
office@gbconline.org*

*Our next newsletter will be
published May 24th.
The deadline for submissions is
Monday, May 22. Visit us online at
www.gbconline.org or email us at
office@gbconline.org*

A note from Our Pastor:

Yesterday I attended the “Convocation on Religious Liberty” hosted by the Center for Baptist Heritage and Studies. The convocation included a forum and panel discussion with Dr. Ellis West, retired University of Richmond professor; Rev. Sheldon Miles, pastor and advocate for religious liberty in Virginia state government; and Dr. Amanda Tyler, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty. Dr. Tyler noted her concern about the “narrowing of religious liberty” and what that term means and much discussion ensued around the importance of advocating for religious liberty for all people—people of faith and people of no faith. She said, “As Baptists we stand up for atheists because our ‘yes to God’ is meaningless if you can’t say ‘no to God.’” I was reminded of the Baptist Joint Committee’s ‘golden rule:’ “Do not ask government to promote your religion if you don’t want government to promote somebody else’s religion; and do not permit government to hinder somebody else’s religion if you don’t want government to hinder your own religion.” I left yesterday’s convocation grateful for those 17th century Baptists and their radical ideas about religious freedom and soul competency, for Virginia’s history and protections of these liberties, for contemporary advocates and protectors of these freedoms, and for a church like Grace Baptist Church, which holds religious liberty dear and supports efforts to uphold it.

This Friday evening I will depart for week long course in my doctor of ministry work titled “Learning from London: Mission and Evangelism in the 21st Century.” We will engage church leaders, ministry sites, and practitioners of missional church efforts. The Church of England has experienced more decline in cultural privilege in recent decades than the North American church at this time. However, over the last twenty-five years the Diocese of London has shown signs of growth and health through imaginative expressions of church and missional communities. I’ve been reading and writing in the months leading up to this course and am very excited about the opportunity to meet and converse with these leaders.

On Sunday morning I will attend an expression of church that meets in a farmer’s market, and on Tuesday evening we will gather with a Christian community forming in the Olympic Village! I can’t wait to experience all that is on the schedule and to share these experiences with you upon my return! On Saturday, May 27th, I will travel to the tidal island of [Holy Isle](#), where I will spend a two nights and participate in worship with the [Community of Aiden and Hilda](#). My hope is that a few days of rest with this community will bring spiritual renewal and rejuvenation as I return to Grace on May 31st! I am deeply grateful for the gifts of your support and encouragement in opportunities such as these, and look forward to sharing with you my learnings from London.

Peace, Courtney

GBC Contact information:

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(Senior Pastor) Phone #: 804-709-7795

Wanda Sauley Fennell: wanda@gbconline.org
(Minister of Music)

Noell Rathbun: noell@gbconline.org
(Minister of Children, Families and Liturgical Arts)

Bryce Williams bryce@gbconline.org
(Minister of Youth)

Theresa Steward theresa@gbconline.org
(Organist)

Sam Coley coleys853@gmail.com
(Sexton)

Sarah Fox
Church Office office@gbconline.org

Meetings

Sunday, May 21

Children's Commission Meeting

Sunday, June 11

Outreach Commission Meeting

Do you have contact information that needs to be updated? Email changes to office@gbconline.org!

<u>MAY 2017</u>	<u>Sundays</u>	<u>May Birthdays</u>
May 21 Grace Café Coffee and Cookies Following worship	9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship	Archer Yeatts 1 Beverly Pugh 8 Angela Jones 14 Maurianne Roberson 16 Wayne Schneider 20 Bibi Sweeney 20 Nancye Rhodenhiser 22 Sam Timberlake 23 Lois France 24 John Mizelle 28 Matthew Paxton 28 Alexander Miles 31
May 28 Praises on the Portico: Outdoor Worship Canal Cruise Picnic 5:30-6:00 pm		
<u>June 2017</u>		
June 4 Pentecost Lunch and Cake Auction for Children and Youth		
June 7 Variety Show at 6:00 pm		

The Welcome Table Menu

Weekly Wednesday meals are scheduled from September to mid-June.
Reservations are requested. Sign up on the hall table next to the Church Office
or with our online form found on our Facebook page.
The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children (ages 3-11)

May 24 5:45 PM Baked Potato Bar	May 31 5:45 PM Hot Pasta Bar	June 7 5:45 PM Baked Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Veg. Opt: Stuffed Butternut Squash

A note from the Bible Brunch Buddies

From noon to 1 pm each Wednesday in May, Bible Brunch Buddies will be taking a tandem look at Jewish and Christian scriptures (passages from the Old and New Testament). The group will be led this month by Jane McNeil using her writing titled 'The Bible in 36 Words' as the outline for the sessions.

