

THE LANTERN

MAY 2021

Saint Giles Presbyterian Church

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MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 2
Worship: 10:30am

Sunday, May 9
Adult Education Class : 9:00am
Worship: 10:30am

Sunday, May 16
Worship: 10:30am
Transition Team Leadership
Event: Time TBD

Sunday, May 23
PENTECOST
Adult Education Class: 9:00am
Worship: 10:30am

Sunday, May 30
TRINITY SUNDAY
Worship: 10:30am

Saint Giles Presbyterian Church
5101 Oak Park Road, Raleigh, NC 27612
www.saintgiles.org
919-787-4790
919-787-4769 (fax)
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stgilespcusa

In-Person Office Hours are
Monday-Tuesday
9am-4pm
Via phone: Wednesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays



Intentional Interim Update

By the time this newsletter is sent, everyone will know that we are scheduled to begin a first phase of in-person worship on May 2. Many of us have been wondering if the day would ever come and have been praying for God’s grace to be with us as we wait and plan! I can assure you that your Session and Worship Team have dedicated a great deal of time and thought to discerning best steps forward that meet people’s desire to be together for worship and carefully considers everyone’s safety. Please take time to read the details and safety protocols in the letter you have received.

Special thanks to everyone who has been participating in the Transition Team’s work to engage the congregation around the Heritage and Mission Focus Points! The next event will focus on Leadership. This is an especially important conversation. When we gather, you will be invited to talk about how St. Giles develops and trains lay leaders; what is working or not working with your current staff configuration; and how well your decision making processes and structures are functioning. Staff will be asked to refrain from participating in this discussion so that you can be open and honest about your leadership needs.

I continue to feel blessed to be walking with you in ministry during this interim time. Please keep your Transition Team in prayer and make it a priority to participate!

Blessings,
Lance

Newsletter Mailing

If you would like to be added to our monthly mailing of the newsletter via USPS, please contact the office and we will gladly add you to this list.

Worship Volunteers

	Sunday, May 2	Sunday, May 9	Sunday, May 16	Sunday, May 23	Sunday, May 30
Liturgist	Pat Lindsay	Jean Smith	Dave Smith	Donald Ross	Carol Pope
Greeter	Jean Smith Steve Allison	Nancy Ross Bill Maxwell	Jean Rick Dave Gospodarek	Chris Maxwell TBA	Jean Smith Steve Allison

Upcoming Deadlines:

Session Packet Deadline: **Wednesday, May 12 at 12pm**

Newsletter Article Deadline: **Wednesday, May 19 at 12 pm**

Pastoral Care On-Call Schedule

May 7-10	Rev. Lance Perry
May 14-16	Rev. Lance Perry
May 21-23	Chris Maxwell
May 28-30	Chris Maxwell

COMMUNITY CARE

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please Pray for these Members, Relatives and Friends.

Please note these newer prayer concerns:

Elissa Doty, undergoing numerous treatments for cancer that has caused a multitude of health issues

We celebrate with:

Mike & Katherine Ryker on the birth of their first child,
Micah Dameron Ryker on March 17

We continue to pray for:

Pat Lindsay	Rachel Williams
Sandra Richbourg	Charolette Brown
Libby Morton	Dick Grassi
Dan Grassi	Aleta Wheeler
Barbara Settlemyre	Inez Ruchte
Jeane Nagel	Joe Moody
Donna Nichols	Andrew Scharfe
Dave Smith	Iris Morris
Chuck Nevitt	Mac McRackan

We continue to pray for these family and friends of Saint Giles members:

- Sallie Taylor's sister, Janet
- Jan Morgan's daughter, Anna
- Betty Fetvedt's sister, Peggy
- Marti Ranney's friend Sherrill
- Janet Wherry's sons David & Stephen, & her sister Ev
- Rachel & Rodney Williams' daughter, Rene
- Pat & Bob Lindsay's granddaughter Rebecca, niece Stephanie & family, sister Eloise Rohner, & niece Eloise Lindsay
- Chris Zaineddin's friends Peggy, & Paul Hutter & family
- Dave & Rita Hart's friend Terry, and neighbors Sarah and Wayne
- Roberta Dibble's friend Margaret Rothman
- Carmen Rosa, along with Tania Valentine & Maurice Kersey
- Friends of Hess & Hart families, Max & Leatha Carey & family, & Allen Lee & Family
- Kimberly & Chad Craven's friend & her family
- Cindy Hemminger & family following her 5 year old cousin Hazel's diagnosis with Leukemia
- Donald and Nancy Ross' friend Terri McIrvine, and her husband and daughters
- Mary Ellen Jackson's cousin Betty Turner
- Nathan Whittle's aunt Pauline and her son
- Carol Pope's sister, Kathy; brother, David; sister-in-law, Kacy
- Joel, nephew to Jean and Dave Smith, recovering from back surgery
- Katharine Ray Briggs, niece of Aleta Wheeler

