



Goshen Messenger

The God of Quiet Testimonies

Testimony.

What does that word stir inside of you when you hear it? It's a common enough phrase in the language of the church. We toss it around with the assumption of complete understanding, but have you ever stopped to consider what it means to share a testimony?

The word in itself has its roots in legal language. In general, a testimony is a solemn, firsthand account used to establish truth. In other words, it's your personal story of what you witnessed.

The Bible is replete with calls to testify. Jesus Himself commissioned us to go into the world, bearing our testimony of what we have witnessed of Him, to teach and to make disciples. Psalm 71 has a powerful declaration of the writer's intention to never be silent about the Lord's work: *"My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge. With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come; I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone. (Psalm 71:15-16)"*

It's clear that testifying is important, one of the sacred privileges we who are called by the Lord are given. We get to experience God firsthand, and then *talk about it!* And then God uses our testimony to move the hearts of others, to bring encouragement, conviction, and sometimes to even move people toward salvation! How incredibly wonderful!

Unless, like me, you have a "boring" testimony.

Or I should say, you have a skewed view of your testimony, believing it to be less than what it actually is. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

All of this, up until now, has been a long, rambling preamble, to what I am supposed to be writing to you about. I'm *supposed* to be writing a testimony about the youth retreat.

But when I sit down to wrestle with this blank screen and blinking cursor, I find myself intimidated by the task set before me. What am I to write about? A testimony is supposed to be *interesting*. Flashy. Like Elijah calling down fire on Mount Carmel—wow! What a story! Or that satisfying resolution when a lost soul finally breaks and surrenders to God after a life of hard living. Those are the stories with *pizzaz*, with sparkle and character that make a person break out into spontaneous praise.

They're the kinds of stories that make some of us giggle nervously when asked, mumbling about how our story is "nothing special," as if the fact that our great God has chosen to personally intervene in our lives, diverting us from certain doom and ransoming us into His marvelous light isn't mind-boggling enough.

If you can't tell, that last paragraph is the trap I continuously fall into. How was the youth retreat, you ask? Oh, it was great. Really, it was. The students had fun, the Bible study went well, my volunteers took us on a torturous four mile hike that felt like ten miles by the time we go back. Good times.

But then I get nervous. Because I don't have a big, life altering story to tell you. There was no fire flung from Heaven. There were no (so far as I know) souls saved. In fact, up to four days before we left, I only had one student registered, and I suffered under the very real fear that the event would get canceled at the last minute. But otherwise, it was a quiet, ordinary, enjoyable trip.

And yet God's fingerprints were all over the event.

One of the lessons I've taken away from our brief retreat was how our God is the God of quiet testimonies. The ways He showed up were subtle, like the quiet whisper in the wind outside of Elijah's cave. Yet subtlety doesn't make His presence any less profound.

At this year's student retreat, I witnessed moments that my past self would never have dreamed to come to pass when I started student ministry five years ago. We had a small group of boys, three middle schoolers, three high schoolers. They can be a rowdy bunch, but they're amazing.

These same boys used to avert their eyes every time I asked for a volunteer to pray at youth group. But at our retreat, they clamored over one another to be the one who got to pray for us, even asking me before I was ready if they could pray.

Our students were eager to read their Bible, just as excited for study time as they were for wiffleball time. When I asked them later what they enjoyed about the retreat, many of them cited one of the four lessons rather than the fun activities. One student expressed interest in possibly pursuing ministry full time in his future, and each one of them contributed to discussion with deep, thought-provoking, meaningful comments.

These boys, whom the secular world sees as children to be looked down upon, proved themselves to be young men who are hungry and thirsting for the word of God. They have fun, they play hard, but they turn their minds to contemplate their Maker with reverence and love. They astound me every day, and I cannot express how honored I am to get to play a small part in their story as God grows them in sanctification and righteousness.

So, while I may not have a dramatic moment to point at to testify of God's righteous acts and mighty deeds, I can tell you with certain conviction that He was as present as the breath we breathed, and that He is active and working in and among our students.

