

# The Glovier Messenger

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*From the Desk of Pastor Bill*

## The Power of Pentecost

Celebrating Pentecost Sunday provides the occasion for Christians to recognize God's Holy Spirit at work in the life of the church and in the lives of individuals. What is this day? Where does it originate? The word Pentecost comes from the Greek word *pentecoste*, which means fiftieth; and on the Christian calendar, Pentecost is the fiftieth day after Christ's resurrection on Easter. (Pentecost was originally an agricultural festival in the Jewish calendar celebrating the first harvest of the growing season. Later, it became a commemoration of the giving of the land of Canaan to the people of Israel; and even later, it morphed into an observance of the giving of the law to Moses on Mount Sinai. All these are important times of celebration, but nothing in those celebrations indicates the power that was unleashed on this day.)

The Christian traditions surrounding Pentecost originate in Acts 2, where the gathered disciples experience the presence and power of God's Holy Spirit. The account speaks of a sound "like the howling of a fierce wind" and something like "individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them." The disciples were "filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak." In fulfillment of Christ's promise the disciples received power from the Holy Spirit to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ



(Acts 1:8). The Christian world views this empowerment as the birth of the church. On Pentecost Sunday this year (May 19) I will preach on the word *Empowerment*.

A powerful and personal way to think about the Spirit is to think about spiritual fruit and gifts. The New Testament teaches about the fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit. In Galatians 5:22, Paul describes the fruit of the Spirit, which are qualities that the Spirit gives to us and matures in us ("love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control"). In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul lists several gifts of the Spirit, including wisdom, knowledge, faith, and healing. In the famous 1 Corinthians 13 passage, Paul stresses that love is the greatest spiritual gift of all.

As Christians empowered by the Holy Spirit, we grow in a desire to serve God through service and mission. That means focusing not only on spiritual growth but also works of justice and peace and service to the poor, imprisoned, and suffering. When we witness or participate in such acts, we can be certain that the Holy Spirit is at work.

The joy of the spiritual life is constantly learning about God's grace and God's care. Our Methodist founder John Wesley's emphasis on God's grace illustrates his understanding of the work of God's Spirit throughout our lives. *Prevenient grace* is with us from birth and works us toward *justifying grace* when we are converted to the faith. With

salvation comes our growth in *sanctifying grace* (holiness), wherein God perfects us. Wesley believed we must continue in grace in order to enter into the kingdom of God. In all these aspects of God's grace, the Holy Spirit works in our heart, emotions, mind and will, helping us grow and transform. By "perfection," Wesley does not mean we never make mistakes or that we are never weak. He means it as a growth of love for God and one another and a removal of our desire to sin. Such growth, as individual Christians and as communities of faith, illustrates the dynamic and vital presence of God's Holy Spirit. The Spirit is both the daily presence of God and the way by which we grow as Christians. Pentecost Sunday is an excellent time to celebrate the presence of the Holy Spirit within us and within the church.

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**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 10th - Ginny Andrews
- 21st - Jeff McCallister
- 23rd - Polly Broyles
- 23rd - Steve English
- 23rd - Gary Wright
- 30th - Emmitt Eccard

No May Anniversaries

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**AT HOME MEMBER FOR THE MONTH OF MAY**

**Polly Broyles**

700 Rife Road, Apt. 11B, Waynesboro, VA 22980  
540-949-8810

Polly would love to hear from you. Send her a card or give her a call. We appreciate our at home members as they support us each Sunday with their prayers and love.

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**Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**United Women in Faith** will meet Tuesday, May 14th at 6:00pm in the Social Hall for a Tea Party. All Women of the church are invited to attend this Special Gathering hosted by Wanda Easton, Doris Sipe and Karen Wright. Please bring a special cup and saucer (with a story) to share. **All Ladies Are Invited.** Please contact Karen or the church office if attending by Sunday the 10th. See you there!

"**Making Sense of Forgiveness**" continues on Wednesdays at 6 PM in person in the JOY Classroom and online via Zoom. The purpose of this study is to explore practical applications of our biblical imperative to forgive. (To attend via Zoom please contact Pastor Bill at [billjones@vaumc.org](mailto:billjones@vaumc.org).)

**Attention:** Plans are being made to **replace the flooring** in our sanctuary. Proceeds from our Good Friday meal went towards this project (\$1000). If you would like to make a donation towards this project, make checks payable to Glovier U.M.C. with "Flooring" in the memo line. This is a project for the future and we will keep everyone posted on the progress.

