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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

STRENGTH & DIGNITY HER CLOTHING: WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MOTHER'S DAY

by Janice M. Fritsch

Honoring Our Mothers

All over the world during Mother's Day, multitudes will gather in churches, homes and restaurants to celebrate the mothers in their lives. Like other holiday seasons millions will be spent on flowers, candy, and gifts as they sincerely want to bless their mothers. However, many out of obligation or to quench any feelings of guilt, will just send a card or perhaps give their mother a call on the telephone. Others will despise the thought of any such display toward their mother and go on with their day as any other day.

Mother's Day is a time of recognizing and honoring the mothers in your life: birth mothers, step-mothers, mothers-in-law, grandmothers, spiritual mothers. Yet, how many people will simply stop there? How many people will take into consideration all that the Lord says about honoring our mothers? What does the Bible say about the consequences of not honoring our mothers?

The First Commandment With A Promise

Although the commandment in **Exodus 20:12** begins with "Honour thy father and thy mother," we may not realize there is a promise that comes from honoring them. In **Ephesians 6:2** we are given the revelation that this is the first commandment given that comes with a promise of long life.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. Ephesians 6:1-3 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. Exodus 21:12

This verse clearly teaches that there is a spiritual and physical consequence to honoring or dishonoring our mother or father. In addition, **Exodus 21:12** does not say honor your mother only on a designated day, but we are to give honor to our mothers everyday. Not only does God acknowledge the importance of honoring our mothers, but on the cross Jesus passed his responsibility to one of His beloved disciples.

When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. John 19:26-27

Notice that from that very hour she was taken into his home, and although he had his own birth mother, he also honored Mary as his mother. Mothers can come in many shapes and forms. In the book of Ruth

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY – SUNDAY MAY 9, 2021

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 <i>Rejoice! He Lives!</i>					1 Hilda Appiah
2 JaLeah Beason	3 Lucille Snordon Xavier Thomas Marchelle Weaver	4	5 DeMon Brown Jaelyn Maxey Robert Stone	6 Shontae Chambers Richard Garrison, Jr. Linda Wright	7	8
9	10 Ronnie Henderson	11 Rasika Johnson Terry Julian	12 Sarah Richie	13	14	15 Tyrone Thomas
16 Tenina Porter	17 Naykia Williams	18 Walter Ellis, Jr. - George Johnson	19 Thady Cox	20	21 Regina Burns	22 Gary Austin
23 Kawana Dunkley/ Lorenzo Moore/ Ventra Mapp / Timothy Scales	24 Carmorita Britt	25 Tanisha Hackett	26 Arion Austin	27 LaDonna Cumberlander	28 Timothy Burns Constance King	29 Erica Smith
30 Justin Lee	31 Frank Smith					



GSBC Scholarships Are Available!!!

Applications for a 2021 Greater Salem Scholarship are now available through May 18th. You may get a copy of the application by contacting Chairperson Jacque Austin at Jacque807@aol.com or by calling the church office at 587-8869.



May Dates

- National Day of Prayer, May 6, 2021
- Mother's Day, May 9, 2021
- Ascension Day, May 13, 2021
- Pentecost, May 23, 2021
- Victoria Day (Canada), May 24, 2021
- Trinity Sunday, May 30, 2021
- Memorial Day, May 31, 2021



Keep moving!!!

As they proudly processed across the stage to receive their diplomas, each graduate heard two messages from the principal: "Congratulations!" (in a loud voice) and "Keep moving" (in a whisper). Although the administrator was merely trying to facilitate the flow, she was actually offering sound advice to the young adults: Don't stop or stagnate! Proceed from here and continue learning. This is the beginning, not the end, of a journey. Keep moving!!!

HONORING OUR MOTHERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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we see the ultimate honoring of a mother-in-law.

“Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.” But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” Ruth 1:15-17 NIV

As Naomi had lost her husband and her only sons and was all alone, Ruth was determined to stay with her and honor her in every way that she could. Her kindness, loyalty, valuing and caring for Naomi was rewarded by the Lord and not only were her days long upon the land that the Lord gave her, but the Messiah came from her lineage.

