

"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

August Encouragement

As each of you are trying to navigate the Coronavirus, the leadership at Gloucester Point Baptist Church is dealing with making the best decisions we can to continue our ministry. We are happy that we have been able to regather for our Sunday morning worship service. On July contributed to our Worship Services, 5, our first Sunday back at church, we had 38 in attendance. On July 12, we had 49. We have put into practice Governor Northam's mandate to wear masks and social distancing. I thank each of you for complying with these guidelines.

We understand that there are those of you that are not ready to return or for health reasons you feel you should stay at home. We are continuing to record our services and put them online for you to view. If vou do not have the internet, and would like to view the worship service, we show it at the church on Tuesday at 10:30 am. Please call Sue and let her know so we can plan for you to attend.

I thank you for the many encouraging texts, cards, and emails I have received from you. Many of you have expressed your appreciation for the worship services as well as the Wednesday night devotions.

It is always good to hear from you. I appreciate your prayers and uplifting words that help and encourage me.

At this time, we still do not know when it will be safe enough to gather for Sunday School or for other church activities. I want to thank everyone that has Sunday School lessons, Children's and Youth Ministries, Music Ministry, Audio Visual and Website, Outreach Ministry, construction of our new fellowship wing, and church maintenance. I also want to thank Sue, our secretary. She has continued to do the church office work and keep us advised of our prayer list, the Vision, the church mailings and all of those other things a church secretary does.

My prayer is that you continue to stay safe and healthy. I am here if anyone has any needs that I can help you with.

Pastor Bud Goude

secretary@gloptbaptist.org 804-642-2555 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 BAPTIST CHURCH









Do you remember Hurricane Isabel in 2003? Gloucester was heavily damaged by this devastating storm. Tom and I lost 30 large trees on our property. One tree fell on the house we were building and buckled the side of the framing. The next Summer, while Tom was working with a crew to fix and finish the house. I walked over to take some lemonade to the men. On the way, I passed one of the downed trees. In the heat, it had started springing up shoots from the giant trunk laying on its side.

For some odd reason, I had an emotional reaction to this. It made me angry. Didn't that tree know it was dead? To me, it represented false hope, a teasing hope, hope without substance. There was no hope for that tree. Its roots were ripped from the ground by an act of God. It was never going to right itself. The effort was fruitless. It gnawed at me. A few weeks later, I found this verse spoken by a man well versed in loss:

> "For there is hope for a tree, If it is cut down, that it will sprout again, And that its tender shoots will not cease. Though its root may grow old in the earth, And its stump may die in the ground, Yet at the scent of water it will bud And bring forth branches like a plant. Job 14:7-9, 14

"Yet at the scent of water"...the moisture from rain and dew allowed a seed to unfurl. a shoot to pop up out of the hard, unvielding trunk. Water softened the wood causing this mighty tree to become unlikely soil for these stubborn shoots. Out of death, came life.

When we have tremendous loss: a death of a dream, or a loved one, or even the correction of a nation, we don't understand the reason. It makes no earthly sense. The hurricanes of our lives destroys our strong, secure, independent structure. What a loss! We are uprooted and fall hard with the jolting thud of finality.

Is there any hope for a tree? Yes, dear one, there is; It comes with the scent of water. Water is a picture of new life, of healing, of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives.

- Jesus said "out of your belly will flow rivers of living water..." John 7:38
- **Ezekiel** saw water pouring out from under the altar of the temple, creating a river teaming with life. Ezekiel 47:1-12
- He (God) leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. Psalm 23

Something new is happening in our chaotic and misguided world. In the midst of death and loss, Hope rises. You might not see it yet. Your focus remains on the loss. That's ok. My prayer for you is, when you're ready, that you will look for it.

He will help you hope again.

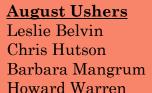
With Love. Sandy McElfresh **Deacon of the Week Nursery Workers** 8/2—Keith Belvin 8/9— Bill Breeden 8/16—Jimmy Diggs 8/23—Ted Fisher 8/30—Seth Gandee



8/2-L. Walton/G. Breeden 8/9—TBD 8/16—Mallory Wagner/Youth 8/23—A. Crummett/A. Zepeda 8/30—Beverly/Connie West

CHURCH

WORKERS



August Tellers Helen Spence Bill Breeden

Sun. Sch. Nursery Sharon/Howard Warren

Older Children's Church 8/2—Paige Belvin 8/9—Jennifer/ Lauren Hall 8/16-M. McNeil/ D. Gandee

8/23—Gordon/Alice Smith

8/30—Allie Holman

8/2—Mike/Sarah Zipf 8/9—N. Dyson/ S. Anthony 8/16—J. West/J. Marshall

> 8/23-L. Sentz/ R. Wells 8/30—Tammy Greggs/Youth

Younger Children's Church











Day 100 Lights!!

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Party

CANCEL

Vacation Bible School

Out of an abundance of caution, we have decided **NOT** to have Vacation Bible School this year.

Day 110 Sheetrock!!



<u>August 2, 2020 2pm - 3pm</u> Children & Youth are invited to come by the church for a "Drive Through Ice Cream Party." The Children's Ministry will be sponsoring this event at the church carport.



For those of you who are still not comfortable with larger gatherings or do not have access to the internet, you may view the recorded service here in the Sanctuary on Tuesday mornings at 10:30am. Please call the church office at 804-642-2555 if you plan on coming Tuesday mornings.



Sunday Schedule

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

August 2020

Wednesday Schedule

5:30 pm: NO CYM Dinner-June/July/Aug 6:00 pm: Children's/Junior Choir 6:30 pm: Children/Youth Bible Study 6:30 pm: Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

D'

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	<u>August Birthdays</u>	
						1	Charlotte Zepeda Faye Branen Martha West Derick Hall Isaac Owens Helen Spence Jade Jenkins	8/4 8/5 8/7 8/9 8/9 8/10 8/11
2 2pm-3pm Children & Youth "Drive Through Ice Cream Party"	3	4	5	6	7	8	Carrie West Gary Ogden Chris Gibbons Pennie Hall Barbara Lewis Jason Fitzgerald Barbara Bohan Paige Belvin Julia Dawson Kaylee Walls Mark Boykin Haydin Arquette	8/13 8/15 8/16 8/16 8/17 8/18 8/19
9	10	11	12	13	14 Vision Articles Due	15		8/19 8/20 8/21 8/22 8/24 8/31
16 Keith Belvin Preaching	17	18	19	20	21	22	<u>Anniversarie</u>	es:
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	Brad & Jennifer Burgess Bob Wray & Amy Flippin Alex & Kayla Arquette Tommy & Paulette Ashe Kent & Gretel Smith Mac & Jeannie Fitzgerald David & Angie Crummett Bill & Gloria Breeden	8/2 8/9 8/11
30	31							