

JULY 4, 2021  
VOLUME 33, ISSUE 7

GREATER SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

# GOOD NEWS LETTER

MAKING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST- ONE HEART AT A TIME- ONE FAMILY AT A TIME



Pastor and First Lady Hackett



## Question: "The Fruit of the Holy Spirit - What is kindness?"

**Answer:** Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruit of the Spirit—the resulting character of someone who is allowing

the Holy Spirit to develop maturity in his or her life. The fifth characteristic, kindness, is called “gentleness” in the KJV.

The Greek word for “kindness” is *chrēstotēs*. It means “benignity, tender concern, uprightness.” It is kindness of heart and kindness of act.

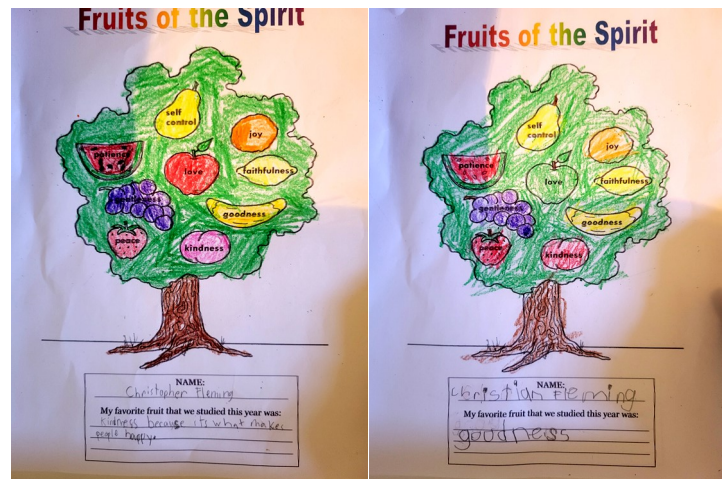
Kindness is the characteristic that led God to provide salvation for us (Titus 3:4-5; Romans 2:4; 11:22). Kindness leads God to give us green pastures, quiet waters, and the restoration of our souls when we’re weary (Psalm 23:2-3). It is God’s tender care that makes Him want to gather us under His wings, to protect us and keep us close to Him (Psalm 17:8; 36:7; 61:4; Matthew 23:37). God expressed kindness when He provided for Elijah and the widow of Zarephath during a drought—and He showed more kindness later when He raised the widow’s only son from the dead (1 Kings 17:8-24). When Sarah exiled Hagar and Ishmael, God gave the outcasts kindness in the form of water and hope (Genesis 21:9-21). On multiple occasions, kindness induced Jesus to stop what He was doing and help others in need (Mark 6:34; Mark 7:29; Mark 10:46-52). And kindness leads the Good Shepherd to rescue us when we stray (Luke 15:3-7). In kindness He “gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that

have young” (Isaiah 40:11).

When we exhibit the kindness of God, we are tender, benevolent, and useful to others. Every action, every word will have the flavor of grace in it. To maintain this attitude toward those we love is hard enough. To express kindness toward those who are against us requires the work of God (2 Corinthians 6:4-6). That is why kindness is a fruit of the Spirit.

From Got Questions.org

## 6-8 Year-Old Bible Study Group Illustrates Fruits of the Spirit



Christopher says that his favorite fruit was kindness because it’s what makes people happy. Christian says that his favorite is goodness!!!

# INDEPENDENCE DAY – SUNDAY JULY 4, 2021

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:** [PAGE 2](#) JULY BIRTHDAYS/MAY WE TAKE TIME TO LISTEN TO EACH OTHER/JULY DATES [PAGE 3](#) JULY SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS AT A GLANCE/JUST FINEBY DENISE [PAGE 4](#) PASTOR ACCEPTS POSITION WITH MSD [PAGE 5](#) HEALTH NOTES VACCINATION AND TESTING SITES/SMOOTHIE RECIPE [PAGE 6](#) GRADUATION AND PROMOTION CELEBRATION [PAGE 7](#) PASTOR’S 16TH ANNIVERSARY [PAGE 8](#) ONLINE GIVING [PAGE 9](#) OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP AND STUDY [PAGE 10](#) ACTIVITY PAGE [PAGE 11](#) EVANGELISM MINISTRY:HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST [PAGE 12](#) CHURCH INFORMATION/ONE LINERS AND 23RD PSALM/AUGUST 2021 GNL DEADLINE



