

GraceVine



May, 2022 VOL. 49, No. 5



Buckingham Presbyterian Church
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[Click here for streaming service](#)

10:00 am Worship Service

11:00 am Fellowship

Sharing God's Love through Fellowship, Ministry and Worship

Newsletter deadline is the 20th of every month. Items may be sent to Editor,
LeeAnn Burt: leeinkc@hotmail.com or deposited in the GraceVine mail slot in the office.

Pastor's Corner



Things in May

As I write, this Sunday is May 1—May Day! Granted, if one digs deeply enough into his or her favorite internet search engine one can find pagan backgrounds for both May Day and the maypole. But I am pretty sure that pagan ritual was not in the mind of the organizers of our May Day festivities on the parking lot of Stonewall Jackson Elementary School in Bristol, VA

back in 1960. I was in first grade and remember “just like it was yesterday” playing the role of Old King Cole in our class presentation for students and parents. Happy May Day! By the way, I trust that as I continue to age I can be a merry old soul in my dotage.

Now, let's move onto other matters.

Those who write theology books tell us about the states of Christ. Humiliation was when God the Son emptied himself (according to Paul in his letter to the Philippians) and became a human. Not only did the Son become human, he died a human death ... as a human criminal! But, Paul goes on to say that as a result of the Son's obedience, God initiated another state, exaltation, when he raised Jesus from the dead.

This month the exaltation is completed when, on May 26 (day 40 of Easter) the church remembers the Ascension of the Lord. That Jesus is now gone is very important to the church and to its members because Jesus has left ... so that he can be closer! That's right, before he left, he told his followers to remain in Jerusalem until they received a gift. That gift we'll talk about next month.

Let us remember that in the drama of salvation God gets the last word. Death, sin, evil, the grave and Satan could not hold the Lord ... and they can not hold those who put their trust in him. Paul ends his humiliation/ exaltation text by saying that at the name given to Jesus (that is, “Lord”) ... every knee shall bow and every tongue confess ... to the glory of God the Father. Happy Ascension Day a little later this month.

May is the month when we really begin to see Southwest Florida deflate. To be sure, several of our visitors from the north are already gone by May 1, but still, there are quite a few who remain until later this month. We wish you safe travel and we ask that you keep in touch with us throughout the summer months. Please, if you have not told us your summer address (physical and email), don't forget to do so. In fact, if the dates you come to Florida and leave Florida are pretty much the same from year to year, we can enter that information into our database and the change will be automatic. Please contact the church office.

See you Sunday ...



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

All Military Overseas & at Home
 All 1st Responders
 All Educators
 Pastor, Church & Officers
 Paul & Betty Carlisle
 Andrew & Michelle Cook
 Bonnie Fulks
 Scott Galloway
 Joe Garcia
 Kelly Graham
 Lois Hagen
 Larry Ickes
 Grace Johnston
 John & Betty Jones
 Gerald Marsh
 Dolori Morales
 Katherine Nolen

Names will remain in the prayer list for one month, unless

MAY DAY BASKETS

Maybe there really was a time when America was more innocent. Back when May Basket Day was a thing, perhaps.

The curious custom — still practiced in discrete pockets of the country — went something like this: As the month of April rolled to an end, people would begin gathering flowers and candies and other goodies to put in May baskets to hang on the doors of friends, neighbors and loved ones on May 1.

In some communities, hanging a May basket on someone's door was a chance to express romantic interest. If a basket-hanger was espied by the recipient, the recipient would give chase and try to steal a kiss from the basket-hanger.

Do you remember May Day baskets?

MAY BIRTHDAYS

MAY 6 NICOLE MOYE - CUDNEY
 MAY 8 BETSY BLUHM
 MAY 8 JEFF BLUHM
 MAY 10 BETH DAY
 MAY 12 JOHN GRAHAM
 MAY 13 CAROL JAMESON
 MAY 14 MARY BECKER
 MAY 15 JOANNE LAMB
 MAY 18 MARILYN LIPSETT
 MAY 20 EILEEN FRIDAY
 MAY 20 TIM STEWART
 MAY 21 DONNA PETERMAN
 MAY 23 JAMIE JAMESON

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

MAY 7 ROBERT & MARION YUILLE
 MAY 8 JEFF & BETSY BLUHM
 MAY 25 BILL & CAROLE KERR
 MAY 30 PAUL & BETTY CARLISLE



SAVE THE DATES!

