

GOOD NEWS!!

Let us give thanks to God for the hope we have in him through Christ!



CHURCH of the COMMON GROUND NEWS

a church community on the streets of Atlanta

www.churchofthecommonground.org

May 2019

Forward, Together

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future." John F. Kennedy

As this part of my journey at Common Ground comes to an end, I can't help but to think about what lies ahead. We've all heard the saying "change is hard" and if we're honest, that is an understatement. Change is hard and frightening. However, it's a necessary part of life.

One of the biggest life changes that I have experienced thus far is becoming a parent. Justin and I had our first child one week after graduating from college. I remember being so afraid of the journey that I was taking. Not only would I be responsible for myself, I now had a new life to think about and plan around. I worried if I would be good enough, make the right decisions, or set the best examples. I was terrified of being terrible. On May 17th my son was born and the minute that I held him to me, my fear of change was gone. I was ready to embrace change and make the best out of it.

As we move through the month of May, through Easter season, it's my prayer that we will face change head on. Changes are going to happen whether we want them to or not, whether we are ready for them or not. I challenge us all to face those changes and to support each other as we face them. It's okay to be afraid, it's okay to be unsure, it's okay to process the complex emotions that come with change. Just remember, after you feel those emotions you look change in the face and say "let's go". And, remember you have an extended family within our borderless borders that has your back. We'll move forward, and we'll do it together.

Peace, Light and Love be with you always,
Jakevia



Vicar's Note: Jakevia's seminary graduation ceremony is May 13th, please offer your prayers for her and for her family amidst this well-earned 'change' from student to graduate. In early June, Common Ground will gain several new summer interns; please continue to welcome and teach and learn from these students who wish to welcome and teach and learn from you. And, taking Jakevia's advice, let us *support one another* in love. -Pastor Monica

SUNDAYS: 1pm—Worship at Woodruff Park
MONDAYS: 10:30am—Morning Prayer Central Outreach
(Closed 5/27 for Memorial Day)
TUESDAYS: 9:30-11:30am—Common Soles / Pastoral Care
(Resumes May 21st in St. Luke's park)
WEDNESDAYS: 10:30am—Morning Prayer at Central Outreach
2:30pm—Bible Study at Woodruff Park
THURSDAYS: 9:30am-1pm—Pastoral Care / Theology From the Margins - at Central Outreach every other Thursday

Questions, comments, suggestions:
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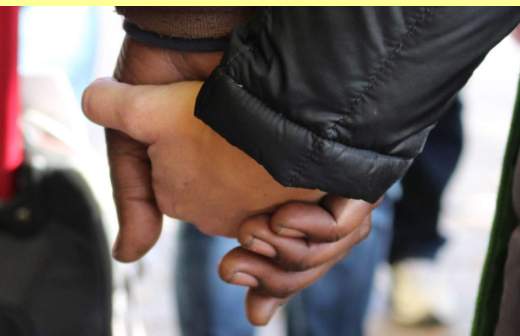
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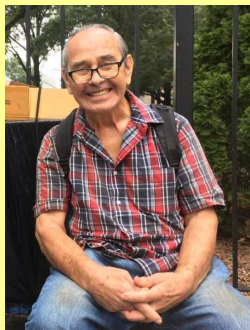
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Let's Celebrate Birthdays!

"O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the day of this life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

John the Elder



If you would like your birthday listed in the CCG newsletter, please make sure to let one of the priests know what date it is.

May 2: Who is God in Genesis?

May 9: Who are God's people?

May 23: Why is God so angry in the prophets?

June 6: Where is God When the World Falls Apart?

June 20: Where Can Wisdom Be Found?

Classes are Thursdays from 9:30–1:00pm at Central Outreach and Advocacy Center

About the Professor: Dr. David G. Garber, Jr. is the Associate Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at McAfee. He teaches courses in Old Testament, Hebrew Exegesis, Social Justice in the Old Testament, The Theology of Ezekiel, The Bible and Popular Culture, and The Book of the Twelve.



THEOLOGY FROM THE MARGINS

Questions about the Old Testament

A course offered by the Theology from the Margins Certificate Program.

Sacred Writing



During Lent, some of our Common Ground group met each week to discover the ways of the psalm writers. And, they wrote poetry too!

Psalm

by Rhianna A.

Many people should praise God for life

All people should have understanding

God is life in all times.

Amen.

Poem

by Jen M.

As the day begins

The sun's rays beat against

these rocks, and the

wind blows the trees

in the wind. Flowers

blooms of sunshine. A

Beautiful African child

of God, wearing a single

summer flower in her black

golden curl hair.

Her eyes are stars of brown

that glisten like

morning dew, her heart is

strong as a mountain standing

tall against the sunny

afternoon.

African Queen stand tall

to know our ancestors stood

the test of time, you

Beloved Child of God.