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	Johanita Lourens
2	Jason Maxwell
	Justin Do
5	Roberta Horton
6	Chris Nevitt
7	Steve Tremont
8	Sara Slade
10	Matt Hellgeth
11	Libby Morton
13	Marilyn Allison
15	Ted Odgers
	Katie McChesney
17	Rodney Williams
20	Garrison Tremont
21	Steve Allison
26	Leslie Pressel
29	Peg Forster

*requests in bold have been recently added or are in need of special prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Adult Christian Education Class

We will now be meeting every other Sunday morning at 9:15 am to discuss a TED.com talk. Our class will meet in the Fellowship Hall to ensure social distancing. Our current theme is "Happiness." We visit and catch up on each other's news for the first 10 minutes, then lead with prayer, and discuss the TEDTalk that was announced earlier (viewed on your own). Discussions often diverge into other areas of concern and interest. The next class is May 9.

In Honor of Eddie Adams

Choir members of Saint Giles have made a donation in honor of Eddie Adams to the Millbrook High School Chorus Boosters. The choir members thank Eddie for all his contributions while he was our choir director. He will truly be missed.

Admin & Staff Update

Administration met on Wednesday, April 20th to discuss the position description and posting for the Music Director position.

Transition Team Event

Please save the date of Sunday May 16 for the next Transition Team Event. Our focus will be Leadership. We will discuss St. Giles's health and clarity regarding things such as lay leadership development, staffing for ministry, and decision making processes. We will offer both in person and Zoom options. More information to come. We hope to see you then!

Youth Ministry

Monthly Events

Bike Rides

It's time for another bike ride this Sunday, May 2nd at 2pm! Meet at the Greenway entrance on Lindsay Drive and Oak Park Road. Make sure to bring a Helmet, Water, Gloves, a mask, and a friend!

We will ride for 90-120 minutes. Please bring your Safety and Liability Forms ([available here](#)) if you haven't turned them in yet this year.

Music

Mona has asked if anyone is interested in singing or playing an instrument for worship in the coming months. Please email her or me and we will get you in the know of how you can be a part of music on Sunday mornings! We need you ASAP! Practices are already being planned. Mona's email is: remonadowell@gmail.com or again you can message me and I will get you in the loop. I am hoping to get involved again playing bass guitar and singing, too, so come join us!

-James

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

New Stairs

Thanks to Bill, Chris and Jason Maxwell, Steve Allison and Ron Strand who assisted in removing old timbers and installing new ones. Looks great and safe for another 20 years.



Pentecost Special Offering

Pentecost Sunday is May 23 this year. Saint Giles has always enthusiastically supported the four PCUSA Special Offerings. This offering is distributed as follows:

- 40% to Congregational ministries with children at risk; and
- 60% to Presbyterian Mission Agency with
 - 50% to ministries with youth and young adults, and
 - 10% to child advocacy and children at risk.
-

Presbyterian Mission Agency

Just when most young people were beginning to imagine what nontraditional instruction might look like during COVID-19, Sami Han took things a step farther — a big step farther. She moved to South Korea with her parents.

When the 16-year-old's parents, the Revs. Myung Sung "Martin" Han and Jieun Kim Han, accepted the call to serve as regional liaisons for East Asia in World Mission for the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA), Sami left everything she knew in the U.S. behind — church, school, her two older brothers, her friends — but the one thing she didn't leave behind was her deeply felt connectedness to her church.

It is through young Presbyterians like Sami that we are building the Church, together. Gifts to the Pentecost Offering help our youth build a strong foundation of faith that will last a lifetime. Our gifts support the Presbyterian Youth Triennium, Young Adult Volunteer Program, and the "Educate a Child, Transform the World" national initiative. Sami says she is already setting her sights on joining teens from all over the world who will attend the 2022 Youth Triennium

Saint Giles ministry with children at risk.

The 40% that will be retained by Saint Giles will go to the YMCA's Community Hope. COVID-19 has caused significant upheaval and changes in this program. They can no longer take volunteers and are now meeting in our Youth Center. The Youth Center has good high speed internet access. The YMCA staff provides technical guidance and support so that children at risk can take part in the remote-learning default caused by Covid.

It is indeed good when communities of faith come together and provide help where it is needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Worship Needs

As we return to in-person worship, we are in need of a few liturgists and greeters. Please contact the church office or Rev. Perry if you are interested.

We are also in need of volunteers to come to the office and help in folding and assembling weekly bulletins. Please be in touch with Emmie if you can help out.