The Role of Mothers

What are we honoring? Mothers are the child bearers and usually the primary caregivers, and because they have contact with their children over a long growing period, they have an extraordinary effect on their children. This is especially true if she is the solo parent. Fathers are usually not as available as mothers for many reasons; work, career, financial obligations, outside interests, lack of interest all together, to mention a few. So, mothers, have a tremendous impact on their children.

Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Proverbs 31:25-30

We see in **2 Timothy 1:5** how with all the time a mother spends raising up her child, her faith is also passed down to her child. **When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.** Timothy gives us an example of the many godly mothers and grandmothers in our lives that have passed down blessings to us. All of us who have had godly mother figures need to thank God. One way to do this is to honor them on Mother’s Day.

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Deuteronomy 6:6-7

MAY



Sunday School Lessons At-a-Glance

Words of Change

At the center of the prophetic message is a call to repentance and change, and Unit 3 focuses on the necessity and possibility of these. In lessons 9 and 11, the prophets Micaiah and Jeremiah courageously spoke truth to powerful individuals who were unwilling to acknowledge and act on that truth. On the other hand, lesson 13 narrates a positive response to a prophetic message on the part of a most unlikely audience: the wicked non-Israelite city of Nineveh. The forgiving response from the Lord in the light of that repentance puts the lie to the old contention that the God of the Old Testament was solely a God of wrath.

In lesson 10, the prophet Isaiah denounces Judah as a people who “come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me” (Isaiah 29:13). Nevertheless, the prophet anticipates a transformation that will come when the Lord acts to change the people, a change likened to the deaf hearing and the blind seeing. Ezekiel declares in lesson 12 that the path to such a transformation begins in repentance. Each person stands individually responsible before the loving and holy God, who calls out, “Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall.... I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!” (Ezekiel 18:30–32).

- Lesson 9** - Speaking Truth to Power - 1 Kings 22:15–23, 26–28
- Lesson 10** - Offering Hope for the Future - Isaiah 29:13–24
- Lesson 11** - Preaching Doom - Jeremiah 38:14–23
- Lesson 12** - Preaching to the Exiles - Ezekiel 18:1–9, 30–32
- Lesson 13** - Preaching to Enemies - Jonah 3

Not only can we honor the grandmothers, mothers, and mother-in-laws, but it is important to also note the importance of spiritual mothers. In a day and age when so many adults yearn for a connection with their mothers due to some unhealthy relationships that left many of them feeling unloved and unimportant in childhood or some growing up as “motherless children,” spiritual mothers can often fill in the gaps and teach us the things we never learned in childhood. Our sense of self, as a person, evolves from our attachment and identification with our mothers; thus, the importance of spiritual mothers in our lives.

Distance In Motherly Relationships

Many times relationships between mothers and their children are fraught with anger, disappointment and bitterness. Maybe your mother was not there for you, did not protect you, made you feel like you could never be good enough or do enough, and this made you feel like you could not talk to her, because she always criticized you. You may have felt like you never lived up to what she wanted you to be. She may never have taken the time to know you, or she may have left you through desertion, or was not present due to illness, preoccupa-

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3) *Happy Mother's Day*

tion with self, or other ways. Perhaps you lost your mother through death and felt deserted as well. In some lives there may still be a very abusive and/or manipulative spirit working in her life today, in which case all you can do is pray for her and seek healthy spiritual mothers to fill in the gaps of your life. But in keeping God's commandment to honor your mother, even through her faults it is sometimes helpful to look at the causes of her behavior. Due to the distance created in these relationships we may never know all the reasons for the way our mothers responded in our lives. We live in a fallen world and Satan uses division and isolation to destroy relationships and keep us from a strong relationship with our Father God. Keep in mind some of the ways Satan impacts our lives and the lives of our mothers stemming from his fallen world are:

- Some women are devalued, and/or abused, neglected, not respected, and seen as inferior by others, including the society at large.
- Some women's voices are not heard because they are not in a position of authority, so their voices are non-existent or disregarded. No one is really interested in what they think, feel, want or need so they might as well not express it. This makes them feel "less-than."
- Women who have been subjected to being belittled have internalized many of their negative beliefs and therefore feel unworthy, defective, and flawed.
- Women are looked upon by some men as sexual objects, ornaments, possessions, or even trophies. Many women are abused sexually and are expected to be sex symbols.

