



MAY

THE MEETING HOUSE NEWS

680 Nazareth Church Road, Moore, SC 29369

864-576-8034 nazareth@nazarethpresbyterian.org

Office hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00 am–2:00 pm



1765 Meeting House

MISSION STATEMENT OF NAZARETH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

To worship and glorify God and to make disciples for Christ.

Dear friends,

For those of you who are worried about supplies running out in the grocery store and for parents who ran out of creative ideas two weeks ago and for people who have non-COVID related health issues but cannot see your doctor and for those who have let your husband trim your hair and for anyone whose graduation, prom, vacation or family reunion has been cancelled, I am right there with you. This week I have hit a wall with trying to be encouraging and uplifting and found myself entering the whiney stage! Until last night.

Danny and I had the pastor from our home church over for dinner because his wife has been out of town for a week and I didn't want him to starve. We socially distanced and did not (really) hug!! His attitude about how God is using this time is truly inspirational. So here is my take away from what he said, with my own thoughts added in after being inspired.

For years, the leaders of the Church (with a Capital C) have been concerned over declining attendance to mainstream churches. Numbers have been down in every denomination. I have attended so many workshops, think-tank meetings, "Stakeholder" meetings, etc. to figure out what to do to get people to come back to church, I could scream. And along comes COVID 19. And ministers and churches have had to start "doing" ministry in ways that we never imagined, that we have not been trained for, that we don't enjoy.

Yet, the truth is that people are "Attending" church that have been unable or unwilling to attend church in years. The number of computers that log in to our services each week is well over 200 and we have no idea how many people that is. Friends and friends of friends and relatives and friends of relatives have been communicating from Ohio and Texas and Sumter, SC and Florida that they tune in each week. And that is just OUR church! And I was reminded that Evangelism is not about numbers, it is about sharing the Good News! So God, in God's wisdom, is using this time of uncertainty and fear and doubt and discomfort to remind us all of our need for God.

You will see in this issue that, while Nazareth services have been suspended, there are 5 pages of Missions news. There are opportunities for people to come in and help with individual cleanup projects, in place of our scheduled work day. As you watch worship each week, you have the opportunity to participate, through the link that DJ sends out. Our talented musicians continue to lead worship, sharing the gifts God has given them. Friends, God is at work, even in our despair, fatigue and bad attitudes! God has not given up on humanity and never will. God sent his Son to die and conquer death for the grumpy, ungrateful, confused and worn out. That is the Good News! The church lives and will continue to live! It is my prayer that we will all, myself included, continue to be a part of this exciting opportunity and to grow and strengthen our faith in the ways that God is providing.

Blessings,

Julie

"The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever." Isaiah 40:8

WORSHIP

All Nazareth services can be seen on You Tube through the Nazareth Website. They will be ready to view by Sunday mornings at 10:30 and any time after. Many thanks to our videographer, Jim Fisk, our musicians, both staff and volunteers and Vickie Gray for her continued help with audio and video taping.



This Sunday, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. Please remember to bring your own elements—bread, juice, crackers, coffee, anything you choose—when you worship.

New Choir Robes

Our Choir Robe Fundraiser continues as we move toward our goal! We are almost there with \$10,235 raised. Individuals may purchase robes in honor or memory of choir members, past and present. Our goal is \$11,000 so if you feel called to make up the shortfall, please contact Leslie Stuermann or Jessica Sullens.

April Session Highlights

The Session did not meet in April but voted by evote to suspend all face-to-face activities at Nazareth for the month of May. All staff will continue to be paid. The Session will meet on May 18 and re-evaluate this vote, based on recommendations from the President and the Governor. Thank you for your continued commitment to the mission of Nazareth and your faithful viewing of the services on You Tube. Thanks also for remembering your financial commitments to the Lord and to Nazareth, including your faithful giving to "Pennies for Hunger" each month. This enables the church to continue to execute our Mission Statement. Please be in prayer for continued wisdom and guidance for our church leaders.

While activities are suspended, the Administrative Committee wants to remind everyone that we still have expenses. Kindly remember your financial commitments to the work and mission of the church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER

HAPPY MAY!