RE-OPENING GUIDELINES

Spring has arrived full of hope and possibilities! The Worship Committee, Session and Interim Pastor have been working hard to make plans for the re-opening of Saint Giles for in-person worship.

During this pandemic we have had time to seek out information and wisdom from trusted resources and lean into our faith and the Gospel more heavily than ever. We have become familiar with best practices for stopping the spread of COVID-19 - hand hygiene, social distancing, mask usage, enhanced cleaning measures, etc.

This knowledge allows us to feel confident in reopening for indoor worship services on May 2nd.

Our shortened service will start at 10:30 but we encourage everyone to come 15 minutes early to allow seating in a safe manner. Greeters will be available to help and direct. There will be no nursery provided and no Sunday School until further notice.

For those of you who may not feel comfortable resuming in-person services at this time, please note that our plan is to have a live broadcast on Sundays on Facebook that will be saved for later viewing on both Facebook and YouTube. Links will be on our website.

Our primary goal is to keep our congregation, staff, volunteers, and visitors as safe as possible from exposure to COVID-19. We trust each of you to make informed decisions that are best for yourselves, your families, and others, when it comes to attending services.

We can do this if everyone abides by these rules and practices which are based on NC guidelines and recommendations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Susie Lavender, Jean Smith, Bob Lindsey, Lori Coble, Elizabeth Abernathy or Lance Perry.

(more on following page)

RE-OPENING GUIDELINES

St. Giles In-Person Worship Limited Operations

Stay Home if:

- You have a fever or symptoms of illness or you have been exposed to someone with COVID 19 or COVID 19 symptoms.
- You are in a vulnerable group and have not been fully vaccinated.

When Coming to Church:

- Take your temperature before coming, to ensure it is below 100.
- Wear a mask covering your nose and mouth.
- Sanitize your hands upon entry to the sanctuary using the no-touch units in the back of the sanctuary. Use marked entrances only.
- Practice social distancing. No handshaking or hugs.
- Use a tissue if you cough or sneeze and take the tissue with you when you leave.
- Seating is in marked pews only. Sit only with cohabiting family and friends.
- Offering plates will be available at exits.
- Please bring your own Bible if you wish (Hymnals and Bibles have been removed from the pews).
- Hymn singing is postponed - music is provided by music staff and volunteers wearing singing masks.
- Bulletins and Communion will be on a table for pickup.

Re-closing Guidelines

Session may elect to re-close the church and worship under any of the following reports or conditions. Congregation members will be immediately notified.

- Anyone who has active COVID and has been in the church building / in contact with church staff and/or someone in the congregation within the previous week.
- Anyone who has symptoms of COVID (such as fever, chills, cough, loss of taste/smell, etc.) and has been in the church building / in contact with church staff and/or someone in the congregation within the previous week.
- Anyone who has been told they've come into contact with someone positively diagnosed and has been in the church building / in contact with church staff and/or someone in the congregation within the previous week.
- A significant localized outbreak to the church or staff (or key volunteers) home locations.
- The Worship Team and Session will monitor COVID 19 case rates in Wake County and will re-close if appropriate.
- Governor begins to re-order public closures (restaurants, bars, gyms, etc.) of either the county, region or state.

NOTE:

If anyone who attends worship tests positive or develops symptoms, please call the church office without delay. The church will be closed immediately and everyone who may have had contact or been exposed will be notified. No information about the identity of the person testing positive will be shared. The Health Department will also be notified with your contact information.

Thank you for all you have done to care for members and friends of Saint Giles during this time. We look forward to being together again.

In Christ,
The Worship Team of Saint Giles Presbyterian Church

May 2021 Calendar

SUNDAY, MAY 2

1030amWorship
8pmAA

MONDAY, MAY 3

8pmNA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

7am.....Centering Prayer

8pmAA

THURSDAY, MAY 6

1030amChildren's Ministry Meeting

430pm.....Girl Scouts

730pmTransition Team Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 9

915am.....Adult Sunday School

1030amWorship

8pmAA

MONDAY, MAY 10

8pmNA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

7am.....Centering Prayer

12pm Session Packet Deadline

8pmAA

THURSDAY, MAY 13

730pmTransition Team Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 16

Time TBD—Transition Team Event

1030amWorship

8pmAA

MONDAY, MAY 17

7pmSession Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

7am.....Centering Prayer

12pm Newsletter Article Deadline

8pmAA

THURSDAY, MAY 20

430pm.....Girl Scouts

730pmTransition Team Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 23

915am.....Adult Sunday School

1030amWorship

8pmAA

MONDAY, MAY 24

8pmNA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

7am.....Centering Prayer

8pmAA

THURSDAY, MAY 27

730pmTransition Team Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 30

1030amWorship

8pmAA

MONDAY, MAY 31

8pmNA