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Sandra Adams Lee	2	3
4 U. S. Independence Day Donna Faye Smith	5 Chaqueita LaGantta	6 Dolores B. Johnson	7 Jada Johnson	8	9 Keith Hackett, II	10 Mildred Grant
11 Lester Crayton Charles Forbes Chimond Vaughn	12 Christina Beason James Burks	13 Ricardo Leacock, Jr. Roland Mitchell Rollin Mitchell	14	15	16	17
18 Whitley Roland	19 Veronica Daniel	20 Jamesha Mullins Robert Payne, Jr.	21	22 Alex Head	23	24 Kameron Dennison Kaylin Dennison
25 Mona Fleming	26 Reanna Lee	27	28 Theron Exum Gary Head	29	30 Helen Johnson Leroy Winston	

MAY WE TAKE TIME TO LISTEN TO EACH OTHER

J. Garrish, Author

It is so important that we all keep our minds and hearts open to listen to each other, and not assume that we already know what another person thinks and feels. Each of us is a unique individual and soul with one's own profound nature which can never be pre-judged. It takes time and patience and caring to get to know another person. Stereotypes are meaningless. What we hear and see on the news and in films or in politics or anywhere else can't and should never be used to define any of us.

There is so much richness that we can derive from learning about and sharing in diverse cultures. Life can ideally be about learning and growing as long as we are alive. We need never get bored that way. There are so many fascinating things to learn about.. There are different ways of cooking, many types of music to enjoy, various forms of art and dance. Life is an adventure which we can all share.

We're all here on planet Earth to respect and nurture and learn from each other. It can give us a warm feeling in our heart to help someone else feel more hopeful if they are discouraged. Then they may do the same for us if we are feeling challenged at another time. That is how we can all co-exist in harmony by the Grace of God.

Submitted by Patricia Sweatt

July Dates

- Canada Day, July 1, 2021
- U.S. Independence Day, July 4, 2021

GALATIANS 5:22-23



THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS

love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness,  
gentleness, self-control.

GALATIANS 5:22-23, ESV

**JUST FINE**

By: Denise L.B. Zellars

The Bible says that the **Lord** is close to the broken **Hearted** and saves those who are crushed in Spirit, **Psalm 34:18**.

I know this to be true--  
His Grace and His mercies every single day are new.

When I lost my husband 4 years ago - Johnathan was the first person who made me laugh, *within a couple days time*, he said something funny as he always did and concluded with, "Cousin Nisey, you are going to be just fine!"

**"Just Fine"** would prove to be true and because of God's Grace, I can encourage you.

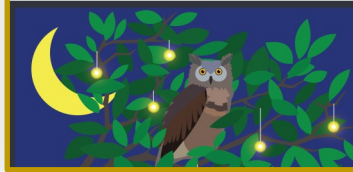
I won't ever say healing will be easy as you won't be able to control not one single tear. But cling tightly to our Good Lord's Word and He will help you to endure.

**Christ Jesus** will comfort you like no one else can and with each new day, the **Stronger** you will stand.

Hang on to your beautiful memories from yesterday; cherish Johnathan's life and legacy with every sweet thought that comes your way.

Don't allow anyone to tell you how to grieve, *nor, how long per se'* Just remember God's children grieve with **Hope**, in a godly way.

Be patient as all healing takes time. But the more you cling to Christ Jesus, Cousin Sandra, - you will see *you too*, are going to be, *just fine*.

**JULY**

## Sunday School Lessons At-a-Glance

### Unit 2—Faith and Salvation

Unit 2 makes the transition from hope regarding earthly, physical needs in unit 1 to our hope for eternal salvation. Abraham is a double-sided example in this regard. On the one hand, he is the preeminent example of faith (lesson 7); on the other hand, he is an example of someone who tried to take personal control when doubts arose regarding lack of an heir (Genesis 16). We follow Abraham's good example and avoid repeating his attempt to take control from God as we lift our eyes above earthly circumstances to focus on the power of the gospel (lesson 6), how we have peace with God (lesson 8), and the scope of salvation (lesson 9).

