

# Columns



August

Georgetown Presbyterian Church

2020

I once heard someone say that the world is divided into essentially two types of people; those who see the glass half full and those who see it half empty. That may be a way of saying that people are divided along the lines of those who are optimists and those who are pessimists. But in a more subtle way, it may describe a difference between those who can perceive abundance in a time of scarcity and those who can only see scarcity.

This week I have been looking at the passage of the feeding of the 5,000 as described in Matthew's Gospel. Interestingly, the feeding of the 5,000 is the only one of Jesus' miracles attested to by all 4 canonical Gospel writings. Although the four Gospel accounts of this event from Jesus' public ministry vary slightly, all four of them concur in telling us that after the crowds were miraculously fed from only five loaves of bread and two measly fish, the disciples were able to gather up twelve full baskets of broken pieces of bread. In other words, there was more food left over than there was to begin with, and that's after 5,000 people ate until their bellies were filled.

Besides accentuating the grandiosity of the miracle, I think it teaches us something about God's abundance. What we consider to be the most meager of resources can be the source of untold providence and abundance for God who gives increase to the faithful. This seems to be an important observation for the church right now. We are living in a time of seeming scarcity. Church budgets are suffering because church life seems so diminished to many of us. Our ability to offer ministry seems undermined by a lack of people and lack of resources and by a lack of access to do what we are normally accustomed to doing. For many of us (myself included), it is far easier right now to see a glass that is half empty than one that is half full.

Yet, in reflecting this week upon one of the greatest miracles Jesus ever performed, I am reminded that with God all things are possible. The church, in the end, isn't about you or me or anyone else but only exists to serve as the body of Christ. We don't always think about it like this, but we do holy work when we gather in Christ's name, and we do so aware of the promise that God will never abandon us or withhold the abundance of the Kingdom and its promises. To be certain, it's necessary for us to be obedient and generous servants as we engage in the life of the church and its holy work, but it's God who gives the increase after all is said and done. When disciples saw a crowd of 5,000 hungry people and told Jesus they barely had enough food to even feed themselves, Jesus responded by saying, "You give them something to eat." May that be our call and the source of our strength.

*Corey Ingold*



**Living in God's  
Abundance**

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### July 2020 Year to Date

	7/28/20	<u>Actual Last</u>		<u>Actual This</u>	<u>2020 Budget to</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
		<u>Year</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>
<b>Contributions</b>		525,152	454,190	495,000	(70,962)	(40,810)	
<b>Other Receipts</b>		8,198	13,694	13,785	5,496	(91)	
<b>Total Revenues</b>		533,350	467,884	508,785	(65,466)	(40,901)	
<b>Cost of Church Operations</b>		419,258	425,557	451,675	6,299	26,118	
<b>Outreach</b>		54,681	43,658	57,110	(11,023)	13,452	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		473,939	469,215	508,785	(4,724)	39,570	
<b>Net Total</b>		59,411	(1,331)	0	(60,742)	(1,331)	



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

### GEORGETOWN PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN COORDINATING TEAM for 2020-21:

Moderator – *Penny Stokes-Hall*

Secretary /Treasurer – *Margaret Miller*

Missions - *Bonnie Danser, Libby Insley*

Presbyterian Communities Coordinator - *Robin Brown*

Thank Offering and Birthday Offering - *Penny Stokes-Hall*

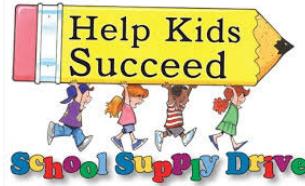
*The Annual "Presbyterian Women" HelpShops held in August are cancelled for 2020.*

### SERVICE TO COMMUNITY



**Helping Hands Food Pantry:** While it is just early August when the Columns reaches your home, it isn't too soon to start planning your monthly donation to the Helping Hands Food Pantry. The generous donations of the GPC Congregation are a significant aid to Helping Hands ability to maintain a food supply throughout the year to assist hundreds of eligible, disadvantaged families in Georgetown County. That problem remains especially difficult since the onset of the economic disruption caused by COVID-19. Community needs are still high. They could easily grow as some emergency federal pandemic related funds may be reduced going forward. Also, the continued high level of virus cases causes an economic impact on employers

being able to fully restaff their businesses. This in turn, increases food pantry demands for those unable to return to their jobs. Please keep those in need on your mind as you shop for your family's food. Purposely plan to add some extra non-perishable food items to your shopping cart. ***Helping Hands is not stocked to provide non-food items like paper towels, bathroom tissue, or toiletries to significant numbers of people, so please restrict your donations to food items.*** You can bring your donations to the church service on the last Sunday of the month or throughout the month to the boxes in the Connector during the hours the church is open (Tues-Thurs, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM). Those food donations will be very much appreciated and help us show the love of Christ to those in need.



