



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

September 2017

Court Street United Methodist Church

Labor Day

Americans celebrated the first Labor Day weekend in 1882. It was conceived by America's labor unions as a testament to their cause. Labor Day became an official national holiday in 1894, after the legislation sanctioning it was shepherded through Congress amid labor unrest. President Cleveland signed the legislation as part of an election-year compromise. America was in the midst of an economic depression in 1894. That year, workers for the Pullman Car Co., one of the country's largest manufacturers, walked off their jobs and went on strike. Hundreds of thousands of workers nationwide joined the walkout. President Cleveland feared the strike would shut down America's railroads, so he dispatched 12,000 federal troops to stop the strike. Violence ensued, and at least thirteen strikers were killed. Cleveland hoped that granting workers a Labor Day holiday would appease them as he sought a third term as president. He signed the holiday into law six days after the end of the strike. Cleveland's efforts failed – he was denied the Democratic nomination in 1896. Politicians and labor leaders were content to keep the holiday, though. Honoring the workers of America is important, but Labor Day also provides Christians an opportunity to celebrate the deeper meaning behind work. For Christians, celebrating Labor Day has multiple meanings. We honor the workers of America, but the holiday is also a chance to remember the importance of work. Why do we work? As you celebrate with your friends and family, take time to reflect on these reasons: Our work should glorify God, serve the common good, and further the kingdom of God. Our work is what God uses to change the world for his glory. The opening lines of Scripture say, "*In the beginning, God created.*" God is a worker. From the very beginning of the Bible, we are faced with the inescapable fact that work is a part of God's character and nature. Vocation is integral, not incidental, to the nature of God. In Genesis 2:15 we read, *The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.* God gave us the task of ruling over and taking care of his creation. This cultural mandate, given in Genesis 1:28, is our original job description. Like God, we have the ability to work, make plans and implement them, and be creative. These gifts help point us to our purpose – humanity was created by God to cultivate and keep God's creation, which includes developing and protecting it. All professions and all kinds of work, assuming that they are legal and biblically ethical, are honorable before the Lord. There is no dichotomy between sacred and secular work. All work brings glory to God and a potential source of fulfillment, if it is done to God's glory. God did not create work to be drudgery. He gave man work *before* the fall, as a means of fulfillment. Ecclesiastes 2:24-25 reminds us that a human being can *do nothing better than find satisfaction in his work. This too is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?* You manifest a powerful message, both verbally and non-verbally, of a supernatural approach to work. The world needs this powerful witness to the reality of Christ and the difference he makes in his followers. Genesis 3:19 reminds us that "*by the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground.*" God intends that humans are to work as long as they live, whether paid or volunteer. Retirement shouldn't mean the end of meaningful, purposeful work. Our vocations are for a lifetime.

~ *Pastor Bill Burleigh*

The Chancel Choir returns September 10th!

Choir members will meet Sunday September 3rd after church for a potluck lunch and to prepare the choir room for rehearsals to begin Wednesday, September 6. Members of the congregation are welcome to join us.



Musical Musings

Anthems for September

September 10th
Cantate Domino



An elder contemporary of Bach and Handel, Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni (1657-1743) lived and worked in Rome for most of his life. He held a number of important posts, not least of which was *maestro di cappella* at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. An extremely prolific composer and theorist, his influence on sacred music in Rome was profound. One of his most popular compositions even today is *Cantate Domino*, a setting of Psalm 149: "Sing to the Lord a new song."

How Excellent Thy Name, O Lord

Written just three years prior to *Messiah*, George Frederic Handel's oratorio *Saul* deals with the first king of Israel and his relationship with his successor, David. The work contains some of the composer's most dramatic choral pieces, of which the opening chorus, "How Excellent" is a fine example.