I hope that you all take a few moments each week to look at the online resource, *Worship Anywhere*, that I have created. This resource changes every week to correspond with Julie's message. I hope that this can be a way for you and your family to bring your faith to life in the midst of uncertainty and unrest.

In *Worship Anywhere* you will find resources including:

- **apps you can download on your phone or tablet,**
- **sermon notes,**
- **prayers that you can say together as a family,**
- **mindfulness and**
- **gratitude practices, and**
- **simple crafts (for all ages), to help your family grow closer.**

We hope that you will use these opportunities for laughter and fellowship to praise God, pray, hear God's word, and give thanks.

***Through it all we want you to remember
that Jesus is always with you.***

In this time of uncertainty, we do what we know. We worship. We pray for our world and we know that God hears our prayers. I pray that you take a look at *Worship Anywhere* and please respond and let us know what you thought of these materials and how you and your family used them throughout the week! A lot of work has gone into choosing apps, writing devotions, and creating crafts for you all to enjoy and we would like to hear your feedback!

Stay home, stay safe, and take care,

DJ Wall

Director of Christian Education



**ENCOURAGING THOUGHTS
FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**



A Note From Jesus

Blessed are those who believe without seeing me. John 20:29

I want you to know... I know it's hard when you can't see me.

Your other friends come over to hang out. But me - I'm invisible. That may make it hard to remember I'm there and that I care.

But I am there. I'm closer than any of your other friends. They live down the street but, through my Holy Spirit, I live in you. And every minute of every day, I'm at work in you and around you.

When you feel moved to help someone, that's me. When you see love in the world, I'm behind that. And when you feel peace even when things are hard... yup, that's me.

I'll help you remember and believe, but you've got to do your part, too. You've got to look for me. Believe in me. Listen for my voice. Because I'm there.

Gratitude Prayers

Thank you God for being with us every moment of every day. You are with us when we sleep and when we wake. Help us remember you each day. Amen.

Say the name of one person who needs extra prayer then say this prayer: God, we pray for each of the people that have been mentioned today. Please help them to feel your presence, even now, as we think of them. Amen.

Thank you God for the blessings that you give us. Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:3

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted. Isaiah 49:13

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

Be sure to check out DJ's link on the Eblast each Thursday!



Missions



The Carpenter's Table

is a great place of opportunity to enjoy fellowship while serving the needs of others.

Our day to work is now the first Saturday of each month and will be this Saturday, May 2, from 9:00—1:00.

Dear Volunteers,

The Carpenters Table will be opening again on May 2. We will be using precautions as before. The clients will sign up outside and go back to their cars. Volunteers will shop and take groceries to their car.

Let me know if you are willing to work. If your health is compromised, you should not work. We also need to know which computer workers can come.

TCT opens at 9:00.. come as early as possible. 8:00 would be great to help set up.

We are all worried about our safety. We are encouraging every one to stay 6 feet apart and to wear gloves. We have the gloves. I will bring masks if you want one. Let me know ahead.

Tommy and I worked with them just to see how it works. It works great! Please respond to let me know if you are working. Send questions also.
Abby Hatchette



PENNIES FOR HUNGER offering will be received on Sunday, May 31, and will go to The Carpenter's Table. During this time, you can send or drop off your offerings at the church office.

*Thank you to all who faithfully serve
and give to those in need!*

The Carpenter's Table

5957 Reidville Road / Moore, SC 29369

*******NEEDS YOUR HELP*******

To serve the needs in our community, during the CORONAVIRUS pandemic, we urgently need the following items:

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| *Cereal | *Pancake Mix & Syrup | *Grits (instant) |
| *Oatmeal (instant) | *Mac & Cheese | *Peanut Butter |
| *Toilet Paper | *Spaghetti sauce/pasta | *Soup |
| *Canned Fruit | *Canned Vegetables | *Bath Soap |
| *Cleaning Supplies | *Canned Meats | *Canned Pasta |
| *Beef Stew (Canned) | *Dishwashing Liquid | * Paper Towels |

Cash is always needed and plastic grocery bags.



