

MAY 2020

# The Messenger

## CURT'S CORNER

Dr. Curt Kruschwitz

Here we are. After six weeks of staying away from our church building, schools, and many public gatherings, we look to the future with many questions. How long with this COVID-19 pandemic last? What effects will it have on our families? Will our economy recover? For many years, unlike many of our sisters and brothers across the globe, we've been blessed to live in a fairly safe environment: food has been available, jobs have been secure, and life has been fairly predictable.

It strikes me that the world that Jesus entered 2,000 years looked a lot more like our current COVID-19 world than the world we lived in three months ago. Jesus grew up in a militarized zone - Israel was occupied by Rome. The Roman occupation was oppressive: taxes were incredibly high. Many people lived day-to-day; they wondered where their next meal might come from. Fearful for their futures, many of them also wondered when war might strike their village again.

When you find yourself in an unstable world, your self-preservation instinct seems to automatically kick in. You've probably felt that over the past six weeks. I have. Our tendency is to think about everything we can do to safeguard ourselves and our families. We tend to focus on one thing: ourselves.

But it's interesting. As Jesus ministered in a world of uncertainty, he

taught people to do something different. In Matthew 5:31-33, Jesus puts it bluntly: "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

When Jesus entered into a world of uncertainty, his teachings undoubtedly seemed counterintuitive. *Don't focus on yourself. Practice hospitality. Let go of your anger. Forgive. Love your neighbor. Love your enemy.*

I wonder if the teachings of Jesus may be more relevant to us than ever before. Because Jesus taught these things in a world of uncertainty - much like the COVID-19 world we're living in now. In a world where everything that we're used to has vanished, Christ-followers are discovering once again that the teachings of Jesus provide the surest foundation for our lives. We've just finished the first half of our "How Firm a Foundation: Biblical Guidance for the Questions Everyone's Asking" sermon series. Each Sunday, services are emailed to you and posted on Youtube and Facebook. We hope they'll encourage you to consider the ways of living that Jesus says offer us a strong foundation.

Each week, we're also sending out a Scripture Reading guide. It has verses



**GOOCHLAND**  
**BAPTIST CHURCH**

EST. 1771

### PRAYER MINISTRY:

If you are not currently receiving prayer requests by email and would like to be a part of this ministry, email [goochlandchurch@gmail.com](mailto:goochlandchurch@gmail.com).



### WEEKLY EMAILS:

If you are not receiving our weekly emails and Sunday sermons and would like to, email [goochlandchurch@gmail.com](mailto:goochlandchurch@gmail.com).

#### Address:

2454 Manakin Road  
Manakin-Sabot, VA 23103  
**Church Office:** 804-749-3522  
**Church Fax:** 804-749-4510

#### Email:

[Goochlandchurch@gmail.com](mailto:Goochlandchurch@gmail.com)

#### Website:

[www.goochlandchurch.org](http://www.goochlandchurch.org)

#### Facebook:

GoochlandBaptistChurch

**Dr. Curt Kruschwitz**  
Pastor

**Kelly Anderson**  
Minister to Students

**CURT | CONT. ON PAGE 2**

## From SMAT...

Staff Ministries Appreciation Team

SMAT, along with each of you, would like to thank our church staff for reaching out to the church members and community in new, creative ways during this COVID-19 time period. Jennifer, Pastor Curt and Student Minister Kelly have been thinking “outside the box” and making sure that we stay connected. We are most grateful.



### CURT | CONT. FROM PAGE 1

related to Sunday’s sermon for you to look up, ponder, or even memorize. Our hope is that they’ll help solidify the foundation that Jesus Christ gives us. If you’re having trouble finding or opening our weekly emails, please contact [goochlandchurch@gmail.com](mailto:goochlandchurch@gmail.com).

Even though we’re not meeting in-person, Goochland Baptist is still as active as ever. I hope you’ll take a look at the Mission Emphasis section on the next page. There is still a need for homemade masks. We’re still helping out families in need from South Anna Elementary School. Even in times of instability, your continued giving to Goochland Baptist Church help us to minister to our community in a time that it really needs it. You can sign up to give online at [www.goochlandchurch.org/give](http://www.goochlandchurch.org/give) or mail us your offering to 2454 Manakin Rd, Manakin-Sabot, VA 23103.

As Jesus teaches, we’ll find our surest foundation in him not when we become obsessed with self-preservation, but when we seek first God’s kingdom. It’s our prayer that even when our world around us is changing, you’ll find the solid foundation Jesus Christ offers us to be sufficient in ways you never expected.

