



Glen Allen  
Baptist Church

**NEWS**

**M**ountain

from the



February 2021

## Reflecting Jesus

I want people to know Jesus. Hopefully, you've heard me say that a lot already. That mantra is part of the impetus for our current preaching series on "Who Is Jesus?" from Mark 1 and 2. I want us to understand who this Jesus of Nazareth is and how we tell the world about him.

Lately, I've been following several friends who have left or are struggling with leaving the institutional Church; though not necessarily leaving faith. (I use the term "Church" to refer to the broader Church, not GABC.) Some believe the Church is irrelevant and simply doesn't speak to their world anymore. Others cite the Church's perceived positions on issues of the day. A couple have even cited laborious church structures that consume time and energy. Often-times the conversation goes, "I get more enjoyment and energy from my writing/workout/neighborhood group than I do from what's happening at church." Every time I hear another story, I'm left with the nagging question of where Jesus got lost. In every instance, somehow the Church failed to point them towards Jesus.

I want us to be individuals and a church who regularly point people to Jesus with our words and our actions. That first takes a look inward. As we go

about our everyday lives interacting with people in person, online, on social media, etc., what do they learn about Jesus through our presence? In this polarized world, are our discussions full of grace or full of condemnation? Do our political views speak louder than our faith values? What does our rhetoric say about the Jesus we follow?

When we proclaim Jesus as Lord, people look to see what that means. What kind of Jesus are we reflecting in the world? Do people find a Jesus who is full of grace and mercy? Do they find a Jesus whose speech and action embody love? I hope so! The more of the real Jesus we reflect in the world, the more people will come to know this teacher from Nazareth who gave his very life so that we might know abundant life.

Join me each week as we learn more about this Jesus in worship. Then let's drop all the other things that distract us and jump into our 40-day Lenten challenge (see page 2) to engage in reading God's word together. I hope in this exercise we will grow closer and closer to the real Jesus of Nazareth.

Following Jesus Together,

*Melissa Fallen*

## February 2021 Preaching Schedule

Who Is Jesus? Series continued...

2/7	Mark 2:1-12	The Extrovert
2/14	Mark 2:13-22	The Wine Maker
2/21	Mark 2:23-3:6	The Rule Breaker
2/28	Men's Sunday	

## February 2021 Highlights

2/15	Blood Drive, 10am—3pm
2/17	Ash Wednesday
2/19	Youth Movie/Game Night 7pm
2/23	GABC 153rd Anniversary of Founding in 1868
2/28	Men's Day

## Church News

### 40-Day Lent Challenge

*Reading the New Testament Together*

If we seek to be a people who share the love of Jesus with our community, we have to know who Jesus is and what our holy scripture says about him. To that end, Pastor Melissa invites you on a 40-day Lenten challenge. Beginning February 17, you are challenged to read the entire New Testament in less than 30 minutes a day. Put down your social media, your favorite news sources, or your favorite TV shows and pick up God's word so we might grow deeper in our faith! The outline below will help you mark the days. If you're interested in participating and want to stay on an email encouragement list, please email Melissa.

February 17: Matthew 1-7	March 5: John 6-9	March 23: Galatians 5 - Philippians 1
February 18: Matthew 8-12	March 6: John 10-14	March 24: Phil. 2 - 1 Thessalonians 2
February 19: Matthew 13-18	March 7: Sabbath or catch up day	March 25: 1 Thes. 3 - 1 Timothy 5
February 20: Matthew 19-24	March 8: John 15-19	March 26: 1 Tim. 6 - Hebrews 1
February 21: Sabbath or catch up day	March 9: John 20-Acts 4	March 27: Hebrews 2-10
February 17: Matthew 1-7	March 10: Acts 5-9	March 28: Sabbath or catch up day
February 22: Matthew 25-28	March 11: Acts 10-15	March 29: Hebrews 11 - James 5
February 23: Mark 1-6	March 12: Acts 16-20	March 30: 1 Peter 1 - 1 John 1
February 24: Mark 7-11	March 13: Acts 21-26	March 31: 1 John 2 - Jude
February 25: Mark 12-16	March 14: Sabbath or catch up day	April 1: Revelation 1-7
February 26: Luke 1-4	March 15: Acts 27-Romans 4	April 2: Revelation 8-15
February 27: Luke 5-9	March 16: Romans 5-10	April 3: Revelation 16-22
February 28: Sabbath or catch up day	March 17: Romans 11-1 Corinthians 1	April 4: Easter Sunday!
March 1: Luke 10-13	March 18: 1 Cor. 2-9	
March 2: Luke 14-19	March 19: 1 Cor. 10-15	
March 3: Luke 20-24	March 20: 1 Cor. 16 - 2 Cor. 9	
March 4: John 1-5	March 21: Sabbath or catch up day	
	March 22: 2 Cor. 10 - Galatians 4	

## **Welcome New Deacons!**

Our deacon body is off to a good start in 2021. Please welcome our incoming deacons: Linda Angel, Bev Cocke, Shirley Jernigan, Eric Mawyer, Tom Steinruck, and Mary Strickland. Welcome to our new deacon coordinator, Susan Taylor. If you do not know who your deacon is, please contact the church office and we will make sure you are in touch. We will host a new deacon ordination at a later date.

## **Video Skills?**

Do you have any video skills you would be willing to share with our a/v team? We've come a long way in our weekly worship livestream and would love to fine tune our video equipment. If you have an hour you would be willing to share to teach and troubleshoot, please contact Allen Jenkins.

