

August 16, 2017

Volume 35 Number 33

Sundays

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am

Worship



GRACE

Baptist Church

WORSHIP

Sunday, August 20

"Boundaries"

Matthew 15: 21-28

Rev. Courtney Allen

Sunday, August 27

"Abundance from the
Fragments"

Matthew 14:13-21

Rev. Courtney Allen

A word from our pastor...

Fifty years ago today, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave a speech titled "Where Do We Go from Here?" at the 11th annual meeting of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in Atlanta, Georgia. It is in this speech that Dr. King famously said, "I have also decided to stick with love, for I know that love is ultimately the only answer to [our] problems. And I'm going to walk about it everywhere I go...I've seen too much hate...and hate is too great a burden to bear. I have decided to love." You can read [the entirety of the speech here.](#)

Last weekend in Charlottesville, we saw hate and violence. As we think of where we are to go from here, may we, too, decide to stick with love. As we think about how we contend with our own history in the city of Richmond and as we dream and live into the future God desires for our community, may love be the thing that ultimately characterizes who we are because love is what ultimately defines God. For the only way we can point to the God in whom we believe is by bearing witness in word and in deed to love's power to transform our own hearts and to heal our world. As we work, worship, and pray in the days ahead, I share with you these words from the end of Dr. King's speech:

"And so, I conclude by saying today that we have a task, and let us go out with a divine dissatisfaction.

Let us be dissatisfied until America will no longer have a high blood pressure of creeds and an anemia of deeds.

Let us be dissatisfied until the tragic walls that separate the outer city of wealth and comfort from the inner city of poverty and despair shall be crushed by the battering rams of the forces of justice.

Let us be dissatisfied until those who live on the outskirts of hope are brought into the metropolis of daily security.

Let us be dissatisfied until slums are cast into the junk heaps of history, and every family will live in a decent, sanitary home.

Let us be dissatisfied until the dark yesterdays of segregated schools will be transformed into bright tomorrows of quality integrated education.

Let us be dissatisfied until integration is not seen as a problem but as an opportunity to participate in the beauty of diversity.

Let us be dissatisfied until men and women, however black they may be, will be judged on the basis of the content of their character, not on the basis of the color of their skin. Let us be dissatisfied.

Let us be dissatisfied until every state capitol will be housed by a governor who will do justly, who will love mercy, and who will walk humbly with his God.

Let us be dissatisfied until from every city hall, justice will roll down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

Let us be dissatisfied until that day when the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, and every man will sit under his own vine and fig tree, and none shall be afraid.

Let us be dissatisfied, and men will recognize that out of one blood God made all men to dwell upon the face of the earth.

Let us be dissatisfied until that day when nobody will shout, "White Power!" when nobody will shout, "Black Power!" but everybody will talk about God's power and human power....

*Our next newsletter will be
published August 23rd*

*The deadline for submissions is
Monday, August 21st*

Visit us online at www.gbconline.org
or email us at office@gbconline.org

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 (Organist)
 Sam Coley: coleys853@gmail.com
 (Sexton)
 Cynthia Buck: office@gbconline.org
 (Ministries Assistant)

Praises on the Portico and Hymn Sing
 Blessing of the Backpacks
 September 3

Church Office Closed Labor Day
 September 4

Fall Programming begins anew on September 6!
 Bible Brunch Buddies Noon on Wednesdays
 The Welcome Table Wednesday Evenings

Recovenanting Sunday
 September 10

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

<p><u>August 2017</u> August 20 Reception Honoring Noell Rathbun August 26 Grace on Tap <u>September 2017</u> September 3 Praises on the Portico and Hymn Sing</p>	<p><u>Sundays</u> 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship</p>	<p><u>August Birthdays</u></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>Marilyn Fishel</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Braeden Forester</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Carey Boehnlein</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Bernie Henderson</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>Anna Marie Mizell</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>Pippin Jakesch</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>Pamela Geib</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>Linda Welch</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>Linda Savelle</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>Betty Blackburn</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	Marilyn Fishel	4	Braeden Forester	4	Carey Boehnlein	6	Bernie Henderson	9	Anna Marie Mizell	15	Pippin Jakesch	16	Pamela Geib	17	Linda Welch	19	Linda Savelle	25	Betty Blackburn	31
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And I must confess, my friends, that the road ahead will not always be smooth. There will still be rocky places of frustration and meandering points of bewilderment. There will be inevitable setbacks here and there. And there will be those moments when the buoyancy of hope will be transformed into the fatigue of despair.

Our dreams will sometimes be shattered and our ethereal hopes blasted. We may again, with tear-drenched eyes, have to stand before the bier of some courageous civil rights worker whose life will be snuffed out by the dastardly acts of bloodthirsty mobs. But difficult and painful as it is, we must walk on in the days ahead with an audacious faith in the future...When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows.

