ecceqsi\@8lobfpsbfisf.org\*\*\* 804-642-2225 IF YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES OR BY EMAIL: \*\*\*PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

GLOUCESTER POINT, VA 23062 7741 TERRAPIN COVE RD, PO BOX 305 GLOUCESTER POINT, VA 23062









### THE VISION

May 2020

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..."

Amen. Matthew 28:19-20

During the Pandemic virus, we have all been encouraged to live our lives in a different way than we have been accustomed to. We are spending more time at home with our families which has given us the opportunity to have more togetherness. Hopefully you and your family have had more time to study and to learn more from God's Word. Even though we may not be at church, we want to remember we are entering into a season when we recognize some special people in our lives: mothers, fathers, baby dedications, weddings and graduations. Our homes can be the center for spiritual growth and missions.

Many of us may have heard our grandparents speak of the "good old days." Families found ways to entertain themselves by playing outside, playing games, reading, rocking on the porch or just talking to each other. Parents spent time educating their children and most importantly teaching their children about the Word of God. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 says, "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

As adults, the children see what is important to us. They see how we spend our time, money, how we relate and treat others. They see our private and corporate worship, the ministries we do and the faith we have in Jesus Christ. He calls us to think of Him, and how we can take care of ourselves and show His love to others. They have had the opportunity to see how we have dealt with this pandemic.

During this stay at home, families are faced with the challenge of educating their children as well as working from home and balancing work responsibilities. As the

Church, we have tried to provide assistance and encouragement to our families. We are experiencing worship services in a different way. We are emailing Sunday School lessons and daily devotions. Many of you have said how you are calling and checking on others. Hopefully you have been able to attend church in your home and worship together with your family. Churches have been trying to create new ways to minister and give strength to their families.

Perhaps you have found yourself rededicating your Christian walk. Maybe you have shared God's love to someone during this time. These decisions are far more likely and usually made much more readily when the home has been permeated by the Lord God, by love for Him, and by a desire to follow Him, serve Him and bear witness to Him.

During this time at home, include Bible stories and prayer. It causes us to reevaluate our own understanding. Take time to talk, ask questions, give children time to ask questions, take turns saying the prayer at meals, and bedtime. Spend time praying for those on the prayer list. We can be disciples wherever we are. The family is important to seek and share the good news. Isaiah 40:31 says, "but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint."

Today, I give thanks to Jesus Christ for all He has done for us. He is still there during this difficult season in our lives. He is still in control. Continue to look for the beautiful ways He shows up in our lives.

Pastor Bud Goude

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## Deacon's Devotional

"Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again; from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up. You will increase my honor and comfort me once more."

-Psalms 71:20-21

100 years ago, in the United States Presidential election of 1920, candidate and eventual winner Warren G. Harding chose his campaign slogan to be "Return to Normalcy." It was met with criticism, but it got the job done as he would go on to win and become the 29th President of the United States. He chose this campaign slogan as a calming reminder to American citizens that life would return to the way it was before World War I, which had officially ended at the end of 1918. Life had changed drastically for most of the world during the war and to think it could ever go back to "normal" was unthinkable to some and a lofty dream for others. Nonetheless, life returned to a state of normalcy, even if it didn't exactly go back to the way it was. Just as a person experiences change during a traumatic experience, so does society.

100 years later, we are facing a world of trauma of our own. The world has experienced and will continue to experience change during this time. How will we and the world be different? It is difficult to say, but things will be different. We can have hope, though. We do not know why God allows these things to happen, but we do know He uses every opportunity to turn people back to Himself. We can rest assured that God has a plan and is in firm control, even in the most challenging times. Just as the past has shown us, society has its valleys, but also its peaks. We may be changed as people and a society, but God will restore us again and we will have our own "Return to Normalcy."

-Seth Gandee

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#### Deacon of the Week

5/3—Sandy McElfresh 5/10—Gus Saunders

5/17—Debra Wood

5/24—Keith Belvin

5/31—Bill Breeden

#### **Nursery Workers**

5/3—L. Walton/G. Breeden 5/10—Devan/Elyza Willard

5/17—Mallory Wagner/Youth 5/24—A. Crummett/A. Zepeda

5/31—Beverley/Connie West

#### **May Ushers**

Keith Belvin Chris Hutson Barbara Mangrum Howard Warren

#### May Tellers

Helen Spence Bill Breeden

## HURCH

ORKERS

#### Sunday School Nursery

Sharon/Howard Warren

#### Older Children's Church

5/3—Theresa Syoboda

5/10—Jennifer//Lauren Hall

5/17—M. McNeil/D. Gandee

5/24—Gordon/Alice Smith

5/31—Ali Holman

#### Younger Children's Church

5/3—Mike/Sarah Zipf

5/10—S. Anthony/N. Dyson

5/17—J. West/J. Marshall

5/24—L. Sentz/R. Wells

5/31—Tammy Greggs/Youth







"...and I never get a busy signal.









# Fellowship Hall Expansion has begun!!

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(photos courtesy of Ann Hogge)









# The Annual Church Picnic has been CANCELLED





#### Please Note!!

#### All In Person Worship Services and Activities are CANCELLED through May 30, 2020









#### **Special People**

Touch our life and make us realize how beautiful our world can really be.

They show us that our own special hopes and dreams can be achieved by believing in ourselves.

> They give us the needed support we can rely and depend on.

Special people encourage us with their inspiration and faith to reach for our dreams.

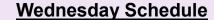
(submitted by Tom Hardy)

#### **Sunday Schedule**

Sunday School (All Ages): 9:40 am Worship Service: 11:00 am C.A.R.E. Ministry: 2:00 pm







5:30 pm: Children & Youth Dinner 6:00 pm: Children's/Junior Choir 6:30 pm: Children/Youth Bible Study 6:30 pm: Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

7:30 pm: Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 National Day of Prayer	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mother's Day					Vision Deadline	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	26	27	28	29	30
	Memorial Day					
31						

#### **May Birthdays:**

Lauren Hall	5/1
Clements Carr	5/2
Charlie Holt	5/2
Gretel Smith	5/3
James DeRosa	5/6
Gene Smith	5/6
Thomas Hardy	5/7
Pat Fowler	5/8
Gabriel Cahoon	5/8
Alex Arquette	5/16
Earl Conkling	5/20
Anson Belvin	5/21
Lessie Ferber	5/21
Madison Hutson	5/21
Lynn Walton	5/22
Della Belvin	5/24
Denise Gandee	5/24
Randy McDaniel	5/24
Joyce Williams	5/26
Keith Martin	5/27
Taylor Green	5/31



#### **Anniversaries:**

Jimmy & Della Belvin	5/3
Charles & Beverly West	5/10
Tommy & Devan Willard	5/16
Jeff & Theresa Svoboda	5/23
Howard & Sharon Warren	5/27
Justin & Mallory Wagner	5/28
Stan & Denise Gandee	5/30
Ted & Carol Fisher	5/30