Women who have been treated wrongly are also told how they should dress or look. They feel their bodies are not their own, as others influence them in regard to their appearance and public behavior.

We are told in scripture to honor our parents, and if we do this and come to God in prayer for any abusive situation, the Lord will lead us as to how to resolve our problems. We are to honor their position and not what they are doing or not doing. Once we seek God as to what we are to do, we can then trust Him to deal with our parent's failures.

Dishonoring Our Mothers

It is important to remember that although a promise is attached to the commandment to honor our mothers, a curse can come upon us when we do not follow the commandment. God took the honor of mother and fathers so serious that he gave numerous commandments, "And he that smiteth his father, or his mother, shall be surely put to death" (Exodus 21:15).

For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be

surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him. Leviticus 20:9

A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man despiseth his mother. Proverbs 15:20

Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness. Proverbs 20:20

Some will say that we are now under a new covenant and do not have to adhere to the laws of the old covenant, but even Jesus In **Matthew 15:4** emphasized God's stand on the matter, **For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.** And He makes it very clear, **Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil (Matthew 5:17).**

If you have been plagued with anger, disappointment and/or bitterness toward your mother or any other mother figure in your life Jesus can free you today. Below is a prayer for repentance and forgiveness.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for Your grace and mercy to me. Thank you that You gave up Your Son, Jesus Christ that I might have life and have it more abundantly in every aspect. Lord Jesus, You are my Savior, Lord and Healer. I surrender to You my whole life, past, present and future. Forgive me for my hardness of heart which I have displayed to others as well as You. Cleanse me of all self-absorption, self-pity, anger, hatred, bitterness, vengefulness, hopelessness and resentment. Walk back, Lord Jesus, into the first moments in my mother's womb, into the first years of my life and heal my family tree. Make up for any lack in my mother's love. For the times when I was frightened or lonely, suffered from being separated from my mother in the early years of my life, when there was fighting, abuse or drinking, or when I felt left out, please heal me Jesus by Your merciful love. Help me to walk in Your love and to know Your love in my own heart for all the mother figures in my life. Though I don't have it within me, I know that You have it within You and that You share Your power with the weak. I confess my weakness and I look to You to make me strong in love, patience, longsuffering and humility. I look to all the testing of my faith as something good, for You know it will make me stronger in it. I'm calling on You for forgiveness and the strength to believe Your Word and to follow it. Now, Lord, please send me the power of the Holy Spirit to strengthen me so I can follow through with all You've put in my heart. Help me not to stumble back into my old ways, but walk in the newness of life that You have promised those who are born again. Let my life be the very fragrance of grace to all I meet. Let me show others the kind of love that You have shown me. Thank you for Your faithfulness Lord. I cling to Your mercy and love You with all my heart. Amen

From BibleResources.org

Submitted by Pastor Keith S. Hackett

HEALTH NOTES FOR MAY 2021

From the Nurses Ministry

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

NO COMPUTER ACCESS?

Here are numbers to call to get help scheduling a COVID vaccine appointment



LOU HEALTH COVID-19 Helpline: 502-912-8598
 Ky Vaccine Assistance: 855-598-2246
 Norton Healthcare: 502-861-4499
 UofL Health: 502-681-1435
 Walgreens: 1-800-925-4733
 CVS: 1-800-746-7287



DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
AND WELLNESS

www.louisvilleky.gov/covid19

04.02.21

You Must schedule an appointment for your vaccine at most sites, however, some sites take walk-ins. Watch for mobile vaccine clinics in your neighborhood.