~A short concert by Carol Williams and Randy Speer will be held after church at 12:15 on the 10th to help raise money to move the piano into the sanctuary.~

September 17th

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

American composer and critic Virgil Thomson (1896-1989) is considered instrumental in developing the "American Sound" in music. Peer of the great Aaron Copland, Thomson was also a good friend of Gertrude Stein, and mentor to Leonard Bernstein. Disarmingly simple and effective, Thomson's arrangement of "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" is a favorite at Court Street, using an adaptation of Psalm 23 by Isaac Watts, and an early American melody "RESIGNATION".

September 24th

Be Thou My Vision

In his long and distinguished career, Ohio composer and educator Carlton Young edited two revisions of the United Methodist hymnal, including the current one. A powerful arrangement of an ancient Irish folk tune, Young's setting of "Be Thou My Vision" is a perennial Court Street favorite.

Thank you from Madison Heights Elementary School

When teachers at Madison Heights Elementary School began a new school year in August, they each received a goody bag provided by Court Street. Each bag contained a sweet treat and supplies for their desks.

(pictured: Dr. McGinnis, Principal, MHES)

A big THANK YOU from MHES and the Missions Committee for your donations of much needed school supplies. Your participation shows just how wonderful the congregation is at Court Street. We plan to continue to support this community outreach and to invite our MHES family to our events and worship with us here throughout the school year!



Feeding Our Neighbors at PVCMM ~ Wednesday, September 27th

If you would like to help, please contact:

Harriette Cash (929-2460); Anne Langley (660-2700); Mary Tyree (239-2270)



COMING IN OCTOBER

FALL



Saturday October 21st – 8am – 2pm

Yard Sale ~ Craft Sale ~ BBQ and Brunswick Stew to go or stay for lunch!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Trunk
or
Treat**



TRUNK OR TREAT

October 27th 5pm -7pm

AND

Silent Movie Night returns!

~Stay tuned for more~

Please note that the “Blessing of the Animals” has been postponed until spring 2018. Our neighbors at St. Pauls and other Episcopal churches of Lynchburg will be hosting a blessing of the animals at the Old City Cemetery on October 8th at 3pm. For more information go to:

<https://www.virginia.org/listings/Events/BlessingoftheAnimalsatOldCityCemetery/>

Birthdays and Anniversaries

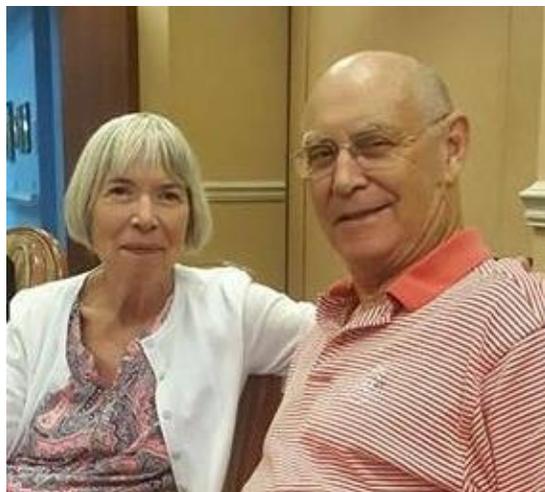
September Birthdays	September Anniversaries	October Birthdays
Barbara Brown Sept 01	Nancy & Mike Russell Sept 03	Jeb Haley Oct 01
Chris Paunov Sept 01	Nada & Bill Sweeney Sept 05	Adelaide Lee Oct 03
Mike Russell Sept 01	Stuart & Tracy Jackson Sept 24	Charles Sweeney Oct 05
Alicia Speer Sept 01	Lisa & Jeff Thaxton Sept 25	GiGi Sweeney Oct 05
Stephanie Smith Sept 02	October Anniversaries	Addison Johnson Oct 08
Dane Peterson Sept 04	Christine & Karl Speer Oct 10	Libba McCraw Oct 09
Cecil Kidd Sept 06	Carol Williams & Kerry Bell Oct. 22	Caroline McCraw Oct 09
Mark Roper Sept 06		Pat Haley Oct 10
David Case, Jr. Sept 07		Karen Hudnall Oct 13
Pam Jackson Sept 10		Sally Frey Oct 14
Lynette James Sept 10		Patrick Pillow Oct 15
Dennis Pruitt Sept 10		Susan Leazer Oct 16
Robert Draper Sept 16		Irby Hudson Oct 22
Billy Pence Sept 17		Charles Thaxton Oct 22
Christina Evans Sept 21		Robin Hudson Oct 23
Henry Lee Sept 26		Anne Quillian Oct 28
Raymond Kreuziger Sept 27		Karl Speer Oct 29
Aubrey McDaniel Sept 29		
Eva Shober Sept 29		
Patsy Cundiff Sept 30		



