



THE VISION

November 2023

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...”
Amen. Matthew 28:19-20



Anchoring the Vision: *The 5 Solas and Our Church’s Vision*

I have spoken often through the Vision Newsletter about our vision process for the future. This past month, we took a break from our walk with the Apostles in the book of Acts to look back at the roots of the Protestant Reformation. Regardless of your background in the Church, the one thing that unites Protestants is the Five Solas of the Reformation. These Solas (Latin for alone) were the central tenets argued for by the Reformers to address areas in which the Roman Catholic Church had erred. It was an attempt to renew the Church to its roots.

Revisiting the Reformation:

The Reformation was a transformative time for the Church, just as we are in a transformative time as a church.

1. **Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone):** Our Church holds the Bible as the supreme authority in all matters of doctrine and practice. It’s the compass by which we navigate our faith.
2. **Sola Fide (Faith Alone):** We believe that salvation is a gift received through faith and not by our own good deeds. It’s a grace-filled reminder of God’s unconditional love.
3. **Sola Gratia (Grace Alone):** Every moment we live is a testament to God’s grace. Our salvation is not something we earn, but a gift given freely by God.
4. **Solus Christus (Christ Alone):** Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith. Through Him, we find salvation, purpose, and hope.
5. **Soli Deo Gloria (To the Glory of God Alone):** Everything we do, both as individuals and as a church, aims to glorify God.

(Con’t. on page 3)

office@gbpc.church
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***PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**GLoucester Point Baptist Church
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Gloucester Point, VA 23062**





Deacon's Devotional



"Come, Follow Me"

In Matthew 19-16-22, the encounter of Jesus and the rich young man is recorded. The young man asked Jesus what he had to do to have eternal life. When Jesus told him to keep the commandments, the man replied that he had kept them since his youth—then asked what he lacked. Jesus then told him to go and sell his possessions and give the proceeds to the poor; then he would have treasure in heaven. Only after this was done, Jesus told him he should then come and follow Him. Upon hearing this, the young man went away sorrowful because he was very rich (and couldn't give up his love for his great possessions).

In Charles "Chuck" Colson's book, *Loving God*, I read, about a similar account involving a well-known Los Angeles mobster, Mickey Cohen. He was born poor in New York City and worked his way up in the style of Al Capone to become the mob boss in Los Angeles. His crime organization was reported to take in more than half a million dollars a day. Mr. Cohen was a flamboyant high-living individual who entertained well-known celebrities, politicians and many others who wanted to be well-known. He had a big home, a beautiful wife and was generous to his friends and people he liked. He once bought back a widow's home for her after she had been swindled (he also had his mob enforcers severely rough up the swindler). Although he was charged with several violent crimes (including murder) he was never convicted of any of them. It was a different story when he was later charged and convicted by the IRS of income tax evasion and given a five-year prison term.

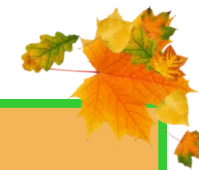
Prior to his IRS experience, one of his organization's "employee" had come to him with the story of his conversion and accepting Christ during a Billy Graham Los Angeles Crusade. He told Mickey he could no longer work for him—that he had a new leader in his life. He sold his home and automobile to pay back a man he had cheated in a business deal.

Another of Mickey's former employees, who was a recovering alcoholic and just got out of prison, tried to get Mickey to accept Christ. Both of these former employees even got him to pray the sinner's prayer and thought there was some change in him. They were able to get him to hear Billy Graham preach to a small group, but when it became obvious that he really wanted the photographers to get his picture taken with Mr. Graham, they knew Mickey just wanted the publicity it would generate.

Later, when they told Mickey he needed to rid himself of his mob connections, he replied that they hadn't told him that he had to give up his career. Mickey said there are Christian movie stars, Christian athletes, and Christian businessmen—so why couldn't he be Christian gangster? If he had to give up all that—then count him out.

Just as that rich young man in scripture, Mickey Cohen couldn't give up his lifestyle. He died of cancer alone in his home, divorced by his wife with no news reporters, no dancing girls, no bodyguards. He had rejected Christ and died as poor as he had come into this world.

Bill Breeden



CHURCH WORKERS

Sun. Sch. Nursery
TBD

Nursery Workers

11.5—Tim Owens
11.12—Lynn Walton
11.19—TBD
11.26—TBD

November Ushers

Leslie Belvin
Paul Greggs
Buddy Hogge



November Tellers

Alice Smith
Lynn Walton

Younger Children's Church

11.5—Nancy Dyson
11.12—Sonya Anthony
11.19—Joyce Marshall
11.26—R. Wells / M. Wagner

Deacon of the Week

11.5—Sonya Anthony
11.12—Brian Stewart
11.19—Stewart Wood
11.26—Leslie Belvin

Older Children's Church

11.5—TBD
11.12—J. Sanford / B. Sanford
11.19—D. Gandee / M. McNeil
11.26—C. West / S. West



Operation Christmas Child

We are preparing for Operation Christmas Child.