In closing, I invite you to consider your own quiet testimonies, the way that God is moving you steadily closer to Himself each day. And I ask you to continue to pray for our students as God continues to build on the foundation He has been faithfully laying day in and day out.

Sarah Martin
Student Ministry Director

VBS...Please be in prayer for our week of VBS June 1-5. Pray for the children, strong relationships, the volunteers, and for the gospel to shine through in every aspect of the week.

Summer Office Hours...During the summer, when school is not in session, our office manager Laura's office schedule will be limited. You will still be able to reach her via email at goshenchurch@goshenbaptistchurch.net. Should you have an in-person need, please make arrangements to meet someone prior to coming to the building since it is possible that no one will be present. You can also reach Pastor Adam at pastoradamblosser@gmail.com.

Ministry Rally...Make plans to join us on June 14 following the worship service for our ministry rally where we will be having pizza. Please bring a dessert to share.

Wednesday Night Youth...Join our youth ministry on Wednesday nights during the summer at 6:30pm for youth group! Contact Sarah Martin at goshen.sarah.m@gmail.com for more information.

Church Family Cookout...Make plans to join us on Sunday, June 28 at 5pm for our Goshen Church Family Cookout! Hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided. Please bring a side and dessert to share. We are also looking for kitchen volunteers to help with set up and clean up. We're looking forward to a wonderful time of fellowship together as a church family!

Deacon Meeting...There will be a Deacon Meeting on June 15 at 6pm.

Elder Meeting...There will be an elder meeting on June 28 at 12pm following the worship service.

Online Giving...We offer convenient online giving through our website at goshenbaptistchurch.net and in the Goshen Baptist Church app.

Prayer Requests...One of the groups we offer in our new Goshen app is our Prayer Community. We encourage you to join this group and use this tool for your prayer requests. This is an easy and great way to get requests out immediately without having to go through the church office. If you have any questions about the app or how to join one of the groups, please contact the office.

Summer Book Club...The summer book club will meet 3 times this summer for book discussions, all at 5pm. The meeting for *Everyday Revolutionary* by JD Greear will meet on July 5, *Even Better than Eden* by Nancy Guthrie will meet on August 2, and *Desiring God* by John Piper will meet on August 30.

Homecoming...Mark your calendar for Goshen's Homecoming 2026 on Sunday, October 4! We will be celebrating Pastor Adam's 10-year anniversary as Goshen's pastor.

Children's Church...Please note that we will not be having children's church this month. We are giving our volunteers a much-needed break for the summer. If you would like to be a part of our team when we resume in August, please contact Laura Bonner at laurabonner511@gmail.com.

Red Cross Blood Drive...We will be hosting a blood drive here in the fellowship hall on Thursday, June 11 from 10am-3pm. There are still plenty of spots available to schedule an appointment or to donate. You may schedule online at redcrossblood.org.

Red Cross Volunteers...Goshen will be hosting a blood drive on Thursday, August 13 from 10am-3pm and we are looking for volunteers to be at the check-in table to handle the registration of those coming in to give blood. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to the church office at 540-786-7500 or goshenchurch@goshenbaptistchurch.net.

Southern Baptist Convention...Pray for the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Orlando, Florida June 9-10. The SBC Pastors' Conference is June 7-8. Pastor Adam, Mark and Karen Jones, Sarah Martin, Mahea Thomas, and Travis Earley will be attending as messengers from Goshen.

Youth Conference...Save the date! We will be having our annual youth conference on Saturday, September 12.

Emails From Goshen...Are you on our church email list? If you have not been getting our emails, please let us know so we can add you to the list.

Sermon & Bible Notes...You can take sermon and Bible notes in our church event using the YouVersion Bible app. It will save your notes for access at any time. When you are in the app, select More>Events and search for Goshen Baptist.

Goshen Merch Shop...We now have an online Goshen Merch Shop which you can find at <https://thechurch.shop/shop/goshenbaptist/>. The shop has various clothing items in multiple colors with our Goshen logo and new items have been added. You will pay for your items directly at the link and they will ship directly to you. If there is something you would like to see in the shop, please let the office know, and we may be able to make it happen based on availability.

