

# The Courier

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2017

Court Street United Methodist Church

# **Experiencing Autumn as Time for Reflection**

I enjoy autumn. After the heat, vacations and activity of spring and summer, I crave the serenity and quiet of fall. Autumn is a time when leaves change colors and vivid changes occur. It's a time to turn within, to shed the old and reflect on what was, and what will again be. Squirrels hurry to store food for the harsh winter, and leaves turn to shades of orange, yellow and brown, then shrivel up, die and fall to earth. The crusty debris from nature drops, but all is not gone. For even then, what is seemingly lost and useless still makes a contribution to the richness of the soil, fertilizing the new life that's expected in the future. You see, even though death seems tragic at the time, from that passing comes what is fresh and new. The trees and perennial plants merely shed their garments of leaves and blossoms for a while. Then they rest and wait with hope, refusing to despair. Our lives are like that. We experience many autumns, physically, spiritually and emotionally. The frosty air and crisp, crunching leaves revive my spirit and propel me forward. I kick the piles of foliage and listen to the sound. While watching their dust I see an upcoming time of rest, planning and letting go of what was. I join nature in preparing for a deeper time of hibernation, winter. Days become shorter and the nights longer. But the blackness of evening brings a cozy blanket of contemplation. Although activity thrives during the autumn and winter, too, there's a different aura present. One can think about his endeavors, why he attempted them, and where they've brought him. Perhaps your autumn is learning to cope with the death of someone significant, you've lost a job, a divorce took place or a child disappointed you. A relative had to move to a nursing home. Your self-esteem is at low ebb. Have you lost your dreams? God allows the spiritual seasons of our lives to coincide with the physical seasons. There's hope there. Regardless of droughts, floods or failed crops, there's always another tomorrow. More rain eventually comes to counteract the drought, floodwaters dry up and a profitable crop surfaces when the time is right. If spring and summer were always present there would be no time to regenerate. Autumn brings wisdom, reflection and time to repair and plan. New chances and new life are promised. What is your life yielding this autumn? Can you recognize what you've planted and what you've reaped, and why, in your spiritual and physical life? We need this period of fall, of yield and collecting and gathering, to see where we are and what direction we must now take. There's beauty in passing from the green productivity of summer into the shadowy hues and sluggishness of the fall, both in the sacred and the secular. All things change, somehow. There are lessons to be learned from our times of activity and productivity. But we can only find what God is attempting to show us by stepping back, ridding ourselves of some of our leaves of dogged purpose and just being still for a while. Indeed, autumn is a time of ambiguity. The winds blow causing flags to furl and unfurl, but they remain connected to their pole, that center that holds them. For when the storm subsides they will know life's contentment and lounge in the breeze. So, what autumn are you experiencing now? Regardless, remember God is there in all seasons, life and death.

~ Pastor Bill Burleigh



# **Musical Musings**

**Anthems for October** 



October 1<sup>st</sup>

## Christ Hath a Garden, by Gerald Near

New Mexico composer Gerald Near is regarded as one of America's finest composers of church music writing today. His setting of "Christ Hath a Garden" is a repurposing of an old Scottish or English folk song known to many as "The Water is Wide."

October 8th

# The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee, by Jean Berger

Born in Germany, Jean Berger was somewhat of a world traveler, performing as pianist and accompanist in France, Argentina, and eventually the U.S. where he became a citizen in 1941. His sense of the beauty of the text of "The Eyes of All" is borne in the rich harmonies of this setting.

October 15th

## Rejoice in the Lord Always, by Henry Purcell

Henry Purcell's "Rejoice in the Lord Alway", also known as "The Bell Anthem", is one of the English Baroque composer's most well-known anthems. A setting of Philippians 4:4-7, the piece opens famously with a musical tolling of bells, using a recognizable figure most often associated with celebratory church bells.

## October 22<sup>nd</sup>

## My Lord, What a Mornin', arranged by Harry T. Burleigh

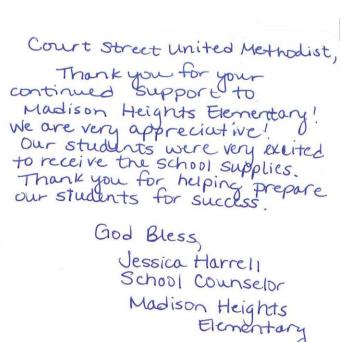
Harry Thacker Burleigh, born near the end of the American Civil War, was the first great pioneer and champion of the African American Spiritual. His arrangements are frequently performed at Court Street. His richly moving "My Lord, What a Mornin" demonstrates Burleigh's compositional prowess, and includes a famous quote from Wagner's opera *Tristan und Isolde* at its close.

# October 29th

## Great and Glorious, by Franz Joseph Haydn

The anthem "Great and Glorious" is actually an adaptation of a different work by Haydn: the Gloria from his *St. Cecelia Mass*. The work is shortened from the original, and solo sections were removed. The text, authored by Charles Manney, reads like a psalm of praise – but there is no psalm that uses these lyrics.







**GET DOWNTOWN 2017** was a great success! A big THANK YOU to our helpers: Susan Cobbs, Harriette Cash, Susan and Keith Leazer, Dave Case, and Jodi Center who greeted people and gave them information about the church and our upcoming events this fall. Attendees were also invited to enter a drawing for prizes donated by downtown restaurants. All the winners when contacted were not only excited to win, but also complimented the church on its booth and the wonderful members they had talked to. Way to go!