**Back to School Supply Donations:** Students will return to school in some fashion in the not too distant future. Many children from less financially fortunate families will not have adequate school supplies. Our annual Back to School Supply drive began in mid-July. We will continue to collect donations in the boxes placed in the Connector and in the Narthex on Sundays through Thursday, 13 August. We will then deliver them to the Georgetown County School District for teacher distribution to needy children. Please generously donate from among the following:

**(NEW items only please): three ring notebooks, notebook paper, graph paper, pocket folders with brads, lined pads of paper, pens, pencils both mechanical or wood (soft lead/#2 best), colored pencils, crayons, markers, highlighters, erasers, compasses, index cards, kleenex boxes, hand sanitizers, colored construction paper, rulers, children's scissors, glue/glue sticks, etc.**

Your donation can make a real impact on a local child's successful start in the school year!



8/1	Donny McElveen	8/16	Jamie Dozier
8/2	Sandra Kouamou	8/18	Mark McAlister
8/3	Jackie Hoelscher	8/19	Emily Williamson
	Rowan Pelham		Abigail Condon
8/5	Linda Dusenbury		Linda Edwards
8/6	Regan Causey	8/20	Katie Ford
	Becky Mann		Ann Martin
8/7	Jim Hooks	8/21	Rose Tilley
	Ariel Kouamou	8/23	Craig Sasser
8/8	Patrick Condon	8/24	Carol Mabe
8/9	Martha Jo Poston		Josh Power
8/11	Ron Booth	8/27	Shirley Peterson
	Samuel Wood	8/28	Terry Dillinger
8/12	Kyle Young		Nancy Ingold
8/13	Mac Jordan		Betty Kilgore
	Johnny Weaver		Matt Martin
8/14	Tom Moon		Landon Butler
8/15	Tommy Edwards	8/29	Corey Ingold
	Nancy Peele	8/30	Brett Howell
	Joseph Tamsberg		Lindsay Anne Thompson
	Michelle Wood		Hayden Williams
		8/31	Charlotte Van Hoose



8/3	Jane & Emerson Gower
8/5	Rody & Pete Stegall
8/6	Jennifer & Cal Dawson
8/7	Rose & Tim Tilley
8/10	Dale & Hal Strange
8/13	Joy & Lee Talbot
8/14	Jean & John Cross
8/16	Becky and Dean Mann
8/19	Susan & Dan Davis
8/24	Priscilla & Bob Kearns
8/28	Pam & Jamie Dozier
8/29	Emily and Philip Sawyer
	Jackie & Kyle Young
	Julie & Graham Osteen II

## USHERS FOR AUGUST

8/2	Jeff Pelham, Linda Puckett
8/9	Heather Pelham, Harrison Pelham
8/16	Helen and Dick Rose
8/23	Margaret and Larry Miller
8/30	Robin and Dean Brown

*Called to Serve*





# GPC YOUTH NEWS

## New beginnings: gradual opening for youth group

**COVID** changes: We will not be providing food for youth group. Times will be later and shorter. We will meet outside when able. Bring a mask in case you should need one. **Please sign up for Remind!**

### August 16, 2020 High School Youth

No food served

6:30 p.m. Meet in Youth house parking lot. We will have our devotion time under the oak tree on Wigfall side, and recreation in field or gym. Ending at 7:30 p.m.

### August 19, 2020 Middle School Youth

6:30 p.m. Meet on youth house porch. Devotion at the Oak tree Wigfall side, and recreation in field or gym. Ending at 7:30 p.m.

### Weather & Other

If the weather or conditions prove to be too bad for outside, we will meet in the youth house and or gym using social distancing and safe practices .

We will not be offering food, but will have drinks on hand

We will hope to meet weekly on our normal days, but will keep an eye on risks to determine next meeting.