Go to www.kycovid19.ky.gov to register online

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/louisville-covid-19-resource-center/covid-19-vaccine-information>

COVID-19 statistics as of 4/19/21

Statistic	Kentucky	Jefferson County
Positive Cases	437,543	78,255
Deaths	6,347	1,142
Vaccine doses received	1,665,196	644,220
African American residents vaccinated	8% (of Kentucky population)	78,979

In Louisville, 496,906 total doses have been administered. Of those doses 182,258 have completed both doses. For African Americans age 60+, 51% have gotten at least one COVID-19 shot. Now that residents age 16+ can get the vaccine, we can get closer to ending the pandemic when persons 16 -60 get vaccinated.

So why get vaccinated?

Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 helps to ensure that you will not contract the disease – or if you have coronavirus – the disease won't be as serious and lead to hospitalization.

Vaccines teach our immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Currently there are two-dose vaccines available from two manufacturers (Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine and Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine). Both are intended to provide protection from COVID-19 and both require the individual to have two doses for maximum protection. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is one dose.

There are several steps that any vaccine must pass in order to be considered safe for the general public. Although it may have looked as though the vaccines were manufactured too quickly, vaccine development has been going on for the last 20 years. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) must approve the vaccine and clinical trials are conducted to test the effectiveness of the vaccine. Because of the urgency of the 2020 pandemic and loss of life, development of COVID-19 vaccines were given the highest priority. Unlimited funds and resources were made available to manufacture these vaccines as soon as possible.

While some people have reported no side effects of the vaccine, others have mild symptoms such as soreness at the injection site, fevers and achiness and headache. Serious reactions are rare. In order to return to "normalcy" it's important that most people be vaccinated.

Greater Salem Baptist Church (GSBC) 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.

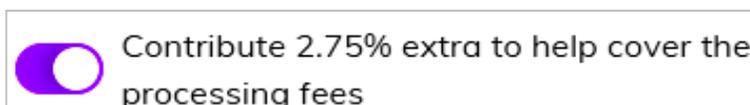
VANCO

Vanco Online giving is on the GSBC website greatersalembaptist.org 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:



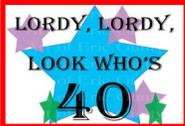
The percentage (%) listed above is for MasterCard/Visa/Discover processing fees. Checks are 1%.
We discourage using American Express due to higher processing fees.

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. Thank you for your ongoing support of GSBC through your prayers and financial support.

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

News from the Youth and Family Ministry



Thanks to all who came out to support this Beautiful Blessed Skittles-themed event celebrating **Aaron Thomas's birthday** on Sunday, April 18th. This 40 year old still loves Skittles candy 🍬



This CCA Cheer team including our own Aria Smith-Turner (Seated left below) traveled to Gatlinburg, TN on the Saturday April 10th weekend. Congratulations to "The Pearls" who won first place. Praising God for the great leadership and support of the coaches and parents. **We are proud of you Aria!!!**



Greetings Church Family, Parents and Friends,

This is an open invitation for all children, pre-teens and teens to attend our Youth Bible Study Classes. Classes are now being offered for all age groups: ages 6-8, ages 9-12 and ages 13-18. All age groups are learning about the Fruit of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control.

The Children's Bible Study 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=WjgveENIMmhNU25nempWRHQzWEZlUT09> 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.

Everyone, all age groups, are invited to join the Bible Study Classes and discover the rich insights and deep truths in God's Word that have the power to change our hearts and lives. Learning the Fruit Of the Spirit is very important, especially for children, pre-teens and teens. Embracing the Fruit of the Spirit will transform their personalities. Attending these Bible Study Classes will help our children and youth learn how the Holy Spirit produces the nine specific behaviors in the lives of children and youth. Parents and visitors are always welcome to attend the Bible Study Classes. Children and youth do not have to be members of Greater Salem to attend the Bible Study Classes.

Youth and Family Ministry
Sister Jacqueline Austin



YES, LORD, Amen

By Denise L. B. Zellars

This month I would like to take this opportunity to revisit a few items from last month's article, entitled, *A Promise*.