## Thank you to all who helped feed our neighbors at Parkview Mission

Dinner with neighbors at Parkview Mission on Wednesday September 27<sup>th</sup> was blessed with members from Court Street and volunteers from Marsh Memorial and Lynchburg College. Steve Freeman provided the entertainment and is pictured below with students from LC and people from the audience that came up to sing. Pastor Burleigh welcomed everyone and lead the prayer. Over 125 people were served a nourishing meal for the body and soul.





# SATURDAY OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 8AM ~ 2PM

COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 621 COURT STREET LYNCHBURG, VA 24504 HISTORIC DOWNTOWN LYNCHBURG Contact the church office for more details ~ 434-845-3427

Bake Sale



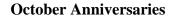
TRUNK OR TREAT October 27<sup>th</sup> 5pm -7pm AND Silent Movie Night returns! ~Stay tuned for more~

ard Sale

# \*Birthdays and Anniversaries\*

#### **October Birthdays**

Jeb Haley	October 01
Adelaide Lee	October 03
Charles Sweeney	October 05
GiGi Sweeney	October 05
Addison Johnson	October 08
Libba McCraw	October 09
Caroline McCraw	October 09
Pat Haley	October 10
Karen Hudnall	October 13
Sally Frey	October 14
Patrick Pillow	October 15
Susan Leazer	October 16
Irby Hudson	October 22
Charles Thaxton	October 22
Robin Hudson	October 23
Anne Quillian	October 28
Karl Speer	October 29



Christine & Karl Speer October 10 Carol Williams & Kerry Bell Oct. 22

#### **November Anniversaries**

Ann & Bobby McDaniel Nov 24 Meg & David Case Sr Nov 26 Susan & Mike McConnell Nov 30



#### **November Birthdays**

Gina Wright	November 01
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Bill Ford	November 02
Chiswell Logan	November 06
Landen Larkin	November 10
Phyllis Coleman	November 11
Megan Straw	November 12
Nada Sweeney	November 12
Cornell Thompson	n November 18
Jodi Center	November 19
Julia McConnell	November 21
Sam Angus	November 22
Rosemary Heuster	d November 23



Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday is Lunch with members living at Westminster-Canterbury Join us on October 12<sup>th</sup> Fauber 2 - 11:30am



## THE ACC CHRISTMAS STORE RETURNS



The Missions committee is helping to stock the Christmas store for the Adult Care Center. This gives participants at the ACC the ability to pick out a present for a loved one. The presents will be wrapped by the ACC staff and sent home with the participant. Please help us "stock the shelves" of the store by purchasing items on the list below. (lists are also available in the Bishop Early Hall). Items purchased can be placed in the

containers marked "ACC Christmas Store" in the Bishop Early Hall.

#### Wish List from Missions Committee:

JEWELRY • GLOVES (MEN'S AND WOMEN'S) • BOOKS (ESPECIALLY RELIGIOUS ONES) TOOL KITS • SOCKS (MEN'S AND WOMEN'S) • BODY WASH / SHAMPOO GIFT SETS CANDY • POPCORN TINS • COLORING SETS (FOR THE KIDDOS IN OUR LIVES) HAT / SCARF SET • ADULT COLORING BOOKS • WATCHES • CLOCK FAMILY GAMES (SUCH AS UNO OR MONOPOLY) • CANDLES • ART - PAINTINGS FIGURINES • BLANKETS • TOILETRY ITEMS • CDS • WALLETS • PURSES

# **PRAYER CONCERNS**

#### All Men and Women serving in the Military

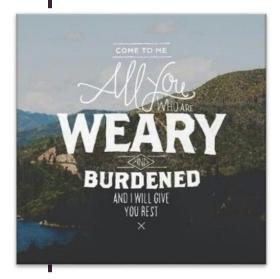
Robert Shober - The Pentagon, son of \*Eva Lee and \*Reiman Shober Kenny Kincaid and children, son of \*Bobbi and \*Randy Hurst

# SICK

\*Clara Gurkin - 501 V.E.S. Road, Drinkard 613, Lynchburg, VA 24503
\*Nancy Lane – 411 Oak Point Road, Forest, VA 24551
\*Bobby McDaniel – 3743 Woodside Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24503
\*Ann & Phil Ripley – 1101 Federal Street; Lynchburg, VA 24504
Sylvia Shuff - Mother-in-Law of \*Pastor Bill Burleigh
\*Alicia Speer – 1815 Rivermont Ave #68, Lynchburg, VA 24503
\*Bill Sweeney – 501 V.E.S. Road Room 505, Lynchburg, VA 24503
\*Nada Sweeney – 1930 Royal Oak Drive; Lynchburg, VA 24503
\*Audrey Tyree – P. O. Box 4463, Lynchburg, VA 24502
\*Mary Tyree –1404 Brookville Lane, Lynchburg, VA 24502

\* Church members





# **Gifts in Honor**

<u>To the General Fund in honor of:</u> Shanda & Garnett Horner's Wedding by: Eleanor & Doug Pillow Anne & Bobby McDaniel

#### Update on Capital Campaign for church repairs:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 10/01/17	\$238,976
Balance needed to reach goal	\$60,824
Received to Date	\$182,586
Received since last update	\$850
Elevator fund	\$9,328

Court Street UMC 621 Court Street Lynchburg Va. 24504

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In worship, praise and ministry, we respond to God's call by reaching out to all people with light, hope, and a vision of God's love.

COURT STREET UMC WEBSITE: <u>www.courtstreetumcva.com</u>

EMAIL: 621courtstumc@gmail.com

PHONE: 434-845-3427

Please contact Randy Hurst at: rwhurstva@gmail.com or (910) 443-4865 on or before Wednesdays to have events and notices posted on the church website. (The newsletter, The Courier, is also on the website)

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