Sundays at 11:00 am — Fellowship follows each worship service. Please come and join us!

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm — Wednesday Night Connection

Fellowship Update



April was an extremely busy month!

The BBQ (pulled pork & hot dogs) for Palm Sunday was a complete SUCCESS! Thank you everyone, I couldn't have done it without you!

Easter Son Rise had Krispy Kreme Donuts, thanks to Rodney Green and to Kathie Saum for her Worship Committee supplying breakfast.

Over 200 attended the Witness to the Resurrection service for Kyle Nolen. All refreshments were donated with leftovers going to the WNC.

No one should have left any of these services famished, there was plenty for the belly and the soul.

Margaret Elyard
Fellowship Committee Chair

The Holy Bible teaches everyone to respect parents, especially mothers, as she sacrifices a lot for her children. It is a mother's love and care that helps to raise children as noble personalities. *"Then the mother of the child said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So he arose and followed her."* — 2 Kings 4:30.

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>3rd Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30 -11:00 R&R 11:00 Mission Committee Meeting 6:00 Wednesday Night Connection</p>	<p>5</p> <p>National Day of Prayer</p> <p>9:00 Labor & Land- scape 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff</p>	<p>6</p> <p>May Friendship Day</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>4th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30 -11:00 R&R 6:00 Wednesday Night Connection</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 Labor & Land- scape</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>5th Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 -11:00 R&R 6:00 Wednesday Night Connection</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 Labor & Land- scape 9:00 Stitch 'N Stuff</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>6th Sunday of Easter Presbyterian Heritage Sunday</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 -11:00 R&R 6:00 Wednesday Night Connection</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Ascension of the Lord</p> <p>9:00 Labor & Land- scape</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>7th Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p>31</p>				



PHOTOS

Moving forward you will find most of our pictures from various events on our church website.

Please visit:
buckinghampc.org
 And go to photos

If you haven't checked out our updated website, give it a look!

Session Members

Class of 2022

Mary Edmonds
 Margaret Elyard
 John Jones
 Roy Lipsett

Class of 2023

Rodney Burt
 Rodney Green
 Kathie Saum
 John Graham

Class of 2024

Cal Brown
 Grace Johnston
 Vicki McWhorter
 Bob Peterman

Vicki McWhorter,
 Session Clerk



A Conversation with God

Me: Hey God.

God: Hello, my love.

Me: I'm falling apart. Can you put me back together?

God: I would rather not.

Me: Why?

God: Because you aren't a puzzle.

Me: What about all of the pieces of my life that are falling down onto the ground?

God: Let them stay there for a while. They fell off for a reason. Take some time and decide if you need any of those pieces back.

Me: You don't understand! I'm breaking down!

God: No - you don't understand. You are breaking through. What you are feeling are just growing pains. You are shedding the things and the people in your life that are holding you back. You aren't falling apart. You are falling into place. Relax. Take some deep breaths and allow those things you don't need anymore to fall off of you. Quit holding onto the pieces that don't fit you anymore. Let them fall off. Let them go.

Me: Once I start doing that, what will be left of me?

God: Only the very best pieces of you.

Me: I'm scared of changing.

God: I keep telling you - YOU AREN'T CHANGING!! YOU ARE BECOMING!

Me: Becoming who?

God: Becoming who I created you to be! A person of light and love and charity and hope and courage and joy and mercy and grace and compassion. I made you for more than the shallow pieces you have decided to adorn yourself with that you cling to with such greed and fear. Let those things fall off of you. I love you! Don't change! Become! Become! Become! Become who I made you to be. I'm going to keep telling you this until you remember it.

Me: There goes another piece.

God: Yep. Let it be.

Me: So...I'm not broken?

God: No - but you are breaking like the dawn. It's a new day. Become!! Become!!

~ John Roedel

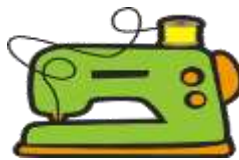


Tice Easter Update

Thank you to everyone who helped provide the Easter meals for Tice Elementary! Without you, the families would not have had a meal to enjoy together. God is good!

We will begin to collect new or gently used kitchen items for Afghanistan refugees that are living in our area. They came here with nothing but the clothes on their backs and will be setting up a home for their families. Thank you for being such a generous and caring church!