**Our Choir will be meeting** Tuesday, June 5th and Tuesday, July 2nd at 1:30pm and preparing for our summer schedule. If anyone has a special song you would like to share contact Karen Wright. Come join us for our summer schedule.

**United Methodist Men** will meet on May 2, 2024 at 6:00pm in the church social hall.

Thank you to the Roy Napier family for our new offering plates purchased by the Roy Napier Memorial Fund. God Bless.

**Attention: All trash** must be in a bag and tied before disposing of it in the outside trash can. Thanks.

**Calvary United Methodist Church of Stuarts Draft** invites you to join us on a day trip to see DANIEL at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA on Tuesday, July 16. The cost is \$213 per adult or \$153 per child ages 3-12 which includes round trip motor coach transportation, lunch at Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant, and tickets to the show. Deadline for registration and payment in full is **May 1**. Please contact Christina Daniel at 540-337-2980 or email her at [office@calvarydraft.com](mailto:office@calvarydraft.com) for more information.

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John & Jan Bottemiller      Donna Mason  
Polly & Tobi Broyles      Dianne Thorne

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON  
SUMMARIES FOR MAY**

This month we will study  
"Standing in the Faith" in the book of Romans.

**Justified by Faith in Jesus**

Romans 3:21-30  
May 5, 2024

Paul wrote the book of Romans about 57-58 C.E. It spells out God's forgiveness for every human being who believes in Him. God in His love for us provided a way for us to be saved from our sins, through His Son Christ Jesus. When He was crucified

on the cross, He died so we could be forgiven of our sins, through faith.

We can not earn our way into Heaven by doing good works. We must ask forgiveness for our sins, and have faith in God that He will forgive us our sins, and provide a place in Heaven for us to have eternal life.

Whether Jew or Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, everyone who comes to Jesus in faith for the forgiveness of sins is justified before God.

**Reckoned as Righteous**

Romans 4:13-25  
May 12, 2024

The old covenant in the Bible involved keeping Jewish rules and rituals. But Paul argues that when God spoke to Abraham, he believed Him. God told Abraham that he would be the father of many nations, and Isaac was not born until Abraham and Sarah were well past childbearing age. Yet Abraham never wavered in his belief that God would keep His promises.

As Paul continued his argument, he introduces God's grace. Whereas the law could bring only God's wrath upon sinners, grace brings His mercy upon all who come to Him in faith. By His grace God provided salvation, and it is by faith that we must receive His gift. Now, because Jesus lives, those who are in Him by faith stand in His righteousness, justified in God's sight.

**Reconciled to God**

Romans 5:1-11  
May 19, 2024

Paul explained the benefits of being one of God's children in his Letter to the Romans. He uses the word justified to describe having received salvation through the death of Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins. He says, we are forgiven and have

peace with God. We are no longer fighting God, but instead walking with God.

As Christians we know we are in God's favor and love. We have deep confidence in His love for us. We have hope; we can look forward with assurance that what God says and promises will come about. That calls for rejoicing. We have great Joy. God wants Christians to recognize His beauty and goodness, then marvel and glory in it.

The best gift is the Holy Spirit, which is in our hearts, pouring out God's love. Because of that, Christians can see suffering and are called to take care of others who have less than we have. We work as one with God. We are reconciled to God, not at odds with each other, but doing God's work daily, as we live our lives as Christians.

#### **Who Has Believed?**

Romans 10:1-17

May 26, 2024

Paul experienced a major change in his belief about who Jesus was, when Jesus confronted him on the road to Damascus. He knew how his fellow Israelites believed that keeping the Law of Moses was the only way to be a part of the kingdom of God, because that had once been his belief, too.

Paul constantly emphasized that both Jews and Gentiles can come into a saving knowledge of Christ. The Savior saves, and the sinner calls on him. Paul made it simple: speak Jesus as Lord out of your mouth, be a spreader of the Good News. Sincerely believe that Christ died for your sins and rose from the dead to prove He is who He says He is.

We, as the community of believers, must convey the Gospel in a way that increases receptivity and addresses the need in each of our hearts for God's love. The Holy Spirit softens a person's heart to God's grace, and salvation is found.



**GLOVIER MEMORIAL  
CELEBRATES**

**75 YEARS**

**1949 - 2024**



**AUGUST 17, 2024**

**Saturday at 5:00PM**

Dinner will be followed by "THROUGH THE YEARS" a celebration presentation with the Reverend Dr. Kirk Hanger narrating including Musical Entertainment.

**AUGUST 18, 2024**

**Sunday at 10:45AM**

Reverend Paul Glovier will bring the message. Light Luncheon to follow.