The tandem look at the scriptures is organized in the order of the Jewish TANAKH with Christian scripture aligned, as appropriate, beside the books of the TANAKH. A one-word summary is presented for each pair of books or for each book when there is no parallel Christian writing. The discussion includes a selected verse for each book of scripture and some commentary. This tandem look at the scriptures provides an overview of the Bible as a whole as well as providing an enhanced and enriched understanding of Judaism and Christianity.

All are invited to join the Bible Brunch Buddies group. We meet at NOON every Wednesday. Hope to have you join us!

May 24 **Fourth Session: Prophets and Epistles**

Writings/Revelation

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Psalms | <i>Voice</i> |
| • Proverbs | <i>Wisdom</i> |
| • Job | <i>Trust</i> |
| • Song of Songs | <i>Human</i> |
| • Ruth | <i>Devotion</i> |
| • Lamentations | <i>Provide</i> |
| • Ecclesiastes | <i>Contentment</i> |
| • Esther | <i>Loyalty</i> |
| • Daniel/Revelation | <i>Vision</i> |
| • Ezra | <i>Obstinate</i> |
| • Nehemiah | <i>Competence</i> |
| • Chronicles | <i>Revival</i> |

May 31 **Comments, Questions, Conclusion**

June 7 **Potluck Lunch**

A Warm Thank You

Elisabeth Lane, daughter of Amy Lane, friend of **Susanne Freeman**, was born with hyperplastic left heart syndrome. After her heart surgery in January 2017, Elisabeth is doing well and progressing as expected. Susanne and the Lanes want to thank you for your thoughts and prayers which surely helped in her recovery.

It's a Cake Auction!
Join us for this Children and
Youth Fundraiser

Bake a cake! Buy a Cake!
Bring your specialty
whatever it may be.

Sunday, June 4
Sign up outside of the
Church Office.



Join us for a Picnic Canal Cruise
Sunday, May 28 from 5-6:30 pm

Join us for a fellowship dinner for the whole GBC community during a canal cruise chartered just for us. All ages are welcome! Bring a brown bag picnic supper and we'll eat on the boat, while we hear some history of our city. Time for fellowship as we cruise down the canal will follow. The boat is handicap accessible. Space is limited, so please let Noell know ASAP if you'd like to come or have any questions.

Grace Baptist Church at the Alliance of Baptists Annual Gathering

A number of Grace Baptist members were in attendance at the annual gathering and 30th anniversary celebration held at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. Darrel Baker reflects on his experience with the Alliance and the recent gathering:

The Alliance is the place I feel at home theologically. It was started with Baptist principles in mind, and represent the best of them. While I feel at home; they constantly challenge me as a privileged, white, heterosexual, male. This meeting was no different. The diversity helps me to view the gospel through different eyes. The Alliance reminds me that Christianity is bigger than nationality and race. "Jesus loves the little children. All the children of the world" we have sung. We were challenged to work for justice for all God's children.

Mission Opportunity!



GBC continues to partner with The Oregon Hill Baptist Center to minister to the needs of inner-city Richmond's homeless community. Please help us respond to the following current local need:

WHAT IS NEEDED?

- **New men's size medium and/or large boxer shorts**, waist sizes 32"-38", (no small or extra-large size, please)
- **New men's white crew socks or over-the-ankle socks**, (no "no-show" socks, please)
- **No time to shop?** Cash/check contributions will be accepted – please designate "OHBC Underwear & Socks"

WHEN? All donations requested by **May 28**

WHERE? Designated collection bin outside the church office

Thank you!
- Missions Commission



METROPOLITAN RICHMOND AT PRAYER

Since March 2006, more than 475 churches in Metropolitan Richmond have joined in a cooperative, covenanted effort to pray together weekly for the common concerns of the more than one million people who live in Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, Richmond, and the surrounding counties and towns.

Week of May 21, 2017 We pray for Churches and religious institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For seminaries, bible colleges, and schools training persons for vocations in ministry; for the students, faculty, and staff of these institutions.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but many. (1 Corinthians 12: 12-14)



You can help us create our next worship arts installation!

Think about the gifts God has given you to share with the world and the ways you see God's Spirit at work in the world. Then stop by the center table in the main hallway and create a feather or flame to be incorporated into a Pentecost banner.