When writing, I always want to be mindful that as believers in Christ Jesus, we are on different levels of maturity. And with that said, we cannot assume that all others are receiving what is being

conveyed. Therefore, I would like to elaborate and bring clarity on some important topics mentioned. While my hope is to encourage the believer, my prayer is always that someone who does not have a relationship with Christ Jesus can be led to Him, yes, simply by reading, hearing/*believing* His profound Word (*see Romans 10:17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ*).

Are you called to disciple? If you are part of the body of Christ—you are called to be a disciple, *discipled* and one who must disciple others, too. This command is from Christ Jesus Himself

(see Matthew 28:19-20). 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. In Mark 16:15-16 He said to them, 15Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

One way to preach the good news is through writing. Therefore, my writing is not only for the believer, but it is for the unbeliever, too. Christ Jesus does not say to preach only to the believer, *however*, He clearly says to preach His good news to “all” the world. We cannot make anyone receive His Word, but as believers we are to be obedient and follow *His* example.

There are disciples with the Spiritual gift to serve as preachers/pastors and teachers. Please know that every preacher and teacher with this gift is a disciple, but not all disciples are called to serve as preachers and teachers. *James 3:1-12 tells us why not many of us should presume to be teachers.*

Its amazing to me how the spiritual gifts work. The gifts are given to us so that we can serve as a blessing to others, to edify (uplift) the body of Christ Jesus, *the church (1Corinthians 12:7 & 1Corinthians 14:12)*. When we bless others with the gifts, we get so much back in return, *ultimately*, glorifying our good Lord. We have to walk worthy of our calling, though. This means being Christ-like in our everyday lives, keeping a clear conscience while our Christian walk matches our Christian talk (*see Ephesians 2:10 & Colossians 1:10-12*).

We cannot glorify God when we are whining, complaining and gossiping about others. Most often folks gossip about folks they do not know. It's pretty sad when professed Christians gossip and mistreat others, and its just as bad for professed Christians to listen to gossip. Christians have the power within to build up, encourage and redirect gossip conversation. Are you redirecting? (*see Luke 10:17-20 & James 3:9-12*).

When I encourage, I receive back much more than I give. I don't encourage with the mindset of receiving something back—it just happens that way. Those with spiritual gifts to give, often explain the fullness/gladness they receive in their giving, and when one is teaching and preaching, he/she often is taught and ministered too themselves—thereby, receiving so much more in return, *the filling of the Holy Spirit*. Praise our Good Lord!

Now that we are disciples of Christ Jesus our Lord, do you know what *your* spiritual gifts are? When we are saved, the Holy Spirit indwells us and He blesses each one of us with at least one spiritual gift. We should encourage each other to be grateful and to use our gifts (*see 1Corinthians 12:7-11*).

We do not get to pick and choose what our good Lord gives us, but we can rest assured that He knows what is best and the gifts He gives are awesome and everlasting (*see James 1:17 & 1Corinthians 12:7-11*). This is not to say that we won't get tired from time to time; we still live in our earthly tents, but our good Lord will supply all that we need. We may physically exhaust, however, we can never spiritually exhaust, (*the Holy Spirit does not slumber, nor sleep*). *Psalms 121:1-4*. And He chooses to indwell us,—Oh' glory to God! I am So glad...

Next, I would like to define the Universal Church and the Local Church. The universal church consists of all born again Christians in this entire world. Once we are saved—we instantaneously become members of the body of Christ/ the Universal Church (*see 1Corinthians Chapter 12*). The local church refers to the church in which one has joined membership and it may be in their locality. There are many local churches, but only one Universal Church. It is important to know that membership with the local church (e.g, Greater Salem, etc,...) does not necessarily indicate one belongs to the Universal Church.

When Christ Jesus returns, He will not be returning for Greater Salem/local church, but He will be returning for His Universal Church. Albeit, if all of Greater Salem is part of the Universal Church/ His born again believers/true worshipers—Praise God and Hallelujah!! *Right?*

The last item to address is the Church Covenant and attendance. Last month I referred to the covenant as the Baptist Church Covenant. But please know it is entitled, “The Church Covenant”.