Know that you’re in our prayers. If we can help in any way, please reach out to us and let us know. May God bless you this May!

## GBC Student Ministry

Kelly Anderson

Our student ministry gatherings have certainly been different for the past couple of months. During this time of social distancing with school being canceled, extracurricular activities canceled and graduations being postponed or canceled it can feel like we are completely isolated. I know I have really felt disconnected over the past two weeks myself. Even though I am super grateful for technology that allows us to gather virtually, I really miss our in-person gatherings and remain hopeful that those will come back sooner rather than later. My heart hurts for our seniors who have missed out on those final meaningful moments with friends before everyone begins new chapters in their lives. We as a church family will find a way to celebrate those seniors whether it be virtually or in person. My heart hurts for the athletes who have missed out on an entire season of the sports and activities that they love and have poured their hearts and souls into. My heart hurts for all the teachers who are missing their students dear-

ly. God sees and knows our hearts are hurting and perhaps even broken. Even in the midst of the chaos, God is making all things new and creating in us a new heart. My hope and prayer for our students is that even in the middle of a pandemic, they are able to feel a strong sense of community from our church family. I pray that during this time students have been able to see and hear God in new ways.

**Update on Summer Impact Mission Trip:** Impact Virginia has made the tough decision to cancel all of their summer mission experiences. Those who have paid a deposit for the trip scheduled for July 19-25th will be refunded. We are brainstorming some ways that we may be able to participate in some local mission projects in the summer.

- **Sunday evening gatherings at 5:30 P.M. on Instagram live @gbcvastudents.**
- **Wednesday evening gatherings at 6:00 P.M. on Zoom. Message Kelly for the link and code to the meeting.**



**student**  
MINISTRY

**Instagram: @gbcvastudents**



## Deacon Minutes

Gwen Padgett

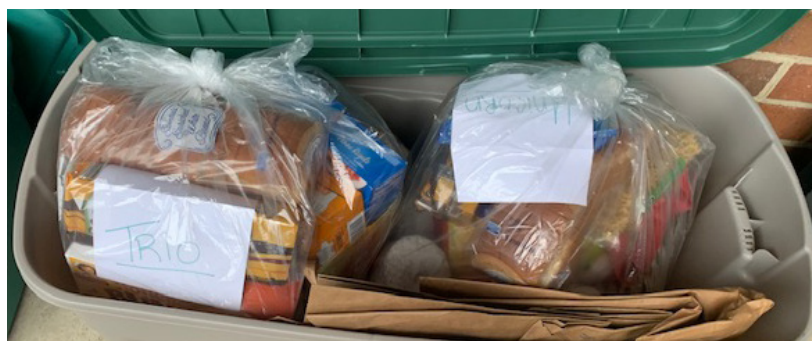
*Be strong and let your heart take courage. All you who wait for the Lord! Psalm 31:24*

Our lives certainly look quite different than they did 40 days ago. A pandemic, I did not see that coming!!! Toilet paper, bleach wipes and hand sanitizer are nowhere in sight, wearing masks, gloves and quarantining. The world's gone crazy it may seem. BUT FEAR NOT!!! We wait on the Lord and have faith in the LORD!

The Israelites waited 400 years to be delivered from slavery AND then they spent 40 years on a camping trip in the wilderness. Sure they didn't do any of this without complaining and losing faith, they are human. Sometimes we complain about the quarantining, an inconvenience for sure but we have a bounty of supplies, Netflix and Disney+. Sure there are always those less fortunate, the homeless, the sick and the dying, these issues never seem to go away. Folks are facing financial trouble, they don't have a savings cushion, the unemployment checks are slow to come, they have to help their kids with the online schooling etc. there is no shortage of trouble. The world has a different look to it right this minute but God is Faithful. God is Good. John 16:33 comes to mind during this time as a reminder that we will have trouble BUT God has overcome.

Jesus answered them, *"Do you finally believe? In fact, you're about to make a run for it—saving your own skins and abandoning me. But I'm not abandoned. The Father is with me. I've told you all this so that trusting me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world."* John 16:31-33

So before you build a golden calf or binge on Netflix, Look up and look back, and look at the evidence in the Bible, the lives for your friends and your own walk with Christ, reflect on all He has done and continues to do in the lives of His people. He gives you Hope and is your Hope!! Stay safe and have faith that we will get through these difficulties with God's help as ALWAYS!! Love and Peace to each of you!!!



