



Since cleaning supplies are so hard to find these days, we are asking for Lysol or Clorox wipe donations. The next time you are at a store and see these, please pick up one and drop it off at the church. Thank You



Manly Memorial Baptist Church
 202 South Main Street
 Lexington, VA 24450
 www.manlybaptist.com
 (540) 463-4181



- 1 Dot Fuller
- 2 Tom Moncure
- 3 Nena Woody
- 8 Debbie Fox
- 9 James Crowder
- 12 Racheal Nichols
- 13 Lib Bowyer
- Janne Charland
- 16 Gary Judy
- 24 Tracy Joyce
- 28 Molly Kay Moore
- 30 Sylvia McCullough
- 31 Bob Camper



- October 1 – Psalm 71:1-8
- October 2– Psalm 71:9-18
- October 5 - Psalm 71:19-24
- October 6 - Psalm 72
- October 7 - Psalm 73:1-20
- October 8 - Psalm 73:21-28
- October 9 - Psalm 74
- October 12 - Psalm 75
- October 13 - Psalm 76
- October 14 - Psalm 77:1-12
- October 15 - Psalm 77:13-20
- October 16 - Psalm 78:1-8
- October 19- Psalm 78:9-16
- October 20 - Psalm 78:17-22
- October 21 - Psalm 78:23-32
- October 22 - Psalm 78:33-39
- October 23 - Psalm 78:40-55
- October 26 - Psalm 78:56-72
- October 27 - Psalm 79
- October 28 - Psalm 80
- October 29 - Psalm 81
- October 30 - Psalm 82



- 4 Larry & Linda Bond
- 23 Christie & Fred Huger
- 24 Jennifer & Justin Spears

Celebrating an anniversary or a birthday? Share it with us!

THE WORD OCTOBER

2020 Newsletter for the Ministry & Fellowship of Manly Memorial Baptist Church

Out of My Mind

I have both good news and not as good news to share with you. First, the good news. In their September meeting, the Deacons voted to work toward regathering for worship in the sanctuary on Sunday, October 18th, 11:00 am. This will be reviewed when the Deacons meet on October 11th. (Please note that the earlier decision is based on the assumption that the rate of infection from the virus is not increasing in our community. If it does, we may need to postpone our regathering to a later date. The church office will let you know of any changes to our plans.)

Now for the not as good news. As ready as many are to physically regather in the sanctuary, we all need to understand that our times of worship will not look like they did when we stopped physically worshipping together over seven months ago. The reason for that is that we must take significant steps to do all that we can to protect the physical health of our congregation and community. To do our best in this regard, we will be enacting several health and safety protocols:

Reservations: Everyone who plans to attend worship on Sunday needs to make a reservation via the church office by Thursday at noon so that we (1) know that we have enough seats for everyone who wishes to attend, and (2) have a record of who is attending so we can contact you in the event anything should change or if we need to send out a health alert. Those who arrive without a reservation will be asked to wait and see if seats are available.

Personal Responsibility: Anyone testing positive, showing symptoms of COVID-19, or who have been exposed to the virus should not attend until cleared by medical officials. In addition if you simply do not feel well, have a sustained cough, or are running a fever, please wait to attend another time.

Temperature Checks: Upon entry to the church, volunteers and staff will offer to conduct temperature checks with touchless monitors. Anyone registering a fever will be asked to return another time.

Masks: Everyone will be required to wear a mask while in the building. Masks will be available at entrances for those who forget or do not have a mask.

Entering the building: Everyone will need to enter the Sanctuary through the ramp door. (Other doors to the building will be locked) When the service is completed, people will be asked to leave by rows in order to prevent crowding together, through the front doors.

Seating: Pews will be marked for seating in order to ensure social distancing. Those who arrive at the church in the same vehicle or from the same household should sit together.

Greeting: Unfortunately, we need to avoid shaking hands or hugging each other. You are welcome to wave, tap feet or elbows or even bump hips if you choose!

Singing: Unfortunately, singing spreads the virus, so there will be no live singing during worship. All singing will be prerecorded. (You are welcome though to hum, clap or tap your toe along to the music!)

Attendance: Whether you choose to attend or not when we regather in the sanctuary is strictly a personal decision. There are many valid reasons for someone to choose not to attend worship at this time and you do not have to explain your choice to anyone.