Camp Alkulana Save the Date

Saturday, June 3 is a workday at the Camp

Youth Spring Schedule

DATE	EVENT	TIME
May 21	Dinner and Conversation	5:30-7:00 pm
May 28	Ice Cream	5:30-7:00 pm
June 4	Cake Auction	Following worship
June 11	Parent-Student Meeting	12-2 (lunch provided)
June 18	Summer Program Begins	
June 20	High School Small Groups	6:30-7:30 pm

Pentecost Lunch and Cake Auction June 4, 12:00 - 2:00 pm

Dessert always seems to be the favorite part of a meal. It is the sweet treat that we wait for through our time at the table. Our annual cake auction is a sweet treat that brings the community together to have fun and support our children and youth. But this auction is about more than cake. It is about giving our students a sweet treat in their spiritual lives. The money raised at the cake auction goes to sending our students to Passport camp. As former staff of Passport, I have seen students come into the week unsure about who they are and what their faith means to them. When they leave there is a renewed connection to what it means to be a Christ follower. Our students at Grace are given a chance to explore what it means to follow Christ. They look at missions and interacting with a community. They look at their inner self and reflect on the ways that they can make a difference in the world. This cake auction is more than sweet treats, it is about strengthening the body of Christ for future generations.



Performers Wanted!
Join us for this year's Variety Show

June 7, at 6:00 p.m.

*We know you all have great talent, so
come share it with us!*
Sign up outside of the Church Office.



DEACON OF THE WEEK

Marilyn Fischel

EXTENSION MEMBER OF THE WEEK

Florine Somerfield

Windsor, Room 19 B
Richmond, VA 23221



CHURCH FAMILY MATTERS

Wednesday May 17, 2017

Extension Members

(Please send a note or make a phone call to these members. Contact information is in the church directory.)

Catherine Carter
Lois France
Shirley Lam
Florine Somerfield

Members with Continuing Needs

Mac Angell
Dara Fennell Baker
Brynna Boykin-Carter
Bill Ford
Joe Furio
Denyse Hunt
John Luck
Wade McGinley
Beverly Pugh
Jim Rothrock
Maurianne Roberson

JOYS AND PRAISES

Jane and Sam McNeil welcome their newest grandson, Jason Ferenc McNeil to the world. Born on May 12th, Jason is the son of Robert and Marianne McNeil.

Lynn Clayton has a new grand baby and **Ann Luck** a great-grand! Eliza Lynne Paxton was born May 5th, 4 weeks early, to parents Ernest and Kathryn Paxton and sister, Charlotte.

MEMBERS WITH CURRENT CONCERNS

Pauline Brooks had surgery on May 9 to have her gallbladder removed and is recovering at home. *7521 Rockfalls Drive Richmond, VA 23225*

Maurianne Roberson, is now home after being hospitalized at St. Mary's for an infection. *1726 Pulliam Street Richmond, VA 23235*

Linda Levison is diagnosed with endometrial cancer and will have surgery on May 31st. *207 North Juniper Avenue, Henrico, VA 23075*

Linda Welch is transitioning home from rehab for a femur break. *1609 Sandgate Road, Midlothian, VA 23113*

Jim Rothrock continues to heal at home after an extended hospital stay. *3504 Warsaw Terrace Richmond, VA 23060*

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF GRACE WITH CURRENT CONCERNS

- ❖ *Christian sympathy is extended to the family of **Carol Michaux**, former member of GBC. Carol died on May 9th.*
- ❖ **Betty Pugh Mills** is having her sixth round of chemo. *934 Willbrook Road Newport News, VA 23602*

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF GRACE WHO VALUE PRAYERS

- ❖ Judy Diehl, mother-in-law of **Dara Fennell Baker's** best friend, Ashleigh will be moving to a new facility with continued assessment and therapy for traumatic head injury and dementia.
- ❖ Calvin Baker, husband of **Dara Fennell** was recently diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes and is adjusting to insulin therapy.
- ❖ John Hill, father of **Sonja Hill**, is nearing the end of his chemo and is hoping to return to work in June.
3200 Woodland Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060
- ❖ Gail, friend of **Wanda Sauley Fennell** is beginning chemo. Pray that it will be effective.
- ❖ **Reed Harrison**, is back home. *2301 Littlefox Dr. Richmond, VA 23233*
- ❖ Michael Higgins, doctor of **Wanda Sauley Fennell**, recently diagnosed with cancer.
- ❖ Richard Pittman, cousin of **Mac Angell**, showing the first stages of Parkinson's.
- ❖ Suzanne Belongia, mother of **Lisa Webb**, has been approved for a kidney transplant and is now on officially on the waiting list. Home address: *7700 Lazy Creek Court, Prospect, KY 40059*
- ❖ **John Taylor's** most recent scan after treatment for esophageal cancer looked good. *P.O. Box 417, Toodyay, WA AUSTRALIA 6566 jane_e_taylor@talk21.com*
- ❖ Earl Parrish, friend of **Linda and Sue Levison** has congestive heart failure.
- ❖ Casey Rathbun, father of **Noell Rathbun**, ongoing health issues. *16 Bramlette Place, Longview, TX 75601*
- ❖ Angela Hawkins, friend of **Linda Levison** has type 4 terminal cancer.
- ❖ Sunshine Rae Hughes, infant daughter of Ricky Hughes, great-great niece of **Barbara Hughes** and **Jane Moody** has hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.
- ❖ Kim Jennings, daughter-in-law of **Margaret Jennings** is having chemotherapy for breast cancer
- ❖ Lois Levison, mother of **Linda Levison**.
- ❖ Steve Lowry, brother-in-law of **Pam Geib**, has polymyalgia rheumatica and multiple myeloma.
- ❖ Rosie Smith, niece of **Sonja Hill** is in rehab for drug addiction.
- ❖ Morton and Mavis Baldwin, parents of **Robin Baldwin** are struggling with health issues and dementia.
- ❖ Marcia Cole, sister of **Wade McGinley** is experiencing multiple health issues.
- ❖ Bobby Dean, brother-in-law of **Susan McGinley** has Parkinson's disease.
- ❖ Jim and Charlotte Dekrafft, friends of **Joe Furio**, Jim has leukemia.
- ❖ Gino Furio, brother of **Joe Furio**; altercation and legal concerns.
- ❖ Chuck Holmes, prostate cancer; Sarah Holmes, wife of Chuck, sister of **Priscilla Biddle** has migraines.
- ❖ Sydney Hughes, granddaughter of **Barbara Hughes** has Tuberos Sclerosis.
- ❖ **Brynna Boykin-Carter**, continued prayers for healing. *2208 Ridgefield Green Way Henrico, VA 23233*