## Mission Emphasis

### SOUTH ANNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Goochland Baptist Church is helping provide meals for seven families whose children attend South Anna Elementary School at this time. Your regular gifts to our church offering make this possible! Every two weeks, Shannon Wilson picks up basic supplies and food that will feed the family for the next couple of weeks.

One of the families told the South Anna Elementary administration that "Everything that we got today in our package is so amazing. We needed every bit of what was given to us! Please pass along our thank you's. Our child is so excited about all the veggies and mixed fruit cans. You're such a blessing to us, thank you so much for helping us."

Thank you for giving online or mailing checks as an offering towards Goochland Baptist Church's regular offering. Not only do these offerings help cover regular operating expenses of the church, but they also help us bless families in our community — like these at South Anna Elementary School.

### COVID-19 MASKS

Medical facilities all over our country have reported shortages of medical supplies, and our local health clinics are no exception. As a result many facilities are now putting out a call for donations of home-made masks and gowns.

These homemade masks are simple to make. While not nearly as effective as the N-95 masks for preventing someone from catching COVID -19, they are effective at keeping a sick person from spreading COVID -19. Giving a sick patient a homemade mask helps clinics save the medical grade masks for the health care providers. For this reason, we building a collection of homemade masks to hand out to patients at local rural health clinics. Instructions and a how-to video can be found at [www.goochlandchurch.org/outreach-opportunities](http://www.goochlandchurch.org/outreach-opportunities). For more information, you may also contact the church office at 804-749-3522.

## THANK YOU

**Alan Bowles** for trimming all of the boxwood bushes at church.

**Cameron and Caroline Bassett** for going shopping for Linda Moore's Restock April project for a local nursing home.

**Elijah Smallwood** for picking spinach from Stuart Melton's garden and delivering it to church members.

**George and Janet Koch** for the work in flower beds.



MAY 2020

## GOD'S ANIMALS HUNT

God's Animal Hunt took place at Goochland Baptist Church from the beginning of April through May 1st. **Thank you to Mila Spaulding and Susan Angel** for taking the time to hide 51 Beanie Babies and other stuffed animals around both church buildings and the office. All animals could be seen from outside the buildings and participants were able to download a Beanie Babies Bingo card from the our website to try to fill while on their hunt. It was truly fun for all ages.



More ways to give at [www.goochlandchurch.org/give](http://www.goochlandchurch.org/give)



ONLINE



MAIL



TEXT TO GIVE



BILL PAY



## JOIN US...

Even though our church building is closed, the ministry of Goochland Baptist doesn't stop!



Sunday sermons are available by email and on Facebook and Youtube **Sundays @ 9:00am.**

You can also watch past sermons at  
**[www.goochlandchurch.org/sermons](http://www.goochlandchurch.org/sermons)**

Join us from **9:30-10:00 am** Sunday, May 3rd on ZOOM to worship with your church family in real-time!

Be sure to bring some bread and juice (or whatever you have on hand), because at the conclusion of the service, Pastor Curt and Kelly will be leading the church in the Lord's Supper.



### WEDNESDAYS NIGHTS ONLINE

Join us online **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm** for a real-time gathering for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. Pastor Curt is teaching a series on living as Easter Christians. Each Wednesday, we're studying one of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances to learn about how the risen Christ engages the world. Each week, we'll discover how God's resurrection power still empowers Christ's followers to bring hope to the world. Login info is emailed out weekly.

To be added to the email list or learn more, email [goochlandchurch@gmail.com](mailto:goochlandchurch@gmail.com) or call 804-749-3522.



#### CHILDREN & PARENTS

Join Susan Angel each Sunday at **10:00 am** for a short, interactive Bible lesson.

#### ADULTS

Join Russ Starke each Sunday at **10:45 am** for a Bible study of the prophets.

Login info is emailed out weekly.

To be added to the email list or learn more, email [goochlandchurch@gmail.com](mailto:goochlandchurch@gmail.com) or call 804-749-3522.



All of us have been thrown for a loop by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of us are asking questions we never thought we'd ask: Where is God? What is really important in life? Where do I go when everything I've put my hope in seems to be in jeopardy? For the next two weeks, we'll continue to seek biblical guidance for the big questions everyone's asking in light of our global pandemic.

Download a copy of the scripture that goes with the week's sermon each Sunday at the link below. You are invited to consider, study, or even memorize these verses as we put our hope in Jesus Christ together.