- Lesson 5 - July 4** - Attitude of Gratitude - Leviticus 13:45–46; Luke 17:11–19
- Lesson 6 - July 11** - Power of the Gospel - Romans 1:8–17
- Lesson 7 - July 18** - Faith of Abraham - Romans 4:1–12
- Lesson 8 - July 25** - Peace with God - Romans 5:1–11
- Lesson 9 - August 1** - Salvation Available for All - Romans 10:5–17

We believe that the Sunday School Ministry helps the church in reaching the lost, in edifying the saved, and raising up spiritually healthy disciples for Jesus Christ .  
Pastor Hackett

Now Open  
for In-Person  
and Virtual  
Classes.  
Sundays at  
10:00 AM

!!!

# Sunday School

*Growing Together  
in Christ*

## Pastor Hackett Accepts Position With MSD



The tributes below are for Pastor's service with Solid Waste Management Services and Metro Government since 2003. The tributes appeared in the June 24 edition of *The Works Week* newsletter. He and First Lady Tanisha were honored here at GSBC on Sunday, June 27, during The 16th Year Pastoral Anniversary Celebration. (See Page 7)



### The Works Week

### Thank you for your service and dedication!

We want to take a moment say thank you and best wishes to Mr. Keith Hackett, who is moving on to be the Metropolitan Sewer District's Facilities Director – a truly dedicated public servant, Keith joined Louisville Metro Government on July 7, 2003 as Director of Solid Waste Management Services (SWMS). On April 10, 2005 he was appointed Assistant Director of Metro Public Works & Assets, where he continued to lead SWMS. His leadership has been instrumental in transforming our city's cleanliness and recycling practices. Examples include overseeing the construction of the Waste Reduction Center; implementation of in-house curbside recycling services (2007), an initiative that increased efficiency and overall operation effectiveness; fostering relationships to help secure funds from the Recycling Partnership and the Louisville Metro Waste District; implementation of Pop-Up Drop-Off Large Items Collection events (2020), Alley Action (2020), Clean Collaboration (2020).

Keith's leadership in the industry has also been recognized at the national level; serving as President of the National Chapter of the Municipal Waste Management Association (MWMA-2015-2017) and State President of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA-Bluegrass Chapter, 2017-2019).

On behalf of the entire PWA team, but especially SWMS personnel we thank Assistant Director Hackett for his dedication, service and leadership and wish you much success on all your future endeavors.

*"In addition to his eighteen years of service and his leadership, I'm most appreciative of Keith's active involvement in our Workforce Development efforts, from Sanitation Tippers to Administrators; making sure all SWMS personnel are prepared to move to the next level. I am equally appreciative of his championing the many cleanliness initiatives; which have improved the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your service and dedication."* – **Vanessa Burns, Director – Metro public Works & Assets**

*"Keith Hackett is a dedicated public servant and a champion of our city. I join our residents in thanking Keith for his many years of leadership with our Public Works team and wish him much success as he transitions to a new role with MSD."*

– Mayor Greg Fischer

# HEALTH NOTES FOR JULY 2021

From the Nurses Ministry

## Where to get COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines

Call the COVID-19 Hotline (800) 722-5725

The hotline can provide advice and answer general COVID-19 vaccine questions.

### COVID-19 Testing

If you need a COVID-19 test, please contact your healthcare provider, local health department, urgent treatment center, healthcare clinic, or pharmacy. Some options that might be available to you include:

CVS                      Kroger- The Little Clinic                      Norton Healthcare                      Walgreens

## Who should get tested for current COVID-19?

People who have symptoms of COVID-19.

Most people who have had close contact (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone with confirmed COVID-19.

Fully vaccinated people with no COVID-19 symptoms do not need to be tested following an exposure to someone with COVID-19.

## COVID-19 Vaccines

There are many places to get the vaccine. Examples: Kroger, Walgreens, CVS, many neighborhood health centers, etc. If you need assistance with scheduling an appointment, please call 855-598-2246

Go to [www.covid19.ky.gov](http://www.covid19.ky.gov) to find a vaccine clinic near you.

**Summer is the best time to eat fresh fruits and vegetables.**

**To find out more, Read - Daniel, Chapter 1 in your Bible**

**A Banana Raspberry Avacado Smoothie is a Refreshing and Healthy summer treat**

This smoothie uses three delicious and colorful fruits. Each one brings specific benefits that will help you maintain strong and healthy bones. 1 Serving -

#### Ingredients

- 1 cup raspberries
- 1 banana, preferably frozen
- 1/2 avocado
- 1/3 cup plain, unsweetened yogurt
- 1/3 cup almond milk
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon

Directions: Cut the banana and avocado into bite-size pieces, then add all the ingredients in a blender. Blend until smooth.