(Continued on page 10)

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 now streamed online on Facebook live at 11:15 A.M. and then made available for viewing later on the Greater Salem Website: greatersalembaptist.org or the Greater Salem Facebook page.
- ⇒ The weekly Bible study led by Pastor Hackett continues 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 via conference call at 9:30 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 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 (Classes will resume on June 12th)
- ⇒ Pastor Hackett and Deacon George Johnson will facilitate Men's Bible Study by Conference call 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# (In-Person classes will begin May 8th)
- ⇒ 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#
- ⇒ 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.
- ⇒ 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 leave your name and address.
- ⇒ Info for youth classes are on Page 7 of this GoodNewsLetter





A lasting promise

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.

Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

"But you will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8, NIV

(Continued from page 8) **YES, LORD, Amen**

Again, when Christ Jesus returns, He is not returning for the Baptist denomination, but He is returning for His bride/the Universal Church. **(see Ephesians 5:25-27 & Revelation 19:7-9).**

My hope was to remind us of the commitment we make in our relationship with Christ Jesus. We make many commitments in life, to friends, church, work, family, etc. And we should know that our ultimate commitment is to Christ Jesus. We cannot place ourselves, anyone, or anything before or above our Heavenly Father **(see Luke 9:23).**

While our salvation happens instantaneously, our sanctification is a process. In other words, when we have saving faith and the Holy Spirit indwells us—we belong to Christ. The Holy Spirit then begins to teach us and mold us into beings more Christ-like, sanctifying us. This happens only when we submit to His authority. It requires obedience to His Word—submission to His Lordship.

In the body of Christ, there are many other members. Yet we each have our own intimate personal relationship with Him **(see John 10:14 & 1Corinthians 12:12-27)**. **If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.** We cannot suffer together, nor rejoice together if we are not in a committed relationship. Again, our ultimate commitment is to Christ Jesus, and we are to love as he has commanded, **"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. And the 2nd commandment is "equally" important—"not the most important", Love your neighbor as yourself."** Again, we cannot place anything or anyone before our Holy and Awesome God. We must prioritize to be His disciples and place Him first in our lives as indicated in **Luke 14:26.**

Lastly, we should know that God does not keep attendance on how often we go to church, therefore, weekly/perfect attendance is not a requirement for the believer. But regular attendance is a commandment from Christ Jesus **(see Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near)**. He gives us the proper way to worship Him in **Psalm 100**, too. Therefore, when we assemble, let us always be prepared to worship our Good Lord in Spirit and in truth, **together.** Amen.

Blessings,
-Denise

Bible Quiz

Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: "In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach." What "former book" did the author write to Theophilus?

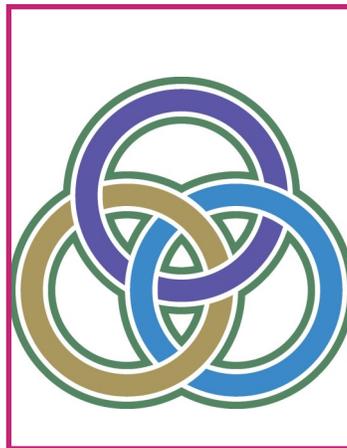
- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John



Answer (See Luke 1:1-4.)

Christian Symbol THREE INTERWOVEN CIRCLES

Each circle in this symbol represents one of the Persons of the Holy Trinity — the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The circles, having no beginning and no end, signify the Trinity's eternal nature. The circles' interlacing symbolizes unity. In the center is a triangle, an ancient symbol of the Trinity.



FROM THE EVANGELISM MINISTRY—SHARE THIS PAGE

Where Will You Spend Eternity?

Where will you spend eternity?

This question comes to you and me!

Tell me, what shall your answer be?

Where will you spend eternity? Eternity! eternity!

Where will you spend eternity

Many are choosing Christ today,

Turning from all their sins away;

Heav'n shall their happy portion be;

Where will you spend eternity? Eternity! eternity!

Where will you spend eternity?