**[www.goochlandchurch.org/publications](http://www.goochlandchurch.org/publications)**

# Prayer Requests

Please pray for our medical professionals, first responders and others whose work requires contact with large numbers of people during this time of social distancing. Please continue to pray for all those affected by COVID-19.

**Allen Bowles**—health issues

**Ann Bowles**—has a mass on her lung and is on oxygen.

**Doug Brandmahl**—health issues

**Joyce Carlton**

**Jackie Eby**—Brookdale

**Janet Faudree**—health concerns

**Barbara Fillion**

**June Frick**—broken kneecap

**Carolyn Heath**—recovering at home after a short hospital stay and blood transfusion.

**Waverly Heath**

**Selma Herweyer**

**Scott Hobson**—continued prayers that his cancer remains low and continues to respond to treatment.

**Connie Long**

**Daphne Longenecker**—recovering at home after toe debridement.

**Hazel Melton**

**Rebecca Michels**—health concerns

**Mike Nicholas**—broken back and getting treatment

**Sandra Nuckols**—home

**Bob & Adelaide Stanley**

**Mary Stanley**—Beth Shalom, tested positive for COVID-19. She has a case of pneumonia but is currently stable.

**Wanda Waldrop**

**Bob White**—health concerns

**Julia White**

## Family & Friends of GBC Members

**Lynne Andrako**—Janet Koch's friend, beginning cancer treatment

**Breana**—daughter of Jordan Padgett's coworker who has a growth on her brain

**John Bartlett**—Linda Moore's brother.

**Meg Brooks' (leads our exercise class) mother**—is home from the hospital and is grateful for the prayers. She is working on regaining strength.

**Tony Ciofani**, Richard Ciofani's uncle; he suffered a severe heart attack; in Hospice Care.

**Jim Crews**—(Carla Yuen's neighbor & friend) had a cancerous tumor removed from his neck.

**Clarence Hall Jr. and Carol Hall**, his wife; kin to Willy Hall and Hazel Melton

**Janice Hanner**—undergoing treatment for pancreatic cancer

**Claudia Hicks**, Ebu Brown's sister

**Margaret Holland** (a member of the community) stroke

**Jimmy Kavalieratos**—Lisa Smallwood's father. In the hospital after a heart attack.

**Mary Anne Lawson**—(Gwen Padgett's cousin) having trouble with shoulder that was repaired.

**Nelson Lipscomb**—Hazel Melton's cousin, health issues

**Hazel Jane Melton**—pancreatic cancer (Member of Joy Club)

**Rebecca Michels' Mom**

Rebecca Michels' Nephew, **Berkeley Kellum**, LCH cancer

**Michelle Mobley**—friend of Brenda French is a young nurse from Alabama who is on a travel assignment working in NJ at a very busy hospital dealing with the COVID-19 virus. Her parents have asked for prayers of protection for her

**Roger**—Linda Moore's uncle.

**Joyce Morgan** (cousin of Phyllis Toney)

**Anne Nuckols**, widow of Lawrence Nuckols and sister-in-law of Iris Nuckols—health concerns

Gwen Padgett's cousin **Nancy**—multiple health concerns and her husband Eddie had a small stroke

**Wayne Parent** (Hazel Melton's Brother in Law)

**Mrs. Calvin Porter** diagnosed with non hodgkin's lymphoma. She will begin chemo 1/13/20. Her husband just passed recently.

**Rhonda Powell**—friend of Daphne Longenecker, has esophageal cancer

Lee Proffit's sister in law, **Pearl Turman**, bladder cancer

Lee Proffit's brother, **Raiford Turman**, home

**Janet Siceloff**—(Amy Robinson's grandmother's caregiver) cardiac catheterization Lisa Smallwood's father—who had a heart attack and is in the hospital.

**Sue Snead** (friend of Ann Bowles)

**Violet Spence**—Linda Gibbs' sister

**Brian Sweeney** (Kevin Dunne's nephew)—kidney failure

**Barbara Tester**—received a good report from her surgery follow up visit.

**Shannon Tyler**—Bailey Anderson's mom

**Tom Walls, Jr.**—friend of Hazel Melton, in ICU with cancer and heart issues

**Andrea and Joe Willis**—family member of Jim Fields neighbors have tested positive for COVID-19.

**Sharon Wood**—Hazel Melton's sister, health issues

**Tom Zaninno** (friend of Daphne Longenecker)—fell and injured neck.

## Our Sympathy To

**The family of Lucille F Jones**—Jackie Ford's grandmother who passed away last week.