Source: [www.kycovid19.ky.gov](http://www.kycovid19.ky.gov), [www.saveourbones.com](http://www.saveourbones.com)



# JUNE 26TH PROMOTIONS AND GRADUATION DAY 2021

*The Greater Salem Youth & Family and the Scholarship Ministries helped the Church family honor the 2021 Class of graduates and Promotees on a hot, windy Saturday during a planned drive-by which turned into a walk-through. The grads and promotees explained their current status and plans for the future to those in attendance.*

Here are a few snapshots from the day!!!



## Pre - School Promotions

- **Yahlie Ford** will be attending Kindergarten at Shaffner Traditional Elementary Sch.
- **Aria Smith - Turner** was promoted from Stone Street Elementary Kindergarten to Notre Dame Academy 1<sup>st</sup> Grade
- **Christian Fleming** from Audubon Traditional Kindergarten to Audubon 1st Grade
- **Connor Williams** from Madison Kindergarten Academy to Glen Marshall Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

## Elementary School Promotions

- **Kenedee Petty** from Schaffner Traditional Elementary to Johnson Middle School

## Middle School Promotions

- \* **Ke'airia Lee** from Ramsey Middle School to Fern Creek High School
- \* **Trayvion Harper** from Noe Middle School to Trinity High School

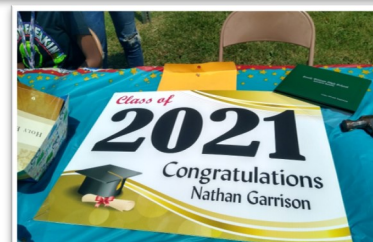
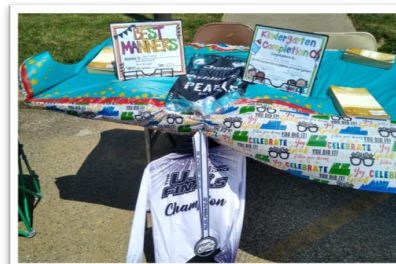
## High School Graduates

- **Nathan Garrison** Graduated from South Oldham County High School. He has committed to play football in the fall @ Lindsey-Wilson College
- **Tayona Lee** Graduated from Fern Creek High School. She will be attending the University of Kentucky. She is majoring in Biology. Plans to attend medical school
- **Caleb Snadon** Graduated from Ballard High. He will be going into the Military
- **Shawntae Chambers** Graduated from Doss High School
- **Janay Caldwell** Graduated from PRP High School. She will be attending Kentucky State University studying Nursing

## College Graduates

- ◆ **Keith Hackett II** Graduated from Georgetown University
- ◆ **Tanisha Hackett** Received Master's Degree of Science in Human Resources and Organizational Development at the University of Louisville
- ◆ **Cyntoria Vaughn** Graduated from Eastern Kentucky University with a BS Degree in Criminal Justice. She will be working on her Masters in Occupational Safety at EKU.

Thanks, Renita for the pictures you shared!!!



# JUNE 27TH PASTOR'S 16TH ANNIVERSARY 2021



Anniversary Choir



Pastor Sholar delivered a powerful message



Pastor and Tanisha with First Lady Athena and Pastor Victor Sholar

M. C. Dr. Beverly Coleman



Pastor and Tanisha with Pastor's childhood friend, William Summers V and his wife



The Hacketts: Wilbur Jr, Brenda, Ms Ollie, Tanisha and Keith S.

## Affirmation - Confirmation and Complete Authority!! Yes, God's Word!

We were indeed blessed with an awesome message delivered by Pastor Victor Sholar of Main Street Baptist Church in Lexington, KY for this year's Pastoral and First Lady Anniversary. The scripture was from **Ephesians 4:11-12**, but clearly our Good Lord had more to say about the Spiritual Gifts given/assigned to the Saints. Pastor Sholar's title for this Sermon was *"The Type of Pastor A Church Needs."* While the message affirmed what most of us already knew about our beloved Pastor being sent by God; it should have for others, cleared up any lingering doubt or misinterpretation of God's Word when it comes to *who* God calls to lead His Church — the *"man"* God wants in the Pulpit *"preaching"* His Word!"