RECENT VISITORS IN WORSHIP

Jocelyn Brumbaugh

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RVA 23221. (336) 971-5232

jocelynmbrumbaugh@gmail.com

Aris Hudgins and Trey Woolfolk

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540-421-7367 (540)421-7367
woolfolc@gmail.com

Emily Overberg

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Richmond, VA 23220
eroverberg@email.wm.edu
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Diana Trivette and Ryleigh Brooks

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804-909-4113; hotpad2@yahoo.com

Karen Berry

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Kberry2@richmond.edu

Debbie Nicholas

olmsnick@yahoo.com; 804-592-9156

Gray Barbour

2306 Reed Rd. RVA 23230,
804-814-5754, 24nautical@gmail.com

Debi Epps

1502- B Summit Oak Ct. Henrico, VA 23228
harobed101@aol.com

Sarah Florek

4740 Pompton Ln, Chester 23831; 804-218-
0629; lovehischild@hotmail.com

Sheryl and Eric Johnson

2101 Fendall Ave. RVA 23222; Sheryl.a.m.johnson@gmail.com

Jennifer Walker

9421 Greenhill Ct. RVA 23294.
434-770-2700, hokiebaby@verizon.net

Rob and Maggie Puckette

4637 Hanover Avenue, RVA 23226
Robert.puckette@gmail.com

SUNDAY RESPONSIBILITIES

Sunday, May 21

Acolyte: Ann Thomson

Childcare Workers:

Nursery: Melissa Cowan

Sunday School: Sandy Morrison

Worship: Cindy Blakley

Chimer: Spencer Anderson

Deacon of the Week: Marilyn Fishel

Extension Member: Florine Somerfield

Greeters/Ushers:

Chip Hardy

Jesse Kent

Sue Kay Lam-Kent

Money Counters:

Chad Hudson and Jesse Kent

Opener/Closer: Richard Cross

Sound System: Faith Dickerson

Sunday, May 28

Acolyte: Nelson Blakely

Childcare Workers:

Nursery: Abigail Edwards

Sunday School: Sallie Cross

Worship: TBD

Chimer: Milagros Cavet

Deacon of the Week: Sharon Whitlock

Extension Member: Catherine Carter

Greeters/Ushers:

Richard and Sallie Cross

David Boykin

Bernie Henderson

Money Counters:

Sharon Whitlock and Sallie Cross

Opener/Closer: Joe Griffin

Sound System: Don Hill

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:

Giving Opportunities 2017: \$406,899.43

Total Gifts Given 2017: \$151,742.31

Remaining Giving Opportunity \$268,891.12

May 14

Gifts given: \$6867.00

Other Income: \$176.00

PLEASE NOTE

Outside the office you can find:

- Church Budget
- Birthdays (May)
- Church Directory
- Church Newsletter (Weekly)
- SIGN UP SHEETS

Stewardship 2017

We continue to receive commitment cards for the 2017 mission and ministry of Grace Baptist Church. The response thus far has been very encouraging, and we are excited about the mission and ministry opportunities in the year ahead. **It's not too late to bring your commitment card by the church or drop it in the mail!**

Current GBC Missions

Camp Alkulana, CARITAS, Children Incorporated, Christian Education Center "Diamond" Poland, Hands Up Ministries, Hope Tree, Oregon Hill Baptist Center (RCFN), Grace Baptist Church Institute, Monrovia- Liberia, Liberation Veteran Services, Heifer International, The Shepherd Center.