**Every 2nd Thursday is
Lunch with members living at
Westminster-Canterbury**
Join us on September 14th
Fauber 2 - 11:30am



*Congratulations to Cameron Jackson & Christian Rodas on their wedding August 26th
and Shanda Rowe & Garnett Horner on their wedding August 30th.*



*May your journey together bring much love, laughter and friendship
as you share this new adventure*

PRAYER CONCERNS

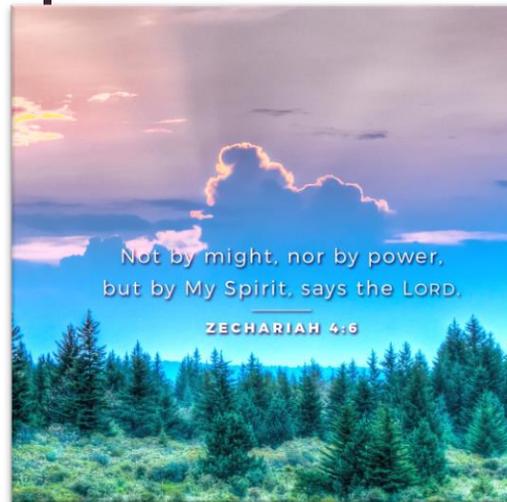
All Men and Women serving in the Military

Robert Shober - The Pentagon, son of *Eva Lee and *Reiman Shober
 Kenny, Laura 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
- *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 & 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



We send our love and sympathy to:

Audrey Tyree on the passing of her aunt, Katherine
 "Kitty" Probst, Monday August 14th.

Gifts in Memory

To the General Fund in memory of:

Kitty Probst by:
 Eleanor & Doug Pillow

Midgie Schmidt by:
 Kathy Mason

Gifts in Honor

To the General Fund in honor of:
Shanda & Garnett Horner's Wedding by:
 Anne Langley

Kathy Mason's birthday by:
 Shanda Rowe

Susan Hall's birthday by:
 Shanda Rowe

Update on Capital Campaign for church repairs:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 8/27/17	\$238,876
Balance needed to reach goal	\$61,124
Received to Date	\$181,736
Received since last update	\$900
Elevator fund	\$9,328



October 6, 7 and 8, 2017



CHARITY HOME TOUR 2017

Friday and Saturday 10AM-5PM
 Sunday 1-5PM

Tour eight spectacular waterfront homes by car or boat.
 Tickets valid all three days, one visit per home.
 Tour held rain or shine.

TICKETS
www.smlcharityhometour.com
 Buy tickets online and save!
(All fees included • Tickets are non-refundable)

\$22 July 1 - 31 ("Early Bird" special price)
 \$25 August 1 - September 22
 \$30 September 23 - October

Purchase at designated outlets
 \$30 July 1 - September 22
 \$35 September 23 - October

DIAMOND SPONSOR



540.297.4055

GOLD SPONSORS





BRIDGEWATER
 SML Visitors Center
 16430 Booker T. Washington Hwy.

WESTLAKE
 The General Store
 213 Scruggs Rd.

UNION HALL
 Lakescapes Nursery
 11509 Old Franklin Tpke.

2017 TICKET OUTLETS

Court Street UMC
621 Court Street
Lynchburg Va. 24504



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: www.courtstreetumcva.com

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)