Let us realize that the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

May God give us courage and strength to proclaim and embody the love of God in our city and in our world!

Peace,

Courtney

Sabbatical Notes

Wanda will share more Sabbatical Experiences during the Sunday School hour on September 17, 2017 in the Fellowship Hall.



You are invited to join us for a reception honoring Noell Rathbun on Sunday, August 20 in the fellowship hall following worship. Please bring your favorite finger foods to share (no shellfish please).

Love Gift for Noell Rathbun

Out of gratitude for Noell Rathbun's seven years of ministry and service at Grace Baptist Church, we invite you to participate in a love offering.

Space for Grace: Joining God in the Neighborhood

Last Sunday we listened to our neighbors at the Carytown Watermelon Festival, in the neighborhood around the church, and through the front page of the newspaper. Here are a few images from the Grace tent at the Watermelon Festival. We look forward to reflecting together this Sunday morning in Sunday School. What have you heard, seen, felt, noticed, experienced, or wondered about in your neighborhood this week?



[An Update from the Personnel Commission](#)



In consultation with our Senior Pastor, the Personnel Commission of Grace Baptist Church has approved the employment of the Reverend Suzanne Vinson as Interim Minister of Children, Families, and Liturgical Arts for 25 hours per week on a temporary basis effective August 17, 2017. At this critical time leading into the beginning of a new church program year, the Commission felt it would be extremely valuable to add to our church staff a person with a wealth of experience of congregational work, including working with children and youth, and someone very familiar with the current needs of our children and their families. The interim period will be The Reverend Suzanne Vinson's experience in Christian education and age-related ministries allow her to minister to and walk beside people in many stages of life and learning. She has served as Minister of Christian Education at Ginter Park

Baptist Church, adjunct instructor at Virginia Commonwealth University, workshop and retreat leader, as well as other ministerial staff positions in congregations in Virginia and Mississippi. She also served as a chaplain at Westminster Canterbury and at Our Lady of Hope Health Center. The Reverend Vinson holds a Master of Divinity from Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond as well as Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling and Bachelor of Science in Business Education degrees from Mississippi College. We give thanks for the gifts of Reverend Suzanne Vinson and her willingness to share these gifts with the community of Grace in this season of our life together at Grace.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Timmy Miller

By Mac Anell

On Sunday, July 2, Timmy Miller came forward to consecrate his life to the Lord and requested baptism. Congratulations, Timmy, on making such a mature and life-changing decision.

Timmy, 12, grew up in GBC and attends the New Community School where he is in the 7th grade. His favorite subject there is math, and he also participates in basketball, cross country, and golf as well as serving on the Student Advisory Board.

Timmy's immediate family includes his father, Greg; his mother, Jennifer; and his older brother, Ross. Greg works at the University of Richmond, where he is the network manager in the I.T. Department. Jennifer is an occupational therapist for Genesis Rehab and works at Westminster-Canterbury. Ross, an 11th grader at New Community, plays varsity basketball and AAU basketball in the summer. Timmy

has a standard poodle named Molly, and enjoys doing magic tricks. In the future he hopes to attend the University of Richmond and go into either math or medicine.

At Grace, Timmy is involved in Sunday School and the youth group. He has also helped with CARITAS and serving meals at the homeless shelter. When asked why he came forward when he did, Timmy said, "I came forward because it felt like the right time and I was ready. Baptism to me will mean being closer to God." Timmy, we applaud your decision and welcome you formally to our fellowship! We look forward to becoming your extended family and promise to help you grow in Christ.



Grace on Tap is Back! Summer 2017

Join us for conversations on faith,
2nd and 4th Sundays in July and August at
6:00 pm

August 27 The HofGarden
The Hofhmeier Building
2818 W. Broad Street

Youth Fall Kick Off! September 10

It's that time again to fill up our backpacks and get ready for school to start this fall! Here at Grace we are excited for a new school year with many awesome youth activities. Our new small groups that formed this summer are planning to continue meeting throughout the year to provide a space of deep thinking for students. Our first retreat of the year is this October and so many more fun things in-between. To get the information for what is going on this year our Fall Kick Off will be held September 10th during the Sunday School hour. Youth families clear your schedules for a time of information gathering, coffee and donuts, and exciting opportunities for the fall. Hope to see you all there!

DEACON OF THE WEEK:

EXTENSION MEMBER

Shirley Lam
1600 Westwood Ave.
Unit 122
Richmond, VA 23227



CHURCH FAMILY MATTERS

Wednesday, August 16, 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

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

Congratulations to **Ann and Chris Wooldridge** on the birth of Garrett Ray Wooldridge, born August 8. We celebrate and share in their joy.

922 Butcher Valley Road, Rogersville, TN 37857

Congratulations to **Maggie and Rob Puckette** on the birth of their son, Cabell Beaton Puckette, born on July 29th.