Goshen Baptist Church Mobile App...Have you downloaded our church app (available from the app store) on your device? Search for Goshen Baptist Church in the app store. Make sure to enable push notifications through the app. You can also listen to or watch past sermons, share prayer requests, connect with a group, and access online giving. Contact the church office with questions.

New to Goshen?...Are you new to Goshen? If you have not had an opportunity to have a visit with Pastor Adam, he would love the opportunity to sit down with you, get to know you, and answer any questions you may have about our church. Would you send him an email at pastoradamblosser@gmail.com? Please include your name, the names of other family members, and the best way to get in touch with you.

Groups at Goshen...Have you gotten connected to one of our Bible study and fellowship groups at Goshen? Growth in our understanding of God's Word often happens in the context of a small group Bible study. We all also need fellowship with other Christians. At Goshen, we have lots of options for getting connected. See the following list and contact the church office with any questions.

Small Group Options...

- **Sonshine Class (Mary Vakos, Connie Laskowski, Mark Jones)**
What: Master Work Bible Study
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **The Seekers (Josh & Haley Grimes)**
What: Study of the Epistles
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **The Seniors (Robert Daniel)**
What: The Gospel Project
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **Bible 101 (Wade Haney & Bob Kelly)**
What: Basic Bible Study
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **PreK-K – Ages 4-Kindergarten (Laura & Aaron Bonner)**
What: The Gospel Project
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **Elementary – Grades 1-2 (Kaitlin Laskowski & Serenity Hague)**
What: The Gospel Project
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **Elementary – Grades 3-5 (Dale Trigg, Laura Dye, & Mary Eure)**
What: The Gospel Project
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **Youth – Grades 6-12 (Sarah & Michael Martin)**
What: The Book of Matthew
When: Sundays at 9:30am
- **Evening Ladies Bible Study (Linda Shrum)**
What: Study of the Book of Acts
When: Thursdays at 6:30pm (offsite)



Please visit or call and make their day special too!

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Aurie McGee
540.582.2892
P.O. Box 539
Spotsylvania, VA 22551 | 5. Donnie & Carolyn Wheeler
540.786.0606
10027 Piney Branch Road
Spotsylvania, VA 22553 |
| 2. Anne Smith
540.729.0799
1001 Northside Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22405 | 6. Margaret Stanchik
540.898.6069
10111 Hillside Lane
Fredericksburg, VA 22408 |
| 3. Rose Rudd
540.786.6520
6355 Autumn Leaf Circle
Fredericksburg, VA 22407 | 7. Carol Walker
540.848.1942
9208 Mill Pond Road
Spotsylvania, VA 22551 |



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Ted Schubel
- 02 Earl Perry
- 05 Aaron Gresham
- 07 Bob Kelly, Christine Earley
- 11 Rose Brubaker
- 16 Dean McCroskey
- 17 Michael Martin
- 19 Michael Warlick
- 21 Vickie Falls
- 22 Shaelyn Moore
- 28 Kara Czubowicz

TELLERS...

Joe & Tracy Osborne, Donna Overstreet

Deacon/Elder of the Week...

6/7 – Lee Brothers

6/14 – Wade Haney

6/21 – Warren Payne

6/28 – Connie Laskowski

Greeters...

6/7 – Michael Martin & Warren Payne

6/14 – Winnie Boyce & David Chambers

6/21 – Al & Eve Bonner

6/28 – Terry & Vickie Falls

Nursery...

6/7 – 9:30am – Lenora Brothers, Ashley Blosser

10:30am – Lenora Brothers, Linda Kerr

6/14 – 9:30am – Lenora Brothers, Ashley Blosser

10:30am – Lenora Brothers, Eve Bonner

6/21 – 9:30am – Lenora Brothers, Ashley Blosser

10:30am – Lenora Brothers, Karen Jones

6/28 – 9:30am – Lenora Brothers, Ashley Blosser

10:30am – Cookie Sodergren, Sabrina Perry

Children's Church...

There will be no children's church this month. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

If you have a heart for serving and want to join our team when we resume in August, we'd love to have you! For questions or information, please contact Laura Bonner at laurabonner511@gmail.com.