Pastor Sholar expounded on **Titus 1:5-9** and **1Timothy 3**, which provides our Good Lord's qualifications on serving as elders of His Church. On fire with the Holy Spirit, he summed up the message by walking through the Bible identifying our **Savior** and **Lord** in each book. There is but one thing left for us to do, and that is to share this message with others. There is absolutely nothing left to say but, Yes, Lord, Wow!! Praise our God!! **AMEN!!!**

Blessings,  
-Denise L.B. Zellars

## Greater Salem Baptist Church - A New Way to Contribute Your Offering "Online Giving is Here"

### Dear GSBC Members and Friends,

The way we have come together to worship during the past year is different since we shifted to virtual ministries due to the pandemic. Despite social distancing, we are very blessed to have our church family continuing to thrive, and we thank the Lord for allowing us to continue serving, i.e., "Make Disciples for Jesus Christ, one heart at a time, one family at a time." *Matthew 28:18-20*

We have exciting news about a new way you can contribute. We have partnered with Vanco Services which is an electronic giving resource which will assist members and friends who prefer another option to contribute to GSBC.

GSBC now offers electronic giving using the Vanco Online and Vanco Mobile app to make Tithes, Missions, Building Fund, Sunday School, Scholarship and Capital Campaign contributions. The following is a description of the electronic giving options.

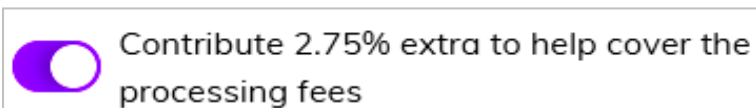
### VANCO

**Vanco Online** giving is on the GSBC website [greatersalembaptist.org](http://greatersalembaptist.org) under the **HOME/GIVE** heading. Click on the link and it is a simple step-by-step process, and you can sign up to track your giving.

**Vanco Mobile** is a free app you can download from the Apple App Store or Google Play and the app allows you to contribute via your mobile phone.

- After you download the app, open the app and search for the church by entering **Greater Salem Baptist Church**.
- After you locate the church name, enter the following Invite Code – **YMU4J5**
- You will need to complete your profile to register to make contributions by entering your name, address, phone number and email address.
- Completing the registration steps allows you to receive a receipt for your contribution, review contribution history, etc.
- Online/mobile contributions will be credited to your annual contribution statement during the month they are received.

There are processing fees associated with online/mobile contributions. Please help GSBC cover the processing fees by clicking on the following in the Basket:

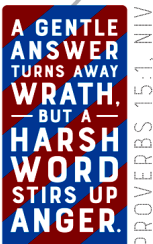


The percentage (%) listed above is for MasterCard/Visa/Discover processing fees. Checks are 1%. We discourage using American Express due to higher processing fees.

Also, you can continue to give during attendance at Sunday worship service, dropping your contribution off at the church or by mailing it.

If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Larry Austin or Sis. Monica Little at [m1little@bellsouth.net](mailto:m1little@bellsouth.net). Thank you for your ongoing support of GSBC through your prayers and financial support.

Blessings,  
Pastor Keith S. Hackett & the GSBC Finance Ministry



### A gentle answer

As it does this year, July 4 fell on Sunday in 1937. While Pastor Eldred Johnston led worship that morning in Paulding, Ohio, local kids set off firecrackers nearby (restrictions were rare back then). Realizing he needed to act, the pastor slipped outside during a hymn and found the revelers.

But instead of scolding or shouting, Johnston stayed calm. "I used to enjoy shooting fireworks too," he said, adding that he knew it was a fun way to celebrate. "But many in this town are gathered in worship, and the noise is very distracting. All I'm asking is that you wait until church services are over — about noon — and then shoot firecrackers all you want." The pastor smiled at each youth and returned to church.

Recounting that experience in *Liberty* magazine, Johnston said he half-expected to hear defiant explosions. Instead, the kids waited respectfully until worship was over. When conflicts loom, may we heed that example — and this advice from Proverbs: "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger" (15:1, NIV).