4637 Hanover Ave., Richmond, VA 23226

MEMBERS WITH CURRENT CONCERNS

Cindy Byrkeland is recovering at home from head and neck surgery and spinal fluid leak.

1350 Westwood Avenue, Apt 306, Richmond, VA 23227

Christian Sympathy is extended to **Heather Calehuff Mlot** and family in the death of her mother, Carol Calehuff, on August 3.

472 Ada Ash Lane, Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF GRACE WHO VALUE OUR PRAYERS

Camdyn Russell, 8 year old recovering from being hit by car.
3328 Kensington Ave., Richmond, VA 23221

- ❖ **Betty Pugh Mills**, continues to heal from chemo. She received a good report that she is cancer free!
- ❖ Casey Rathbun, father of **Noell Rathbun**, ongoing health issues and Sally Rathbun, mother of Noell, who is awaiting scan results for hardened, swollen lymph nodes. *16 Bramlette Place, Longview, TX 75601*
- ❖ Friends of **Susanne and Phil Hale**, Dee Marshall and Charles Warren both diagnosed with cancer.
- ❖ **Sam and Jane McNeil**, in the death of their lifelong friend, Manfred "Vati" Schmidt.
- ❖ John Hill, father of **Sonja Hill**, is nearing. *3200 Woodland Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060*
- ❖ Gail, friend of **Wanda Sauley Fennell** has completed 8 weeks of chemo for ovarian cancer. Good results! Will have a second surgery in late July, then 9 more weeks of chemo. She is also in a clinical trial that will be 30 weeks. Pray that all this will be effective.
- ❖ Michael Higgins, doctor of **Wanda Sauley Fennell**, is doing well after chemo and radiation but is closing his practice permanently to concentrate on his health.
- ❖ 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*
- ❖ Earl Parrish, friend of **Linda and Sue Levison** has congestive heart failure.
- ❖ 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, having health issues. 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.
- ❖ **Bryna Boykin-Carter**, continued prayers for healing. *2208 Ridgefield Green Way Henrico, VA 23233*

RECENT VISITORS IN WORSHIP

Sandy and Bob Wynne
9150 Gregor Drive
North Chesterfield, VA 23236

Jocelyn Brumbaugh
4010 Patterson Ave
RVA 23221. (336) 971-5232
jocelynmbrumbaugh@gmail.com

Aris Hudgins and Trey Woolfolk
3800 Tomacee Rd., Richmond 23221
540-421-7367 (540)421-7367
woolfolc@gmail.com

Emily Overberg
2202 Hanover Ave. Apt. 1
Richmond, VA 23220
eroverberg@email.wm.edu
703-463-6786

Diana Trivette and Ryleigh Brooks
5910 Lakeside Ave. RVA 23228
804-909-4113; hotpad2@yahoo.com

Karen Berry
1518 Split Oak Ln. Apt. 1, RVA 23229.
Kberry2@richmond.edu

Debbie Nicholas
olmsnick@yahoo.com; 804-592-9156
Sarah Florek
4740 Pompton Ln, Chester 23831; 804-218-0629; lovehischild@hotmail.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

Please add / remove names by contacting the church office at 804-353-0134 or gbchurch@gbconline.org.

SUNDAY RESPONSIBILITIES

Sunday, August 20

Acolyte: Cameron Dickerson

Childcare Workers:

Sunday School:

Worship: Jennifer Dickerson

Chimer: Grace Timberlake

Deacon of the Week: Marilyn Hunter

Extension Member: Shirley Lam

Greeters/Ushers:

Cheryl Crawford

Sallie Cross

Richard Cross

Money Counters:

Susan Hebel

Sharon Whitlock

Jesse Kent

Opener/Closer: Joe Griffin

Sound System: Faith Dickerson

Sunday, August 27

Acolyte: Katelynn Rogers

Childcare Workers:

Sunday School: Jennifer Miller

Worship: Kathy Berry

Chimer:

Deacon of the Week: Carol Jones

Extension Member: Catherine Carter

Greeters/Ushers:

Richard Cross

Sallie Cross

David Boykin

Bernie Henderson

Money Counters:

Sallie Cross

Chad Hudson

Opener/Closer:

Sound System: Don Hill

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:

Giving Opportunities 2017: \$406,899.43

Total Gifts Given 2017: \$253,777.60

Remaining Giving Opportunity \$153,121.83

August 6

Gifts given: \$7,149.00

Other Income: \$20,201.13

PLEASE NOTE

Outside the office you can find:

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

Stewardship 2017

Thank you for your continued commitment to the ministries and mission of Grace Baptist Church. Our first and second quarter giving has been consistent and is up from previous years! We are grateful for this good news on the financial front and continue to give thanks for the many ways you share of your life, your love, and your resources for the work of love in our world!

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.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 4200 Dover Road, Richmond, VA 23221 (804) 353-0134 office@gbconline.org www.gbconline.org