Leaving the straight and narrow way,

Going the downward road today,

Sad will their final ending be,

Lost thro' a long eternity! Eternity! eternity!

Lost thro' a long eternity!

Repent, believe, this very hour,

Trust in the Savior's grace and power,

Then will your joyous answer be,

Saved thro' a long eternity! Eternity! eternity!

Saved thro' a long eternity!

The above song, a hymn "which asks whether we shall spend eternity in life or in damnation is "Where Will You Spend Eternity?" The text was written by Elisha Albright Hoffman (1839-1929). A prolific hymn writer, his best-known song is probably "I Must Tell Jesus," but his other credits include "Are You Washed In The Blood Of The Lamb?" and "Is Thy Heart Right With God?" Also he provided words for "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" w/music by Anthony Showalter. <http://homeschoolblogger.com/hymnstudies/715191>

Submitted for Evangelism Ministry

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!!!

GREATER SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH VISION

Submitted by Pastor Keith S. Hackett

Greater Salem Baptist Church seeks to "Make Disciples for Jesus Christ, one heart at a time, one family at a time" as commanded by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ expressed in Matthew 28:18-20 – "Jesus came and told his disciples, ¹⁸I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the father and the son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you and be sure of this "I am with you always, even to the end of the age". (NLT).

We (GSBC) hold fast to the truths of The Great Commission: Christ is the authority who demands our obedience (Matthew 28:18; John 20:21).

Christ commissions us, and he is the focus of our message (Mark 6:15; Luke 24:46-47).

Preaching, teaching, and baptizing are strategies to fulfill the Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).

The message we proclaim is for the world (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15).

Christ promises his power and presence as we go (Matthew 28:20; Acts 1:8).

We believe that a Healthy Church must have its foundation in Biblical/Theological truth of God's Word. (Ephesians 1:1-3:21).

We further believe the pillars of the church are built on the foundation of the word of God.

We Exalt God in worship (Matthew 22:36-37; Acts 2:43-37) in order to give the proper response of the created to the Creator; the necessary response from the redeemed to the Redeemer (Revelations 5:9).

We Evangelize, so that all the world will be drawn to worship a Holy and Merciful God. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:41,42).

We Equip believers so that their lives might give worthy praise in service. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:42).

We Edify others through ministry intended to be a practical expression of praise and adoration. (Matthew 22:39; Acts 2:44-45).

We Encounter God in Prayer as one worthy to hear our praises and confessions even as He responds to our petitions. (Acts 2:42).

We Encourage each other through fellowship, as part of our mandate to honor Him with our lives and uphold His standards. (Acts 2:42,46).

We believe that our Personal Walk with God (Ephesians 4:1-6-9) is to be evident in our family (Ephesians 5:22-6:4), our Church (Ephesians 4:1-32; 5:1-21), and our work (Ephesians 6:5-9).

Finally, we believe and understand that the Cross reminds us of our biblical mandate to proclaim the gospel to the world. We will continue to look beyond ourselves to fulfill the Great Commission.

Created 9/17/09

The GoodNewsLetter is available online at 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

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Monday through Friday

09:00 am to 02:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

See page 9 for online schedules



A week of tributes to Mom

To celebrate the special woman in your life, use a quote a day the week before Mother's Day, or honor her with tributes the whole week after. Write one of these (or one of your own) on a card, make a message into a placemat, tape one to the bathroom mirror — get creative! Every day of the week is a good day to celebrate her love and show her yours.

“There is no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one.” —Jill Churchill

“The art of mothering is to teach the art of living to children.” —Elaine Heffner

“An ounce of mother is worth a ton of priest.” —Spanish proverb

“When your mother asks, ‘Do you want a piece of advice?’ it’s a mere formality. It doesn’t matter if you answer yes or no. You’re going to get it anyway.” —Erma Bombeck

“The mother’s heart is the child’s schoolroom.” —Henry Ward Beecher

“Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible.” —Marion C. Garretty

“Being a mother is learning about strengths you didn’t know you had.” —Linda Wooten

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 June 2021 GNL
05/23/2021