## **Blood Drive**

GABC is hosting another blood drive on Tuesday, February 15, from 10am-3pm. Participants will receive a \$5 gift card from Amazon and free covid antibody testing. Sign up at the link below and use the code GABC. <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/>

## **Men's Day**

Mark your calendar for February 28 for Men's Day. While the format has changed a little, we will still hear from men in our congregation and how they have seen God at work in the last year. The ladies will take the lead on March 7 with a similar format.

## **Church Anniversary**

Happy birthday, Glen Allen Baptist Church. We celebrate the 153rd anniversary of our founding on February 23, 1868.

## **Sunday School**

Allie Osborne continues to teach preschool and children's Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. She sends a zoom link out each Saturday. If you are not on the list to receive that link, please contact Allie at [allie@glenallenbaptist.org](mailto:allie@glenallenbaptist.org). She would love to have your child(ren) join her.

Adult in-person Sunday School continues to meet in the Fellowship Hall most Sundays. We continue to meet through Zoom as well at 9:00 a.m. We are currently using the Lifeway literature and will be studying the Book of Luke. Sunday School books are available outside the secretary's office. Stop by and pick one up. Books for spring, along with the new Open Windows, will be available in early February.

Adult Schedule for February

7 – Matt Davidson (in person and Zoom)

14 – Allen Jenkins

21 – Esther Thompson (Zoom only)

28 – Michael Duke

Thank you for your support of our Sunday School program during these unusual times.

## **Ash Wednesday**

Our Ash Wednesday service will be online this year at 6:30pm on February 17. We will have individually packed ashes available for you to pick up prior to that evening. Make this night a priority as we begin our journey to Easter!

## **Wretched Saints**

Allie Osborne will lead a Zoom book study at 6pm on Tuesday evenings beginning February 2. The book is *Wretched Saints*, a study in God's transforming power of grace in our lives. If you would like to participate, please contact Allie ASAP.

## Scholarships

**The George H. Moody Scholarship** fund is now available to active members of the Glen Allen Baptist Church or descendants of an active member. Applicants must reside in Henrico, Hanover or Richmond. This scholarship is awarded in memory of George H. Moody for college or seminary students. The sum is to be divided equally among the applicants. Requests for scholarship must be made by April 1, 2021. Applicants should send a letter of introduction, including the school they plan to attend and their plan of study. All applicants need to call the church office for an application packet.

**The Quarles Scholarship** will be awarded to an undergraduate student attending the University of Richmond. Applicants should send a letter of introduction including their plan of study. All applicants need to call the church office for an application packet. The deadline is March 1, 2021.

### **The Hepler Scholarship**

The Dover Baptist Association sponsors the Hepler scholarship each year. If you would like more information please find it on their website: <https://doverbaptist.org/resources/grants-and-scholarships/hepler-scholarship>

## Youth News

The Youth at Glen Allen Baptist continue to remain active, meeting every Wednesday night and continuing monthly activities as well as bi-monthly mission activities. In the month of January we fed 450 people in need through the Moments of Hope Outreach Ministry. Our group is now plugged in to work with Moments of Hope bi-monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every other month. Our next project with them will be Saturday, March 13. If you are interested, please reach out to me and we can certainly get you plugged in.

On Wednesday nights, we have been studying in a series called "Servant Leadership." During these studies, we talk about what type of servant leaders that we are all called to be and define what servant leadership truly is. Through scripture, we dive

into the best examples of this, which is displayed through none other than Jesus himself.

Our next event is Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, which will be a movie/game night at the church in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 7 PM. As always, we will follow all CDC guidelines and practical social distancing while wearing masks. If you are interested in attending, please let me know.

—Rev. Dr. William J. Crowder, Jr.

## Thank You

Thanks for your many expressions of love and care, including the beautiful plant, in the loss of my Aunt Frances. In one of my last window visits with her, she was reading a card from someone from GABC and said when she was released from rehab, she wanted to walk into church and share her thanks with you all. Please know how grateful my whole family is for your prayers! - *Melissa Fallen*

I would like to thank the Glen Allen Baptist Church Family for the beautiful cards, heartfelt phone calls and prayers in the passing of my brother, Grover Barnett. Your care, concern and love meant so much to me and my brother's family during this sad time. I am so grateful for each of you. -*Gwen Steinbrecher*

## Missions Corner

### LAMB'S Basket

Matt Davidson delivered 197.5 lbs of food products to Lamb's Basket in January.

We are asking folks to make contributions on or by the second Thursday of each month so we can develop a routine delivery. Thanks to everyone for faithful contributions. The rolling cart remains outside the Welcome Center.

### GREETING CARDS

If you have greeting cards of any type, please leave on the rolling cart outside the Welcome Center. We greatly appreciate them.

### SLIPPERS/SHOES

If anyone knows of a man who is experiencing swelling of the feet and needs a pair of adjustable slippers (size 11) as well a pair of Dr Johnson podiatrist tennis shoes (size 11 1/2 EEE) (both pairs are new/never worn) please contact Gwen Steinbrecher 672-2826 and leave a message.

### FAMILY MISSION WEEKEND

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia is sponsoring a Family Mission Madness weekend at Central Baptist Church on April 23-24. Families will gather in their church parking lot for drive-in worship and then be sent to mission sites around the city to work as a family. All covid-safe protocols will be observed. Dr. Fallen will be attending this event and would love for you and your children to join! Please contact her for more details.