## **Opportunities to Be in the Presence of God through the Study of His Word, Prayer, and with Regular Worship while maintaining Social Distance!!!**

- ⇒ *Sunday Worship services are held in the sanctuary and streamed online on Facebook live at 11:15 A.M. and then made available for viewing later on the Greater Salem Website: [greatersalembaptist.org](http://greatersalembaptist.org) or the Greater Salem Facebook page.*
- ⇒ *The weekly Bible study led by Pastor Hackett will be held live in the Sanctuary and continue on Facebook Live every Wednesday except the 4th Wednesday at 6:00 PM and can be viewed later on the Greater Salem website or Facebook Page.*
- ⇒ *Bro. LeRoy Winston & Sis. Rosa Battle will be leading the weekly Wednesday Prayer Service at 12 noon via conference call. The conference call information is as follows: Dial (978) 990-5000 and when prompted enter Access Code: 703263#*
- ⇒ *You can join in with Min. Kern Richardson, Sister Sara Toney and all classes for the weekly Sunday School lesson in the Sanctuary or via conference call at 10:00 AM on Sundays. Just call 978-990-5000 and when prompted enter the access code 721799#*
- ⇒ *Sis. Tanisha Hackett is facilitating the Women's Ministry's Bible Study. They will hold classes in the Sanctuary (Beginning on July 10th and 26th) and via Conference Call. They will meet on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 10:15 AM. For Audio only please call 978-990-5000, access code 703263# to be a part of the class. If you'd prefer audio and video go online at <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/tanishahackett>. All women, ages 18 and over, are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Sis. Tanisha Hackett at [tanisha.hackett@gmail.com](mailto:tanisha.hackett@gmail.com)*
- ⇒ *Pastor Hackett and Deacon George Johnson will facilitate Men's Bible Study by Conference call and In Person in the sanctuary on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Saturday of each month at 10:15 AM. The dial-in number is (978) 990-5432—The access code is 3331448#*
- ⇒ *Rev. Hall and Sister Mary Stoddard will be leading the weekly Friday Bible Study via conference call at 11:30 am. The conference call information is as follows: Dial (978) 990-5000 and when prompted enter Access Code: 703263#*
- ⇒ *The Children's Bible Study (Ages 6-8) is held every first and second Wednesday, from 7:00 -7:30 P.M. The teachers for this class are Sister Lynn Fleming, and Sister Mona Fleming. To join this class on zoom, please go to This link: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/4825671779?pwd=NIhhZ3B1cEFKYXVhYzB3N3lZSzdKUT09>. Pass Code:8420*
- ⇒ *Bible Study Classes for the pre-teens, ages 9-12, are held every first and second Wednesday from 7:30-8:15 P.M. The teachers are Sister Renita Ennels and Sister Brenda Hackett. To join the class on zoom, please go to the following link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/456907761?pwd=WjgveENIMmhNU25nempWRHQzWEZIUT09> Meeting ID: 456 907 7761 Passcode: JY8LRQ*
- ⇒ *The Youth Bible Study Classes are every second and fourth Saturday at 5:30 P.M. The teachers are Deacon Theron Exum and Deacon Stefan Dennison. Youth may join this Bible Study by conference call at (425) 436-6355 Access Code 10092020# The youth in this class are also studying The Fruit of the Spirit. They will alternate participating in a spiritual development class and a social development class each month.*
- ⇒ *Tithes and offering can be delivered to the church on weekdays between 10 AM and 2:00 PM. They can be given to the Deacons on duty (587-8869) or placed in the mail slot (after hours). You can also send them to Greater Salem Baptist Church at 1009 W Chestnut Street, Louisville 40203. Call 587-8869 if you need someone to pick-up your tithes and offerings. (See Page 8 for info on online giving via VANCO)*
- ⇒ *If you'd like to take the Lord's Supper, you can do so on every first Sunday of the month. It will be served by the Deacons on the parking lot as well as in the Sanctuary. Please drive through to be served. (As always, remember to maintain a proper Social Distance)*
- ⇒ *You can get a paper copy of the GoodNewsLetter via mail by contacting the church at 587-8869 and leaving your name and address.*

# PUZZLE

## As sweet as honey



Honey is both a sweetener and a medicine. How can our words be used in the same ways?



Directions: Use the hexagon key to fill in the missing vowels and complete Proverbs 16:24, NIV.



Grocoooos worods

oro o honooocomb,

swoot to tho sooo

ond hooolong



to tho bonos.



PROVERBS 16:24, NIV

## Bible Quiz

An unnamed relative of Paul obstructed a conspiracy to kill the apostle. What was this rescuer's relation to Paul?



- A. nephew
- B. niece
- C. brother
- D. sister

Answer: (See Acts 23:12-22, esp. v. 16.)

## A SWEET TREAT



Make this refreshing treat on a hot summer day.