There are 2 Options:

- * **Option #1: Donate items only—Deadline 15 November**
Please do not donate candy, gum, toothpaste, scary or war related items, breakable items, aerosol cans or anything liquid—these items are not allowed
- * **Option #2: Pack Boxes yourself—Deadline 19 November**
Pick-up available shoeboxes in the Narthex
Buy items & pack shoeboxes
Return packed shoeboxes to church by 19 Nov.
along with \$10 for shipping costs
(Please refer to the above list of acceptable items)



WMU—MISSIONS MOMENT

Missions Moment - Portland, OR

Home to both hipsters and the homeless, Portland is recognized as the least religious city in America by the Public Religion Research Institute's American Values Atlas. Pray for more church planters to commit to reach Portland through creative ministry efforts. Pray for an abundance of sending and supporting churches to come alongside the planters in Portland.

Pray for missionaries:

Chris and Amanda Cope - Church Planter- Montgomeryville, PA
Stephen and Terry Zachary - Veteran's Health Admin Hospital Chaplain-JBER, AK
Vergil and Kelsey Brown - Church Planter- Portland, OR
Francisco and Mary Aular - Church Planter - Cochrane, AB , Canada
Sam and Joanna Choi - Church Planter - Minneapolis, MN

Thanksgiving Dinner & New Member Recognition

Join us for our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner and New Member Recognition

Sunday, November 19, 2023

(immediately following the morning worship service)

Meat, Bread & Beverage will be provided
Bring a vegetable, salad or dessert
(enough for 10-12 people)

Please sign up in the Narthex by 11.12.23



ALMA HUNT OFFERING
for Virginia Missions

WMU
Thanks You
for your generous support to the

Alma Hunt missions offering.

* We were only \$55 shy of meeting our goal



These core beliefs aren't merely historical touchpoints—they're living truths that call us to action:

1. **Engage with the Word:** Join in our Sunday School and Bible Studies as we delve deeper into the Scriptures.
2. **Share your Faith Journey:** Share your testimony with family and friends.
3. **Serve with Grace:** We have been given grace by God, let us serve our community and one another with the same grace.

The Reformation was not just a historical event—it was a clarion call to anchor ourselves in the foundational truths of our faith. As we prepare for the transformation God's vision will bring, let us always be a Church that is a beacon of biblical truth, grace, and love.

For His Glory

Pastor Dillon Evans



BREAD FOR WORLD HUNGER

Gloucester Point Baptist Church
W.M.U. ladies will be baking bread for "World Hunger".

- ⇒ **Orders Taken:** Sunday, Nov. 5—after service
- ⇒ **Cost Per Loaf:** \$10
- ⇒ **Bread Baking:** Saturday, Nov. 11
- ⇒ **Pick-Up:** Sunday, Nov. 12—after service

2023 Advent Devotional

Please sign-up to write a devotion for this year's **Advent Devotional Booklet.**

The Theme is "**God's Vision Revealed**"

Devotions are due on Sunday, Nov. 26.

Sign-up sheet and instructions are in the Narthex.

250-300 words

- **Email Devotions**—wkbelvin@verizon.net **OR**
- **Hand-write or type**—place a copy on the Office Admin's desk addressed to—"2023 Advent Committee"



Sunday Schedule

Sunday School (All Ages)—9:45a
 Worship Service— 11a
 C.A.R.E. Ministry—2p

November 2023

Wednesday Schedule

5:30p—CYM Supper
 6p—Children's Choir
 6:30p—Children's Bible Study
 6:30p—Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
 7:30p—Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	30	31	1 REGULAR ACTIVITIES	2	3 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp	4 10a Daniel Plan
5 11a COMMUNION Veterans Recognition 12p Youth Council 2p C.A.R.E. 3p Deacons' Mtg. Bread orders	6 6:30p AHG	7 ELECTION DAY	8 REGULAR ACTIVITIES	9 6:30p Vision 2000 Team Mtg.	10 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp	11 VETERANS DAY 10a Daniel Plan Bread Baking
12 Sunday Breakfast 9:15a Breakfast (Children & Youth) 2p C.A.R.E. Bread Distribution	13 6:30p AHG Board Ministry Mtg.	14 9:30a Community Morning Out 6:30p B&G Mtg.	15 Last CYM Supper until 1.3.24 REGULAR ACTIVITIES	16 VISION ARTICLES DUE 10a Acree Circle	17 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp	18 10a Daniel Plan
19 12p Thanksgiving Dinner & New Member Recognition NO C.A.R.E.	20 6:30p AHG	21 6:30p Armstrong Circle	22 NO ACTIVITIES	23 OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving 	24 CLOSED	25 10a Daniel Plan
26 12p Church Council Mtg. 2p C.A.R.E. 6p Church Praise Service	27	28	29 REGULAR ACTIVITIES	30	1 6:30p Men's Bible Study 7p Serenity Grp	2 10a Daniel Plan

November Birthdays:

Angie Crummett	11.4
Madison McNeal	11.4
Barbara Fryer	11.7
Virginia Dawson	11.8
Bob Wray	11.8
Melissa Ashe	11.10
Elizabeth Bynum	11.12
Margaret Sarratori	11.19
Harry Wang	11.20
Donna Phillips	11.21
Jimmy Diggs	11.27
Debra Martin	11.29



Anniversaries:

Bill & Judy Cahoon	11.3
Charlie & Queenie Holt	11.21
Julia & Russell Dawson	11.29