Mary Edmonds
Mission Committee Chair



Stitch N' Stuff

Please check us out every other Thursday from 9:00 -12:00 pm in Clayton Hall. Any questions, please call Betty Carlisle at 239-728-1101.

"A time to tear apart and a time to sew together, a time to be silent and a time to speak."
Ecclesiastes 3:7



New Mission Project

Our church was approached by a compassionate and empathetic gentleman in our congregation to assist with an Afghanistan refugee resettlement project. It was determined no Presbyterian group in our area was involved but Lutheran Services was very active in working to resettle 50 families in our Ft Myers area, so the Mission Committee together with approval of Session, have accepted helping these refugees.

There is a great need of which housing is the biggest. If anyone knows of housing available please contact Grace Johnston or Lutheran Services.

Secondary to housing is furnishing the house. Since our church really does not have funds for housing, the committee determined we could adopt a room – the kitchen. Therefore, we will be collecting gently used or new items that could outfit a kitchen. Maybe you have extra dishes, pans, utensils or other items you can deliver to the church and we will store for a short time until Lutheran Services picks them up.

We will be setting up an account for monetary donations if you are so inclined. Keep in mind they came here with nothing. Anything you could provide would be welcome for that empty house.

If you have any questions you may contact me 302-750-5991 or contact Lillian Pagan at Lutheran Services 239-268-4269. They are located at 4300 Ford Street Suite 109, Ft. Myers 33916.

Update: The Petermans donated their refrigerator to BPS's kitchen. In turn, their old refrigerator is going to a refugee family from Afghanistan.

Fundraising Update

We had a very successful Fish Fry on Friday, April 8. We served 118 dinners and sold out in one hour with net proceeds of \$935.04.

My sincere thanks to everyone who helped make this event a success. It is wonderful working with such a great group of people.

If anyone has any ideas for future fundraising, please contact me.

Cal Brown
Fundraising Chair



Nursery Attendants On-Call

May 1 - Kathie Saum
May 8 - Susie Green
May 15 - Mary Edmonds
May 22 - Vicki McWhorter
May 29 - Alexis Brown





Looking for Ways to Serve at BPC?

We are always looking for additional members for our committees to contribute to many tasks. If you are interested, please reach out to any Session Member and they can help you determine your best fit based on your interests, talents, gifts and abilities.

Serve the Lord with your talents and use them for His glory.

Membership at BPC

Are you interested in becoming a member of Buckingham Presbyterian Church?

Please notify Pastor Tim and he will meet with you to discuss.

NEXT STEPS





Administrative Assistant

and

Director of Music

Please contact the church office for job qualifications and responsibilities, as well as an application.



Worship Committee Update

The Worship Committee was very busy behind the scenes getting things ready for the Easter season. I would like to thank Mike, Mary and Kathryn Nolen for donating the Palm branches for Palm Sunday. We also had Palm crosses to give to the congregation. Thank you so much to the Fellowship committee for the great BBQ served after the service — it was definitely enjoyed by all.

We had a nice Maundy Thursday service, along with Communion being served with the congregation coming to the Communion Table to receive it for the first time in about 2 years.

For the Easter Son Rise service we had 42 in attendance and the most beautiful sunrise ever. Thank you to Ellen for providing the music. Thank you again to everyone who helped with the breakfast after the service.

The Easter service had 105 in attendance. It was so nice to see so many people attending. Thank you to Barb Mitchell for the beautiful Easter Lilies. A huge thank you to Rodney Green and John Graham for making the cross that was used for the Resurrection Cross. Thanks to everyone from both services for all of the flowers you brought to make the cross so beautiful.

The flowers for the front of the Church for regular Sunday worship that have been brought in by individuals have been gorgeous, if you would like to sign up for a Sunday contact Barb Mitchell at 239-694-8775.

If anyone would like to help on the Worship Committee please contact Kathie Saum at 419-423-3517.

Kathie Saum
Worship Committee Chair



Welcome May

- May You be happy.
- May You be well.
- May You be safe.
- May You find comfort.
- May You have strength.
- May You have courage.
- May You find healing.
- May You have peace.
- May You have joy.
- May You be filled with

Blessings..

inspire *Positive* IP
soul sensations SS

loving kindness.

MAY YOU BE BLESSED

TODAY & *Always.*