DROP OFF – You can donate these items on Tuesdays & Thursdays at TCT between 9:30-11:30 AM.

PICK UP – We can pick up your donation if needed. Call 864-237-8794 to schedule a pick up. ~ THANK YOU!!!

Feel free to drop off monetary donations when you are near the church.

Missions (continued)

The Spartanburg Soup Kitchen

is where Nazareth volunteers can lend a helping hand and make a difference in the lives of those in our community!

Our day to serve is Saturday, May 23, from 9:00 to 1:00.



**This will probably be our system
for the next few months at the soup kitchen.**

- ⇒ Let's meet at the Soup Kitchen at 2:30 (except teacher Kim, at 3:00). Come in the front gate. Park at the front in the HC spots. Yep, they are closed so it is OK.
- ⇒ We will be preparing sandwiches again. I will buy potato salad. Chips will be provided along with deserts and drinks.
- ⇒ We will make the sandwiches and prepare to go boxes and place them in the fridge.
- ⇒ We will wear masks and gloves (provided) and do the social distancing thing.
- ⇒ Messages on the boxes are possible!

Chuck Holmes
864-556-9702

Missions (cont.)



**Nazareth Disciples
continue to carry out Missions
to feed the hungry in our community,
despite COVID 19 restrictions.**



Fellowship



There will be no Friendship Club meeting in May.
Everyone will be missed!

Presbyterian Women



All Circles have been suspended
during the month of May.
Send a cheery hello to a friend and let
them know they are loved and missed!



Administrative



Judy Hatchette is our Nazareth Handbell Choir Director and has been with us for 22 years. We are blessed to have Judy's dedication to serving the Lord with her music ministry.



Buildings and Grounds



W O R K D A Y A T T H E C H U R C H

Spring Cleanup!

The workday scheduled for May 2 has been postponed due to corona virus concerns.

Instead of getting together as a group, we will designate projects and ask people to do them in a safe and responsible way.

Also, if there is something you see that you think should be worked on let Dwayne or Chuck know. We just might add it to the list.

Look for our list within the next week. It will be posted outside of the office plus sent out by email.

SAFETY REMINDERS from NAZARETH SAFETY TEAM

The Nazareth intrusion alarm system arms itself at 11:00 PM and disarms itself at 6:00 AM. If you should enter the building outside of these hours or accidentally trigger the alarm, you can disarm it by entering your 4-digit entry code on the alarm box on the wall to the right inside the Office entry door. Then press the ON/OFF button. When leaving the building, please repeat entering your 4-digit code and press Off.

Within the main church complex, should sheltering become necessary due to inclement weather, we have designated shelter areas in the interior hallways of the children's and adult Sunday School areas. Signs reading "Storm Shelter Area" are posted in these locations. Shelter areas in the FLC are the women's restroom, the meeting room between the entrance hall and kitchen, the area inside the door to the stairway, and the area under the stairs. These are also posted with signs.



MAY 25th

REMEMBER AND HONOR

In the war for Southern Independence, twenty-two thousand soldiers of South Carolina died defending their homes and families.

Twice the number were maimed and wounded.

In the year 2000, May 10th was made an official State holiday, a Memorial Day, to honor and remember these brave men.

At Nazareth, there are 84 marked gravesites for these noble defenders and many are ancestors of our current members.

God commands that we honor our fathers and our mothers, that our days may be long upon the land that the Lord our God has given us.

This holiday, we remember these soldiers, American Soldiers, who gave their all for their state, their home and families.

Deo Vindici

Carroll Caldwell

Nazareth Historian



Our Church Family

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Please remember the following in your prayers.