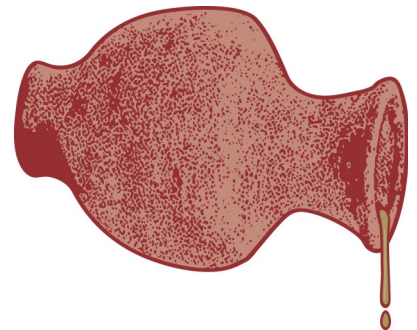
### What you need:

- Baking sheet
- Parchment paper
- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 2 Tbsp. honey
- ¼ cup granola or cereal

### What you do:

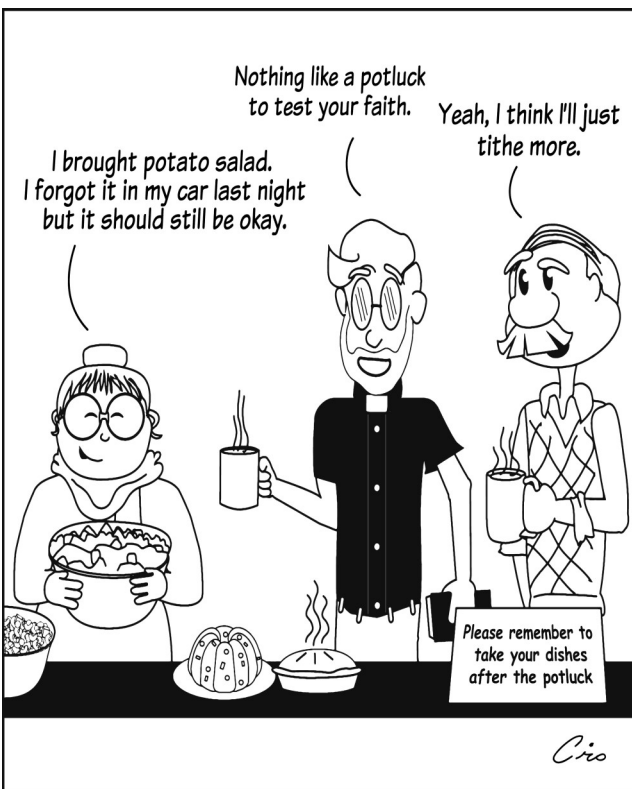
1. On a baking sheet covered with parchment paper, spread yogurt in a thin layer, about ½-inch thick.
2. Drizzle honey evenly over yogurt. Sprinkle granola (or cereal) on top.
3. Freeze about 30 minutes, or until firm.
4. Crack frozen yogurt into pieces and peel away paper. Enjoy!

## Christian Symbol



**OIL**

In the Old Testament, oil symbolized consecration to God. The temple altar and king's heads were anointed with oil to set them apart as holy. In the New Testament, oil often represented the Holy Spirit. Jesus and his followers were anointed for their ministries (see Luke 4:18 and Acts 10:38).



FROM THE EVANGELISM MINISTRY—SHARE THIS PAGE

## HAVE YOU STARTED YOUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST???

Some of you might not yet know God in a personal way through His Son. You might think of yourself as a Christian only because you were taken to church as a child. Or you might take comfort from the fact that you were baptized as an infant and confirmed.

Family and church connections are an important part of religious life, but those experiences don't make a person a Christian.

Centuries ago, a religious leader named Nicodemus approached Jesus to find answers to his own spiritual questions. Nicodemus said, "We know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." (John 3:2) Jesus' response seems surprisingly unrelated to Nicodemus' comments: "Jesus answered and said to him, most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God." (John 3:3)

Their conversation underscored the contrast between physical life and spiritual life. In the Garden of Eden, when God began to fellowship with Adam in the cool of the day, Adam had not yet disobeyed God. He was in a state of complete innocence. But after Adam disobeyed God by eating of the forbidden fruit, a fundamental change took place. A great barrier to fellowship between God and man damaged their relationship. When God made Himself available for fellowship with Adam as He had done in the past, Adam expressed his awareness of his disobedience by hiding from God. (Gen 3:8-10)

Sin had created an insurmountable chasm where once there had been an intimate union between God and man. The same alienation has persisted since that fateful day. All of us were made for fellowship with our creator, but we have chosen to go our own way. The Bible says that "all we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way." (Isaiah 53:6)

The tragic result of this rebellion against God is spiritual death. Adam was told beforehand, that on the day he ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil he would surely die. (Genesis 2:16-17) Adam ate of the forbidden fruit and at that moment he died spiritually. Although he lived on physically for many years, his ability to fellowship with God had been damaged by the consequences of sin.