Online: We will continue to present both Pastor Mike's Encouraging Word and his Sunday sermon online.

Testing: If someone who has attended worship in the sanctuary subsequently tests positive for COVID19, worship participants will be notified and in person worship will be put on hold until further notice.

I hope that you will be assured of our church's commitment to providing as safe an environment as possible and that you will be supportive of these protocols. I know that some of these guidelines may go against the personal preferences of some, but I believe that these are the steps that we must take at this time as we physically regather for worship in the sanctuary.

Your Pastor,
 Mike



Encouraging and supporting one another is a valuable part of our Christian walk. How much more important is it then to bless our pastor and his wife with prayer, verses of encouragement, and actions of appreciation such as cards and gifts? This is something that should never be neglected, so lets take action and show Pastor Mike & Lucy Wilkins just how much we love and appreciate all they do for our Manly Memorial family!



Our mission project for October/November is Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. We will have boxes to be picked up in early October but you can do your shopping even before you get the boxes. This year you will have a separate envelope in the box for postage donations. Do Not Put Money in the filled boxes. You can mail your donation in the envelope provided. List of things needed and appropriate will be the same. Once filled the boxes can be returned to the church no later than **Sunday, November 15th**.

I have received word from the Switzers who coordinate the Fluvanna Christmas Gift project that they will not be collecting hygiene bags this year due to the pandemic. If you wish to support this ministry a donation can be given to the church and we will send a check to GraceInside. Just mark your check "Fluvanna".

We are working on a way to get Thanksgiving take out meals to the people at Lexington House and Windemere. Details are being finalized and more information will be available in the November Newsletter.

I know these are difficult times but we appreciate so much your willingness to participate in our projects. Thanks!!!!

Patsy Paxton



We will gather together on **Sunday, October 4th, 11:30 am, via Zoom**, to celebrate another Lord's Supper together.

Pastor Mike Wilkins will lead this special time of worship that will last 30 minutes. If you would like to participate, use the following link <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/8504722133>.



8 Things That Happened the Last Time You Gave to Your Church – Art Rainer

Sometimes, giving to a church can feel like you are placing money in a black hole—clueless as to how it is being used. As a former church staffer and current church volunteer, I can pretty much assure you—God is using your generosity in amazing, eternity-changing ways. Whatever you give, God is multiplying it like he multiplied the bread and fish on earth. In fact, here is what very possibly happened the last time you gave to your church, how God used your generosity to make a difference in the lives of people that you will never know on this side of eternity:

1. Someone heard about Jesus. Someone either inside or outside the church heard about Jesus, maybe even for the first time. Because your church exists, word of Christ is getting out in your community and beyond. And because you gave, you were a part of that.
2. A couple chose against divorce. Fifty-percent of couples get divorced. It is likely that several couples in your church are determining whether or not to join that statistic. But because they hear about God's design for them and their marriage, because they are hearing the gospel, because a pastor or counselor is meeting with them, they are deciding to fight for their marriage instead of abandoning it. And because you gave, you were a part of that.
3. A couple decided to be foster parents. A couple overwhelmed with their own adoption into God's family has chosen to want the unwanted. They will care for and show the love of Jesus to children who have been bounced from home to home. And because you gave, you were a part of that.
4. A mom and dad became better parents. Believe or not, parenting is not easy. The Bible is filled with teachings to guide parents as they raise their children to love God. A mom and dad soaked up these teaching and are becoming better parents because of it. And because you gave, you were a part of that.
5. The hungry were fed. There are people in your church who serve those with needs in your community. Your church loves and serves "the least of these." And because you gave, you were a part of that.
6. The lonely found friends. Loneliness is rampant in our nation and your community. And since you last gave, someone who was desperate for relationships walked into your church and found them. For the first time in a long time, they feel like they are not alone. And because you gave, you were a part of that.
7. A doubter found answers. Someone had questions about God. So they sought out your church. And they found the answers for which they were looking. And now, they are on the journey to putting their faith in Christ. And because you gave, you were a part of that.
8. God started putting the broken pieces back together again. Men and women, who have faced significant pains in their lives, are being tended to in your church. They are finding comfort. Tears are being wiped from their eyes. God is working in their lives in amazing ways. And because you gave, you were a part of that.