Members and Friends of Nazareth

Ethel Anderson
Katie Barath's uncle, Gary Brinson
Mary Brady
Buddy Berry and family
Simon Cairns' sister, Grace Dalhoff
Carroll Caldwell's son, Aaron Caldwell
Jenny Collins
Margaret Culclasure
Jan and Homer Ellis' friend,
Baby Jack
Joe and Martha Fox
Bob and Abby Hatchette's son-in-law,
Matthew Campbell
Doug Hughes parents, Tom and Betty
Elaine McLeod's brother-in-law
David Melton and family

Gladys Mills
Aletha Misenheimer's sister, Lola Taylor
Irene Powers
Julie Schaaf's mother, Becky Carter
Amelia Senn's cousin, Kathy
Family of Carter Smith at the passing of his
mother and his nephew

Please pray for our Confirmands: Mason
Barath, Jake Cansler, Emma LaBelle and
Abby Reynolds



In the Armed Forces:

Steven Alverson	Reggie Hughes
Albert Bianco	Lee Hughes
Joey Menendez	Dorothy Ellis
Mike Roberts	Eric Gallman
Shelly Roberts	

Missionaries and Mission Partners:

Mark Adams
Shalynn and Tyler Crawford

Concerns of the World

Wisdom in dealing with the Coronavirus Doctors, Nurses and First Responders to the Virus
Our President, Governor, Mayor and all elected officials

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chron 7:14

Please call the church office when a concern needs to be added to or taken away from the list.
Thank You.



MAY dates to remember

- May 2 The Carpenter's Table
- May 3 Communion Sunday
Worship Committee Zoom meeting @ 9:00 AM
- May 11 Christian Education Zoom meeting @ 6:00 PM
- May 18 Session Meeting
- May 23 The Soup Kitchen
- May 31 Pennies for Hunger offering

OFFICE HOURS - Debby works in the office Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 2 pm. Julie is in the office Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 4:30 pm. In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Julie at 864-421-2750.

UPDATED WEBSITE

Check out our updated website with weekly sermons available and a church directory.

Please Like us on Facebook



FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2020 flower calendar is hanging in the hall behind the sanctuary.

Please consider this wonderful way to honor someone as well as contribute to the beauty of worship.

You can call Debby to sign up for any Sunday.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

to all the beautiful women of Nazareth Church! You are loved and appreciated!

May God bless you all!

Dear Church Family,



Many thanks to my Nazareth friends for the many birthday cards and wishes. It was so much fun receiving so many cards and making my 90th special. See you when the church doors open.

Peg Robinson

Carter and I send a sincere thank you for your prayers, emails, cards and texts on the death of his mother and nephew. We are so blessed to be members of such a caring church. Stay well and we look forward to being with you soon.

Carter and Angela Smith

Celebrate Birthdays and Anniversaries

MAY

01 Maggie Balltrip
01 Blake Collins
01 Karen Holmes
01 Kate Morgenstern
02 Marcus Henry
03 Elizabeth Henry
05 Bryce Collins
05 Amy Hatley
07 Donna Cook
07 John Hayes
08 Jessica Sullens
08 Jessica Henry Watts
09 Peden Cook
10 Molly Duerksen
11 Chris Cash
11 Tina Cantrell
15 Cindy Buttino
17 Homer Ellis
18 Ed Warren
19 Heather Gwinn
19 JoAnn Robertson
20 Herb Respass
21 Margaret Culclasure
22 Mark Roberts
23 Martha Bainbridge
23 Pressley Campbell
25 Seth Hoffman
26 Glenn Lindman
27 Richard Dillard
27 Faith Rodgers
27 Zach Rodgers
31 Ean Kern

MAY

11 Seth & Allison Hoffman
15 Julie & Danny Schaaf
19 Steve & Susan Collins
21 Ken & Sheila Smith



JUNE

08 Jennifer Hadden
09 Karen Segrest
13 Laura Price
15 David Melton
16 Kim Kotecha
16 Mike Gwinn
19 Jayne Duerksen
21 Dave Weneck
22 Mary Pergrem
23 Clara Nunamaker
25 John Yarborough
30 Paul Nobles

JUNE

03 Kaushik & Kim Kotecha
05 Doug & Nancy Hughes
06 Terry & Carolyn Mitchem
12 Stephen & Liz Frey
16 Mike & Ann Gwinn
16 Marc & Cherie Oburg
18 David & Candy Franklin
19 Ed & Petra Warren
20 Neil & Joan Houghton
23 John & Cassie Yarborough
28 Joe & Iris Menendez