That is why Jesus' words to Nicodemus were such good news. Jesus told him that each of us can be made alive again on the inside. God's Holy Spirit can come inside us and restore our fellowship with God. But how does this happen?

The Lord is eager to forgive your sin, restore your fellowship with God, and give you the gift of eternal life. But there are some Biblical requirements.

FIRST, we must admit that we are sinners and cannot save ourselves. The Bible tells us that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

Second, we need to recognize the seriousness of our sin. Our human tendency is to rationalize and grade on a curve by comparing ourselves to others. But God sets a standard of perfection in which no one can please Him based on self-effort. The Bible says that "our righteousnesses are like filthy rags." (Isaiah 64:6)

"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

The Good News is that Christ suffered the consequences of our sin. Making it possible for us to have eternal fellowship with Him. The apostle Paul wrote, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) This means that Jesus Christ, who never did anything wrong, gave His own life on the cross so that the penalty of sin could be paid, and His righteousness applied to us. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

THIRD, It is not enough just to know that Christ died for us, we need to act on this by receiving Him as Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name." (John 1:12)

Are you ready to make that decision? If you are, you can go to Jesus in prayer and share with Him your desire to receive forgiveness for sin and the start of an eternal relationship with Him.

**Jesus, I admit that I am a sinner. Thank you for dying on the cross to pay the penalty for my sin. I now receive you as my Savior and Lord. Take control of my life and make me the kind of person You want me to be. Amen.**

If you prayed this prayer with sincerity, you have the assurance that Christ is in your life. The apostle John wrote, "These things have I written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life." (1 John 5:13)

**Now, you can spend time with God,  
God wants to spend time with you..**

**Submitted by Deacon Marshall Merrill**

**If you need to talk to someone about this, you can contact the Church office at 502-587-8869 and speak with Deacon Merrill or a member of the Evangelism Team!!!**

The GoodNewsLetter is available online at [greatersalembaptist.org](http://greatersalembaptist.org)



**Opportunities to be in the presence of God through the study of His word and In the Center of Prayer (See Page 9 for updated schedule of online audio or video opportunities)**



### Greater Salem Baptist

1009 West Chestnut Street  
Louisville KY 40203

**Office Staff**

Monica Little

Lenette Dennison

**Telephone Number**

502-587-8869

**Email:**

[aagsalem@bellsouth.net](mailto:aagsalem@bellsouth.net)

**Office Hours**

Monday through Friday

09:00 am to 02:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

See page 9 for online schedules

### [One-liners]

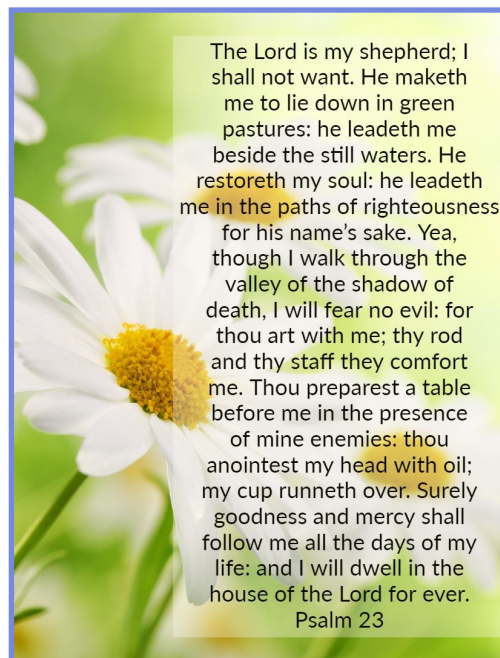
"Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible."  
—Corrie ten Boom

\* \* \*

"That the birds of worry and care fly over your head, this you cannot change, but that they build nests in your hair, this you can prevent."  
—Chinese proverb

\* \* \*

"A Christian man is the most free lord of all, and subject to none; a Christian man is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone."  
—Martin Luther

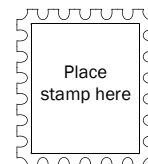


The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.  
Psalm 23

**MAKING DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST  
ONE HEART AT A TIME - ONE FAMILY AT A TIME**

From:

Greater Salem Baptist Church  
1009 West Chestnut Street  
Louisville, KY 40203



**Deadline for the August 2021 GNL  
07/18/2021**