

# The Visitor

Grove Presbyterian Church  
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From Dr. Toole,

## The Christian's Perspective

When I was in seminary I became very ill and had to withdraw from my studies. That meant I would not graduate with my class and my ordination would be delayed. It was a difficult time.

During that time I discovered J.B. Phillips' paraphrase of the New Testament called The New Testament in Modern English. A particular passage spoke to me and encouraged me. Maybe during this time that is so stressful for so many, there are those who may find it helpful for them as well.

This is how he paraphrased Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 4:7-9:

“We are handicapped on many sides, but we are never frustrated;

We are puzzled, but never in despair.

We are persecuted but we never have to stand it alone:  
we may be knocked down, but we are never knocked out!”

It was that last part that gave me perspective and hope -  
“we may be knocked down, but we are never knocked out!”

While I am encouraged by most who are positive about this present time of COVID19, I also meet some who are discouraged and even despairing. To them I share this Scriptural reminder of the certainty of the constant and dependable presence of our Risen Lord.

In Christ,

Dr. George Gray Toole

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## "Deacons' Doings"

### Cupboard News

During the month of July, our visitors were:

- July 1: 13 families, 15 bags feeding 33 people
- July 8: 13 families, 13 bags feeding 27 people
- July 15: 15 families, 18 bags feeding 47 people
- July 22: 10 families, 12 bags feeding 37 people
- July 29: 12 families, 15 bags feeding 37 people

For 4 months now, the Cupboard has been operating with altered procedures - thanks to many dedicated and very careful workers performing the different tasks involved in operating the Grove Deacon's Cupboard! Everyone (the members of Grove, the community of Aberdeen, and of course, our Cupboard visitors) extends their deepest appreciation to these folks!

Wednesday Evening Workers: Carol Himmer, Eve Jacobs, Mary Anne Thomas, Katherine & Rob Weber, Marsha Gerdom, Linda Dempsey, Dick Harrison, Helen Farmer, Bill Loper, Sharon Vecchio, Pat Viele, Rosi Yensan

Baggers: Linda Dempsey, Helen Farmer, Tim Ford, Marsha Gerdom, Dick Harrison, Mary Hays Loper, Mary Ann Magee, Mary Anne Thomas, Betty Umbarger, Rosi Yensan

Food Pick-Up: Laura, Isabella, Luke & Olivia Hahn, Sally Holmes, Eleesa & Jim Farley, Carroll Fitzgerald, Linda Dempsey, Mary Anne Thomas, Helen & Larry Farmer,

Many Thanks to all of You!

*Blessings to all!*

## Grove's School Supply Campaign



Calling all Grove-ers:

Even though Harford County Public Schools is going virtual for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, the students will need supplies at home to complete the lessons still being taught by their teachers! We would like to help our neighborhood school, Hall's Cross Roads Elementary, provide the needed items!

Trying to be creative during these unprecedented times, we will be conducting a "Drive By - Drop Off" school supply campaign. On August 30, from 9:30 - 10:30 am, the Deacons will be in Grove's parking lot (wearing masks & gloves) to accept donations. We will gladly accept your bags of supplies - you will not need to exit your vehicle! (A List of Supplies will be forthcoming!)

[Consequently, this would be a great opportunity to share a little weird & different fellowship with each other: Perhaps you'd like to park your vehicle & wave at other members as they drive by....or perhaps, stand by your car and shout Hello's to each other? Maybe hold up a hand-made sign? We're imagining some of you will be quite creative! Plus, the bonus will be to hear the carillon at 10:30!]

We have great hopes to see many of you at that time! Also, donations will be accepted during the Cupboard open hours - Wednesday evenings, 7:00 - 8:00!

In advance, thank you for your wonderful support of this very much needed and worthwhile endeavor on behalf of our neighborhood children from Grove Presbyterian Church!



## Hymns of Faith: Lift High the Cross

We all miss being able to gather together and joyfully raise our voices in song. But there's nothing saying we can't keep singing even while we separated - practicing for the time when we can gather and sing together again.

"Lift High the Cross" was written as a processional hymn in the Anglican (Church of England) tradition by George William Kitchen, for a Society for the Propagation of the Gospel celebratory service at Winchester Cathedral.

The inspiration for the hymn came may have come from Emperor Constantine's vision in the 4<sup>th</sup> century: a cross inscribed with Latin for: "In this sign [of the cross] you will conquer."

Anglican priest Michael Robert Newbolt revised the text slightly to what we sing today. Below are all 11! *original verses* along with the refrain to give you plenty of practice until we gather again! Happy singing!

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adores his sacred name!*

1. Come, brethren, follow where our captain trod, our King victorious, Christ the Son of God.
2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign, the hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.
3. Each new-born soldier of the Crucified bears on his brow the seal of him who died.
4. This is the sign which Satan's legions fear and angels veil their faces to revere:
5. Saved by the cross whereon their Lord was slain the sons of Adam their lost home regain.
6. From north and south, from east and west they raise in growing unison their song of praise.
7. O Lord once lifted on the glorious tree as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee.
8. Let every race and every language tell of him who saves our souls from death and hell.
9. From farthest regions let them homage bring and on his cross adore their Saviour King.
10. Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease beneath the shadow of its healing peace.
11. For thy blest cross which doth for all atone creation's praises rise before thy throne:

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adores his sacred name!*

## News From The Trustees

Although the church campus has been quiet during the past few months, maintenance of the facilities continues:

1. Now that Grove's electronic sign is operating at the corner of Post Road and East Bel Air Avenue, the Trustees have removed old wooden signs in front of the church and the Monroe Building.
2. Scheduled, mandatory inspections of the Monroe Building's sprinkler system were accomplished in July.
3. The Church Secretary's office was freshly painted.
4. A new de-humidifier was purchased and installed in the Youth Room.
5. The Trustees would like to thank Dave and Rosi Yensan for their wonderful upkeep of the church gardens.
6. We would also like to thank Richard Harrison for mowing the grass on the church campus.

Tim Ford has graciously agreed to serve as a Trustee for a second term.

## Thrift Shop

While the thrift shop remains closed, it did make \$70 for the Deacons in June!

The income was from the volunteers who spent time organizing and going through the stored summer items they put on display. They also shopped and then paid for things they found for themselves or family members.

**Thank you volunteers!**



August 6	Mary Lee James
August 6	Mary Anne Thomas
August 11	Vince Diaz
August 25	Betty Joslin
August 30	Tim Ford

To my Friends at Grove,

Just want to thank you all for the many cards and calls I received for my birthday. Even had a few of my friends "show up" at my party (we stayed 6 ft. apart.) It was wonderful that you all took the time to make my day so special. One that I won't ever forget.

Thank you so much.

God Bless you and keep safe.

Love,

Janet Blair

## Graduation Update!

It's official. I wanted to take a minute to announce that I have successfully completed my undergraduate journey and have received my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Towson University. For those that do not know, it has been a long, difficult and winding journey. I want to thank all who have supported me, whether it was watching Nathaniel, listening to me vent, reading my papers, the list goes on. My family, friends and the entire Grove community have been essential in helping me in accomplishing this goal.

All of my love and thanks goes out to you all.

~ Sarah Fitzgerald