**GPC youth COMMUNICATE!! We use the app "Remind" to communicate special announcements.**

**TO JOIN: Enter this number: 81010**

**(as if a phone number)**

**Middle School Class: Text this message @7fab2**

**High School Class: Text this message: @2geb**



# Manna in the Morning

## August 2020

*"Then the Lord said... 'I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day.' ...The people of Israel called the bread manna."* Numbers 16:4, 31

*"One does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."* Deuteronomy 8:3

Won't you take time to each day to let God speak to you through His Word? Listed below is a series of daily readings from the Bible. You are encouraged to spend a few minutes in the morning to let the scriptures soak into your heart. You may choose to begin each day by reading the psalm of the week. There is a single text listed for each weekday and Saturday; the Sunday texts are the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lectionary selections that are incorporated into our worship services (Note: during the time between Easter and Pentecost, the Old Testament lesson is replaced by a reading from Acts). One suggestion for daily reading would be to engage with the text through a process known as "Lectio Divina" (a Latin term that simply means "Divine ReadingRead God's Word, and take time to reflect on what God might be saying to you.

### GOD'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE

<i>Psalm of the Week</i>	<i>Psalm 63</i>
Saturday, August 1	1 Peter 5:1-11

### ESTABLISHING THE RIGHT PRIORITIES

<i>Psalm of the Week</i>	<i>Psalm 73</i>
Sunday, August 2	Genesis 32:22-31
	Romans 9:1-5
	Matthew 14:13-21
Monday, August 3	Luke 10:38-42
Tuesday, August 4	Romans 8:18-25
Wednesday, August 5	2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Thursday, August 6	Revelation 19:1-8
Friday, August 7	Hebrews 10:19-39
Saturday, August 8	Colossians 4:5-17

### FACING LIFE'S UNCERTAINTIES

<i>Psalm of the Week</i>	<i>Psalm 127</i>
Sunday, August 9	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
	Romans 10:5-15
	Matthew 14:22-33
Monday, August 10	Isaiah 54:9-17
Tuesday, August 11	Hebrews 10:1-10
Wednesday, August 12	2 Peter 1:1-11
Thursday, August 13	1 Peter 3:13-22
Friday, August 14	1 Peter 4:12-19
Saturday, August 15	John 17:1-19

### THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S GIFTS

<i>Psalm of the Week</i>	<i>Psalm 145</i>
Sunday, August 16	Genesis 45:1-15
	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
	Matthew 15:10-28
Monday, August 17	Matthew 8:1-4

Tuesday, August 18	Matthew 8:5-13
Wednesday, August 19	Matthew 8:14-17
Thursday, August 20	Matthew 9:18-26
Friday, August 21	Matthew 9:27-34
Saturday, August 22	Mark 10:46-52

### THE CENTRALITY OF CHRIST

<i>Psalm of the Week</i>	<i>Psalm 18:1-19</i>
Sunday, August 23	Exodus 1:8-2:10
	Romans 12:1-8
	Matthew 16:13-20
Monday, August 24	Matthew 8:1-4
Tuesday, August 25	Matthew 8:5-13
Wednesday, August 26	Matthew 8:14-17
Thursday, August 27	Matthew 9:18-26
Friday, August 28	Matthew 9:27-34
Saturday, August 29	Mark 10:46-52

### TRUE DISCIPLESHIP

<i>Psalm of the Week</i>	<i>Psalm 1</i>
Sunday, August 30	Exodus 3:1-15
	Romans 12:9-21
	Matthew 16:21-28
Monday, August 31	Philippians 2:1-8
Tuesday, September 1	Galatians 5:16-24
Wednesday, September 2	Matthew 5:1-11
Thursday, September 3	Matthew 5:12-16
Friday, September 4	Matthew 7:21-28
Saturday, September 5	Matthew 5:43-48

Note: Scripture readings and weekly themes are taken from Norman Shawchuck and Rueben Job, A Guide to Prayer for All God's People (Nashville: Upper Room Books, 1990).

*Georgetown Presbyterian Church is a community of faith bound and driven by the love of Jesus Christ, called to nurture discipleship and share Christ's love with all people.*

## The Vision of Georgetown Presbyterian Church

2020

Georgetown Presbyterian Church

August

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AUGUST



[www.georgetownpresbyterian.org](http://www.georgetownpresbyterian.org)

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