See what you missed? When you give to your church, God uses your generosity to advance his Kingdom in your community and around the world. You may not always hear the stories, but you can be assured that he is at work, taking your gift and multiplying in ways that only he can.

(Copied with permission from artrainer.com)



What a trying time we have had these past six months. As we look to the near future, the challenges of the next six months are likely not to be the historical norms we long for. One, if not my favorite verse, is *Matthew 7:7* 'Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find, knock and the door will be opened unto you.' These recent months seems to better fit another verse I have long remembered from earlier days: *1 Peter 5:8* 'Be sober be vigilant for your adversary the devil walks about seeking whom he may devour.'

As we hope to one day soon have our services in person, be assured that your deacons consider the alternatives and look to having a safe and workable path forward. We shall have a plan that allows us to regather but we shall not take that step unless after much prayer and conversation it collectively makes sense. As I write this the number of local cases appear to be on the rise along with some increasing numbers at our colleges. We ask for your prayers, that we as your Deacon Body, may make the right decisions.

As we all move forward together consider some words taken from Max Lucado who wrote about the "Kindness Quotient" What is your kindness quotient? At home and in public. Mercy is the deepest gesture of kindness. "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you" *Ephesians 4:32* Remember, also, to be kind to yourself.

And although anonymous some additional good advice: "May you do what is right and kind for others and for yourself. May you attend to your responsibilities, but also remember to make time for rest and play. May you listen for what your heart tells you is true and let it guide you. May your coffee and humor be strong and plentiful, and may you find something to hope for, even if you have to squint to see it."

Dale R. Raymond, Deacon Chair



Just a reminder to everyone. If we are able to regather in the building, we will not be able to have any singing or live vocal music. Singing in an enclosed space is, unfortunately, one of the easiest ways to create a super spreader event for the virus.

We will have video of some of our Manly singing groups during the service. What we can do is hum or clap along to pre-recorded music, so be prepared to worship in spirit and in truth!

The Praise Band is rehearsing and hopes to have some music recorded for you soon. The Quarantine Quartet will be getting together this month to work on some music for November. Keep well in soul and body,

Lucy Wilkins



Since our September Ladies' Fellowship didn't materialize, we plan to try again at the end of October or early November. Please be on the lookout for an email from Molly Kay Moore announcing the date and time. Whether or not it is virtual or in-person will depend on the decision by the Deacons concerning opening the church building. Either way, we look forward to seeing as many as possible for some fun and fellowship!

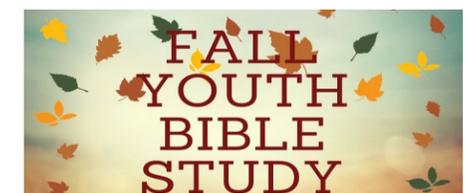
Lee Higgins



If you have been able to enjoy Pastor Mike's Messages each week since we went online it is because of the efforts of Don Heckman and Erica Turman working behind the scenes!

Don not only embeds the videos, scriptures, quotes and pictures into Pastor Mike's messages, he also works with the various musical groups as they record their songs. He then makes sure everything is posted to the website and is relayed to Erica. Dale Raymond records the hymns Alysyan Raymond plays, Erica then makes sure that these messages and hymns are posted to Facebook, Instagram and You Tube, plus she adds inspirational music and material that she finds on her own.

They both put a lot of time, energy and effort into this ministry. Without their efforts, the messages would not be online. So please take a moment and tell both of them how much you appreciate what they are doing!



Is there anything more complicated than family? Whether you are dealing with changes, fights, fractures, or more, navigating family matters is no easy feat. For many youth, the temptation is to give up. To check out. To say, "in a few years (or months), I will be out of here anyway." But as adult leaders, we know family doesn't stop affecting us when we grow up, graduate or leave home. For the rest of our lives, family matters! And maybe that's why Scripture has so much to say about it! In this "Family Matters" series, we will talk about life with every family from picture perfect to totally fractured. And as we do, youth will discover no matter what your family looks like...family matters!

Youth (6th - 12th grade) are invited to join us on **Thursdays from 6 - 7:30 pm** for dinner and Bible study. Each week we will meet outside at a different location. Please contact Molly Kay Moore (youth@manlybaptist.com) or 540-461-6074 for more information.